

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., *Chairman*
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Zak Covar, *Commissioner*
Richard A. Hyde, P.E., *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

October 13, 2014

Re: Watermaster Operations in the Brazos River Basin

Dear Water Right Holder:

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (Commission, or TCEQ) is beginning the implementation of a watermaster program in your area this fall and we are sending this letter to provide information on this new program, to invite you to attend a public meeting in your area, and to inform you that we are accepting nominations to serve on the new program's Watermaster Advisory Committee (WAC).

In April 2014, the Commission ordered the creation of a watermaster in the Brazos River Basin beginning at Lake Possum Kingdom and including the area downstream of that lake, as illustrated on the enclosed map. A watermaster will provide improved management and supervision of all surface water rights within this area. Watermaster personnel will monitor the flows of the river as well as surface water use throughout the area on a day-to-day basis, and will ensure compliance with surface water rights, especially during times of water shortage. A detailed fact sheet is enclosed with this letter.

Stakeholder Meetings

We will hold **seven** public meetings to provide as much information as possible about this program and to answer your questions:

7:00 p.m. – October 27, 2014

TEEX Emergency Service Training Institute
Building 25 (H.D. Smith) - Room 101 A-D
1595 Nuclear Science Road
College Station, Texas 77843

7:00 p.m. – November 6, 2014

Lake Jackson Civic Center
Terrace Room 1
333 Highway 332 East
Lake Jackson, Texas 77566

7:00 p.m. – November 10, 2014

Fort Bend County Fair Ground
Building B
4310 Highway 36 South
Rosenberg, Texas 77471

7:00 p.m. – November 17, 2014

Killeen Civic and Conference Center
Ballroom A&B
3601 South W.S. Young Drive
Killeen, Texas 76542

7:00 p.m. – November 18, 2014

Midway Middle School
Performing Arts Center
800 North Hewitt Drive
Hewitt, Texas 76643

7:00 p.m. – December 2, 2014

Tarleton State University
Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center Theater Room
Corner of North Lillian & West Vanderbilt Streets
Stephenville, Texas 76401

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Re: Watermaster Operations in the Brazos River Basin

7:00 p.m. – December 9, 2014
Mineral Wells Activity Center Ballroom
735 Hood Road
Mineral Wells, Texas 76067

Watermaster Advisory Committee

We are also accepting nominations for the Brazos WAC. The WAC consists of a group of between 9 and 15 holders of water rights or representatives of holders of water rights in the regulated area, and generally meet at least once per year, but more if needed. The WAC's duties include: providing recommendations to the Executive Director of the TCEQ (E.D.) regarding water administration and distribution activities that would benefit water rights holders; reviewing and providing comments to the E.D. on the annual budget of the watermaster operations; and performing other duties requested by the E.D. with regard to the watermaster operations, or as requested by water rights holders which the committee determines would benefit the administration of water rights. When reviewing resumes or nominations, consideration will be given to geographic location, amount of water rights held, type and or use of water right, and experience and knowledge in water management practices. You may submit your resume or complete the enclosed nomination form for consideration. **Resumes or nominations are requested by January 9, 2015 so the WAC may be appointed by early 2015.**

We hope you will attend one of these meetings so that the information on this new watermaster program will reach as many people as possible. We also hope you will consider submitting your resume or nomination for membership on the WAC.

Enclosed is a detailed fact sheet with additional information on this program. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (512) 239-2588. You may also contact my staff in the Watermaster Section: Cindy Hooper at (210) 403-4080 or Michael Redda at (512) 239-4631.

Information on the Brazos Watermaster program is also available on TCEQ's web site:

- https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/water_rights/wmaster/brazos-river-watermaster

You may sign up to be notified when the Brazos Watermaster web page is updated:

- <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXTCEQ/subscriber/new>

We value your input and thank you for your participation assisting us in this very important process.

Sincerely,



Amy Settemeyer, Watermaster Section Manager
Water Availability Division
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality