

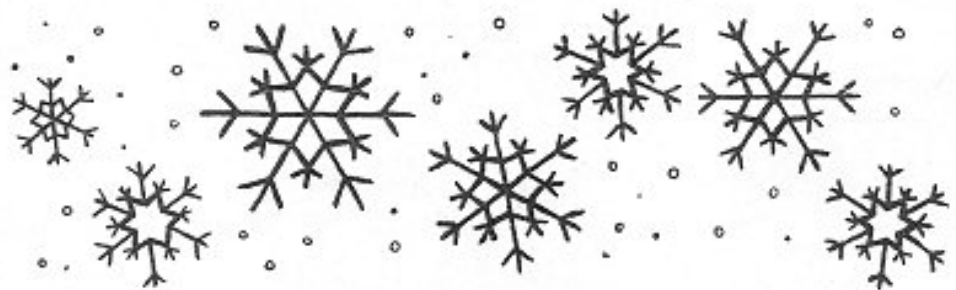
# District Activities

## 81st Legislature Regular Session

The Texas Legislature convened for regular session January 13, 2009. As of the date of this newsletter, 970 House Bills and 604 Senate Bills have been filed. (February 2)

The District will continue to monitor Legislative activity utilizing Telicon, an online tracking system. Additionally, the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts, to which the District belongs, will have a steady presence in Austin.

We will attempt to keep citizens informed on legislation and activities. If you're interested in receiving legislative updates, let us know. We can send updates via email or regular mail. Just call, write, or email.



### WATER LEVELS

Ronnie Moore has been actively measuring water levels throughout the District. As we stand, the average decline is about 2.52'. Last year's rainfall totals were below average, therefore, providing us with very little recharge. Ronnie will continue to collect measurements. These levels will be available on our website in an interactive format. In other words, you can click on the well and see the historic levels for a particular well. The feature is still in its early stages but will get better with time.

Doug Coker from the Texas Water Development Board will also be in the District measuring the wells that we don't have on our list. He will share all data collected with the District. He will be calling landowners in the next few weeks to set up dates and times to visit the property. If you have any questions for him, call him at his office 512-936-0874 or on his mobile phone 512-517-7581.

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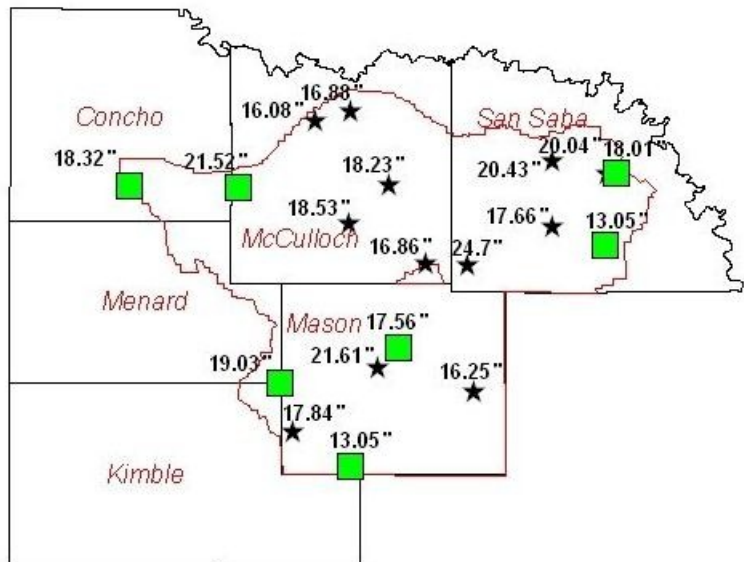


*Water is the lifeblood of our bodies, our economy, our nation, and our well-being.*  
 ~Stephen Johnson, EPA Administrator



**RAINFALL 2008**

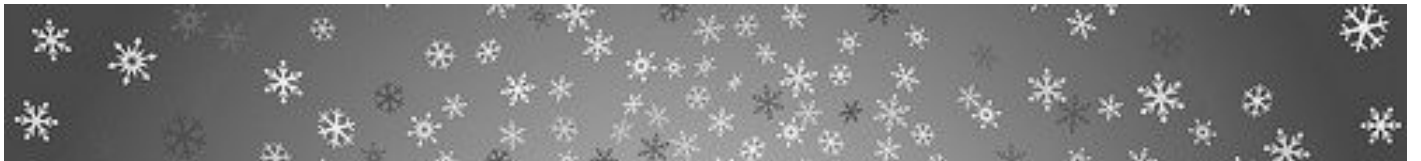
Rainfall totals for 2008 were half the amounts tallied for 2007. 2007 left us with an average across the District of 39.24" while 2008 was a mere 18.19". According to most official sources, the average annual measurement for Central Texas is 24" to 26".



**A Friendly Reminder**

Water Use Reports have been mailed and are due back at the Hickory office by March, 16, 2009.

Thanks to everyone for your help in maintaining this vital information.



**Congratulations to Our Poster Contest Winners!**

The Hickory Board of Directors and staff would like to congratulate the following winners of our most recent poster contest: Lauren McDonald, 1st Place; Sebastian Hawthorne, 2nd Place; and Courtney Childers, 3rd Place—all students in Nancy Hannifin's 4th & 5th grade classes in Eden. This year's theme was "Find a Solution for Water Pollution". We're grateful for the participation of all involved!



Hickory UWCD board member Wendell Moody congratulates the contest winners.

Pictured left to right are the winning posters: 1st place receives a \$20 Wal-Mart gift card; 2nd place, a \$15 gift card; and 3rd place, a \$10 gift card.

