



Newsletter June 2013

Arkansas's Water Needs Assessment Ready for Public Review

The Arkansas Water Plan Update has completed its first major effort to quantify how we use water today, and how we expect to use it over the next 40 years.

Arkansas receives most of its water from rainfall--43 to 69 inches per year. We have plentiful rivers and streams, but our largest human use comes from groundwater, especially along the eastern side of our state where we grow food for Arkansans and the world.

Of course, Arkansas's largest water need is sustaining the plants, animals, rivers and streams, and groundwater recharge making us the Natural State.

At our June public meetings, we will discuss the draft current and future water use estimates for our major water uses: agriculture (food, fiber, chicken, beef, pork, milk, etc.); navigation; public water supplies (cities and water districts); private household wells; industrial and commercial water for businesses; and water for Arkansas's thermoelectric power plants.

This completion of our state's water needs assessment is a key step toward ensuring that Arkansans will have enough water today and for future generations. We invite you to learn more about the Water Plan Update process by attending one of the public meetings listed to the right.

Upcoming Public Meetings:

The Water Plan Update public meetings are free and attendees will be given opportunities to ask questions and make comments. This is the second of four rounds of public meetings. For additional information, visit the website at www.arwaterplan.arkansas.gov or contact the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission at (501) 682-1611. Each public meeting is scheduled for 90 minutes and information regarding locations, dates and times is listed below:

Arkadelphia: June 3, 6:30 pm; Henderson State University, Garrison Center Lecture Hall, 1045 McKnight Dr.

Pine Bluff: June 4, 9:00 am; (Water Plan Presentation begins at 11:00 am); Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts Meeting, Family Church, 2500 Hwy 104.

Fort Smith: June 4, 6:30 pm; Fort Smith Convention Center, 800 Rogers.

Little Rock: June 5, 1:30 pm; Arkansas Game & Fish Commission Auditorium, No. 2 Natural Resources Dr.

Stuttgart: June 6, 6:30 pm; Phillips Community College, Grand Prairie Center, Salon B, 2709 Highway 165 South.

Harrison: June 6, 6:30 pm; North Arkansas College, Durand Center, Durand B, 303 North Main St.

Russellville: June 6, 9:00 am; (Water Plan Presentation begins at 11:30 am); Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts Meeting, Lake Point Conference Center, 61 Lake Point Lane.

Fayetteville: June 11, 3:00 pm and 5:30 pm; Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center, 1335 West Knapp St.

Clinton: June 12, 3:00 pm and 5:30 pm; Court House Annex, 1414 Hwy 65 South.

Searcy: June 13, 1:00 pm; Carmichael Community Center, 801 South Elm.

Jonesboro: June 17, 6:30 pm; ASU Convocation Center, Stadium Blvd.

Forrest City: June 18, 6:30 pm; East Arkansas Community College, Fine Arts Center Banquet Hall, 1700 New Castle Rd.

Heber Springs: June 19, 5:30 pm; Community Center, 201 Bobbie Jean Lane.

Smackover: June 20, 6:30 pm; Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources, 3853 Smackover Hwy.



Comments are welcome!

Email comments or questions to: arkansaswater@cdmsmith.com

Website: www.arwaterplan.arkansas.gov

Telephone: Edward Swaim, Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, 501-682-3979

Mail: Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, Attention: Water Plan

101 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 350, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

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