

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.

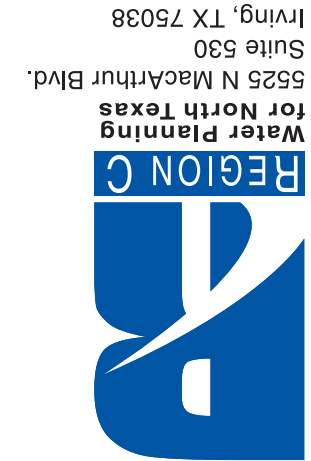
www.regioncwater.org

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

REGION C

Water Planning for North Texas

Summer 2009 Newsletter



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, September 28, 2009, 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:

James (Jim) M. Parks, RCWPG Chair
North Texas Municipal Water District
P.O. Box 2408
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.

Water Plan Revisions Underway; Public Participation Encouraged

Water is a critical resource, to preserve Texans' way of life, to enable continued prosperity and to protect the region's ecology and wildlife. Without additional water supply, the region's 2060 employment could be reduced by nearly 700,000 jobs, and the region's income could be reduced by \$58.8 billion.

The state's propensity to experience serious, prolonged droughts has taught us that being unprepared is simply not an option. That is why thoughtful, statewide planning for a long-term water supply is so important, and why it is equally important for the public to monitor and participate in the water planning process.

This article provides background information on regional water planning in Texas, notes milestone dates for the development of the 2011 Region C Water Plan and outlines opportunities for the public to stay aware and become involved throughout the planning process.

Public awareness and public participation are key elements of regional water planning throughout Texas, and this is particularly true in North Central Texas, where planners seek to take into consideration the needs of a rapidly growing population, tremendous business growth and a long-term desire to allocate scarce natural resources as intelligently as possible.

The Region C Water Planning Group (RCWPG) strongly encourages the public to closely follow the regional water issues

and to weigh in on the long-term Water Management Strategies currently under consideration for our region.

Regional Water Planning in Texas

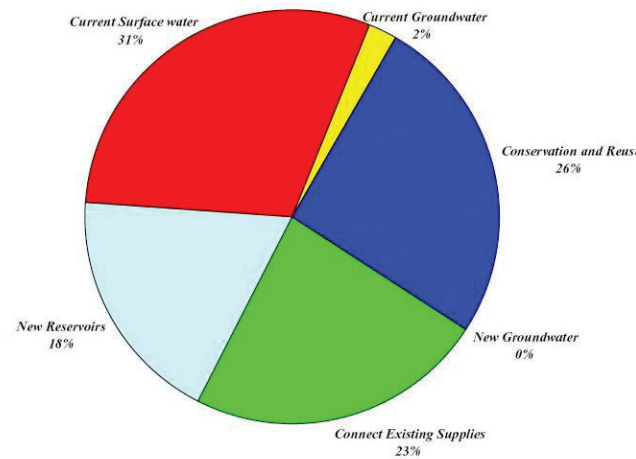
In 1997, the Texas Legislature enacted Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), comprehensive water legislation that called for the development of a State Water Plan in response to increased awareness of limited water supplies in Texas. The Water Plan seeks to provide water for the next five decades.

SB 1 created 16 Regional Water Planning Groups (RWPGs) around the state to prepare Regional Water Plans in 2001, which were then incorporated into a comprehensive State Water Plan in 2002. The bill also stipulated that RWPGs should update their plans every five years in response to changing climate, environmental, socioeconomic and demographic conditions. The 2001 Region C Water Plan was updated in 2006, during the second phase of regional water planning, and that plan will be updated again in this third phase of planning.

The 2006 *Region C Water Plan* called for the development of a wide variety of Water Management Strategies over the next 50 years, including the implementation of significant water conservation and reuse strategies, which together would meet approximately *one-quarter* of the region's water demand by 2060.

Under the existing plan, Region C's remaining 2060 water demand would be met as follows:

- Approximately *one-third* would come from currently available, connected supplies (both surface water and groundwater)
- *One-quarter* would come from the connection of existing water sources
- Slightly less than *one-fifth* would come from new reservoirs
- *Additional supply* would be accounted for through the development of regional systems, system operation of reservoirs and use of groundwater.



Sources of Water Available to Region C as of 2060

Today, the RCWPG is in the midst of its third five-year cycle of regional water planning. Over the last two years, the RCWPG conducted special studies that examined issues of particular importance to North Central Texas, including water conservation and reuse practices, the availability of water from the Toledo Bend Reservoir in East Texas, direct and indirect water reuse case studies and potential water management strategies to address rapid population growth and other changing conditions in localized areas of the region.

