



2026

TEXAS GROUNDWATER SUMMIT



Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort • San Antonio, TX • September 1–3

DRAFT AGENDA

Day 1 – Tuesday, September 1

9:00am – 11:00am **TAGD Annual Membership Meeting** (Open to TAGD Members Only)

1:00pm – 3:00pm **General Session**

Independence 4/5

Welcome Address

Adam Foster, Executive Director, TAGD

Keynote Address

Bridget Scanlon, Research Professor, Bureau of Economic Geology

Panel – Land Conservation for Groundwater Protection

Moderator: Lori Olson, Executive Director, Texas Land Trust Council

Lily Abromeit, Coordinator, Playa Lakes Joint Venture

Phillip Covington, Program Manager, Edwards Aquifer Protection Program

Kevin Webb, Commissioner, Comal County

Tiered Approach to Cost-Effective Water Resource Assessments for AI Infrastructure

Danny Kingham, Principal Hydrogeologist, GSI Environmental Inc.

3:00pm – 3:30pm

Afternoon Break (Sponsored by EcoKai, Edwards Aquifer Authority, and McElroy Sullivan Miller & Weber LLP)

3:30pm – 5:30pm

General Session

Independence 4/5

Groundwater Availability Certification Guidance Manual

Jill Garcia, Assistant General Manager, Upper Trinity GCD

Panel – Groundwater Management Models: Considerations for Getting the Most Return on the Investment

Moderator: Steve Young, Principal Geoscientist, INTERA, Inc.

Daryn Hardwick, Manager, Texas Water Development Board

Joe Hughes, Principal Hydrologist, INTERA, Inc.

Aarin Teague, General Manager, Evergreen UWCD

Gary Westbrook, General Manager, Post Oak Savannah GCD

Land Application of Biosolid, Livestock, and Drilling Wastes to US Farmland: A Potential Pathway for the Redistribution of Contaminants in the Environment

Jason Masoner, Hydrologist, USGS

5:30pm – 6:30pm

Welcome Reception (Sponsored by Brazoria County GCD)

Day 2 – Wednesday, September 2

7:45am – 8:15am **Breakfast** (Sponsored by PLG Potomac Law and Upper Trinity GCD)

8:15am – 10:00am **General Session**

Independence 4/5

Legislative Interim Update

Vanessa Puig-Williams, Senior Director, EDF

Panel - Curtailment Rules: The Next Frontier of Groundwater

Moderator: Leah Martinsson, Independent Consultant

Sharlene Leurig, Texas Regional Director, WestWater Research

Wade Oliver, Vice President, EKI Environment & Water

Michael Redman, Assistant General Manager, Post Oak Savannah GCD

Mitchell Sodek, General Manager, Central Texas GCD

Navigating the Mandates of HB 2078

Mike Keester, Principal, KT Groundwater

10:00am – 10:30am **Morning Coffee Break** (Sponsored by KT Groundwater)

10:30am – 12:00pm **General Session**

Independence 4/5

Keynote Address (Sponsored by Glasscock GCD)

Chet Garner, Creator, Executive Producer, Writer, and Host of *The Daytripper*

Panel – Legislator Perspectives

12:00pm – 1:30pm **Luncheon** (Sponsored by North Texas GCD)

1:30pm – 3:00pm **Breakout Sessions**

Independence 1-3

Track 1 – Groundwater Management 101

Groundwater 101

London Darce, Recorder Well Program Team Lead, Texas Water Development Board

Role of Groundwater Models in Joint Planning

Jevon Harding, Groundwater Modeler, Texas Water Development Board

Ch. 36 Basics – Export Permits

Bobby Salehi, Attorney, Graves Dougherty Hearon & Moody

Independence 4/5

Track 2 – Groundwater Data

Groundwater Chemistry Facies Interpretation – Middle Trinity GCD Case Study

Alysa Sule, Hydrogeologist, Freese and Nichols, Inc.

Modernizing the Flow: Streamlining Groundwater Data Submission to the TWDB

Charles Dunning, Vice President of Hydrology, WellIntel Inc.

