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NEWS STREAM *Regional. Reliable. Everyday.*

May 2021



The weather might have been a little overcast, but the [John Bunker Sands Wetland Center](#) welcomed a large crowd of people dedicated to nature for a celebration marking the beginning of the next phase of environmental education facilities. The new structures will double student capacity when completed in Fall of this year. The Wetland Center provides innovative and successful programs focused on conservation literacy of water, wetlands and wildlife. A core of students are from underserved populations, high schools and universities throughout the North Texas region.

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YOUR WATER



Bois d'Arc Lake now capturing water

Bois d'Arc Lake, the first major reservoir in Texas in nearly 30 years, is now filling. NTMWD began impounding, or capturing, water on the 16,641-acre lake on April 14. Impoundment began when workers closed the lower gates at the raw water intake structure, cutting off the flow of water through the structure and allowing the reservoir to hold water. The amount of rainfall in the Bois d'Arc Lake watershed will determine how long it will take the lake to fill which is off to a great start given rains last week.

While NTMWD staff is excited to see Bois d'Arc Lake filling with water, ***please remember the lake is not yet open for recreation.*** There is much work that remains to be completed before the lake is safe for boating, fishing and other recreational activities. NTMWD

will send out a notification when Bois d'Arc is ready for recreation. You can sign up for those newsletters at BoisdArcLake.org.

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NRCS renews focus on Lavon watershed

The [Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) (NRCS) continues its initiative for agricultural producers to protect water quality in the Lavon Lake watershed. As part of a renewed focus as the region comes out of the pandemic, NRCS is working to engage landowners and put projects on the ground. The agency accepts applications for conservation practices year round. Landowners are encouraged to apply at any time. Lavon Lake is the primary source of drinking water for about 1.8 million North Texans, and its watershed was selected as one of two priority watersheds in Texas by the organization for watershed protection funding.

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YOUR WASTE AND WASTEWATER



Precision maintenance prolongs equipment life

The NTMWD Wastewater and Maintenance Divisions recently partnered to bring the first ever Precision Maintenance Training class to the District. The workshop was an intense 40-hour course designed to teach students the necessary and minute details to prolong equipment life. This type of development investment in our personnel further empowers our workforce to accomplish the District's vital goals of resource stewardship and building a talented and committed team.

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NTMWD Best fleet three-peat

For the third year in a row, NTMWD has been named one of the best fleets in America by [NAFA Fleet Management Association](#). Up almost twenty spots from last year to #60, this distinguished recognition looks for continually increasing performance improvements and innovation within the public fleet industry. It's important to note that 20 fleets on the 2020 list did not make the top 100 this year, which makes the efforts of our dedicated Fleet Department all the more impressive given the year-long COVID challenges faced by the region and the District.

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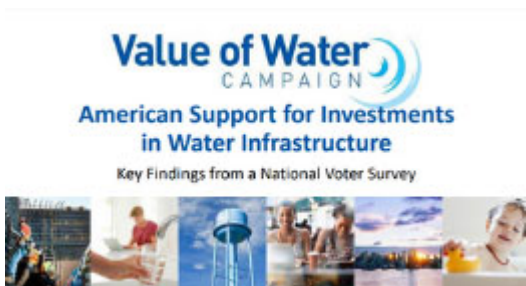
COMMUNITY RESOURCES — PASS IT ALONG...



TCEQ shares its role in responding to emergencies

In a recent addition to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's [ongoing blog series](#), staff shares what TCEQ does and what authority they have during emergencies such as hurricanes and tropical storms, industrial fires, and other disasters. As the agency with the words "environmental quality" in its name suggests, TCEQ plays a vital role in protecting the state's public health and natural resources.

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6th Annual Value of Water Index

An annual poll conducted by the [Value of Water Campaign](#) reveals a trend in public opinion about the state of the nation's water infrastructure. Results show that the message surrounding the need of investment in the county's aging infrastructure is getting through. [Flip through the presentation on key findings](#) from the national voter survey including data showing residents placing a high priority on ensuring reliable water supplies and on addressing drinking water contamination. You can also download the [poll fact sheet](#) for quick reference.

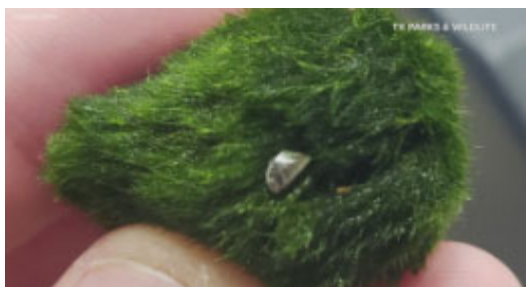
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New APWA Resource Center

The [American Public Works Association](#) (APWA) launched a new and improved resource center, designed for easy and efficient access to all the APWA tools industry professionals need. The new APWA Resource Center makes accessing APWA education sessions, webinars, toolboxes, and videos easy and enjoyable. They've combined the APWA Members' Library, APWA Resource links, and C4S page into a one-stop-shop for member's educational needs. There are even some exciting new resources to discover that have never been seen before.

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Invasive species found in aquarium moss balls

[Texas Parks and Wildlife](#) (TPW) announced that the Zebra Mussels have been [found in moss balls sold as aquarium accessories](#). If released into the wild, this invasive species can damage lakes, native aquatic life, water systems, and more. TPW recommends anyone with aquarium moss balls destroy zebra mussels by freezing, boiling or bleaching each moss ball, then put them into a sealed container and throw the container into the trash. And, remember, aquarium owners should never dump tanks into a natural body of water or flush its contents.

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State

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National

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