PLUM CREEK CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Plum Creek Conservation District NEWSLETTER

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PCCD's New Amended Rules

boards to consider addi-

tional items when permit-

ting a water well. These

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rules to comply with the new water related laws which were passed in the 82nd legislative session and to address other local groundwater issues. On June 19, PCCD held a hearing and then adopted the rules at their July board meeting. The rules, in part, address Senate Bill 737 which requires ground wa-

The PCCD has amended its

additional considerations include Modeled Available Groundwater. annual groundwater produced, exempt water use, yearly precipitation and production patterns. In addition, the new rules have established a new permit catego-

ter conservation district ry called a Non Exempt Agricultural Use Well Registration. This is a registration/permit for landowners seeking agricultural and/or livestock water use for less than 100 acre feet of water per year. A copy of the rules are available on our website. If you have any questions on any of the changes, feel free to contact us.

Site # 5 Rehab Project

The rehabilitation of PCCD's Site 5 has been underway since late 2011 and is anticipated to be finished at the end of August, 2012. Site 5 was originally built in 1963 in the then rural farmlands of Hays County. Now, the dam is surrounded by development in the rapidly growing city of Kyle. The rehab has consisted primarily of raising the dam 3.5 ft., adding fill to increase its size, and installing an additional 24" principal spillway to work in conjunction with the current principal spillway. When completed, it will comply with current dam performance standards and safety criteria for high hazard dams.





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Operation & Maintenance



Leona Monitoring Well

US 183

US 183

On Jan 25th, 2012, areas in our district experienced severe flooding resulting in several water rescues, road closures, and school closings. Many of our sites had considerable amounts of debris wash into and around our dams. As you can see from the pictures, this was quit extensive. Currently, we have begun to clean up these sites one by one, focusing first on the dams that have required the most work. To date we have cleaned up a total of 12 flood control structures and will be continuing to schedule cleanups on the other dams as permitted.



PCCD has recently installed a transducer which will measure Leona Aquifer water levels on a 24/7 basis. The monitoring well, dug in 2010, is situated on the fringe of the Leona aquifer that is one of 7 aquifers in PCCD. The Leona Aquifer, a shallow aquifer consisting primarily of gravel, stretches approximately 25 miles from Kyle southeast through Lockhart. Scattered through our district are approximately 73 Leona water wells. During the drought of 2008, several individuals reported their Leona wells going dry. In 2011, State Well 6703706 experienced its lowest level since being measured in 1964. Data from this well will allow us to look at how water levels respond and correlate with precipitation patterns in the area and to assist landowners with information in dealing with drought conditions.



Operation & Maintenance

Annual Programs:

In May of this year, PCCD had completed its annual fertilize and weed control program on a majority of its flood control structures. Keeping a healthy turf on our dams is critical for erosion prevention and for allowing the dams to function as engineered in times of severe flooding.

Leona Monitoring Well

Spring/Summer 2012 Water Levels

Of the 12 wells that PCCD has measured in the spring and summer of 2012, the overall average water level has decreased .14 feet. Many of these wells shown in the table have been measured for 2 years now. In addition, during the month of May, the USGS measured 3 wells, 6720409, 6712530, and 6713101. The water levels for these wells increased an average of 1.12 ft. from last year's readings.



State Well	2012 Measurements		
6720409	- 11.41		
6712530	- 89.51		
6713101	-129.43		
Well	2012 Measurements		
Cargile	-57.25		
Kuhn	-90.25		
Kosarek	-50.00		
Larsen	-20.80		
Lipscomb	-91.11		
Lockhart #8	-98.00		
Longoria	-94.65		
McCormick	-72.10		
Moore	-65.15		
Platt	-121.70		
Rodriguez	-52.15		
Wells	-81.00		

Students Learn About Aquifers

PCCD has been involved in a number of community events promoting water conservation. In the month of May we participated in a science expo at Hernandez Elementary School. In early June, PCCD participated in the 1st annual Agricultural/ Resource Exhibit at Chisholm Trail Roundup in Lockhart and in late June we

participated in the Luling Foundation Field Day. During these events, literature on water conservation was distributed, samples of aquifer sands were displayed, and the basic principles of hydrogeology were explained by using an edible aquifer (ice cream sundae). Kids enjoyed eating ice cream while learning about aquifers. The components of an aquifer were represented by the layers of an ice cream sundae. Ice cream and crushed ice represented the saturated and non saturated portions of an aquifer, Sprite represented water which was poured into the glass simulating recharge from a rain event, and next, a straw was stuck in the ice cream representing a



water well being drilled. Finally, chocolate syrup was poured onto the ice cream simulating a contamination spill. By doing this, students realized how susceptible aquifers are to contamination and how important it is for us to protect this precious resource.

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

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