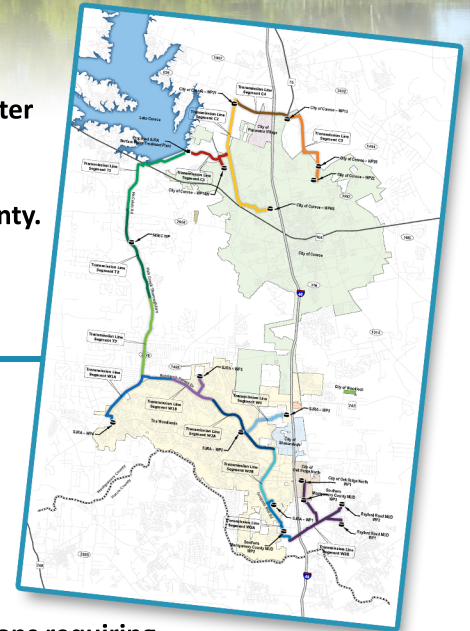


Ensuring reliable, long-term water supplies for Montgomery County

Montgomery County's rapid population growth has caused increases in water demand that cannot be met by our current groundwater supplies. The San Jacinto River Authority is implementing a comprehensive water supply program to ensure reliable, long-term water supplies for Montgomery County.



Quick Facts

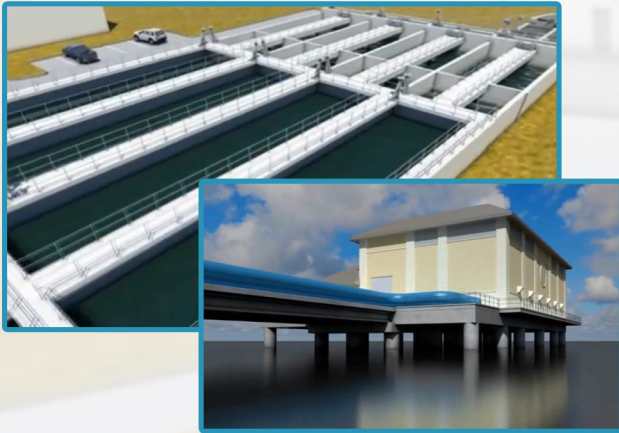
- **Water supply in Montgomery County** - Montgomery county has been totally reliant on groundwater for its municipal water supplies, and demand has outpaced available supply for almost two decades leading to alarming declines in water levels in the county's aquifers.
- **Regulations have been adopted to force a solution** – The Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District, created by the state legislature in 2001 at the request of Montgomery County community leaders, has adopted regulations requiring all large water supply entities to reduce their use of groundwater and develop alternate water supplies.
- **SJRA has offered a solution that is cost-effective and available to all** – Eighty percent of large water users in Montgomery County have joined the SJRA Groundwater Reduction Plan (GRP) program, which brings together economies of scale and local water supply resources to create the most cost-effective and reliable solution for Montgomery County's long-term water future. By beginning to gradually utilize the surface water in Lake Conroe, Montgomery County can reduce the pressure on its groundwater supplies, stabilize water levels in its aquifers, and move away from the precarious position of total reliance on a single source of supply to a safer position of conjunctively using both surface water and groundwater.
- **As one of 10 major river authorities in Texas, SJRA is uniquely positioned to effectively implement a countywide GRP solution** – Like other river authorities in Texas, SJRA is specifically equipped to develop and implement large-scale, regional water solutions. For Montgomery County, this means bringing together SJRA's water supply development and water planning experience to create the lowest cost, most timely, and most efficient solutions to the county's current and future water challenges.
- **SJRA is aggressively pursuing additional water supply strategies to reduce costs and lessen any impacts on lake level** - In addition to surface water from Lake Conroe, SJRA continues to work aggressively to develop additional water supply strategies for meeting Montgomery County's long-term water needs, including strategies such as research and development of the Catahoula aquifer, advanced water conservation practices, aggressive drought contingency plans, reuse of treated wastewater effluent, and importation of surface water from other basins.



Visit www.sjra.net/grp for more information on SJRA's Groundwater Reduction Plan (GRP)

Important Information about the GRP Program

Construction



What we've built – To meet the LSGCD's regulatory requirements and supplement our limited groundwater supplies SJRA constructed:

- a surface water treatment plant at the Lake Conroe dam, including raw water intake, storage, and pumping facilities;
- 55 miles of treated water transmission pipelines; and
- piping, metering, and blending facilities at each of the surface water delivery points.

Schedule – Construction of the surface water treatment plant, raw water intake, and associated storage and pumping facilities began in August of 2012 and were complete in mid to late-2015. Construction of the water transmission pipelines began in February of 2013 and were complete in the spring of 2015.

Construction impacts – SJRA shares the desire of the public and community leaders to minimize construction impacts. SJRA created a Construction Communications Plan and assembled a Construction Communications Team made up of local stakeholders to implement strategies to minimize construction impacts and keep the public informed about construction schedules, work zones, and possible detours.

Lake level impact

A number of people have asked about the potential impact that the GRP program might have on the water level of Lake Conroe and, as a result, property values, business income, and tax revenues.

SJRA commissioned a detailed third-party study to model the potential impact of the program on water levels. The study confirmed that the amount of water that will be used to meet Montgomery County's drinking water needs will have very little impact on lake levels for the first 20 to 30 years, and even after that, the only time you will see significant impacts will be during periods of prolonged, severe droughts.

For more detailed information on this topic, visit www.sjra.net/grp and view the Lake Level Article.

Cost

The estimated cost for the first phase of the GRP program is approximately \$480 million, which includes the treatment plant, transmission pipelines, raw water costs, engineering, legal, land acquisition, and various other costs. The following graph shows how this cost translates to actual water use per 1,000 gallons. A typical residence uses 10,000 gallons per month (on average), so a water fee of \$2.25 per thousand gallons equates to about \$22.50 per month.



Visit www.sjra.net/grp for more information
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