

A photograph of three young children playing in a water fountain. The child in the foreground is laughing with water splashing on their face. Two other children are visible behind them, also smiling and playing with the water. The background is dark and out of focus.

THE MEADOWS CENTER FOR WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT

No natural resource is more important to our future than Water. Water is what we do.

RESEARCH | STEWARDSHIP | SERVICE | EDUCATION



THE MEADOWS CENTER
FOR WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Texas Stream Team Citizen Scientist Environmental Monitoring Program

THE MEADOWS CENTER FOR WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Tuesday, March 5, 2018

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TEXAS STREAM TEAM

Established in 1991, TST is administered through a cooperative partnership between:



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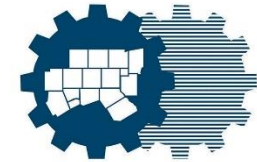
The Texas Stream Team (TST) is a network of trained citizen scientists and supportive partners



working together to gather information about the natural resources of Texas

Texas Stream Team

Caring for Our Waters



North Central Texas
Council of Governments



Plano
City of Excellence



City of Dallas



*partner organizations
use our data to manage
water resources,
inform policy, and more*



**Texas Water
Resources Institute**
make every drop count

Water Quality Monitoring



Goals Include:

Water Quality Education

Non-point Source Pollution Reduction

Watershed Awareness



Involvement with the UTRB 303(d) Vision Project

The Texas Stream Team supports the UTRB 303 (d) Vision Project by providing education and outreach support and materials, training and support of citizen science-based water quality and environmental monitoring, technical support and assistance with water quality analyses as well as coordinated water quality monitoring at strategic watershed locations.

Total Maximum Daily Load Program: Communities Working Together to Improve Water Quality

T O T A L M A X I M U M D A I L Y L O A D P R O G R A M



Communities Working Together
Taking Care of Our Streams, Lakes, and Bays



Take Care of Texas
TakeCareOfTexas.org

Prospective Partners

If your organization is interested in becoming a TST Partner or getting involved with TST and have not been in contact with me, please send me an email stating your interest

Contact Info:

Michael Jones

State-wide Monitoring Coordinator

txstreamteam@txstate.edu

512-245-1346



Next Steps

- ▶ Texas Stream Team is able to provide services tailored to the needs of each impaired segment and potential partner
- ▶ Training of partner organization staff regarding use incubator and *E. Coli* testing supplies or protocols for specialized data collection.
- ▶ Assist with grant writing for support of TST program activities and supplies, including watershed protection planning, citizen science, education and outreach
- ▶ Identify and track match for EPA 319 funding requirements
- ▶ Report data trends, changes in water quality and potential watershed threats
- ▶ Assist with watershed services
- ▶ Recruit citizen scientists
- ▶ Training events -get the word out, and attend/present if you are interested in getting more sampling on your segments

About Our Partners

Texas Stream Team fosters partnerships that help citizen scientists collect and report water quality information, through the Texas Stream Team Partners Program. Public and private entities can train, equip, manage, and offer general support to the growing number of citizen monitors across the state.

Texas Stream Team invites industries, river authorities, regional councils, water districts, cities, state and federal agencies, private groups, and foundations to become partners with the program.

Partners provide support in the following ways:

1. Lead Partners ensure monitors receive all the resources needed, and coordinate monitoring activities. Lead Partners can fund resources directly, or Texas Stream Team can help form a Partner Network in which several Partners pool resources for their programs.
2. Patron Partners contribute in-kind services such as trainers, lab services, or data management.
3. Donor Partners make financial or equipment contributions such as monitoring kits.

Texas Stream Team Partnerships help:

1.Support and enhance environmental problem solving in partnership with citizens and public agencies.

2.Develop student interest in math, science, and environmental protection.

3.Establish communication networks for quickly detecting and reporting water quality problems.

4.Encourage pollution reduction and prevention.

*If you would like to become a partner, download the Partner Info & Form and return the completed forms (instructions included), email txstreamteam@txstate.edu or call 512.245.1346.

