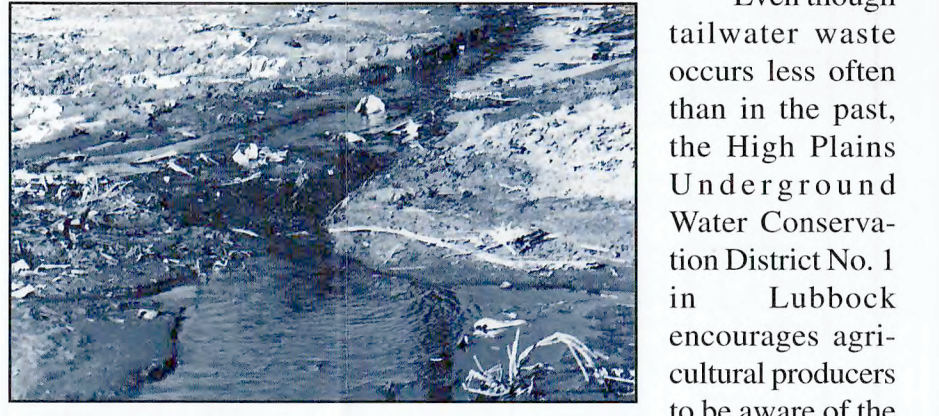


Halt irrigation tailwater waste, save ground water and energy

Most agricultural producers on the Texas High Plains wouldn't dream of throwing their money away in a roadside ditch. Figuratively, they are doing just that when they allow irrigation tailwater to escape from their farms. In addition to wasting water, they are wasting energy.



The High Plains Water District has investigated 25 tailwater complaints to date in 2003.

High Plains Water District rules and state law define tailwater waste as "ground water pumped for irrigation that escapes off the property and into any river, creek, natural watercourse, depression, lake, reservoir, drain, sewer, highway, road or ditch, or onto land other than the owner of the well."

As long as water stays on the property where it was originally pumped, the landowner is not in violation of Texas state law or the rules of the water district.

Water sprayed onto county roads from the end gun of a center pivot or side row irrigation system is also considered tailwater waste. Landowners and operators may be liable for any accidents caused as a result of this water waste.

"With increased use of center pivot and drip irrigation systems, tailwater waste is much less than it was 50 years ago. Some problems still occur when producers irrigate the corners of a field with the end gun of a center pivot irrigation system or with gated pipe," said Arnold Husky, Water Use Division Director. Farmers can prevent irrigation water from running off the property by building strong borders at the end of their fields.

During the 2002 irrigation season, field technicians investigated 63 tailwater complaints within the water district's 15-county service area.

"Farmers within the water district realize the importance of stopping irrigation tailwater waste," Husky said. "They improved their irrigation practices to slow tailwater. Also, they don't hesitate to notify us when they see water waste."

Husky said most tailwater reports are received through telephone calls to the water district office or through the water district website, although district field technicians often find tailwater incidents during their daily work. If tailwater is reported, water district field technicians investigate the complaint, take pictures, and document the violation. The landowner is then notified by letter and is asked to correct the problem. If the violation habitually continues, the water district has the authority to go to district court and seek an injunction against the landowner.

"This is truly a last resort. The High Plains Water District has a 'neighbor helping neighbor' philosophy. We prefer to work with the landowner or operator to help them solve their tailwater waste problem, rather than seek legal action," Husky said.

For more information on how to stop irrigation tailwater waste, contact Arnold Husky at the High Plains Water District at (806) 762-0181 or e-mail him at ahusky@hpwd.com. More information is also available on the water district's website at www.hpwd.com.

Open abandoned wells hazardous to children, animals, water quality

The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 urges landowners to properly close any open abandoned water wells on their property.

"Open, abandoned water wells pose a safety hazard to animals and humans. They also provide a direct conduit for contaminants to enter ground water stored in the Ogallala formation," said Arnold Husky, Water Use Division Director.

Open wells can range from six to 16 inches in diameter. These larger openings are particularly dangerous since animals or children can become trapped in wells. Potential for open wells is more likely in areas where former agricultural land is being developed for subdivisions and commercial property. It could be a hazardous situation for children playing in the area.

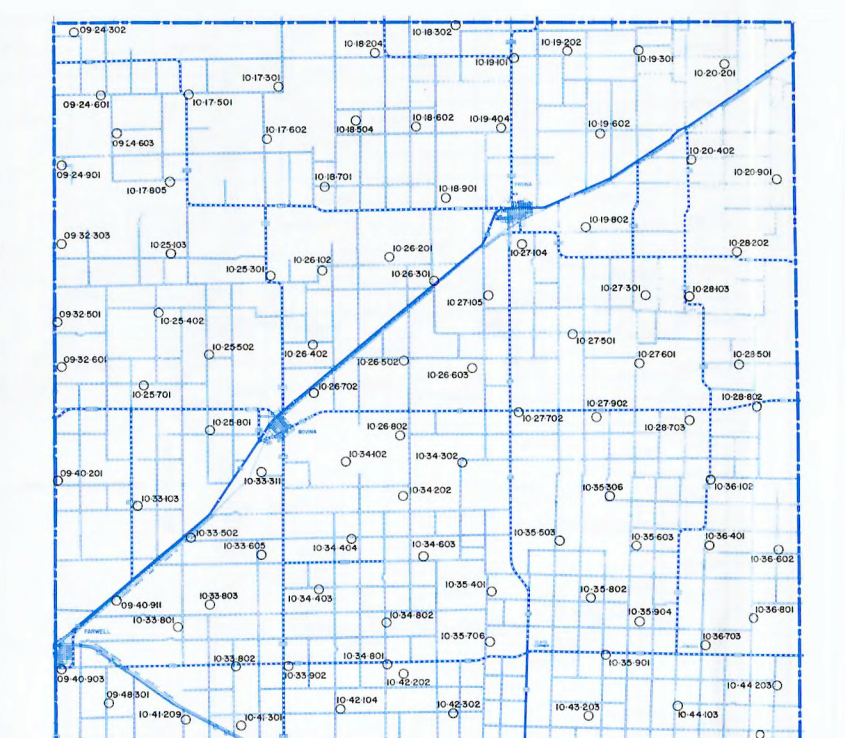
In the water district's 52-year history, two children have fallen into open, abandoned wells and were rescued. The High Plains Water District has an active well capping program to prevent such accidents.

Water district field technicians carry well caps in their pickups. They cover any open, abandoned wells discovered during their daily work. The appropriate landowner or operator is notified that a cap has been placed in the well. The landowner/operator has the option of paying \$75 to cover the cost of the cap or they may cap the well themselves.

"For those desiring to cap the well themselves, we suggest welding a two-foot by two-foot plate to a four-foot piece of pipe. The pipe should be no more than two inches smaller in diameter than the well casing. This goes down in the well casing and is difficult for a child to remove. State law and High Plains Water District rules require well coverings to sustain a weight of 400 pounds," Husky said.

If a landowner chooses to destroy a well, the water district suggests contacting a licensed well driller or the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation in Austin at (512) 463-7880 for assistance.

For more information about proper covering of abandoned water wells, or to report an open, abandoned well, contact Arnold Husky at (806) 762-0181 or e-mail him at ahusky@hpwd.com. More information on open, abandoned wells is also available on the High Plains Water District's website at www.hpwd.com.



PARMER COUNTY

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-302 | 288.77 | 290.98 | 291.15 | 290.85 | -2.08 | +0.13 | +0.30 |
| 09-24-301 | 336.75 | 340.98 | 341.35 | 340.85 | +8.10 | +10.25 | +3.89 |
| 09-24-603 | N/A | 316.71 | 315.61 | N/A | +0.48 | +1.10 | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-303 | 334.67 | 329.27 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 09-24-304 | 299.63 | 301.75 | 302.78 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-305 | 368.35 | 379.77 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 09-24-306 | 335.85 | 339.01 | 346.54 | 348.55 | -21.70 | -9.54 | -2.01 |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-307 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-308 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-309 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-310 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-311 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-312 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-313 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-314 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-315 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-316 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-317 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-318 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-319 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-320 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-321 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-322 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-323 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-324 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-325 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-326 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-327 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-328 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-329 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-330 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-331 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-332 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-333 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-334 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-335 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-336 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-337 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-338 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-339 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-340 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-341 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-342 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-343 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-344 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-345 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-346 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-347 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-348 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-349 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-350 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-351 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-352 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

| Well Number | Depth to Water Below Land Surface In Feet | | | | Total Change In Water Levels In Feet | | |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1993 | 1998 | 2002 | 2003 | 1993 to 2003 | 1998 to 2003 | 2002 to 2003 |
| 09-24-353 | 291.45 | 290.94 | 291.30 | 291.30 | -0.15 | +0.36 | N/A |
| 09-24-354 | 294.86 | 304.58 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |