

# GEORGETOWN CITY Reporter



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## Mosquito Team Aims to Zap West Nile Risk

A joint effort to trap mosquitoes, identify potential risk from West Nile Virus, and inform residents continues this summer in Georgetown. The City of Georgetown and the Williamson County and Cities Health District started trapping mosquitoes in early May.

Each week, traps are placed in different locations in Georgetown and taken to Texas Department of State Health Services lab in Austin for analysis. Results are posted to the Health District website at [www.wcchd.org](http://www.wcchd.org). Trapping and lab analysis will continue through the fall.

Catherine Zettel Nalen, a mosquito management specialist with the Health District, emphasized the role



WCCHD employees Catherine Zettel Nalen and Rebecca Petro collect mosquitos from a trap and record data.

each resident plays in reducing mosquito-breeding areas. “Check your yards and empty any container that can hold water,” she said. That can include clogged gutters, wheelbarrows, drain pipes, or toys left in the yard. Bird baths and plant saucers should be emptied twice weekly to prevent the formation of mosquito larvae.

For rain barrels or low-lying areas, Zettel Nalen suggested larvicides such as mosquito dunks that are available at hardware stores. The dunks contain bacteria that kills mosquitoes, but is harmless to people, pets, fish, wildlife, or other insects.

The City and Health District continue to promote these four steps to reduce mosquito populations and Fight the Bite:

- Dawn and Dusk are times to stay indoors when mosquitoes are most active.
- Dress in long sleeves and pants when outdoors (especially at dawn or dusk).
- Drain standing water in flower pots, pet dishes, or clogged gutters so mosquitos don't have a place to breed.
- Defend against mosquito bites with an EPA-approved insect repellent.

For more information, visit the Williamson County and Cities Health District website at [www.wcchd.org](http://www.wcchd.org).

## Water Supply Provides for Future Growth

By Jim Briggs

Drought conditions of recent years coupled with significant population growth have led some to the idea that Georgetown is “running out of water.” This idea may be spurred by seeing the City’s efforts to encourage water conservation. However, I’d like to explain why Georgetown has sufficient water supply for future growth and how conservation efforts fit into this picture.

Currently, Georgetown’s City water utility provides water to about 62,000 people who use approximately 15,000 acre-feet of water each year. (An acre-foot is the amount of water to cover an acre at the depth of one foot, or about

325,851 gallons.) The City of Georgetown has 40,000 acre-feet of water under contract over the next 50 years. This is enough water to serve about 150,000 people. Reducing per capita daily use from the current 218 gallons to the target of 160 gallons makes good sense and should allow us to serve an even larger population.

In addition to groundwater from the Edwards Aquifer, Georgetown’s water supply comes from Lake Georgetown and two lakes in Bell County: Stillhouse Hollow Lake and Lake Belton. Water from Stillhouse flows to Georgetown through a water pipeline constructed more than 10 years ago. The water from Lake Belton will make its way to

Lake Stillhouse by a pipeline to be constructed in the future. Those surface water supplies are managed by the Brazos River Authority, who works with the cities of Georgetown and Round Rock to build infrastructure projects in order to accommodate future water demand.

Water available for new growth was acquired by current customers on behalf of future customers that are not here yet. This has been the standard since the early 1980s and is in large part the reason that Sun City and other such developments selected Georgetown.

Even with the supply currently available, Texas will periodically go through extended periods of

drought, interrupted by periods of excessive rain. That has been recorded through history for this region. During those periods of drought, such as we are currently experiencing, measures to conserve and protect current supplies are in order. This doesn’t mean that long-term supply is not available, only that the current supply needs to be managed to meet current demand.

These two elements are the key to our water management strategy—wise use of existing developed supplies while planning for the long-term supply to meet the demand from continued growth.

