# Q.1 - 2024 AQUA WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION NEWSLETTER

### **Letter from the Board President**

Dear Aqua WSC Members,

As the President of the Board of Directors for Aqua Water Supply Corporation, it is my pleasure to provide you with an update on recent developments and express our sincere gratitude for your unwavering support.

First and foremost, I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to each and every one of you for being valued members of our corporation. Your commitment is integral to the success of Aqua Water Supply Corporation, and we are truly grateful for your continued involvement.

Over the past year, our dedicated team has been tirelessly working to enhance our infrastructure, elevate water quality, and implement sustainable practices. We recognize the significance of delivering a safe and reliable water supply, and our commitment remains steadfast in surpassing your expectations.

As part of our ongoing efforts to maintain and upgrade our systems, we are excited to share that we have implemented a new water model. This model is designed to enhance our understanding of the water system, allowing us to more effectively analyze changes and proactively plan for future infrastructure improvements. We believe this will contribute to the overall resilience and sustainability of our water supply.

As we embark on a new year, we are enthusiastic about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. Your input and feedback are crucial to us, so please feel free to reach out with any concerns or suggestions you may have. Your active participation ensures that Aqua Water Supply Corporation continues to serve our members to the best of our ability.

In conclusion, I want to express my gratitude once again for your ongoing support. Together, we can build a more robust and resilient water supply system that meets the needs of our community. I look forward to another year of progress, collaboration, and shared success.

Best regards,

David Glass President, Aqua WSC Board of Directors



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# SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Applications are now being accepted for the annual Ernest W. Bracewell, Sr. Memorial Scholarship Program. The Aqua WSC scholarship application and guidelines can be obtained through Aqua WSC's website, www.AquaWSC.com, or from the business office located at 415 Old Austin Highway in Bastrop.

The application deadline is May 15, 2024, and scholarships will be awarded by August. Members of Aqua WSC and immediate family members are eligible to apply for a scholarship, provided they meet the following qualifications:

- Applicant must be a member of Aqua WSC or an immediate family member residing in the same household as the member.
- Aqua WSC member account must be current.
- Applicant must maintain a grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher.
- Applicant must be enrolled as a full-time student by an accredited business/trade or college institution; funding will be considered for pursuit of a Masters or Post Graduate Degree.

Aqua WSC adopted an educational scholarship program in 2007 to provide a little extra help to members with family members seeking higher education. Each selected applicant receives a scholarship in the amount of \$3,000; receiving half the first semester upon proof of enrollment in an accredited course of study, and half in the second semester, provided the minimum GPA requirements are met. Completed application forms must be submitted by May 15, 2024, along with proof of GPA, two letters of recommendation, and a personal essay for review by the Aqua WSC scholarship committee.

Visit <u>https://www.aquawsc.com/community/scholarship-program/</u> to learn more and to apply.

Gapital Improvement	
Projects:	
PROJECT	LOCATION & APPROX. COST
DELHI WATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES	NORTH CALDWELL County \$11.4 Million
HWY 71 EAST Waterline Replacement	NORMA JEAN BLVD. To pine hill loop \$4.5 million
MONKEY ROAD Water Line Replacement	SOUTH OF ELGIN \$5 MILLION
AQUA WSC Board Room	ADJACENT TO AQUA WSC MAIN OFFICE \$1.4 MILLION
HT TREATMENT Plant upgrades	HWY. 71 - PINE HILL Loop \$6 Million

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# CONSERVATION

### **Planting Texas Native Plants for Summer to Help Conserve Water!**

As the seasons change and spring approaches, it's the perfect time for residents of Texas to consider planting native plants in their gardens in preparation for summer. Not only does this bring vibrant colors and diversity to your outdoor space, but it also contributes to water conservation efforts. Texas, with its diverse climate and unique ecosystem, offers a rich variety of native plants that are welladapted to the region's conditions.

By embracing the unique flora that Texas has to offer, you are creating a sustainable and resilient outdoor space that thrives in harmony with the local environment. So, roll up your sleeves, grab your gardening tools, and let the spirit of conservation guide you as you plant the seeds for a greener, more vibrant Texas landscape.



#### Turk's Cap (Malvaviscus arboreus)

- A hummingbird favorite
- Loves the shade, but still grows in a variety of sunlight conditions
- Provides reliable flowers from late spring through fall.



Rock Rose (Pavonia lasiopetala)

- Prolific blooms from late spring until frost
- Drought tolerant
- Great pollinator plant
- Low maintenance



Esperanza (Tecoma stans)

- Endless yellow blooms from April to November
- Easy to grow
- Can get up to 6' tall



Flame Acanthus (Anisacanthus quadrifidus var. wrightii)

- Attracts hummingbirds
- Heat and drought tolerant
- Not picky about its location



#### Cenizo (Leucophyllum frutescens)

- Also goes by the common name, Texas Sage
- Plant in a full sun planting area
- Official State Native
  Shrub of Texas
- Loves hot temperatures

# DYK?:

IT TAKES AROUND 225 Gallons of Water to make 1 pound of Tortillas?

# FOR MORE FUN WATER FACTS VISIT:

TEXASRUNSONWATER.ORG

# ANNUAL MEETING

## Aqua WSC's Annual Membership Meeting

The Annual Membership Meeting for Aqua Water Supply Corporation will be held Friday, March 22, 2024, at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall, located at 4045 FM 535 in Rockne, Texas.

