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# The MainLine

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Volume 11 Issue 1

March 2004

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## BARTONVILLE WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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### 2004 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP

Monday, APRIL 19, 2004

7:30 P.M.

CROSSROADS BIBLE CHURCH

8101 JUSTIN ROAD (FM 407)

DOUBLE OAK, TEXAS

You are cordially invited to the Annual Meeting of the Membership/Stockholders of the Bartonville Water Supply Corporation. Members will be mailed a Notice of the Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement March 26, 2004.

The location of the annual meeting has been moved. Crossroads Bible Church has moved to a new location on Justin Rd (FM 407). It is located about 2 miles East of the previous location, just before the new Super Target shopping center.

#### NOTE

*Renters will NOT be mailed an Annual Meeting Notice or Proxy Statement.*

Activities will include the election two (2) Directors and door prize drawings for water credits. The Directors whose terms expire are Michael Paulson (Copper Canyon) and Kevin Alberts (Double Oak).<sup>1</sup> We are grateful to these Directors for their many contributions!!

### SALES TAX EXEMPTION FOR WATER RELATED EQUIPMENT

We would like to offer the following information from the November 2002 publication of "Sales Tax Update" by Carole Keeton Rylander of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

The Texas Legislature created a sales tax exemption to encourage Texans to conserve water. The exemption, which took effect September 1, 2001, applies to equipment, supplies, and services used solely for certain types of water conservation.

For the purpose of this exemption, "solely" means the equipment, services, or supplies are used exclusively for stated water conservation. For example, a water dam in a toilet tank is used only to save water, so it qualifies for the exemption. A washing machine that has special features to conserve water does not qualify, because it is used to wash clothes, not solely to reduce water use.

The new exemption covers the following types of conservation with examples of equipment, supplies, and services that qualify for the exemption from sales tax if used for the purpose shown.

- **Rainwater harvesting** – rain barrels, gutters used solely to route the water into rain barrels or rainwater collection systems, tanks and cisterns, roof washers used in harvesting systems, screens and filters for the gutters, barrels, tanks, cisterns and roof washers, and a collection surface area that is not used as a roof of a structure or storage area.
- **Water recycling and reuse** – chemicals, tanks and cisterns, and water recycling systems for washing machines.

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<sup>1</sup> Due to an error on our part, this was incorrectly reported in the Double Oak Gazette.

- **Reduction or elimination of water use** – water dams for toilets, timers attached to sprinkler systems, water displacement devices for toilet tanks, and faucet sensors that shut off water flows.
- **Desalination of surface water or ground water** – cleaning and pickling valves, filters, membranes, pre-filter pumps, product flow meters, salinity meters, and high-pressure control valves.
- **Brush control designed to increase the availability of water** – spray equipment and calibration of the equipment, herbicides, tractors, bulldozers, and chain saws.
- **Precipitation enhancement** – endburning cloud-base flares, acetone solution wing-tip generators, pressure transducers, spectrometer probes, and calibration equipment.
- **Water or wastewater system** – equipment, services, and supplies to construct or operate a system certified by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality as a regional system.

Not exempt are items that do not meet the “sole purpose” test, such as water-efficient appliances, pumps for fountains or water displays, tools used for landscaping or lawn care, shredders, lawnmowers, low flush toilets, and water hoses.

The purchaser of the equipment used for the sole purpose of water conservation or water reuse must give the seller a Texas sales tax exemption certificate stating the qualifications for the exemption. The certificate must also state the purchaser’s name and address, description of the item, the reason the purchase is tax exempt, the purchaser’s signature, the date, and the seller’s name and address.

The Texas Sales and Use Tax Exemption Certificate is available on the Comptroller’s Internet site at <http://window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxforms/01-forms.html>.

## **GOOD CULTURE MAKES LAWNS BEAUTIFUL**

Nothing looks and feels quite like a wide expanse of beautiful dense green turf. No other element of the landscape requires as much work to get it to peak performance but nothing else pays off in landscape beauty like a high-quality lawn. No matter what your lawn looks like now, you have a window of opportunity to get it back in shape before the summer heat sets in.

As lawns transition from winter to spring a sound cultural program will get your turfgrass off to the best possible start to continue through the summer in good condition. Since you have to manage your turf anyway you may as well do it right. Turfgrasses have specific cultural requirements to which they positively respond and which only you can provide.

People want their lawns to be uniform in color, texture, and height and weeds detract from the lawn in all three aspects. Good culture, including proper fertilizing, mowing and watering, not only helps combat weeds but is necessary for your lawn to look and do its best.

