



THE WATERLINE

District Manager

Jan King
jking@wbsnet.org

Office Assistant

Ashley Vondracek

Technician

Pat Ryan
wkgmd1@wbsnet.org

Chief Pilot

Kyle Spencer
hangar@wbsnet.org

Meteorologist

Walt Geiger
hailman@pld.com

Board President

Greg Graff, Wichita County

Vice President

Danny Welsh, Wallace County

Secretary / Treasurer

Robert Hoeme, Jr., Scott County

Member

Alan James, Lane County

Member

Arla Peter, Greeley County

District Information:

Address:

906 W. 5th, P.O. Box 604
Scott City, KS 67871

Web site:

<http://www.gmd1.org>

Telephone:

(620) 872-5563

Fax:

(620) 872-7315

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 2

<http://www.gmd1.org>

JULY 2011

WRCP

The Water Right Conservation Program (WRCP) is back! As you may recall the WRCP was discontinued by the Division of Water Resources (DWR) on December 31, 2009. The Kansas Legislature created a new WRCP through Senate Bill 124, which was signed by Governor Brownback on May 19, 2011. The new law was effective July 1, 2011. DWR is working to update the WRCP application form and rules and regulations to match the new law. Eligible water rights will be allowed to be enrolled in the WRCP for a period not exceeding 10 years, if approval is given by the Chief Engineer. The water right can then be re-enrolled within two years of the expiration date of the previous enrollment period, again subject to approval by the Chief Engineer. Each enrollment will require a \$300 nonrefundable fee. A water right enrolled in WRCP will be considered as having due and sufficient cause for non-use and therefore will keep the water right from being considered abandoned.

IMPORTANT DATES

- *GMD#1 Budget Hearing for 2012 Budget will be held on July 19, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. CDT*
- *Kansas Water Congress Summer Conference will be held on July 20, 2011 Colby, KS*
- *Governor's Summit July 21, 2011 Colby, KS*

HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR METERS LATELY?



DON'T MISS OUT ON TWO IMPORTANT MEETINGS!!

The Kansas Water Congress (KWC) will be holding their Summer Meeting on July 20th, 2011 at the Colby Community College Student Union (Colby, KS) from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (CDT). Agenda topics are still being planned but are certain to include issues that will be discussed the following day during Governor Sam Brownback's Economic Summit: "The Future of the Ogallala Aquifer". The Summit will be held in the Cultural Arts Center at the Colby Community College (Colby, KS) from 10:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. (CDT) July 21, 2011. (Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.) Following the Welcome and beginning information, the attendees will break into small groups for stakeholder input sessions. The results from these small groups will be presented, followed by the Governor's Roundtable, an action planning session and summary. Expected discussion issues will include perceptions of the "use it or lose it" scenario as well as water conservation and incentives to help protect and prolong the life of the Aquifer while still maintaining the economy of Western Kansas. The public is invited, but pre-registration is encouraged by July 15, 2011 if you plan on joining the group for the sponsored luncheon. You can pre-register by calling the Kansas Water Office at 785-296-3185 or go online to their web site: <http://www.kwo.org>. The Summit will bring together a variety of stakeholders in KS to consider the future of the Aquifer. Hope to see you there!

DEPT. OF AG OFFERS OPTIONS FOR WATER USE DURING DROUGHT

The KS Dept. of Ag. Division of Water Resources is offering water right holders in this area two options to allow for additional pumping authority this year due to the severe drought. These options are intended to prevent crop failure while minimizing the impact additional pumping has on the aquifer. The **1st option** is the use of Multi-Year Flex Account Permits. Participants are provided a five-year allocation that includes the flexibility to exceed their annual authorized quantity of the water right. They can spread the usage of their water allocation throughout the 5 years however they choose, as long as the 5 year total does not exceed the allocated amount. The 5 year allocation is based on 5 times the average annual quantity **actually used** from 2000 through 2009, as reported on their annual water use reports, **less a 10 percent** conservation factor to reduce impacts on the aquifer and neighboring water right holders. While the Flex Account Program existed previously, amendments to the statute passed this last legislative session provides additional flexibility to apply for these permits during the year rather than before the start of the calendar year. This option is available statewide and is an on-going program. The **2nd option** is available only in the U.S. Dept. of Ag drought declaration counties for this year. All 5 of the GMD1 counties are included. This option is a **one-time** Drought Focused Emergency Term Permit that allows water right holders to borrow a portion of next year's authorized quantity in order to complete the 2011 growing season. The term permit allocation will be based on the sum of the quantity authorized for 2011 and 2012. Permitted use during the 2 years is expected to be aquifer neutral as participants will agree to deduct their 2011 overage from their permitted 2012 amount. Drought Term Permits must be filed on or before December 31, 2011. For more information check out our **web site at: <http://www.gmd1.org>** or give us a call: **(620)-872-5563**.



FLOW RATE TESTING FOR HOUR METERED WELLS

Earlier this year, letters were sent out to those owners of **hour metered wells** that are up for flow testing this year. These letters served as notice of the need to flow test the well(s) in 2011 based on K.A.R. 5-21-6 and the policy that hour metered wells must be flow tested during **one** of the **previous five pumping seasons**. If our records are incorrect or you have converted to a flow meter or made other changes in your diversion works, please notify the District office: (620) 872-5563. Proper Flow Meter installation is important for accurate water use reporting. Remember, all replacement or new installation flow meters must be installed according to state specifications. **Contact the District office about proper installation methods and criteria for meter installations.**

MANAGER'S MESSAGE: Hello, many of you may already know me. I am Jan King and was recently appointed as the new District Manager following Dave Brenn's resignation. For the past 5 years I have served the District as the Administrative Assistant. Before coming to GMD #1, I worked 9 years for the Southwest KS Groundwater Management District #3 in Garden City, KS. Prior to that, I was the Scott County Clerk for 18 years. I grew up on a farm in Logan County and attended school in Oakley, KS after which I received my Bachelor of Science Degree from Friends University. I have lived in Scott City since 1975. I am looking forward to working with all of you in the future and would like to hear your comments and/or concerns. Please drop by the office or give me a call if I can be of assistance. (620) 872-5563



WESTERN KS GMD1
P.O. BOX 604
SCOTT CITY, KS 67871

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE: <http://www.gmd1.org>