

Citizens Vote Yes To Confirm Groundwater Conservation District For Colorado County

- Harold Raabe
- Laura Myres
- Tom Kelley
- Linda Balas
- Russell Thomas
- Rene Al-Obaidi
- Adrianna Cordova
- Billy Youens
- Angelica Morales
- David Kahlich
- Marcie Salinas
- Jim Wiese
- Bruce Johnson
- Dr. Ray Cantu
- William "Bill" Harrison Jr.
- Don Bendy
- Chriss Schuirring
- Janie Waddell
- Stephanie Guthman
- Lisa Hoffman
- Mary Kay Cook
- Vick Corman
- Roxanne Harrison
- Cherry Corman
- Gary Obenhaus
- Michael Lanier
- Brenda Corman
- Sam Kana
- Jim Simmons
- Anna Gertson
- Glenn Weishuhn
- Joanne Mahalitic
- Pat Pavlu
- Ed Gold
- Cathy Stienke
- Brian Wiese
- Tonya Spalek
- Rosie Contreras
- Beverly Duddleston
- Carol Ripper
- Richard Counts
- Diane Causey
- Scott Brasher
- Bridget Belman
- Angie Almaraz
- Betty Till
- Carol Mitchell
- Kim Jones
- Wendy Alley
- Pat Matula
- David Sommer
- Carolyn Burrow
- Brenda Besch
- Nancy Nelson
- Larry Parsons
- Lois Raabe
- Dr. John Myres
- Margo Harrison
- Vicki Kelley
- Davis Waddell
- Cory Schonenberg
- Robin Thomas
- Betty Schuirring
- Wayne Corman
- Suzanne Pavle
- Randa Simmons
- John Gertson
- Kim Gold
- Kenneth Mahalitic
- Dustin Guthman
- Linda Counts
- Melinda Al-Obaidi
- William Harrison Sr.
- Paula Youens
- Arthur Mahalitic & Sons, Inc.
- Jean Wiese
- Thierry Hoffman

The purpose of a GCD is to preserve and protect groundwater, and to prevent waste, subsidence, and degradation of water quality.

There are 89 GCD's in Texas, protecting 85% of available groundwater. GCD's have over 50 years of proven experience in Texas.

The "rule of capture" is ground-water law in Colorado County. This law allows for unlimited pumping of groundwater, with no consequence for problems caused to neighbors.

In 1949, the State legislature realized modification of the "rule of capture" was needed to protect groundwater and created the first GCD to make rules for this purpose.

The State also realized water availability varies greatly from area to area, therefore it is best to make rules locally. Our GCD, as authorized by state law (Chapter 36 - Texas Water Code), will make our rules based on local conditions.

Texas citizens have the right to sell and transport groundwater (like gravel, oil, gas, timber). The only way to prevent pumping too much water and causing harm, is with rules made by a GCD.

A GCD collects data on water levels and water quality throughout the county to be used in protecting our water.

Our GCD will not be controlled by regional water planners and LCRA. The State clearly places groundwater protection and planning in the hands of the local GCD, governed by local citizens, elected by local voters.

Our neighbors have GCD's. Gonzales Co. recently denied permits to SAWS. Wharton Co. water usage has doubled with the arrival of a large user. Fayette Co. has a small water supply, so conservation measures are very important.

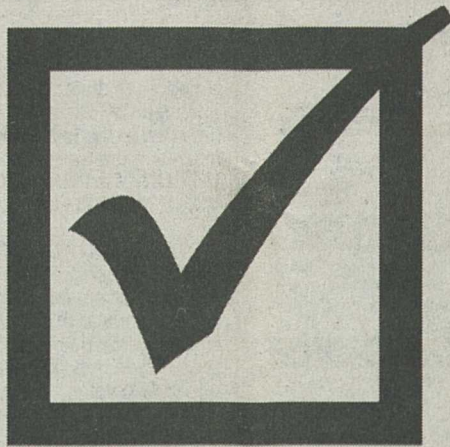
Our GCD would allow us to protect our groundwater resources according to the laws of Texas, while implementing our own rules.

The GCD does not want your water, and will not sell your water. The GCD will help you protect your water.

Texas population is expected to double by 2050. Big cities are looking for water to supply their needs today and in the future.

Our groundwater comes from the Gulf Coast Aquifer. Our water is accessible, abundant, and in close proximity to Houston, Austin, and San Antonio. These cities all need more water to supply their needs today and in the future.

