



## **EAA Legislative Priorities for the 89<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the Texas Legislature**

### *Initiate and Educate*

1. Take appropriate actions to address uncertainty regarding EAA regulation of potential use of Edwards Aquifer groundwater within a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity that originates within the EAA's jurisdictional boundaries, but which may extend beyond those boundaries for service purposes.
2. Take appropriate actions as necessary to enable and facilitate the development of aquifer storage and recovery projects within the EAA jurisdictional boundaries where technically feasible and in a manner that is protective of the Edwards Aquifer and acceptable to the EAA.
3. Take appropriate actions to: (1) educate members of the EAA's intent to reinvigorate its mission to manage, enhance, and protect the Edwards Aquifer system for improved sustainability through the concepts and initiatives represented in the "Next Generation, and Beyond" strategic vision and plan; (2) educate members regarding existing EAA programs and initiatives; and (3) address any concerns that may arise from the Legislature.

### *Facilitate*

4. Support legislation that benefits EAA programs through participation with the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts and the Texas Water Conservation Association.
5. Support legislation that creates incentives and/or funding for the study and implementation of nature-based land conservation solutions and alternative water supply initiatives, such as aquifer storage and recovery development, that benefit the EAA mission.
6. Support legislation that enables funding and infrastructure delivery methods for new water supplies designed to address projected shortages across the State of Texas and within the Edwards Aquifer jurisdictional boundaries to help sustain existing groundwater resources and that are efficient, effective, and environmentally sound.

### *Monitor and Inform*

7. Monitor any proposed legislation regarding attorneys' fees as they relate to groundwater districts through participation with the Texas Water Conservation Association.

8. Monitor any proposed legislation concerning wastewater discharge permitting on or near the Contributing Zone of the Edwards Aquifer and, as necessary, inform the Legislature of the EAA's position to support a science-based approach to water quality concerns.

*Monitor and Engage*

9. Take measures as may be necessary that ensure the integrity of the EAA Act.