

# Capital Area Ground Water Conservation District



# Watching out for A Treasured Earth Resource

Dedicated to the conservation, orderly development and protection of quality of ground water in the Capital Area

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## **NEWSLETTER**

March 2017

# Capital Area Ground Water Conservation Commission Announces New Water Leadership Award

The Groundwater Conservation Commission Capital Area (Commission) is pleased to announce that a recognition award will be presented by the Capital Area Ground Water Conservation Commission, on an as-needed basis, beginning in 2017, for work undertaken or completed in the previous two years (or for a body of work) before the award year. In drafting up the criteria for the award, Commissioner Matt Reonas stated that "... he always thought that this would be a good effort on part of the Commission to recognize individuals that have worked towards meeting the Commission's goals over the years along with good public relations for the Commission."



The purpose of the award The Water Leadership Award is to recognize individuals (or groups) that have contributed in substantial and/or innovative ways to management, conservation, understanding, and awareness of the Capital Area Ground Water District District's groundwater resources.

The following areas are recognized as fields suitable for consideration:

Government Leadership
Business Leadership
Applied Research
Technological Innovation
Public Awareness and Education

In considering an award, an Awards Committee will evaluate the eligible work for impact; that is, the work on which a nomination rests should have made, or will make, a substantial and/or lasting contribution to the above stated goals of management, conservation, understanding, and awareness. The purpose of this award is not to recognize every individual contribution towards achievement of these goals but rather to highlight those that required exceptional leadership, diligence, perseverance,

tenacity, courage, and/or foresight. It is acceptable to recognize individuals (or groups) for a body of work that meets these criteria.

Individuals (or groups) eligible for award include those that have made a substantial and/or innovative contribution to the above stated goals inside the District, whether such individual (or group) resides within the District or not.

Nominations can be made by any individual or group, and should include a brief biography of the individual (or group) and a detailed summary of the work for which the individual (or group) is being nominated. The application packet should include relevant information, including but not limited to: reports, data, models, press clippings or media, informational or educational examples, etc. Technical information should be limited to summaries. Five (5) copies should be sent to the Capital Area Groundwater Conservation District Office, 3535 South Sherwood Forest, Suite 137, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816-2255. The deadline for submittal is May 15, 2017.

An independent panel of Commissioners shall be appointed by the Chairman for handling of this award. The panel shall review nominations and select an award winner on behalf of the entire Commission. The Commission will publicize the award in the local media and on its website. The award will be a plaque and letter of recognition.

# Nominations being accepted for Leo Bankston Conservation Award

CAGWCC is pleased to announce the continuation of its annual Leo Bankston Ground Water Conservation Award. This award was instituted to recognize water users in our district that demonstrate outstanding ground water conservation practices. The CAGWCC hopes to encourage good stewardship of our ground water resource by showcasing these projects.

Examples of conservation practices that would be considered for awards include:

Reduction in pumpage of ground water

Increased use of shallow sands to decrease pumping stress on deeper sands

Technology improvements such as installation of flow meters or automatic controls

Process modifications that would switch to alternative sources such as gray water, river water or shallow sands

Water recycling such as cooling water reuse

Identifying and properly plugging abandoned wells

Any water user in the five-parish District (East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, West Feliciana and Pointe Coupee) is eligible to receive the award. To be nominated, the project must have been implemented during the previous calendar year (2016). The winner will be recognized by the Board of Commissioners and in the Commission's newsletter. Press releases will also be sent to local newspapers. The application for the award can be found on the Commission's website at <a href="https://www.cagwcc.com">www.cagwcc.com</a>.

The award is named for former Commissioner Leo Bankston. Mr. Bankston was on the first Board of Commissioners when the Commission was organized in 1975, and served as its first Chairman. During his long career with the Baton Rouge Water Company he worked tirelessly to protect and conserve the

priceless ground water resources in the five parish Capital area. Past winners of the award include Georgia Pacific Corporation, Exxon/Mobil and Honeywell International, Inc, and the City of Baker. Last year's winner was the Baton Rouge Water Company, recognizing their work in the planning, design, and installation of the "scavenger" well system in the "1500-foot" sand of the Baton Rouge Aquifer System intended to protect the large public supply center at the Lula Street Pumping Station from further saltwater encroachment.

# **Commission Welcomes New Members**

It is our pleasure to welcome the following new members of the Commission:

#### William Daniel (East Baton Rouge Parish)

William is currently (press time) the Interim Chief Administrator for the City-Parish of East Baton Rouge. He is a former member of the Louisiana Legislature where he authored several bills concerning groundwater resources in Louisiana. William is a professional engineer registered with the State of Louisiana.

#### Todd Talbot (Industrial)

Todd is currently the Site Infrastructure Lead at the ExxonMobil Baton Rouge Complex. He has 26+ years of industrial experience, including leading technical support for identification and development of reliability, improvements and conservation in water systems.

#### Mark Walton (At-Large)

Mark is a past member of the Commission who was selected to serve by the rest of the Commission due to his extensive knowledge of groundwater. He retired from Entergy in 2008.

## Henry L. Davis (East Feliciana Parish)

Henry was a Board Operator for DSM Copolymer. He oversaw a plant that made polymer based rubber.

#### Jens Rummler (Pointe Coupee Parish)

Jens is a USDA-certified Master Farmer and is certified with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry as a Master Cattle Producer. He has more than forty years of experience in Agriculture and Land Management.

## **District Director Elected Vice-President of National Groundwater Management Association**

District Director Anthony Duplechin was elected vice-president of the Groundwater Management Districts Association (GMDA) at their 2017 Annual Meeting, which was held in Fort Worth, Texas, in January. GMDA is a non-profit organization established to provide groundwater management districts, groundwater developers, users, owners, and other individuals and organizations concerned with the management, development, conservation and protection of groundwater, the opportunity to exchange ideas, develop or influence programs for the development, utilization, conservation, protection, management and control of groundwater.

#### DISTRICT STAFF

Anthony J. Duplechin, Executive Director Shawn O. Scallan, Administrative Assistant

#### **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Barry Hugghins, Chairman Nelson Morvant, Vice-Chairman Tom Stephens, Treasurer

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William Daniel IV
Henry Davis
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Visit our website at www.cagwcc.com