



Subdistrict No. 3 Work Session

**Achieving Aquifer
Sustainability:
Community Invitation for
Ideas and Input, Nov. 3rd**



How Will We Attain Aquifer Sustainability and How Will It Impact You?

Our groundwater table continues to decline. If we don't do something to reduce the pumping in our Subdistrict (SD3), **then the state will step in and make us do so!** In order to avoid the worst-case scenario of a total shutdown of groundwater use in SD3, the Board of Managers is asking its Members to join them in discussing how we, together, can attain and maintain sustainability in the Confined Aquifer within SD3's boundaries. Discussion items will include but are not limited to:

1. **Monetary incentives and disincentives for Well Users to reduce groundwater consumption, completely or in-part.**
 - a. **Supplementing the RGWCD's groundwater right purchase program (SB228)**. Right now, you can sell your well permit to the district for \$3,000/acre-foot of historical pumping. SD3 may be able to supplement this with extra funding for SD3 Members that participate!
 - b. **Increasing our Groundwater Withdrawal fee to encourage participation in programs that reduce groundwater reliance**. The Board of Managers of SD3 have the authority to increase the Groundwater Withdrawal Fee to disincentivize pumping. This action will be required if the groundwater table continues to decline.
 - c. **Pay Well Users by the acre-foot of decreased pumping into the future**. Well Users could opt to rotate into fallow or conservation crops or put in lower consumptive use crops.
 - d. **Combinations of the above and/or other measures?** This is a great opportunity to give your input and have your concerns heard.
2. **Short and Long-Term ramifications of not achieving aquifer sustainability.**
 - a. Mandatory cutbacks on all groundwater pumping by the Subdistrict or the State Engineer.
 - b. Negative economic and social impacts to farmers and our community.

This Meeting Will Be Held on November 3rd at 9:00 am at the Rio Grande Water Conservation District Office.

Your Attendance Would Be Greatly Appreciated!!

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Please visit www.RGWCD.org, email Angelo@RGWCD.org, or call [\(719\) 589-6301](tel:(719)589-6301) for more information