



# CENTRAL TEXAS SECTION OF THE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

*September 2002* <http://www.weat.org/central/>

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**WELCOME BACK!** The Central Texas Section hopes you had a great summer. We are looking forward to a great year with interesting topics that will be educational and entertaining.

Our first meeting this year will be **Tuesday, September 17, 2002, 6:00 p.m. in the Dining Room of the Joe C. Thompson Conference Center on the UT Austin Campus.** The meeting cost of \$10 (\$5 for students) includes dinner, short business meeting, and a presentation entitled **Groundwater in Rural Texas.** The presentation will be made by **Mary K. Sahs.** Ms. Sahs is an attorney, currently practicing as a sole practitioner under the firm name **Sahs & Associates, P.C.** Ms. Sahs will provide information about groundwater regulation, quantity and quality. She will address groundwater conservation district rules, as well as, county regulations. It will be helpful primarily to those interested in groundwater issues in unincorporated areas of the State, or rural areas. Some specific information will be provided on rules and regulations in the Texas Hill Country counties. Secondly, Ms. Sahs will discuss the burgeoning area of groundwater marketing, or "water ranching".

**If you plan to attend this meeting, please contact Rose at 452-5905 by Thursday, September 12, 2002 for reservations, or e-mail her at [rmurphy@apaienv.com](mailto:rmurphy@apaienv.com)**

Ms. Sahs grew up in El Paso, Texas. She was introduced to the concepts of water law by Professor Corwin Johnson at the University of Texas School of Law, where she began her long interest in and passion about water law. For nearly twenty years, she has focused her practice on the areas of environmental and water law. Ms. Sahs has written and spoken extensively on environmental and water issues. She is co-editor of West's Texas Practice Series, Environmental Law, a treatise on Texas environmental law. She currently represents the Blanco-Pedernales, Hays Trinity, and Coastal Plains Groundwater Conservation Districts. She also represents SOSNET, a non-profit organization petitioning for creation of the Lake Country Groundwater Conservation District in Wood County.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

The programs and speakers for these upcoming meetings are still to be determined.

**Tuesday, Nov 19, 2002, 6:00 pm, Dining Room, UT Thompson Center**

**"MBR Technology Arrives in Central Texas" - Steve Coonan, Alan Plummer Associates, Inc.**

**Tuesday, Jan 21, 2003, 6:00 pm, Stagecoach Inn, Salado, Texas**

**"Status of Nutrient Water Quality Standards in Texas" - Jim Davenport, TCEQ**

**Tuesday, Mar 18, 2003, 6:00 pm, Dining Room, UT Thompson Center**

**"Legislative Update" - Speaker to be determined**

**Tuesday, May 20, 2003, 6:00 pm, Dining Room, UT Thompson Center, Election of Officers**

**"Odor Control Technologies" - Jim Joyce, Odor and Corrosion Control, Inc.**

## Meeting Sponsors

**CDM** is a full-service consulting, engineering, construction, and operations firm helping public and private clients improve the environment and their infrastructure. CDM focuses on drinking water, water resources, wastewater, solid and hazardous waste, and infrastructure management. In Austin, you can reach CDM at 512-346-1100, or visit us on the web at [www.cdm.com](http://www.cdm.com)

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The Central Texas Section normally meets at the Joe C. Thompson Conference Center at the University of Texas at Austin Campus. The meetings are usually the third Tuesday of odd numbered months.

This newsletter is sent to more than 350 water professionals in the Austin area. If you are interested in sponsoring a meeting/newsletter or if you have information for publication, contact Steve Coonan at [scoonan@apaienv.com](mailto:scoonan@apaienv.com) or 452-5905.

Central Texas Section Officers are listed below. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact any officer.

*President* – Bruce Wiland  
444-3188, [wiland@worldnet.att.net](mailto:wiland@worldnet.att.net)  
*President - Elect* – Raj Bhattarai  
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*Vice-President* – David Briggs  
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*Secretary* – Steve Coonan  
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*Section Rep.* – Richard Eason  
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*Past President* – Paul Jensen  
329-8342, [pajensen@pbsj.com](mailto:pajensen@pbsj.com)

## SUMMER FUN!

The third annual summer meeting of the Central Texas Section of WEAT and the Capital Area Chapter of the Texas Section AWWA was yet another huge success. Approximately 120 WEAT/AWWA members, spouses and friends departed on the Commodore II Riverboat at the Hula Hut dock and enjoyed the wonderful scenery on our way to Green Shores where we had a delicious fajita dinner. Following dinner, TCEQ Commissioner Kathleen Hartnett White spoke on a number of issues of interest to the group, including the challenge posed by recent flooding in assessing the safety of the Medina Reservoir dam, and dealing with the combination of water supply and quality issues. She also provided the group an update on the status of the Chapter 217 regulations that are a major topic of interest for the membership. It was a great presentation to top off an enjoyable evening. Thank you Commissioner for taking the time to visit with us. The summer meeting also represented a changing of the guard for your Central Texas WEAT officers. Your new officers are listed above. Thanks to our past officers for their service.



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**WATER ENVIRONMENT  
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