



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CROSBYTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HONORED IN AUSTIN AS INAUGURAL H2YOU WATER CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN WINNERS

LUBBOCK (January 30, 2015) -- Crosbyton High School students Dominique Flores, Desmond Garza, Natalie Rodriguez, and Ciera Ware were honored Jan. 27 by the Texas Legislature as inaugural winners of the "H2YOU" water conservation campaign contest.

The H2YOU contest is a new program of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1

(HPWD) in Lubbock.

Using the team name of "Catch-22," the group produced an agricultural water conservation proposal with creative and inventive solutions to help farmers and ranchers become more informed about water conservation methods and techniques.

"A Catch-22 is defined as an unsolvable logic puzzle. Water conservation is indeed an unsolvable puzzle and water availability will always be a problem. However, our ultimate goal for this water conservation puzzle is for it to be solved as much as it possibly can," wrote the students in their project overview.

Senator Charles Perry of Lubbock sponsored Senate Resolution 19 and Rep. Drew Springer of Gainesville sponsored House Resolution 223 honoring the team for their "great skill and dedication" and for being "a source of pride to their school and community." The students were introduced and recognized in both Legislative chambers.

The students were in Austin Jan. 25-28 to present their project to legislators, legislative staff, and representatives from several statewide agencies--including the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). The students also had the opportunity to tour the State Capitol, the Bullock Texas State History Museum, and Darrell K. Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium.

In addition, each student will receive a \$500 scholarship from HPWD.

Accompanying the students were Crosbyton Consolidated Independent School District Superintendent Shawn Mason and his wife; Crosbyton ISD Ag Teacher Ben Stokes; Career and Technology Instructor Sharon West; and HPWD staff members Kody Bessent and Adeline Fox.

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Crosbyton High School students and instructors are shown in the Texas Senate Gallery during their recent visit to Austin. Front row from left: Ciera Ware, Desmond Garza, and Natalie Rodriguez. Back row from left: Sharon West, Dominique Flores, and Ben Stokes. (HPWD photo by Adeline Fox)



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HPWD BOARD SETS MARCH 13 RULEMAKING HEARING AT TULIA

The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District (HPWD) Board of Directors will receive public comments on proposed revisions to Rule 4.1(e) and 4.2 (b) at a public hearing set for 10:00 a.m., March 13 at the Swisher County Memorial Building, 127 SW 2nd Street, in Tulia.

The directors will hold their regular monthly meeting immediately following the conclusion of the public hearing.

The proposed revision deletes the word “shall” in Well Registration Rule 4.1(e) and

replaces it with the word “may.” In addition, the existing sentence in Well Registration Rule 4.2(b) would be deleted and replaced with “A new well exempt from permitting may be registered with the district.”

No other revisions to the HPWD rules shall be considered at this time.

“If the rule amendments are approved, landowners within the 16-county HPWD service area will no longer be required to register their exempt use wells with the district,” said HPWD Board President Lynn Tate of Amarillo.

“They would have the option to register their wells in order to receive protection under the district’s water well spacing requirements. These proposed rule amendments are another step in the right direction to protect private property rights,” he said.

Written comments regarding the proposed revisions to the rules must be received at the HPWD office, 2930 Avenue Q, Lubbock TX 79411-2499 no later than 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 11, 2015. They may also be submitted by email at rulecomments@hpwd.org

A complete copy of the current HPWD rules and the proposed revisions are available for viewing at the district office in Lubbock or by calling (806) 762-0181. They are also available online at <http://www.hpwd.org/rules/>

“We encourage public comment about the proposed rule revisions. Persons with questions should feel free to contact the district office in Lubbock for more information,” Tate said.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 9, 2015

HPWD TO CONDUCT RAINWATER HARVESTING WORKSHOPS IN APRIL

LUBBOCK (March 9, 2015)--For many years, the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 (HPWD) has shared the philosophy of former Texas Agricultural Experiment Station Superintendent R. E. Dixon of Spur: **“Don’t pray for rain if you don’t take care of what you get!”**

With this in mind, HPWD is sponsoring a series of workshops in April to share information about rainwater

harvesting and water-smart landscaping with area residents. The cost of the workshop is \$20 at the door and includes all presentation materials.