Texas Stream Team Website



The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment

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For Partners and Certified TST Instructors

**For Partners and
Certified TST Trainers**

Forms and Resources

Start a Texas Stream Team Monitoring Group

***Groups are vital to citizen water quality monitoring for a number of reasons**

- **Dividing the responsibilities will make the work load more manageable**
- **Should an individual wish to retire from monitoring, the group will be more effective at having someone take over the monitoring site**
- **Multiple monitoring locations will provide a much better understanding of the water quality**
- **Everyone is required to develop a plan for monitoring as a group prior to completing the Texas Stream Team (TST citizen water quality monitoring training**

Texas Stream Team Group Monitoring Plan

Check one:

New Monitoring Plan

Revised Monitoring Plan

For Office Use Only

Group ID: _____

Partner ID: _____

Date Approved: _____

*Developing this plan involves filling four leadership positions and working with TST or partner agency staff to determine the appropriate monitoring locations and what goals to achieve as a monitoring group.

Group Coordinator

- The group coordinator serves as the primary point of contact for TST partner agency staff. This person is responsible for forming and maintaining the group, communicating updates and issues to TST or partner agency staff, and responding to requests from interested parties.

Training Coordinator

- The training coordinator is responsible for scheduling citizen water quality monitor trainings and, when necessary, recruiting interested participants for the trainings.

Equipment Coordinator

- The equipment coordinator is responsible for keeping track of monitoring equipment. This involves knowing who has each piece of equipment and keeping records of the expiration dates of reagents and media.

Quality Assurance Officer

- The quality assurance officer is responsible for reviewing data submissions for potential issues, following up with monitors to correct these issues, and conducting routine site visits. This individual must be familiar with the TST Quality Assurance Project Plan to ensure that monitoring is being carried out according to the protocol approved by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- The TST Quality Assurance Officer Manual is available as a resource to quality assurance officers.

Need Assistance finding a Sponsor?

- Need \$ for Water Quality Monitoring Kit Box?
- **Texas Stream Team Fundraising Packet** - includes a form for partners to submit information about when they will be requesting funds or support form for partners to submit information about when they will be requesting funds or support from a potential sponsor (a bank, a foundation, etc.) so that we can coordinate these efforts.

Fundraising Packet

- Telling Your Story
 - Personal asks
 - Sustainability
 - Success stories/impact stories
- Fundraising Packet
 - Template Letters
 - Individuals/families
 - Businesses/foundations
 - Sponsor Digital Banners
 - TST Quick Fact Sheet
 - Fundraising Jar Decal
- Documentation
 - Solicitation Form
 - Updated Partner Activity Report Form

EVERY DROP COUNTS. DONATE TODAY!



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TEXAS STREAM TEAM



WATER QUALITY
MONITORING



EDUCATION



COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

FRIENDS.JOINSTREAMTEAM.ORG

TST Grant-writing Assistance

1. Offer matching/in-kind funds for grants and watershed protection plan activities
2. Serve on stakeholder committee
3. Grant review/feedback
4. Letter of support
5. Presentations

Texas Stream Team Partner Activity Reports

- Used by Texas Stream Team to match federal funds the program receives from the Federal 319 Program.
- PARs cover activity in three months prior to the month the report is completed.



Join the Stream Team Community Forum

A place for citizen scientists, partners, groups, trainers, volunteers and water enthusiasts to...

Community Forum website

- Provide a place for you to share valuable knowledge and experiences with each other online by posting questions, sharing stories, photos and best practices, submitting wish lists, publicizing events, providing feedback and brainstorming with others.
- The main goal of the Community Forum is to strengthen the TST community across the state and to harness the knowledge and valuable experience that many Stream Team participants have gained over the past 25 years.

Request Texas Stream Team Trainings

- ✓ Standard Core Water Quality Monitoring
- ✓ Probe Core Water Quality Monitoring
- ✓ Advanced Water Quality Monitoring
- ✓ Riparian Bull's Eye Evaluation
- ✓ Macroinvertebrate Rapid Bioassessment

Contact TST with questions

- Purchasing information on TST monitoring equipment, and offer assistance with operation, maintenance, and up-keep.
- Data Requests
- Training Requests
- Supply Requests
- Site Creation / Activation

Questions?

THANK YOU

Texas Stream Team

txstreamteam@txstate.edu

512-245-1346

Explore Spring Lake | Join Us | Partner Up | Sponsor a Project | Put Us to Work

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EXPLORESRINGLAKE.ORG