For the remaining portion of this planning cycle, the RCWPG will take the results of those special studies and, in conjunction with a review of updated population and demand projections, develop an updated Region C Water Plan for submission to the Texas Water Development Board next year.

Water Planning Schedule of Activities

The current schedule for development of the updated 2011 Region C Water Plan is as follows:

- **Today:** Plan development is underway
- **September 28, 2009:** Public meeting of the RCWPG
- **November 9, 2009:** Public meeting of the RCWPG
- **January 2010 (date TBD):** Public meeting of the RCWPG
- **March 2010 (date TBD):** Public meeting of the RCWPG
- **April 1, 2010:** Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) due to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
- **Summer 2010 (dates TBD):** RCWPG to hold public hearings on IPP
- **August 1, 2010:** TWDB comments on IPP due to RCWPG
- **September 2010:** Public meeting of the RCWPG to adopt Region C Water Plan
- **October 1, 2010:** RCWPG to submit final Region C Water Plan to the TWDB
- **December 31, 2010:** TWDB to complete review of all Regional Plans and prepare summary for Texas Legislature
- **January 5, 2012:** State Water Plan published by TWDB

Public Awareness and Participation

All public meetings of the RCWPG provide an opportunity for observation and public comment on the activities of the Planning Group. Members of the public are invited to speak about proposed action items during the course of the meeting, as well as to offer general comments at the conclusion of each RCWPG meeting.

The public can get an advance look at the agenda for each RCWPG meeting on the Region C Water Planning website, www.regioncwater.org. Agendas are posted one week prior to each meeting. Media advisories announcing each public meeting are also distributed to publications throughout North Central Texas at least one week in advance of each meeting. The 2006 Region C Water Plan and a variety of other water planning documents may also be viewed on the Region C website.

Beyond the opportunity to provide input during regular, public meetings of the RCWPG, the public will also have access to the draft version of the updated Region C Water Plan, known technically as the Initially Prepared Plan (or IPP), once it is submitted to the Texas Water Development Board on March 1, 2010. Once the IPP is prepared for public review, a notice will be published in publications of record throughout the region, and copies of the IPP will be made available in at least one major, public library in each of the 16 North Central

Texas counties that make up Region C. The IPP will also be published on the Region C website, www.regioncwater.org, at this time.

Subsequent to the publication of the IPP for review, the RCWPG will hold one or more public hearings to accept public comments on the draft plan update. After this hearing or hearings, the Planning Group will review all public comments, take them into account in modifying the draft plan, and submit an updated version of the plan to the Texas Water Development Board.

Once the TWDB provides its feedback on Region C's IPP, the Planning Group will consider changes to the draft plan and, after appropriate modifications, approve a final version of the Region C Water Plan for submission to the TWDB by September 1, 2010. Any such action will be taken at a public meeting of the RCWPG, and again, public comments at the meeting are encouraged.

The public can stay informed about these and other Region C Water Planning activities by visiting the Region C website (noted above), signing up to receive the RCWPG newsletter and watching for stories and notices in regional media. To sign up for the Region C Water Planning newsletter, which will be published semi-annually over the remainder of this planning cycle, please send your name and mailing address to colby@cookseypr.com, or you may fax your contact information to 972-580-0852.

The RCWPG also encourages members of the public to learn about Texas water supply and conservation issues at the following websites:

- **Region C Water Planning:** www.regioncwater.org
- **Dallas Water Utilities:** www.dallascityhall.com/dwu/water_utilities.html
- **North Texas Municipal Water District:** www.ntmwd.com
- **Texas Water Development Board:** www.twdb.state.tx.us
- **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality:** www.tceq.state.tx.us/nav/main/water_main.html
- **Texas Parks & Wildlife:** www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/
- **Tarrant Regional Water District:** www.trwd.com
- **Water IQ (conservation public awareness program):** www.wateriq.org

Region C Participates in Texas Water Conservation Day

Thursday, May 21, 2009 marked a significant day for promotion of water conservation throughout the state. Both the Texas House and Senate passed resolutions declaring the date as "Water Conservation Day," and several major water suppliers from North Central Texas participated in activities in Austin to heighten awareness of local conservation efforts and the need for continued Legislative support.

This event, which was hosted by the Texas Water Foundation, served as a significant step towards gaining the Texas Legislature's attention in supporting water conservation efforts and providing long-term funding for all of the recommended water management strategies in the State Water Plan.

