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Monday, Oct. 23, 2017



## Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District

### Submit Your Nominations for Groundwater Stewardship Awards



Every other year, the District hosts the Groundwater Stewardship Awards to honor individuals, programs, and companies that have invested exemplary effort towards the protection and conservation of water resources in the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District.

The District will accept nominations in these categories:

**Aquifer Advocate** – Honors efforts to inform and improve policy, collaborate and coordinate community-scale solutions to water resource challenges, and/or involve and educate individuals, neighborhoods, school groups, and professional contacts about water-related issues.

**Water Quality Protection** – Honors efforts that focus on water quality issues such as water monitoring, sampling and testing, pollution prevention (such as creek cleanups), and land use practices to reduce non-point source pollution.

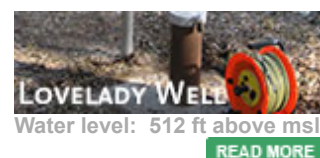
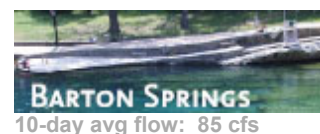
**Research and Education** – Honors efforts that lead to improved understanding or advanced practices in areas such as groundwater, hydrogeology, water treatment, alternative water supplies, well drilling, or structural and

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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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**Innovation** – Honors efforts that incorporate new and creative practices or represent outstanding efforts in communication and partnership toward the betterment of the aquifer and related environmental issues.

An individual, group, company or agency may be nominated in any one category, and anyone can nominate a deserving entity. The District's Board of Directors will select the recipients. Awards may not be given every year in every category, and categories may be added if needed. Download the nomination form and submit it online today!

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## **Outreach Specialist Job Opportunity**



We're hiring! A part time Outreach Specialist for the Aquifer District has just been posted. Help us find the perfect fit! Apply by Monday, November 6.

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## **SH 45 Project Oversight**

The District holds a legally binding Consent Decree with TxDOT that establishes the District's position and role in the SH 45 project. One key provision is the right to observe and comment on construction activities and provide suggestions. District staff has conducted 13 environmental site inspections since December 2016, with six occurring after rain events. The District follows up by providing recommendations and comments relating to erosion control measures, recharge features, and contractor compliance. Overall, TxDOT has been responsive to recommendations and the environmental protections throughout the project site are in good condition.



Construction activities are moving quickly. Crews finished placing asphalt on a third of a mile of the west to eastbound main lanes north of Bliss Spillar Road and to FM 1626. Cranes are being utilized to complete the construction of the Bridge over Bear Creek. A temporary bridge is still in place over Bear Creek to connect the haul road. Crews are constructing columns and working on the MoPac interchange. Crews are also working to widen the southbound MoPac embankment. Excavation of seven of the eight water quality ponds is underway. These water quality ponds will serve as sediment traps during the construction of the project. Work is progressing on soundwalls at Danz Creek Split, the MoPac Interchange, and other locations throughout the project. The construction work is approximately 38% complete.

[Drone Footage from July 2017](#) - external source  
[CTRMA Conceptual Video](#)

## **EP Application Update**

On July 13, 2017, Electro Purification submitted seven Well Modification Applications and a Production Permit Application with detailed hydrogeological report for 912,500,000 million gallons a year (2.5 MGD) to be produced from the Middle Trinity Aquifer for the purpose of Wholesale Public Water Supply.

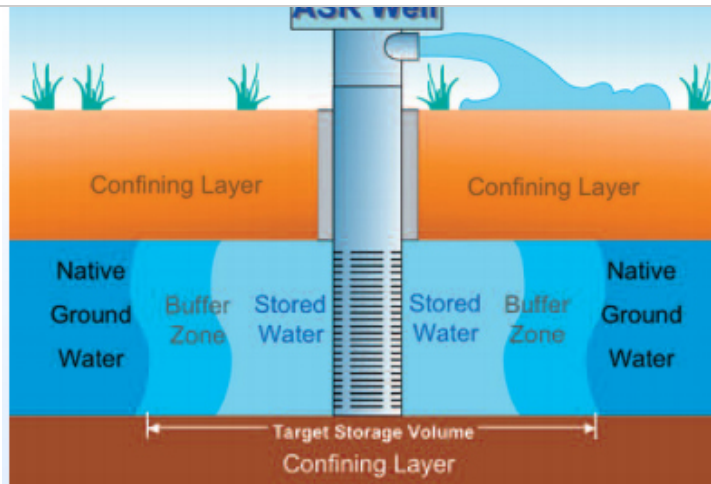
The District's Aquifer Science staff review of the applicant's hydrogeologic report is ongoing and includes 1) evaluation of the aquifer test data and hydrogeologic setting, 2) estimation of aquifer parameters, and 3) assessment of the potential for unreasonable impact from the proposed pumping. Staff has responded to the applicant requesting additional technical information to complete the review.

A [formal written request](#) for additional information was provided to the applicant on October 11, 2017. The deadline for administrative completeness of the application is January 9, 2018.

[EP Permit Notice page](#)

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## **Aquifer Storage and Recovery Rule Making**



Initial aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) rule concepts and rule making timeline were presented and accepted at the August 10, 2017 Board Meeting. The rules will be developed over the next year and will be vetted through a Board subcommittee, technical advisory committee, public comment, and public hearing. Target completion date is Summer 2018.

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## Upcoming Events, Meetings, & Deadlines

Thurs., 12: **BSEACD Board Meeting** ([details](#))  
 Wed., Nov. 1: **Permittee Meter Readings Due** ([details](#))  
 Sat. Nov. 4: **Rainwater Revival + Hill Country Living Fair** ([details](#))  
 Fri., Nov. 10: **Office closed for Veterans Day**  
 Thurs., Nov. 16: **BSEACD Board Meeting**  
 Nov. 23-24: **Office closed for Thanksgiving**  
 Fri., Dec. 1: **Permittee Meter Readings Due** ([details](#))  
 Thurs., Dec. 14: **BSEACD Board Meeting**  
 Dec. 25-27: **Office Closed for Christmas**