

## Reservoirs - Raw Water - Drinking Water - Wastewater - Flood Management



## San Jacinto River Authority Latest News



### **SJRA, Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Harris County Flood Control Remind Public of Available Alerts**

Conroe, Texas—Midway through hurricane season, San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA), Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (MCOHSEM), and Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) remind residents of Montgomery, Harris, and surrounding counties of available water level, rainfall, and emergency alerts.

**SJRA Weather Event Updates:** These mass communication tools allow SJRA to communicate weather updates quickly and efficiently via email, SMS, and/or voice calls. SJRA Weather Event Updates are limited to severe weather events as determined by local offices of homeland security and emergency management. Sign up at [www.sjra.net/updates](http://www.sjra.net/updates).

**Ready MCTX:** MCOHSEM's alert system contains the latest community updates, emergency warnings, and general updates including evacuation maps, shelter information, and status communications in an easy to use app. Sign up at [www.mctxoem.org](http://www.mctxoem.org).

**Flood Warning System (FWS) Alerts:** A joint partnership between HCFCD and SJRA, FWS Alerts provide residents of Montgomery, Harris, and surrounding counties information on water levels and rainfall. Automated alert notifications are delivered via text message or e-mail when defined rainfall or water level values are reached at specific rainfall and stream gauges, alerting residents of potential high water threats.

The notifications are based on information gathered at over 250 gauge locations across the region by numerous agencies, including Harris, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Montgomery, Galveston, and Waller Counties, City of Mont Belvieu, City of Sugar Land, The Woodlands, and SJRA. Create an account and sign up for alerts at [www.fwsalerts.org](http://www.fwsalerts.org).

Click [here](#) for the full Press Release.

# #FACTS



### Wallisville Road Siphon Improvements

The basic definition of a siphon is a tube which can be used to move water from one point to another.



### Elevated Storage Tank (EST)

An EST (or Water Tower) is a tall structure that supports a large water tank at a height to help to maintain water pressure in the water lines without constantly having to run pumps at the water plant.



## *“Why doesn’t SJRA pre-release like Lake Houston?”*

1. Proximity to the coast with limited downstream urban development compared to Lake Conroe.
2. Water released from Lake Houston has a much shorter distance in river miles to the coast compared to Lake Conroe. This short reach to the coast affords them the opportunity to pre-fill the river downstream of the Lake Houston spillway with minimal potential for causing flooding issues. The water has a much shorter distance to get to Galveston Bay.
3. Lake Houston is much smaller in size than Lake Conroe, so Houston has the ability to reduce the level of Lake Houston a couple of feet at a safe release rate because the reservoir is much smaller.
4. Lake Houston is much smaller in size compared to Lake Conroe, but the contributing watershed for Lake Houston is much larger than the contributing watershed for Lake Conroe. So if the water level in Lake Conroe were to be lowered and the rainfall predicted over our watershed did not materialize, it is very difficult to replenish the water in Lake Conroe – a water supply reservoir. Alternatively, if the City of Houston lowers Lake Houston prior to a storm event, and the rainfall event does not materialize, it only takes a small amount of rainfall over Lake Houston’s 3,000 sq mile watershed to replenish the water in this smaller reservoir.

Be on the look out for our **Why Not Pre-Release?** article in the next installment of [Dock Line Magazine](#).

## Seasonal Lake Lowering of Lake Conroe Press Release



**Seasonal Lake Lowering of Lake Conroe**

Conroe, Texas—Seasonal lake lowering lowers the lake level in Lake Conroe by 1-foot in the spring and 2-feet in the fall to provide a near-term, flood mitigation benefit while downstream San Jacinto River mitigation projects such as dredging of the West Fork are being completed. This is the second year SJRA has participated in the seasonal lake lowering program. The strategy was originally adopted in April 2018.

