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Tuesday, January 10, 2017



Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District

Scholarship Contests Now Open

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!

Applications for both contests must be received by the District by 5:00pm on Wednesday, March 22. Winners are typically announced in June.

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EP Aquifer Test Activities and Timeline

The Electro Purification (EP) aquifer test began in October and will likely finish in the coming weeks. EP contractors, District staff, and the Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) staff are coordinating testing activities and monitoring efforts. Aquifer tests are an essential part of the District's permitting process. The Board and staff rely heavily on results of these tests to inform permit volumes and conditions.

Synopsis of aquifer test activities:

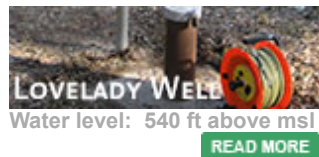
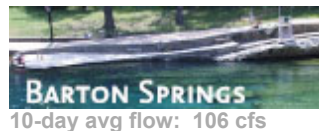
EP converted the Odell 1 well into a Lower Glen Rose monitor well. They have developed and pumped Bridges 2 and Bridges 1 for 5

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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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contractors experienced technical difficulties that delayed the start of the test; however, the pump phase is complete and water level recovery is being recorded. During all tests, water level and water quality data were collected. Provisional District water-level data from the deep Cow Creek monitor wells show a measurable response to the pumping. The measurable response is what is needed to allow calculations of aquifer parameters such as transmissivity and storage.

Currently, the EP contractors requested and received approval to re-test Bridges 2. After the test was complete, the EP contractors discovered that the original pump assembly installation was not placed properly. The well will not be developed again, but crews will reinstall the pump assembly and begin pumping in the upcoming weeks. Water levels are continuously being recorded.

What happens next:

Once the testing is complete and water levels have recovered, both the District staff and EP contractors will compile and check all data collected over the duration of the aquifer test. Once compiled, organized, and checked, the District will share data with surrounding GCDs and EP contractors. EP contractors will go through the same process. After all data is available, EP contractors will analyze the data and propose a permit volume based on those analyses, explained through their Hydrogeologic Report. The Hydrogeological Report is required with submittal of a production permit application to support a requested permit volume.

When a production permit application is submitted by EP to the District, District staff will review and vet the contractor's Hydrogeologic Report, model effects of the requested volume, and determine whether the requested volume may have potential to cause unreasonable impacts to surrounding wells. The staff's findings will be presented to the Board to inform the permit decision.

To make the aquifer test more transparent to the groundwater community, the District (with EP's support) posts updates on the [EP Aquifer Test Spotlight](#) page.

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Barton Springs Hackathon

The Barton Springs Hackathon is a one-day, hands-on, technical workshop focused on unlocking hydrologic data in central Texas for public consumption. The District has teamed up with the Texas Advanced Computing Center to host the first Barton Springs Hackathon! With support from the Hill Country Alliance, the Hackathon will be a fun day to learn, teach, and help make data more accessible.



from a large network of monitoring sites and help well owners and central Texas residents understand the groundwater system that feeds Barton Springs. Join a project team and lend your expertise to the challenge!

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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 TESP. TESP requested the hearing to go before the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH). Hearing dates are still to be determined. The General Manager has provided a Preliminary Decision with recommended Special Provisions, and a Technical Evaluation, that is available [here](#).

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Upcoming Events, Meetings, & Deadlines

Sun., Jan. 1: **Permittee Meter Readings Due** ([details](#))

Mon., Jan. 2: **Office closed for New Years Day**

Thurs., Jan. 12: **BSEACD Board Meeting** ([details](#))

Mon., Jan. 16: **Office closed for MLK Day**

Thurs., Jan. 26: **BSEACD Board Meeting**

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

Thurs., Feb 2: Water Conservation Symposium ([details](#))

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

Fri., Feb 17: **Barton Springs Hackathon** ([details](#))

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

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

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