



Hays County Wells Face Drought Challenges

Description

In Radiance, a small community in Hays County, Texas, self-sufficiency is very important. Neighbours help each other and care for their land. Arturo Rivera, a resident for ten years, describes how the community works together.

Radiance built its own well in the 1980s. Later, they dug a second well in 2003 because the first well had bad water. However, in 2025, the second well ran dry. Now, residents must use the original well and boil the water for safety.

Many wells across Hays County are also drying up, making it harder for people to get water. The Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District says the water conditions are the worst in over 20 years. Jared Thompson, a well service owner, is worried about the low water levels in nearby areas like Wimberley.

If aquifers, which store groundwater, do not recharge, they can run out. Some new wells are going deeper but may still face problems with water quality, like bacteria. Maintaining wells can be very expensive, leading many families to take significant loans. For example, Radiance took out a \$40,000 loan for a new well.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What is considered very important in the community of Radiance?

- Option: Self-sufficiency
- Option: Urban development
- Option: Economic growth
- Option: Tourism

2. When was the second well in Radiance dug?

- Option: 1980
- Option: 2000
- Option: 2003
- Option: 2025



3. What must residents do to the water from the original well?

- Option: Drink it directly
- Option: Boil it for safety
- Option: Filter it
- Option: Add chemicals

4. How long has Arturo Rivera been a resident of Radiance?

- Option: 5 years
- Option: 10 years
- Option: 15 years
- Option: 20 years

5. What financial action did Radiance take for a new well?

- Option: A grant
- Option: A donation
- Option: A \$40,000 loan
- Option: Savings

6. Which area is mentioned as having low water levels besides Radiance?

- Option: Austin
- Option: Wimberley
- Option: Dallas
- Option: San Antonio

True-False

7. Radiance has always relied on one well for water.

8. Residents in Radiance do not help each other.

9. In 2025, Radiance's second well ran dry.

10. The water conditions in Hays County are better than they have been in the last 20 years.

11. Arturo Rivera has been living in Radiance for only five years.

12. Many families in Radiance may face financial difficulties due to maintaining wells.



Gap-Fill

13. Residents must use the original well and _____ the water for safety.
14. Arturo Rivera has been a resident for _____ years.
15. Radiance took out a _____ loan for a new well.
16. The second well was dug in _____ because the first well had bad water.
17. Many wells across Hays County are drying up, making it harder for people to get _____.
18. Aquifers can run out if they do not _____ properly.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Self-sufficiency 2. 2003 3. Boil it for safety 4. 10 years 5. \$40,000 loan 6. Wimberley

True-False: 7. False 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. False 12. True

Gap-Fill: 13. boil 14. 10 15. \$40,000 16. 2003 17. water 18. recharge

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL2

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