The workshops will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the following locations:

- April 9: Mallet Event Center, 2320 U.S. Highway 385, Levelland.
- April 16: Ollie Liner Center, 2000 S. Columbia, Plainview.
- April 23: Bailey County Electric Co-op Office, 610 E. American Blvd., Muleshoe.
- April 30: Cole Community Center, 300 16th Street, Canyon.

“We never know when the next rainfall event will occur. Therefore, it’s important that we be ready to maximize the benefits of the free moisture provided by Mother Nature. Rainwater harvesting allows us to capture water that would normally be lost to runoff and use it later during dry times,” said Adeline Fox, HPWD education and outreach coordinator.

The district’s presentation includes an overview of basic rainwater harvesting techniques for both small and large scale applications. Installation of gutters, rainwater harvesting barrels, and rain chains for home and businesses will be discussed. In addition, information will be provided about water conservation in the landscape.

She said the same program and materials will be presented at each workshop. “This allows persons who can’t attend their preferred workshop to receive the same information at another location,” Fox said.

Persons are encouraged to register for the event at rsvp.hpwd.org or by calling the district office in Lubbock at (806) 762-0181. The first 20 persons to RSVP for each of the four workshops will receive a free rainwater harvesting barrel and a rain chain, courtesy of HPWD.

Additional information is available by contacting the HPWD office in Lubbock or visiting the district’s web site at www.hpwd.org.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 13, 2015

**BOARD REJECTS TCEQ ORDER FOR BRISCOE COUNTY ANNEXATION;
APPROVES RULE AMENDMENTS REGARDING WELL REGISTRATION**

LUBBOCK TX (March 13, 2015)--During their March 13 regular meeting, the High Plains

Underground Water Conservation District (HPWD) Board of Directors unanimously rejected an order from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) recommending annexation of the western portion of Briscoe County into the district.

The five-member board made its decision after receiving comments at a public hearing earlier in the day.

“We believe in local control. The Board of Directors listened to Briscoe County residents and honored their wishes not to be annexed into the water conservation district,” said HPWD President Lynn Tate of Amarillo.

TCEQ designated the Briscoe, Hale, and Swisher County Priority Groundwater Management Area (PGMA) in 1990. Since then, the portions of Hale and Swisher Counties in the PGMA were added to the HPWD.

The western portion of Briscoe County is the only remaining portion of the PGMA not within a groundwater conservation district. As a result, residents in the area had the option of creating their own district or joining the HPWD as recommended by the TCEQ.

Several landowners believe that the TCEQ’s recommendation would lead to unnecessary government oversight and could threaten private property rights.

In other business, the HPWD Board of Directors approved proposed amendments to HPWD Water Well Registration Rule 4.1(e) and 4.2 (b). The amendments take effect immediately.

The revision deletes the word, “shall,” in Well Registration Rule 4.1 (e) and replaces it with

the word, “may.” In addition, the existing sentence in Well Registration Rule 4.2 (b) was deleted and replaced with “A new well exempt from permitting may be registered with the district.”

Tate said these rule amendments are another step in the right direction to protect private property rights.

“Landowners now have the option to register their wells in order to receive protection under the district’s water well spacing requirements. The HPWD Board of Directors is committed to protecting landowners’ private property rights,” he said.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: *March 26, 2015*

CARGILL - FRIONA WINS BLUE LEGACY IN MANUFACTURING AWARD

March 26, 2015 (LUBBOCK, TX) - Increased water use efficiency, including use of reclaimed water whenever possible, has been an important part of Cargill Meat Solutions' water management strategy at its Friona, TX plant. Because of this, the company will receive the 2015 Blue Legacy Award for Manufacturing during ceremonies at the March 26 "Texas Water Day at the Capitol" in Austin.

This annual award is given by the Water Conservation Advisory Council to "recognize

manufacturing water users that have demonstrated outstanding and innovating commitment to the state's mission of promoting responsible management of water resources and conservation of Texas' water resources."

The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District in Lubbock nominated Cargill Meat Solutions for the award based upon the company's dedicated efforts to conserve groundwater stored in the Ogallala Aquifer.

Plant Engineer Charlie Pope and Environmental Superintendent Nick McFarland will accept the award on behalf of Cargill.

The processing plant's average water use per day was 1.614 million gallons in 2007. Now, the average use is about 1.246 million gallons per day. During the same period, the plant's water use efficiency (amount of water used per pound of product produced) improved by more than 25 percent.

Cargill has also made adjustments in its water treatment and reuse. Farmers can use water from the plant's lagoons for irrigation. Cargill follows a strict nutrient management plan for their lagoons. The quality of outgoing wastewater and quality of the soil is closely monitored to ensure optimum growing conditions for both Cargill and the landowner.

The award also recognizes Cargill for its efforts to help secure long-lasting water resources for local businesses and residents. In addition, the plant supports community water conservation programs that benefit residents.

"The Cargill plant in Friona has dramatically altered their water use during the past four years. Their innovation serves as a model standard for many industries in West Texas. We commend them for their efforts in both water conservation and community outreach as they work to conserve the groundwater resources of the Ogallala Aquifer," said HPWD officials in the nomination packet.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - April 22, 2015

**ANNUAL WATER LEVEL MEASUREMENTS SHOW AVERAGE DECLINE
OF -0.56 OF A FOOT WITHIN 16-COUNTY HPWD SERVICE AREA**

LUBBOCK TX (April 22, 2015) -- Annual water level measurements indicate an average decline of -0.56 of a foot in the groundwater levels of the Ogallala Aquifer within the 16-county High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 (HPWD) service area from 2014 to 2015.

This decline is 0.76 of a foot less than the -1.32 feet decline recorded in 2013-2014 during continuing drought conditions.

The 10-year average change (2005-2015) was -10.27 feet while the five-year average change (2010-2015) was -5.69 feet.

Water level measurements are made from December to March each year in 1,418 privately-owned wells in the district's observation well network. The winter measurements allow time for water levels in the aquifer to stabilize following the previous year's groundwater production.

"We are supplementing the district's water level observation program by establishing a water level observation network for wells completed in the Dockum Aquifer. Although not included in the published report, we do expect these data to be available on the HPWD website in the near future," said HPWD General Manager Jason Coleman.

Results of the 2015 HPWD water level measurements are presented in a 76-page report available for online viewing/downloading at reports.hpwd.org. A limited number of printed copies are available by contacting the HPWD office at (806) 762-0181.

As always, the HPWD Board of Directors and staff thank the many landowners and operators who continue to support the water level observation network by providing access to their wells for depth-to-water level measurements each year.

"These measurements provide a wealth of important information which assists the district with its water conservation efforts. We greatly appreciate everyone's assistance," Coleman said.

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Average Water Level Changes (feet of change)

Table 1 (+) Water Level Rise (-) Water Level Decline

	Number of Observation Wells Maintained	Average Change 2005 to 2015 (10 Year)	Average Change 2010 to 2015 (5 year)	Average Change 2014 to 2015 (1 year)
Armstrong	10	+3.08	+0.57	+0.12
Bailey	114	-8.67	-5.53	-0.51
Castro	108	-21.44	-11.09	-1.99
Cochran	86	-7.05	-4.29	-0.13
Crosby	77	-8.95	-4.15	-0.46
Deaf Smith	92	-9.27	-5.34	-0.69
Floyd	103	-9.60	-6.49	-0.13
Hale	122	-17.12	-9.45	-1.04
Hockley	98	-6.73	-4.21	-0.34
Lamb	131	-16.93	-9.20	-0.94
Lubbock	144	-5.45	-3.20	-0.16
Lynn	90	-2.19	-1.22	+0.97
Parmer	110	-20.12	-10.59	-1.54
Potter	7	-3.85	-1.99	-0.08
Randall	50	-1.93	-0.66	-0.03
Swisher	76	-5.21	-0.86	-0.26
DISTRICT	1,418	-10.27	-5.69	-0.56

Table 2
District-wide Average Water Level Changes (in feet)

2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
-0.56	-1.32	-1.87	-2.56	-0.05	-1.50	-1.18	-0.20	-0.91	-0.54	+0.74

An electronic copy of this table is available by contacting Carmon McCain at info@hpwd.org



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - April 22, 2015

HPWD ACCEPTING RFPs FOR WATER CONSERVATION RESEARCH

LUBBOCK (April 22, 2015) -- The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District (HPWD) is now accepting requests for proposals for water conservation research, demonstrations, and educational efforts for 2015-2016.

“Our Board of Directors encourages persons working in areas of water conservation research,

demonstration, and education to submit proposals for funding by May 22,” said General Manager Jason Coleman.

“Highest priority will be given to proposals relating to the Dockum Aquifer, rainwater harvesting, agricultural water conservation, and groundwater reuse. The Board looks forward to receiving proposals that will benefit HPWD and its residents,” he said.

A research and demonstration funding committee was appointed by President Lynn Tate at the April 14 regular monthly Board of Directors meeting in Lubbock.

Committee members include:

- Precinct Three Director Mike Beauchamp, Chairman.
- Precinct Five Director Ronnie Hopper.
- HPWD General Manager Jason Coleman.
- HPWD County Advisory Committee member Charles Allison.
- HPWD County Advisory Committee member Kevin Riley.
- Dr. John Abernathy, former dean, Texas Tech College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.
- Dr. Dana Porter, Agricultural Engineer, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.
- Kelly Kettner, agricultural producer.

In accordance with current policy, the committee will make recommendations to the HPWD Board of Directors regarding funding of water conservation research and demonstration projects.

Previous funding has been granted to soil and water conservation districts for irrigation well flow testing and water well efficiency testing. In addition, HPWD has provided supplemental funding to Texas Tech University for research relating to urban landscape turf selection for water conservation.

Additional information is available by clicking on the 2015-2016 Research Proposal Request Criteria link at www.hpwd.org/grants or by calling the district office at (806) 762-0181.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - April 22, 2015

HPWD BOARD APPROVES STUDY OF DOCKUM AQUIFER

LUBBOCK (April 22, 2015) -- Many landowners and operators within the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District (HPWD) service area have expressed interest in the Dockum Aquifer as an alternative water supply to the Ogallala Aquifer.

Because of this, the HPWD Board of Directors has approved a study to gain a better understanding of this aquifer. Many of the tasks in the scope of study will be conducted by HPWD staff.

“In some areas of the district, Dockum wells provide water for irrigation, livestock, municipalities, and oilfield production. It is hoped that this study will provide a better understanding of the aquifer—including water quality and quantity,” said HPWD Board President Lynn Tate of Amarillo.

The Dockum Aquifer is found deep below the Ogallala Aquifer throughout the 16-county HPWD service area. Dockum water wells are frequently drilled to depths of 900 feet or more in Deaf Smith County, where most of the current exploration occurs. This results in a significant cost to landowners and operators.

Water quality is also a concern due to the brackish properties of the Dockum Aquifer across much of the district. According to several published studies, total dissolved solids (TDS) in the Dockum likely exceed 5,000 milligrams per liter (mg/l) across most of the district. However, water quality in some areas of Deaf Smith, Randall, and Swisher Counties is less than this, and is suitable for municipal water supply.

Initial work in the HPWD Dockum Aquifer study includes:

- Creating an inventory of existing Dockum water wells within the district. (HPWD did not require permits for Dockum wells until 2011. There are many existing Dockum wells that have not been inventoried as a result.)
- Reviewing and entering data from water well drillers’ logs.
- Identifying existing wells that are suitable for water level measurements, water quality testing, and geophysical logging.
- Developing a water level observation program for Dockum wells in 2015.
- Implementing a water quality program for Dockum wells in 2015.
- Partnering with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) or others to conduct geophysical logging of selected wells in 2015.
- Reviewing the updated Groundwater Availability Model (GAM) to evaluate the structure and surfaces of the aquifer.
- Conducting a literature review of Dockum-related publications and analyze them for recommended work.
- Performing a gap analysis to determine suitable test hole sites in areas where there are no Dockum water wells.
- Analyze data collection in 2016 and determine needs for additional evaluation.

“For years, there have been many unknowns about the Dockum Aquifer. It is the Board of Directors’ hope that this study will shed new light on this secondary groundwater resource,” Tate said.

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HPWD BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE GRANT FUNDING REQUESTS

LUBBOCK (June 12, 2015) -- The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District Board of Directors approved more than \$41,000 in grant fund requests for water-related research and demonstration projects during their June 9 meeting in Lubbock.

Use of the Dockum Aquifer as a potential future water supply topped the list of proposed research projects reviewed by the five-member HPWD Board and its eight-member research/development project policy

committee.

“During the past few years—and especially with the recent drought, there has been a great deal of interest in use of the Dockum Aquifer as an alternative water supply. Unfortunately, not much is known about the quality and quantity of groundwater in this aquifer. The HPWD Board of Directors feel that the district is obligated to help area residents gain a better understanding of the groundwater resources available for their use—including the Dockum Aquifer,” said Board President Lynn Tate of Amarillo.

Among the requests approved for funding are:

- An economic analysis to determine feasibility of groundwater supplementation from the Dockum Aquifer.
- A depth and salinity study of the Dockum Aquifer.
- An economic analysis of residential irrigation habits and landscape design.
- Purchase and demonstration of a soil moisture meter.
- Enhanced irrigation research.
- An evaluation of precision mobile drip irrigation systems.
- Playa basin educational workshops.

“For many years, the district’s unofficial motto has been ‘water conservation is best accomplished through public education.’ In order to conserve the resource, the public needs to have the best information available upon which to base water management decisions. The HPWD Board of Directors is pleased to work with these researchers to gain a better understanding of these groundwater resources and potential methods to conserve/preserve them for the future.” Tate said.

In other business, the HPWD Board of Directors approved applications for water well permits received in May 2015; approved a statement of work from the U.S. Geological Survey to conduct geophysical logging of wells completed in the Dockum Aquifer; and approved employee health care provider rates for 2015-2016.

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**CITY OF ABERNATHY EXPLORING FUTURE WATER SUPPLY OPTIONS;
HPWD TO PROVIDE COST-SHARE FUNDING FOR DOCKUM TEST WELL**

LUBBOCK (June 16, 2015) Although recent rain has eased drought conditions, one area city manager is not slowing his efforts to explore all options for an alternative city water supply for the future.

Mike Cypert, city manager of Abernathy, knows the groundwater stored in the Ogallala Aquifer is declining. Because of this, he is working with the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District in Lubbock to learn more about the Dockum Aquifer and its potential as an additional water supply.

“HPWD will provide some cost-share funds to drill a test well into the Dockum Aquifer in 2016. This will help us determine the quantity and quality of the groundwater in storage,” Cypert said.

The Dockum Aquifer lies beneath the Ogallala Formation in the Panhandle-South Plains region. Groundwater in the Dockum Aquifer is generally brackish. However, some municipalities are able to use it for drinking water purposes after blending it with water stored in the Ogallala Aquifer.

“The City of Abernathy knows that it can clean up the water to make it suitable for municipal use. However, we don’t know the quantity of water in the Dockum Aquifer in this area. It is our hope that this test well and the information it provides will allow us to transition over time from the Ogallala Aquifer to the Dockum Aquifer as a municipal water source. Abernathy wants to examine all opportunities in order to determine which one is the most cost-effective option for its residents,” Cypert said.

HPWD Board President Lynn Tate of Amarillo said assistance with the test well will be helpful to both the City of Abernathy and HPWD.

“During the past few years—and especially with the recent drought, there has been a great deal of interest in use of the Dockum Aquifer as an alternative water supply. The HPWD Board of Directors believes it is the district’s obligation to help those communities that do not have long-term water supplies. We are pleased to assist the City of Abernathy in their efforts to learn more about the Dockum Aquifer. Together, we will obtain valuable data and learn more about this potential water resource,” Tate said.

The HPWD Board of Directors approved several requests to fund research/demonstration projects during their June 9 regular meeting. Among these were an economic analysis to determine feasibility of groundwater supplementation from the Dockum Aquifer; a depth and salinity study of the Dockum Aquifer; an economic analysis of residential irrigation habits and landscape design; purchase and demonstration of a soil moisture sensor; enhanced agricultural irrigation research; an evaluation of precision mobile drip irrigation systems; and playa basin educational workshops.

Cypert added that this project is one of mutual interest and cooperation.

“The City of Abernathy is happy to work with HPWD. We hope that this scenario can be replicated in other communities. Even with the rain, everyone needs to use their water as wisely as possible and be prepared for the future—including drought,” he said.

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**HPWD PARTNERS WITH USGS TO CONDUCT GEOPHYSICAL LOGGING
OF DOCKUM AQUIFER WELLS WITHIN DISTRICT SERVICE AREA**

LUBBOCK (June 19, 2015) -- The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District (HPWD) is partnering with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to conduct geophysical logging of up to 15 water wells completed in the Dockum Aquifer within the district's service area.

The year-long project is part of an increased emphasis by the HPWD Board of Directors to gain a better understanding of the quality and quantity of groundwater stored in the Dockum Aquifer within the district.

HPWD is providing \$48,000 of the estimated \$58,000 to conduct logging in the 15 wells. The remainder is provided by the USGS.

Geophysical logs will be made in a maximum of five uncased and 10 cased Dockum wells in these counties.

Data collected in uncased wells includes caliper, natural gamma, resistivity, water temperature, water resistivity, and full wave sonic. Data collected in steel cased wells includes caliper, casing collar locator, natural gamma, water temperature, and water resistivity.

USGS personnel from the San Angelo and Fort Worth offices will conduct the logging.

“Landowners or operators planning to drill a well into the Dockum Aquifer are encouraged to contact the HPWD office for possible participation in this project. We want to have a better understanding of the Dockum Aquifer within the district,” said General Manager Jason Coleman.

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HPWD SPONSORS AUGUST RAINWATER HARVESTING TOURS

LUBBOCK (July 1, 2015) -- The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District (HPWD) is hosting a residential and commercial rainwater harvesting tour on Aug. 1 in Canyon and Aug. 8 in Lubbock. The cost is \$20 per person, which includes bus transportation and lunch.

“Several attendees at our April workshops said they would be interested in seeing actual rainwater harvesting installations. These tours feature local experts who can answer installation and maintenance questions,” said HPWD Education and Outreach Coordinator Adeline Fox.

Online registration is available at www.hpwd.org/rsvp. The deadline for tour reservations is July 24 at 5:00 p.m. The fee can be paid the day of the event.

Amarillo/Canyon – August 1

Participants will meet at the Walmart parking lot, 1701 N. 23rd Street, in Canyon to load the tour bus by 7:30 a.m. Scheduled stops include Canyon’s Edge Plants in Canyon and High Plains Food Bank, Maverick Boys and Girls Club, Panhandle Greenhouse, and some local residences in Amarillo.

Brownfield/Lubbock – August 8

Participants will meet near Target in the Canyon West Shopping Center, 6064 Marsha Sharp Freeway, in Lubbock to load the tour bus by 7:30 a.m. The group will travel to Brownfield to view systems at the Bright Beginnings Academic Center and the South Plains Underground Water Conservation District office. Afterwards, participants will return to Lubbock to view installations at two residences and the National Ranching Heritage Center.

“Anyone with an interest in rainwater collection is invited to attend. Rainwater harvesting allows homeowners and businesses to capture water that would normally be lost to runoff and use it later during dry times,” she said.

Additional information about the tour is available by contacting Adeline Fox at (806) 762-0181 or at adeline.fox@hpwd.org.

Created in 1951 by local residents and the Texas Legislature, the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No.1 is charged with the responsibility of conserving, preserving, protecting, and preventing waste of groundwater within its 16-county service area. HPWD is the first groundwater conservation district created in Texas.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HPWD ACCEPTING ENTRIES FOR 2nd ANNUAL H2YOU CONTEST

LUBBOCK (September 18, 2015) -- Students in grades 9-12 are encouraged to participate in the second annual H2YOU contest sponsored by the High Plains Water District (HPWD).

Deadline for entries is Dec. 4. Participating students must attend school or reside within the 16-county HPWD service area.

"H2YOU encourages students to share innovative ideas about water conservation. Each four-member team will design a detailed conservation campaign that proposes at least two new ways to reduce water use in a water user group of their choice. This includes agriculture, municipalities, and local residents," said Adeline Fox, HPWD Education and Outreach Coordinator.

Each campaign centers around a conservation catch phrase and must include elements of writing, graphic design, and photography.

The top three entries will present their proposal to a panel of judges at the HPWD office in Lubbock. Final winners will be selected based on the judges' recommendations.

First place team winners each receive a \$250 cash prize and an all-expense paid trip to Austin in Feb. 2016. They will present their water conservation proposal to their state representative and/or representatives of the Texas Water Development Board. They will also tour the State Capitol.

Second place team members each receive a \$200 cash prize and third place team members each receive a \$150 cash prize.

A team of four Crosbyton High School students were honored in Jan. 2015 as inaugural winners of the H2YOU contest.

The H2YOU contest rules and entry form are available at www.hpwd.com/contest

Additional information is available by contacting Adeline Fox at (806) 762-0181 or by email at adeline.fox@hpwd.com

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