



## ABOUT US

### OUR PURPOSE

The LPGCD is the state's preferred method of groundwater management in the Bastrop and Lee Counties. Per Texas Water Code Section 36.0015, LPGCD is to manage groundwater by balancing all property interests and providing for the preservation, protection, recharging, and prevention of waste of groundwater.

Under Texas Water Code Section 36.1071, LPGCD must develop a groundwater management plan providing management goals to help the district meet that purpose.

We are mandated by the state, per Texas Water Code Section 35.012, to provide educational programs to the public relating to the problems and issues concerning water management.

### WE'RE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/lostpinesgcd](https://www.facebook.com/lostpinesgcd)

Instagram:

[www.instagram.com/lostpinesgcd](https://www.instagram.com/lostpinesgcd)

YouTube:

[www.youtube.com/@LostPinesGCD](https://www.youtube.com/@LostPinesGCD)

## PROTECTING OUR WATER: NATIONAL GROUNDWATER AWARENESS WEEK, MARCH 9-15

The Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District (LPGCD) works hard to keep groundwater top of mind. Every March, National Groundwater Awareness Week reminds us how much we rely on groundwater in our daily lives. In Bastrop and Lee counties, nearly 100% of our water comes from groundwater, supplying homes, businesses, farms, and communities.

Established in 1999, National Groundwater Awareness Week highlights the importance of responsible groundwater use and management. In Texas, 55% of the state's total water supply comes from groundwater. Since aquifers take thousands of years to recharge, careful management helps prevent overuse.

The Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer Formation, our primary groundwater source, spans 66 Texas counties and covers 60,000 square miles. It provides clean, reliable water, but contamination and excessive pumping can lead to long-term declines in water levels. Sustainable management and conservation efforts help protect this vital resource.

LPGCD monitors aquifer levels, issues well permits, regulates groundwater pumping, and provides public education to protect our water supply. Since groundwater takes a long time to replenish, careful planning and conservation are essential. Everyone has a role to play.

The average American uses 82 gallons of water per day, but in Bastrop and Lee counties, that number is 125 gallons—56% higher than the national average. Simple actions like fixing leaks, turning off the faucet while brushing your teeth, and running full loads of laundry help reduce water use.

For private well owners, routine well maintenance is crucial. Keeping contaminants away from wells and testing water quality annually helps protect drinking water. LPGCD offers free well checks through our Well Watch Program—call (512) 360-5088 to learn more.

Groundwater may be hidden beneath our feet, but we must never take it for granted. LPGCD uses science-based management tools like tracking groundwater levels and 3D aquifer models to plan for the future. National Groundwater Awareness Week is a call to action for Bastrop and Lee counties to lead the way in Texas water conservation.

For more information on water conservation or to join our Well Watch Program, visit [www.lostpineswater.org](http://www.lostpineswater.org).

# UPCOMING EVENTS

March 9th - 15th – National Groundwater Awareness Week

March 15th – Petitions for rule changes due

March 19th – LPGCD Public District Meeting, LPGCD Office, 3:30 PM

March 22nd – World Water Day

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District is governed locally by ten citizens, (five from each county) who have been appointed by their respective County Commissioners Courts to serve as directors for a term of four years.

- Elvis Hernandez, President
- Kathryn Rogers, Vice President
- Michael Simmang, Secretary/Treasurer
- Sheril Smith
- Melissa Cole
- Tom Arsuffi
- Nick Textor
- Herbert Cook
- Nancci Phillips-Burgess
- Debra Phillips



# EXCITING OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS & TEACHERS: “EVERY DROP COUNTS” ART CONTEST

We invite students in Bastrop and Lee Counties to participate in our art contest, designed to inspire creativity while promoting water conservation awareness. This year’s theme, “Every Drop Counts,” encourages students to explore important topics such as innovative ways to save water at home or school, the impact of droughts on our community, and everyday habits that help conserve water. We encourage teachers to integrate these themes into their lessons and support students in developing their artistic interpretations.



Students can submit hand-drawn artwork following the contest guidelines, with a submission deadline of March 31st. Entries will be judged based on originality, composition, and alignment with the theme, with winners announced on April 9th. Prizes include \$100 for 1st place, \$75 for 2nd place, \$50 for 3rd place, and \$25 for an honorable mention. We wanted to also give back to our hard-working teachers so every teacher of a winning student will also receive \$50 for classroom use! Participants may submit only one entry, and full contest rules and entry forms are provided on our website at <https://www.lostpineswater.org/219/Contest-Alerts>. We look forward to seeing students’ creative expressions of water conservation!

# NOW TAKING PUBLIC PROPOSALS FOR RULE CHANGES

The Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District (LPGCD) is now accepting petitions for rule changes from February 1 through March 15. If you have a real property interest in groundwater within the District, you may submit a proposal to adopt or modify a rule.

Petitions must be submitted in writing to the LPGCD office, addressed to the General Manager, and must include the following: a brief description of the petitioner’s real property interest in groundwater in the District, an explanation of the proposed rule or rule change, the proposed rule text prepared in a manner that shows additions or deletions from the current rule, an explanation of how the proposed rule is nondiscriminatory, and an allegation of injury or inequity that could result if the rule is not adopted. Each rule change request must be submitted as a separate petition.

The General Manager will review petitions to determine if they meet the criteria above prior to forwarding them to the Board for consideration. For petitions that do not meet the requirements, the GM will inform the petitioner in writing. The Board will review and respond to qualifying petitions within 90 days of submission. For more information, visit our website or contact our office.

[WWW.LOSTPINESWATER.ORG](http://WWW.LOSTPINESWATER.ORG)