



Lavaca River Watershed Protection Plan Implementation

River Basin: Lavaca

Water Body: Lavaca River (Segments 1601, 1602, 1602A, 1602B, and 1602C)

Location: Lavaca, Jackson, Gonzales, Fayette, and Victoria counties

Background

The Lavaca River above tidal (Segment 1602) has not met state water quality standards for bacteria since 2008. Other segments of the watershed have consistently failed to meet state standards for either dissolved oxygen or bacteria and have concerns for excess nutrients. In 2018 the Texas Water Resources Institute (TWRI) and stakeholders developed the Lavaca River Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) to address all water quality issues in the watershed. They also developed a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), and a TMDL Implementation Plan (I-Plan). TWRI will implement management measures outlined in the WPP.

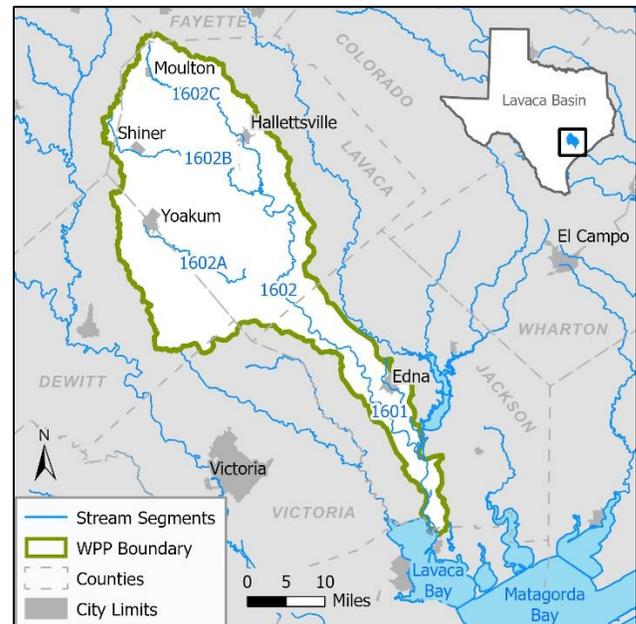
Project Description

TWRI is coordinating education and outreach efforts in the watershed. These include developing publications, newsletters, brochures, website content and other materials to promote watershed pollution prevention strategies. TWRI is also facilitating educational workshops and events such as the Texas Well Owner Network, Texas Watershed Stewards, and Healthy Lawns Healthy Waters. These programs will encourage future implementation of WPP management measures.

TWRI and the Lavaca Navidad River Authority (LNRA) also conduct monthly water quality monitoring at three sites on Lavaca River and one site on Rocky Creek, a tributary of Lavaca River. Water samples are analyzed for bacteria, total nitrogen ammonia, nitrate nitrogen, total Kjeldahl nitrogen, total phosphorus and total suspended solids. LNRA also records field parameters including pH, temperature, conductivity, flow, and dissolved oxygen.

Data from monitoring will be used to measure changes in water quality over time, including

the effectiveness of any future WPP implementation in the watershed.



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For More Information

Lavaca River TMDL Project Web page

www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/tmdl/nav/lavaca-rocky/108-lavaca-rocky-bacteria

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April 2021