

Dear GEAA members and friends,

Thanks to SAWS Board Member, Reed Williams, the SAWS Board voted today to deny service to three new developments over the Edwards Aquifer Recharge and Contributing zones. (Thank you!) Project by project, we are making a difference.

As you know, GEAA has consistently opposed utility service contracts for new developments in the Edwards Aquifer watershed. Of particular concern are contracts for sewer service, which allow for much higher density development and have the potential to pollute the Aquifer with high volume sewage leaks.

This is a particularly pertinent issue for San Antonio while [SAWS is negotiating with the Vista Ridge Consortium](#) to purchase new water supplies. We want to be sure that any new supplies will not be used to expand service to areas that should be protected from development.

While this issue is coming to a head in San Antonio, the same issues are being played out in [New Braunfels](#), [San Marcos](#), [Austin](#) - all throughout the Edwards region. Too many projects to mention individually threaten to forever diminish our groundwater resources. To cope with this incredible increase in new projects, we need your help.

If you live in San Antonio, contact [the SAWS Board](#) ([board@saws.org](mailto:board@saws.org)) to let them know that you oppose the role that SAWS is playing in encouraging high density development of the Edwards Aquifer Recharge and Contributing zones. The Board will be considering this issue at their Policy and Planning meeting to be held on Monday, July 21st at 12:30 pm at SAWS HQ at 2800 U.S. Hwy 281 North, a meeting you are encouraged to attend.

If you live in Austin, mark your calendars and plan to attend the public hearing on TxDOT's draft [Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed SH 45 SW aquifer toll road](#) at Bowie High School on July 29th. You may file comments online [here](#).

Wherever you live, get in touch with your local [GEAA member group](#) and support their efforts to protect your watershed.

And, please, [donate to GEAA](#) today. We are getting so many so many calls for help from concerned citizens and so many requests from elected officials throughout the region for research on projects – from asphalt plants to roads to housing developments – planned to go in over the Recharge Zone. We really need additional staff to deal with this influx of new projects. A dollar spent today could make a big difference determining the future of our region.

Stay tuned for more on these issues. And, our sincere gratitude to each and every one of you for making it possible for GEAA to make a difference.

Annalisa Peace

Executive Director  
Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance