

# PANHANDLE WATER NEWS

JANUARY 2022

**BIENNIAL SYMPOSIUM: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2022**

Join Us For The  
6<sup>th</sup> Biennial

## WATER CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM

Wednesday, February 16, 2022 • Amarillo Civic Center • North Exhibit Hall

For more information call or email: (806) 883-2501 • [britney@pgcd.us](mailto:britney@pgcd.us) or [aedgare@pgcd.us](mailto:aedgare@pgcd.us)

To Register Visit [www.pgcd.us/2022-water-conservation-symposium](http://www.pgcd.us/2022-water-conservation-symposium)

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## PGCD BOARD ADOPTED RULES AMENDMENT

The Panhandle Groundwater District's Board of Directors adopted and amended District Rule 3.3 (e) on December 7, 2021. The Board has been reviewing District's Rules over the past several months and is still committed to working with all water users as we move forward together. The main amendment was moving from a 3 to a 4-year rolling average on production for compliance. An updated version of District Rules can be found online at [www.pgcd.us/rules](http://www.pgcd.us/rules). If there are any questions or concerns, please call the District office at (806) 883-2501.

PANHANDLE GROUNDWATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### POINTS OF INTEREST

Rules Amendment Adopted

Symposium Agenda

Scholarship Deadline

9:00 - 9:10 a.m.	<b>Welcome-</b> <i>Mayor Ginger Nelson</i> , City of Amarillo
9:10 - 9:40 a.m.	<b>Federal Water Overview-</b> <i>Christine Arbogast</i> , National Water Resources Association President
9:40 - 10:10 a.m.	<b>Drought Challenges for Texas Water in a Changing Climate-</b> <i>John Neilsen-Gammon</i> , Texas State Climatologist
10:10 - 10:30 a.m.	<b>Break</b>
10:30 - 11:00 a.m.	<b>Regional Water Planning Process-</b> <i>Ben Weinheimer</i> , Vice President, Texas Cattle Feeders Association
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.	<b>2022 State Water Plan-</b> <i>Chairwoman Brooke Paup</i> , Texas Water Development Board Chairwoman
11:30 - 12:00 p.m.	<b>Produced Water Consortium and 86th Legislative Overview-</b> <i>Senator Charles Perry</i> , Senate District 28
12:05 p.m.	<b>Presentation of Award</b>
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>
12:15 - 1:00 p.m.	<b>Rural Land Trends and What they Mean for Groundwater-</b> <i>Dr. Roel Lopez</i> , Director, Texas A&M Natural Resource <i>Dr. Robert Mace</i> , Executive Director, Meadows Center for Water & the Environment
1:00 - 1:30 p.m.	<b>Gauging Potential Value and Shortfalls of Carbon Markets-</b> <i>Ben Thomas</i> , Senior Policy Director, Climate Smart Agriculture, Environmental Defense Fund
1:30 - 2:00 p.m.	<b>More with Less: What Agriculture can Do to Save Water-</b> <i>Dana Porter</i> , Texas A&M Agrilife
2:00 - 2:30 p.m.	<b>City of Amarillo Smart Meter Technology-</b> <i>Floyd Hartman</i> , Assistant City Manager & <i>Jonathan Greshem</i> , Director of Utilities
2:30 - 2:50 p.m.	<b>Break</b>
2:50 - 3:10 p.m.	<b>Efficient Irrigation for Lawns and Gardens-</b> <i>Roger Gloe</i> , Randall County Master Gardener
3:10 - 3:40 p.m.	<b>Stewarding our Aquifer-</b> <i>Darryl Birkenfield</i> , Ph.D., Executive Director, Ogallala Commons
3:40 - 4:10 p.m.	<b>Developments in Agriculture Conservation Demonstrations-</b> <i>Nicholas Kenny</i> , North Plains GCD
4:15 p.m.	<b>Award Door Prizes</b>



# PGCD SCHOLARSHIP REMINDER

The Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District established its scholarship program in 2002 and has since given away \$171,000 to graduating District students. First place is awarded a \$4,000 scholarship, second place receives \$3,000 and third place \$2,000. Each scholarship amount is broken up and paid out over four years.

Graduating seniors from the District (Armstrong, Carson, Donley, Gray, Potter, Rovers and Wheeler counties) are eligible to apply for the scholarship. Applications will be accepted from **January 3rd-March 4th, 2022**. Applicants must write a 500-1,000 word essay on the topic chosen by the District. Recipients are required to enroll as a full-time student, attend college the fall semester immediately following selection and maintain at least a 2.5 GPA at the college of their selection.

The 2021-2022 essay topic is:

*Discuss the importance of the water cycle, specifically the importance of runoff, and why it is crucial to our aquifers and for our very existence.*

Please note, we are no longer using Amarillo Area Foundation's website to filter our applications. Please help us pass the information along to your students. To see an electronic application, visit our website at [www.pgcd.us/pgcd-scholarship](http://www.pgcd.us/pgcd-scholarship). Please email your completed application to [aedgarepgcd.us](mailto:aedgarepgcd.us), or mail it to P.O. Box 637 White Deer, TX 79097.



## ANNUAL WATER LEVEL MEASUREMENTS

Each year Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District takes measurements on a network of 800+ wells throughout the District to determine yearly aquifer changes in water levels. The measurements are taken not only to determine the water level in the aquifer, but also to collect data, provide information for our 50/50 goal, contribute to our saturated thickness map and future planning. The measurements are taken during the winter months when demands for irrigation are lower so that a more representative static water level can be obtained.

Our field technicians began water level measurements in November and will finish in the next couple months. The measurements taken will be made available in our July 2022 newsletter. If you have any questions please call the office for assistance at (806) 883-2501.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Next Board Meeting is set for January 27th
- 6th Biennial Water Conservation Symposium in on February 16th
- Scholarship Deadline is March 4th

PANHANDLE GROUNDWATER  
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## AG LOANS AVAILABLE

Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District is accepting loan applications from District producers for center pivot sprinklers, drip irrigation systems, soil moisture probes, and other water-saving equipment. The loan is available to producers at an interest rate of 1.08 percent with an eight year payback term. Approximate funds available are \$635,780.20. For more information about our ag loan program contact Katie Hodges at the District office at (806) 883-2501.