



Heartbeat of the Hickory

Quarterly Newsletter of the Hickory Underground Water Conservation District No. 1
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Poster Contest 2017



Left to Right: Top Row Ms. Schaake, Ms Thomas, Ms Tarr
Bottom row left to right Luke Marshall, Victoria Evrige and Kayna Raybion

All three winners of the 2017 District's Poster Contest were from Brady Elementary. First place in our annual poster contest went to Luke Marshall from Ms. Schaake's class. Second place was Victoria Evrige from Ms. Thomas's class and third place went to Kayna Raybion in Ms Tarr's class. The winners were chosen at the February Board Meeting from a selection of 84 submitted posters. This year's theme was Water Is Life. The contest is open to all 4th and 5th graders in the district. The winning posters will be displayed in the front window of the District office at 111 East Main.



If you have permitted wells and have not submitted your Water Use Reports for 2016, you're LATE! Please, submit your paperwork ASAP. Administratively incomplete permits are subject to cancellation.



Texas Legislative Update

A total of 8,003 bills were filed this legislative session. The following bills are NOT listed in order of priority.

Bills filed by Rep. Lyle Larson: **HB 31** filed pertaining to groundwater conservation districts' permitting process, including export. **HB 2005** relating to the duty of the Texas Water Development Board to conduct studies of and prepare and submit reports on aquifer storage and recovery. **HB 2377** relating to the development of brackish groundwater. **HB 2378** relating to extensions of an expired permit for the transfer of groundwater from a groundwater conservation district. (Identical bill SB774 introduced into Senate by Senator Charles Perry). **HB 2948** relating to the state and regional water planning process. **HB 3991** relates to the appropriations of water for aquifer storage and recovery projects. **HB 4050** relates to exports of groundwater from groundwater conservation districts.

Bill filed by Rep. Eddie Lucio III **HB 173** relating the licensing and regulations of certain rainwater harvesting. **HB 180** relating to the review of groundwater conservation districts by the state auditor. **HB 645** and **HB 1318** relating to the regulation of production of wells for retail public utilities by a groundwater conservation district. **HB 3166** relating to the consideration of modeled sustainable groundwater pumping in the adoption of desired future conditions in groundwater conservation districts.

HB 352 filed by Rep. Andrew Murr relating to the procedure by which a state agency may issue an opinion that watercourse is navigable.

HB 2215 by Rep. Four Price relating to the adoption of desired future conditions for aquifers in groundwater management areas and the consideration of those conditions in the regional water planning process. Rep. Tracy King introduced **HB 3025** relating to open, uncovered, abandoned and deteriorated wells. Rep. King also filed **HB 3417** relating to the criteria considered by groundwater conservation districts before granting or denying a permit.

HB 3027 by Rep. Dade Phelan relating to applicability of open meetings and public information laws to regional water planning groups and their committees. (**SB 34** by Sen. Kirk Watson is identical bill).

HB 3028 by Rep. DeWayne Burns relating to groundwater ownership and rights.

HB 3037 by Rep. Paul Workman relating to the definition of groundwater management areas to coincide with major and minor aquifers and the joint planning process in those areas. Rep. Workman also filed **HB 3038** relating to the explanatory reports issued by the district representatives in groundwater management areas and **HB 3043** relating to the joint planning process for groundwater management.

Rep. Jason Isaac introduced **HB 3677** to create the heart of Texas Aquifer District, dissolving several central Texas groundwater Conservation Districts in Blanco, Burnet, Comal, Hays and Kendall Counties.

HB 4045 by Rep. Philip Cortez relating to issuance of permits without notice or opportunity for hearing to the 12 owner of a parcel of land that contains greater than 1000 contiguous surface acres and is included 13 in the territory of two or more groundwater conservation districts.

HB 4122 – Rep. Kacal relating to the transference of certain territory from one GCD to another.

On the Senate side, Sen. Uresti filed **SB 180** relating to the notice of an application for a permit to drill certain injection wells within a certain distance of a groundwater conservation district.

Bills filed by Sen. Charles Perry: **SB 862** Relating to the award of attorney's fees and other costs in certain proceedings involving a groundwater conservation district, **SB 864** relating to the procedure for obtaining a right to use state water if the applicant proposes an alternative source of water that is not state water, **SB 1009** Relating to administrative completeness requirements for permit and permit amendment applications for groundwater conservation districts, **SB 1052** Relating to an appeal of a desired future condition in a groundwater management area. **SB 1392** introduces the concept of common reservoir.

SB 1528 by Sen. Creighton relates to the joint planning process.

You can read the entirety of each bill and see its current status at:

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/Home.aspx>