

Precious Resource

Competition for water is growing and drought makes that competition more fierce. People and the environment both need water, so wise decisions have to be made regarding how that water is used and shared.

Rivers need water flowing at all time to be able to sustain fish, plants and wildlife as well as human needs for drinking, electricity, irrigation, fire protection, industry and quality of life.

There is only so much water, but there are more people using it every day.

Clean water is the cornerstone of healthy communities.



How does Clean Water Affect You?

Lake Stillhouse Hollow Cleanwater Steering Committee

The Committee was established in December 2003, and was chartered as a non-profit organization in the State of Texas on November 8, 2004. It was created for the purpose of surface water protection within the primary area of influence of Stillhouse Hollow Lake and the backwater portion of the Lake that extends into the Lampasas River, which is the main contributing source of fresh water to the Lake.

Under the State's Surface Water Assessment and Protection Plan (SWAP) program, a plan was developed that outlines best management practices (BMPs), which the Committee uses to identify and reduce pollutant sources to the Lake. This plan, the first of its type in the State of Texas, was developed by the Texas Rural Water Association (TRWA) and was funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.



Lake Stillhouse Hollow Clean Water Steering Committee

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Clean Water
Through Public
Involvement



Lake Stillhouse Hollow Clean Water
Steering Committee

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Our Waterways Need to Stay Clean



The Goal of the Committee

The Committee's highest goal is to educate the public in protecting one of Central Texas' most valuable natural resources – Lake Stillhouse Hollow. To accomplish this goal, the Committee will:

- Identify issues and concerns with the watershed
- Target methods to address them
- Communicate water resource issues to the public
- Enhance public participation and outreach
- Continue existing cooperative partnerships with other water quality protection entities and seek new ones
- Develop funding partnerships with government agencies and other entities for mission-specific public education projects
- Organize the Committee's structure and functions to best support its mission

To help better protect the quality of drinking water in Lake Stillhouse Hollow, the Committee assists in assessing and controlling sources of contamination and threat activities that occur within the Lake's watershed. In coordination with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), the Committee monitors the quality of water within the Lake and major tributaries to the Lake, in conjunction with the Brazos River Authority (BRA), Texas Watch, and the Friends of Sulphur Creek.

Tips for Keeping Our Water Clean

- Compost grass clippings, leaves, and garden wastes either at home or in a municipal program. Never throw these wastes into a stream, storm sewer, or drainage ditch.
- Plant trees, shrubs, and groundcovers, especially around water sources. Vegetation provides food and cover for wildlife and acts as a natural filter for runoff entering ponds, lakes, or streams.
- Maintain a healthy lawn. A dense, healthy lawn can be an excellent filter for pollutants.
- Never pour household hazardous products, such as paints or solvents, down the drain or discard with regular household trash.
- Keep your septic system in good working order.
- Clean up after pets. Dispose of pet waste in the garbage or by burying.
- Use a detergent with no phosphates when washing your vehicle.
- Learn where your water comes from and where it goes after you use it. By tracing your drinking water from its natural source to your tap and beyond will give you a greater sense of your local watershed.

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