

Item 3 | Education/Conservation Committee Recommendation
District Groundwater Conservationist of the Year Award

Committee Members

Jeff Kennedy – Chair
David Stratta
Mark Carrabba

The Education/Conservation Committee met on March 1st to discuss candidates for the Conservationist of the Year. They reviewed items that discussed the City of Bryan's Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) program. Highlights of their program include:

- Fully AMI for 6-7 years
- Immediate Changes from the switch include –
 - a. Quicker response to service orders,
 - b. near real time monitoring, and
 - c. eliminating expenses of driving out to manual readings.
- Capable of detecting abnormal usage within 48 hours by having daily reports flag continuous usage for 48 hours or more. They can also pull data within 4 hours of use.
- Contact nearly 2000 customers a year to alert them of a possible water leak.
- Offer suggestions on where to look for issues and troubleshooting ideas (i.e.- shut off toilet valve for a few hours and see if production reflects change) Customers tend to call after repair to confirm usage has lowered.
- Flag inactive accounts to monitor if there is water use as they cannot turn off remotely.
- Get alerts when meters are not communicating to prevent billing delays or low voltage batteries from dying.
- GIS mapping of all meters to help field techs and customers locate meters easily.
- Provide graphs and Excel documents to understand consumption.
- Improved customer service experience

During the Summer 2022 drought, City of Bryan staff fielded questions from customers about their irrigation system usage and assisted in adjusting their patterns/usage totals.

It is the recommendation of the Education/Conservation Committee and District Staff the Board confer a Groundwater Conservationist of the Year - Municipality to the City of Bryan.