

Recharge

Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District **Newsletter**



Spring 2025
Volume 14 Issue 1

Since 2006

INVESTING *in* LOCAL WATER SYSTEMS

20 Years Investing in Local Infrastructure

This year marks 20 years of continued investment in protecting and strengthening local water infrastructure, with \$2,109,024 awarded to 10 projects in 2025 through the District's Groundwater Conservation Grant Program. While Governor Abbott recently declared water infrastructure a statewide emergency priority for the first time in 40 years, the District has been investing steadily in these efforts for nearly two decades.

**\$2.1
MILLION**

*to fund water system
improvement projects in
2025*

Since launching the Groundwater Conservation Grant Program in 2006, the District has awarded over \$21 million to support water-saving projects in Burleson and Milam counties, helping conserve an estimated 81,000 acre-feet of groundwater over the lifetimes of the funded projects.

This year, 13 applications were submitted and evaluated using a scoring system that considers factors such as population, median household income, system age, efforts to maintain affordable rates, and the

expected public benefit. The Board approved funding for 10 projects, following the Committee's recommendations, including partial funding for 3 applications.

The funded projects are estimated to save more than 19.5 million gallons of groundwater each year and approximately 585 million gallons over their projected lifespans—equivalent to roughly 1,795 acre-feet. (Continued on next page..)

**19
MILLION
GALLONS**

*of estimated annual
groundwater savings
from 2025 projects*

2025 Award Recipients

The 2025 projects focus on replacing aging infrastructure across the District. Improvements such as upgrading water meters, replacing valves, and repairing leaking water lines directly reduce water loss and lower operating costs for local utilities. ***Funds from these important grants have improved efficiency and reduced water loss, saving citizens of Milam and Burleson Counties money by allowing local water utilities to delay or avoid increases in rates for water service for residents and businesses. By improving efficiency and reducing waste, these projects help avoid or delay water rate increases for residents and businesses.*** They also protect local groundwater supplies for long-term use, strengthening water security for future generations.

Applicant	Amount	Summary of Use
Cooks Point WSC	\$ 75,000	Replace water well
Southwest Milam WSC	\$129,336	Replace obsolete water lines
Marlow WSC	\$ 65,727	Replace obsolete water lines
Birch Creek Rec WSC	\$126,000	Replace obsolete meters, angle valves, software
Lyons WSC	\$195,930	Replace obsolete meters, pipe, valves, hot taps
BC MUD #1	\$481,744	Replace obsolete water meters
City of Rockdale	\$350,000	Replace obsolete water meters Installation of VFD, repairs to building, install aerator, replace electrical components for GST pumps
Deanville WSC	\$334,723	Replace obsolete water lines
Wilderness Sound	\$302,750	Replace obsolete water lines, hydrants, isolation valves
Milano WSC #1	\$ 47,814	Replace obsolete water lines
Total	\$2,109,024	



This long-standing commitment continues to keep our communities ahead, meeting local needs with early, sustained investment while much of the state is only now beginning to prioritize these efforts. Because of early action and careful planning, our communities are better positioned to manage and protect water resources for the future.



At its April 8, 2025 meeting, the POSGCD Board of Directors voted 9-1 to approve two groundwater production permits submitted by SLR Property I, LP, owner of the former Alcoa property. The decision followed a contested case hearing before the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH), where Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) found the applications met all legal and rule requirements.

SLR owns 24,552 acres in Milam County. Under current rules, that land could support up to 49,105 acre-feet per year (AFY) of permitted production. SLR already holds two permits totaling 40,000 AFY. The new request aimed to transition 15,000 AFY from an old permit and add 9,000 AFY for municipal and industrial use.

Following review, the ALJs approved the full transition and authorized 6,146 AFY from the new request, based on demonstrated need—bringing SLR's total permitted use to 46,146 AFY. The District continues monitoring regional groundwater levels to ensure pumping stays aligned with its Protective Drawdown Limits (PDLs) and Desired Future Conditions (DFCs).

Free Well Water Testing Returns This July!

Our annual well water quality testing campaign is back! From **July 7 - July 17**, you can pick up and return free water sample kits at the District office and County AgriLife Extension Offices **Monday through Thursday, between 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM.**

We're offering the highest-level testing panel available through the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Soil, Water and Forage Testing Laboratory—completely free to District residents.

Results will be shared at a follow-up training hosted by the Texas Well Owner Network and AgriLife Extension later that month, where participants will learn what the results mean and what steps to take if issues are identified.



Need help collecting your sample? Scan the QR code or watch a short how-to video: vimeo.com/352797164.



GROUNDWATER SUMMIT

CALDWELL
CIVIC CENTER

AUGUST 7



The **Bartlett Volunteer Fire Department located in Davilla** is putting rain to work! With help from a \$5,000 rebate through our Rainwater Harvesting Program, they installed two 2,500-gallon tanks to collect water from a 2,400 sq. ft. roof. This setup can catch about **1,495 gallons from a single inch of rain** - nearly 60,000 a year on average! Rainwater is naturally soft and free of chemicals, making it perfect for plants and landscapes while reducing demands on groundwater!



Davilla - Bartlett
Volunteer Fire Department



RAINWATER
HARVESTING
FEATURE

RAINWATER HARVESTING 101

JUNE 5, 2025
10 AM - 12 PM

BURLESON CO. AGRILIFE
EXTENSION OFFICE

1516 FM 166 Caldwell

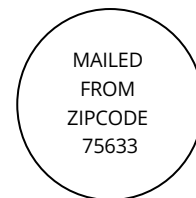
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/RWH-2506/](https://bit.ly/RWH-2506/)

Learn more: www.posgcd.org/rainwater



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Post Oak Savannah

Groundwater Conservation District

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