

# SANTA MARGARITA Groundwater Agency

## Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency Application Form for Private Well Representative

The Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency (SMGA) is the Groundwater Sustainability Agency, which is being established to oversee the development and implementation of a groundwater management plan for the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin. The governing Board of the SMGA will be composed of 11 members:

- Two directors from each of the member agencies (Scotts Valley Water District, San Lorenzo Valley Water District, and County of Santa Cruz), each of whom are appointed by their respective elective bodies.
- One director each from the City of Scotts Valley, the City of Santa Cruz, and Mount Hermon Association
- Two public private well representatives, that are private well owners or a representative of small water system, farm or business served by a non-municipal well. The public directors may be selected by a group of interested well owners or in the absence of such a process would be selected by the rest of the Board.

The SMGA Boardmembers will oversee and direct the following efforts:

1. Facilitate development and implementation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin, as required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014.
2. Review data and coordinate groundwater pumping to the extent possible to meet demand and avoid exacerbating undesirable impacts.
3. Undertake ongoing and comprehensive efforts to collect, maintain, and share groundwater data with respect to water levels and quality.
4. Undertake cooperative research and resource management initiatives that are regional in scope and disseminate information resulting from these activities.
5. Recommend joint efforts to the respective governing bodies which are of regional benefit, e.g. conjunctive use, recharge within shared portions of the basin, etc.
6. Jointly pursue groundwater management grants or studies, such as planning or project grants available from the State under Proposition 1, and hydrological modeling and studies undertaken by United States Geological Survey.
7. Board members are expected to communicate with their constituencies and represent the viewpoints and concerns of the constituencies that they represent.

**The committee is seeking to fill three public member openings, two regular members and an alternate. The time commitment is expected to be 5 hours/month.**

**Applications are due by 5PM on Wednesday, June 30, 2017**

**Those interested in an immediate temporary position should apply by 8AM June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Please direct questions and submit applications to John Ricker, County of Santa Cruz Water Resource Division Director by email: [john.ricker@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:john.ricker@santacruzcounty.us) or deliver to County of Santa Cruz Environmental Health, 701 Ocean st room 312, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

**Applicant Information:**

First Name: Joseph		Last Name: Pernyeszi							
Address:									
City: Scotts Valley		Zip Code:95066							
Phone:									
Email Address:									
Current or Past Profession: electrical engineer									
Community Interests and Activities: in the past I organized the fuel load reduction activity in our neighborhood									
<p>Do you own, manage, or are served by a private well, small water system, or mutual?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <del>No, I receive all my water from a municipal water supply.</del></p> <p><b>If you answered no, to the above question, you are not eligible to apply. The openings on the Board are for private well representation.</b></p>									
<p>What type of private well configuration best describes you as a groundwater supply user: (Check all that apply)</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Private well for domestic use (single family home)</b> </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Shared private well for domestic use (4 or less homes)                 </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Mutual Private well (small water system with 5-14 connections)  Name of Mutual water company:                 </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> <del>Mutual private well (small water system with 15-199 connections) Name of mutual water company:</del> </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Private Well for Business, Recreation, institution, or industrial  Please describe:                 </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Private well for agricultural use  Please describe:                 </td> </tr> </table>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Private well for domestic use (single family home)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Shared private well for domestic use (4 or less homes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mutual Private well (small water system with 5-14 connections)  Name of Mutual water company:	<input type="checkbox"/> <del>Mutual private well (small water system with 15-199 connections) Name of mutual water company:</del>	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Well for Business, Recreation, institution, or industrial  Please describe:	<input type="checkbox"/> Private well for agricultural use  Please describe:
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<input type="checkbox"/> Other Please describe:		Is your well used for irrigation? If yes, please indicate how many acres (estimated) that you irrigate.							

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**Applicant Information (continued):**

Reason for applying:

I want to make sure that we, in the hills, are well represented. I am a very strong proponent of individual rights and fairness. I want to make sure that we are not overwhelmed by folks who live in the cities and served by water agencies. In fact, I believe that representation should be apportioned by area because we in the hills represent the water collection area whereas the water agencies have very small water collection areas but a lot of people.

Those of us who live in the hills pay a high property tax for our water collection area and collect a lot of water from the rain that eventually makes into the aquifer.

On the other hand, the water agencies represent those who use the water we collected and basically pump the water from under our properties to their large number of customers, collecting huge sums of money in the process.

In addition, the county of Santa Cruz severely limits new construction and subdivision in the county area whereas the incorporated areas of the county seem to have no limit on new construction or subdivision activities.

People in the hills need a strong advocate for their rights and interests and I want to be that advocate.

