GENERAL MANAGER: Roland Ruiz

MISSION: The Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) manages, enhances, and protects the Edwards Aquifer system.


2023 ADOPTED OPERATING BUDGET: The 2024 Adopted Operating Budget supports two major programmatic areas: A General Fund of $24.6 million in projected expenses, supported by revenues generated through the assessment of a general aquifer management fee of $58 per acre-foot; and an Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP) fund of $20.6 million in projected expenses, supported by revenues generated through the assessment of a $30 per acre-foot program aquifer management fee. Combined, this makes for a $45.2 million comprehensive budget funded by a combined aquifer management fee of $88 per acre-foot, which represents a 4.76% (or $ 4) increase over the previous year overall AMF rate that has remained unchanged since 2012.

JURISDICTION: All of Uvalde, Medina, and Bexar counties and portions of Atascosa, Comal, Guadalupe, Caldwell, and Hays counties.

PERMITTED WITHDRAWALS: 572,000 acre-feet of groundwater withdrawal permits are currently authorized for municipal, industrial, and irrigation purposes. This permitted amount does not include withdrawals from exempt wells.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: The EAA is a political subdivision of the State of Texas and is governed by a 17 member board of directors. Fifteen of the board positions are elected by popular vote from single-member districts and two are appointed - one on an alternating basis by the Commissioners Courts of Medina and Uvalde counties, and the other by the South Central Texas Water Advisory Committee (SCTWAC). SCTWAC advises the EAA’s board of directors on downstream water rights and issues. The EAA is a member of the Texas Water Development Board Region L Planning Group.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The mission of the Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) is to manage, enhance and protect the Edwards Aquifer system — the primary source of water for 2.5 million Texans who live in the South-Central Texas region.

For 27 years, the EAA has faithfully conducted this mission, ensuring the protection and preservation of the Edwards Aquifer by managing its use through effective oversight and regulation based on the best science and data available. In its Next Generation, the EAA endeavors to build upon more than a quarter-century of service by reinvigorating its mission through a continued focus on sound science that enables new non-regulatory and collaborative approaches that protect and, where possible, enhance both the quality and quantity of water in the Edwards Aquifer. In the face of current and looming uncertainties brought about by a growing population and a more volatile climate, the EAA will remain focused on ensuring greater certainty around the Edwards Aquifer so that it still is a sustainable water resource across all economic, agricultural, and environmental interests and uses for generations to come. In the end, the EAA's credibility will be bolstered by the practice of professional science and providing superior regulatory management services to the communities it serves.

The Edwards Aquifer Authority serves its communities by practicing the finest scientific method, absent personal bias or political agenda.

The EAA employs individuals who perform their work in an exemplary manner – from conducting scientific investigations in the field, to providing everyday constituent services.

The EAA’s efforts are continuous, connected and collectively achieved.

EAA staff work as one – and staff members draw strength by calling on each other’s collective talents and abilities to achieve the mission.

EAA staff members imagine possibilities, innovate solutions, and seek out and include partners for support.