

## Tehama County Groundwater Sustainability Agency Annual Fee for the Well Registration Program Frequently Asked Questions

On [June 20, 2022](#) the Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Board of Directors adopted [Resolution No. 9-2022](#) setting the annual fee to be charged by the Tehama County Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the administrative costs of the Tehama County Groundwater Sustainability Agency Well Registration Program.

### Why is this fee being charged to parcels that do not have a well?

Tehama County does not have an accurate count of the number of wells (ag or domestic). Tehama County Environmental Health did not keep records with the necessary detail, nor were permits required, prior to 1985. State agencies involved in well installation have a similar lack of complete records; DWR estimates approximately 50% of all wells lack all or partial data.

### Who is being charged this fee?

The fee will be assessed to all landowners within the county with parcels large enough to cover the cost of placing the fee on the tax roll. Landowners within city limits of an incorporated area will not receive a fee from the GSA as it will be charged directly to the city.

### How long will the \$0.29/per acre fee be charged?

On [March 31, 2022](#) the Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Board of Directors accepted the \$0.29 per acre fee for 3 years. If, at any time, well data collection is deemed sufficient the fee will be suspended or reviewed for necessary modification by the Board.

### How will these fees be used?

Fees collected will be used to fund the creation, implementation, and administration of a county-wide well registration program. The below breakdown describes the estimated regulatory program costs:

Description	Year 1 Estimated Cost	Year 2 Estimated Cost	Year 3 Estimated Cost
System Creation	\$60,000	-	-
Data Input and Organization	\$40,000	\$125,000	\$50,000
Administrative Staff	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000
Legal Expenses	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Cost of Billing	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Cost of Mailers	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Public Outreach	\$25,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Reserves/Contingency	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$70,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$375,000</b>	<b>\$390,000</b>	<b>\$315,000</b>
Average Year Expenditure	\$360,000	\$360,000	\$360,000

For a summary of line items, please review [Payor's Burden and Use of Fees](#)

### Will there be future fees after the well inventory is developed?

Yes. Data collected through the well registration program will be used to support the development of a well size/type based funding mechanism to provide long-term funding for the GSA. All properties that extract groundwater will be levied a fee. All future fees will be approved by the Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Board of Directors at public meetings, with opportunities for public comment.

### How will the GSA collect well information?

Well registration flyers will be mailed to all property owners and posted on <https://tehamacountywater.org/gsa/>.