



## PRESS RELEASE / REQUEST FOR COVERAGE

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### **Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance Releasing Report Outlining Opportunities for Water Reuse in the Texas Hill Country, Using Comal County as Case Study**

#### **Press Conference and Presentation on Report**

**When: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 10:00 AM**

**Where: Via Zoom -**

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9988662313?pwd=cGNtVEpVYWZScG5sMHduNkRraXpMZz09>**

**Water Reuse in the Hill Country – Analyzing Opportunities in Comal County, Texas available at:**  
**[Summary](#) and [Full Report](#)**

**What: The Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance releases a report making a case for using recycled water for irrigation and industrial needs in the Texas Hill Country to protect the sustainability of the Edwards and Trinity Aquifers, with Comal County as a case study.**

San Antonio, TX – September 25, 2023 – The Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance is excited to be releasing a report, *Water Reuse in the Hill Country – Analyzing Opportunities in Comal County, Texas*, that highlights opportunities in the Texas Hill Country to use recycled water to alleviate the burdens placed on the Edwards and Trinity Aquifers by focusing on the present and recommended future state of recycled water use in Comal County. Water reuse – using reclaimed and treated wastewater – is an integral step in ensuring that counties in the Hill Country will have the water supplies they need to ensure the health, safety, and quality of life of residents in the coming years. Unfortunately, there is not currently in Comal County a comprehensive system in place for the reuse of treated wastewater, nor do there appear to be major efforts by water providers in the county to implement large-scale reuse systems within their boundaries. The Texas Water Development Board recommends at least 15% of the state’s water supply comes from recycled water by 2070. As of 2020, water reuse sat at just 4% of the state’s total water supply and just 1.5% of the water supply in Comal County.

The status of water reuse in Comal County underscores both the long way Hill Country counties have to go in implementing water reuse systems and the unique opportunities present to do so within their boundaries. Based on our research, GEAA recommends that, in preparation for the 2025 Legislative Session, the Texas House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee conduct an interim study for the creation of wastewater reuse districts for irrigation and non-potable uses in the fast-growing areas of Comal County and the Texas Hill Country and for industrial use at sites such as aggregate production operations. The study should analyze the possibility of implementing multiple water reuse districts with flexible boundaries throughout the study area, given variations at different locations in the volume of potential reuse water generation and the need for that water.

As evidenced by the state of water reuse in Comal County, this source of water is a vastly underutilized tool in the fight to manage the Hill Country’s water supplies in the face of prolonged drought and presents a clear opportunity to better preserve our natural resources for the generations to come. Texans interested in increasing water reuse in the Texas Hill Country are encouraged to share the report with their elected representatives in the Texas Legislature and advocate for an interim study for the creation of wastewater reuse districts.