

Plum Creek Conservation District

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1, 2020

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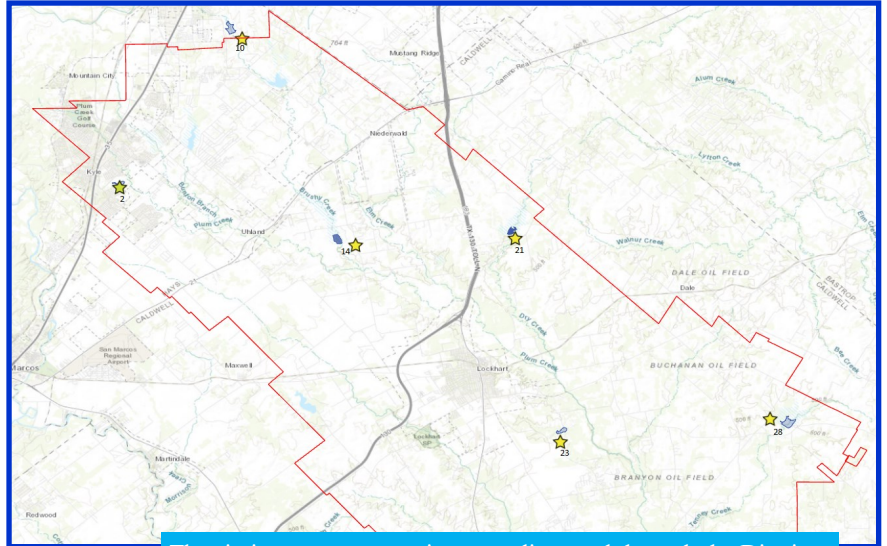
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Six Flood Structures Slated for Improvement Projects

Six of the District's flood control structures are in the engineering design phase for either Repair, Remediation, or Rehabilitation. While several of the designs are around mid-completion, others have reached the "90%" mark. PCCD anticipates solicitation of bids for Site 23's Plunge Pool repair project this fall and for work to commence by the New Year.



The six improvement projects are dispersed through the District.



Damaged toe drain pipes & eroded, tree-lined Plunge Basin at Site 23.

Other sites will receive a more thorough Rehabilitation involving the restructuring of earthen berms and auxiliary spillways which will be similar to what was involved with the site 6 rehab in 2018.



Site 6's Labyrinth Weir may become the "new normal" for PCCD dams.

Factors driving the need for these million-plus dollar projects include: life-expectancy of the flood structures expiring; changes in weather patterns (more frequent, intense rain events); rapid development around many of the District's



New waterfront subdivisions demand creative engineering solutions.

structures; and the requirement that dams pass 75% of a Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) within a specified time. (PMF is the theoretically largest flood resulting from a combination of the most severe meteorological and hydrologic conditions that could conceivably occur in a given area. Fortunately, cost share programs are in place at the federal and state level.

PCCD REVEGETATION PROJECT



The District received funding provided by the Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) to revegetate the tops of several flood control structures this year. The structures were selected based upon the level of erosion and overall vegetative condition. Sites 10, 26, 37 and 38 were selected for the Revegetation Project. These sites needed the repair due in part to heavy erosion caused by seasonal

drought, Hurricane Harvey and over grazing. The project was posted for bids and won by a local contractor. First each site was prepped by tilling the eroded areas with a skid steer. The contractor then brought in dump truck loads of top soil, that he leveled out and prepared for hydro-mulching. The hydro mulching machine consists of a trailer with a large tank mixer and a sprayer. The mulch



mix consists of dry fertilizer, mulch, tackifier and Bermuda Grass Seed. This mix is then sprayed evenly across the freshly leveled topsoil. In the pictures you can see the before picture of the eroded area on Site 37 in the picture on the top left; the completed revegetation in the middle picture; and a picture of the completed project on the bottom left. The contractor completed this project very nicely. The District looks forward to Fall rains to help the newly planted grass seeds take root and blossom.