**Jim Briggs is the general manager of utilities for Georgetown Utility Systems.**

## August Events

### Farmers Markets

**Sun City Market, Tuesdays**  
9 a.m. to Noon,  
2 Texas Drive at Social Center  
**Georgetown Market, Thursdays**  
3:30 - 6:30 p.m., Church of  
Christ, 1525 W. University Ave.  
Details at [www.gtfma.org](http://www.gtfma.org)  
**Wolf Ranch Farmers Market,**  
Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.,  
Wolf Ranch Town Center,  
1015 W. University Avenue,  
[WolfRanchFarmersMarket.com](http://WolfRanchFarmersMarket.com).

### The Palace Theater

*Buddy—The Buddy Holly Story,*  
June 27 – August 3  
*The Full Monty,*  
August 22 – Sept. 21  
Details at  
[GeorgetownPalace.com](http://GeorgetownPalace.com), or call  
(512) 869-7469.

### First Friday, August 1

Downtown live music, shops, and  
restaurants are open late. See the  
DGA website at  
[TheGeorgetownSquare.com](http://TheGeorgetownSquare.com).

### Market Days, August 9

Handmade arts and crafts, food,  
and more on the Square from 9  
a.m. to 4 p.m. Details at  
[TheGeorgetownSquare.com](http://TheGeorgetownSquare.com).

### Movies in the Park, August 14

Parks and Recreation will be  
showing the *Lego Movie* (PG-13)  
starting at 8:45 p.m. This free  
family event with free popcorn is  
at the gazebo in San Gabriel  
Park.

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GEORGETOWN CITY  
**Reporter**



The Georgetown Main Street Program unveiled new public artwork on May 29. A mural on Main Street across from Grace Heritage Center depicts buildings on the Courthouse Square. Pictured are David Kellerman, chair of the Main Street Advisory Board, and Anna Sebesta, the mural artist.

## Water Quality Report Addendum

A Water Quality Report was  
mailed to City of Georgetown  
water customers in May. The fol-  
lowing is an addendum to that

report with additional sampling  
results for Georgetown drinking  
water.

## Summer Concerts Music on the Square

The Music on the Square summer  
concert series continues on Friday  
nights from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Here's the August lineup:

- Aug. 1:** Lone Star Swing Band
- Aug. 8:** Not Past 11 Jazz Band
- Aug. 15:** Escape Band playing  
Classic Rock
- Aug. 22:** Wound Loose Band  
playing Rock, Country  
and Electric Blues
- Aug. 29:** Franklin's Tower playing  
Upbeat Bluegrass

Concerts are sponsored by the  
Georgetown Convention and  
Visitors Bureau, Williamson  
Museum, and the Downtown  
Georgetown Association.

### Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3 Rule)\*

Substance Sampled	Year	Average	Range of Detections	Typical Source
Chlorate (ppb)	2013	374	ND - 1400	Agricultural defoliant or desiccant; disinfection byproduct; and used in production of chlorine dioxide.
Chromium (ppb)	2013	0.30	ND - 0.44	Naturally occurring element; used in making steel and other alloys; used for chrome plating, dyes, and pigments, leather tanning, and wood preservation
Chromium (VI)	2013	0.21	ND - 0.27	Naturally occurring element; used in making steel and other alloys; used for chrome plating, dyes, and pigments, leather tanning, and wood preservation
Molybdenum (ppb)	2013	0.19	ND - 2.2	Naturally-occurring element found in ores and present in plants, animals, and bacteria; commonly used form molybdenum trioxide used as a chemical reagent.
Strontium (ppb)	2013	393	120 - 980	Naturally-occurring element; historically, commercial use of strontium has been in the faceplate glass of cathode-ray tube televisions to block x-ray emissions.
Vanadium (ppb)	2013	2.2	1.4 - 3	Naturally-occurring elemental metal; used as vanadium pentoxide which is a chemical intermediate and a catalyst.

The 2013 Water Quality report is available online at [water.georgetown.org](http://water.georgetown.org).

\* Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future

regulation is warranted. A maximum contaminant level (MCL) for these substances has not been established by either state or federal regulations, nor has mandatory health effects language. (ND = not detected; ppb = parts per billion)