

Littering Behavior and Litter Endanger Every Texas Lake and River, the Trinity More Than Most, and Cost Texans \$1 BILLION Or More Annually to Clean Up

- We all live in a watershed. Every one of us.
- Water from storms flows over the ground, picking up whatever is on the ground. Storm water flows directly into drainage ditches, creeks and streams; ultimately into a river. In much of the DFW area, the river receiving this water is the Trinity. In turn, the Trinity is the water source for millions of Texans.
- Litter and other wastes are also carried along by storm water – and wind, animals and cars – until they too end up in the Trinity River.
- Sewer water on the other hand goes down the drain from inside homes and businesses. It is then cleaned to sparkling purity in sewage treatment plants before it is returned to our area lakes.
- All of us can help keep the Trinity clean if we handle our waste properly and think about what we're putting on the ground.
- We should properly dispose of all solid waste including trash, cigarette butts, pet waste, construction debris and household hazardous materials.
- We can all help keep our watershed and our Trinity clean.

Fortunately, people like you who also Believe in the Trinity are making progress. Here now are 12 specific ways that we can all help make the Trinity cleaner, more sparkling and fun again.

1. Pickup and bag all pet waste, and dispose of it properly in your household trash.
2. Take all unused or out-of-date medicine to local Drug Takeback Day OR bag it so that it is not obvious what it is and dispose of it in your household trash.
3. Bag all Dispose of Keep the trash dumpsters where you work tightly closed and neat
4. Provide and use trash containers at the loading and receiving docks at your workplace
5. Secure the load and any loose trash in your truck or pickup with a tarp. (Closing the back gate on your pickup improves your mileage!)
6. Stop all trash from blowing or washing from construction and demolition work sites.
7. Put your curbside residential trash out neatly and fully contained
8. If you live in a multi-family community, put trash neatly in the dumpsters provided and keep bin doors and corral gates closed.
9. As a pedestrian, DO hold your trash including cigarette butts until you locate a litter receptacle and DO NOT add your litter to places where others have already littered.

10. As a motorist or passenger, DO use a car litter bag, DO hold your in-car trash including cigarette butts until you get to a proper litter receptacle, and DO NOT throw your trash on the street
11. At public events, indoors and out, at movies, concerts and fairs, DO hold your trash including cigarette butts until you locate a litter receptacle and DO NOT add your litter where others have already littered
12. Avoid illegal dumping at all costs by asking your customers to help you cover the cost of proper disposal in a sanitary landfill. Your children and your grandchildren will thank you!

Littering and illegal dumping. We can't afford it.