

March 2022
Issue 31

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Annual Aqua Water Supply Membership Meeting

The annual membership meeting for Aqua Water Supply Corporation will be held April 1, 2022, at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall located at 4045 FM 535 in Rockne. Registration begins at 1:00 pm and the meeting will convene at 2:00 pm. Annual reports

will be given by the President and Treasurer. The President's report will summarize 2021 activities and provide an outlook for key projects and capital investments in 2022.

In addition, there will be a vote to approve revised bylaws of the corporation,

and all members are eligible to vote on the bylaws.

All members who attend the annual meeting also will be eligible for door prizes. The prize drawing will be held at the end of the meeting. We hope to see you there!

Reminder: Call Before You Dig

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

How to Read Your Bill

ACCOUNT NUMBER		SERVICE LOCATION		BILLING DATE		DUE DATE	
12345		123 Main Street		10/01/15		10/10/15	
CUSTOMER NAME				FROM		SERVICE TO	
John and Jane Doe				08/07/15		09/04/15	
METER NUMBER	PREVIOUS READING	CURRENT READING	UNITS USED	NO. OF DAYS	DESCRIPTION		AMOUNT
	523230	529200	5970	28	PREVIOUS BALANCE		46.17
					PAYMENTS		46.17
					WATER		47.65
					LPG		0.60
					TCEQ		0.24

CONSUMPTION HISTORY

2014 2015

Average Daily Usage : 213

Please note that on the Aqua statement, members are billed for water used during a previous month. For example, although the chart reads “S” for September, this October bill actually covers the cost of units (or, gallons) used during the month of August.

AMOUNT DUE

48.49

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

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

Time to Apply for Aqua Scholarship Program

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

The application deadline is May 27, 2022, and scholarships will be awarded by August.

Cooperative members of Aqua and immediate family

members are eligible to apply for a scholarship, provided they meet the following qualifications:

- Applicant must be a member of Aqua or an immediate family member residing in the same household as the member
- Aqua member account must be current
- Applicant must maintain a grade point average 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
- Applicant must be a U.S. citizen.

Aqua adopted an educational scholarship program in 2007 to provide a little extra help to customers 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.

Good luck to all our scholarship applicants!

Completed application forms must be submitted by May 27, 2022, along with proof of GPA, two letters of recommendation, proof of citizenship (copy of birth certificate or passport) and a personal essay for review by the Aqua scholarship committee.



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.

Groundwater Showdown in Central Texas

Benjamin Franklin said, “When the well is dry, we know the worth of water.” Indeed, there is likely no other natural resource with any greater significance for the future of Texas than water. And ensuring adequate water supplies for all Texans to withstand future droughts requires advance planning and action. Here in Central Texas, there has been quite a lot of action lately.

One particular bit of action worth noting is the conclusion of a groundwater permit request by the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA). In 2018, the LCRA submitted a permit application to pump groundwater from eight wells in the Simsboro formation in the Carizzo-Wilcox aquifer beneath Bastrop county. The LCRA was requesting permission to pump 25,000 acre-feet, or about eight billion gallons of water per year, for use throughout 35 Texas counties.

Watching Water Rights

Concerned about the impact LCRA's request might have on our members' future water supplies, Aqua Water protested the permit application. We were joined by the City of Elgin, two environmental organizations and a number of landowners from Bastrop and Lee counties. As a result, the Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District (GCD), which covers Bastrop and Lee counties, brought the case before the State Office of Administrative Hearings to make a recommendation.

In October 2019, a hearing was held during which LCRA amended their request, limiting water use to Bastrop, Lee and Travis counties. Finally, a determination was made this past November. The Lost Pines GCD Board of Directors voted to approve the permit application with some changes. Most importantly, LCRA is limited to pumping a maximum of 8,000 acre-feet per year for the first five years.

First, however, LCRA is required to add new monitoring wells and comply with an agreement to monitor effects on surface water in the area. Once that is done, they can move to phase two, authorizing withdrawal of up to 8,000 acre-feet of water from two wells. The agreement also requires LCRA to submit drought contingency and water conservation plans, and to demonstrate that they have firm commitments or contracts for the water use.

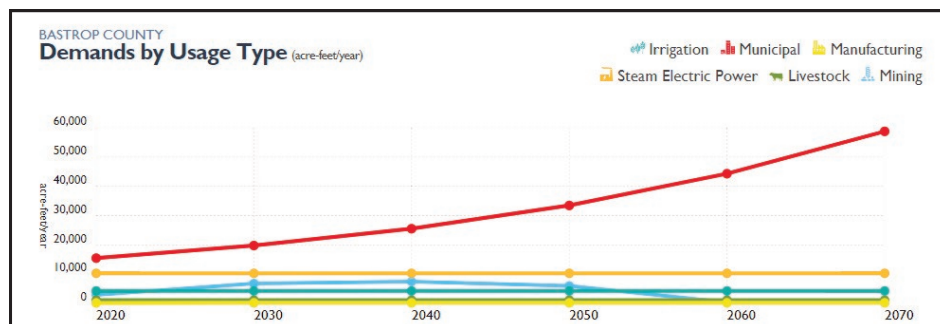
Eye on the Future

As the population of Central Texas continues to grow, it's estimated that the annual water demand of Bastrop County will exceed 42,000 acre feet by 2030, up from roughly 34,000 acre feet

in 2020. Water is the most critical resource issue of our lifetime and our children's future.

Water planning in Texas is managed by The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), the state's lead water planning agency. Every five years a new state water plan is prepared and adopted, based on local involvement from regional water planning areas. The planning process takes into consideration expected changes in population, water supplies, technological improvements, economic shifts and state policy. Each planning group then identifies potential water shortages under drought conditions, recommends management strategies to address potential shortages, and determines the impacts of not addressing the identified water needs.

Working in cooperation with the TWDB and local governments, Aqua Water is committed to managing and conserving precious water resources in a sustainable way to ensure a reliable and sustainable water supply for our cooperative members for generations to come.



Data courtesy of texasstatewaterplan.org

AQUA

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Aqua Water Supply Corporation

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[www.facebook.com/
AquaWaterSupply](http://www.facebook.com/AquaWaterSupply)

Free automated phone payment and online bill pay are available 24/7. You can pay with all major credit cards, E-Check or automatic bank draft.

Payment by phone: Call Aqua at (512) 303-3943 and select option 5 — the interactive voice response system will guide you through the process.

Online: Visit www.aquawsc.com and select Pay My Bill. You will be redirected to a secure website with instructions for payment.

Automatic bank draft: Complete a Bank Authorization form, available from our office or website, and return the completed form to our office with a voided check.

Go Green: To start receiving an e-bill please email a request along with your 10-digit Aqua account number to: ebilling@aquawsc.com.

Safe ♦ Reliable ♦ Sustainable

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