

LOST PINES GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT GUIDE FOR UNDERSTANDING RULES & MANAGEMENT PLAN

Drilling, Registration & Permitting

- Water wells incapable of producing more than 25,000 GPD (35 GPM) for domestic or livestock uses are exempt from permitting and fees but must obtain registration prior to drilling.
- Drilling permits required for all non-exempt wells.
- Drilling permits are valid for 1 year with a 6-month extension available.
- All pre-existing wells are subject to registration.
- Maximum withdrawal allowed presently is determined by aquifer, per contiguous acre controlled, per year.

Aquifer	Maximum Annual Production per surface acre per year (af)
Hooper	0.5
Simsboro	1.6
Calvert Bluff	0.5
Carrizo	0.8
Queen City	0.2
Sparta	0.3

- Non-exempt well drilling & operating permits are subject to hearing process & approval by Board.
- Operating Permits describe the amount and rate of withdrawal of water as well as the location and usage.
- Non-exempt wells require notification to all property owners within 5,000 feet of the well.
- Operating Permits are issued for a 5-year term.
- Groundwater Transport Permit required for water exported outside the District. A hearing, notification process, and Board approval is required. These are typically processed and hear at the same time as the operating permit.
- Transport Permits have thirty-year terms if construction of conveyance system initiated within 3 years.
- The District does not currently recognize historic use permits.

Well spacing requirements

- Wells must be at least 50 ft. from property boundary or another existing well.
- Non-exempt wells capable of producing at a rate up to and including 500 gpm shall be spaced a minimum 1,500 feet from any other well completed in the same sands and owned by a different owner. Wells capable of producing at rates between 501 gpm and 1,000 gpm must be at least 2,500 feet from any other wells in the same formation that are owned by a different owner. Wells capable of producing at rates greater than 1,000 gpm must be at least 5,000 feet from any other wells completed in the same formation and owned by a different owner.
- Variances for well spacing are available on a limited basis pursuant to rules.

District Fees

- Current Production Fee - \$0.0385 per 1000 gallons permitted.
- Export Fee - \$0.019 per 1000 gallons exported out of district.
- Agricultural Irrigation Production Fee - \$0.25 per acre-foot produced.

Management Strategies

- Provide protection for existing users and landowners' property rights.
- Evaluate changing aquifer conditions through annual water level monitoring for wells identified throughout the District.
- Take appropriate action to protect and maintain appropriate aquifer water levels to protect both current and future producers.

- Work within GMA process to develop DFCs and management strategies beneficial to all stakeholders.
- Monitor drought and drought conditions within the District.
- Provide educational resources to schools and community events pertaining to conservation and aquifer management.
- Develop better science to support District actions, policies and decisions.

Lost Pines GCD Brief History

2001 - Creation with 77th Legislature
2002 - Confirmation Election in Lee and Bastrop Counties
2004 - Original Management Plan Adopted
2005 - GMA/DFC Process becomes law (HB1763)
2010 - Readoption of revised District Management Plan
Sept 2010 - Adoption of first round of DFCs
Sept 2012 - Revised Management Plan adopted
Sept 2017 - Revised Management Plan adopted
2019- Groundwater Availability Model GAM Updated
Oct 2022 - Revised Management Plan adopted
May 2023 - Revised Management Plan adopted