

WHCRWA  NFBWA
**SURFACE WATER
 SUPPLY PROJECT**



To meet the Harris-Galveston Subsidence District's (HGSD) and Fort Bend Subsidence District's (FBSD) groundwater reduction requirements for 2025 and beyond, the West Harris County Regional Water Authority (WHCRWA) has partnered with the North Fort Bend Water Authority (NFBWA) to construct the Surface Water Supply Project.

Once complete, surface water from Lake Houston will be supplied to retail water providers (MUDs, PUDs, WCIDs, etc. . .) in the WHCRWA and NFBWA by way of the City of Houston's Northeast Water Purification Plant through over 55 miles of pipeline and two large pump stations. These transmission pipelines will vary in diameter from 96 inches to 42 inches, depending on the pipeline segment.



**For more information visit
surfacewatersupplyproject.com**

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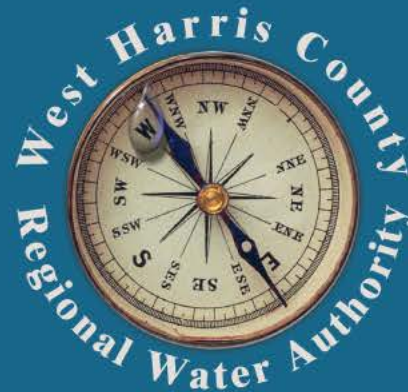
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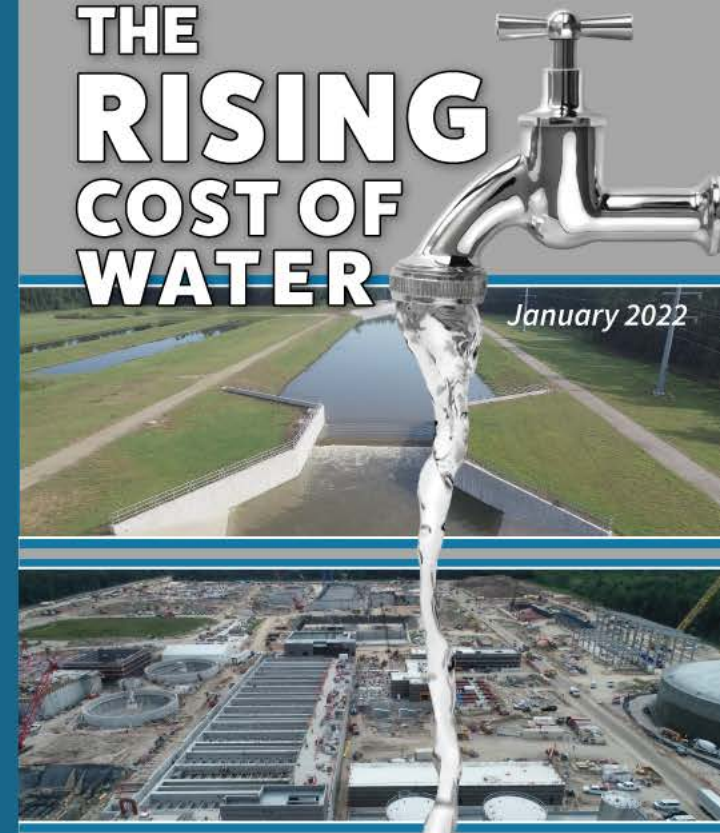
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West Harris County Regional Water Authority
 c/o Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP
 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600
 Houston, Texas 77027
www.whcrwa.com

**THE
 RISING
 COST OF
 WATER**

January 2022



**West Harris County
 Regional Water Authority**
www.whcrwa.com

Created by the Texas Legislature in 2001 to comply with groundwater reduction as mandated by the Harris Galveston Subsidence District (HGSD), the WHCRWA is committed to securing a long-term supply of quality drinking water as well as promoting water conservation.



The HGSD Conversion Requirements included;

- Reducing groundwater pumpage 30 percent by 2010 (accomplished);
- 60 percent by 2025; and
- 80 percent by 2035.

It is therefore necessary to find and secure an alternative supply of water instead of getting all our water from groundwater wells.

The WHCRWA has four major components of water supply/infrastructure projects which include the Luce Bayou Interbasin Project (now complete), the Northeast Water Purification Plant Expansion Project, the Surface Water Supply Project, and internal distribution lines connecting to local MUDs.

Following the flow of water, the **Luce Bayou Interbasin Transfer Project** – which includes a pump station, 3 miles of twin 96" pipelines and a series of canals totaling 23 miles will move up to 500 million gallons of water each day from the Trinity River into Lake Houston.

The **Northeast Water Purification Plant Expansion Project (NEWPP)** on Lake Houston, well along in construction, will increase the City of Houston's 80 million gallons per day plant capacity to treat an additional 320 million gallons of water each day.

Some of the treated water will then flow through the **Surface Water Supply Project (SWSP)** pipeline to west Harris County. The SWSP will deliver 150 million gallons of water each day through massive waterlines from the NEWPP, delivering a portion to the WHCRWA and the other portion to our partner, the North Fort Bend Water Authority (NFBWA). The SWSP project, started in 2020, involves the construction of two massive pump stations to assist in moving the water along 55 miles of pipeline.

The final step is to **deliver the water from the pump stations within our boundaries to the individual MUDs** through internal distribution lines.

So, how does the WHCRWA pay for these projects?

The Authority does not charge a property tax, and therefore we must charge sufficient rates to cover the debt service payments for bonds sold to pay for projects, as well as our operating costs. We have relied on the services of an independent rate analyst to calculate the Authority's water rates needed to pay our share of all the conversion projects. Just such a rate analysis was completed at the end of 2021 and confirmed that our rates continue to match up with our cost projections.

The WHCRWA Board of Directors is committed to keeping the cost of water as low as possible and to keeping any rate increases reasonable and consistent with this commitment.

The WHCRWA Board of Directors has approved a rate increase effective January 1, 2022 of \$0.25 per 1,000 gallons of surface water delivered (from \$3.85/1,000 gal. to \$4.10/1,000 gal.) and for well water pumped (from \$3.45/1,000 gal. to \$3.70/1,000 gal.).



For additional information about the conversion projects, costs, and related issues, please visit our **WATER U, West Campus** online at wateru.whcrwa.com.

