

About the Regional Water Planning Group

Region C is made up of all or part of 16 counties in North Texas: Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Fannin, Freestone, Grayson, Henderson, Jack, Kaufman, Navarro, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant and Wise.

The Region C Water Planning Group (RCWPG) is one of 16 regional water planning groups selected by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to help develop and revise a comprehensive state water plan for Texas through 2060. Each water planning group is responsible for preparing and adopting a regional water plan for its area. The RCWPG is made up of 19 members representing 11 different interest groups.

<i>Jim Parks</i>	Chair	Water Districts
<i>Jody Puckett</i>	Vice Chair	Municipalities
<i>Russell Laughlin</i>	Secretary	Industry
<i>Steve Berry</i>	Member	Environment
<i>Bill Ceverha</i>	Member	Public
<i>Jerry Chapman</i>	Member	Water Districts
<i>S. Frank Crumb</i>	Member	Municipalities
<i>Bill Lewis</i>	Member	Small Business
<i>G. K. Maenius</i>	Member	Counties
<i>Howard Martin</i>	Member	Municipalities
<i>Jim McCarter</i>	Member	Water Utilities
<i>Paul Phillips</i>	Member	Municipalities
<i>Bob Scott</i>	Member	Environment
<i>Gary Spicer</i>	Member	Electric Generating Utilities
<i>Connie Standridge</i>	Member	Water Utilities
<i>Jack Stevens</i>	Member	Water Districts
<i>Danny Vance</i>	Member	River Authority
<i>Mary Vogelson</i>	Member	Public
<i>Dr. Tom Woodward</i>	Member	Agriculture
<i>Curtis Campbell</i>	Non-Voting Member	Region B
<i>Mike Harbordt</i>	Non-Voting Member	Region I
<i>Terry Kelley</i>	Non-Voting Member	Brazos G RWPG
<i>Angela Masloff</i>	Non-Voting Member	Texas Water Development Board
<i>David Weidman</i>	Non-Voting Member	Region D
<i>E.W. Wesley</i>	Non-Voting Member	Texas Dept. of Agriculture
<i>Adam Whisenant</i>	Non-Voting Member	Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.

www.regioncwater.org



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Suite 530
Irving, TX 75038

Region C Water Planning Group Invites Public to Attend Public Meetings

Public attendance is welcome at all Region C Water Planning Group meetings, and attending members of the public have an opportunity for comment on the Planning Group's activities during each meeting.

Next Meeting:

Monday, January 11, 2010, 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Location:

Trinity River Authority
Central Wastewater Treatment Plant
6500 W. Singleton Blvd.
Grand Prairie, TX 75212
(972) 263-2251

*Please Note: Persons with disabilities who plan to attend the Region C Water Planning Group meeting – and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as mobility assistance, interpreters for deaf or hearing-impaired persons, readers, large print, or Braille – are requested to contact Lee Shaffer in the TRA Central Wastewater Treatment Plant at (972) 263-2251 at least (5) work days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

For more information about the Region C Water Planning Group, contact:

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North Texas Municipal Water District
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Wylie, TX 75098
Phone: (972) 442-5405
E-mail: jparks@ntmwd.com

To be added to the RCWPG newsletter mailing list, send your name and mailing address to Colby Walton via e-mail to colby@cookseypr.com, or via fax to (972) 580-0852.

Visit www.regioncwater.org for the latest updates on RCWPG activities, meetings and other water planning news, or contact Amy Kaarlela with Freese & Nichols at adk@freese.com.

Collin
Cooke
Dallas
Denton
Ellis
Fannin
Freestone
Grayson
Henderson
Jack
Kaufman
Navarro
Parker
Rockwall
Tarrant
Wise



Water Planning for North Texas

Fall 2009 Newsletter

Residential Water Use Comparison Yields Favorable Results

Cities and water users in Region C have received criticism in recent years for purportedly being “water hogs,” with critics pointing to Gallons Per Capita Per Day (GPCD) municipal water use figures as evidence of this charge. The mostly frequently cited statistic notes that the City of Dallas averages over 200 GPCD annually for municipal water use.

In comparison, various media outlets and critics have observed that the City of San Antonio reports an average of 150 GPCD annually for its municipal water use, with the obvious conclusion being that the City of San Antonio and its residents are more wisely using scarce water resources.

But is such a comparison fair or statistically valid?

In fact, there are numerous difficulties with making city-to-city or region-to-region comparisons using municipal GPCD figures.

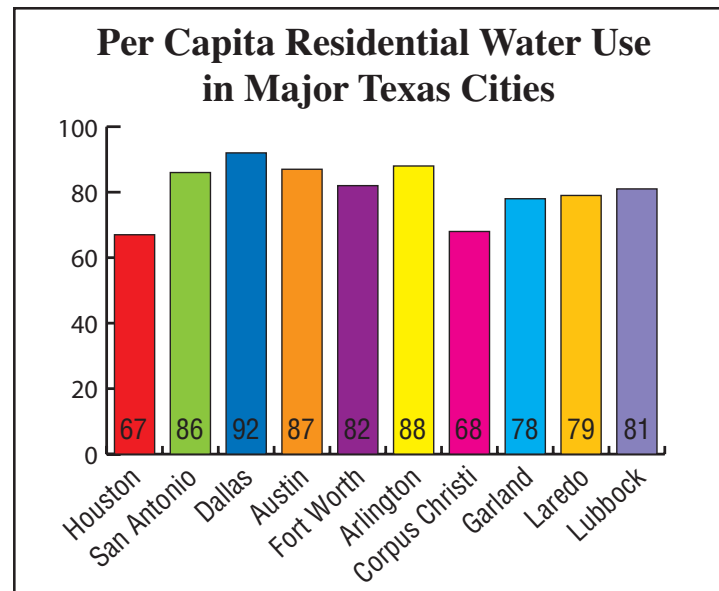
First, as the Texas Water Conservation Advisory Council noted in its Dec. 2008 report to the Legislature, there is no standard methodology used by water suppliers for calculating GPCD. On top of the difference in calculation methods, water data reporting methods vary widely, and in some cases, municipal boundaries may not match

up with water supplier boundaries – making per capita calculations imperfect, at best. It is therefore improper to use municipal GPCD figures for rigid comparisons of personal water use.

Second, municipal water use is a broad water use category, and it encompasses both residential and commercial water use. Commercial water use can be an intensive use of water. Thus, for cities with relatively high levels of commercial activity, GPCD municipal water use figures will skew more highly than in cities with lower levels of commercial activity – even though residential customers may be using comparable amounts of water.

A better, though still imperfect, comparison would be between purely residential per capita water use figures in cities or regions. Even a residential comparison can be problematic, however, as different cities account for multi-family residential usage, and other types of residential water usage, in different ways.

These shortcomings notwithstanding, how do Region C cities fare when compared to other cities statewide, looking only at residential GPCD water use calculations?



*Source: Texas Water Development Board – 2007 Water Use Survey Summary Estimates
 **Note: The residential GPCD figure for El Paso was not included in the summary estimates developed by the TWDB because of reporting variations. The residential GPCD figure for Fort Worth, which was not available from the TWDB, was provided by the City of Fort Worth. The Fort Worth number reflects Fiscal Year 2007 (October 1, 2006 – September 30, 2007), and the TWDB numbers reflect Calendar Year 2007.

As it turns out, Dallas and other major cities in Region C turn out to be remarkably similar to their counterparts in other Texas cities, when only residential GPCD figures are considered.

This stands to reason, as there is no cause to think that residents of North Texas use water differently from how residents of other Texas regions use water. In fact, with North Texas water providers engaged in major water conservation education programs, and with future water supplies expected to be strained by a rapidly growing population, North Texas water users are becoming increasingly sensitive to resource preservation.

Variations in residential water use should also be assessed in light of Texas cities' different climates. For example, Houston and Corpus Christi report lower residential water usage GPCD figures, but this should not be surprising, given those cities' significantly higher average rainfall totals.

None of this suggests that Region C should place less emphasis on water conservation and reuse, and in fact, Region C is a national leader in developing innovative conservation and reuse strategies. In the 2006 Region C Water Plan, new conservation and reuse strategies account for 26 percent of Region C's future water supply.

