

2025

ANNUAL REPORT



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Department of Biological
and Agricultural Engineering

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Current Roster and County Affiliation

Bell County

Victoria Canales — Senior, Tier IV
Caroline Wood — Junior, Tier III

Bexar County

Olivia Floyd — Junior, Tier I

Borden County

Granger Smith — Junior, Tier I

Brazoria County

Ben Webber — Senior, Tier III
Ocean Landreneau — Junior, Tier II

Brazos County

Haelee Jeon — Freshman, Tier I
Zoe Halbert — Sophomore, Tier III

Burnet County

Abigail Clayton — Sophomore, Tier I
Hunter Holder — Senior, Tier IV
Christopher Clayton — Senior, Tier II

Caldwell County

Casen Dorsett — Senior, Tier I

Cameron County

Max Echarte — Freshman, Tier I
Sophia Arellano — Senior, Tier III
Ally Echarte — Junior, Tier II

Collin County

Jessica Zhang — Junior, Tier I

Collingsworth County

Jacy Lampe — Senior, Tier IV
Anna Granadoz — Senior, Tier III
Westin Wiebe — Freshman, Tier I

Comal County

Joseph I. Howlett — Sophomore, Tier II

Dallas County

Ashlyn Trcka — Junior, Tier I
Saanvi Chiliveru — Senior, Tier I

Deaf Smith County

Johan Grotegut — Senior, Tier II

Denton County

Liam Gatlin — Senior, Tier I
Maven Nymeyer — Freshman, Tier I
Sydney Haass — Freshman, Tier I
Will Haas — Freshman, Tier I

Ellis County

Norah Pacheco — Junior, Tier III

Fannin County

Colton Walker — Freshman, Tier I

Frio County

Lynnlee Surlis — Junior, Tier III

Gaines County

Randa Jordon — Junior, Tier III
Randal Coffman — Junior, Tier II

Galveston County

Casey Small — Sophomore, Tier II
Sydney Small — Sophomore, Tier II

Guadalupe County

Bethany McCormick — Freshman, Tier I
Brooke Clements — Senior, Tier I
Troy Bettice — Sophomore, Tier I

Hall County

Yolanda Escovedo — Sophomore, Tier I
Jordyn Altman — Senior, Tier II

Hansford County

Texie Ralston — Senior, Tier IV

Harris County

Arianna Paredes Carrera — Junior, Tier I

Harrison County

Ethan Nel — Freshman, Tier I

Hays County

Kaitlyn Burden — Senior, Tier I
Olivia Esquivel — Sophomore, Tier I

Hemphill County

Fabian Diaz — Sophomore, Tier I

Hidalgo County

Layla Adame — Senior, Tier I
Caitlyn Cerda — Freshman, Tier I
Mia Salazar — Senior, Tier IV

Hockley County

Kade Gregory — Freshman, Tier I

Houston County

Claire Stewart — Senior, Tier I

Jackson County

Mack Alaniz — Junior, Tier III

Jim Wells County

Adelina Bell — Junior, Tier I

Johnson County

Zane Ball — Senior, Tier IV

Kendall County

Matthan Ellis — Freshman, Tier I

Kerr County

Colten Lair — Freshman, Tier I

Lamb County

Valaree Harper — Freshman, Tier I

Lee County

Lukas Iselt — Freshman, Tier I

Leon County

Clay Workman — Senior, Tier IV

Live Oak County

Jimmie Jones — Sophomore, Tier III

Lubbock County

Jenny Sullivan — Senior, Tier I

Lynn County

Garrett Sanders — Senior, Tier II

Medina County

Cadyn Steele — Junior, Tier I

Milam County

Luke Holcombe — Freshman, Tier I

Montgomery County

Connor Haines — Freshman, Tier I
Joseph Haines — Senior, Tier IV

Moore County

Aidan Hill — Senior, Tier III
Lucas Hill — Sophomore, Tier II
Tara Easterling — Senior, Tier IV

Nacogdoches County

Ethan Spradley — Senior, Tier III
Daniel Spradley — Sophomore, Tier II

Nueces County

Pierce Lawhon — Sophomore, Tier I

Orange County

Rory Die — Junior, Tier III

Runnels County

Jaxon Hohensee — Junior, Tier I

Rusk County

Abigail Clifton — Junior, Tier II

San Jacinto County

Layla Howton — Senior, Tier II

San Saba County

Camila Patino — Senior, Tier I

Sherman County

Kadie Cox — Senior, Tier III
Kenzie Cox — Sophomore, Tier II

Swisher County

Lynnlea Johnson — Junior, Tier III

Tarrant County

Darby Steelhammer — Junior, Tier I
Kaden Gordillo — Junior, Tier III
Jack Stoffels — Freshman, Tier I

Tom Green County

Kalyn Wilson — Junior, Tier I

Upshur County

Kenlee Childress — Junior, Tier I
Vivian Loe — Freshman, Tier I

Victoria County

Jack Osburn — Freshman, Tier I

Waller County

Lilly Haddox — Sophomore, Tier II

Washington County

Logan Boeker — Sophomore, Tier I

Williamson County

Aryan Sharma — Freshman, Tier I
Ohm Shankar — Junior, Tier I
Surya Bhattiprol — Freshman, Tier I
Ananya Ramamoorthy — Sophomore, Tier II
Vanessa Novo — Senior, Tier I

Yoakum County

Kyson Bunch — Sophomore, Tier II

Tier 1 Academy

Session 1

HIGHLIGHTS:



Ambassadors completed the Texas Stream Team Standard Core Training in San Marcos.



Ambassadors were trained how to properly collect and measure for dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity and total dissolved solids.



Ambassadors visited with Southern Ogallala Conservation & Outreach Program in Brownfield.

Matthan Ellis Kendall Co.



"As a new Texas 4-H Water Ambassador, the program has shown me there is a large variety of career opportunities; has given me additional knowledge and awareness of water issues; and has taught me there is a lot more to water conservation and education. I know that I have only scratched the surface and am looking forward to learning and experiencing so much more throughout this year. I truly appreciate all the donors, sponsors, and support that are allowing me this opportunity."

June 8-14

High Plains/ Panhandle

The Tier I 4-H2O Session 1 Leadership Academy focused primarily on groundwater management in the High Plains and Panhandle regions. The tour began in San Marcos at the Meadows Center for Water and the Environment and a visit with the San Marcos River Foundation. From there, we visited Lloyd-Gosselink, Rochelle and Townsend, Texas Water Development Board, the Southern Ogallala Conservation and Outreach Program, Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District, City of Brownfield, High Plains Water District, Samuel Jackson, Inc., Playa Lakes Outdoor Classroom, North Plains Groundwater Conservation District, and Mesquite Groundwater Conservation District. The academy concluded in Fort Worth with a visit to Tarrant Regional Water District.

Tier 1 Academy

Session 2

HIGHLIGHTS:



Ambassadors spent a day at the State Capitol learning about water law, policy and water advocacy.



Ambassadors toured Revol Green near Temple where they learned about large scale hydroponics operation.



Ambassadors visited with the Lower Colorado River Authority in Austin where they learned about the Highland Lakes and assessing lake health through fish counts.

Kenlee Childress - Upshur Co.



"Through 4-H, I became a Texas State Water Ambassador because it granted me the opportunity to build connections and become more involved with local communities. Not only did I develop lifelong relationships with others, but I was taught long-lasting lessons that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. This opportunity presented me with the advantage of preparing myself for a superior future career, along with countless qualities, such as leadership. This organization is meaningful because it fulfilled my fundamental human needs for purpose, belonging, and personal growth. The possibilities of this program provided a powerful platform for me to discover my capabilities, find a sense of identity, and make a tangible, lasting impact on the world around me."

August 3-6

Central Texas

Tier 2 Academy HIGHLIGHTS:

June 22-26 GULF COAST



Ambassadors learned about aquatic life native to the Texas Gulf Coast during a visit to Matagorda Bay.



Ambassadors visited the Galveston Naval Museum in Galveston.



Ambassadors toured the Leach Teaching Gardens at Texas A&M University in College Station where they learned about rainfall harvesting, native plants and water conservation strategies.

Zoe Halbert - Brazos Co.



"My life was radically changed with an email of acceptance into the Water Ambassador Program from Mr. Smith, Extension Program Specialist at Texas A&M AgriLife. Since my acceptance into the Water Ambassador Program in May of 2024, I have been able to learn about and then educate others on my passion: the conservation of natural resources. Over the last 18 months, my leadership has been strengthened as I've developed confidence, adaptability, and networking skills."

Tier 3 Academy HIGHLIGHTS:

Miranda Jordon - Gaines Co.



"The Texas 4-H Water Ambassador Program has impacted my life for the better in more ways than one. This program has encouraged my passion for water by increasing my knowledge and allowing me to exercise it every single day. Throughout these past three years, I have gained countless contacts that have greatly impacted my life and will be beneficial as I navigate future endeavors. I feel truly blessed for the additional opportunities this program has placed in my path as well."



Ambassadors learned about the Gulf Coast and marine species during the Marine Ecology & Dolphin Watch Tour on South Padre Island.



Ambassadors learned about different types of sea turtles and how they are rescued at the Sea Turtle Inc. - South Padre Island.

July 6-10

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY

Third year water ambassadors toured the Lower Rio Grande Valley where they met with many water industry organizations and professionals. This included visits with Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension at Weslaco, Lower Rio Grande Valley Water District Managers Association, San Benito Wetlands, Federal District Courthouse in Brownsville, Marine Ecology and Dolphin Watch Tour, and Sea Turtle, Inc. on South Padre Island. Students learned about irrigation districts, water quality, watershed protection, habitat restoration and agricultural irrigation methods in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.



Tier 4 Academy HIGHLIGHTS:



JULY 20- 24
SOUTHWEST



Ambassadors had the rare opportunity to visit Dolan Falls on the Devils River!



Ambassadors toured Mandujano Brothers and Eleven M Farms.



Ambassadors toured the Caverns of Sonora and learned about karst aquifers.

Fourth year water ambassadors participated in the Tier IV 4-H2O Leadership Academy focused on Southwest Texas. The tour began with a visit to the San Antonio Water System H2Oaks Desalination Center in Elmendorf, followed by visits with the Upper Guadalupe River Authority, Sutton County Groundwater Conservation District and The Nature Conservancy at Dolan Falls on the Devils River, Middle Pecos Groundwater Conservation District, Comanche Springs, Boehmer Lake, Mandujano Brothers and Eleven M Farms, Balmorhea State Park, and the Caverns of Sonora. Topics covered desalination technologies, springs, karst aquifers, flowing wells and water quality monitoring.

J.D. Haines - Montgomery Co.



"Being a Texas 4-H Water Ambassador for the past four years has completely changed how I see the world around me. The program has helped me grow in so many ways—I have learned to connect with groups of my peers and share what I have learned with confidence. Traveling across Texas and learning directly from the people who protect our natural resources—from swimming in the cleanest water at Dolan Falls to the state capitol where laws are made that impact our water and how we use it, has made a significant impact on how I view our world and the relationships between people and our natural resources."

Splash Camp 2025



The second annual Lone Star 4-H Splash Camp was planned and conducted by 4-H Water Ambassadors for 6th - 8th grade students throughout the State. The event, held at the 4-H Conference Center at Lake Brownwood, featured a half-day water fair, macroinvertebrate collection and identification activity, kayaking, fishing and much more! The event was an opportunity for ambassadors to practice their communication and leadership skills and to promote the 4-H Water Ambassadors Program to younger students.



Ambassadors spent the evening “under the sea” dancing and playing games!



Ambassadors practiced their problem-solving skills during the ‘challenging’ pipe connecting game.



Ambassadors enjoyed Lake Brownwood on the kayaks!



Ambassadors taught students how to clean polluted water with electro-coagulation.

APRIL 25-27
LAKE BROWNWOOD



Ambassadors practiced their fishing skills on Lake Brownwood.

OCTOBER 24-26 LAKE BROWNWOOD

Fall Retreat 2025



Ambassadors followed map coordinates to reveal clues for the Amazing Race!



Ambassadors had a blast at the annual Halloween Dance! (We work hard, then play hard!)

The Fall Retreat is a time to renew friendships, hone leadership and communication skills, and learn new games and activities that can be used back at home. This fall, ambassadors completed a regional water planning activity that simulates the Texas Water Development Board water planning process! Ambassadors grew their problem-solving skills participating in teams on the Amazing 4-H Water Race. Ambassadors also practiced their public speaking skills during the speed-team presentations and participated in a mock town hall. For the town hall, students were assigned to one of five different stakeholder groups and debated a proposed data center in West Texas.



Ambassadors planned and advocated for the water needs of their regions during a table-top water planning activity.



Ambassadors teamed up to research and present 2- minute speeches on assigned water issues.



Ambassadors learned about flag etiquette and performing flag ceremony mornings and evenings.

Senior Reflections

Clay Workman - Leon Co.



"Participating in the Texas 4-H Water Ambassador Program for four years has been one of the best experiences of my high school career. It has really developed who I am as a person and how I interact with others. It has polished who I am as a leader and has given me the tools to thrive in leadership positions. It has put me into situations that have helped me to grow and has taught me the importance of water along the way. I greatly appreciate the opportunities that have been afforded to me by my ambassadorship and Mr. Smith's leadership!"

Tara Easterling - Moore Co.



"The Texas 4H water ambassador program has been a highlight of the past four years. It's deepened my understanding and respect for the inner workings of our natural resources and driven me to work towards a better tomorrow. I am confident in the knowledge it has given me and am excited for the doors it has opened."

Jacy Lampe - Collingsworth Co.



"I joined the Texas 4-H Water Ambassador program the summer before freshman year, and ever since, I've spent every summer on a trip. Before joining the program, I was unsure what I wanted my future career to be; however, now that I have finished with the program, it is clear to me that I am needed in the water resources field. The Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors program has taught me how important water is and shown me that I can truly make a difference in how we conserve water."

Ben Webber - Brazoria Co.



"I've enjoyed being a 4-H Water Ambassador for several reasons. One of the most important reasons is I've learned a lot about the water needs in Texas, and I've met people in the water industry. I got to travel around Texas and see all the different areas. It's also been fun to meet high school students from all over too."

Senior Reflections

Anna Granadoz - Collingsworth Co.



"My time in the 4-H2O Water Ambassador Program ends this year, yet I find myself reflecting on the incredible experiences I've been fortunate to have and the amazing people I've had the privilege to meet. The memories we have made together are ones I will carry with me always, and I am endlessly grateful to have been part of a program that felt like home from the very beginning. This program has paved the way for my future and has allowed me to discover professions that I would have never considered had I not been in this position."

Aidan Hill - Moore Co.



"The Texas 4-H Water Ambassador Program has taught me about many of the current water issues that the state of Texas faces. It also introduced me to the idea of having a career in natural resource conservation, and I plan to study Wildlife Biology in college. The Texas 4-H Water Ambassador Program has helped to also teach me about the importance of conserving water and water related wildlife habitats not only for the benefit of our wildlife but also for future generations of Texans to enjoy."

Christopher Clayton - Burnet Co.



"Becoming a Texas 4-H Water Ambassador is one of the best decisions I've ever made. From the once-in-a-lifetime experiences, to meeting some truly incredible people, getting the opportunity to make an impact in my community and making some of my very best friends. I will be forever grateful to the program as I can safely say I would not be the person I am today had I not become a Texas 4-H Water Ambassador."

Educational Grant Recipients

Two \$2,500 Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors Program Education Grants were awarded to senior water ambassadors who exhibited outstanding leadership, service, and personal growth through participation in program events and continuing education opportunities. A subcommittee of 4-H Water Ambassadors Program Advisory Committee members selected two individuals based on the ambassador's response to four essay questions where wrote about their experiences, achievements, and contributions to the program. This year's grant recipients were Jane Gaunt (Bell Co.) and Sophia O'Neill (Williamson Co.)

JANE GAUNTT



"My role as a water ambassador has allowed me to network with industry professionals and meet people with similar interests from across the state. Engaging with experts in every aspect of the water industry has not only expanded my knowledge but also provided me with insights into the various career paths available. These connections have equipped me with essential skills such as collaboration and communication. The relationships I have built and the knowledge I have gained have been a huge part of shaping my plans and commitment to water conservation efforts across Texas.

Being able to attend conferences and workshops over the last four years has allowed me to share ideas and experiences with people from different regions of the state has helped me to gain a broader understanding of water in the state of Texas, as well as how much our management practices have to vary throughout the state. Because of this, I have been able to determine my career plans and where I fit in the conservation of our finite natural resources. This fall, I start studying Food Science and Technology at Texas A&M University in hopes of becoming an Agricultural Biotechnologist who focuses on the conservation of water in plant/crop production."

SOPHIA O'NEILL



"The water ambassador program has helped me to not only grow my knowledge about water conservation and the importance of taking care of the planet we live on, but it has also helped me grow as a person. This program has opened my eyes to so much about the water industry. Since my Tier 2 trip, I have had a piqued interest in wastewater treatment plants. I found the process of treating the wastewater to be interesting. I had no idea that this was a process until I went on the Tier 2 trip. The Water Ambassador Program has inspired me to take classes throughout high school in water-related topics. This year, I am taking Aquatic Science and Wildlife Management. In one class period, we took a trip to the San Gabriel River to see the dinosaur tracks. We also took a sample of the water and distilled it in class.

If I had to choose one favorite project from my entire 4-H career, I would pick my time spent as a Water Ambassador. Through the trips I went on, the people I met, and the things I learned, I don't regret anything and value what I have learned. This fall, I start school at Texas A&M Galveston and am studying to become a Marine Biologist. I credit the 4-H Water Ambassador Program for giving me insight into the world of possibilities in the water industry."

Stop the Press!

Burnet County Runs on Water!

Christopher Clayton, Tier 2 Ambassador, and Abigail Clayton, Tier 1 Ambassador, were recently featured in the Burnet County Runs on Water campaign, highlighting their dedication to water education and community engagement. Their involvement showcases the important role young leaders play in advocating for local water resources and spreading awareness about conservation efforts within the county.

[Click Here!](#)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IgyXIP6ztg&t=2s>

First-Ever Water Ambassador Nuptial!



Congratulations to former 4-H Water Ambassadors Peyton Clifton and Emma Canales! The two were married November 22. Several fellow water ambassadors were present to celebrate this happy occasion. The couple, who first met during a water ambassadors spring retreat in 2022, mark the first-ever water ambassador marriage!



Dirk Aaron Recognized at Bell County Water Symposium

Mr. Dirk Aaron, retired General Manager of the Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District, was honored by David Smith, Coordinator of the 4-H Water Ambassadors Program, along with several water ambassadors during the Bell County Water Symposium on November 19. Mr. Aaron received a commemorative buckle in recognition of his longstanding dedication to developing young leaders, including the inspiration and support that led to the creation of the Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors Program in 2016.



This Year's Headlines!

Hear our Story!



[Click Here!](https://twri.tamu.edu/blog/2025/08/01/empowering-the-next-generation/)

<https://twri.tamu.edu/blog/2025/08/01/empowering-the-next-generation/>

An Ambassador's Insight on Tackling Water Challenges

Tier 1 Ambassador Claire Stewart (Houston Co.) was featured in Pineywoods Living magazine, where she wrote an article highlighting how Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors “tackle water issues” across the state. In her piece, Claire shared the many ways ambassadors engage in hands-on learning, community outreach, and real-world problem-solving to protect and conserve Texas water resources. Her article showcased the passion and leadership of youth working to make a meaningful impact in their communities.



Next-Generation Perspectives on Texas Water Challenges



Miranda Jordon - Gaines Co.



Johan Grotegut - Deaf Smith Co.

At the 2nd Agricultural Water Sustainability Summit in Lubbock on October 14, ambassadors Johan Grotegut (Tier 2), Miranda Jordan (Tier 3), and Tara Easterling (Tier 4) shared their perspectives during the session “Water Security Through the Lens of Next-Generation Leaders”. They spoke about the top lessons they’ve gained through the Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors Program and how those experiences have shaped their understanding of Texas water issues. Each ambassador also highlighted the water challenge that resonates most with them personally, emphasizing the passion and insight youth bring to securing Texas’ water future.



Tara Easterling - Moore Co.

WATER INDUSTRY CONFERENCES



Texas Tech University Water College, Lubbock, January 22

Texas Ground Water Association Annual Convention, Lubbock, January 29

Texas Onsite Wastewater Association Conference, Galveston, March 17-19

Texas Rural Water Association Training & Technical Conference, Galveston, July 16-17

Burleson and Milam Counties Groundwater Summit, Caldwell, August 7

Texas Groundwater Summit, San Antonio, August 19-21

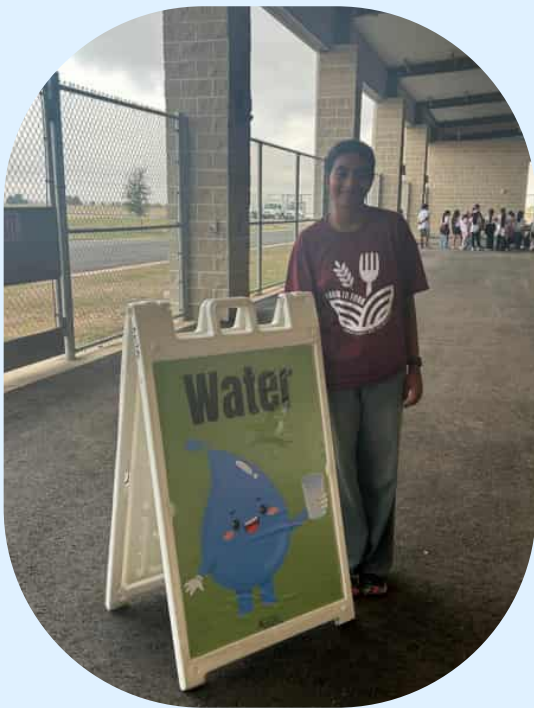
Agricultural Water Sustainability Summit, Lubbock, October 14-15

Bell County Water Symposium, Belton, November 19



Water Ambassador Service Activities

In 2025, Water Ambassadors reported
3,132
hours of education and service and reached
33,730
youth and adults with water education!



At the Farm to Fork event, Ananya Ramamoorthy volunteered for the Water Station, where she taught 4th grade students about the water cycle through an interactive game. She introduced the activity, explained the stages of the water cycle, kept the game moving, and managed groups of energetic 10-year-olds rotating every 20 minutes. Throughout the day, she taught roughly 500 students and adapted the activity to keep them engaged with the fast rotations and large class sizes.



Lilly Haddox and Layla Howton taught about erosion and deposition at Waller County Ag Day.



Christopher Clayton and Abigail Clayton presented to the Highland Lakes Master Naturalists about the Texas 4-H Water Ambassador Program.



Surya Bhattiprol and Aryan Sharma tested water quality at the Brushy Creek River Site and uploaded their results to the Texas Stream Team to help further citizen science and report water quality in our state.

Water Ambassador Service Activities



Adelina Bell did her part to make a cleaner environment as she picked up bags of litter along Baffin Bay near Rivera.



J.D. Haines and Connor Haines presented information about the water cycle to Montgomery Evergreen 4-H members and their families at a club meeting. They led members in completing the Water Cycle In A Bag Activity. They prepared the supplies before the meeting to allow younger members to be able to participate alongside older members.

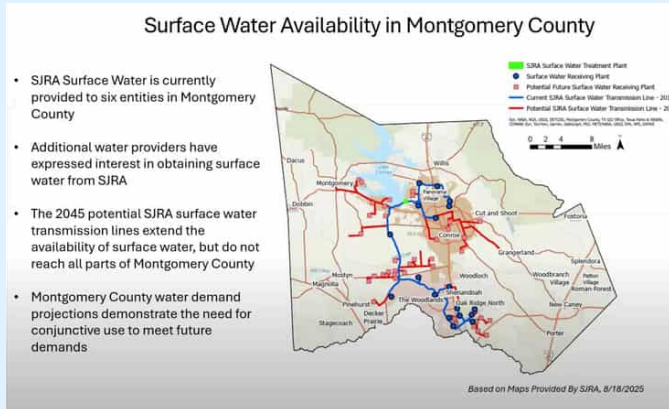


Kaitlyn Burden completed a water quality test for the Texas Stream Team at the Plum Creek Watershed as a member of the Plum Creek Stewards. She gathered data on the environment, took a sample from the water body, and ran tests on the sample to collect data on the pH and dissolved oxygen levels.



Lucas Hill and Aidan Hill educated their local SNIP and Foodies Club about the issue of silt and dirt in our streams and rivers. For this activity, they started off with a tub of clear water with some gravel in the bottom. As the activity progressed, they added sand and dirt to the buckets to illustrate how turbidity can restrict light from reaching aquatic plants.

Monthly Zoom seminars provided continuing education on a range of water topics. In 2025, seminars focused on groundwater management, conservation and sustainability, flood mitigation, water/wastewater security, and water industry careers.



Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District –
Ms. Sarah Kouba, General Manager

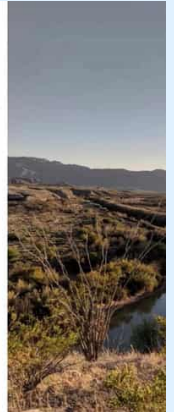
SUSTAINABILITY VS. CONSERVATION

Sustainability: The process of maintaining change in a balanced environment, in which the exploitation of resources, the direction of investments, the orientation of technological development and institutional change are all in harmony and enhance both current and future potential to meet human needs and aspirations.

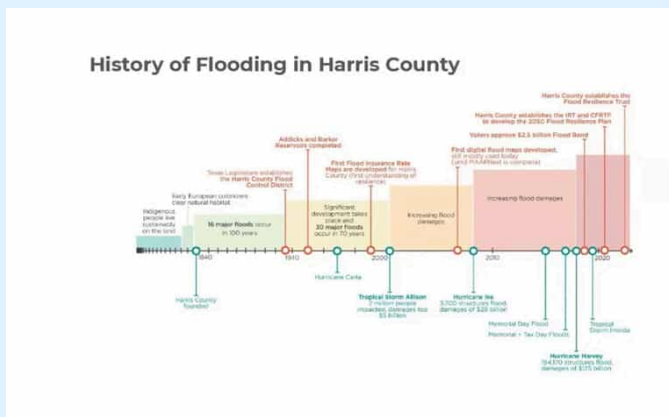
Conservation: The act or process of conserving. The efficient management or restoration of wildlife and of natural resources such as forests, soil, and water.

Environmentalism vs. Conservationist: Environmentalists believe the environment is to be saved, preserved, set aside, protected from human use vs. Conservationists who believe that natural resources are something we use for living and prospering, so we have to conserve and take care of these resources for the future.

TEXAN NATURE



Texan by Nature – Ms. Urvi Dani, Senior Partnership Manager



Innovative Solutions to Address Flood Risks on the Texas Coast – Dr. Chris Mueller, Black & Veatch Corporation



Win-Win Solutions in Groundwater Disputes – Mr. Andrew Wier, Simsboro Aquifer Water Defense Fund



From Cattle to Conservation – Mr. Nick Dornak, Doucet and Associates

Interdependencies



Water & Wastewater Sector Security – Ms. Reyna Loosmore – SHSU Institute for Homeland Security

More From the Ambassadors!

