

## **Item 10 – Groundwater Conservationist of the Year Nominee**

The Education/Conservation Committee met on September 16, 2016 to consider individuals or entities for recognition that have made a significant impact on the conservation of groundwater. The committee puts forward the nomination of Dr. John Crompton for consideration in the “Elected Official” category. Background on Dr. Crompton is provided in this file.

The committee recommends Dr. Crompton be awarded the 2016 “Groundwater Conservationist of the Year” award for Elected Officials.

## Groundwater Conservationist of the Year – Elected Official (Nominee)

Dr. John Crompton

- Distinguished Professor in Texas A&M's Recreation Parks and Tourism Sciences (RPTS) Department
- Teaching at Texas A&M since 1974
- World-renowned researcher in recreation and tourism
- Sixteen-acre park, John Crompton Park, dedicated in his honor in 2006
- College Station City Council 2007 – 2011 and Mayor Pro Tem 2010 – 2011
- "Member Emeritus" of College Station Parks and Recreation Advisory Board as of 2002, and served on Board 1983-1987, 1996-2001, and 2005-2007.
- Heavily involved in conservation efforts prior to being elected to City Council: first strategic plan for Lick Creek Park, member of College Station Greenways Advisory Board 1998-2000 and member of Brazos Greenways Council nonprofit organization

The term of 'benevolent coercion' accurately describes his teaching philosophy. "Benevolent coercion" describes his tenure on College Station City Council as well. Dr. Crompton was constantly pushing staff to demonstrate excellence and pushing back to resistance to change. The practical outcome of this was a revamped approach to water management at City facilities and a general realization that "the way we've always done it" was not always the best way to manage limited resources. Under Crompton's tenure on City Council, Water Services routinely reported water usage of City facilities to City Council, comparing actual water usage against projections and expected water use. This led to increased awareness of water usage in all City operations and contributed to the City of College Station "walking the talk" of water conservation as well as stewarding valuable water resources. Crompton provided strong leadership for the City of College Station's "Green College Station" conservation and resource management initiative and was a champion for increased efficiency and innovative solutions to resource management. This leadership laid a strong foundation for the water conservation program that continues today.

Jennifer Douglass Nations