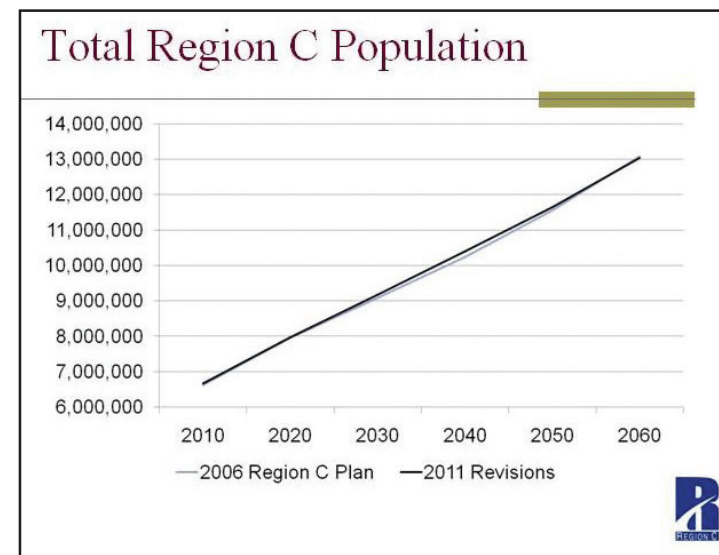
This fresh look at the data does suggest, however, that perhaps Region C water users aren't quite the "water hogs" that some would make them out to be, and that Region C water users are making significant strides in carefully using a valuable, scarce resource.

Population and Water Demand Projections Remain Similar to 2006 Plan Projections

The Region C Water Planning Group (RCWPG) recently approved population and water demand projections for the 2011 Region C Water Plan. Projections were completed for all cities with a population of more than 500 and for non-city water suppliers with more than 0.25 Million Gallons Daily of supply. Rural populations were accounted for in a separate category.

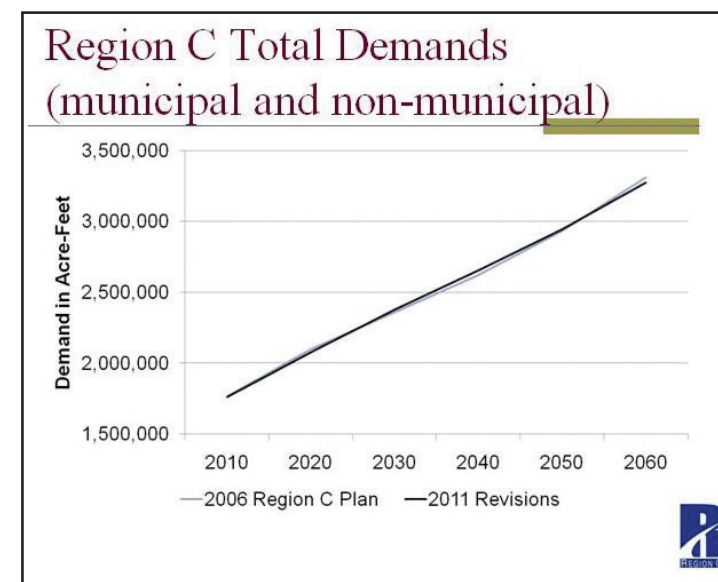
The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) provided suggested population revisions for a number of water user groups based on the 2007 population estimates by the State Demographer. Overall the State Demographer's population estimates were in line with previous projections. Additional revisions were made as a result of input from water user groups and wholesale water providers, information from the North Central Texas Council of Governments, and data from the Texas Commission on Environment Quality's water utility database.

After taking into account all of the feedback and recommendations, the Region C total population should remain nearly the same as the projections in the 2006 Region C Water Plan. Slight revisions to the population projections include an increase in years 2000 through 2050, a slight decrease in 2060, and a more accurate distribution of population among water user groups.



Similarly, adjustments to the municipal water demand projections, which are based on the population projections and per capita dry-year water usages, were made based on suggestions from the TWDB and input from water user groups and wholesale water providers. Based on feedback from these entities and from analyzing historical per capita usage for cities and available non-cities, the Planning Group made slight revisions. Non-municipal demand projections remained the same for irrigation, manufacturing, and livestock use, while the projections for steam electric power and mining were revised.

Some of the reasons for the revisions include recent power plant development activity, exploration in the Barnett Shale and changes suggested by the Bureau of Economic Geology's 2008 report. Taking all of the revisions into account, the total water demand projections are slightly lower than the projections in the 2006 Region C Water Plan.



Several Groundwater Conservation Districts Located in Region C

The state of Texas currently has 95 confirmed groundwater conservation districts (GCDs), seven of which cover areas located in Region C. GCDs provide the authority to regulate the spacing and production of water wells. The districts in Region C are:

- the *Mid-East Texas GCD*, which covers Freestone County and several counties outside of Region C;
- the *Neches & Trinity Valleys GCD*, which covers Henderson County and several counties outside of Region C;
- the *North Texas GCD*, which covers Collin, Cooke and Denton counties;
- the *Northern Trinity GCD*, which covers Tarrant County;
- the *Prairielands GCD*, which covers Ellis County and several counties outside of Region C;
- the *Red River GCD*, which covers Grayson and Fannin counties; and
- the *Upper Trinity GCD*, which covers Parker and Wise counties and several counties outside of Region C.

New GCDs may be created by the Texas Legislature, via a local petition process or by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Currently, three new GCDs are being considered statewide and are pending election results. None of the pending GCDs is located in Region C.

GCDs must develop a groundwater management plan that addresses various goals, including how to provide the most efficient use of groundwater, control land subsidence and prevent waste of groundwater. The plan must also provide information, performance standards and management objectives, as well as descriptions and estimates for achieving the identified goals. The completed groundwater management plan is then sent to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for approval. All new districts must submit their groundwater management plans to the TWDB within three years of creation.

For more information about Groundwater Conservation Districts in Texas, visit <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/GwRD/GCD/gcdhome.htm>.

Planning Group Adopts Resolution Honoring Marsh Rice

It is with great sadness that the Region C Water Planning Group (RCWPG) notes the recent passing of Irvin Marshall (Marsh) Rice, a founding member of the RCWPG and a distinguished public servant. During his many years of service to the Planning Group, Marsh dedicated his efforts to ensuring that North Central Texas residents and businesses would have a safe, plentiful water supply for many decades to come.

Over the course of his career, Marsh served as director of Dallas Water Utilities, as executive secretary of the Trinity Improvement Association, as a life board member of the Texas Water Conservation Association and as a member of the Greater Dallas Planning Committee.



Marsh was also a servant of his country, including service in both World War II, where he was part of the D-Day landing team on Omaha Beach, and in the Korean War, in addition to many years of post-war service in the U.S. Army and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The U.S. Army recognized Marsh's 30 years of military service with two Legion of Merit and three Bronze Star medals for meritorious service.

At its September 28, 2009 meeting, the Region C Water Planning Group adopted a resolution that commemorated Marsh's selfless service to the community and noted that his legacy will live on in the Region C Water Plan and countless other public projects benefiting the entire region.

Study Commission on Region C Water Supply Examines Alternatives to Marvin Nichols Reservoir

In 2008, the Study Commission on Region C Water Supply was formed as a result of Senate Bill 3 to study potential alternative strategies to the Marvin Nichols Reservoir, a large reservoir planned for Northeast Texas. The Study Commission is composed of six members. Three of the members represent Region C, and the other three members represent Region D:

- Thomas Duckert, Environmental Health & Safety Manager, International Paper;
- State Rep. Stephen Frost;
- State Rep. Jodie Laubenberg;
- Region D Water Planning Group Chairman Richard LeTourneau;
- Region C Water Planning Group Chairman Jim Parks; and
- State Sen. Florence Shapiro.

The group was charged with several tasks, including reviewing water supply alternatives available to Region C, analyzing the socioeconomic effect on the area where the water supply is located and determining whether water demand in Region C may be reduced through additional conservation and reuse measures, among other items.

Phase I of the Study Commission's efforts focused on an examination of existing studies and data gaps, with respect to five alternative water sources: Lake O' the Pines, Lake Texoma, Marvin Nichols Reservoir, Toledo Bend Reservoir and Lake Wright Patman. A draft report summarizing existing data, socioeconomic studies and data gaps related to the alternative water sources was presented in September to the Commission. The Commission is working now to finalize the Phase I report and to lay out its scope of work for Phase II.

Phase II of the Commission's efforts will continue the work of Phase I and more closely examine the potential alternative water supply strategies, with a deadline of October 2010 for completion of the Commission's work. For more information about the Commission's ongoing efforts, visit <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/wrpi/rwp/committee/rgc/rgc.htm>.