Improving Groundwater Availability Assessments Using Petrophysical Analysis of Geophysical Logs in Clastic Bedrock Aquifers

James Roberts, Principal Hydrogeologist, Spheros Environmental

Day 2 – Wednesday, September 2 (continued)

1:30pm – 3:00pm <i>Independence 6-8</i>	Breakout Sessions Track 3 – Local Groundwater Modeling When the Stakes Are High: Groundwater Modeling to Support Water Rights and Regulatory Decisions Lauren Foster, Water Program Lead, Neptune and Company, Inc. Regional Frameworks, Advanced Solutions: Leveraging Local Groundwater Models for Texas Aquifer Management Isaac Johnson, Hydrogeologist, Advanced Groundwater Solutions Evaluating Pumping Impacts in Minutes: A Groundwater Modeling Dashboard for Districts Micaela Pedrazas, Senior Hydrogeologist, KT Groundwater
3:00pm – 3:30pm	Afternoon Break (Sponsored by EcoKai, Edwards Aquifer Authority, and McElroy Sullivan Miller & Weber LLP)
3:30pm – 5:00pm <i>Independence 1-3</i>	Breakout Sessions Track 1 – Groundwater Management 101 (continued, not repeated) Improving Groundwater Well Design Through Enhanced Formation Characterization Stefan Stamoulis, President, Hydrogeologic/Environmental Testing Groundwater and Surface Water Rights in Texas Chris Hamilton, Director, Northern Trinity GCD The Quality You Deserve: Brackish Well Profiling Kory Talcott, Manager, INTERA, Inc.
<i>Independence 4/5</i>	Track 2 – Remote Sensing for GCDS: Fundamentals and Practical Interpretation Remote Sensing 101, Fundamentals Guillermo Martinez, Senior Hydrologist and Engineer, INTERA, Inc. Remote Sensing 101, InSAR Danielle Smilovsky, Geospatial Research Scientist, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Remote Sensing 101, Electromagnetic Methods Jeffrey Paine, Sr. Research Scientist, Bureau of Economic Geology
<i>Independence 6-8</i>	Track 3 – Protecting Groundwater in an Evolving Energy Landscape Pressure Finds a Path: The Costly Migration of Injection Fluids Through Aging Wellbores Julie Range, Policy Manager, Commission Shift HB 4256 Pecos County Well Plugging Update Raymond Straub, Geoscientist, Straub Corporation Direct Lithium Exchange Roberta Russell, Senior Geologist, GSI Environmental Inc.
5:00pm – 6:00pm	Happy Hour Reception (Sponsored by INTERA, Inc.)
8:00pm – 10:00pm	Desserts & Drinks Networking Event (Sponsored by North Plains GCD)

Day 3 – Thursday, September 3

7:45am – 8:15am **Breakfast** (Sponsored by PLG Potomac Law and Upper Trinity GCD)

8:15am – 10:00am **General Session**

Independence 4/5

Panel – Aquifer Storage and Recovery: The Texas Experience

Moderator: Neil Deeds, Executive Vice President, INTERA, Inc.

Lorrie Council, UIC Policy Director, Groundwater Protection Committee

Andrea Croskrey, ASR Discipline Lead, Texas Water Development Board

David Smith, Principal Groundwater Engineer, INTERA, Inc.

Blake Neffendorf, Assistant Director, City of Kyle

Panel – Can DFCs be Both Sustainable and Designed to Meet the State's Needs?

Moderator: Stacey Reese, Attorney, Stacey Reese Law

Meredith Allen, General Manager, Kimble County GCD

James Beach, Principal Hydrogeologist, Advanced Groundwater Solutions

Kristen Fancher, Attorney, Fancher Legal

Paul Terrill, Partner, Terrill & Waldrop

10:00am – 10:30am **Morning Break** (Sponsored by EcoKai, Edwards Aquifer Authority, and McElroy Sullivan Miller & Weber LLP)

10:30am – 12:30pm **General Session**

Independence 4/5

Panel – The Preeminence of Local Groundwater Management

Moderator: Alyson McDonald, Collier Consulting

Andy Garza, General Manager, Kenedy County GCD

Diana Thomas, General Manager, Sterling County GCD

Patrick Wagner, General Manager, Middle Trinity GCD

Whitney Wiebe, General Manager, Mesquite GCD

Case Law Update

Stephen Malish, Attorney, Lloyd Gosselink

Mark Stahl, Attorney, Graves Dougherty Hearon & Moody

Hydrogeochemical Processes Driving Elevated Arsenic and Fluoride in the Texas Gulf Coast Aquifer

Peter Knappett, Associate Professor, Texas A&M University