



2021

TEXAS GROUNDWATER SUMMIT

Hyatt Regency Hill Country • San Antonio, TX • August 31-September 2

AGENDA

Day 1 – Tuesday, August 31

**Breakfast and lunch on your own on Tuesday. A discount voucher for breakfast is available to hotel guests.*

9:30am – 11:00am TAGD Annual Membership Meeting

1:00pm – 3:30pm Welcome Address

Leah Martinsson, Executive Director, Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts

Advances in Texas Water Data

Richard Wade, Deputy Executive Administrator of Texas Natural Resource Information System, Texas Water Development Board

The Future is Now – Enforcing DFCs Panel

Moderator: John Dupnik, Deputy Executive Administrator of Water Science and Conservation, Texas Water Development Board

Dirk Aaron, General Manager, Clearwater UWCD

James Beach, Principal Hydrogeologist, Advanced Groundwater Solutions

Kristen Fancher, Attorney, Fancher Legal

Rural Land Trends and What They Mean for Groundwater

Roel Lopez, Director, Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute

Robert Mace, Executive Director, Meadows Center for Water & the Environment

3:30pm – 4:00pm Afternoon Break (Sponsored by INTERA)

4:00pm – 5:30pm Overruling the Rule of Capture: Lessons from 10 Other States

Gabriel Collins, Baker Botts Fellow in Energy and Environmental Regulatory Affairs at Baker Institute, Rice University

Ownership in Place and the Future of Groundwater Litigation

Amy Hardberger, Director, Texas Tech University Center for Water Law & Policy

Keynote Address

Representative Tracy King, District 80, Chairman of House Natural Resources Committee

5:30pm – 6:30pm Welcome Reception (Sponsored by Halff Associates)



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Day 2 – Wednesday, September 1

7:45am – 8:15am **Breakfast** (Sponsored by Glasscock Groundwater Conservation District)

8:15am – 10:00am **Welcome Address**
Zach Holland, President, Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts

Investing in Groundwater's Future Panel

Moderator: Sarah Schlessinger, Chief Executive Officer, Texas Water Foundation
Meredith Allen, General Manager, Sutton County UWCD
Vanessa Escobar, General Manager, Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
Steve Walthour, General Manager, North Plains GCD

Legislative Debrief Panel

Moderator: Leah Martinsson, Executive Director, Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts
Trent Hightower, Assistant General Counsel, Texas Rural Water Association
Sarah Kinkle, Director of Policy & Legislative Affairs, Texas Water Conservation Association
CJ Tredway, Consultant, Texas Oil & Gas Association

10:00am – 10:30am **Morning Break** (Sponsored by INTERA)

10:30am – 12:00pm **Keynote Address**
Brooke Paup, Chairwoman, Texas Water Development Board

Legislator Remarks

Representative Rhetta Bowers, District 113, Texas House of Representatives
Senator Sarah Eckhardt, District 14, Texas Senate
Senator Drew Springer, District 30, Texas Senate

Flexibility Considerations of the American Recovery Plan Act and Texas Water

Carlos Rubinstein, Principal, RSAH2O LLC

12:00pm – 1:30pm **Luncheon** (Sponsored by Water Grows)

1:30pm – 3:00pm **Breakout Track A – Groundwater Fundamentals for Board and Staff**

This breakout session will be repeated in the 3:30pm-5:00pm block

The Nuts and Bolts of Chapter 36

Greg Ellis, Attorney, GM Ellis Law Firm

Technical Tools in the GCD Toolbox

Amy Bush, Hydrologist, RMBJ Geo



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Day 2 – Wednesday, September 1 (continued)

1:30pm – 3:00pm

Breakout Track B: Aquifer Mapping and Modeling Tools for Decision-Making **Mapping and Modeling Faults in the Middle Trinity Aquifer**

Michelle Sutherland, Groundwater Resource Engineer, Michelle Sutherland LLC

Leveraging Technology to Provide Enhanced Access to Groundwater Models

James Schneider, Technical Leader, Olsson Associates

Groundwater Data Analysis and Visualization – Understanding and Communicating the Status of Your Aquifers

Micaela Pedrazas, Hydrogeologist, LRE Water

Breakout Track C: Addressing Challenges in Groundwater Management

GCD and County Tools for Addressing Growth

Zach Holland, General Manager, Bluebonnet GCD

District Dilemma: Mandates, Monitoring, and Finding Funding to Pay for It All

Trey Gerfers, Board President, Presidio County UWCD

Groundwater Well Assistance Program: A Public Benefits Tool

Bobby Bazan, Water Resource Specialist, Post Oak Savannah GCD

3:00pm – 3:30pm

Afternoon Break (Sponsored by INTERA)

3:30pm – 5:00pm

Breakout Track A – Groundwater Fundamentals for Board and Staff

This is a repeat of the sessions in the 1:30pm-3:00pm block

The Nuts and Bolts of Chapter 36

Greg Ellis, Attorney, GM Ellis Law Firm

Technical Tools in the GCD Toolbox

Amy Bush, Hydrologist, RMBJ Geo

Breakout Track B: Expanding Our Understanding of Groundwater/Surface Water Interaction

Analytical Tools for the Regional Evaluation of Surface Water-Groundwater Interactions

Bill Hutchison, Independent Groundwater Consultant

Development of a Geochemical Framework to Characterize Complex Aquifer Recharge-Discharge Relations

Rebecca Nunu, Scientist, Southwest Research Institute

Brazos River Streamflow Depletion Due to Alluvial Well Pumping

Jordan Furnans, Vice President-Texas Operations, LRE Water

Breakout Track C: Groundwater Management Game

This game simulates the challenges and tradeoffs in balancing groundwater supply and demand. Space is limited – learn more and reserve your spot [here](#)

Vanessa Puig-Williams, Texas Water Program Director, Environmental Defense Fund

Dan Mueller, Senior Manager, Environmental Defense Fund



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5:00pm – 6:00pm **Reception** (Sponsored by Edwards Aquifer Authority)

7:00pm – 10:00pm **Texas Groundwater Summit's 10th Birthday Party**
 Sponsored by:
 Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
 Blanco Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District
 Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District
 Middle Pecos Groundwater Conservation District

Day 3 – Thursday, September 2

7:45am – 8:15am **Breakfast** (Sponsored by Glasscock Groundwater Conservation District)

8:15am – 10:15am **More With Less: What Agriculture Can Do to Save Water**
 Dana Porter, Agricultural Engineering Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

The Future of Produced Water and the Texas Produced Water Consortium
 Venki Uddameri, Professor & Director of Water Resources Center, Texas Tech University

After Twin Oaks: Last 5 Years of Aquifer Storage and Recovery Projects Panel
 Moderator: Neil Deeds, Vice President-Southern Region, INTERA
 Charles Schoening, Principal-in-Charge, Arcadis
 Shauna Fitzsimmons Sledge, Partner, SledgeLaw Group
 Brian Smith, Principal Hydrogeologist, Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
 David Smith, Principal Scientist, CDM Smith

10:15am – 10:45am **Morning Break** (Sponsored by INTERA)

10:45am – 12:15pm **Keynote Address**
 Senator Charles Perry, District 28, Chairman of Senate Water, Agriculture, & Rural Affairs Committee

Legal Issues Panel
 Kimberly Grinnan Kelley, Associate, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta
 Natasha Martin, Shareholder, Graves Dougherty Hearon & Moody
 Monique Norman, Attorney, Monique Norman Attorney at Law
 Cole Ruiz, Associate, Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend