The Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance is a coalition of 51 member groups formed to protect the Edwards Aquifer and its contributing Hill Country watersheds. For more information visit our website at www.AquiferAlliance.org
On March 11, 2013, the SAWS Board approved water and wastewater service to Crescent Hills, a development located entirely in Comal County on the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Tract Name</th>
<th>Developer</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Water EDUs</th>
<th>WW EDUs</th>
<th>Board Reason</th>
<th>Water CCN</th>
<th>WW CCN</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Crescent Hills</td>
<td>3009 Land Ltd</td>
<td>1,545</td>
<td>3,800</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>AC/EARZ</td>
<td>Inside</td>
<td>Pending</td>
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Legend
- Roads
- Major Roads
- Contributing Zone
- Contributing Zone w/ the Transition Zone
- Recharge Zone
- COSA_ETJ
- BNDRY_Bexar_County

Map showing locations of Bexar/Comal County Line, Existing Habitat Preserve, Crescent Hills Tract, Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone, City of San Antonio ETJ.
Not on Our Water! Not with Our Money!
To serve the Crescent Hills development, SAWS Rate payers will be called on to subsidize:

- Fifty percent of the cost of running an oversized sewer main to the development. SAWS has determined that the oversized main is needed to serve other developments anticipated to be built in this area. The sewage infrastructure will be installed in creeks that recharge the Edwards Aquifer.
Between January 2008 and May 2012 eighty three spills totaling 809,000 gallons (2.5 acre/feet) of raw sewage occurred on Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone.
In the Edwards Aquifer Recharge and Contributing zones Increased Urbanization is Impairing Water Quality

Results of EAA well tests (2011 – present*) detecting anthropogenic or “emerging” contaminants (pharmaceuticals and personal care products)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Analytic Method</th>
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<th>Result</th>
<th>Unit</th>
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<th>Location</th>
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<td>Eponel 1.0mg</td>
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<td>Cotinine 1.7ng</td>
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</table>

*excludes results from test well near Cibolo Nature Center

Lincomycin and sulfamethoxazole are antibiotics. Diltiazem is a blood pressure medication. Carbamazepine is an epilepsy medication. Cotinine is a nicotine metabolite.
Not on Our Water! Not with Our Money!

To serve the Crescent Hills development, SAWS Rate payers will be called on to subsidize:

- the cost of inspections required by TCEQ for sewage infrastructure installed on the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone.

TCEQ requires camera testing every five years for sewer lines on the Recharge Zone, at an estimated cost to SAWS customers of $37,000/mile.

This cost does not apply to sewage infrastructure that is not on the Recharge Zone.
To serve developments in Comal County, SAWS Rate payers will be called on to subsidize:

- the cost of providing water to new residential units.

SAWS customers will face increased rates in the near future to cover the costs of securing additional water supplies.
The Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance Requests:

- That City Council rescind the service contracts approved by the SAWS Board for water and waste water service to Crescent Hills
- That SAWS amend their CCN permit so that they are not the sole service provider areas within Comal County
- A large buffer zone to protect the Bracken Bat Cave, similar to the buffer zone that protects the Toyota Plant, and for enforcement of San Antonio’s 15% Impervious Cover Limit as required on this site.
- Or - that CoSA use Prop 1 Funds to Purchase the Property.
In September of 2007, SAWS proposed expanding their CCN (Certificate of Convenience and Necessity) to include the entire ETJ of the City of San Antonio. GEAA opposed permit applications to expand into the Edwards Aquifer Recharge and Contributing Zones in Medina and Bandera Counties.

SAWS subsequently withdrew CCN applications for water and waste water service in the contested areas.

Consequently, SAWS can deny service to inappropriate projects in the western segment of the ERZ.

The City of San Antonio can direct SAWS to amend the eastern CCN application to exclude Comal County and the ERZ.
Much of the recent growth in Bexar County has taken place over the Recharge and Contributing zones of the Edwards Aquifer, resulting in a trend of increased contamination of our water supplies and spring flows.

Area homeowners must be educated about the geology of the Edwards Aquifer and how to live in this extremely environmentally sensitive area.

A suite of presentations, on-line resources, social media, and print materials will teach them about actions they can take to protect our Aquifer, including how to handle and store hazardous materials, what common household practices pose a threat to the integrity of sewage systems, and how to plant and maintain landscaping in this unique region. Modeled on the successful campaigns in Kentucky and Florida, GEAA will work with the creators of these programs to adapt them to the Edwards region.
New GEAA Programs for 2014 – Community Rain Gardens

GEAA proposes to work with Home Owners Associations, schools, and businesses to create Community Rain Gardens, similar to the many community garden programs popular throughout the United States. GEAA will teach homeowners how to maintain existing water quality structures and will engage them in installing Low Impact Development (LID) projects such as swales, rain gardens, and specific plantings to enhance filtration of stormwater before it enters the Aquifer. Landscape architects with expertise in LID will be employed to design and help homeowners to properly install and maintain site specific LID enhancements.

We hope to educate homeowners on the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone how to identify and report non-compliant systems, to enhance the function of the systems in their neighborhoods, to understand the need to use drought tolerant plants for water conservation, and to generally educate them on the importance of protecting the Edwards Aquifer.
Permanent Protection of the San Geronimo Valley

The San Geronimo Valley is approximately 7,000 acres within Northwest Bexar County and proximal Medina County.

The San Geronimo Creek and significant recharge features found in the upland areas are estimated to contribute approximately seven to fifteen percent of the entire recharge of the San Antonio segment of the Edwards Aquifer. The San Geronimo Valley is under immense pressure from encroaching development, with plans underway to provide roadways and flood control based on the scenario that the entire area will be developed out. Permanent protection of this area through the purchase of conservation easements would preempt plans for development, thus preserving this important region so that it will continue to contribute significant volumes of high quality recharge to the Edward Aquifer in perpetuity.
Preserving Caves and Recharge Features

Impervious Cover Limits for the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone are the best strategy we have to preserve Caves.

Other strategies include protections for endangered karst species.

Urge Bexar County to adopt the Southern Edwards Plateau Habitat Conservation Plan.

Call GEAA to report caves endangered by development.
Thank you!

You may contact us at 210-320-6294
And visit our web site at www.AquiferAlliance.org