Lampasas River Watershed
Protection Plan

Protecting Water Quality

The Lampasas River rises in western Mills County and flows southeast for 75 miles through a primarily rural landscape before it is dammed 5 miles southwest of Belton to form Stillhouse Hollow Lake. Above Stillhouse Hollow Lake, the Lampasas River was identified as impaired due to elevated bacteria levels in 2002. As a result of this impairment, Texas A&M AgriLife Research|Blackland Research and Extension Center partnered with the Texas Soil and Water Conservation Board through a Clean Water Act Section 319(h) grant to collaborate with local watershed stakeholders to develop a Watershed Protection Plan for the Lampasas River Watershed.

The Lampasas River Watershed Partnership was formed to coordinate the development of the Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) and consists of a Steering Committee, two topical workgroups, and a Technical Advisory Group.

The Partnership utilized an updated land use analysis, a historic water quality analysis, population data and firsthand knowledge of the area to prioritize primary focus areas for various best management practices. The Partnership also identified responsible parties, implementation milestones, estimated financial costs for individual management measures and outreach and education activities. The WPP described the estimated load reductions expected from full implementation of all management measures and was accepted by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in May 2013. It is one of five in the state of Texas to receive EPA acceptance.

Current Implementation Activities:
- Education and outreach measures outlined in the WPP;
- Collect intensive water quality data to measure trends and changes in water quality;
- Assist local counties and conservation districts in the development of proposals to bring technical assistance and financial incentives for improving septic systems and implementing conservation practices on agricultural land.

CONTACT US!
If you would like to become involved, please visit us at http://lampasasriver.org

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