
NOTICE OF MEETING GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 8

Dates:

Oct. 30, 2006: 8:30 a.m.

Oct. 31, 2006: 8:30 a.m.

Nov.1, 2006: 8:30 a.m.

**McKinney Roughs Nature Park
1884 State Hwy 71, Cedar Creek, Tx. 78612**

A quorum of members of Groundwater Management Area 8, as designated by the Texas Water Development Board, consisting of the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District (GCD), Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District (UWCD), Fox Crossing Water District, Middle Trinity GCD, Post Oak Savannah GCD, and Saratoga UWCD will attend a training session entitled "Decision Making and Cooperative Problem Solving: Making the DFC Process Work For Groundwater Management Areas." Representatives from other groundwater conservation districts and groundwater management areas also will be in attendance. During the training, a quorum of the members of the GMA may participate in training and discussions according to the below listed agenda with the potential for discussion of issues of the GMA raised under these topics. Discussions from one day may be continued to the next day's session:

Monday, October 30, 2006 8:30 a.m.

- Context of the Desired Future Conditions Process
 - Panel discussion to review the requirements, procedures and potential pitfalls in complying with HB 1763
- The Range of Collaborative Processes—Overview of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
 - Discussion of the evolution in policy-making toward stakeholder participation
 - Collaborative processes that are available to us. The pro's and con's of each; when and why to select a collaborative or ADR process
- Conflict Analysis
 - Causes of conflict (using the DFC process as an example) and strategies to reduce or resolve disputes within GMAs, with districts, regions, TWDB, and with the public.
- Exercise in Conflict Analysis and Strategy Design
- Dialogue on the Desired Future Condition Process
 - A dialogue among GMAs about the status of their processes and the challenges they are facing.

Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2006 8:30 a.m.

- Negotiation and Consensus Building in the DFC Process
 - The differences between "positional" and collaborative problem solving or negotiation—as well as the costs and benefits of using each
- Communication Skills in Cooperative Problem Solving

- Ways of discussing or raising difficult issues and dealing with defensive or emotional people—while still focusing on cooperative decision making
- Case Study and Exercise in Moving to a Cooperative Problem Solving Process
- Discussion with the TWDB about the Desired Future Condition Process

Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2006 8:30 a.m.

- Convening Dialogues—Involving Interested and Affected Parties
 - Bringing the right people into the discussions at the appropriate times
- Break-out Sessions for GMAs—Sharing problems, solutions and planning for next steps
 - GMAs will meet (either as a GMA or with other GMAs) to discuss and plan next steps for moving forward in the DFC process. What does each need as they proceed? What do they need from each other? What can they offer to each other?

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, large print or Braille, are requested to contact Gary Westbrook at 512-455-9900 two (2) work days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

	Signed this 24th day of October, 2006.	
		Elaine Gerren, Administrative Assistant, POSGCD

Members of the public who wish to purchase refreshments and lunches during the training sessions should contact Hannah Norton, Center for Public Policy Dispute Resolution at (512) 232-1198.