



WATERWAYS CLEANUP MONTH

This March, join Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB) in bringing attention to Texas waterways and water quality issues.

Waterways Cleanup Month is held during the Great American Cleanup, which runs from March to May each year. March will highlight waterways cleanups, with a kick-off event on March 7 called the Great Texas River Cleanup.

Themed months are not required and any event or project conducted from March 1–May 31, regardless of the focus, will be counted towards the Great American Cleanup and eligible for free supplies.

HOW LITTER AFFECTS TEXAS WATERWAYS

- Decreases water quality
- Blocks storm drains which can cause flooding
- Damages fishing and recreational boats
- Causes injury to swimmers and bathers
- Can kill thousands of animals when they eat it or become entangled in it
- Reduces aesthetic appeal and property values
- Costs millions of dollars to remove



DID YOU KNOW?

- The accumulation rate of plastic pollution in Texas is 10 times higher than other Gulf Coast States. A significant increase in accumulation occurs during the spring and summer. (Source: [Accumulation and distribution of marine debris on barrier islands across the northern Gulf of Mexico](#))
- In Texas, plastic makes up an average of 93% of all marine debris. (Source: [Accumulation and distribution of marine debris on barrier islands across the northern Gulf of Mexico](#))
- Microplastics, which include nurdles, make up nearly 85% of the plastic pollution on shorelines. (Source: [The Smithsonian Institute](#))
- 80% of marine debris found on beaches during cleanups comes from land based sources. (Source: [EPA](#))

ABOUT KEEP TEXAS BEAUTIFUL

Keep Texas Beautiful is a network of dedicated Texans working together to make our state the best place to live, work and play. KTB has more than 50 years of experience deploying resources for local clean-up, beautification, recycling, and youth engagement efforts. We lead nearly 300 affiliates and reach over 17 million Texans annually.

THANK YOU TO OUR WATERWAYS CLEANUP MONTH SPONSORS:



To learn more about Waterways Cleanup Month, visit ktb.org/gac