



Heartbeat of the Hickory

Water Use Reports

Every December, the staff at the Hickory UWCD mails out several hundred water use reports. These go out to everyone who has a permitted well in the District. We ask the well owner to list the wells and amount of water used during the past year. These forms are to be completed and returned to the office by March 15 of the year following the reporting period. According to District Rule 16, failure to timely file the annual report will subject the permittee to a civil penalty and other sanctions provided in these rules.

Groundwater permits are reviewed every three years for renewal. If a well owner has not submitted his annual usage reports, his or her well permit is

subject to cancellation.

Pressure is being placed upon groundwater districts to limit the total amount of water permitted from each aquifer. As caps are reached, permits will be reduced or recalled. The first permits to be cancelled will be those that have not met administrative requirements.

As with all data collected by the District, this information is not being gathered to infringe upon the rights of the landowner. Just the opposite is true. Accurate data will be necessary in the future to protect water rights. As the State tries harder in each legislative session to gain authority over

groundwater, the efficiency and effectiveness of groundwater districts will be under intense scrutiny. Proving we can manage groundwater at a local level will be imperative. Landowner cooperation will be a vital piece of evidence to support local governing.

If you are no longer in possession of a well for which you received paperwork, please, let us know. If you have any questions or problems, please do not hesitate to contact the District Office. We will be glad to assist with the completion of these forms. Contact information: Phone # 325-597-2785, Email hickoryuwcd@yahoo.com.

Calculating Water Use

Understandably, people are confused about how to calculate the amount of water used. One method people use is to rely on their electric bill and calculate how many hours they ran the pump. Then take the hours and multiply by the average gallons per minute. Then take that number and divide by 5431.

Directors

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 Bert Striegler.....Secretary
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 Larry Lehmborg.....Director

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David Huie.....Manager
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Poster Contest

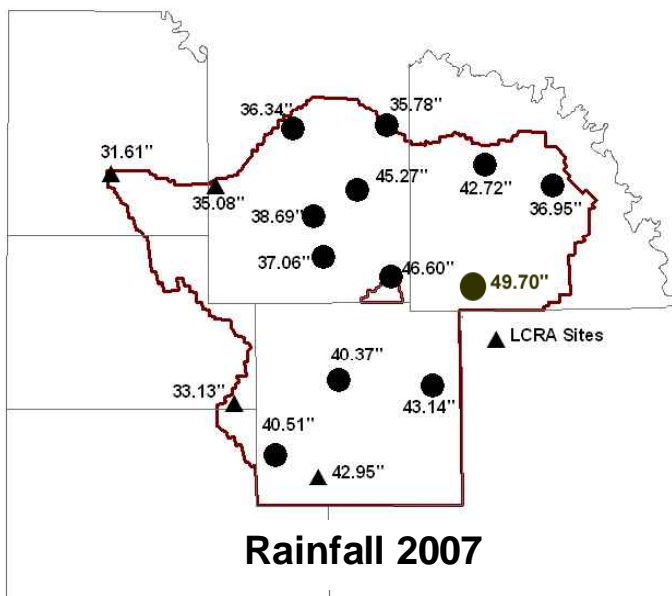
This year all three winners were 5th grade students from Lohn Elementary and students of Cheryl Stuart. Winning the grand prize was Kyla Swenson. First runner-up was Cheyenne Riggs and second runner-up was Mesa Rider. Congratulations to all three!

This year the winners will receive gift certificates from Wal-mart: \$20, \$15, and \$10.

Directors met in their regular meeting the evening of January 10 to decide on the winner. Posters were judged according to artwork, creativity, and adherence to this year's theme: "Water: Every Drop Counts."



From left to right, front row: Cheyenne Riggs, Kyla Swenson, and Mesa Rider
Back row: Cheryl Stuart and David Huie



If you have one of the Hickory rain gauges, don't forget to submit your rainfall report for last year. Thanks!