



AGUA Recharge Zone Monitoring Program

The goals of the Recharge Zone Monitoring Program (RZMP) are three fold: to monitor local development projects and insist on conditions that better protect the aquifer, to formulate and win the passage of the *AGUA Reforms to Chapter 34 of the City of San Antonio's Unified Development Code*, and to rally community support for the successful implementation of our recommendations.

Using volunteers and paid staff, when funds are available, AGUA operates the RZMP to monitor, analyze, and make recommendations on all City of San Antonio (CoSA) requests for rezoning, permit applications, and applications for grandfathering from the water quality ordinances adopted in 1995 affecting sites within the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone (EARZ) and the Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone (EACZ). The program allows AGUA to identify early on threats from local development in these areas that can be proactively addressed with the San Antonio Water System (SAWS), City Council, Planning and Zoning commissions and the development community. It also allows us to bring attention to and rectify cases where local rules are being ignored.

Monitoring aspects of affected sites include: project investors, zoning type, grandfathering status, impact fees, tax subsidies, environmental impact statements, habitat conservation plans, pollution abatement, impervious cover percentages, geological assessment, storm water management, and aquifer recharge feature protection. Current emphasis is placed on monitoring Planning and Zoning commission agendas to identify upzoning requests on the recharge zone where better conditions, such as lower impervious cover limits or elimination of hazardous chemicals, can be insisted upon.