





One Water Marble Falls Fact Sheet



WATER Water Resilience Plan: Building a Sustainable **Building a Sustainable Future**

Marble Falls is taking important steps to secure our community's water future through innovative strategies that address rapid population growth and changing climate conditions.

Ensuring Our Water Future

Our city's population has grown nearly three times faster than the state average since 2018 and is expected to almost double by 2040. Meanwhile, the Highland Lakes system, our main water source, has seen historic lows in recent years due to severe droughts. A water supply study based on projected moderate population growth of 6% annually indicates Marble Falls could run short of water by 2045.

Growth strains water resources and necessitates upgrading water and wastewater infrastructure to accommodate more people. The city's existing wastewater treatment plant is in a flood plain, at risk for outages, and is operating at full capacity. The City must build a new water reclamation facility that increases capacity to treat what flows down sinks and drains.

A Comprehensive Approach

City leaders have been forward-thinking by securing additional groundwater and emphasizing water conservation, but the projected growth and climate variability require additional strategies. Water conservation alone will not meet Marble Falls' future water needs. Like many Texas communities, Marble Falls faces the dual challenge of population growth and climate variability.

To meet these challenges, Marble Falls is embracing the One Water plan — acomprehensive, integrated approach to water management that optimizes water use, treatment and reuse. By leveraging diverse water resources — including Lake Marble Falls, City-owned groundwater wells, and advanced water recycling processes — the plan seeks to ensure a reliable, safe and sustainable water supply to continue our excellent quality of life.

One Water Plan Features

- **New Water Reclamation Facility:** Located at City Farm (west of Walmart), this facility will expand wastewater treatment capacity and supply non-potable water for irrigation via the Purple Pipe system. The system irrigates parks, sports fields, and green spaces. The estimated cost is \$86.6 million
- Future Advanced Water Purification Plant: In future phases, the city will pilot, build, and operate an advanced water purification plant that will recycle water to meet drinking standards, supplementing our water supply with purified water. Future phases will be budgeted.

The plan will be implemented in three phases.



Benefits

- **Cost-Effective Solution:** The new water reclamation facility provides the most efficient way to increase the required wastewater treatment capacity, protect against outages, and enable Marble Falls to recycle water in the future.
- **Sustainable Future:** By reducing our dependence on drought-prone reservoirs, the One Water Plan positions Marble Falls as a leader in water management, joining leading Texas communities, like El Paso and Wichita Falls, in water reuse. A reliable water supply is crucial to our community's economic viability and quality of life.
- Funded for Success: Supported by Texas Water Development Board grants, lowinterest loans, and impact fees, the funding plan will make this a cost-effective solution to meet long-term water needs and keep our community and economy vibrant.