



# PANHANDLE WATER NEWS

PANHANDLE GROUNDWATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

JANUARY 2024

## JOIN US FOR THE 7TH BIENNIAL TEXAS PANHANDLE WATER CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM

February 28, 2024

Amarillo Civic Center - Heritage Room

For More Information Contact the Panhandle Goundwater Conservation District Office (806) 883-2501

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See Full Agenda on Page 2

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### PGCD POINTS OF INTEREST

7th Biennial Symposium & Agenda

Rules Hearing & Board Meeting Update

Upcoming Events

PGCD Scholarships

*"Conserving Water for Future Generations"*

# 7TH BIENNIAL TEXAS PANHANDLE WATER CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM

## 2024 Agenda

**8:30 AM - 9:00 AM - Registration (Coffee & Donuts) Sponsored By Plains Land Bank**

**9:00 AM - 9:10 AM - Welcome**

Cole Stanley - City of Amarillo Mayor

**9:10 AM - 9:40 AM - Thinking Beyond the Next Drought**

Amy Hardberger - Director, Texas Tech Center for Law and Policy

**9:40 AM - 10:10 AM - Development of the Ogallala Aquifer: Past, Present & Future**

Wade Oliver, PG - Director, Southern Region, Senior Hydrologist with INTERA

**10:10 AM - 10:30 AM - Break**

**10:30 AM - 11:30 AM - Panel Discussion on the Importance of Playa Lakes and Restoration Projects**

Heather Johnson - Migratory Bird Game Specialists with Texas Parks and Wildlife

Mike Carter - Joint Venture Coordinator with Playa Lakes Joint Venture

David Bateman - CEO of SitePro and Landowner

**11:30 AM - Noon - Texas Water Development Board Agency Update**

George B. Peyton, V - Board Member of the Texas Water Development Board

**Noon - 1:00 PM - Lunch (Sponsored By KSA)**

**12:15 PM - 1:00 PM - Overview of the 88th Legislative Session and Interim Priorities**

Kevin Sparks - Texas State Senator, Representing District 31

**1:00 PM - 1:30 PM - Private Well Owner 101**

Joel Pigg - AgriLife Extension Program Coordinator for Texas Well Owner's Network

**1:30 PM - 2:00 PM - Update on Panhandle Runs on Water**

Brianna Fuller - Campaign Manager for the Texas Water Foundation

**2:00 PM - 2:30 PM - Precipitation Enhancement Programs in Texas**

George Bomar - President of Texas Weather Modification Association

**2:30 PM - 2:50 PM - Break**

**2:50 PM - 3:10 PM - Drought Management Tool for Irrigated Agricultural Producers**

Dr. David Parker - Associate Professor/Extension Specialist at WTAMU

**3:10 PM - 3:40 PM - Amarillo Water: Reflecting On Our Past & Charting Our Future**

Floyd Hartman - Assistant City Manager for the City of Amarillo

**3:40 PM - 4:10 PM - Climate Outlook for Spring 2024**

Joanne Culin - Warning Coordination Meteorologist, National Weather Service, Amarillo Office

**4:10 PM - 4:30 PM - Closing Statements & Door Prizes**



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# PGCD BOARD ADOPTS RULE AMENDMENTS

At their January meeting, the PGCD Board of Directors adopted rules amendments for District Rule 3.3. Previous sections of Rule 3.3 outlined the specific process for calculating annual water usage, and how often reports should be sent to District Operators. The rule also specified the Directors would evaluate this rule in early 2024.

The amendments adopted state that production will be evaluated on the four-year average for operating permits with four years of data. After the fourth year, production will be evaluated in a two-step process.

**Step 1:** Staff will evaluate each operating permit's production based on the four-year average. Permits with an average over the maximum allowable volume, which is 1 acre-foot per contiguous acre owned or leased, (***this has been the District's Rule since 2004***), will be evaluated further in step two. No further evaluation is needed if the permit's average production is below the maximum allowable volume.

**Step 2:** Staff will look at the current year's production. If the current year's production is also over the maximum allowable volume, then a penalty will be assessed.



***It's important to note that during the two-step process, both the 4-year average and the current year's production must be over 1 acre-foot per contiguous acre owned or leased for a penalty to occur.***

For those wanting more information on the rule changes, please contact:

**Britney Britten at 806-883-2501, option 2.**



## AWARDS CEREMONY 5 YEARS OF SERVICE

PGCD Board of Directors recognized Ms. Katie Hodges for dedicating five years of service to the District.

Ms. Hodges started as the Business Administrator in 2019, and has since worked her way up to Office Manager.

"Katie is an integral part of PGCD's staff," said General Manager Britney Britten. "She is always there to lend a hand to other staff members and has grown tremendously in her groundwater knowledge."

**Congratulations to Ms. Hodges!**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 28: 7th Biennial Water Conservation Symposium
- (Tentative) March 5: Board of Directors Meeting

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## DISTRICT OFFICE

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Bill Breeding, Director  
Marcus Hardcastle, Director  
Wes Stockett, Director

**Britney Britten, General Manager**

*Panhandle Water News* is published quarterly.  
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## PGCD ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Since 2002, PGCD has been awarding scholarship money to deserving High School Seniors in our District, which includes **Armstrong, Carson, Donley, Gray, Potter, Roberts, and Wheeler Counties**. The deadline is quickly approaching for this year's Seniors to get their Applications and Essays into the District Office. Please spread the message about the PGCD Scholarship opportunity so we can assist the future generations to continue their education.

### 2023-2024 Scholarship Essay Topic:

What can we do to increase awareness and motivate people to prioritize water conservation?

### Applications will be accepted:

- **November 20, 2023- March 15, 2024.**
- Applications received after March 15th deadline will not be considered.

For More Information or To Receive An Application

Contact the District Office or

Visit: <https://bit.ly/pgcd-scholarships>