

Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District
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Groundwater District Meets with Water Suppliers

The Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District met on April 6, 2005 with representatives from most of Fayette County's cities and public water suppliers. The purpose of the meeting was to update the city leaders and county water suppliers on some of the water issues affecting Fayette County, and to solicit their help and input in making some long range plans for Fayette County's water needs.

The State of Texas is currently engaged in another round of water planning, looking at water supply and demand as far into the future as 2060. The regional planning group that includes Fayette County is scheduled to present their final report to the State by June of 2005. The regional planning group is predicting some water shortages in Fayette County beginning around 2010.

The Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District has concerns about the accuracy of the water estimates, both supply and demand, as well as the population growth predictions. This is one of the reasons why the district has commissioned a study of the aquifers within Fayette County. If the study shows the estimates of groundwater availability to be inaccurate, the District would have some scientific basis for contesting those estimates with the regional planning group. Information supplied by the public via well registrations will be utilized in this study.

Estimates for water demand, however, are based on information obtained by the regional water planning group from the county's public water suppliers. It is essential that the water suppliers give serious consideration to their long-term water needs and growth plans, and that they communicate these plans to the District. According to Paul Kohlleppe, District president, "The State says that if you have surplus water, you must make it available to others. We want to make sure that Fayette County's future needs are accurately addressed so we can then determine if there even is a water surplus here in Fayette County."

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SOURCE: FAYETTE COUNTY GCD