November 6th VOTE YES



Confirm the creation of the

Colorado County Groundwater Conservation District

VOTE YES

A GCD is the
only way to protect
your groundwater
when big cities,
water marketers,
and LCRA drill
wells here.

VOTE YES

Save Our
Groundwater
for
our children
and
grandchildren

VOTE YES

Be sure you have accurate information when making your decision. Incorrect interpretation of the laws, and incorrect bill analysis (quoted as fact) have been used to misguide our voters. Excerpts from articles, which have changed the context of the original article have also misled our voters.

It is important to have GCD before (not after) marketers arrive to protect our water. Allowing a marketer to spend millions in our county gives the marketer "reasonable expectations." Attempts to stop marketers after arrival would allow claims of "stranded investment," and they could expect compensation.

Water marketers do take water from counties that do not have a GCD - just ask Williamson County. Most counties respond quickly to marketers by voting in a GCD.

We must have a GCD to have a vote at the Groundwater Management Area (GMA) meetings, according to SB3. Citizens may attend meetings, and comment if we do not have a GCD, but they may not vote.

The state allows areas outside of an existing GCD to be annexed by a GCD. The state does encourage GCD's as the preferred method of groundwater management. SB3 analysis says "... this statute does not encourage the creation of single-county GCD's," in order to allow an area outside of a GCD to be annexed.

GCD's do not supply infrastructure for water marketers. Marketers pay for their own infrastructure (trucks, buildings, bottling plants, feasibility studies).

The need to protect is vital with urban sprawl, development, and increased consumption by citizens, agriculture, and industry.

We will pay for our GCD with property tax. The maximum tax rate is 3 cents per \$100 valuation. The average taxable appraisal in the county is \$76,000. The average tax bill will be no more than \$22.00 per year.

Our rules say: 1) There will be no eminent domain; 2) Access to property with landowner consent; 3) Meters will not be required on domestic or livestock wells pumping less than 25,000 gallons per day; 4) Existing wells are exempt from spacing requirements; 5) The district shall be governed by seven elected directors; 6) Directors are not compensated; 7) Directors are limited to two terms.

The leaders of our county and our municipalities recognized the need for the Colorado County GCD. The Colorado County Commissioners Court, and the city councils of Columbus, Eagle Lake, and Weimar all voted unanimously to proceed with the creation of our GCD.

Vote now, to protect our water now and for the future. Save groundwater for your children and grandchildren.

- Sandy Bendy
- Roberta Johnson
- Danette Cantu
- Rob Thomas
- Janet Mahalitic
- E.A. "Zeb" Lauzon
- Calvin Mahalitic
- Yvonne Lowe
- Waverly Mahalitic
- Lillie Mae Hillmer
- Elvera Kahlich
- Kenneth Wegenhoft
- Stephen Mahalitic
- Leslie Matthews
- Eddie Pavliska
- Herbert Ashenbeck
- Sandra Frnka
- Mickey Glueck
- Dr. Tom Hancher
- Bonnie Hartensteiner
- Bill Hartley
- Richard Heffley
- Herbie Helmcamp
- Marvin Hillmer
- Bob Sims
- Patricia Briscoe
- DyAnn Lauzon
- Dr. Robert (Bob) Lowe
- Pam Moore
- Bob Pickens
- Whyman Psencik
- Ann Wessels
- John Saul
- Curtiss Schonenberg
- Steven Spanihel
- Al Mahalitic
- Vivian Spanihel
- Jessye Hefner
- Sonny Lauzon
- Paula Lanier
- Mark Buenisch
- Mary Mahalitic
- Ronnie Ashenbeck
- Raymond Mahalitic
- Cynthia Buenisch
- Kenneth Danklefs
- Alvirder Helmcamp
- Ann Pavliska
- Arthur Mahalitic
- Janice Danklefs
- Jean Ellis
- Leroy Frnka
- Brad Engstrom
- Charles Glueck
- Judy Engstrom
- Tim Trickett
- David Meisell
- Christine Hancher
- Marian Schonenberg
- Clara Mahalitic
- Sharon Wegenhoft
- Edwin "Hardy" Hartensteiner
- Travis Wegenhoft
- Wm. Mark Wied
- Jane Wied
- Rachel Thomas
- Gail Heffley
- Carolyn Trickett
- Joshua B. Werland
- Doug Wessels
- Carolyn Psencik
- Sissy Sims
- Bill Briscoe
- Joe Moore
- M Plus Land Company
- Theresa Zapalac
- Janet Duncan
- Millie Cordes

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Ad paid for by Citizens for the Colorado County GCD, Laura Myres, Treasurer.