In March the San Jacinto River Authority's Board of Directors voted to renew the seasonal lake lowering program to gradually release water and maintain the level of Lake Conroe at 200 feet mean sea level (msl) during the spring season and 199 feet msl in the fall season. In the event significant rainfall enters the forecast during these seasonal lowering periods, releases into the San Jacinto River will be stopped to allow the river to drain out before the rainfall begins. At the end of each seasonal lowering period, flows will be captured to restore normal lake elevation.

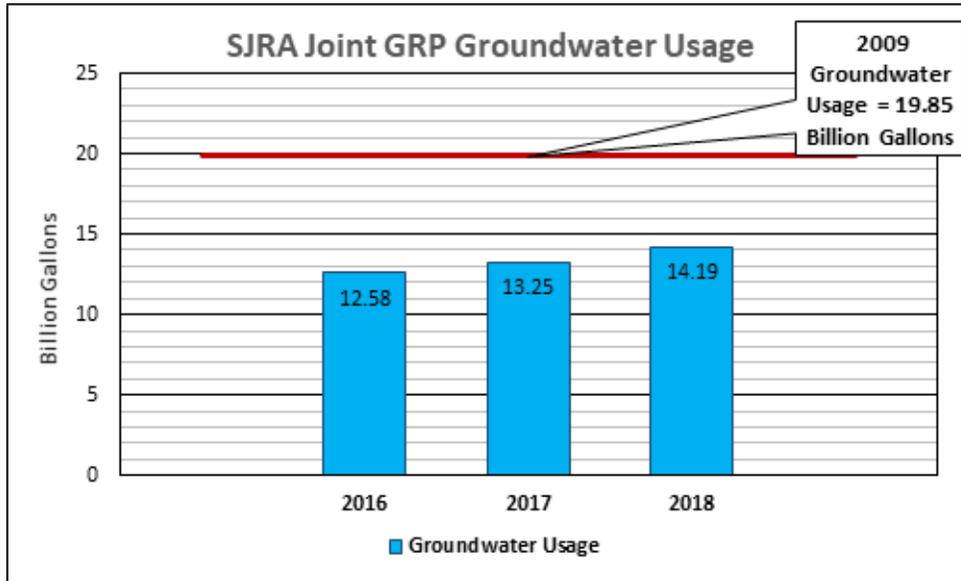
**Lake Conroe Seasonal Lake Lowering Facts:**

- Normal lake pool level is 201' msl
- Seasonal lowering will occur as follows:  
April 1 - May 31 to 200' (gradual reduction starts April 1; recapture begins June 1)  
August 1 - September 30 to 199' (gradual reduction starts August 1; recapture begins October 1)

**Heather Ramsey Cook**  
Director of Communications & Public Affairs



## SJRA's Groundwater Reduction Plan is working!



Source: GRP's Regulated Groundwater Report (2016 – 2018)

Since coming on line, SJRA's GRP has reduced total groundwater usage by approximately 19.53 billion gallons compared to 2009 usage, and is projected to reduce groundwater usage by another 6 billion gallons in 2019!

Stay tuned for the launch of our new educational campaign  
(on September 9th):

[Know Your Watershed](#)



## KNOW YOUR WATERSHED

The San Jacinto River Authority's mission is to develop, conserve, and protect the water resources of the San Jacinto River basin. Covering all or part of seven counties, the organization's jurisdiction includes the entire San Jacinto River watershed, excluding Harris County. The SJRA is one of two dozen river authorities in the State of Texas, and like other river authorities, its primary purpose is to implement long-term, regional projects related to water supply and wastewater treatment. SJRA receives no money from the state, nor does it collect any type of taxes.

If you would like to know more about SJRA, what we do, and how we work for the community, check out our website [www.sjra.net](http://www.sjra.net) and follow us on social media [@SanJacintoRiverAuthority](https://twitter.com/SanJacintoRiverAuthority) and [@SJRA\\_1937](https://twitter.com/SJRA_1937).



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