

CBGCD Dedicated to Controlling and Preventing the Waste of Groundwater

When taking action on all proposed permit applications, one of the most important decisions the board of directors of the Coastal Bend GCD considers is whether the proposed use of water is dedicated to a beneficial, non-wasteful use as stated in Section 3.14(b)(2) of the District Rules.

As defined in the Texas Water Code Section 36.001, "Beneficial Use" is the use of groundwater in a non-wasteful manner for one or more beneficial purposes, including but not limited to agricultural, use, domestic use, stock-raising, municipal use, mining, industrial use including manufacturing, commercial use, non-agricultural irrigation, recreational use including pleasure uses, oil and gas operations, or other uses including extraction for the purposes of remediation, injection operations, or leachate operations.

If the intended use of a permitted well ever changes and is no longer considered beneficially used, the District may consider revoking that permit. To make sure you are not using groundwater in a wasteful manner, please review the below definition of waste as defined in the Texas Water Code Section 36.001:

"Waste" means any one or more of the following:

- (A) Withdrawal of groundwater from a groundwater reservoir at a rate and in an amount that causes or threatens to cause intrusion into the reservoir of water unsuitable for agricultural, gardening, domestic, or stock raising purposes;
- (B) the flowing or producing of wells from a groundwater reservoir if the water produced is not used for a beneficial purpose;
- (C) escape of groundwater from a groundwater reservoir to any other reservoir or geological strata that does not contain groundwater;
- (D) pollution or harmful alteration of groundwater in a groundwater reservoir by saltwater or by other deleterious matter admitted from another stratum or from the surface of the ground;
- (E) willfully or negligently causing, suffering, or allowing groundwater to escape into any river, creek, natural watercourse, depression, lake, reservoir, drain, sewer, street, highway, road, or road ditch, or onto any land other than that of the owner of the well unless such discharge is authorized by permit, rule, or order issued by the commission under Chapter 26;
- (F) groundwater pumped for irrigation that escapes as irrigation tailwater onto land other than that of the owner of the well unless permission has been granted by the occupant of the land receiving the discharge; or
- (G) for water produced from an artesian well, "waste" has the meaning assigned by Section 11.205