



Panhandle Water News

JANUARY 2008

Points of Interest

Annual Report

Amarillo Obtains Multiple Well Permit

Gas Grill Winner Announced

Depth to Water Measurements in Progress

Water Education Program

Amarillo Farm & Ranch Show

District Purchases WellCamera

Panhandle Region Planning Group

GMA-1 Group to Meet

Meet Your Director



2007 ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTED TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

One of the required elements of the District's Management Plan is an annual report to the Board. Contained in the annual report is the attainment of Management Plan goals and selected activities of Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District.

The report is a means of ensuring the District is accountable for completing the programs and goals established by the Board of Directors. Also, it provides an opportunity for identifying areas that require improvement or suggestions for new programs that further the mission of the District.

The 2007 Annual Report is being sent to the Texas Water Development Board, Governor Rick Perry and all Texas State Senators and Representatives. It is also available to anyone wishing a copy. Contact the District office, at 806-883-2501, or visit our website: [www.pgcd.us/PDF/Annual Report 2007.pdf](http://www.pgcd.us/PDF/Annual%20Report%202007.pdf).

BOARD GRANTS MULTIPLE WELL PERMIT TO CITY OF AMARILLO

Following a public hearing on November 13th, the PGCD Board of Directors granted a permit to the City of Amarillo that will allow them to pump up to 7,700 acre-feet per year. The city will drill two 10-inch wells, eight 8-inch wells, and three 6-inch wells on 45,766 contiguous acres.

The public hearing was held in accordance with the Rules of the District and in compliance with Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code.



PGCD's attorney, Monique Norman, general manager, C. E. Williams, and Board president, John R. Spearman, Jr. prepare for the public hearing on the City of Amarillo's request for a multiple well permit.

The proposed development area lies in eastern Potter and western Carson counties, northeast of Amarillo. All wells must be located more than one-half mile from the perimeter boundary of the contiguous acreage for which the permit was granted.

Due to the continued loss of water in Lake Meredith, Amarillo officials are being forced to develop more well fields. According to Emmett Autrey, Amarillo's director of utilities, this water will be used to balance the Carson County Well Field. The Carson County well field lies in northwestern Carson County, and has been in use since the mid-1950s.

Mr. Autrey told the Board that the city is actively pursuing water conservation methods.



The city of Amarillo's assistant director of utilities, Steve Miller and Emmett Autrey, director of utilities, answered questions from the Board concerning the proposed multiple well permit.

The Board of Directors and staff of the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District wish you a very happy and bountiful 2008.



Ruthie Pryer, of Amarillo, was the winner of a gas grill donated by Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District, at the Amarillo Tri-State Fair. The winner was determined by guessing how much a large bottle of water weighed. The actual weight of the water was 18.10 lb. Pryer guessed the weight at 18.12 lb. C. E. Williams, general manager of Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District, presented the grill to Ms. Pryer.

ANNUAL DEPTH TO WATER MEASUREMENTS IN PROGRESS

PGCD personnel are currently taking depth to water measurements in approximately 950 wells, located throughout the District. Different types of wells are used for these measurements including irrigation wells, windmills, domestic wells, abandoned wells, and monitoring wells. This gives accurate, detailed, information for our records. Some wells we use have more than 40 years of history on them.

Saturated thickness maps are prepared from the information gathered. Saturated thickness maps are useful to producers, as they attempt to locate the best places to drill new wells, and determine the amount of water under their property.

Depletion maps are also prepared from the data gathered. These maps tell us how many feet the water table has fallen, or risen, in the last year. They are also used to determine the amount of depletion allowance for Internal Revenue Service purposes.

Our main goal is to provide useful and accurate information to constituents of the District who may have a question, or be curious about the water in our area. So if you happen to see a red pickup with the PGCD logo on the door, in your area, don't worry. We are just doing our job the best we can, so we will be able to provide the people of the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District with the best information we can collect. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call us at 1-800-320-3536 or 1-806-883-2501.

"The frog does not drink up the pond in which he lives."

