



Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District

Barton Springs Hackathon (rescheduled)

What? A Hackathon is where computer coders and tech developers combine strengths with scientists and stakeholders to collectively address a particular challenge. The District, UT's [Texas Advanced Computing Center](#), and the [Hill Country Alliance](#) have joined forces to host the Barton Springs Hackathon.

The Barton Springs Hackathon is a technical workshop focused on unlocking a wealth of monitor well data and combining it with precipitation, stream flow and springflow data to better show the water cycle that influences Barton Springs.



Participants will collaborate in project groups like data processing, data visualization, Find My Monitor Well web portal, and teaching tools. This collaboration will provide a forum to network, learn, and gain work experience across a diverse set of skills while helping increase access to important hydrologic data.

Who should attend?

Anyone with a technical, scientific or educational background who can help in the following project teams:

- Well water, stream flow, and precipitation data processing, analytics and visualization
- Web portal and query tool for well owners to identify the most relevant monitor well based on aquifer and location
- Education and awareness projects and curriculum
- Innovating our current sensor network to be IoT capable
- Creating GIS compatible data sets

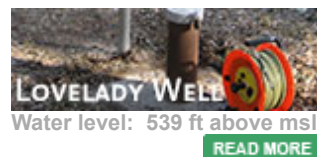
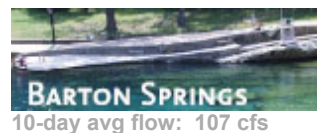
All you groundwater tech folks, join us on Fri., Mar. 3 from 9-4 (lunch provided) at the Texas Advanced Computing Center on the Pickle Research Center in North Austin! Find out more and RSVP for the Hackathon workshop: www.bseacd.org/hackathon

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Current Drought Stage: NO DROUGHT

The District uses two drought triggers to manage pumping and coordinate conservation.



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EP Aquifer Test Update

The Electro Purification (EP) aquifer test concluded mid-January. District staff and EP contractors have compiled and exchanged data collected over the duration of the aquifer test.

EP contractors are currently analyzing the data and preparing their hydrogeologic report, which provides documentation and support for a proposed permit volume. An application for pumping has not yet been received. District staff are also analyzing the data and preparing technical documents. When a production permit application is submitted by EP to the District, District staff will review the contractor's hydrogeologic report, perform a technical evaluation, and prepare findings to determine whether the requested volume may have potential to cause unreasonable impacts to surrounding wells or the aquifer. The staff's findings will be presented to the Board to inform any permit decision. We estimate this to occur in the next few months.

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Central Hays Co. Multiport Monitor Well

The installation of a unique monitor well in central Hays County has begun. The 850 ft deep multiport monitor well is designed to allow monitoring of up to 12 zones within the Trinity Aquifer.



This monitor well will greatly increase the knowledge of the characteristics of the layers of rocks in the area. The well will provide key data helping scientists to understand the movement of flow among and within the various aquifers, and will be an important long-term data resource for the region. The well is located in central Hays County in the Rolling Oaks subdivision near Driftwood. Hays County provided substantial support for the monitor well, and additional support for the well includes a location granted by the Wimberley Volunteer Fire and Rescue and access by surrounding neighbors.

SH 45 Update

District staff is coordinating with TxDOT to arrange onsite inspections of the SH 45 right of way. District inspections will primarily occur during phases of clearing/construction or milestones, after major rain events, and when sensitive features or

inspections thus far and provided a few minor recommendations regarding BMPs and karst features. TxDOT is providing the District with updates.

Final clearing from FM 1626 to Bear Creek is complete and a temporary haul road is being constructed. The haul road will be mulched and any temporary or permanent seeding will occur only in areas that are being left undisturbed from construction activity longer than 21 days. The initial clearing, BMP installation, and geologic surveys are complete from Mopac to Bear Creek. Any and all clearing activities will be completed before bird nesting season (February 15th). Contractors have begun drilling shafts for the bridge foundation near Bear Creek. A camera will be sent down the shafts to check for voids.

Needmore Contested Case

The Needmore Water, LLC Temporary Permit application has been determined to be administratively complete. Public notice of the conversion to a Regular Permit was published on 11/29/16 and the comment period closed on 12/19/16.

The District received a request for a contested case hearing from both the applicant and the Trinity Edwards Spring Protection Association (TESPA). TESPAs requested the hearing to go before the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH). At the 1/26/17 board meeting the Board decided that the preliminary hearing to determine party status will be heard by SOAH. That preliminary hearing date is still to be determined. The General Manager has provided a [Preliminary Decision](#) with recommended Special Provisions, and a Technical Evaluation, that is available on the website www.bseacd.org

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Summer Camp and College Scholarships

Each year the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District, in collaboration with our permittees, offers scholarships for two different age groups.

- [Kent Butler Memorial Scholarship available for Juniors and Seniors in High School](#)
- [Camp Scholarship available for students age 9-15](#)



Many thanks to Centex Materials, Creedmoor Water Supply Corporation, Texas Lehigh Cement Company, Goforth Special Utility District, and Oak Forest for donating all or a portion of their Conservation Credits to the scholarship fund. The scholarship program would not be a success without these generous donations!

announced in June.

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Upcoming Events, Meetings, & Deadlines

Mon., Feb. 20: **Office closed for Presidents' Day**

Thurs., Feb. 23: **BSEACD Board Meeting**

Wed., Mar. 1: **Permittee Meter Readings Due** ([details](#))

Fri., Mar. 3: **Barton Springs Hackathon** ([details](#))

Mar. 6-10: **National Groundwater Awareness Week** ([details](#))

Thurs., Mar. 9: **BSEACD Board Meeting**

Wed., Mar. 22: **Scholarship Applications Due** ([details](#))

Thurs., Mar. 23: **BSEACD Board Meeting**

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