Fertilize hybrid bermuda once per month beginning April 1 and ending October 1; common bermuda, every six weeks beginning April 15 and ending October 1; St. Augustine and zoysia, April 15, June 1, and October 1; tall fescue March 1, September 15, and November 15; and buffalo, May 1 and October 1.

Soil tests are recommended every two or three years, but in the absence of a soil test, regardless of the turf type, apply three-quarters to one pound of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet in the form of a 3-1-2 or 4-1-2 ratio fertilizer. For instance, if you have a 15-5-10 fertilizer apply 5-7 pounds. Use the higher rate for higher performance but be ready to mow more often.

Some lawns are so weak and thin they need extra soil conditioning. Rake the loose debris out of thin patches of turf and spread one-half inch of well-digested, finely screened compost to help it run and cover more quickly. Finished compost is not only an excellent source of mineral nutrition but serves as an excellent rooting medium for turfgrass runners to more easily establish. Lay new sod in bare spots

larger than a square foot but smaller areas will fill in by summer.

Mow your lawn often enough to remove no more than one-third of the leaf blade at a time. Mow hybrid bermudas at one inch; common bermuda at one and one-half inches; St. Augustine at three inches; tall fescue at two and one-half inches; fine-bladed zoysia at one inch; coarse-bladed zoysia at two inches; and buffalograss at 3 inches.

Watering is a year round activity. In the absence of rain, apply one inch of water to bermuda, zoysia and St. Augustine every three weeks in the winter and once every week in the summer. In the absence of rain, apply one inch of water to tall fescue every ten days in the winter and every five days in the summer. Once established, do not irrigate buffalograss or it will be invaded by bermudagrass.

Tall fescue thins out each summer. If you didn't over-seed last fall to thicken it up you need to do so this spring before the middle of April, and the sooner the better. Broadcast six to eight pounds of a seed mix containing three or more varieties of tall fescue and water once a day in the absence of rain for ten days to germinate the seed and then add a day at each watering thereafter until you are watering once every five days.

As trees mature they often cast so much shade even zoysia, St. Augustine, and tall fescue won't grow well. If your turf is becoming weak from low light, thin your trees to allow more light in play areas where you need turf. In entertainment areas, walkways, and other high traffic areas replace turf with brick or stone pavers for more durable, low maintenance, all weather use.

Reprinted from an article published by John N. Cooper, County Extension Agent-Horticulture, Texas Cooperative Extension - Denton County, 940-349-2883, e-mail: [jn-cooper@tamu.edu](mailto:jn-cooper@tamu.edu)

## **TO DO!**

If you haven't already, now is a great time to have your irrigation system thoroughly checked out for leaks, faulty heads, etc. Unfortunately, leaks in a

sprinkler system are often the hardest leaks to find because the water usually does not leak from the system unless the system is running.

Losses from these systems are not only costly but wasteful as well. Unattended hoses can also account for large water losses. Believe it or not, a 1/2" hose has a flow rate of 600 gallons per hour and a 5/8" hose has a flow rate of 1000 g.p.h. If left running overnight, a hose could waste as much as 5,000 gallons in an 8 to 10 hour period.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Michael Paulson	President
Tom Greaves	Vice-President
Larry Kaufman	Secretary/Treasurer
Kevin Alberts	Director
Lloyd Hanson	Director
Scott Kilpatrick	Director
Dale Mutschler	Director

## **STAFF**

Jim Leggieri	General Manager
Robert Sillaway	Water Superintendent
Marcy Gustafson	Administrative Asst.
Rena Vincent	Utility Billing
Eric Laird	Field Representative/ Operator

## **STAGE 2 - YELLOW WATER CONSERVATION**

*June 15th begins Odd/Even  
Every other day watering through Sept. 15th.*

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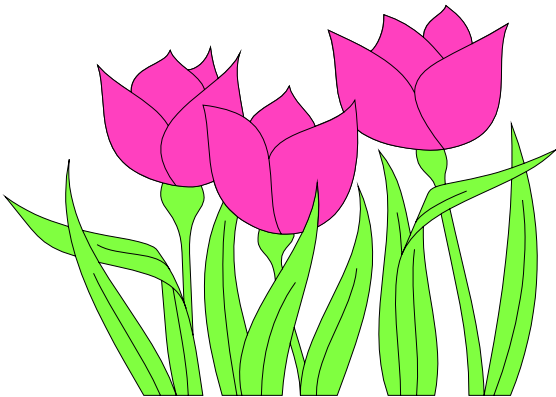
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Bartonville Water Supply Corporation needs to know if you have changed your phone number or address. Please take a moment to fill out the form below so we can update our files. This information really comes in handy when there is an emergency.

Name:	
Mailing Address (including City and Zip):	
Home Phone:	Work Phone:
E-Mail Address:	Emergency Phone: