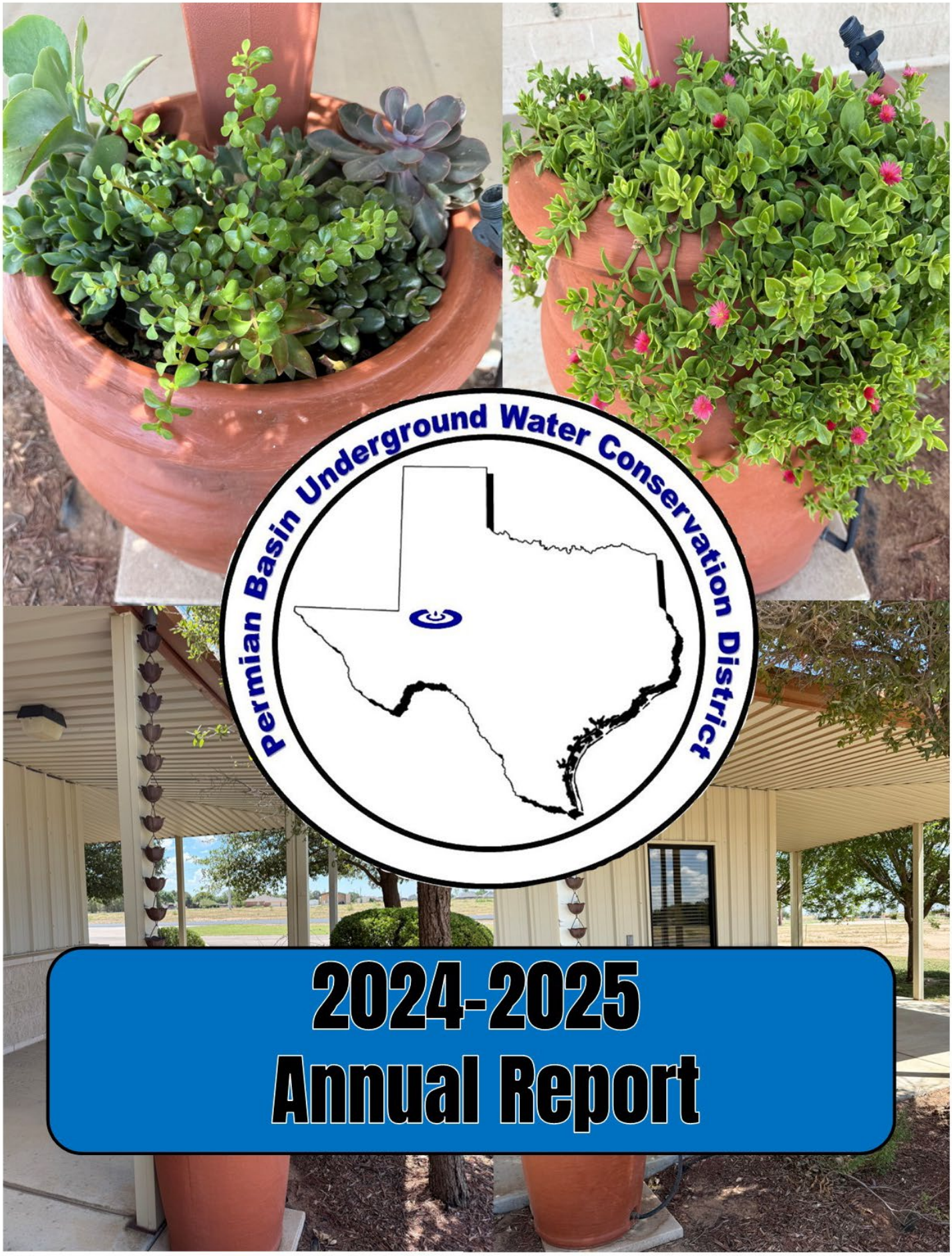


2024-2025 Annual Report

PERMIAN BASIN UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1314
708 St. Peter West
Stanton, TX 79782
(432) 756-2136

2024-2025 Board of Directors

Richie Tubb	President	Term Ends May 2028
Raymond Straub, Jr.	Vice President	Term Ends May 2026
Brad Tunnell	Secretary	Term Ends May 2028
Brandon Borgstedt	Member	Term Ends May 2026
Kristopher Alles	Member	Term Ends May 2026

2024-2025 Staff

Angela Lance	General Manager
Shain Howard	Field Technician
Allison Robertson	Administrative Assistant
Brianna Allred	Education Coordinator
Charlotte Barnes	Administrative Secretary

2024-2025 Specialists

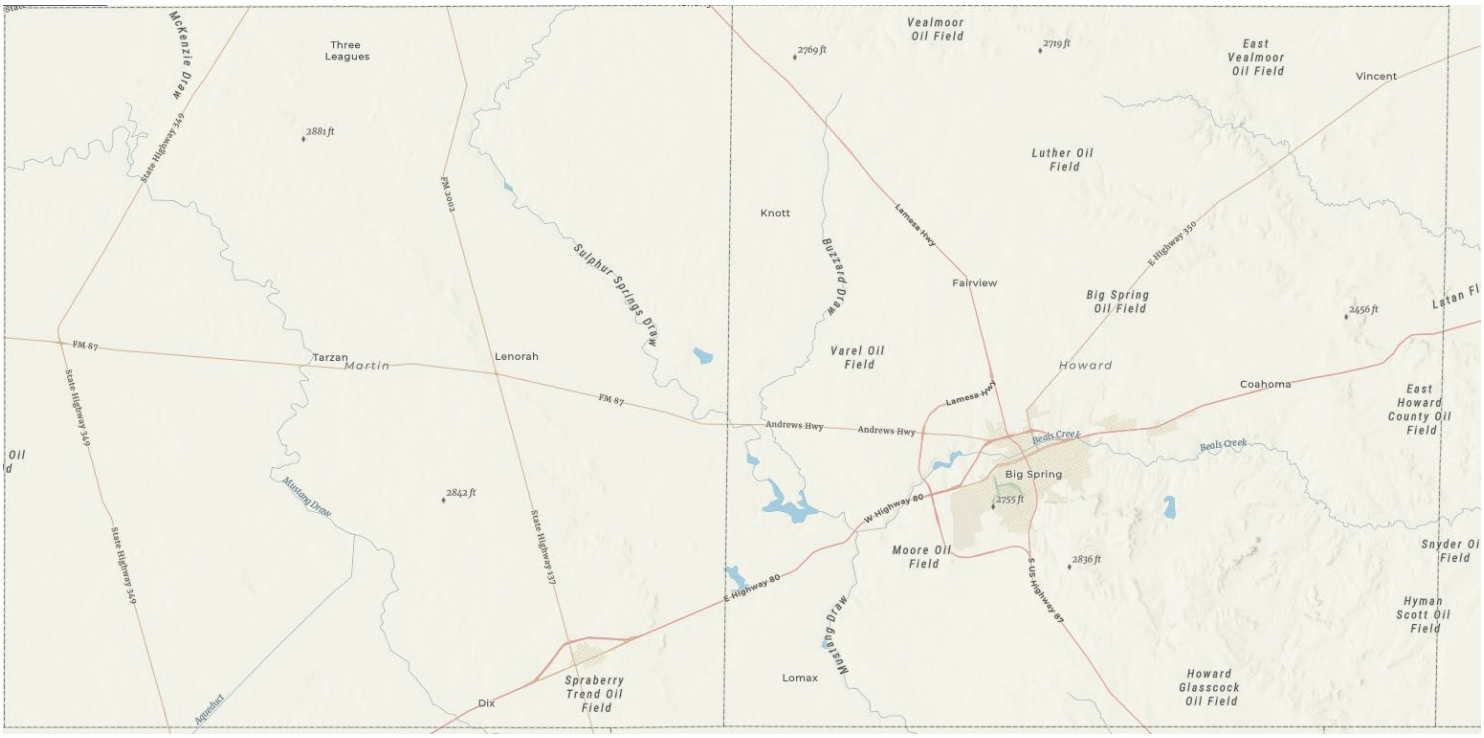
Ray Brady, P.G.	Geologist
Amy Bush, P.G.	Hydrologist

Introduction and Overview

The Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District (the District) was created on April 25, 1985 when Governor Mark White signed HB 2382, 69th Legislature, in to law. The District was confirmed by voter approval, the initial Board elected, and an ad valorem tax rate cap of $0.02/$100 valuation was set in an election held in September 1985.

Initially, the jurisdictional extent of the District was the same as Martin County. In 1991, the northwest portion of Howard County was voted and annexed in; and in 2001, all of Howard County except City Limits of Big Spring and City Limits of Coahoma were annexed in.

The District currently covers approximately 1754 square miles of West Texas, and the economy is predominated by the oil and gas industry, and to a lesser extent by agriculture.



District Mission Statement

The Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District will develop, promote, and implement management strategies to provide for the conservation, preservation, protection, recharging, and prevention of waste of the groundwater resources, over which it has jurisdictional authority, for the benefit of the people that the District serves.

Statement of Guiding Principles

The District was formed, and has been operated from its inception, with the guiding belief that the ownership and pumpage of groundwater is a private property right. The Board will continue to support that right.

Executive Summary

In fiscal year 2024-2025, the District's Board of Directors approved new rules on well-to-well spacing and permit fees which went into effect on January 1, 2025. The District also continued its enforcement case and cooperated with the Turning Row/Stealth Water/Donnie Reid lawsuit.

Mr. Ray Brady, Geologist and Mrs. Amy Bush, Hydrologist, with RMBJ Geo, Inc., completed the hydrographs and trend analyses. They continue to identify the aquifers of the well logs received, all of which provides a basis for determining Desired Future Conditions (DFC). Their ongoing assistance with the DFC process, the District Monitor Well Program and trainings have been invaluable. We look forward to their continued work with the District in 2025-2026.

On the legal spectrum, staff attended the Discovery Hearing with our attorney regarding the Turning Row, Stealth Water, and Donnie Reid case and additional hearings are still pending.

The District held our annual Rainwater Harvesting Workshop, and staff attended various meetings and trainings both online and in person. The District also spent a day with the children at the Martin County Library's summer program, presented scholarship opportunities, and held the annual calendar contest for fourth and fifth grade students within the district.

The District remains committed to its long-range goals and to maintaining high-quality programs that benefit the communities we serve. Staff look forward to participating in additional trainings and meetings in 2025-2026!

2024 – 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

PERMIAN BASIN UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MANAGEMENT GOALS, OBJECTIVES & PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

The Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District's (District or PBUWCD), a local government agency, provides for the conservation, preservation, protection, recharge and prevention of waste of the underground water reservoir, located under the District; by consistently adhering to Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code (TWC).

The 2024-2025 Annual Report is an account of the management and protection of the groundwater through collecting, archiving, and analyzing water well and aquifer data, the development of science, data gathering, regional planning, permitting, education and outreach.

The outline of this report follows and exceeds the District's Management Plan, which is intended to be used as a tool to provide continuity in the management of the District. The Management Plan is a guide to ensure that all aspects of the District's goals are carried out and accomplished, as well as maintained so the District continues to best serve the needs of the constituents.

District Board Meetings:

October 24, 2024	Regular Board Meeting (Rules Draft)
November 19, 2024	Public Hearing (Rule Change) & Regular Board Meeting
January 20, 2025	Regular Board Meeting
March 20, 2025	Regular Board Meeting (Amended Investment Policy)
April 28, 2025	Regular Board Meeting (Interlocal Agreement)
June 17, 2025	Regular Board Meeting (Financial Audit)
July 24, 2025	Regular Board Meeting
September 2, 2025	Regular Board Meeting (Propose Tax Rate)
September 22, 2025	Public Hearing (Tax Increase)
September 30, 2025	Regular Board Meeting (Approve Proposed Budget & Tax Rate)

Requirements of District Management Plan:

Goal 1.0 Providing the Most Efficient Use of Groundwater

1.01 - Objective: Water Level Monitoring
Annually measure and record water level measurements within the District's water level monitoring network.

1.01 - Performance Standard:
The District will maintain a water level monitoring network, annually measuring 80 percent of the wells in the network, and report in the annual report to the Board of Directors.

- *District Field Technician, Shain Howard, measured 95% of the 198 wells within our boundaries. Nine of the wells were inaccessible and five others were dry.*

1.02 - Objective: Well Permitting and Well Completion
The District will issue water well drilling permits for non-exempt water wells in accordance with the District rules.

1.02 - Performance Standard:
The Board of Directors will vote on approval of permits at the regularly scheduled meeting after the permit has been issued, and the total annual number of issued water well drilling permits will be reported in the annual report to the Board of Directors.

- *Permits(non-exempt) issued:* ***243***
- *Registrations (exempt) issued:* ***58***

All wells were inspected. Permits, inspection reports and received well reports were placed in the District's files.

Goal 2.0 Controlling and Preventing Waste of Groundwater

2.01 - Objective: Laboratory Services

2.01 - Performance Standard:

The District will provide basic and/or coliform water quality testing upon request, communicate test results to constituents, and report the total annual number of water quality tests performed in the annual report to the Board of Directors.

- *Total number of constituents requesting a basic water quality test:* ***19***
  - *A breakdown of test results is placed in the District's files and a copy of the results are mailed to the requestor.*
- *Total number of constituents requesting coliform testing:* **11**
  - *Coliform was found in both tests performed. The constituents were notified and given disinfectant instructions, as well as mailed a copy of the test results.*

2.02 – Objective: Open or Uncovered Wells

2.02 - Performance Standard:

The District will inspect any open or uncovered wells found or reported each year, ensure that a found or open hole is properly closed according to statute to prevent potential contamination of the aquifer, and report the total annual number of open or uncovered wells in the annual report to the Board of Directors.

- *The District didn't locate any open wells this year.*

Goal 3.0 Addressing Drought Conditions

Drought information by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) is available online: https://www.waterdatafortexas.org/drought/

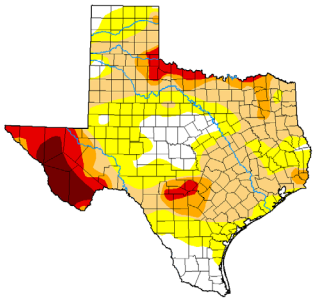
3.01 – Objective: Drought Education

3.01 - Performance Standard:

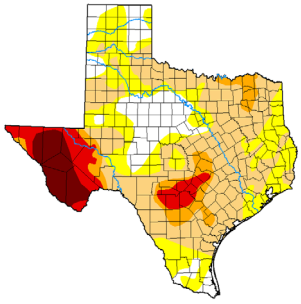
The District will monitor the drought conditions and submit a minimum of one article annually to a newspaper of general circulation within the District focused on water conservation and drought awareness if necessary. The annual number of articles submitted to the newspaper will be reported in the annual report to the Board of Directors.

- *The District staff monitored the Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI) monthly. Maps were printed and filed in the Drought Notebook. An article regarding water conservation and drought was sent and published in the Martin County Messenger and Big Spring Herald. A copy of the published newspaper article was filed in the Drought Notebook.*