Kalyn Wilson - Tom Green Co.



"The Texas 4-H Water Ambassador program is the best opportunity I ever took to join! It has helped me tremendously in learning more about leadership and most importantly our biggest resource – water! I am so grateful to be a part of this program and honestly wish I started the program sooner!"

Ethan Nel - Harrison Co.



"I have benefited a lot from the 4-H Water Ambassador program already. Recently, I went to a meeting about some water issues in our local area. It is very serious, and it is very possible that we (as a community) might lose control of our water rights in our nearby lakes. I have spoken with our county judge and local representatives to find out what they are doing at the state level to raise awareness. I, along with my family, are trying to make a difference in our community and help others know how serious things are and how precious water resources really are."

Ally Echartea - Cameron Co.



"The 4-H Water Ambassadors Program has helped me learn more about the importance of water conservation and how I can make a difference in my community. It has also helped me become more confident when speaking to others and meeting new people. I've really enjoyed the experiences and friendships I've made through this program."

Rory Die - Orange Co.



"Being a 4-H Water Ambassador has shown me how much teamwork and communication matter when tackling real-world challenges. I've learned to see water in a new way. It is something that connects people, communities, and responsibility. This program has truly shaped me into a stronger and more aware leader."

More From the Ambassadors!

Colten Lair - Kerr Co.



"Serving as a Water Ambassador has deepened my understanding of water conservation, sustainability practices, and effective methods for maintaining clean and reusable water resources. I have learned the importance of protecting this limited resource through practical implementation and community engagement. One of the highlights of my experience has been participating in the Summer Water Academy, where I gained valuable insights into the science, challenges, and innovative solutions surrounding water management."

Lilly Haddox - Waller Co.



"Being part of the Texas 4-H Water Ambassador program has been such an amazing experience and has made me grow more than I thought it would. Being in a leadership program has helped me come out of my shell and take charge in situations where I used to shy away. It has also made me more conscious about the world around me and how I should take care of it. Water Ambassadors has taught me many life lessons and inspired me to share with others."

Lucas Hill - Moore Co.



"Through this program, I have learned many things about the water industry in Texas and the issues that we are facing today and in the future. Personally, I have learned about the Ogallala Aquifer, and how it is rapidly depleting faster than it can regenerate. I have met people who are working in industry, and those whose job it is to solve the future water shortages. As a side note, the future leaders in the water industry that I have met in this program will make good choices in the future and help the state to continue to thrive with its growing economy."

Olivia Floyd - Bexar Co.



"Being a water ambassador has been such a benefit in so many ways. Over my term of service and education, I have learned so much about water conservation and management, and I found a particular interest in water law and policy, a career field that I never would have considered before I joined. I have also had the opportunity to learn from various professionals in the water field, both in program seminars and in my own local groundwater district. I would like to thank Mr. David Smith and every single one of the sponsors who have supported this program, as I would not be where I am today without it!"

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MET MAY 15 & DECEMBER 9

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

**THE 4-H WATER
AMBASSADORS PROGRAM
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CONSISTS OF WATER
INDUSTRY, EXTENSION AND
EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS.**

**MEMBERS MEET TWICE A
YEAR TO REVIEW PROGRAM
ACTIVITIES AND PROVIDE
ADVICE TO ENHANCE
VISIBILITY, BUILD SUPPORT
AND EXPAND PROGRAM
IMPACT.**

PROGRAM SPONSORS

Industry sponsors are essential to the success of the program! This funding is used to cover costs for the summer leadership academies, spring and fall retreats, and educational resources for water ambassadors.

Visit our website for a full list of current sponsors or to become a sponsor.

<https://www.texas4hwaterambassadors.com/sponsors>

**IN 2025, 71 INDIVIDUAL
SPONSORS CONTRIBUTED
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