

all things trinity, all things conservation

building partnerships for cooperative conservation in the trinity river basin

The Trinity River Basin is one of the most important river systems in Texas. Key habitats in its 11.5 million acres include wetlands, bottomland hardwood forests and native grasslands. The river flows through five ecoregions—a vital lifeline for plants, animals and people that call the basin home.

With nearly 8 million people living in the Trinity River Basin, more people use the water, wildlife and recreational resources of the basin than of any other river basin in Texas. A rapidly increasing population places pressure on the basin's resources, and in some sections, the water quality is poor. Native habitats—prairies and bottomland hardwoods—are critical to maintaining the integrity of the river, yet are only a fraction of what they once were.

Water use within the basin and beyond is dominated by urban centers of Dallas/Fort Worth and Houston. The remainder of the basin is primarily rural with private landowners owning about 95 percent of this area. By practicing effective stewardship, landowners can mix traditional farming and ranching with wildlife enterprises, resulting in a productive landscape and healthy river system.

By using in proper land stewardship practices now, we can help restore the Trinity River Basin and its natural resources. Private landowners are key to success.

Successful long-term conservation can not be done alone; regional conservation partnerships are needed.



The *Building Partnerships for Cooperative Conservation in the Trinity River Basin* project is focused on forging these conservation partnerships. The project will build the capacity of Trinity Waters, a private landowner-led conservation organization, to engage landowners within the Trinity River Basin. This organization is working closely with others in the middle Trinity River Basin to conduct restoration and conservation outreach activities based on sound science.

Through this project, natural resource stewardship will be fostered among landowners to improve the wildlife habitats and water quality of the middle Trinity River Basin.



Trinity Waters
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Benefits to landowners

- Communication among landowners who share similar conservation goals
- Linkages with natural resource agencies for technical guidance
- A new Trinity Waters website that gives information about All Things Trinity, All Things Conservation: partnering agencies, news updates, cost-share opportunities, wildlife management and natural resources education information
- New publications developed by Texas AgriLife Extension Service pertaining to natural resources management, such as native grassland restoration
- Outreach education programs on topics such as the nature and function of watersheds, wildlife habitat restoration and management, and training on the Trinity River Information Management System (TRIMS)

Benefits to the Trinity River Basin

- Recovery of wildlife habitats including wetlands, bottomland hardwoods and native grasslands
- Improved water quality
- Increased recreational resources for the 8 million people living in the region

Partners

- Trinity Waters
- Texas Wildlife Association
- Texas AgriLife Extension Service
- Texas Water Resources Institute
- Texas A&M Institute of Renewable Natural Resources
- Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department—Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center

Contact

For assistance, more information and regular updates, contact us via:

- AgriLife Extension Associate Blake E. Alldredge at balldredge@tamu.edu or 979-845-4698
- Trinity Waters at info@trinitywaters.org



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Visit TrinityWaters.org to find out how you can join in helping restore the Trinity River.



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