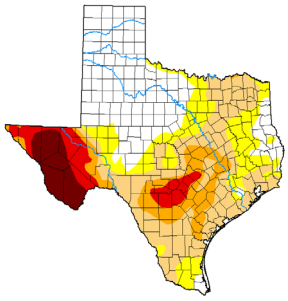
Oct. 2024



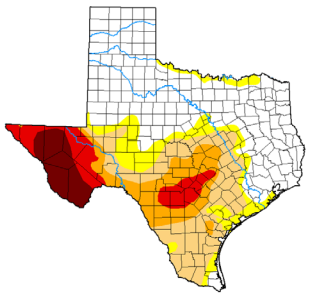
Nov. 2024



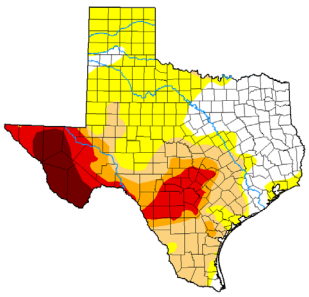
Dec. 2024



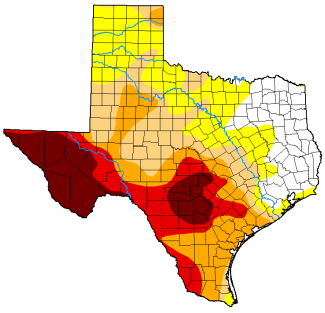
Jan. 2025



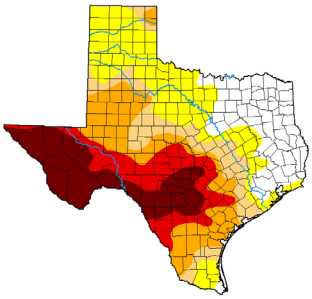
Feb. 2025



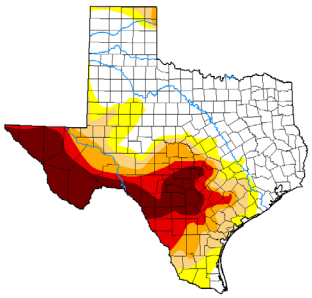
Mar. 2025



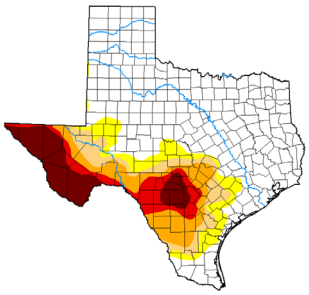
Apr. 2025



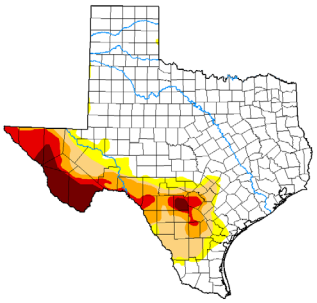
May 2025



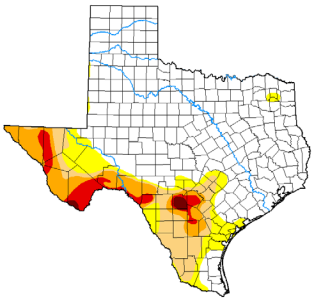
Jun. 2025



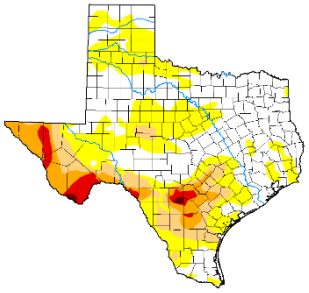
Jul. 2025



Aug. 2025



Sept. 2025



PBUWCD gives warmer weather water conservation tips and ideas

Editor's Note: The PBUWCD issued tips to help conserve water as temperatures begin to rise. Their suggested tips are as follows.

Special to the Herald

1) Don't overwater your lawn or water during peak periods. Water landscape in the early morning and late evening when winds are typically calmer and temperatures are lower, resulting in less water loss due to evaporation. Avoid running sprinklers when it's raining, windy or in the middle of the day due to excessive evaporation.

2) Plant a rain garden for catching storm water runoff from your roof, driveway and other hard surfaces. A sunken area planted with grasses and flowering perennials will collect rain water and allows the water to soak into the ground. Rain gardens can be a beautiful and cost effective way to reduce runoff from your property.

3) If you have a pool or spa,

See **WATER**, Page 3

Courtesy photos

For more tips and ideas to conserve water during the warmer upcoming months, please feel free to call the Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District at 756-2136 or swing by anytime during business hours Monday-Friday 8-5. (Closed for lunch 12-1)

Goal 4.0 Addressing Conservation, Recharge Enhancement, Rainwater Harvesting, Precipitation Enhancement and Brush control where appropriate and cost effective. (36.1071(a)(7))

4.01 – Objective: Conservation

4.01 - Performance Standard:

Each year the District will provide a minimum of one educational material regarding water conservation to public schools within the District and report it in the annual report to the Board of Directors.

- *Each year, the District provides 1,500 Take Home Folders for the schools within our district. These front of these folders feature the PBUWCD contact and location information, while the back side features the calendar contest winner, conservation tips and our logo.*

4.03 – Objective: Rainwater Harvesting

The District will provide and distribute literature on rainwater harvesting and promote the conservation and efficient use of water.

4.03 - Performance Standard

Each year the District staff will submit a minimum of one article on rainwater harvesting to a newspaper of general circulation located within the District and report it in the annual report to the Board of Directors.

- *The District held a Rainwater Harvesting Workshop on May 13, 2025 at our office. A presentation and tour of the District's rainwater harvesting system was given to the community in attendance.*
- *The flyer for the Rainwater Harvesting Workshop was submitted to the Martin County Messenger and Big Spring Herald, as well as featured on our social media page. This year, we also created a door hanger to place around town to draw in new attendees.*

PBUWCD set to host their 2025 Rainwater Harvesting Workshop Tuesday, May 13th

Special to the HERALD

The Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District will be hosting its 2025 Rainwater Harvesting Workshop on Tuesday, May 13th from 6 pm to 7 pm. The workshop will take place at the PBUWCD office located at 708 W St. Peter Street in Stanton, TX.

The event is open and free to the public! The objective of the workshop is to inform the public about rainwater harvesting, to suggest simple tips for constructing your own outdoor system at your own home or place of work and to give a quick tour of the PBUWCD rainwater harvesting system at their office. Snacks and refreshments will be served. There will be door prizes for the first 10 people that arrive. Also, each attendee will have the opportunity to enter their name to win a Rain Barrel and Rain Chain to take home!

For more information on the upcoming workshop, feel free to contact the PBUWCD staff at (432)756-2136.


PBUWCDLAPTOP
DISTRICT
PROGRAMS &
SERVICES


PBUWCDLAPTOP
PERMIAN BASIN UNDERGROUND
WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

4.05 – Objective: Brush Control

The District will provide and distribute literature on brush control and promote the conservation and efficient use of water.

4.05 - Performance Standard

Each year, the District staff will submit a minimum of one article on brush control to a newspaper of general circulation located within the District and report it in the annual report to the Board of Directors.

- *The District submitted an article on Brush Control in the Martin County Messenger and the Big Spring Herald. Copies of the articles were placed in the District's Brush Control Notebook.*

Conserve Water – Eliminate Water Thirsty Brush

Special to the Herald

When we hear "invasive species in Texas," we tend to think about feral hogs, Africanized bees and maybe even zebra mussels. It's not very often our minds jump to plants, trees and shrubs as invasive species. But here in West Texas, it is especially true that some of our land is being taken over by aggressively resilient brush such as Mesquite, Salt Cedars and Ashe Juniper.

Area residents are exceedingly aware of how precarious the state's water resources situation has become. With drought conditions easy to reach even after all the rain Texas has had this summer and with the population of Texas steadily increasing, supplying water to diverse agriculture, industrial and municipal uses has become a major concern.

Brush has long been recognized as a "water thief" on Texas rangelands. The infamous mesquite tree of West Texas can be seen as iconic for dry, arid climates or as a nuisance invading the land.

Courtesy photo

Conserving water is a common phrase when it comes to residents in the West Texas area. Mesquites are one of the trees that seem to thrive in the drought stricken land.

Throughout history, mesquite trees have always been known for absorbing high quantities of water. Mesquite's stranglehold is so bad that some people in Africa refer to it as the "devil's tree." A single tree can consume nearly 21 gallons of water per day. They absorb groundwater and lower the water table effectively causing surrounding vegetation to die off, allowing the tree to thrive and spread. The total volume of water consumed by inva

See **WATER**, Page 3

WATER

Continued from Page 1

sive brush can add up quickly, especially in severely dry conditions.

In Texas, the clearing of "brush" species is a popular technique to increase water yields, improve livestock grazing and enhance wildlife habitat. Many factors must be considered for responsible brush control projects to achieve these results, including amount of rainfall, evaporation rate and physical characteristics of the site and the region of the state. Since brush management can be expensive, it is important to ensure that it is done correctly, with an eye toward long-term follow-up maintenance practices and grazing management so that both wildlife and human communities benefit. On certain sites, brush clearing might be effective because it could enhance groundwater recharge. Brush management on sites with shallow soils that drain rapidly and are underlain by fractured materials, such as the Texas Edwards Plateau, is most likely to increase groundwater recharge.

Brush management can, under some circumstances, increase water yield. The amount of water "freed up" by brush control can vary widely, however, depending on site characteristics and on what vegetation comes in to replace the brush. Evapotranspiration is the process by which water is transferred from the land to the atmosphere by evaporation from the soil and other surfaces and by transpiration from plants. In some cases, the grass that replaces the brush may actually have an evapotranspiration rate equal to or higher than the brush that was removed.

For more information regarding brush control, the Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District invites you to visit their office in Stanton at 708 W. St. Peter Street or call them at 432-756-2136.

Goal 5.0 Addressing the Desired Future Conditions adopted by the District

5.01 - Objective - Calculate Annual Drawdown

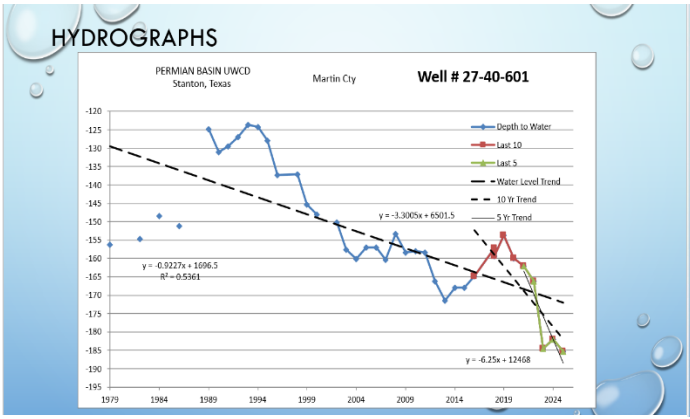
5.01 - Performance Standards

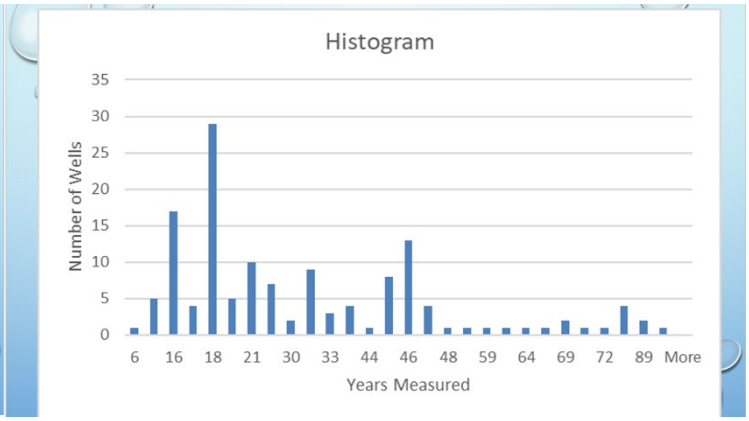
5.01.a The District will maintain a water level monitoring network, annually measure 80% of the wells in the network, and report in the annual report to the Board of Directors.

