

First Quarter

2017



PINEYWOODS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Serving Angelina and Nacogdoches Counties

The Water

Newsletter

State News

The weather in Texas has certainly been a change from the previous part of this decade. Reservoirs are mostly full, some groundwater recharge is taking place and the grass should be good across Texas going into the spring. Even while moisture levels are good, we should still remember to think about conserving every drop of water we can. Drought conditions can be back in our future very quickly and that water is useful then.

The Texas Legislature is in session, and the deadline for filing bills has passed. There are an even number of 40 bills filed relating directly to groundwater issues. I am again serving on the TAGD Legislative Committee, and we have weekly conference calls and I am attending some meetings in Austin to work with legislators on bills that may have far reaching effects on groundwater. We are tracking almost 100 bills that are of interest to water issues. I encourage you to visit the Texas Legislature website and read and educate yourself on what is going on in Austin. There are too many issues that are there to be covered by the news outlets.

The PGCD has received word from the TWDB that our proposed DFC's for the GMA-11 area we are in has been found administratively complete and approved by the TWDB. The Board of Directors of the Pineywoods GCD will be meeting in April to formally adopt these DFC's for the coming 5-year period.

The TWDB has funded a study to remodel the Carrizo and Wilcox Aquifers in our area. There will be a stakeholder meeting to discuss this work in May 2017. The date has not been set yet, but I will let you know when the meeting has been scheduled.

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At a Glance:

Wells in PGCD Database 3/20/17

*9 exempt wells and 2 non-exempt wells in progress

*Total Exempt wells in database- 1004

*Total Non-exempt wells in database- 282

*Total Production fee based wells- 199

*Total District wells recorded- 2,558

All Things Water– Did You Know?

-In 1811-12, the largest earthquake recorded in the continental U.S. occurred in a rift near New Madrid, Mo. During the earthquake, parts of the Mississippi River dropped by as much as 10 ft. Several days passed before the river flow stabilized.

-We have had some earthquake tremors in the northern parts of the PGCD in the past few years. These tremors can have an effect on our water wells.

-The earth's water moves constantly at different speeds in different places and in different forms. Water in toilets flush and spin the opposite direction from ours south of the equator. Water is continuously being exchanged among the earth's surface, atmosphere, and the subsurface.

-About two thirds of the human body is made up of water, and a person living to the age of 70 will need about 1 1/2 million gallons of water in their lifetime.

-The amount of water at the earth's surface has remained fairly constant over geologic time, cycling among the reservoirs of the atmosphere, streams, lakes, oceans, glaciers and groundwater.

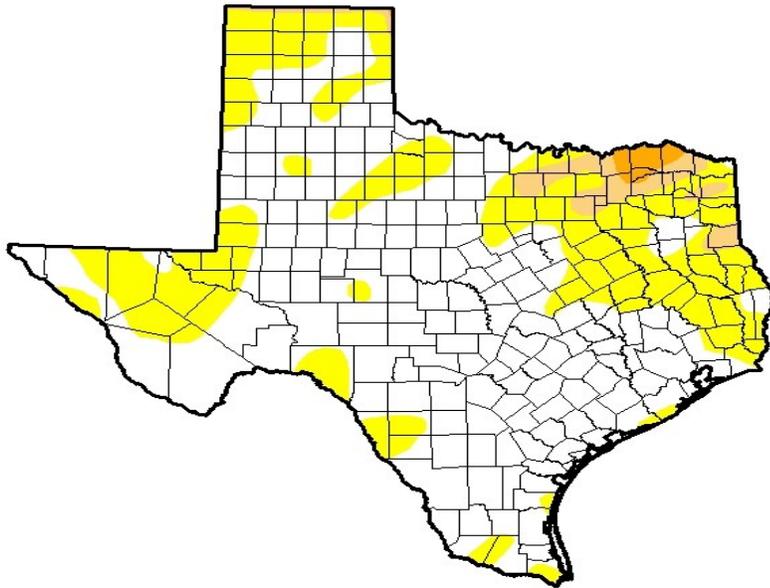
-Fresh water is less than 3% of the water at the earth's surface. Most fresh water is stored as glaciers and less than 1% of the earth's water near the surface is drinkable. About 99% of this water is in the form of groundwater.

-About 25% of private households in the U.S. get their water from wells. All the residents of Angelina County get their water from wells and about half the households in Nacogdoches County get their water from wells.

-It is recommended that all private well owners test their well water for bacteria annually and for total dissolved solids every three years as conditions can change.

U.S. Drought Monitor Texas

March 14, 2017
(Released Thursday, Mar. 16, 2017)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	65.12	34.88	4.52	0.93	0.00	0.00
Last Week 3/7/2017	70.92	29.08	4.65	0.93	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 12/13/2016	80.86	19.14	7.36	1.94	0.04	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 1/2/2017	81.50	18.50	6.29	1.97	0.04	0.00
Start of Water Year 9/27/2016	94.83	5.17	0.62	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 3/15/2016	88.58	11.42	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:
Brian Fuchs
National Drought Mitigation Center



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

40 Gallon Challenge to Conserve Water

<u>Outdoors</u>	<u>Saved Daily</u>
-----------------	--------------------

- | | |
|--|-------|
| Capture rainwater for flowers | 5gal |
| Sweep rather than spray driveway | 22gal |
| Water Yard after 12 midnight and before noon | 20gal |
| Reduce yard water by 1 cycle/wk | 30gal |
| Reduce sprinkler overspray | 20gal |
| Automatic car wash vs hand wash | 18gal |
| Use pool cover to reduce evaporation | 30gal |

By doing just a few of these things around the home will save 40 gallons of water per day or more. Multiply that number by 1,000 households and we save significant water for future use

40 Gallon Challenge to Conserve Water Indoors

- | | |
|--|--------|
| Run only full dishwasher loads | 2 gal |
| Don't leave water running rinsing dishes | 5 gal |
| Turn off water while brushing teeth (2x per day) | 8 gal |
| Shorten showers by 2 minutes | 5 gal |
| Fill bathtubs only half full | 18 gal |
| Wash full laundry loads cutting 1 load per wk | 5 gal |
| Fix leaky faucets | 15 gal |
| Fix leaky toilets | 30 gal |

These estimates are savings per day. 40 gallons saved per day times 365 days per year-

Equals 146,000 gallons per year per household



**PINEYWOODS GROUNDWATER
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***Serving Angelina and Nacogdoches
Counties***

The Water Newsletter is published quarterly as needed by the Pineywoods Groundwater Conservation District to help the public and the professional stay current on state and local issues dealing with water conservation, rules and groundwater. The District Office is located in room 132 in Nacogdoches City Hall at 202 E. Pilar Street, Nacogdoches, TX.

Board of Directors

Keith Wright - President

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Cheryl Benke—Administrative Assistant

**Visit us on the Web
www.pgcd.org**

Would you like to receive the newsletter in digital form? Let us know and send us your email address.

Calendar of Events

2017

Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Pineywoods Groundwater Conservation District, 1:30 PM

@ Kurth Lake Lodge

April 6, 2017

[Meeting dates subject to change, please check with the office for any changes. All meetings are posted in the courthouses of each county in the District, in the District office, and on our website.]

THE DISTRICT OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS

2017

January 2 New Years Day

January 16 MLK Day

April 14 Good Friday

May 29 Memorial Day

July 4 Independence Day

September 4 Labor Day

December 22 and 25 Christmas

November 23-24 Thanksgiving