

Dear GEAA members and friends,

The City of San Marcos staff will hold a public meeting on Monday, July 23 at 6 p.m. at the San Marcos Activity Center, 501 E. Hopkins, to gather input for a water reuse study that will assess the feasibility of expanding the current reclaim water system. Currently the City provides treated wastewater, also known as reclaimed water, to Hays Energy for power plant cooling. The City also has agreements to provide reclaimed water in the future to TXI Industries for process water and Paso Robles for golf course irrigation. The study will investigate the feasibility of further expanding the reclaim water system to City properties for irrigation, and to Texas State University for irrigation and use in cooling towers. The study will also research other potential uses of reclaim water.

The majority of the City's treated wastewater is currently discharged into the San Marcos River. The City treatment process meets the highest quality standards required of Texas cities. "The City's wastewater plant provides a tertiary level of treatment, resulting in an extremely clean and usable water resource." says Tom Taggart, Director of Public Services for the City of San Marcos. "We need to make the best use of our available water resources, and we believe it makes a lot of sense to use reclaimed water instead of potable water for appropriate uses. We also are very excited to be partnering with Texas State and the Texas Water Development Board to explore this opportunity."

The study is being funded through a Texas Water Development Board grant, and a partnership between the City and Texas State University.

For more information please contact Jan Klein, City of San Marcos Conservation Coordinator, at jklein@sanmarcostx.gov or 512.393.8310.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be holding public hearings on the Habitat Conservation Plan for the Endangered Species at Comal and San Marcos Springs as follows:

Friday, August 3, 2012- Dunbar Center, 801 West MLK St., San Marcos, Texas 78666

Monday, August 6, 2012- San Antonio Water System, Customer Service Building, 2800 North Highway 281, San Antonio, Texas 78212

Tuesday, August 7, 2012- Texas AgriLife Extension and Research Center, 1619 Garner Field Rd., Uvalde, Texas, 78801

Wednesday, August 8, 2012- New Braunfels Civic Center, 375 S. Castell Ave., New Braunfels, Texas 78130

Friday, August 10, 2012- Schreiner University, Cailloux Activity Center, 2100 Memorial Blvd., Kerrville, Texas 78028

Tuesday, August 14, 2012- Harte Research Institute, Texas A&M Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi, Texas 78412

Wednesday, August 15, 2012- University of Houston- Victoria, Multi-Purpose Room, 3007 N. Ben Wilson, Victoria, Texas 77901

All the meetings are scheduled from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The Mitchell Lake Audubon Center invites you to TogetherGreen Community Volunteer Project on Saturday, August 11th from 8:30 -11:30 am

Join them to work in the extensive native plant gardens to prepare them for fall. Careful maintenance now will help yield fall blooms and lots of butterflies. Ages 12 and up - Free, but RSVP Required

Have a great weekend!

Annalisa Peace

Executive Director