- *The District measured 95% of the wells.*

5.01.b Using the results from the annual water level measurement program, the District will calculate the average annual drawdown and long-term decline. This analysis will be compared to the currently stated DFC to ensure the District is on track to meet the desired future conditions listed in the earlier section of this plan. These results will be reported in the annual report to the Board of Directors.

- *The annual drawdown for this period is -0.31'. A presentation was given to the Board of Directors by Amy Bush for the purpose of desired future conditions.*

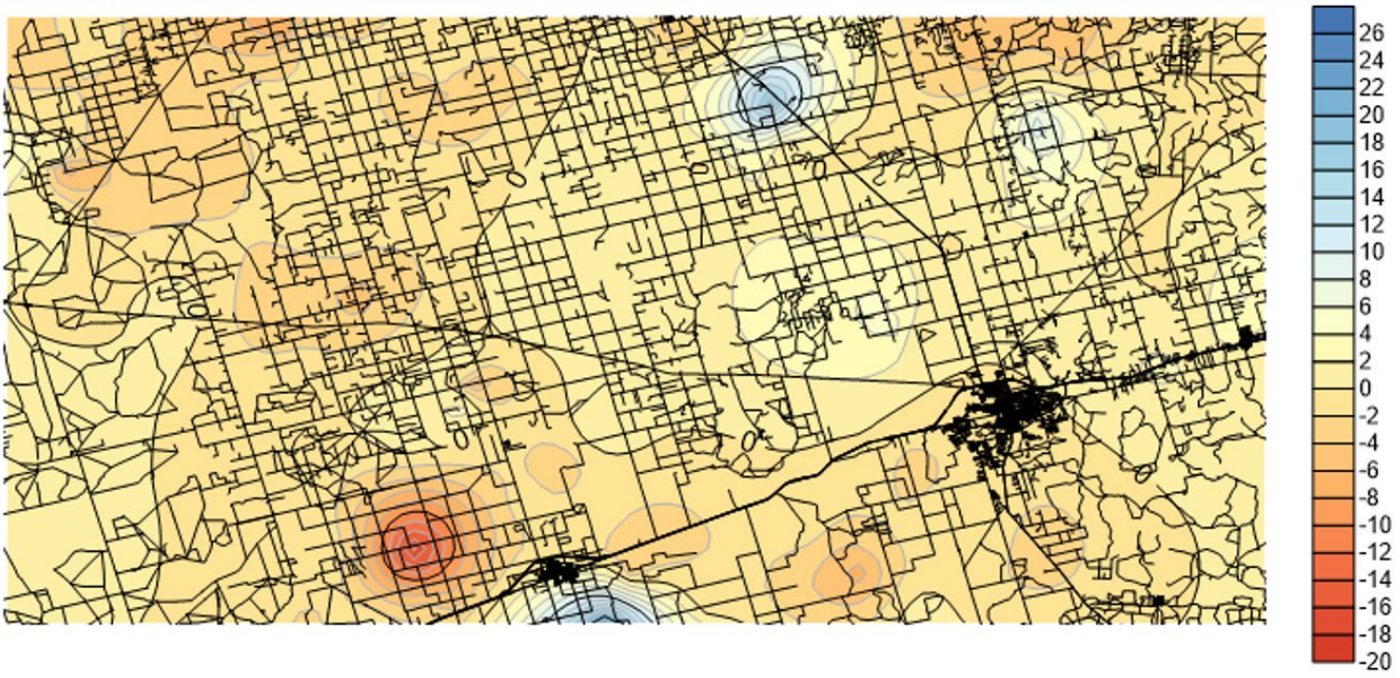




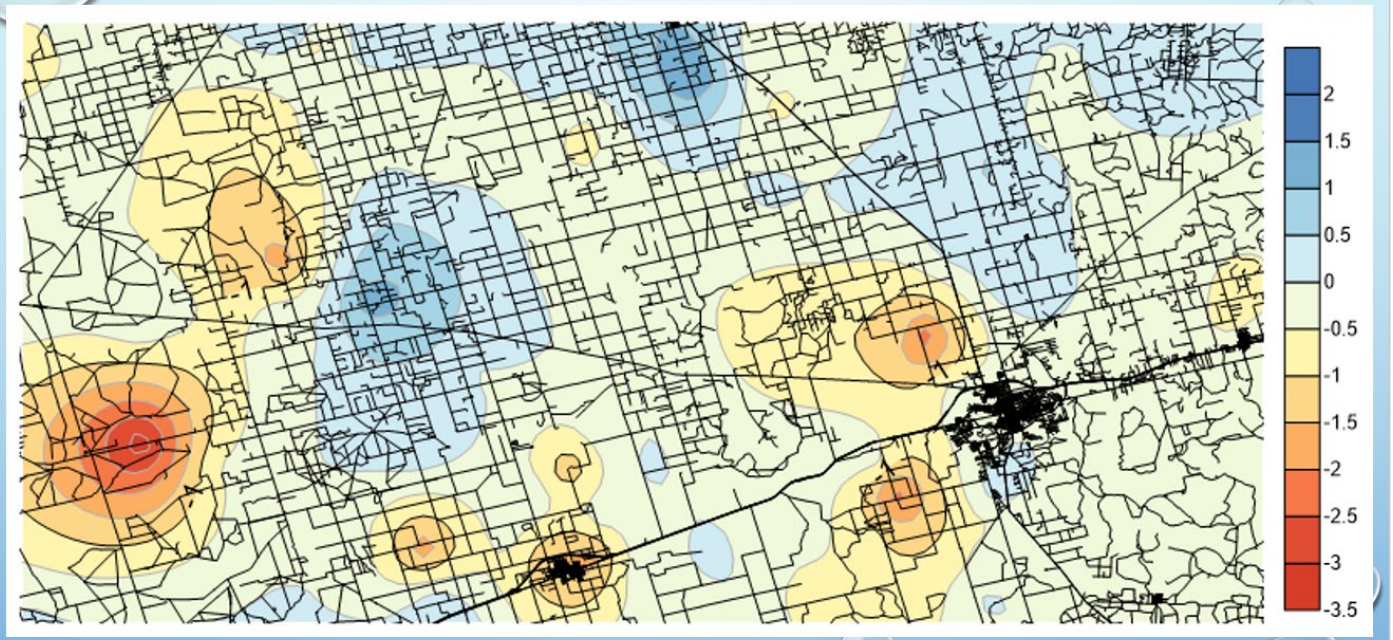
TREND ANALYSIS

Well Number	Aquifer	Lat	Long	Depth	Static Change	5 Year Change	10 Year Change	5 Year Trend	10 Year Trend	Total Trend	Total Years
2707501	Ogallala	32.9452778	-102.1872222	-113.47	13.08	8.66	-9.00	1.8	-1.5	-2.2	38
2707801	Ogallala	32.9122222	-102.1944444	-68.58	-0.58	-2.91	-6.58	-0.4	-0.6	-0.3	38
2707901	Ogallala	32.9158333	-102.1558333	-80.50	-2.75	-2.67	-9.83	0.6	-1.1	0.2	63
2708405	Ogallala	32.9288889	-102.1177778	-107.67	0.83	1.00	-7.25	0.9	-0.7	-0.9	11
2708503	Ogallala	32.9419444	-102.06	-74.48	0.42	-2.58	-4.75	0.4	-0.6	-1.6	38
2708505	Ogallala	32.9172222	-102.0727778	-88.25	0.92	-4.25	-3.75	-0.1	-0.8	-1.5	21
2708701	Ogallala	32.8886111	-102.0958333	-129.75	1.17	-3.25	-16.08	-2.5	-3.8	-0.1	38
