Through Border 2012 grants from the EPA, the City of Laredo Environmental Services Department continues to work on an initiative targeting pre-school through second grade children in Laredo, Texas, as well as Laredo’s sister city across the river - Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, Mexico. Phase I of the Los Dos Laredos Environmental Education Project consists of producing new pre-K through 2nd grade environmental education material and gathering other pre-existing and available materials, and presenting the material by conducting several workshops on both sides of the Rio Grande, which will include all private and government funded day care provider entities and independent school districts.

The key goal of this effort is to bring awareness of non-point source pollution and its effects on our water quality. This program provides learning opportunities for educators, free educational materials, and web sites containing downloadable tools. This helps form a bridge of communication and cooperation between environmental professionals and educators.

Educational products may be accessed by visiting http://www.esd.cityoflaredo.com/ESDWeb/news/edu.cfm. The packet includes a bilingual musical story book describing the water cycle, littering control, and water quality pollution prevention activities performed by both cities. The material features a fun and entertaining group of characters who tell the story at the 3-7 age group level.

Phase II of the project uses grant funds to create a 15-30 minute cartoon video of the City of Laredo’s environmental education characters of Inspector McCloud and Stormy and the environmental villains Oil Slick Willie, Burnt Ciggy, Lucy Litter, Tommy Treadless Tire, and Dirty Diaper Dan. The cartoon video will be incorporated in the Environmental Services Department’s Texas Environmental Excellence Award-winning education program. The video will also be aired on the City's Public Access Channel as well as local stations in Laredo and Nuevo Laredo.