# THE TEXAS LEAN DIVERS PROGRAM

A partnership between the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, regional water quality authorities...

and you!

## www.texascleanrivers.org

## THE TEXAS CLEAN RIVERS PROGRAM

## What is the Goal of the Program?

Maintain and improve the quality of water within each river basin in Texas through an ongoing partnership involving the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, river authorities, other state agencies, regional entities, local governments, industry, and citizens.

Through the program's watershed management approach we identify and evaluate water quality issues, establish priorities for corrective action, work to implement those actions, and adapt to changing priorities.

## How Do We Achieve Our Goal?

- Provide Quality-Assured Data to the Commission for Use in Water Quality Decision Making
- Identify and Evaluate Water Quality Issues
- Promote Cooperative Watershed Planning
- Inform and Engage Stakeholders
- Maintain Efficient Use of Public Funds
- Adapt Program to Emerging Water Quality Issues



### So How Does the Program Work?

- 1. Find Problems
- 2. Set Priorities
- 3. Seek Solutions

Stakeholder involvement is woven into each step of the process.

#### **Find Problems**

- Conduct water quality monitoring using standardized techniques, and coordinate monitoring efforts throughout each basin
- Evaluate water quality problems and trace them to their sources
- Provide a forum for citizens to contribute ideas and express concerns about water issues
- Promote volunteer monitoring of local water bodies

 Analyze data to identify trends and relative impacts
Study complex issues such as nonpoint source pollution, toxic materials, and nutrients to evaluate their effect on water quality and the biological health of aquatic life

#### Set Priorities

- Decide on the most serious water quality problems
- Focus monitoring on immediate threats to high quality waters
- Give local residents a voice in determining the most important water quality issues in their communities

#### **Seek Solutions**

Increase public awareness of water quality issues
Help identify preventive or remedial measures
Recommend water quality improvement and protection strategies in cooperation with local, regional, and state organizations

### Working Together for Clean Water and Science-Based Decisions

#### **Partner Agencies**

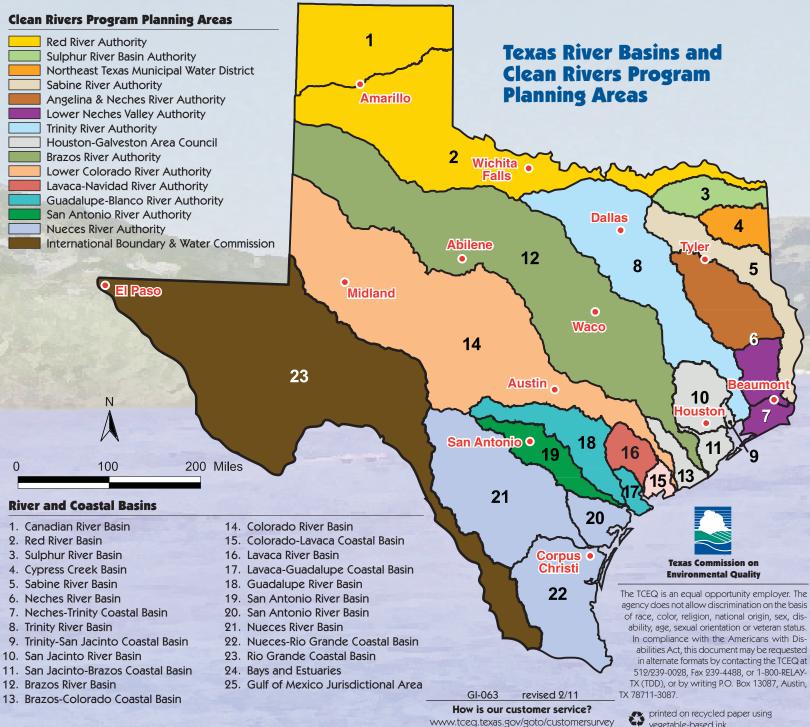
Each regional water quality authority that conducts work under the Clean Rivers Program has established a Steering Committee to set priorities for its basin(s). Committee members represent the diverse interests of the basin(s), such as the public, government, non-profit organizations, and industry.

#### How to Get Involved

Contact the partner agency in your river basin listed on the back of this brochure to find out how you can participate. For information on contacting your local partner agency, visit our web site and click on "Partner Agencies". Attend your basin's steering committee meetings. Express your water quality concerns and your knowledge of sources in your watershed. Tell others about the program. Organize community efforts to address local water quality issues.

#### How Can CRP Help You?

Everyone in a river basin is a stakeholder and the CRP is designed to address stakeholder concerns. The CRP can investigate water quality concerns, bring people to the table to coordinate efforts, and work together to address the water quality issue. We can assist communities by collecting water quality data to support permit decisions. We can support your local watershed action efforts.



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