

GROUNDWATER HI - LITES

September 2015

Big Bend Groundwater Management District No. 5

IN THIS ISSUE:

Great Bend Prairie
Regional Goals

Central Kansas Water
Bank Association

Index Well

UPCOMING DATES

GMD5 Board Meeting
September 10 at 7:00pm

MYFA Enrollment
October 1

CKWBA Savings Account
December 31

GMD # 5 WEATHER STATIONS

1 GREENSBURG	(620) 723-2193
2 LEWIS	(620) 324-5866
3 ROZEL	(620) 527-4531
4 CULLISON	(620) 895-6505
5 MACKSVILLE	(620) 348-2238
6 RADIUM	(620) 285-2796
7 GREAT BEND	(620) 793-5798
8 STERLING	(620) 278-2632
9 CAIRO	(620) 672-3359
10 STAFFORD	(620) 234-5667

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Phillip Martin, Barton County
Tom Taylor, Director at Large
Darrell Wood, Edwards County
John Janssen, Kiowa County
Bob Standish, Pawnee County
Fred Grunder, Pratt County
Justin Gatz, Reno County
Curtis Tobias, Rice County
Kent Lamb, Stafford County

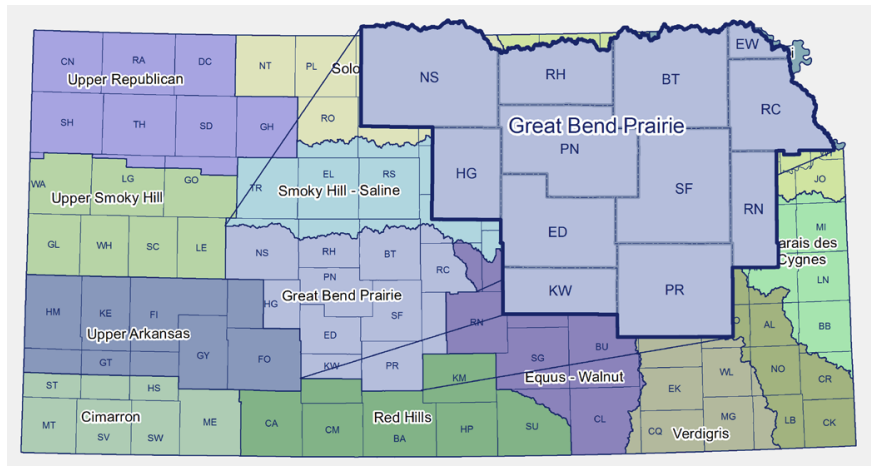
DISTRICT STAFF

Orrin Feril, Manager
John Hildebrand, Conservation Spec.
Jenny Newell, Office Manager

Phone: 620-234-5352
Fax: 620-234-5718
www.gmd5.org

Great Bend Prairie Regional Goals

The Kansas Water Authority recently approved the goals that have been set for the Great Bend Prairie Region. These goals are a result of several meetings and discussions with area stakeholders and were developed by local representatives. Additionally the thirteen member Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) was established by the KWA. Details for the RAC can be found at http://www.kwo.org/About_us/Regional_Advisory_Committee.htm.



The current regional goals for this region are:

Guiding Principle

Ensure regulations and programs put into place are reviewed to ensure various water use groups are not adversely affected by regulations and programs intended for an individual water use group.

1. Achieve water use sustainability within the Great Bend Prairie Regional Planning Area by 2025 with a starting point being no new net depletions that includes a reasonable raising or lowering of the water table based on average weather conditions.
2. Maintain annual training funds of 15% from Clean Water Drinking Fee and increase technical training support to Public Water Supply (PWS) systems to enhance new technology and increase water efficiently and effectively, thus reducing water loss. Utilize available municipal/residential/commercial irrigation training programs provided by the Irrigation Association.
3. Enhance the monitoring of poor quality water in areas which have salt water disposal lines, disposal wells and areas with high salt sources to ensure that contamination of fresh water sources does not occur as well as to stop and reverse further contamination of fresh water sources. Establish a self-reporting program under penalty of law if a problem is observed to ensure the problem does not get worse. Start using mapping techniques and disposal line maintenance and replacement to ensure this goal is met. Set up a review program by 2020.

4. Initiate research and development of feed wheat as an alternative feed source within the Great Bend Prairie Planning Region. Technology transfer from this research would have benefits in areas of Kansas where water is not available for production of water-intensive crops. Dual research program: plant breeding and livestock feeding. Achieve large scale feeding trials by 2025.
5. Work towards sustainability of watersheds so that flood control capacity is maintained while maintaining streamflow to meet downstream water needs. Progress towards sustainability would be to have 50% of the drainage area within watershed districts controlled by watershed structures by 2065. Best available information/data will be evaluated every 10 years to track progress towards meeting this goal.

Central Kansas Water Bank Association

Do you have water remaining in your water appropriation following the irrigation season? If so, it may be possible to save a portion of the unused water for use in future years. The Central Kansas Water Bank Association (Bank) allows water users to open Savings Accounts that allow a water user to save that water into their account. However, this water cannot be transferred to other accounts or water rights. A water user must have the account open prior to December 31, 2015 in order for a portion of the unused water from 2015 to be preserved. If an account was opened in previous years, there is no need to re-enroll.

The Bank has another program that allows water to be deposited from one location and leased to another within the same hydrologic unit through the Deposit program. This program uses the actual water use for the ten years between 1987 and 1996 as the maximum amount of water considered bankable with the Bank. The deadline for deposit in this program is April 1 of each year. If you would like to be notified about water availability within your subbasin, please contact the office for details.

Index Well

Throughout the past year the District has been working with the Kansas Geological Survey (KGS) to bring the District's Index Well in Edwards County online. The technical problems have recently been addressed and the information should be available on the KGS and District websites soon. The Index well program is a study to improve our understanding of the hydrologic changes the local aquifer undergoes throughout the year. Currently there are seven Index Wells installed throughout the Ogallala aquifer in western Kansas. The District's Index Well is the first in the Great Bend Prairie aquifer.

**Do we have your correct mailing address?
Let us know at 125 S. Main St., Stafford, Kansas 67578 or call 620-234-5352.**