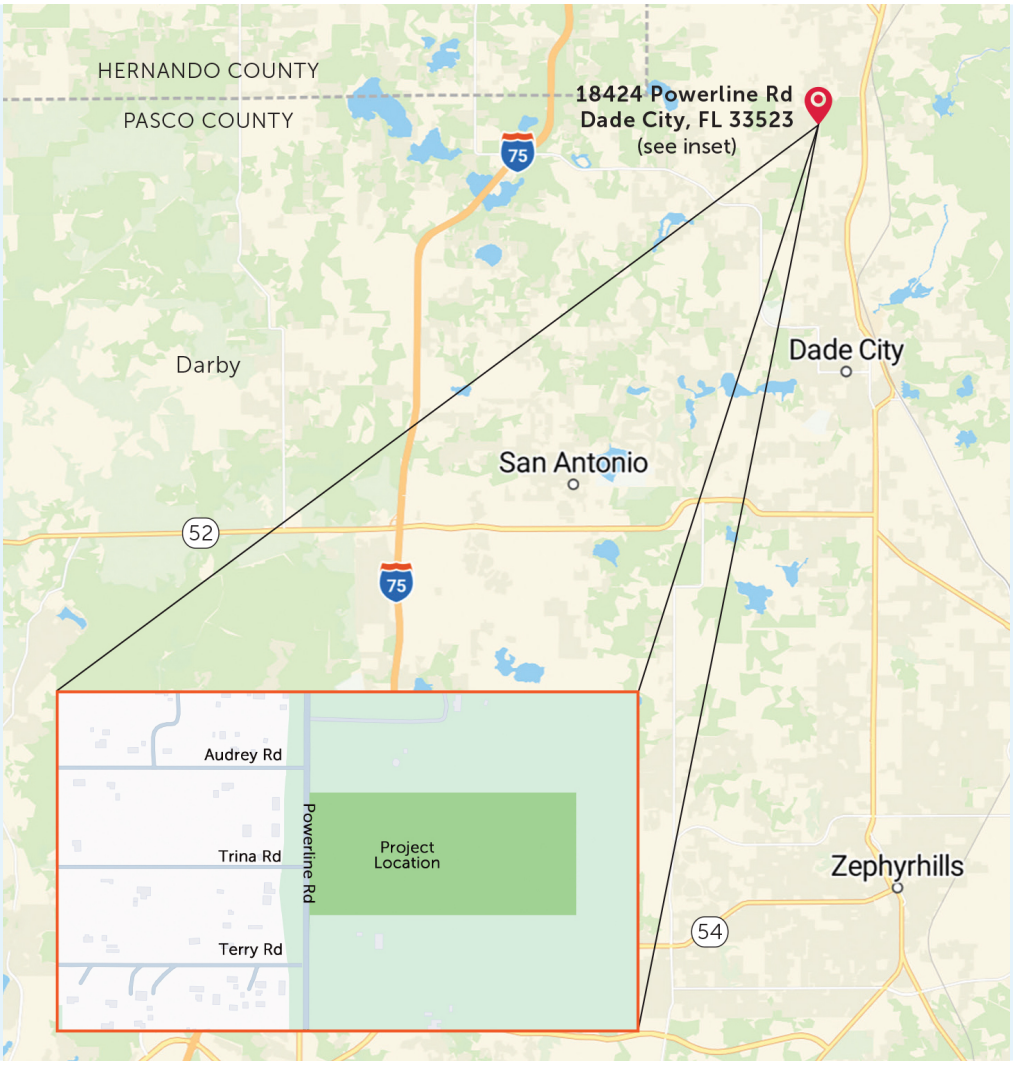
Eastern Pasco Wellfield Feasibility Study

The Tampa Bay region will need 10-20 million gallons per day of additional drinking water by 2033, and this project is one of several being studied to meet that need.

Project Overview

The Eastern Pasco Wellfield is one of three potential project options being considered as part of the Feasibility Study for New Groundwater Sources. The study involves installing a test well and monitoring wells, then conducting an aquifer performance test at a Pasco County-owned property (8424 Powerline Rd, Dade City, FL 33523). The test will provide important data on water quality, water quantity and data needed to model aquifer responses to pumping. The project team will also dig a core hole which will provide water quality and geologic data down to the Lower Floridan Aquifer. The data collected will determine if a freshwater wellfield in eastern Pasco County is technically, environmentally and financially feasible. The study will also provide data on brackish water quality to determine if a brackish water supply should be further evaluated in the future.

In January 2025, the Pasco County Commission approved a temporary easement on County-owned land for Tampa Bay Water to conduct fresh and brackish water aquifer performance tests.



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Quick Facts

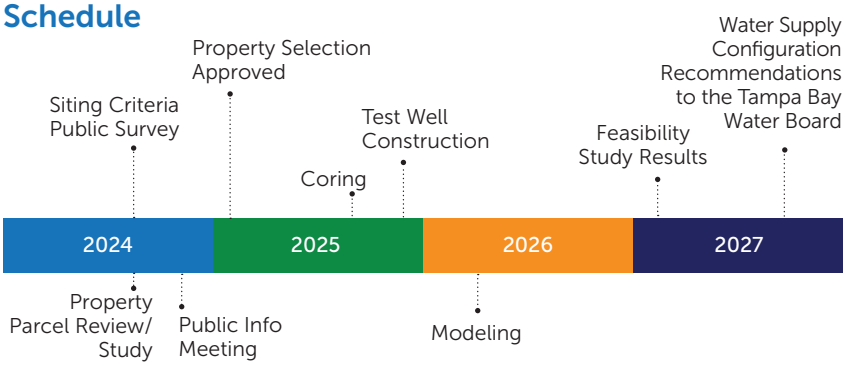
- Pasco County's current water demand from Tampa Bay Water is approximately 38 million gallons per day.
- Pasco County's water demand is projected to increase by 5.6 million gallons per day, or nearly 14% by 2033.
- Proposed project's estimated annual yield - 4 million gallons per day.

Aquifer Performance Test

Tampa Bay Water will install test and monitoring wells and perform aquifer performance testing. These tests provide important data on water quality, water quantity and data needed to model aquifer responses to pumping. This information is key to understanding if the project is feasible.

Tampa Bay Water is committed to maintaining the environmental vitality in and around its wellfields. The environmental recovery and sustainability achieved over the past 25 years will be maintained as new projects are investigated. Only projects that are technically feasible, environmentally sound and cost effective will be considered for future development.

Schedule



For more information, visit **TampaBayWater.org/EPW,** call (813) 550-8326 or email **GroundwaterProjectInfo@gmail.com.**

Benefits

- **Reliability**–Groundwater is a reliable water source.
- **Affordability**–Groundwater is the easiest source to clean because the aquifer performs most of the filtration and is less expensive to develop than other supply sources.
- **Proximity**–The project is in an area where regional water demands are growing.
- **Estimated Cost:** $5 million, being paid through municipal bonds. The project may be eligible for co-funding from the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD).

About Tampa Bay Water

Tampa Bay Water provides wholesale water to the public utility systems of Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties, as well as the cities of New Port Richey, St. Petersburg and Tampa. Visit **tampabaywater.org** and **futurewater.org** to learn more about the region's drinking water and options to meeting future needs.

TampaBayWater.org
(727) 796-2355

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