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

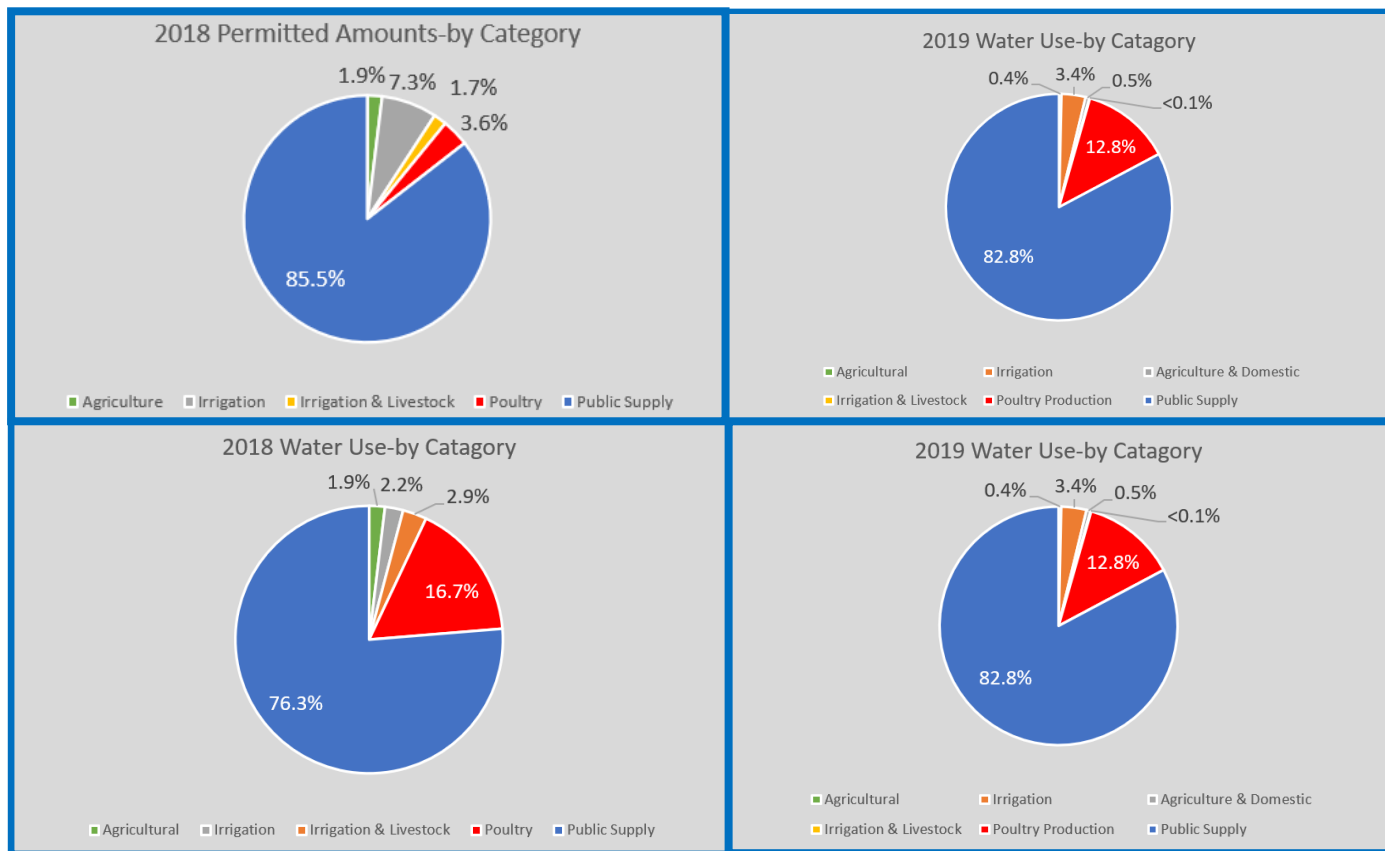
As stewards of the land, there are a number of simple steps that we can take to conserve water resources. By conserving water, we are not just saving valuable water we are reducing expenses.

Checking your water system for leaks is the most important step you can take in conserving water. The first step is to turn off all water faucets inside your home and around your farm. Then inspect your water meter or water well pressure gauge and make sure the needle on the gauge is not moving. If the needle is moving then you may have a water leak. A water leak that goes unseen can waste thousands of gallons of water a year.

Once you have checked your systems for leaks you can then determine if your old toilets, faucets, and fixtures need to be replaced with new, high-efficiency/low-flow fixtures. Replacing old worn out fixtures can reduce your annual water consumption drastically. In some cases, these new water saving devices may come with rebates. To check for rebates in your zip code, go to energystar.gov/rebate-finder for details.

2019 PCCD GROUNDWATER USE

PCCD permittees reported using 1,418.4 acre-feet of groundwater in 2019. This is 8% of the total permitted 17,504 acre-feet. (Several non-public supply permittees failed to report usage.) The District added a sixth permit use category (*Agriculture & Domestic*) this year and also extended permit duration from 5 to 30 years. The graphs below show how permitted amounts-by category and water use-by category have changed in the last two years. For more information, request a copy of PCCD’s 2019 Water Use Report.



2020 WATER LEVELS

The table below shows water levels for 8 wells measured between January 1, 2020 and September 30, 2020, along with corresponding lowest recorded water level. If you are interested in finding out the water level in your well and how it compares to other wells in the area, contact us to schedule a time to measure your well. Complete water level data can be found on our website at www.pccd.org

Well	2020 Levels	Lowest Recorded Level
Kosarek	-47.1	- 50.8
Larsen	- 20.2	- 22.8
Lipscomb	- 87.1	- 93.9
Lockhart #8	- 79.0	- 108.0
McCormick #2	- 66.4	- 71.0
McCormick #1	- 69.7	- 71.8
Collier	- 65.2	- 70.6
Wells	- 78.5	- 90.4

Plum Creek Conservation District

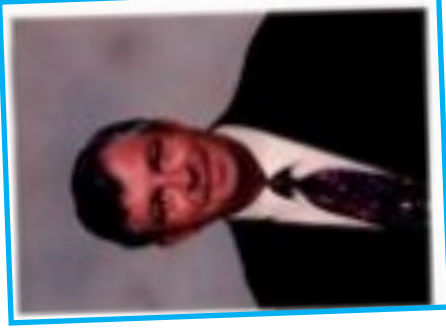
1101 W. San Antonio St.
PO Box 328
Lockhart, Texas 78644
Phone: 512-398-2383
Fax: 512-398-7776
E-mail: info@pccd.org
Web Site: www.pccd.org

*****Keep an eye on the PCCD website (www.pccd.org) for a**

"Where Does Your Water Come From?" Webinar. ***

Directors

James A. Holt Jr., President, Kyle
Peter Reinecke, Vice-President, Luling
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Fred Rothert, Kyle
Tom Owen, Lockhart
Vacant, Luling



Plum Creek conveys our continued sympathy, prayers, and well wishes to Mrs. Sara Twidwell and family, following the loss of Mr. Ben Twidwell on January 23, 2020. The District also would like to recognize Ben's faithful service to Plum Creek as a Board Director; serving from 1997 up until the time of his passing.

Staff

Daniel Meyer, Executive Manager
Alan Burklund, Staff Member
Matt Shaw, Staff Member
Karen Bassett, Secretary
Robert Wilson, Consulting Attorney
Wm Feathergail Wilson, PG, Consulting Geologist

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.

Plum Creek Conservation District

1101 W. San Antonio St.
PO Box 328
Lockhart, Texas 78644

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