

Hickory Underground Water Conservation District No. 1

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Autumn 2019 Newsletter

Heartbeat of the Hickory

current topics >>>

Educational programs and outreach are important aspects of our mission here at Hickory. Each year we do programs for local elementary schools, hold a 4th and 5th grade poster contest, and seek area high school students to attend the annual 4-H Water Ambassador program. As the school year started, we mailed invitations to area teachers alerting them of the upcoming poster contest. This contest is open to all 4th and 5th grade students within the District. The top three posters will receive Walmart Gift Certificates (\$25, \$20, and \$15 for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place respectively) as well as mention in the local paper and in our quarterly newsletter. The theme for this year's contest is WATER USE ON FARM AND RANCH. The posters can illustrate the importance of water to agriculture, agricultural conservation practices or any other related angle. The deadline for submission is February 7, 2020.



The Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors Program provides high school age youth an opportunity to gain advanced knowledge and develop leadership skills related to the science, technology, engineering, and management of water in Texas.

About the Program

Through an application process, each spring up to 30 high school youth are selected each year to participate in a summer 4-H2O Leadership Academy and commit service hours annually in a variety of ways.

Texas 4-H2O Leadership Academy

The Leadership Academy is a multi-day tour of Texas exposing youth to a wide diversity of water resources, water uses, sensitive ecosystems, water quality concerns, as well as the applied research and technologies employed to conserve this valued resource.

Ambassadors gain insight into water law, policy, planning, and management as they interact with representatives from state water agencies, educators, policy-makers, and water resource managers. Water Ambassadors also build an appreciation for the complexity of managing Texas surface and groundwater resources, its importance to local, regional, and state economies, and the responsibility we all have to protect this valuable resource for future generations.



Leadership, Mentorship, & Community Service

Water Ambassadors commit a minimum **40 hours of service** over a 12-month period following the Academy. Service hours may include delivering water education at local 4-H clubs, schools, fairs, and community events. Ambassadors also earn credit by assisting local water utilities, water conservation districts and Extension agents as they conduct water outreach activities and demonstration projects. Additional service credit is awarded to Ambassadors who participate in periodic on-line continuing education opportunities and assignments administered by the 4-H2O Program Coordinator.



FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact David Smith, davidsmith@tamu.edu

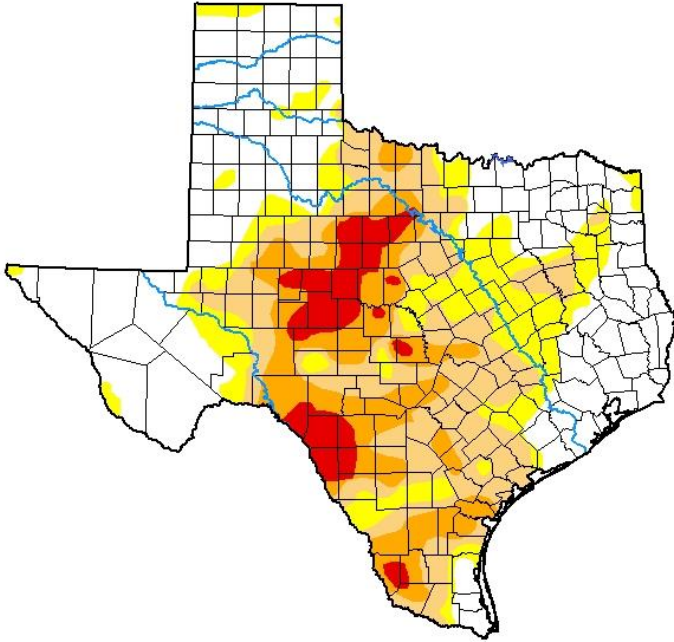
Facebook—@TX4HWaterAmbassador, Twitter—@4H2O_Ambassador, Instagram—4h_water_ambassadors

“Water conservation goes hand in hand with education. Teaching people that if you literally run the water while you brush your teeth - we go through 602 million gallons a day of waste in the United States because people are used to hearing the water run while they brush their teeth.” ~Ian Somerhalder

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U.S. Drought Monitor Texas

November 5, 2019
(Released Thursday, Nov. 7, 2019)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

| | None | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4 |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Current | 42.29 | 57.71 | 40.96 | 19.22 | 6.00 | 0.00 |
| Last Week 10-29-2019 | 38.98 | 61.02 | 46.55 | 22.40 | 4.65 | 0.00 |
| 3 Months Ago 08-06-2019 | 53.05 | 46.95 | 9.79 | 1.21 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2019 | 92.99 | 7.01 | 1.32 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Start of Water Year 10-01-2019 | 31.74 | 68.26 | 46.05 | 22.33 | 6.32 | 0.00 |
| One Year Ago 11-06-2018 | 97.17 | 2.83 | 1.15 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

Intensity:

- None
- 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:

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Western Regional Climate Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Texas Drought

How much rain did you get?

technology

While we aren't having much fodder for coffee shop discussion lately, when it does rain the burning question is always, "How much rain did you get?" Of course, you can always visit our website and click on the rainfall data. Unfortunately, we don't always have all the readings available right away.

Some other fantastic sites are the LCRA Hydromet

LCRA Hydromet
<https://hydromet.lcra.org/> and
Texas MesoNet.

<https://www.texmesonet.org/>
Rainfall is only one of many variables available on these sites.