American Indian Proverb

FIFTH GRADE STUDENTS ARE LEARNING WATER CONSERVATION

Of all the water in the world, did you know that only 2% is fresh enough to drink? Questions like these, along with many other water facts, and water experiments, are being presented to fifth grade students throughout the District, for the ninth year. Private and parochial schools are also included. The presentation teaches students the importance of water, along with conservation methods to protect and preserve it.

From September through December, Education coordinators Jennifer Wright and Anita Haiduk, gave the presentation at 21 schools. This is almost half of the schools within our district. We are hoping to present this program to every fifth grader within the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District, before school dismisses in May. We believe that the education of future users is the key to conserving and protecting our most precious resource, for many years to come.



PGCD Field Tech, Devin Sinclair, manned the District's booth at the Amarillo Farm & Ranch Show, which was held November 27-29, in the Amarillo Civic Center. The District takes advantage of every opportunity that presents itself, to inform the public of the services and programs available at, and through, the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District.

METERS REQUIRED ON NEW WELLS

District Rules require all new wells, with pumps 4-inch or larger, to be metered. Please check with the District office for proper spacing of meter installation.

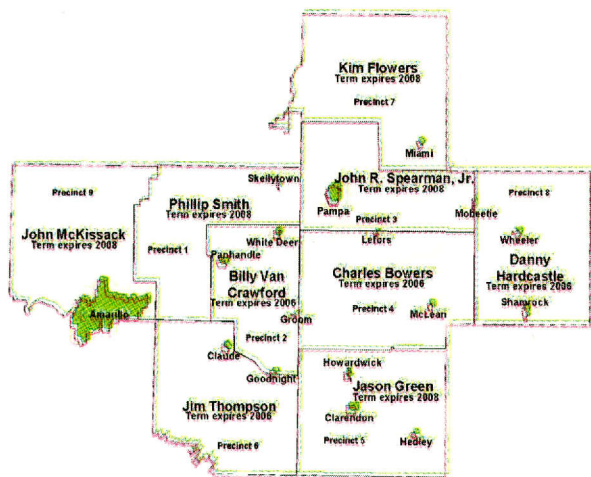
Meters may be purchased from the District, at our cost, or from a commercial manufacturer that has been approved by the District. For more information, please call the office, 883-2501.

AGRICULTURAL WATER CONSERVATION EQUIPMENT LOANS

The District still has money available for Agricultural Water Conservation Equipment Loans. Interest on this money is 5.9%.

Interested persons are encouraged to call the District office, 806-883-2501, for more information or to request a loan application packet.

DIRECTOR ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD MAY 10, 2008



Elections will be held in five director precincts of the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District, on May 10, 2008. Those currently holding the positions are: Phillip Smith—Precinct 1, which covers the western portion of Carson County and the eastern portion of Potter County; John R. Spearman, Jr. — Precinct 3, covering northern Gray County and the southeast corner of Roberts County; Jason Green — Precinct 5, Donley County; Kim Flowers — Precinct 7, covering the remainder of Roberts County; and Thomas Cambridge — Precinct 9, which covers the remainder of Potter County.

Persons wishing to run for one of these director positions may stop by the office, at 201 W. Third Street in White Deer, between February 9 and March 10, 2008, to apply for a place on the ballot. To be eligible, you must be a registered voter and live in the precinct you are applying for.

GMA-1 TO MEET JANUARY 21ST

Two years ago, the Texas Legislature mandated that groundwater management areas establish the desired future conditions of the aquifers in their regions. Although GMA-1 has met regularly, they have yet to reach a consensus of what they want that condition to be. PGCD General Manager C. E. Williams, said he thinks the water districts in GMA-1 are making progress. But each water district has its own view of what needs to be done. GMA boards have until September 2010 to reach a consensus.

Sen. Robert Duncan said groundwater laws were designed by the Legislature, to push the decision-making process down to the local level through the groundwater management area process.

The Groundwater Management Area No. 1, will meet on January 21, 2008, at the PRPC boardroom, in Amarillo. GMA-1 consists of Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District, North Plains Groundwater Conservation District, Hemphill County Groundwater Conservation District, and parts of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District.