Texas regions represented at the event included those with the most active water conservation awareness campaigns, such as the ones underway in Region C. Participating Region C water suppliers were Dallas Water Utilities (DWU), the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD), the Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) and the City of Frisco.

Event displays featured water conservation efforts across the state, as well as interactive exhibitions, including one that showcased the Water IQ program, in which the NTMWD is an active participant. This statewide public awareness program, created by the Texas Water Development Board, aims to educate Texans about effective water conservation and the importance of conserving water, both in times of drought and when the reservoirs are full.



The NTMWD estimates that, since its implementation of Water IQ in 2006, the district has achieved a reduction in water deliveries of 200 million gallons per day during the peak summer months, and an annualized reduction in water deliveries between 10-12 percent.

At the May 21st event, Dallas Water Utilities and the Tarrant Regional Water District also highlighted their joint water conservation and education campaign, titled "Save Water, Nothing Can Replace It." DWU's Carole Davis and TRWD's

Linda Christie pointed out to attendees that this collaboration demonstrates how major water suppliers in a region can work together to reach a common objective, and ultimately to help reduce per capita municipal water use across a region.



Since 2002, DWU estimates that its conservation efforts have saved 71 billion gallons of water. The TRWD estimates that the year-round daytime outdoor watering restrictions adopted by its customers are reducing water demand by about 10 billion gallons annually.

Although this was the first Water Conservation Day, it proved to be a resounding success. A number of Texas lawmakers or their legislative staff members attended the day's activities, learning more about key water conservation initiatives and ongoing needs.

As the Region C Water Planning Group works on updating the 16-county region's long-term water plan, the group intends to continue its focus on enhanced water conservation education and awareness. This includes encouraging elected officials to support and fully fund water conservation programs that produce desired results.

Although a wide variety of water management strategies will be necessary to meet the needs of a rapidly growing Region C, water conservation initiatives are one of the most essential, to ensure that scarce resources are being used as wisely as possible.

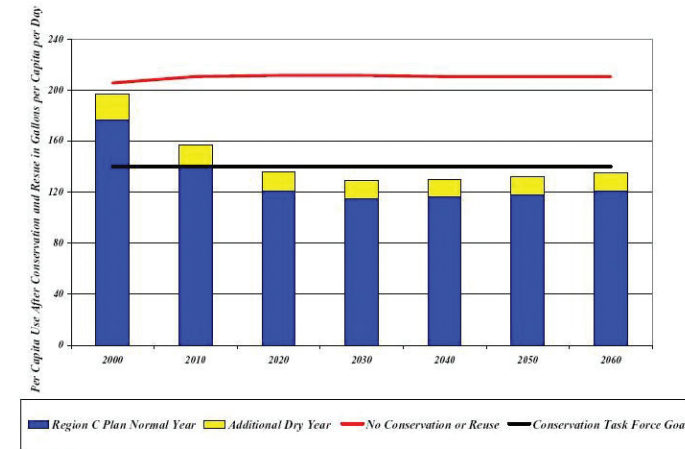
Conservation Corner: Planning Group Identifies Best Practices for Water Providers

With the temperature continuing to rise and the hot weather already well upon us, identifying effective conservation strategies continues to be a focus of the Region C Water Planning Group. Over the last two years, the Planning Group was able to identify a range of conservation best management practices through a survey of water providers in the region. The survey sought to determine the effectiveness of the conservation and reuse strategies that have been implemented, or are being considered for future implementation, by various water providers. Read on to learn how these practices are measuring up.

The most commonly implemented best management practices reported by wholesale water providers and water user groups include public and school education, low-flow plumbing fixtures, price increases, water system audits and leak detection and repair programs. Additionally, the reuse of water to augment existing supplies continues to gain popularity and is becoming more widely implemented.

Documenting the amount of water saved and the costs associated with some of the practices currently underway proved to be a challenge. For instance, it is clear that leak detection and repair programs save water, and increasing water prices may reduce use, but it is difficult to quantify or measure those savings. Even if overall water savings can be quantified, it is difficult to know how to attribute the saving to each of the conservation measure that is practiced.

Encouragingly, the majority of survey respondents who implemented some of the best management practices indicated that they have seen a reduction in per capita water usage, and they plan to continue with the implemented practices. The survey concluded that water conservation best management practices are valuable as part of a broader conservation strategy, as water conservation and reuse are projected to provide 17 percent of year 2010 municipal water demand in Region C — and will grow to provide over 25 percent of Region C's 2060 water supply.



Projected per Capita Municipal Use in Region C with Full Implementation of Planned Conservation & Reuse