

San Angelo Wellfield

The San Angelo wellfield has been one of the hottest topics in local news lately. For this reason, we are addressing the issue again.

In 1995 the City of San Angelo filed permit applications for nine wells with the district. This was later amended to twenty-two wells. Legal battles ensued. As a result of the final judgment issued by Judge Steib, the District issued a permit for total production from all wells in the field. Several stipulations were set regarding use and production. The water shall be used for a beneficial purpose, without waste, and the water may NOT be sold. If any surface water is replaced with water from the District, that water, as well, may not be sold.

A production schedule was also set. Several of the articles in the San Angelo Standard Times have mentioned the option which the City of San Angelo has to "bank" water. According to the agreement, there is also a limit on the amount of water which may be banked and the amount which may be used annually regardless of amount accrued.

From March 14, 1996 until March 13, 2006, the City could have pumped 1,500 acre-feet a year. Since this wasn't used,

it may be banked. (One acrefoot is 325,851 gallons.)

From March 14, 2006 through March 13, 2021, the amount that may be banked annually is 2,750 acre-feet, but regardless of the amount accrued only 15,000 acre-feet may be pumped in a single year.

From March 14, 2021 to March 13, 2026, the annual amount which may be banked is 5,000 acre-feet, with a maximum production of 15,000 acre-feet.

San Angelo shall not be entitled to accrue water by banking after March 13, 2026.

From March 14, 2026 until March 13, 2036 the maximum quantity of water allotted annually is 10,000 acre-feet. If the City still has water accrued, they may produce from this accrual but no more than 12,000 acre-feet annually.

All of San Angelo's wells must be spaced a mile apart and may not exceed a maximum capacity of 500 gallons per minute. San Angelo will have complete discretion to determine when any additional replacement or supplemental wells are drilled.

San Angelo may not apply for any production from the District in excess of that amount agreed upon in the March 14, 1996 permit

Once again we're holding our annual Water Theme 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 as well as mention in the local paper and in our quarterly newsletter.

The theme for this year's contest is: **Water: Your Life Depends on It!**
The deadline for entry is **January 7, 2011.**

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Autumn 2010

Heartbeat of the Hickory

Water is personal, water is local, water is regional, water is statewide. Everybody has a different idea, a different approach, a different issue, a different concern. Water is the most personal issue we have. - Susan Marks: OnLine interview, October 7, 2009

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Water Levels

Wells have been measured and the results are in. Water levels in the Hickory are up again, this time an average of 0.7 feet. Meanwhile the Ellenburger and Marble Falls are both down. The Ellenburger is down a little over six feet on average and the Marble Falls is down 8.75 feet on average. These numbers are a little misleading because in the spring of 2010 the Ellenburger wells were up an average of 8.6 feet and the Marble Falls wells were up an average of 15.7 feet. During that same time period (Spring 2010), Hickory wells were up 1.2 feet.

For a detailed look at water levels in the District, visit our website at www.hickoryuwcd.org. Each well plotted on the map has an associated spreadsheet of historic water levels.

