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To provide for the conservation, preservation, protection, recharge, and prevention of waste of groundwater and of groundwater reservoirs for the People of Fayette County.

Fayette County Groundwater News is a yearly publication of the Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District. Subscriptions are free upon request.

The District offers free brochures and information sheets concerning many aspects of water conservation and protection. Just drop by the office during regular office hours.

Protect Your Water-Register Your Well!

The Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District is conducting a **well inventory** throughout Fayette County. You can help by registering your water well. This will assist the District in estimating how much water the people of Fayette County need now and for projected growth. Forms can be found on the District's website or by contacting us at (979) 968-3135.

Three Year Groundwater Study Coming to an End

In 2013, the board of directors and staff developed, and embarked, on the largest project the district has ever undertaken, a comprehensive study of the ground-water within Fayette County, mirroring a similar study conducted by the Texas Water

Development Board in 1965. From the onset, the objective of the project was to collect a sample from every aquifer, in every state well grid, in Fayette County. The final samples for the Countywide Water Sampling project were collected on December 7, 2016.

Initial goals were to collect samples from over 340 volunteer wells within the district. Final tallies came up a bit short, with a total of 273 wells sampled. This is still an excellent data set and Paul Kirby of Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, FCGCD's contract geologist, is compiling all of the data and a final report will be available in 2017.

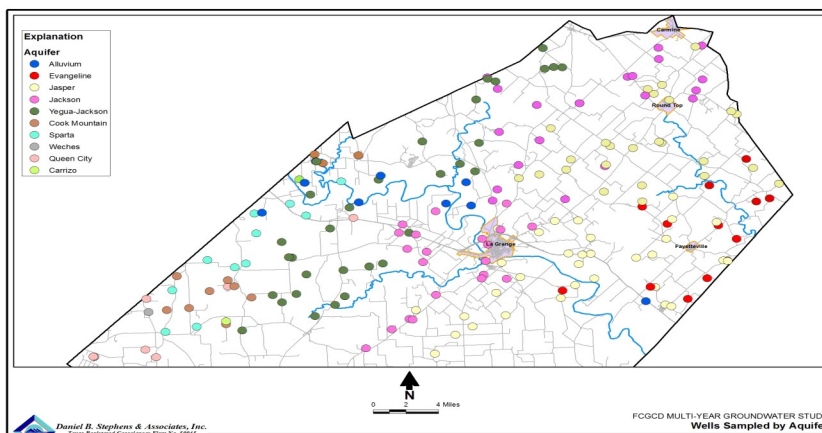
Over 50 constituents were analyzed from each sample. Why so many? The board wanted to copy the 1965 study, but also collect as much data as possible regarding heavy metals and agricultural chemicals. Water quality is very important to the

district and this new information will greatly advance the science of groundwater management in the district.

Some good news from the project. Preliminary data from the first two years of the project have shown very little, if any changes, to the groundwater in Fayette County.

The board of directors and the district staff extend their sincerest thanks to all of the well owners that volunteered to participate in the project. Without volunteer well owners, projects such as this would be impossible

THANK you



Outdoor Conservation

Outdoor Tips

- One inch of water per week in the summer will keep most Texas grasses healthy. To determine how long you should run your sprinklers, place straight-edged cans at different distances away from the sprinkler and time how long it takes to fill an average of 1 inch of water in each can.
- Don't abuse the benefits of an automatic sprinkler system by over-watering. Set it to provide thorough but infrequent watering. Check sprinkler heads regularly to make sure they are working properly. Install rain shutoff devices and adjust sprinklers to eliminate coverage on pavement.
- Prevent evaporation of water. Water lawns early in the morning or in the evening during the hotter summer months. Never water on windy days. Use drip irrigation systems for bedded plants, trees, or shrubs and use low-angle sprinklers for lawns. Cover pools and spas. This can save the equivalent of your pool volume each year!
- Plant water-efficient, well-adapted, and/or native shrubs, trees, and grasses. Choose plants that are drought and heat tolerant and can survive the minimum winter temperatures in your area. In odd-shaped areas, use drought-tolerant groundcover instead of grass. Many cities provide lists of water-efficient plants.
- Buy a rain barrel or a cistern and collect the water from your gutters to water your plants.
- Use your water efficiently. Don't waste water by cleaning patios or sidewalks with it; use a broom. For plants that need more water, use a hose or watering can to give them additional water.
- Keep grass 3 inches tall during the summer and don't cut more than one-third of its length at one time. Don't scalp lawns when mowing during hot weather. Taller grass holds moisture better. Leave lawn clippings on the lawn instead of bagging.

NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE VIA EMAIL

The Fayette County Groundwater News is available via email. If you, or someone you know, would like to receive our yearly publication via email rather than via the US Mail, please contact our office at (979)968-3135 or drop us an email at info@fayettecountygroundwater.com.

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