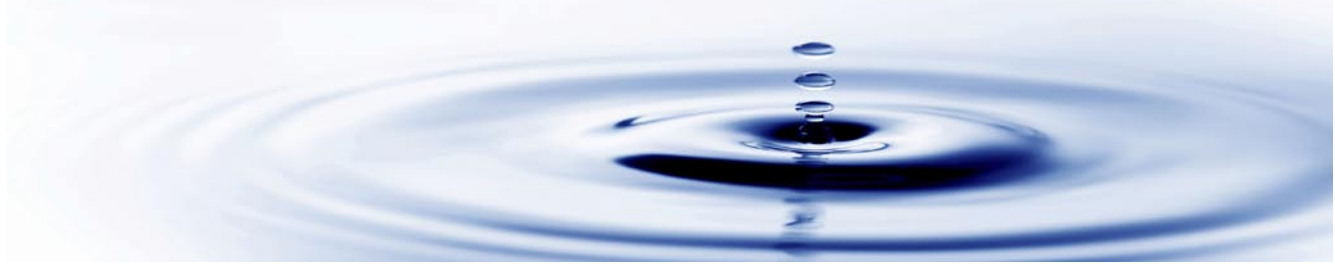


Bosque County Water – What can we do?



Where we are . . .

October 31, 2008 - The final order was signed to place Bosque County in a Priority Groundwater Management Area with McLennan, Hill, Somervell and Coryell counties. This action set into motion Chapter 35.012 of the Texas Water Code which requires that before Oct 31, 2010, Bosque County MUST be in a groundwater conservation district.

Voters of Bosque County have three choices:

Choice # 1 - Let TCEQ make the decision

This will happen if the voters of Bosque County vote against joining another district. The State favors forming a single five county district of Bosque, McLennan, Hill, Somervell and Coryell counties.

Choice # 2 - Form our own district

Not practical because districts must have two or more counties and our neighboring counties are either not interested or are already committed

Choice # 3 - Join an existing district

Unless you want to let the State decide for us, this is the only practical choice left. Two existing districts are possibilities: McLennan or Middle Trinity, compared below from information on the web sites shown on the back panel:

McLennan County GCD

(Source: www.co.mclennan.tx.us/commis/GWCDRedlineddraft.pdf)

- Formed in 2007; may be dissolved in 2010 if they have not joined with an adjacent county
- Fee based - \$1,000/year/permitted well plus \$0.02/1,000 gallons produced
- Changes in which wells will be permitted, fees, and rates can be made at any time, without a public vote by the District Board of Directors
- Directors are appointed by the County Commissioner's Court.
- Currently permitting city wells and water supply corporations only
- Exempting wells incapable of producing more than 25,000 gallons per day (17gpm) Note: a 4" well equipped with a 5 hp pump is capable of more than 17gpm – it's not exempt.
- Fee only structure creates a revenue stream that's fairly unpredictable
- Compared to property tax funding, more personnel will be needed to read meters and collect revenue
- The State's favored new district will include McLennan, Hill, Bosque, Somervell and Coryell counties
- Urban /big city mindset

Middle Trinity GCD

Source: www.middletrinitygcd.org)

- In operation since 2002 - Erath & Comanche counties
- Property tax funded at the rate of \$0.015/\$100 valuation (\$15 per \$100,000). Present rate cap is \$0.0175/\$100 valuation
- Changes in the tax rate cap must be voter approved
- Equal representation on the Board of Directors, who are elected by voters
- All existing wells will be grandfathered to historic use at the time of annexation
- Well spacing rules for new wells are used to conserve water usage and at the same time protect "Rule of Capture" rights
- Use fees to regulate sales of groundwater for use outside the district
- The property-based revenue stream is consistent, allowing Middle Trinity to:
 - Pay for plugging abandoned wells to prevent surface contamination of the aquifer (Erath and Comanche are in Bosque County's recharge zone)
 - Monitor aquifer levels (at 40 wells in Erath and Comanche) Rural/ small city mindset
- Rural/small city mindset

What should we do, and why?

Vote on May 9th

<input type="checkbox"/> FOR	The inclusion of all of the territory within the boundaries of Bosque County in the Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District and the levy of a tax on property at a rate not to exceed one and three-fourth cents (\$0.0175) on each \$100 of assessed valuation for payment of maintenance and operating expenses of the district
<input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	



- Vote **FOR** joining Middle Trinity because
 - It has proven to be well managed and frugally operated
 - It's a good match for Bosque County - it's also largely rural, with a mix of medium and small cities
 - It's geologically a good match with Bosque County because the Trinity aquifer we share is recharged there
 - Private and government organizations across Bosque County are convinced this is the best choice and have expressed support, **or...**
- Vote **AGAINST** joining Middle Trinity because you want the State to make this decision for you or you believe Bosque County should be joined with McLennan County

Not voting May 9th is the same as a vote to have the State make the decision for you.

To schedule a presentation, for more information and details, visit or call:

Bosque County AgriLife Extension
254-435-2331
<http://bosque-tx.tamu.edu/>

Details about Middle Trinity GCD
www.middletrinitygcd.org

Details about McLennan GCD
<http://www.co.mclennan.tx.us/commis/GWCDRedlineddraft.pdf>



These Bosque County organizations endorse joining Middle Trinity:

- County Commissioners Court
- Bosque County Farm Bureau
- Bosque Soil and Water Conservation District
- Clifton City Council
- Cranfills Gap City Council
- Iredell City Council
- Meridian City Council
- Morgan City Council
- Valley Mills City Council
- Walnut Springs City Council
- Childress Creek WSC
- Cross Country Water District
- Mustang Valley WSC

