

# TUWaterWays

Water News and More from the Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy  
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## Texas Boaters Frustrated by Both Drought AND Rising Water

Texas, it's like a whole other country! Whatever country it is, it sure is a tough one for boaters. A couple years ago, when the state was in the grip of a deep, long drought, boat launches were left high and dry as lake and reservoir levels dropped, and folks were [singing out for water conservation](#). Thanks to the return of wetter weather (the result of careful water planning do doubt) the good times are back for boaters and their friends and families...except for one thing. True to its reputation for only doing things on a big scale, as the rains returned to Texas, they've had an unfortunate tendency to come in buckets, flooding streets, fields and homes in process. So much so that boaters still can't take to lakes like [Lake Travis](#) on account of the boat launches and piers being under water, or [deep water](#) as Bob Wills would have called it. All of which just goes to prove the fundamental law of nature and human kind: If it is not one damned thing it's another.

## The Business of Business is Business—And Water

Just like the rest of us, businesses need water to survive and prosper. And just like the rest of us, businesses tend to assume that the water we need will somehow continue to be available on downright affordable terms (i.e. cheap). We could get away with that thinking for a while but it frankly does not make a lick of sense to presume in today's world and increasingly the business sector its recognizing that. The simple fact is that [business needs water](#), and that water availability and security are becoming major concerns for business across the spectrum, but especially those that plan for a deeper horizon or that require lots of predictable affordable water to operate (think farming, mining or electric power generation). A recent article in [Circle of Blue](#) (which if you don't read, you should) tracks the shift in financial and commercial circles to viewing water risk analysis as being essential to success. This view is also catching on in some government circles too, as noted by New Orleans Mayor [Mitch Landrieu](#) last week and in [Florida's Everglades](#). There are still plenty of folks who wonder what the fuss over water, sea level and climate is all about, but the smart money is on managing water like it matters.

## Hey Kids! Be the First on Your Block to Get the New USGS Aquifer Mapper

It is so hard being [one of the cool kids](#) these days. With

The **Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy** is a program of the Tulane University Law School.

The Institute is dedicated to fostering a greater appreciation and understanding of the vital role that water plays in our society and of the importance of the legal and policy framework that shapes the uses and stewardship of water.

## Coming up:

**The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Litigating Takings Challenges to Land Use and Environmental Regulations**

New Orleans, LA  
November 4, 2016

**[RAE/The Coastal Society Summit on Coastal and Estuarine Restoration](#)**

New Orleans, LA  
December 10-15, 2016

## Water jobs:

[Staff Attorney](#)

Chesapeake Legal Alliance

[Clean Water Advocate](#)

Environment America

## Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law & Policy

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changing fashions and yesterday's cool cell phone being today's nerd beacon, what's a body to do? Well, you have come to the right place because this is the summer is going to be the most aqualicious summer ever thanks to a new aquifer water quality mapper from the U.S. Geological Survey. The [mapper](#) tracks contamination trends in some of America's favorite aquifers—including Louisiana (and Texas's) own Chicot Aquifer. This is all part of USGS's [National Water Quality Assessment](#) which really does deserve more attention. The mapper shows whether various contaminants are waxing or waning but does not get into what is driving the trends. That does not mean you couldn't use the mapper to ask good questions if you live over one of the covered aquifers and like or don't like what you see. Go ahead be one of the [cool kids](#).

### **Summer Reading**

Ah, summer. Time for water skiing, hanging out at the ol' fishing hole, swimming and some good vacation reading. But what to read you ask? Harry Potter and the Groundwater Mapper? Alas, much rumored but not real, yet. Let us offer some suggestions.

For those who like to mix water with dystopic tales of communities heading for hell in a handbasket perhaps [New Charity Blues](#) is down your alley. We haven't actually read it. If your taste runs more to stories about life told from water's point of view there is [This is the Water](#), a novel that we think has the best title ever for a book. We haven't read it yet either. Or maybe [Delta, the Duck Who was Afraid of Water](#) is more your style. What is in the water that could possibly frighten a young Canadian mallard so? Does she have any idea what is waiting for her in Louisiana when she heads south? Let us know...because we haven't read this book either.