

*News from the Helotes Heritage Association*

Dear Readers,

There are two items regarding our opposition to SAWS intentions to extend sewer and water service into the Hill Country. First, it gives us great pleasure to be able to announce that the City of Grey Forest has joined the battle to oppose SAWS plan to extend their sewer system to northwest Bexar County. Following is a statement released today describing this action.

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The City of Grey Forest has long held a concern for protection of the Hill Country environment, its wildlife, and natural resources. The City has passed numerous proclamations, resolutions, and ordinances toward this end. Examples are: the Responsible Hill Country Development Proclamation, Resolution to Preserve the Scenic Loop ~ Boerne Stage Corridor, Endorsement of the Hill Country Planning Association Master Plan, Zoning Ordinance No. 45B, Ordinance No. 4 regarding Wildlife Refuge, and the Resolution in Opposition to Aggressive Sewer Expansion.

Grey Forest and the surrounding community use Trinity Aquifer water and are surrounded by over 1600 acres of land purchased with taxpayers' money through Proposition 1 and 3 and held in conservation by the City of San Antonio for Edwards Aquifer protection.

The Helotes, Lee, and Chimnea creeks and their tributaries converge in the City and its ETJ. They are critical to aquifer contribution and recharge. The initial sewer construction and subsequent potential breakage and leakage are considered threats to these creeks and consequently the aquifers.

Last Tuesday, February 26, 2008, the Grey Forest City Council unanimously passed a motion to go forward with retaining Eric Allmon of Lowerre, Frederick, Perales and Allmon for the purpose of representing Grey Forest in contesting SAWS Application for Sewer CCN in Northwest Bexar County. Grey Forest will work closely with the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance (GEAA) and several other organizations and community members involved in this matter.

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The second item is a reminder about the GEAA fundraiser at 2 pm tomorrow (Saturday March 1) at the New Helotes Nature Center. Proceeds from the fundraiser will go toward legal fees associated with our opposition to SAWS petitions to extend sewer and water service into the Hill Country. Please attend if possible. It will be a wonderful opportunity to help a great cause and an enjoyable way to learn about the importance of Helotes Creek and recharge of the Edwards Aquifer. Following is their description of the fund raiser.

Sincerely,  
Ron Green, President  
Helotes Heritage Association

"The Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance invites you to join us on a guided tour of Helotes Creek with Groundwater Hydrologist, Ron Green. Learn about how the creek nurtures the Edwards Aquifer and enjoy snacks and libations with fellow Texans for Every Drop and GEAA members!

The program begins at the Helotes Creek Nature Center\* at 2:00 pm on Saturday, March 1st with a party to follow.

Texans for Every Drop members and their guests come free. For everyone else: Adults \$35/ Children \$10 ticket. RSVP with Miguel Vela at (210) 320-1457 / [miguel@aquiferalliance.org](mailto:miguel@aquiferalliance.org) or to GEAA, PO Box 15618, San Antonio, TX 78212. Make checks payable to GEAA

All proceeds will go toward legal fees for the contested case hearing to prevent SAWS from extending sewer and water service into the Hill Country. For more information about Ron Green's presentation as reported in the Express-News,

<http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/metro/stories/MYSA123007.08B.HelotesCreek.2cdd945.html>."