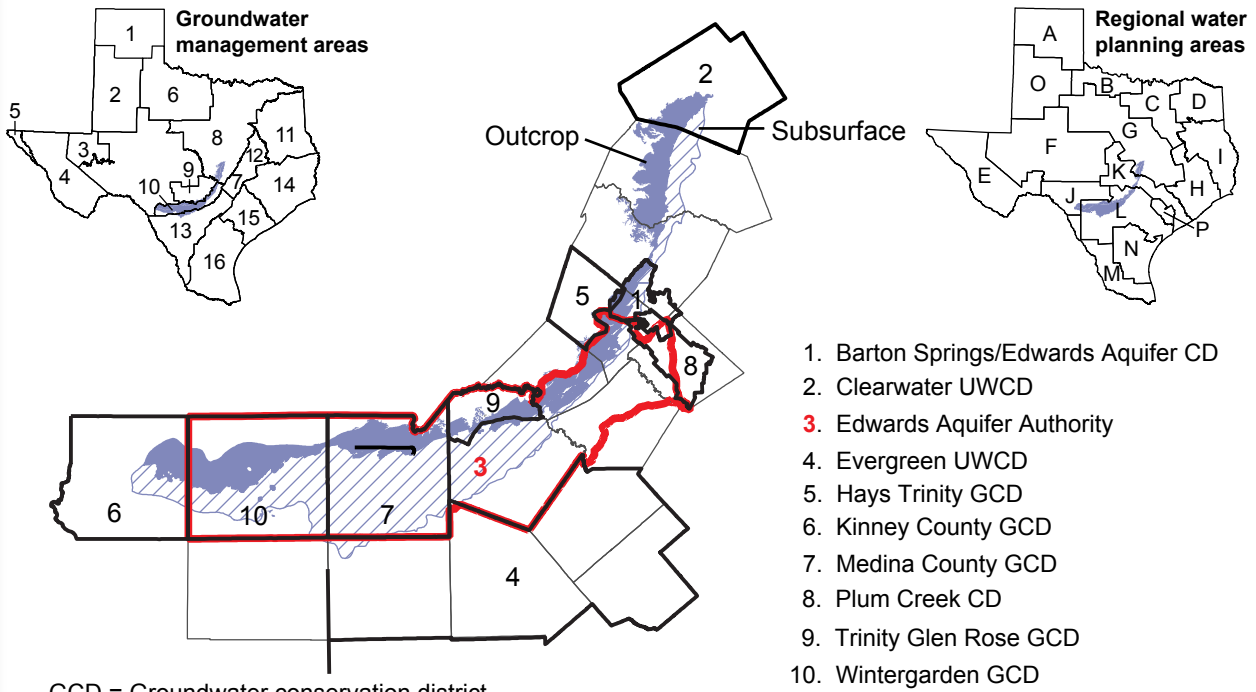


# Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone) Aquifer



GCD = Groundwater conservation district  
 UWCD = Underground water conservation district  
 CD = Conservation district

1. Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer CD
2. Clearwater UWCD
3. Edwards Aquifer Authority
4. Evergreen UWCD
5. Hays Trinity GCD
6. Kinney County GCD
7. Medina County GCD
8. Plum Creek CD
9. Trinity Glen Rose GCD
10. Wintergarden GCD

The Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone) Aquifer is a major aquifer in the south central part of the state. It consists mainly of limestone that has been partially dissolved to create the highly permeable aquifer that exists today. Water quality is generally fresh, although hard. Water from the aquifer is primarily used for municipal, irrigation, and recreational purposes. The City of San Antonio obtains almost all of its entire water supply from the Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone) Aquifer. The aquifer feeds several well-known springs, including Comal Springs in Comal County, which is the largest spring in the state, and San Marcos Springs in Hays County. Other major springs that discharge from the Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone) Aquifer include Hueco Springs, San Pedro Springs, San Antonio Springs, and Leona Springs. Because of the aquifer's highly permeable nature, water levels and spring flows respond quickly to rainfall, drought, and pumping. The planning groups recommend several water management strategies that use the Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone) Aquifer, including new wells, the expansion of an existing aquifer storage and recovery facility storing water from the Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone) Aquifer in the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer, the construction of small dams along streambeds to enhance recharge to the aquifer, and reallocation from irrigation to municipal users.

## Aquifer characteristics

- Area of outcrop: 1,560 square miles
- Area in subsurface: 2,314 square miles
- Availability: 373,811 acre-feet per year (2010 to 2060)
- Well yield: moderate to large quantities of water; some wells in excess of 16,000 gallons per minute
- Proportion of aquifer with groundwater conservation districts: 90 percent
- Number of counties containing the aquifer: 13

## Groundwater supplies with implementation of water management strategies

