

PROTECTING THE LEWISVILLE LAKE WATERSHED.

. . .Working together, protecting our water supply and the environment, right where we live.

Protecting watersheds is a priority duty for every citizen, for every community. Greenbelts and floodplains, streams and waterways, riparian lands and wetlands: all are irreplaceable. These are the fragile assets that we all need to preserve and safeguard. The quality of life in our community, safe drinking water for our families - - each demands that we succeed in watershed protection.

Establishing Greenbelts. A coordinated Watershed Protection Program by the communities located in the Lewisville Lake watershed will help preserve and protect existing waterways, greenbelts, floodplains, streams, riparian lands and wetlands. These assets perform the vital function of filtering out pollutants such as pesticides and fertilizers and other harmful chemicals from entering the streams and waterways, thereby safeguarding the quality of water entering the vital water supply lakes.



Preserve and Protect Wetlands

Protecting Water Quality. We all live in a watershed. A watershed is the area around our neighborhood or community from which rainwater drains to a common waterway. A watershed includes yards, roadways, parks, construction sites, streams, flood plains, etc.

- Our individual actions in the watershed directly affect the valuable downstream water resources. Everyday activities around homes and businesses have an impact - - either good or bad - - on the watershed.
- Trash left in the watershed is a common problem - - both a pollutant to the water and an eyesore to the neighborhood. Community groups often organize volunteers to help clean-up local waterways.
- Overuse or improper use of fertilizer, pesticides and other chemicals in landscape activities is a major source of pollutants that find their way into water resources.

Therefore, key strategies to protect water quality include the development of guidelines to educate the public about such pollutants and encouraging the use of organic practices in gardening and landscapes. A strong educational program in schools and for the public about protecting watersheds and water quality is vital. A typical theme for public information: "Do you know your watershed address?"

Water Conservation. Water is a precious resource for life. In planning for adequate future water supplies, conservation of existing resources at home and at work is a first step. Communities working together, offering public information programs concerning earth-friendly landscape techniques and efficient irrigation practices can be a major strategy for water conservation. As a double benefit, the strategies that promote water conservation also tend to protect the quality of water resources. For example, the use of native and adapted plant materials, and the use of organic practices for landscaped areas both conserve water and protect water quality.



Conserving Water with Landscape Techniques

Collection of Household Hazardous Waste. Proper disposal of household hazardous waste helps protect the watershed and our drinking water resources. Many typical household products, including solvents, pharmaceuticals, cleaners, batteries, paint, pesticides and weed killer, pose potential hazards to drinking water sources. Working with the communities in the watershed, Upper Trinity sponsors a program to safely collect and dispose of such leftover hazardous materials from households.

Education/Public Awareness. Water-courses extend into and through each community in the watershed - - knitting neighborhoods and communities together with a shared environmental resource. Strong public education, public awareness and outreach programs play a major role in the success of water quality preservation. You can help make a difference for your community, family, children and pets.



Demonstrating the EnviroScape Model

To learn more about what you can do to help the Lewisville Lake Watershed visit Upper Trinity's website at www.utrwd.com or contact us at 972-219-1228.