CRP Activities in Kerr County

Tara Bushnoe
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Upper Guadalupe River Authority
Clean Rivers Program Activities in Kerr County

- Water Quality Monitoring
- Public Outreach
CRP Water Quality Monitoring

Quarterly monitoring at 11 routine sites
WQ Monitoring Summary 2014

- **CRP**
  - 4 sampling events
  - 11 sites
  - $11,415

- **UGRA Water Quality Programs**
  - 43 sampling events
  - Over 40 sites
  - 12 water quality investigations
  - $23,551
Public Outreach Activities

- Volunteer Summer Study
- Classes
- Special Events
- Radio Programs

- Newspaper articles
- Commercials
- Information booths
- Major Rivers
- River Clean Up

39 events in 2014
Questions
Bacteria Reduction Plan
for the Upper Guadalupe River

Tara Bushnoe
Natural Resources Coordinator
Upper Guadalupe River Authority
Impaired Area
Background Information

- Bacteria impairment for contact recreation in a 3.5 mile reach of Guadalupe River in Kerrville
- Placed on 303(d) list in 2002
- TMDL approved in 2007
- Implementation Plan approved in 2011
- Bacteria Reduction Plan grant 2011 - 2014
Ultimate Goal

Reduce bacteria concentrations
Primary Sources of Bacteria

- Birds nesting on SH 16 Bridge
- Large flocks of non-native waterfowl
- Septic systems
- Pollution from general urban runoff
- Pet waste
Bacteria Reduction Plan

- Partnership with local agencies
  - UGRA
  - City of Kerrville
  - Kerr County
  - TxDOT
  - Clean Rivers Program
Bacteria Reduction Plan

- Partnership with local agencies
- Reduce bacteria levels through:
  - Bird deterrent structures
  - Pet waste stations
  - Waterfowl management
  - Septic system education
  - Manage storm water runoff
  - Education
Bacteria Reduction Plan Results

- Installed bird exclusion/deterrent devices on SH16 bridge
Bacteria Reduction Plan Results

- Purchased 22 pet waste stations
Bacteria Reduction Plan Results – waterfowl management

- Education
  - Don’t feed the ducks
  - Don’t release unwanted waterfowl
- Oiling Eggs
- Trapping and Relocation
Bacteria Reduction Plan Results

- Compiled septic system information for homeowners

**THE DO's of Septic Systems**

- **DO** learn the location of your septic system and drainfield. Keep a sketch of it with your maintenance records for service visits.
- **DO** keep a detailed record of repairs, pumpings, inspections, permits issued, and other maintenance activities.
- **DO** have your septic system inspected annually.

**TAKE CARE OF YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM AND IT WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU**

Check for signs of system failure:
- Slowly draining sinks and toilets
- Gurgling sounds or backups in the plumbing
  - Sewage odors
- Areas in the yard that remain wet during dry times
- Patches of excessive grass or plant growth

If you see signs of failure, schedule an inspection and repairs immediately.
Bacteria Reduction Plan Results – urban runoff

- Interactive kiosk installed at Riverside Nature Center and Butt-Holdsworth Library
- Watershed model presentations
- Clean ups
  - 2014 UGRA Annual River Clean 6,495 pounds
  - UGRA Annual River Crossing Clean Up Program 27,635 pounds in 2014
  - Town Creek Clean Up Team
  - Kerrville South CAG
- City of Kerrville 433 hours of street sweeping in FY14
- Storm drain marking program
Bacteria Reduction Plan Results — education

- Presentations
- Booths
- Public Service announcements
- Press releases
- Newspaper articles
Bacteria Reduction Plan Results – water quality monitoring

- 2012 Integrated Report
  - Downstream section meeting standards

- 2014 draft Integrated Report
  - Upstream section meeting standards
Moving Forward

- Continue water quality monitoring
- Inspect bird deterrent structures
- Fund pet waste refill supplies as needed
- Continue waterfowl management
- Increase circulation of OSSF information
- Continue river clean ups & storm drain marking program
- Continue public education
The Bacteria Reduction Plan for the Upper Guadalupe River was financed through grants from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.