



October 26, 2011

Hope everyone got some rain. It was a welcome change from our long hot dry spell. Oct. 11 we were at the Runnels County Natural Resource day teaching about aquifers and how to protect our ground water from pollution.

Water levels were mixed, but most tended to be a little higher than last months readings. Water levels showed increases from a few inches to a couple of feet on most wells. Wells near rivers or creeks tended to be up more than the wells farther away. We do get some recharge from water flowing and standing in the creek bottoms and the river. One other area showing a slightly larger increase was in irrigation areas that had been pumped very low. These areas were draining water from the surrounding fields and catching what little recharge we are getting now.

The biggest problem that we are seeing at most wells now is that levels are down from 10-30 ft from last year. Recharge rates are way below normal for most of the aquifers in the district. The main areas showing much recharge flow has been near the rivers. Without some significant rainfall events both here and in outlying counties around us we will go into the new year with below normal water in reserve in the aquifers. What little recharge flow we have will not keep up with the demand when we start pumping next year without major weather changes.

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