PLUM CREEK CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Plum Creek Conservation District NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 3 FALL 2011

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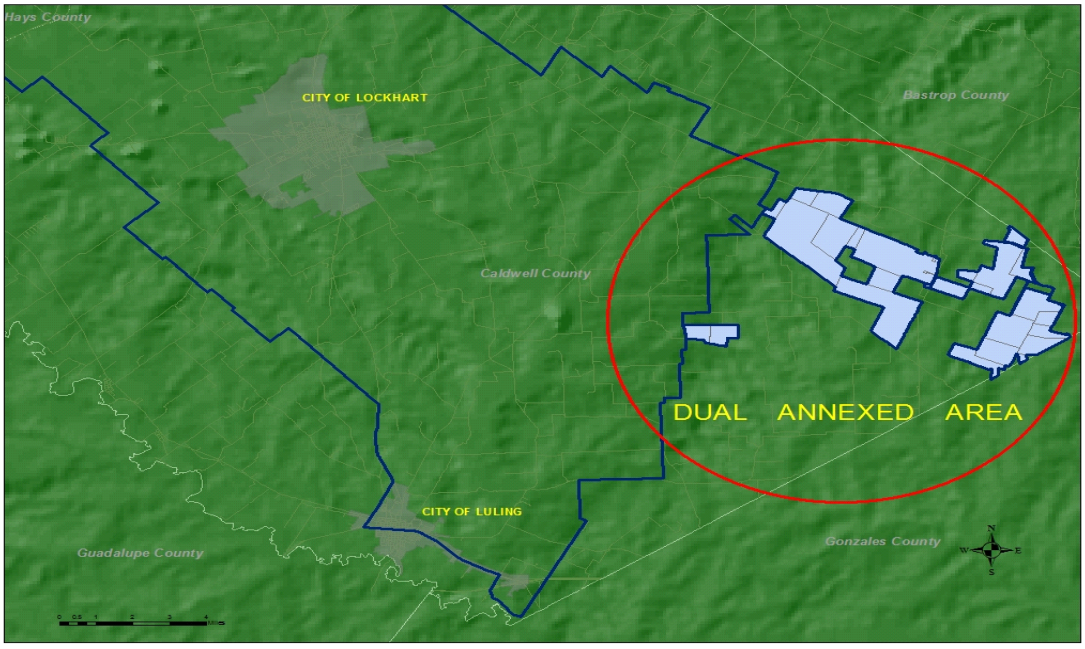
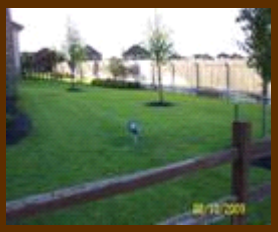
Landowners Decide Which District

One of the primary legislative bills affecting the Plum Creek Conservation District was the passage of SB 1225. Introduced by Senator Hegar, SB 1225 was designed to resolve a 12,176.9 acre area that since 2008 has been claimed both by the Gonzales County UGCD and the Plum Creek Conservation District. During 2008, both the Plum Creek Conservation District and the Gonzales County UGCD annexed this area. PCCD had annexed this area through a Board resolution, where as, Gonzales County UGCD had annexed this area through an election. By Texas law, "two governmental entities may not exist at the same time over the same territory for the same purpose." Back in 2009, an Attorney General's Opinion was requested. The Attorney General, however, could not definitively state who had jurisdiction over this area. Several meetings with Senator Hegar were then arranged between the two districts to try to resolve the issue. The result was a bill put forward by Hegar which was passed and signed by the Governor. As required by the bill, both PCCD and Gonzales County UGCD have jointly prepared and sent a "request form" to landowners. On the form, landowners declare which District they wish to be disannexed from. Landowners have until December 31, 2011, to send in their forms.



Outside Watering Conservation



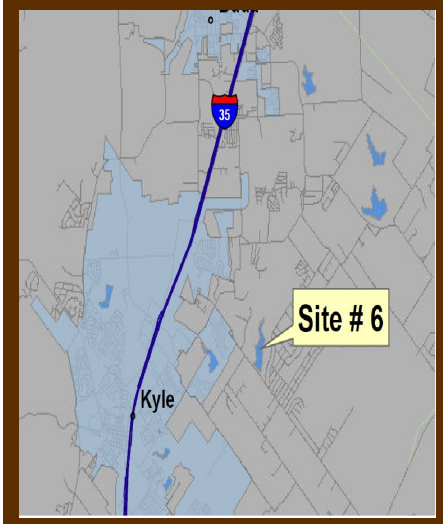
Outside Watering Conservation

According to EPA reports, lawn care accounts for more than 30 percent of water use in the United States. Following are a number of water conservation practices to consider when watering outside. How much water should be applied to your lawn? Generally, applying 1 inch of water per week with less amounts during cooler weather provides adequate water for a lawn. Watering should be done when evaporation rates are lower, which is during the early morning and evening hours. Watering during windy conditions should be avoided. Using a timer with your irrigation system can aid in setting up a schedule to avoid overwatering. These timers should be regularly monitored to check for malfunctions.

It is important to know how much water your irrigation system can apply over a certain amount of time. To find this out, place at least 5 small cans(5 oz tuna cans) evenly distributed in and around your lawn. Next, water your lawn and garden for 30 minutes. Measure the number of inches in each can, sum them, and then divide by their number to find the average. Adjust your system accordingly based on the results. In addition, measure how far the water has penetrated into the soil profile. It should be moist down to 4-6 inches. The type of soil you have is an additional factor when determining how long and how much water to apply. For example, with clay type soils, it takes longer for water to percolate through the soil with an increased chance of water run-off. Many of these adjustments can be completed by a licensed irrigator or through a self irrigation audit.

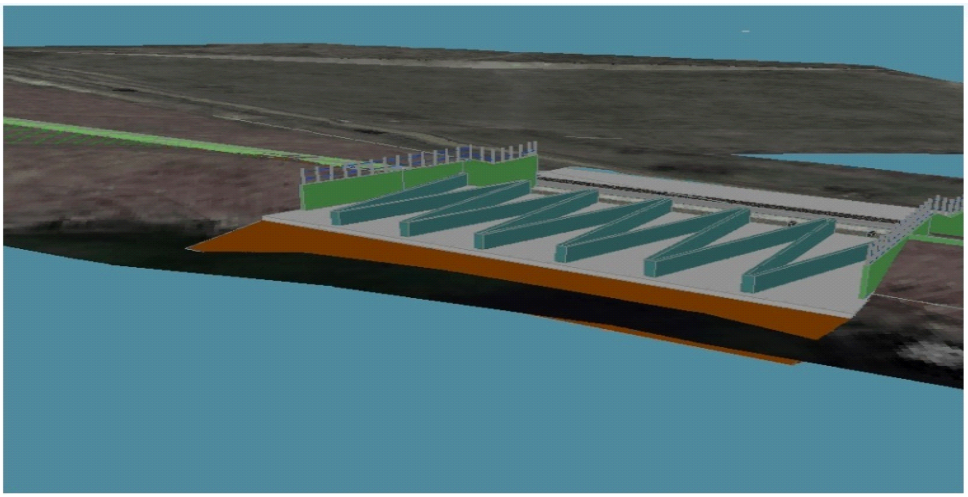
Implementing these practices will not only help conserve water, but will help homeowners save money. Last, always check with your local water supply company on their current water restrictions.

Site #6



Site 6 Design Stage

Preliminary Designs (pictured below) have been completed for the rehabilitation of PCCD's site 6 dam which is located in Kyle, Texas where High Rd., Beebe Rd. and Goforth Rd. conjoin. Site 6 is classified as a High Hazard Dam. This classification is not based on the condition of the dam, but whether or not there could be the potential for loss of human life or property damage, if the dam were to fail. The preliminary design calls for the installation of a Labyrinth type spillway, replacing the inlet riser and pipe currently in use, and expanding the dam over the auxiliary spillway area. The total costs of the project, and whether the governmental funds will be available during this stressed economic climate, have not been determined.



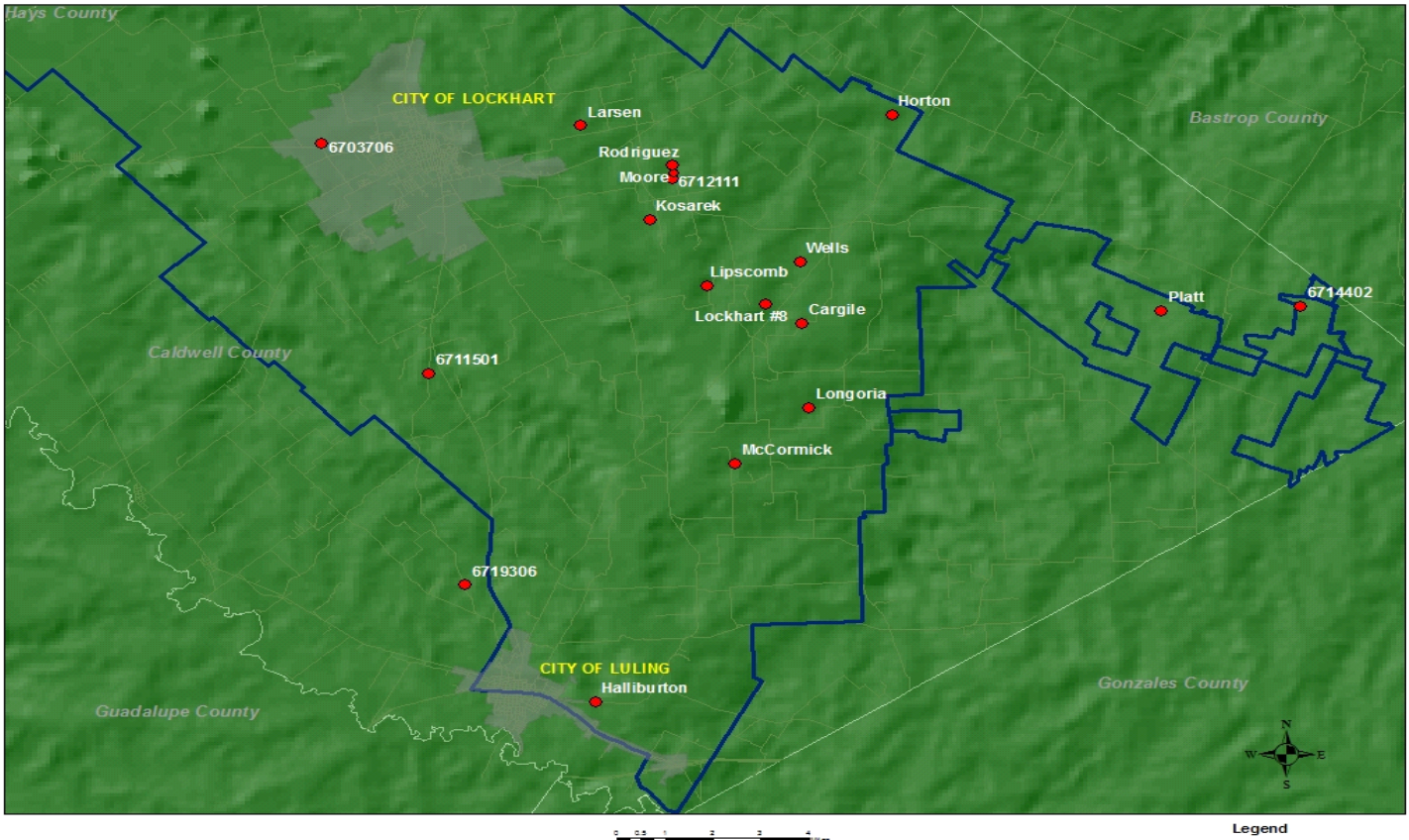
Summer 2011 Water Levels

Currently, of the 12 wells that PCCD has measured in 2011, the average water level decline, from winter to summer 2011, was 3.165 feet. This includes Lockhart's # 8 well which saw a 17 ft. decrease. Many of these wells shown in the graph and map below have been measured for 2 years now. In addition, during the month of February, 2011, the TWDB measured 5 other water wells in our District. They were State Well 6711501, 6712111, 6703706, 6719306, and 6714402. Most of these wells have been measured over several decades. These wells are generally measured only once a year sometime during the winter months. The water levels for these wells dropped an average of 1.722 ft. from last year's readings. State well 6703706, a Leona well, had the greatest decline of 4.46 ft. In fact, the water level for State Well 6703706 was at its lowest level since measurements began back in 1964. The State Well that had the least amount of decline was State Well 6714402 which had a decline of just .39 feet.

* water level = depth from ground level to water

State Well	2011 Measurements
6711501	-73.95
6712111	-51.97
6703706	-21.87
6719306	-124.02
6714402	-30.32

Well	2011 Measurements
Cargile	- 40.85
Horton	- 143.75
Kosarek	- 50.3
Larsen	- 21
Lipscomb	- 93.9
Lockhart #8	- 106.25
Longoria	- 92.05
McCormick	- 72.25
Moore	-67.2
Platt	- 122.05
Rodriguez	- 55.85
Wells	- 80.75



Wells Measured in Caldwell County

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The Plum Creek Conservation District's Newsletter is available via email. If you or someone you know would like to receive our Newsletter via email rather than US Mail then contact our office at (512) 398-2383.

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