

Recharge

Your Groundwater Resource



Spring 2018
Volume 10 Issue 1



Landscaping for Groundwater Conservation

Spring is in the air and the sun is back! What better time to get back out in the flower beds and gardens?

On Friday, March 2, 2018, Post Oak Savannah GCD teamed up with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension and EarthKind to host a full day of hands-on learning. Sixteen people participated in the Landscape and Irrigation workshop to learn how to design and install plants and irrigation.

Tim Hartmann, Texas A&M AgriLife Program Specialist, led the workshop. He showed participants which native and adapted plants do the best in this area and how to design landscapes.

Hartmann said to look at structures that are already there that will change light and weather patterns. It's important to note what areas get more sun and how the shade moves throughout the day.

Hartmann also said that native plants are great because they are more drought-tolerant, disease- and pest-resistant, and promote native wildlife. Non-native plants that are well adapted can enhance the plant palette as well, though.

After learning about the varieties of plants, the class moved outside to get their hands in the dirt. Hartmann walked through the plant installation process and showed everyone how to space plants correctly and prepare them to be planted.

Hartmann spoke about the importance of checking roots and making sure that they aren't constricted or circling. He showed participants how to check holes were dug to the correct depth and how to cover the plants back up.

Once all the plants were in the ground

and everyone had lunch, the irrigation system was installed. Drip irrigation is a great way to slowly water plants — it is 90% efficient with less evaporation and runoff than other watering methods.

The drip irrigation system was installed to work with the rainwater harvesting system already in place. By using them together, we will be able to conserve the amount of groundwater used for outdoor use.

Our next workshop will be Rainwater Harvesting 101 on Thursday, April 12th.

We had a great

time learning about landscaping and drip irrigation. Thanks to everyone who attended the class and helped with the POSGCD landscape — it looks amazing.

We welcome everyone to stop by, say hello, ask questions and walk through our demonstration site!



4-H2O Water Ambassadors Program

At the February 6, 2018 board meeting, POSGCD directors approved sponsoring the 4-H2O Water Ambassadors Program again for the 2018-2019 year.

This program teaches high school-aged students advanced knowledge of science, technology, engineering and management of water in Texas. It also gives youth the opportunity to practice

leadership and service skills.

This will be the second year of the program. Ambassadors get the opportunity to visit with leaders in the water sector and make an impact throughout the state.

Last year, we were able to meet with many of the ambassadors while

attending the Texas Groundwater Summit. We also got to hear a presentation about their program from Kolby Dague at one of our meetings.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2018-2019 4-H2O Water Ambassadors Program. For more information, visit <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/water/>.



Spring Monitoring in Progress

It's that time again! Every year during February and March, POSGCD staff hit the roads to measure wells for the POSGCD Monitoring Network.

The Monitoring Network is a collection of registered and/or permitted wells within the District from which measurements are collected annually.

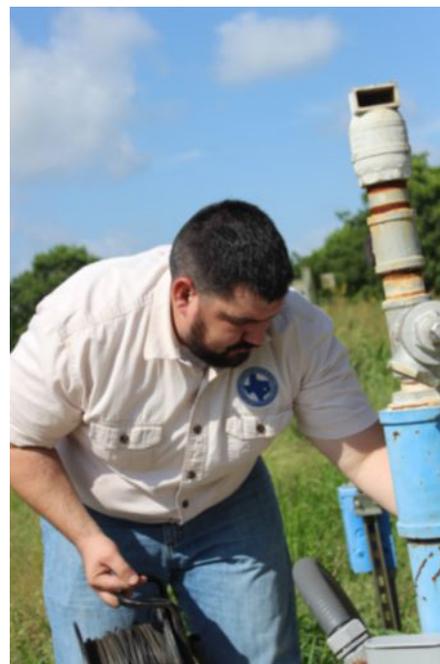
The Monitoring Network consists of wells that owners have volunteered to be a part of the program. Because this is a volunteer program, well owners are under no obligation to participate. But, by participating, owners can receive more accurate readings of water levels at their location.

Measurements are taken during this

time because pumping demand is typically at its lowest and water levels reflect the true aquifer levels. These measurements will be compared to past and predicted levels to use in POSGCD management decisions.

This year, over 140 wells are being measured in Milam and Burleson Counties as part of the Network. More than 50 of those wells were added in the past year.

Bobby Bazan, POSGCD Water Resource Specialist, said initial water level measurement results have been as expected and consistent with previous trends. All measurements are expected to be completed by the end of March.



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

We are now accepting job applications for the Education and Communications Coordinator position. If you or anyone you know is interested in applying, please visit <http://posgcd.org> to find the job description and application details.



RAINWATER HARVESTING 101 WORKSHOP

The next Rainwater Harvesting 101 Workshop is scheduled for Thursday, April 12th! This workshop is mandatory for anyone wanting to qualify for the POSGCD Rainwater Harvesting Rebate. To learn more and sign up, visit <http://posgcd.org/rainwater>



2018 MILAM & BURLESON COUNTIES GROUNDWATER SUMMIT

Save the date for the 2018 Milam & Burleson Counties Groundwater Summit! This year, the summit will be held on Wednesday, August 15th at the Caldwell Civic Center. If there is a specific topic or issue you want to hear about, call us and let us know!



ADD YOUR WELL TO THE POSGCD MONITORING NETWORK

The District is always growing and improving the Monitoring Network. By adding your well, you can help improve the data that helps the District make management decisions and receive and track information on your water levels.

Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Landscaping for Groundwater Conservation
- 4-H2O Water Ambassadors Program
- Spring Monitoring in Progress
- District Updates

POSGCD SOCIAL:

 @PostOakSavannahGCD  @POSGCD

 **Let's chat!**
Phone: 512.455.9900
Email: admin@posgcd.org

Visit our website for more information:
www.posgcd.org

Look for our next newsletter in Summer 2018



upcoming events

April 3rd
POSGCD Board Meeting

April 12th
Rainwater Harvesting 101 Workshop

Summer
Well Water Screening Campaign

August 15th
Milam & Burleson Counties Groundwater Summit

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Steven Wise, Vice President
Tommy Tietjen, Sec/Treas
Lee Alford, III
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Gary Westbrook, General Manager
Elaine Gerren, Administrative Assistant
Bobby Bazan, Water Resource Specialist
Megan Homeyer, Education Coordinator
Ralph Sifuentes, Field Technician

Groundwater conservation districts are the state's preferred method of groundwater management through rules developed, adopted and promulgated by a district.
Texas Water Code, Sec. 36.0015

Are we providing information you need?

The district staff want to know what information you would like to see in this newsletter. Please contact us at 512.455.9900 or admin@posgcd.org to let us know how we can better serve you.



POSGCD was created to conserve and regulate the use of groundwater through monitoring of aquifer levels and production and encourage conservation rules which limit pumping, thereby extending the quantity and quality of the water available in all of the aquifers in Milam and Burleson counties. POSGCD is a member of the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD).