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Northern Trinity GCD – Deadline for Grandfathered Use Permit Applications

The deadline to submit an application for a Grandfathered Use Permit for water well owners and operators in Tarrant County is December 31, 2023. Water well users are encouraged to protect their groundwater rights by applying for a permit before that date.

The Northern Trinity Groundwater Conservation District (“District”) was created by the 80th Texas Legislature in 2007 and has been delegated the responsibility of conserving, preserving, protecting, and reducing waste of groundwater in Tarrant County under the authority of Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code.

An owner of a non-exempt water well or well system¹ that was completed and operational prior to December 17, 2018, and that produced groundwater at any time during the Grandfathered Use Period² can apply to the District for a Grandfathered Use Permit³ before December 31, 2023. Failure of an owner of such a well or well system to apply for a Grandfathered Use Permit by December 31, 2023, would preclude the owner from making any future claim or application to the District for grandfathered use. All wells or well systems that are not exempt from the District’s permitting requirements and do not obtain a Grandfathered Use Permit in accordance with District rules are required to obtain an Operating Permit in order to produce groundwater from the well or well system.

The District is now accepting applications for Grandfathered Use Permits from well owners and operators in Tarrant County in order to protect their grandfathered groundwater usage. Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code authorizes groundwater conservation districts, such as the District, to protect the existing and historic use of groundwater and Grandfathered Use Permits help the District identify the existing and historic groundwater users within the District’s boundaries.

Wells used solely for domestic residential (household) or livestock watering purposes must be registered with the District but are exempt from the requirement to obtain a permit and do not need to file a permit application. If your well is not used exclusively for domestic or livestock use, please promptly contact the District regarding permitting and permit exemptions before the December 31, 2023 deadline to avoid violating the District’s Rules.

For more information on how you can protect your rights as a well owner or operator or to obtain a copy of the District’s Rules or a Grandfathered Use Permit application form, please visit the website at www.ntgcd.com or contact Corey Jones, General Manager, Northern Trinity Groundwater Conservation District at (817) 249-2062, by email at coreyjones@ntgcd.com, or at the District’s office at 1100 Circle Drive, Suite 300, Fort Worth, TX 76119.


Corey Jones
General Manager

¹ See Northern Trinity GCD’s Rules, Section 1, Rule 1.1(ss), (vv).

² See Northern Trinity GCD’s Rules, Section 1, Rule 1.1(s).

³ See Northern Trinity GCD’s Rules, Section 1, Rule 1.1(t).