
PRESS RELEASE



Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JULY 11, 2008- - The Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District today adopted its 2008 groundwater use fee and groundwater transportation fee rate. The water use fee, which will be effective on January 1, 2008, will be \$1 per acre-foot of water used for agricultural use and 7 cents per 1000 gallons for water used for other purposes. The cost of water to an average family of four will be approximately 56 cents per month, and is usually reflected in the monthly billing received from the city, municipal utility district, or other retail water provider. Small “mom and pop” well owners that produce water only for domestic or livestock use are not required to pay a fee. An acre-foot of water is approximately 325,000 gallons.

The fee for agricultural use remains the same as current fee levels. However, the fee for other uses represents a 1 cent per 1000 gallons increase over the District's 2007 fee rate. “The one cent fee increase will be used primarily for public education and improving communications with our customer base to promote water conservation and ensure that water users are aware of the impending deadlines for county-wide groundwater reductions and surface water conversion set forth in the District Regulatory Plan,” said Kathy Turner Jones, General Manager of the District. “The District will also used the additional revenue to continue our technical studies of the groundwater resources of Montgomery County in coordination with state and federal agencies, and to assist water users in identifying groundwater reduction and surface water conversion solutions.”

The groundwater transportation fee, which is charged to persons who pump groundwater from a well in Montgomery County and transport that water for use outside of the county, is an additional 50 percent surcharge on top of the regular water use fee rate. It is designed to discourage groundwater marketers from attempting to siphon Montgomery County’s water resources away to other locations for a profit.

For more information, contact:

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