2708801	Ogallala	32.8816667	-102.0580556	-123.08	1.50	-5.08	-7.83	-0.2	-1.3	-1.9	38
2715201	Ogallala	32.8569444	-102.1683333	-104.08	1.67	0.84	5.17	1.4	-0.3	-1.0	38
2716201	Ogallala	32.8544444	-102.0447222	-126.50	-1.58	-4.42	-12.00	-3.4	-3.3	0.4	47
2716202	Ogallala	32.8513889	-102.0783333	-119.58	1.17	1.84	-9.91	-1.0	-1.4	-1.4	38
2716204	Ogallala	32.8722222	-102.0658333	-114.25	1.25	-4.25	-10.00	-0.7	-1.2	-1.8	19
2716205	Ogallala	32.8430556	-102.0436111	-129.58	1.42	-1.08	-11.16	0.0	-1.4	-2.4	16
2716605	Ogallala	32.8258333	-102.0277778	-136.50	1.08	-6.00	-9.25	-0.6	-1.1	-2.4	25
2716611	Ogallala	32.8291667	-102.0263889	-141.50	-1.00	-3.50	-10.58	-0.5	-1.1	-1.3	14
2716702	Ogallala	32.7738889	-102.0919444	-21.50	0.25	-2.50	-1.58	0.1	-0.6	-0.2	25
2716802	Ogallala	32.7913889	-102.0488889	-81.92	7.41	7.25	5.66	3.4	-0.3	-0.1	11
2716803	Ogallala	32.7869444	-102.0463889	-71.42	6.16	18.58	0.83	2.0	-0.2	-0.4	11
2724101	Ogallala	32.7097222	-102.1022222	-19.08	1.17	11.25	6.75	2.7	0.6	0.6	38
2724202	Ogallala	32.7311111	-102.0702778	-19.08	0.42	3.59	6.50	1.0	0.7	2.0	38
2724206	Ogallala	32.7261111	-102.0763889	-13.75		7.83	11.25	2.0	1.0	1.0	10

OGALLALA STATIC CHANGE DRAFT



OGALLALA LONG TERM DECLINE TREND DRAFT



5.01.c The District will also submit an article detailing the average drawdown results to at least one newspaper of general circulation within the District each year.

