



## Texas Irrigation Expo Registration Now Open

Harlingen – General registration is now open for the 2010 Texas Irrigation Expo, a free event taking place Oct. 21 and 22 at the Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show Grounds in Mercedes. The Expo features two days of educational presentations on agricultural water conservation, tours of local farms that are being used as demonstration sites, and exhibits on products and services for the agricultural irrigation industry. The Expo is also conducting a statewide science contest for junior and high school students with cash prizes for the winners.

Registration for the Expo is free, but reservations must be made in advance. The event is being planned through a grant from the Texas Water Development Board, with some expenses underwritten by the following sponsors: **Platinum Sponsors** - A.W. Blair Engineering, Fresno Valves & Castings, H&V Equipment Services, the Rio Grande Regional Water Authority, NRS Consulting Engineers, and Rubicon; **Silver Sponsors** - Eagle Automation Corp. and La Playa Mapping; and **Bronze Sponsors** - Odessa Pumps and Superior Water Screen Company.

The program begins at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 21 with presentations on why the state's agricultural water conservation initiatives were begun, the techniques and technologies that are currently being used to conserve water, and what future technologies might be available. Invited speakers include Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples, state Senator Robert Duncan (R-Lubbock), and J. Kevin Ward of the Texas Water Development Board.

During the afternoon of Oct. 21, attendees have the option of touring one of two demonstration sites or staying at the Show Grounds for product demonstrations. The evening will close with a reception, where the winners of the science contest will be announced. The event concludes the morning of Friday, Oct. 22, with additional educational presentations that will be geared toward receiving CEUs from the Texas Department of Agriculture, the national Irrigation Association, or the USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service.

There is no cost to attend the Expo, pre-registration is required to ensure an accurate count for sessions, tours, and meals. To register for the Expo, visit [www.texasirrigationexpo.org](http://www.texasirrigationexpo.org). For more information about the Expo, please contact Tom McLemore at the Harlingen Irrigation District- Cameron County #1 (956-423-7015) or Robyn Hadley at WaterPR (512-477-5445).