HOWDY PARTNER! TEAMING UP TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY IN CENTRAL TEXAS

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March 2019
A Look at LCRA
Colorado River of Texas

- Longest river within Texas – almost 900 miles long
- LCRA manages lower two-thirds
- Second largest intrastate watershed in United States
- Lower watershed covers 14,700 square miles in “Flash Flood Alley”
Colorado River Watch Network (CRWN)

- Volunteer water quality monitoring program
- Became part of LCRA in 1992
- Creates early warning system by alerting LCRA to potential water quality threats
- Encourages and supports community-based stewardship
- Provides residents, teachers and students with the resources necessary to monitor and protect the waterways of the lower Colorado River watershed
CRWN – Water Quality Monitoring Sites
Volunteers Test

- Air temperature
- Water temperature
- Dissolved oxygen
- Specific conductance
- pH
- Nitrates
- Transparency
- E.coli (optional)
Colorado River Watch Network Volunteers

• Eyes and ears of the river
• Help LCRA protect water quality throughout the watershed
• Commit to:
  - Monitor once a month for two years
  - Send data to LCRA every month
  - Take care of water quality monitoring equipment
Volunteers at Work
Ever-Changing Conditions
Partners – CRWN and Texas Stream Team

- Texas Stream Team and CRWN have been partners since 1991
- CRWN shares data from Texas Stream Team
Partners – CRWN and Texas Stream Team

• Texas Stream Team trains volunteers from all over Texas

• Both programs use very similar monitoring procedures, making it easy for trained volunteers to be plugged into the Colorado River Watch Network
Funding

- Colorado River Watch Network is funded through LCRA
- Texas Stream Team uses in-kind contributions from partners to gain grant support from the Environmental Protection Agency
Questions?

Visit lcra.org or contact:

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512-578-7859
A statewide network of trained citizen scientists and supportive partners administered through a cooperative partnership between

Citizen Science Water
Quality Monitoring Since 1991
MISSION:
To facilitate environmental stewardship by empowering a statewide network of concerned citizen scientists, partners, and institutions in a collaborative effort to promote a healthy and safe environment though environmental education, data collection, and community action.
WATERSHED SERVICES & TST

- Community assistance for education and outreach strategies, grants
- Information gathering and monitoring to address data gaps
- Local planning, protection, restoration, clean ups, habitat monitoring
- Watershed protection plans, TMDLs, water conservation initiatives
- University research, long term monitoring efforts
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Community-based monitoring with citizen science
- Educational workshops for school and youth programs
- Connect home owners to watersheds to promote NPS pollution reduction
- Act as an early warning system for water quality issues
- Inform public about environmental management decisions
1. Canadian
2. Red
3. Sulphur
4. Cypress Creek
5. Sabine
6. Neches
7. Neches-Trinity
8. Trinity
9. Trinity-San Jacinto Coastal
10. San Jacinto
11. San Jacinto-Brazos Coastal
12. Brazos
13. Brazos-Colorado Coastal
14. Colorado
15. Colorado-Lavaca Coastal
16. Lavaca
17. Lavaca-Guadalupe Coastal
18. Guadalupe
19. San Antonio
20. San Antonio-Nueces Coastal
21. Nueces
22. Nueces-Rio Grande Coastal
23. Rio Grande
24. Bays and Estuaries
25. Gulf of Mexico
CERTIFICATION TRAINING COURSES

• Standard Core Water Quality Monitoring
• Paddler Core Water Quality Monitoring
• Advanced NPS Water Quality Monitoring
• E. coli Monitoring and Analysis
• Riparian Bull’s Eye Assessment
• Macroinvertebrate Rapid Bioassessment
DATA COLLECTION AND PARAMETERS

Core Water Quality Parameters

• Water Temperature
• pH
• Dissolved Oxygen
• Conductivity
• Water Clarity
• Total Depth
• Field Observations

Advanced Water Quality Parameters

• E. coli
• Nitrate-Nitrogen
• Orthophosphate
• Turbidity
• Streamflow

Riparian Health and Biomonitoring Scores
TEXAS STREAM TEAM WEBSITE

Please visit our website at JoinStreamTeam.org

• Waterways Dataviewer
• Community Forum
• Data Reports
• Publications
• Training Videos
• Contact Information
Thank you!

Contact me with questions:

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