



Town Branch Creek in Lockhart City Park Submitted to PCW Photo Contest By Jason W. Biemer

Guadalupe River Basin 2021 Clean Rivers Program Steering Committee Meeting

July 29, 2021

Christina Lopez, PhD Watershed Coordinator clopez@plumcreekwatershed.org

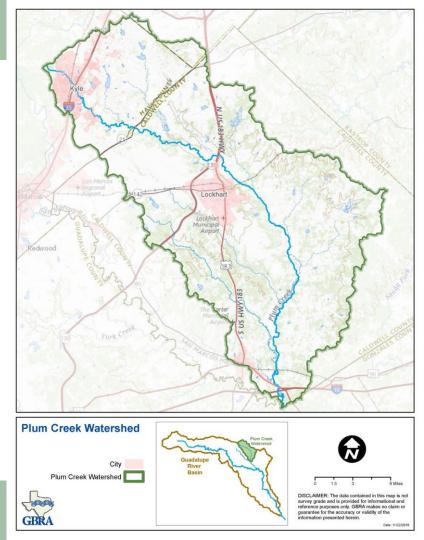
Plum Creek Watershed

Watershed Protection Plan (2008) by Plum Creek Watershed Partnership*

- 52-mile stream
- Drains area of nearly 400 square miles
- Tributary to the San Marcos River

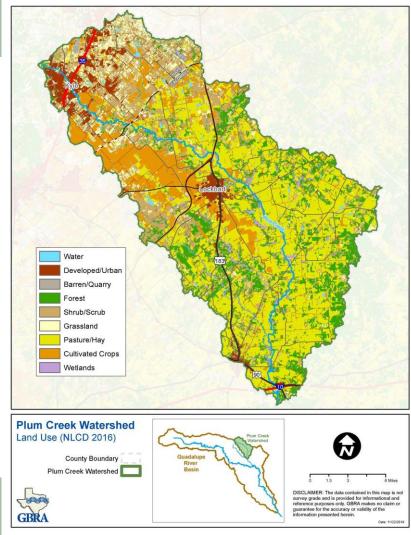
*The Partnership works with citizens, businesses and officials in the watershed to restore the health of Plum Creek, recognizing that success in improving and protecting water resources depends on the people who live and work there.

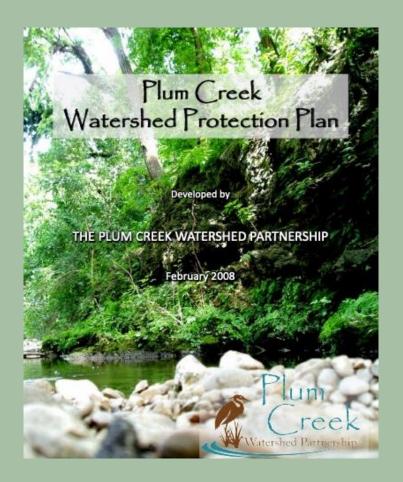




Problems in Plum Creek

- Impaired for bacteria (since 2004)
- Concerns:
 - Impaired habitat, fish and macrobenthic communities
 - Nitrate
 - Total phosphorus
 - Ammonia (new)
- Rapid development
 - Ex: Kyle's population up 70% since 2010





Watershed Protection Plan Updates

Overview:

- Past workshops & events
- Ongoing programs
- Outreach & engagement
- In the works



The statewide, one-day educational program designed to improve the quality of Texas' water resources by educating and informing local stakeholders about watersheds and water quality.

- → Included a discussion on Plum Creek Watershed
- → PCWP efforts and local BMPs highlighted
- → 43 attendees

In-person & Virtual Workshop

September 2, 2020

The Luling Foundation



AGRILIFE EXTENSION TEXAS STATE Soil & Water conservation board Healthy Lawns Healthy Waters

Aims to improve and protect surface water quality by enhancing awareness and knowledge of BMPs for the residential landscape.

Includes:

- design and installation of residential rainwater harvesting systems
- appropriate turf and landscape species based on local conditions
- a free soil test bag and soil test analysis

Virtual Workshop

April 22, 2021

20 Attendees





A GRILIFE EXTENSION



The Plum Creek Watershed Partnership is hosting a month-long watershed cleanup where participants can choose their own clean-up locations and attempt to collect as much trash as they can pick up in a month.

The goal is to create a fun way to get out of the house, bond with your family and friends, and help keep our beautiful waterways clean and clear of trash.

Sign up your team at plumcreekwatershed.org!

OCT 15 – NOV 15, 2020

REGISTER YOUR SITE AT PLUMCREEKWATERSHED.ORG

Socially-distanced Success!

Volunteers cleaned areas from Kyle to Luling

- → Over 50 miles of waterway cleaned
- → 170 volunteer hours
- → Over 500 pounds of litter removed







Plum Creek Wetlands Preserve Restoration

- Purpose: to restore the 265-acres back to its native vegetation
- November 2020 tree-planting event: 300+ seedlings planted







Central Texas Feral Hog Task Force

- Two \$1,000 micro-grants
- Three collection dates this summer:
 - June 10 \rightarrow 201 tails collected!
 - July 8 \rightarrow 470 tails collected!
 - August 12

10 AM to 1 PM Smith Supply Co. 1830 S Colorado St, Lockhart, TX 78644

http://www.feralhogtaskforce.com



VIEW ALL COURSES ABOUT HELP MY ACCOUNT

SEARCH FOR A COURSE GO SIGN IN 📜



Store > Search > Homeowner Maintenance of Aerobic Treatment Units

What You'll Learn

An aerobic septic system, or aerobic treatment unit (ATU), uses oxygen to breakdown both dissolved and solid constituents into gases, cell mass, and non-degradable material contained in wastewater. This online course will teach you how to properly maintain and operate your ATU.

Course Information	Course Outline	Certificate	

In this online course, we will be discussing information that is important to you, the homeowner, for performing proper operation, maintenance, and monitoring service of your onsite wastewater treatment system, also called an Aerobic Treatment Unit (ATU) and Spray System.

We will also discuss the routine reporting requirements for keeping your ATU & Spray System in compliance with Texas regulations at the state and local level.

For Texas counties that have approved this course, it will allow homeowners to maintain their own Aerobic Treatment Unit. To determine if your county is eligible, <u>contact your local regulatory authority</u>.

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Understand the basic operation and maintenance activities for an ATU
- · Be a better consumer in the onsite wastewater treatment industry
- Have the knowledge needed to develop a professional relationship with your maintenance providers.

Learners will have 30 days to complete this course.

Price: \$150.00 Buy 11 or more for \$136.36 each

ATU Online Course (ongoing)

Approved for Hays County Homeowners

To receive a certificate, leaners must successfully complete this course and pass the final quiz with a grade of 100%.

Then present certificate to local regulator and sign-up for maintaining your own ATU and Spray System.

https://agrilifelearn.tamu.edu/product?ca talog=AGEN-003

Outreach & Engagement



Watershed Photo Contest

The Plum Creek Watershed Partnership needs your help!

Calling all photographers! Send us your best riparian/nature photos from around the Plum Creek Watershed for a chance for it to be featured on our new website! The winning photo will also receive a FREE rain water harvesting barrel! Please have your photos submitted to srisinger@plumcreekwatershed.org or send us a message on Facebook @PlumCreekWatershed by September 18, 2020 for consideration.

Submit your photos by September 18, 2020

Win a free rainwater harvesting barrel!

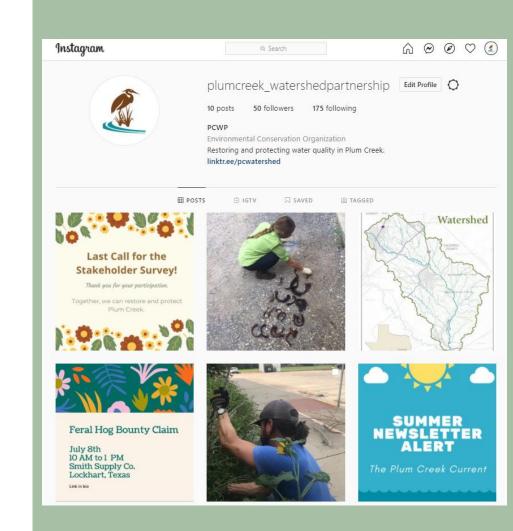
srisinger@plumcreekwatershed.org

30+ Submissions!



1st **place:** Waterfall at Lockhart State Park Submitted by Adrian Gutierrez





Plum Creek Current Summer 2021



The Plum Creek Current

We need your help: Stakeholder Survey

A healthy watershed requires community involvement. As the Partnership rebounds from "The Great Pause," we want to know how to best address our stakeholders' needs and concerns.

Please take a 5-question survey to share your concerns and ideas for activities to help restore and protect Plum Creek.

52 Responses

1. Three subwatersheds encompass Plum Creek Watershed, as pictured on the map.

Which subwatershed, if any, represents your home, organization, business, or area of primary concern?

More Details

 Uhland/Kyle 	3
lockhart	28
Luling	12
Entire watershed	6
Other	1



 In your opinion, what are the greatest threats to water quality in the Plum Creek Watershed? Select all that apply.

More Details

 Bacteria
 16

 Excessive nutrients from runoff
 17

 Urbanization
 33

 Illegal dumping
 31

 Other
 6



Full results summary <u>link</u>



SAVE THE DATE FALL CLEAN UP SATURDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2021

Event Coordinator: Christina Lopez clopez@plumcreekwatershed.org 830-557-7358





In the works...

- Collaborations with Keep Lockhart Beautiful
 → Fall Clean Up + Tree planting
 → Downtown anti-litter campaign
- Plum Creek Wetland Preserve Re-leaf with Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust
 - → Volunteers needed to plant over 1,000 seedlings (November 5-6)
- Lockhart Aquatic Science Explorations
 → 4 field trips
- Revive Texas Stream Team in Plum Creek
- TXST Environmental Engineer Prof. San Hwang
 - \rightarrow Green infrastructure demonstrations
 - → Phytoremediation

Thank you!



Next PCWP Steering Committee Meeting September 2021 Details TBA

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