- *The District submitted an article on the average drawdown to the Martin County Messenger and Big Spring Herald.*

Local/Area News

Elevating Style at 44 & Co: Big Spring's Go-To Men's Boutique

By J.R. McNutt
HERALD Staff Writer

In the heart of West Texas, Big Spring is known for its oil fields, open plains, and tight-knit community. Now, it's also home to a standout in men's fashion: 44 & Co. Located at 804 South Gregg Street in downtown Big Spring, this boutique, led by owner Amanda Blissard, is redefining how men dress with a mix of high-end and everyday style.

Amanda Blissard, a Big Spring native and mother of two, left her oil and gas career to follow a new passion: bringing quality men's clothing to her hometown. 11 "I'm Amanda, the founder of 44 & Co," she shares on the store's website. "I wanted to bring elite men's wear to Big Spring and beyond." 11 What began as a vision to offer sharp, upscale clothing has grown into a versatile shopping experience that caters

thoughtful extras makes 44 & Co a one-stop shop for the modern man.

Since opening in late 2023 with a ribbon-cutting hosted by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, the boutique has become a local gem. 1 Blissard's connection to the community shines through in promotions like back-to-school discounts, making quality clothing affordable for all. 26 Whether you're dressing for a family gathering, a night out, or just refreshing your look with West Texas charm, 44 & Co has you covered with a

PBUWCD Announces Annual Water Level Changes

Courtesy to the Herald

Each year, the water district conducts measurements on their observation wells throughout Martin and Howard counties. The results of those measurements help determine the annual change of the aquifers in this area.

The difference of the average water level measurements from 2024-2025 is -0.31 for the district. For more information regarding water levels, feel free to call the PBUWCD office at 432-756-2136 or feel free to swing by the office at 708 W. St. Peter Street in Stanton.

Oncor Power Outage Report

Courtesy to the Herald

Counties: Howard County, Texas

Current outages: 1,518 out of 20,127 tracked meters (7.54%) are without power in Howard County, Texas. Visit link for breakdown by utility - https://findenergy.com/tx/howard-county-electricity/power-outage/

Goal 6.0 Addressing natural resource issues

6.01 - Objective - Saltwater Disposal Well Monitoring

6.01 - Performance Standards

Each year the District will inspect 80 percent of known saltwater disposal sites for indications of pollution potential and report in the annual report to the Board of Directors.

- *The District monitored 163 saltwater disposal wells, which is 95.9 percent. There were seven from the previous program year that were destroyed, and two that were inaccessible. We added three new sites in Howard County and two new sites in Martin County.*

6.02 – Objective – Reporting on Well Usage

6.02- Performance Standards

The District will report the number of wells permitted that are intended to be used for oil and gas production each year in the annual report to the Board of Directors.

- *Out of 243 wells permitted, 100 were intended for oil and gas production.*

Goal 7.0 - Addressing Conjunctive Surface Water Management Issues

7.01 Objective – Participating in Regional Water Planning Group

7.01 – Performance Standards

The district will, in each annual report, document the participation of district representatives in Region F meetings and the number of meetings attended in the preceding calendar year. Documentation will consist of a table listing all Region F meetings scheduled during the preceding 12 months, and the name(s) of district staff attending.

REGION F MEETINGS	STAFF ATTENDEES
December 12, 2024	Angela Lance, Shain Howard & Allison Robertson
February 20, 2025	Angela Lance & Shain Howard
May 8, 2025	Angela Lance
September 18, 2025	Angela Lance

OTHER MEETINGS ATTENDED:

Meetings & Events Attended		
Date	**Event**	**Employees**
October 10, 2024	Waters of West Texas, Reeves Co.	Angela/Shain/Allison
October 15, 2024	RRC Brine Production Projects & Wells, online	Angela Lance
October 16, 2024	Green Futures-Empowering Communities, online	Angela/Brianna
October 2024	Began partnership with Texas Runs on Water	Angela Lance
October 24, 2024	Board Meeting – Spacing Rules & Rules Changes	Angela Lance
October 31, 2024	Streamline Zoom meeting, ADA Rules & Regs	Angela Lance
December 4, 2024	Texas Register webinar	Angela Lance
December 12, 2024	Region F Meeting	Angela/Shain/Allison
December 17, 2024	TWDB virtual Board Meeting	Angela Lance
January 11, 2025	Staff meeting & Cyber Security training	All
January 22, 2025	Texas Tech Water College – Lubbock	Angela/Allison
January 29-30, 2025	TGWA Annual Convention – Lubbock	Shain Howard
February 11, 2025	Staff meeting & Cyber Security training	All
February 19, 2025	Staff Meeting	All
February 20, 2025	Region F	Angela/Shain
February 25, 2025	Commissioners Court	Angela/Allison
March 19, 2025	WTRGA Legislative Committee webinar	Angela Lance
March 20, 2025	Board Meeting	Angela Lance
March 25, 2025	Commissioners Court	Angela Lance
March 28, 2025	GMA2 meeting – our board room	Angela/Shain/Allison
April 2, 2025	Staff meeting & Cyber Security Training	All
May 13, 2025	Rainwater Harvesting Workshop – here	Angela/Brianna/Charlotte
August 6, 2025	Cyber Security Training	All
August 14, 2025	Discovery Hearing @ 118th District Court-Donnie Reid	Angela/Shain/Gershon
August 19-21, 2025	TAGD Summit-San Antonio	Angela/Shain
September 18, 2025	Region F	Angela Lance