

Ground Water Conservation Districts

At our February 28th meeting, President Rhett Johnson spoke about the creation of a Ground Water Conservation District for Somervell County. The following is highlights from the meeting. By approximately March 15,2009, legislation is expected to be passed setting up the GWCD. District will be composed of Somervell, Johnson, Ellis, Hill and Navarro Counties. GWCD Board will be formed within 60 days after legislation is signed, with 2 Representatives from each County. Board will then develop regulations that will govern the ground water usage in the District. GWCD will be a fee based district instead of a tax base district. Commercial use wells that produce 25,000 gallons or more will be assessed a fee based on the gallons pumped. Gas and Oil drilling companies can drill any where they want to for water used in fracking etc. But in this District, the legislation states that they will have to pay a fee for the water used. You will be asked to register all current wells. This will be used by the Board to issue permits for drilling new wells based on proximity, size, etc. For more information, contact your county commissioner. You can also obtain the Extension Booklet entitled Ground Water Conservation Districts in Texas. B-6120,8-06.This booklet can be viewed at the following link.

Questions about Groundwater Conservation Districts in Texas

http://www.agrilifebookstore.org/publications_details.cfm?whichpublication=1588&orderby=pubnumber&SIMPLESEARCH=water%20conservation%20district&criteriastring=SIMPLESEARCH%3Dwater%20conservation%20district