John R. Spearman, Jr., president of the PGCD Board of Directors, is the District's representative on GMA-1. General Manager C. E. Williams also attends these meetings.

DISTRICT PURCHASES DOWN-HOLE VIDEO CAMERA

PGCD recently purchased a WellCamera Submersible Video Inspection System. The unit can be used to find and retrieve lost tools and equipment and to inspect perforations, welds, screens, etc.

The unit has been installed in a 1990 Ford Econoline Ambulance. The District's trained field technicians can transport this unit to wells within the District, to check casings for leaks or problems, upon request. There will be a minimal charge of \$100 per well for this service, which includes a DVD copy of the procedure, for your records.



Field Technicians Devin Sinclair and Chad Gerard prepare to video a well in Carson County.

PLANNING GROUP DISCUSSES RECHARGE STUDY

At their meeting on January 10th, Bridget Scanlon, senior research scientist with the Bureau of Economic Geology, gave the Panhandle Region Planning Group (PWPG) an update on the recharge study they are conducting of the aquifers in the eastern Texas Panhandle.

The group also discussed an inter-regional coordination and cooperation between Region A (the Texas Panhandle) and Region O (Texas South Plains) including the use of video conferencing.

PGCD General Manager C. E. Williams serves as chairman of the Panhandle Water Planning Group.

P.G.C.D. STAFF

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Herb Speckman	Chief Pilot

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Kim Flowers, *Director*
Thomas Cambridge, *Director*

C. E. Williams, *General Manager*

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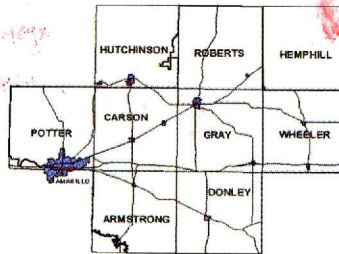
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MEET YOUR DIRECTOR



Thomas R. Cambridge

Thomas Cambridge serves as Director of Precinct 9, which includes the major portion of Potter County.

Mr. Cambridge was appointed to the Board of Directors in July 2006, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John McKisack.

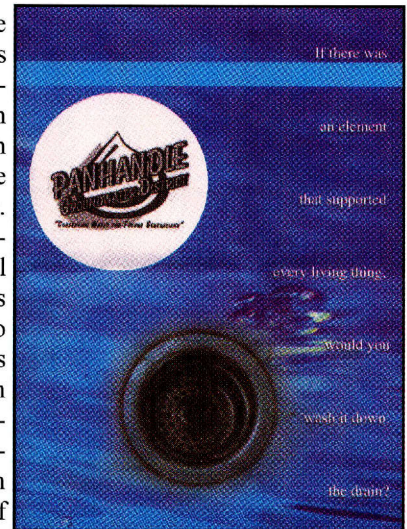
A geologist, Cambridge is a native of Iowa and graduated from the University of Nebraska. He has worked in the oil and gas industry for 47 years, and currently serves as president of Cambridge Production, Inc. in Amarillo, where he and his wife, Norma, reside. They are the parents of three grown children.

Tom is a history buff and is currently serving on the Board of Directors for the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum, in Canyon. He also serves as the District's representative on the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) for downtown Amarillo. In his spare time, he enjoys golf and his newest hobby, fly-fishing.

If you reside in Potter County, Mr. Cambridge is your representative on the Board.

GRADE SCHOOL STUDENTS GIVEN FREE BOOK COVERS

Since 1991, PGCD has provided each elementary student in the District with book covers for the current school year. In addition to protecting school books, the covers are designed to make students aware of common water wasting practices, and to promote conservation and protection of our Ogallala groundwater.



This year, 15,000 book covers were distributed to schools in Amarillo, Clarendon, Claude, Grandview-Hopkins, Groom, Hedley, Lefors, McLean, Pampa, Panhandle, Highland Park, River Road, Wheeler, and White Deer.