



# **GUADALUPE COUNTY, TEXAS**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

### **Newsletter**

### **MAY 2025**

#### **This Issue:**

**EARTH DAY**

**MS4 STORMWATER  
POLLUTION**

**COUNTY EVENTS**



## **EARTH DAY 2025**

On April 26 the Guadalupe County Environmental Health Department participated in Seguin's Earth Day. The booth offered information about floods, areas in the floodplain/floodway, illegal dumping, stormwater pollution, and offered a variety of arts and crafts for children



How can you contribute to earth day?

- Reduce, reuse, recycle
- Ask for green power
- Switch to reusable bags
- Grow and organic garden
- Skip plastic, buy glass or paper products
- Use environmentally friendly cleaning products
- Turn off lights when not is us



**Reduce**



**Reuse**



**Recycle**



For more information please visit the official site of Earth day at <https://www.earthday.org/>

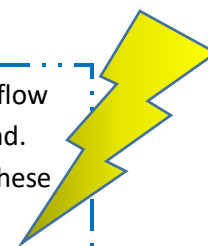
# STORM WATER POLLUTION

## What is Stormwater Pollution?

- ❖ Refers to the water from rain or melting snow that doesn't soak into the ground and eventually runs off into waterways.

### Why is stormwater a problem?

Stormwater can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and flow into a storm sewer system, or directly to a lake, stream, river, or wetland. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into these waterbodies we use for recreation and fishing.



## The Effects of Stormwater Pollution:

- ❖ Sediment can cloud the water and make it difficult or impossible for aquatic plants to grow. Sediment also can destroy aquatic habitats.
- ❖ Excess nutrients can cause algae bottoms. When algae dies, they sink to the bottom and decompose in a process that removes oxygen from the water. Fish and other aquatic organisms can't exist in water with low dissolved oxygen levels.
- ❖ Bacteria and other pathogens can wash into swimming areas and create health hazards.
- ❖ Debris – plastic bags, six-pack rings, bottles, cigarette butts – washed into waterbodies can choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic life like ducks, fish, turtles, and birds.
- ❖ Household hazardous wastes like insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil, and other auto fluids can poison aquatic life. Land animals and people can become sick from eating diseased fish and shellfish or ingesting polluted water.
- ❖ Polluted stormwater often affects drinking water sources. This, in turn, can affect human health and increase drinking water treatment costs.



Remember: you are the solution to stormwater pollution! By educating yourself and adopting habits for a cleaner earth, you can reduce the amount of harmful pollution that ends up in our local environment. Together, we can keep Guadalupe County's water clean and healthy for generations to come.

## Stormwater Prevention

- ❖ Sweep up debris instead of hosing it off or pressure washing your driveway.
- ❖ Recycle or properly dispose of household products that contain chemicals, such as insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, motor oil, and other auto fluids.
- ❖ Don't pour these items onto the ground or into storm drains, or roadside ditches.
- ❖ Don't park vehicles in the roadside ditches, not only does this obstruct the drainage way, it can also cause vehicles to leak fluids into the drainage system, which can then be conveyed to lakes, streams, rivers, or wetlands.
- ❖ If your home is serviced by an OSSF- On-site sewage facility system, be sure to maintain your system to prevent an unauthorized discharge.



**REMEMBER: ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN!!!**







## COUNTY EVENTS



### **Guadalupe County Bulk Clean-Up SATURDAY, MAY 17 7:30 - 11:30 AM**

**310 IH 10 West - ONLY ENTRANCE AT  
N. Austin St. & N. Guadalupe St.**

The Road & Bridge and Environmental Health Department are putting on Bulk Days for residents of Guadalupe County to declutter and dispose of unwanted items o help maintain a clean and safe environment.



For the full flyer regarding Bulk Days, please visit the link below

[https://www.guadalupe.tx.gov/upload/page/0153/docs/2025%20 Bulk%20Clean%20Up %20GC%2 oflyer\\_May.pdf](https://www.guadalupe.tx.gov/upload/page/0153/docs/2025%20Bulk%20Clean%20Up%20GC%20flyer_May.pdf)

On February 27, 2025, the Governor of Texas declared the week of May 19<sup>th</sup> – May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 be dedicated to Flood Awareness Week. This declaration provides Texans the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of disaster preparedness, obtain necessary supplies and equipment, evaluate their own risk factors, and monitor weather events as they unfold, in order to prepare for the possibility of a flood.



❖ **Please join the Environmental Health Department at the Development Center for the full week of May 19 – 23, for a variety of educational material and floodplain information.**

\* For more information regarding either event at the Development Center, please contact 830-303-8858 \*