



GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT NEWS AND UPDATES

Celebrate National Groundwater Week!

Join us this week, **March 9-15, 2025**, as a spotlight is turned on the vital role groundwater plays in our daily lives. This week is dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of protecting and conserving our precious groundwater resources. From providing drinking water to supporting agriculture and ecosystems, groundwater is a hidden treasure beneath our feet.

Ten ways to protect and conserve groundwater ... all year long!

1. Go native

Use native plants in your landscape. They look great, and don't need much water or fertilizer. Also choose grass varieties for your lawn that are adapted for Texas' climate, reducing the need for extensive watering or chemical applications.

2. Reduce chemical use

Use fewer chemicals around your home and yard, and make sure to dispose of them properly — don't dump them on the ground!

3. Manage waste

Properly dispose of potentially toxic substances like unused chemicals, pharmaceuticals, paint, motor oil, and other substances. Many communities hold household hazardous waste collections or sites — contact your local health department to find one near you.

4. Don't let it run

Shut off the water when you brush your teeth or while shaving, and don't let it run while waiting for it to get cold. Keep a pitcher of cold water in the fridge instead.

5. Fix the drip

Check all the faucets, fixtures, toilets, and taps in your home for leaks and fix them right away, or install water conserving models.

6. Wash smarter

Limit yourself to just a five-minute shower, and challenge your family members to do the same! Also, make sure to only run full loads in the dish and clothes washers.

7. Water wisely

Water the lawn and plants during the coolest parts of the day and only when they truly need it. Make sure you, your family, and your neighbors obey any watering restrictions during dry periods.

8. Reduce, reuse, and recycle

Reduce the amount of “stuff” you use and reuse what you can. Recycle paper, cardboard, glass, aluminum and other materials.

9. Natural alternatives

Use all natural/nontoxic household cleaners whenever possible. Materials such as lemon juice, baking soda, and vinegar make great cleaning products, are inexpensive, and environmentally-friendly.

10. Learn and do more!

Get involved in water education! Learn more about groundwater and share your knowledge with others.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to make a difference! 💧

#GroundwaterWeek2025 #ProtectOurWater

Big thanks to local artist Barbara VanTassel for her gifting of two oil paintings to the Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater District, one an idyllic local river scene, and the other a view of the Johnson Settlement as seen from the Groundwater District's office building in Johnson City. Yes, Barbara was the artist!



“We are not in the water business ... we are in the PEOPLE business ...”

A book we highly recommend: "Lessons from Leopold: Learning from the Land", by Stephan A. Nelle. This work is part of the Myrna and David K. Langford Books on Working Lands series. It delves into the insights and philosophies of renowned conservationist Aldo Leopold, emphasizing the importance of understanding and learning from the natural world. Through a combination of thoughtful narrative and evocative imagery, the book encourages readers to reflect on their relationship with the land and the lessons it imparts.

Stage 3 Drought Conditions continue:

Under Stage 3, the District's Drought Rules set a conservation goal of 20-50% reduction in groundwater use. Outdoor watering demands are the largest use of groundwater, whether it is domestic landscaping, ball fields, agricultural crops, hay meadows, ponds, or a golf course. As a result, the largest reduction in groundwater use can be achieved by using conservation measures listed below.

Drought Stage 3 Conservation Goal: 20-50% reduction in groundwater use

Usage Reduction Measures:

- Continue, or increase voluntary reduction in various uses
- Check for and correct all plumbing leaks
- Water outside lawns, trees, shrubs once every 5 to 7 days
- Water at night between hours of 8pm and midnight using hand-held hose with automatic shut-off nozzle or automatic timer
- Hose end sprinkler systems prohibited
- Wash vehicles at commercial car wash facilities only as needed
- No washing of buildings, driveways, streets, patios, or other outdoor surfaces except as required for human or animal health and safety needs, or for fire prevention
- Watering for dust control only when required by law
- Livestock watered in leak-proof troughs strongly recommended
- Pumping groundwater into livestock ponds is discouraged
- Providing groundwater to ponds, lakes, tanks, reservoirs, pools or other surface impoundments for holding water is prohibited

The District asks everyone to remember that our Blanco County groundwater is our most valuable resource. Please use it wisely. If you have any questions or concerns about water wells, drought conditions, water conservation practices, or Blanco County groundwater resources, Please contact the Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District.

Relief could be just weeks away: In Blanco County, the wettest month is typically May, with average precipitation ranging from 3.8 to 5 inches, depending on the data source.



Got a Camera?

Spring is coming!

As you are out and about, and if you see water flowing in a stream bed, or see a field or a tree flowering up, take a photo or two and send it to our email address at office@blancogw.org. If we publish your photo in our next newsletter, of course we will give glowing photographer credit. So please provide your contact info with any photos you send us. We may even print out some of your photos to adorn our office walls. We'll invite you over for a photo next to your print, if we do!

Blanco Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District

601 W Main St, Johnson City
United States of America
830-868-9196

office@blancogw.org

www.bpgcd.org

You received this email because you signed up on our website or asked us to send it to you.

[Unsubscribe](#)