Registration begins at 1:00 p.m. and the meeting convenes at 2:00 p.m. Annual reports will be given by the President and Treasurer. The President's report will summarize 2023 activities and provide an outlook for 2024 key projects and capital investments.

All members who attend the annual meeting will be eligible for door prizes. Door prizes include a henckels knife set, DeWalt wet/dry vaccuum, Hessaire indoor/outdoor portable cooler, two portable rocking chairs and more! The door prize drawing will be held at the end of the meeting. Snacks and refreshments will also be provided. We hope to see you there!



# SMART METERS



### Current Meter

## VS.

#### Smart Meter (AMI Technology)



### Smart Solutions for Sustainable Water Management: The Impact of AMI Water Meters

In the face of growing concerns about water scarcity and the need for more efficient resource management, Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) water meters have emerged as transformative tools in the realm of water utility management. AMI water meters represent a leap forward in water metering technology by integrating advanced communication capabilities and real-time data collection. These smart meters enable two-way communication between Aqua WSC and members, offering a wealth of information to enhance decision-making and optimize water usage.

One of the key advantages of AMI water meters lies in their ability to provide precise readings of water consumption. By eliminating the need for manual readings, these meters reduce the margin for error and ensure that consumers are billed accurately based on their actual water usage. This not only benefits consumers but also streamlines billing processes for water utilities.

A standout feature of AMI water meters is their capability to detect leaks in real time. By continuously monitoring water flow and pressure, these smart meters can identify abnormal patterns indicative of leaks or pipe failures. This proactive approach allows Aqua WSC and its members to respond swiftly, minimizing water loss, and reducing the environmental impact of leaks.

In 2023, Aqua WSC initiated a pilot study of these smart meters in a small section of our service area. The pilot study is still in effect and so far is indicating positive results. Our goal is to replace all standard meters in our service area with smart meters within five years.

Once the meters have been installed, Aqua WSC members will be able to track their consumption patterns, set usage goals, and receive alerts for potential leaks or excessive use. This real-time feedback encourages water conservation practices and fosters a sense of responsibility among members.

Visit <u>www.AquaWSC.com/ami-smart-meters/</u> to learn more about this sustainable project!



## **Aqua WSC Events**

March Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, March 4, 2024 Beginning at 9am Aqua WSC Main Office

Annual Membership Meeting Friday, March 22, 2024 Sacred Heart Parish Hall Rockne, TX



#### Aqua WSC Upcoming Office Closures:

Good Friday Friday, March 29th

Memorial Day Monday, May 17th

Juneteenth Wednesday, June 19th

## Aqua WSC Sponsored Community Events

#### Bastrop Hope House 2nd Annual Fundraiser March 09, 2024 - The Gathering - Bastrop

Come join us for a night of friends, food, and fellowship as we share the vision God has given us for what's to come at Hope House.

Don't miss our INCREDIBLE silent and live auctions!

Tickets can be purchased at: <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bastrop-hope-house-2nd-annual-fundraiser-hope-grows-here-registration-799108012577?</u> <u>aff=oddtdtcreator</u>

#### C.A.S.T. for Kids - Lake Bastrop May 04, 2024 - Lake Bastrop South Shore

This is a C.A.S.T. for Kids event designed to provide children with disabilities, ages 6 - 18, the opportunity to enjoy a quality outdoor recreational experience through the sport of fishing. Take to the water with C.A.S.T. for an unforgettable morning of fishing and boating!

Learn more at: <u>https://castforkids.org/event/lakebastrop/</u>

#### Springfest April 20, 2024 - Fisherman's Park

Join the Children's Advocacy Center and CASA, Serving Bastrop, Lee and Fayette Counties at Fisherman's Park on Saturday, April 20, 2024 for a day of fun! You'll enjoy a kid's play zone, food trucks, live music, games and much more!

This is a free event, and open to the public! for more information, visit <u>https://www.springfest.org/</u>

#### 50 Lions Who Can Cook April 12, 2024 - Lockhart City Park

We invite you to the 4th annual "50 Lions Who Can Cook" benefiting the Education Foundation for Lockhart ISD! Join us on April 12, 2024 to vote on your favorite foods made by "Celebrity Chefs" from all across Lockhart ISD, County/City Departments, and Community Partners.

Tickets are \$50 pre-sale and \$60 at the door. The event will also feature live and silent auctions along with \$20 mystery grab bags. Come help us raise funds to support Lockhart ISD teacher grants, along with a great time to be had by all!

https://www.foundation4lisd.com/50-lions/

**CONTACT US** 

Aqua WSC Board of Directors:

ZONE 1 CRAIG WILLIAMS

ZONE 2 Linda garcia

ZONE 3 David glass president

ZONE 4 Mark Mcarthur

ZONE 5 EARL STEINBACH VICE PRESIDENT

> ZONE 6 Vacant

ZONE 7 Pam harkins

ZONE 8 Bill Tomsu

ZONE 9 Howard McCall

CLICK <u>Here</u> to learn More About Each Directo<u>r</u>!

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Follow Us!

# CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!

CALLING AQUA WSC BEFORE YOU DIG IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED. IT CAN PREVENT WATER LOSS & SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS.

### 512.303.3943