



**Barton Springs
Edwards Aquifer**
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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Recent Rains Highlight the Need for Creek Cleanup

The Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District (BSEACD) will co-host a cleanup effort with the City of Sunset Valley to improve the quality of water recharging the aquifer.

The 2 inches of rainfall this weekend wasn't enough to sustain creekflow, but it was a reminder that clean creeks are important to protect the quality of water entering the aquifer. Water recharges the aquifer through caves, sinkholes, cracks, and fractures that are exposed within the creekbeds, accounting for up to 85% of the recharge entering the aquifer.

Once soils are saturated, rain runs off the surface and into creeks. This runoff can carry sediment, trash, and debris into creeks. Hydrogeologists estimate that we would need at least 6-8 inches of rain to sustain creekflow and begin to recharge the aquifer. The creek cleanup this weekend will help ensure that when it rains, the aquifer will be recharged with high-quality water.

On Saturday, October 15, 2011 from 9:30-noon, the District and the City of Sunset Valley will host a **Creek Cleanup along Williamson Creek** to improve the quality of water recharging the Barton Springs segment of the Edwards Aquifer. Williamson Creek is one of six major urban creeks that cross the Recharge Zone of the Edwards Aquifer. The creek cleanup will help ensure that the water entering the aquifer is cleaner and free of debris. To participate in the cleanup or find more information, contact the District or visit www.bseacd.org/events/creek-cleanups/.

BSEACD is a groundwater conservation district charged by the Texas Legislature to preserve, conserve, and protect the aquifers and groundwater resources within its jurisdiction, which includes parts of three Central Texas counties. It is governed by a Board of five elected directors and staffed with hydrogeologists, groundwater regulatory compliance specialists, environmental educators, geospatial systems specialists, and administrative support personnel.

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