

November 2021
Issue 30

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Office Hours:
MONDAY - FRIDAY
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Drive-Thru Window:
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Annual Aqua Water Supply Membership Meeting to be held April 1 in Rockne

— Official Candidacy Applications For Directors Election Must Be Submitted Between December 1–31, 2021 —

Aqua Water Supply Corporation will hold its annual membership meeting on April 1, 2022, at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall in Rockne, Texas. Elections will be held for Directors representing Zones 2 and 5. The first two digits of your Aqua account number indicate your zone number.

The Official Candidacy Application and petition forms are available at Aqua's administrative office and may also be obtained from the Aqua website at www.aquawsc.com. From the Homepage, select the "Online Forms" tab at the bottom of the page, and you will see a link for the Official Candidacy Application and petition forms.

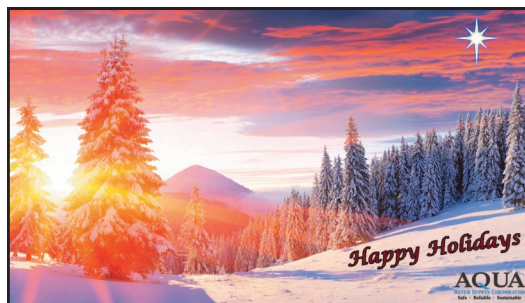
Upon request, forms will be mailed to any Aqua member receiving service or residing in Zones 2 or 5.

Effective September 1, 2011, the law governing elections held by nonprofit water supply corporations does not allow (1) proxies to be cast; (2) nominations for directors from the floor; or (3) write-in votes.

In 2013 the law was further modified, and the Aqua Board of Directors approved new procedures to comply, as follows: A person who desires their name be placed on the Official Ballot as a candidate for a Director position must complete and file with Aqua an Official Candidacy Application, including a petition executed by 20 members located within the candidate's zone, biographical information, and a photograph, between the

first and thirty-first day of December 2021.

To be eligible to serve as Director, you must be a member of Aqua, receive water within the Aqua Zone you represent, be 18 years of age or older and have not been determined, by a final judgment of a court exercising probate jurisdiction, to be (a) totally mentally incapacitated; or (b) partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote; and have not been finally convicted of a felony from which you have not been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities.



24/7 Water Supply for Your Family

Most people don't give much thought to the utility system that supplies their household with a reliable source of fresh water. And that's not surprising. The beauty of plumbing is that we turn on the faucet and we have running water. But at Aqua, we give a lot of thought to building, operating and maintaining a modern water system to serve our membership.

Aqua operates a total of nearly 50 ground and elevated storage tanks, more than 25 pump stations and 30 water wells, serving an area of more than 1,000 square miles. All of these facilities are operated on a "supply-and-demand" basis, 24 hours per day/365 days per year. In other words, when customers demand water, it's our job to operate the system that supplies that water.

In order to make sure that operations run as efficiently and smoothly as possible, Aqua maintains a sophisticated Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. This automated system allows the entire water supply network to be controlled and monitored from a secure central location via computer. This is possible through the use of specialized equipment such as flow meters, level transducers, probes, valve actuators and pressure sensors that are capable of communicating with our central facility via radio.

Once the data has been received, read and recorded by the SCADA program, changes can

be made remotely, such as opening and closing valves, to instantly supply water based on supply and demand. This data also allows us to monitor and operate our water system automatically, 24 hours per day/ 7 days per week, for maximum efficiency. But, of course, we still have the ability to conduct water service operations manually, in the event of a power outage or some other disruption to the SCADA system.

Now that you know a little more about how the Aqua water supply system works, you can rely on us to deliver a steady supply of water for your family, without giving it another thought.



Aqua Water Supply SCADA Facility

Community Happenings

Bastrop VFW Post 12104

New Meeting Day and Time: Meetings are held the third

Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. New meeting location is 1349 FM 1441, Bastrop.

***Please Note:** The Aqua Water Supply newsletter is published 4 times per year. To submit Community Announcements for publication in an upcoming quarterly issue, please send your news in writing to the main Aqua office or via email to info@aquawsc.com by the fifth day of January, April, July or October.

How the Water Cycle Impacts our Water Supply

The natural water cycle tracks the continuous movement of water on, and above, the Earth. While much of this cycle happens where we can see it - in the form of rain, flowing rivers, lake evaporation and so on - water is moving beneath our feet as well.

Groundwater can discharge into streams and rivers, and some groundwater finds openings to emerge as freshwater springs. Water that infiltrates deep into the ground also replenishes aquifers, such as the Carrizo-Wilcox aquifer here in Central Texas, which makes up the sole source of the water supply for Aqua cooperative members.

Aquifers can store huge amounts of freshwater for long periods of time. But unlike a lake or pond on the surface, this underground water fills the spaces between rock particles and subsurface material. Think of an aquifer more like water in a sponge, instead of an underground lake or river. That doesn't mean, however, that groundwater doesn't flow.

When groundwater meets the water table (below where the soil is saturated), it can move either vertically or horizontally. The direction and speed of groundwater movement is determined by how permeable or porous the subsurface rock tends to be. If water moves downward and meets more dense rock or soil, it then tends to flow horizontally, such as toward a stream or the ocean. If the rock is relatively

porous, then groundwater can travel long distances in a number of days.

Although the amount of water retained in groundwater is a small percentage of all the water on Earth, it represents as much as 30 percent of total freshwater. In fact, there is over a thousand times more water in the ground than in all the world's rivers and lakes.

There are two main types of aquifers: confined and unconfined. The confinement of water in an aquifer can create a natural pressure build-up. This means that drilling into a confined

aquifer may result in pressurized water shooting up from the land's surface, known as an artesian well. Artesian well water is not really different from non-artesian well water, it just comes to the surface in a different manner.

In unconfined aquifers, water has infiltrated from the surface and saturated the subsurface material. An unconfined aquifer requires pumps to push the water to the surface.

To learn more, test your knowledge with this True or False groundwater quiz, or visit the U.S. Geological Survey website at www.usgs.gov.

1	The water table is the altitude (below ground) where the water level in a well will rise to when the well taps a confined aquifer.
2	Water can flow in streams even during periods of drought due to groundwater seeping into stream banks.
3	Artificial recharge to an aquifer can occur when people inject water into a well to force it back into an aquifer so they can withdraw it later.
4	Big cities drill deep wells to tap naturally heated water because the heat kills bacteria and the water needs less treatment.
5	Bottled water is often advertised as "artesian well water." Artesian water is groundwater that is naturally filtered by an aquifer composed of fine, porous material; this artesian water can be put directly into bottles.
6	The porosity and permeability of an aquifer define its ability to yield water to wells in productive amounts.
7	For some wells along the coastline, pumps are turned off during high tides, since tides raise saline groundwater levels, causing saltwater intrusion into freshwater aquifers.
8	Cities prefer groundwater for drinking water because surface water is in contact with streambeds and, thus, contains a higher concentration of dissolved minerals and other substances that must be removed.
9	Excessive pumping of a well can reverse the natural flow of groundwater into a river, causing the water level in the river to fall.
10	Most wells used for irrigation and public water supply tap open areas in subsurface rocks, including horizontal fissures, caverns and lava tubes, which have connections to the land surface, allowing the aquifer to be recharged quickly by precipitation.

(7) False; (8) False; (9) True; (10) False.

Quiz answers: (1) False; (2) True; (3) True; (4) False; (5) False; (6) True;

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CALL AQUA BEFORE YOU DIG:

Aqua Water will locate the Aqua water lines for you. Calling for a line locate before any type of excavation is a good idea. Water loss and service interruptions from damaged lines are avoidable, please call the Aqua office: (512) 303-3943.