

# **Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District**

P.O. Box 625  
254 N. Jefferson St., Room 600  
La Grange, Texas 78945  
Telephone: (979) 968-3135  
Fax: (979) 968-3194

---

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

From: Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District  
Date: January 10, 2005  
Contact: Linda Streicher, Manager  
Telephone: (979) 968-3135, Fax: (979) 968-3194

### **DISTRICT AWARDED SOFTWARE GRANT**

La Grange, Texas — The Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District has been awarded a grant from the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) Conservation Program. ESRI is one of the nation's largest developers of geographic information systems (GIS) software. They annually award grants of computer technology and training to non-profit organizations who are using computers, maps and spatial data for conservation, environmental, and other geographic uses. The grant enables the groundwater district to purchase the GIS software system at a highly discounted price. The award of the grant demonstrates that ESRI believes the groundwater district has shown a commitment to the environment and has shown how the district's use of the technology will benefit society and/or the environment.

A geographic information system is a system for management, analysis, and display of geographic knowledge, which is represented using a series of information sets. The information sets include maps, such as street maps, topography, geology, aerial photographs, etc., and databases of geographic information, such as well information. Eventually, the district will be able to plot all wells in the county on maps in real time. When a large new well is proposed, the district would be able to instantly see all the existing (registered) wells in that area, including their proximity and depth. This will enable the district to make good decisions on well spacing and sizing so that a new well does not have a negative impact on any existing well. The software system will also enable the district to better understand how the aquifers are being used in Fayette County, and will help the district to evaluate whether there is enough water for sale to cities outside the county, after first ensuring that all Fayette County needs can be met.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SOURCE: FAYETTE COUNTY GCD**