

League of Women Voters Kerrville Area

P.O. Box 290303

Kerrville, TX 78029-0303



“Texas Water: Whose Water is it?”

The Kerrville Area League of Women Voters will sponsor a series of forums on the availability of water now and in the future for our area. The meetings will take place February 19, March 19 and a date to be determined in April at the Upper Guadalupe River Authority (UGRA), 125 Lehmann Drive in Kerrville. The Saturday morning forums will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end by 1:00 p.m.

Each of the three forums builds on the previous one to give a more complete understanding of the water issues. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend all three.

The February 19 forum will address “The Current state of Water, Where we are Today.” Presenters include an expert in state water law who will discuss how we got where we are today; Kerr County water as overseen by Upper Guadalupe River Authority (UGRA); an overview of the Headwaters Groundwater Conservation District and its role in Kerr County; a depiction of rainfall over time showing major droughts and floods; and a discussion of the water cycle, local aquifers, recharge, and transmissivity.

At the second forum on March 19, the topic will be “Water Planning for the Future”. The third forum in April will be an interactive discussion including a skit depicting major water issues.

The Texas State League of Women Voters, in cooperation with its local chapters, selects major public policy issues for extensive study as part of the process of reaching consensus on significant public interest issues. In 2011, the topic is Water as a Commodity.

The full scope of the statewide League of Women Voters’ analysis will include reviews of state regulations governing the sale and transfer of water rights, ramification of classifying water as a commodity rather than a natural resource, options for state-run water marketing administration, potential legislation regarding inter-state or international water transfers, and review of best uses of water (i.e., public interest concerns, environmental factors, effect on third parties of future water requirements). After a full review of expert testimony and member input, the League will prepare a position statement for adoption at its convention in 2012. The position statement will become the basis for the League’s subsequent state lobbying efforts.

For more information about the League of Women Voters Kerrville Area, please contact Melinda Wasson, Membership V.P. at 830-895-2521 or melindaw@windstream.net.