THE MEADOWS CENTER FOR WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT

No natural resource is more important to our future than Water. Water is what we do.

RESEARCH | STEWARDSHIP | SERVICE | EDUCATION



TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY





Cypress Creek Watershed Protection

- Activities to prevent pollution, protect flow
- Preserve water quality through local permitting, ordinances
- Improve tools for decision makers to calculate effects of land use changes on water quality
- Site-specific LID/Green Infrastructure demonstration sites
- Outreach and education efforts
- Monitoring and modeling water quality changes

Simply Stated:

The Cypress Creek Watershed Protection Plan aims to ensure that the long-term integrity and sustainability of the Cypress Creek watershed is preserved and that water quality standards are maintained for present and future generations.

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A New Primary School for Wimberley ISD

Jacobs Well

Blue Hole



WISD Primary School Environmental Concerns

- Conversion of native range to developed site
- Standard construction w/ minimal water conservation practices
- Wastewater mindset with raw sewage to be transported to off-site WWTP (additional infrastructure including lift station needed)
- Water supply from already stressed Cow Creek aquifer... the source of flow for Jacob's Well Spring
- Stormwater impacts to ephemeral tributary and Cypress Creek with no enhanced GSI
- A MISSED OPPORTUNITY

A solution?

A One Water School for Wimberley ISD





WHAT IS ONE WATER?

An intentionally INTEGRATED approach to water

One Water promotes the management of all water drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, greywater as a single resource.



Across regions/ watersheds







The One Water Standard:

- Collaboration... with a wide variety of stakeholders and engagement with the community
- Economics and finance... that recognize the true cost of water, prices it accordingly, and are attractive for public and private investors
- Green Infrastructure... that works with and mimics nature
- Closed-loop system... that enhance nutrient and energy recovery and encourage water sensitive behaviors
- Built Environment... with multifunctional infrastructure that supplements the natural environment
- Enabling conditions... that foster innovative institutional and management arrangements
- *Flexible and adaptive*... to allow for innovation and strengthen

One Water standards as presented by Howe, C. and Mukhebeir, P., "Pathways to One Water: A guide for Institutional Innovation." Water Environment & Reuse Foundation, 2015

WISD One Water Challenges

- Requires Education
 - Elected officials, general contractor, architects, ENGINEERS, watershed stakeholders, and US!
- Requires Courage
 - Technology is still innovative w/ few Texas examples
 - Permitting processes do not incentivize reuse... treat wastewater as a nuisance that needs to be "disposed"
- Requires Investment
- Dare to Lead!

Wastewater as a Water Supply



Preserve aguifers and streams natural character



Water Collection + Onsite Wastewater Reuse

- RECIRCULATING PACKED-BED FILTER SYSTEM
- FIRST COST SAVINGS \$300,000
 *based on 7500/day system
- POTENTIAL SAVINGS VS CONVENTIONAL SYSTEM
 - OVER 30 YEARS ANNUALLY \$20,000 \$30,000
- CASE STUDY ORENCO SCHOOL ADVANTEX
- PARALLEL PERMITTING APPROACH WITH HAYS & TCEQ





Stormwater Management

Protect Water Quality & Conserve Water Quantity



Conventional vs One-Water Cost Summary

| WATER SUBSYSTEM | COST TYPE | CONVENTIONAL | | ONE-WATER | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| WASTE WATER + REUSE | CAPITAL COST | \$ | 750,000 | \$ | 446,778 |
| | ANNUAL O & M COST | \$ | 26,695 | \$ | 6,000 |
| RAINWATER + AC CONDENSATE | CAPITAL | \$ | - | \$ | 250,000 |
| COLLECTION FOR TOILET FLUSHING | ANNUAL O & M COST | \$ | 19,488 | \$ | 10,188 |
| STORMWATER MANAGEMENT | CAPITAL COST | \$ | - | \$ | 125,000 |
| (LID & GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE) | ANNUAL O & M COST | \$ | - | \$ | - |
| | | | | | |
| SUM TOTAL ALL WATER SYSTEMS | CAPITAL + 30 YEAR O & M COST | \$ | 2,135,490 | \$ | 1,307,418 |

Benefits: Bringing It All Together

- FOR WISD:
 - Reduced capital and operating costs
 - Establish leadership in the community on a flagship site
- FOR THE COMMUNITY
 - A catalyst for creating a watershed culture
 - A Living Lab for integrated water management
- FOR THE CHILDREN
 - Healthier and smarter kids
 - Engaging and Inspirational Learning Experience





LOCAL

Wimberley school to make history as first 'One Water' school in Texas

A 'One Water' school means it will use 90 percent less groundwater than a typical school of this size.

Author: Shawna Reding Published: 8:04 AM CST December 3, 2018 Updated: 11:06 AM CST December 3, 2018

From Good to One Water Great



From Good to One Water Great

- GOOD: Educational signage for native plants, green stormwater infrastructure, and water saving plumbing fixtures
- GREAT: Incorporating One Water into a tangible asset interwoven into the architecture of the school, enhancing the learning experience.

Next Step: A One Water Master Plan:



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