



TEXAS WATERS SPECIALIST: WHO, WHERE, WHAT, WHY, WHEN, & HOW

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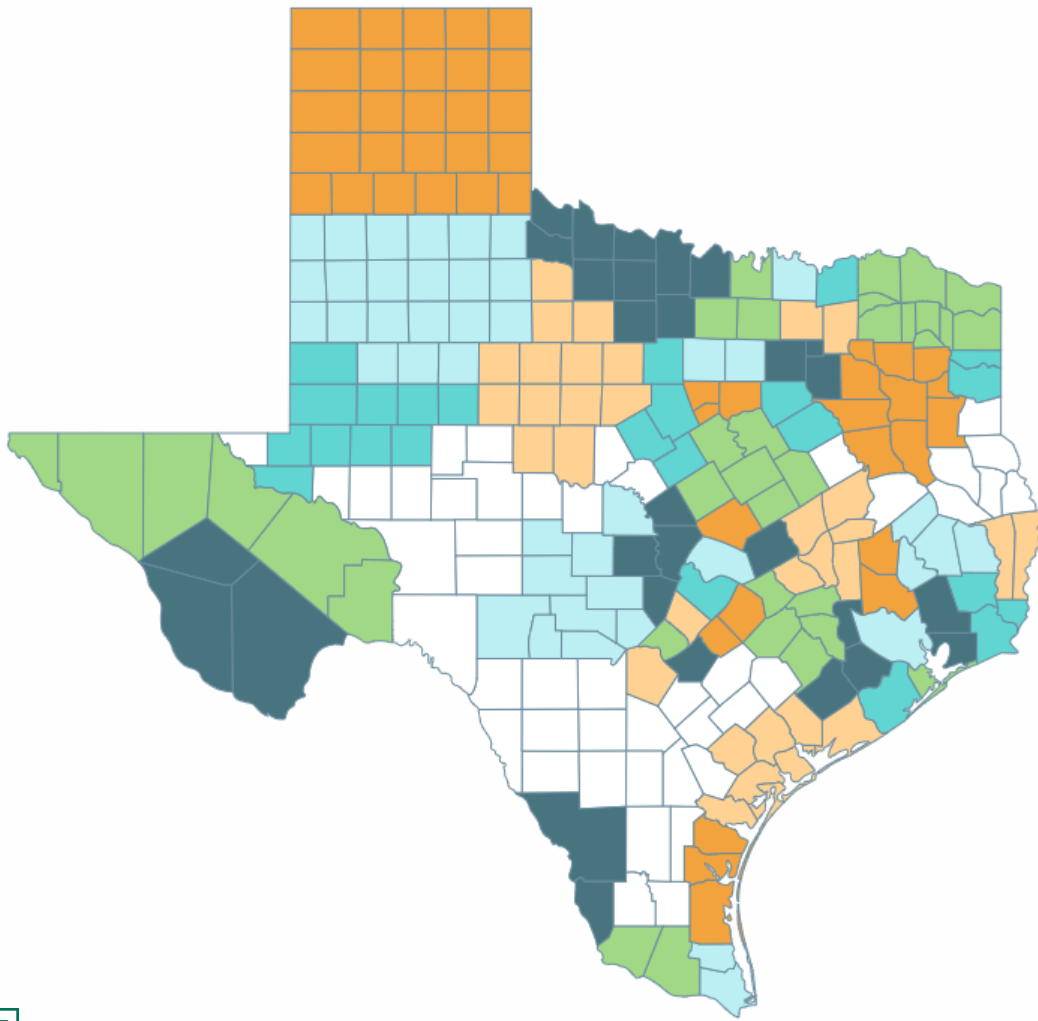
WHO?

- Anyone!
- Number of TMN Chapters: **46**
- Percent of TMN TWS: **93%**
- Number of TMN with TWS AT: **935**
- Number of TMN with TWS Service: **587**



WHERE?

- In Texas
- On public land
- On private land that does not belong to you



WHAT?

- Anything aquatic, water, watershed (almost)
- Four categories:
 - ✓ Conservation
 - ✓ Ecology
 - ✓ Education
 - ✓ Stewardship
- List of approved topics
- List of approved agencies



WHY?

- Be a water ambassador
- Improve aquatic habitats
- Learn beneficial aquatic resources management
- Number of TMN TWS AT hours: **8,848**
- Number of TMN TWS Service hours: **36,424**

WHEN?

- January 1 - December 31
- Advanced training (8 hours)
 - Start anytime
 - Currently no time limit
- Renewal (10 hours)
 - Annually after certified
 - Do not need to be certified to start volunteering and reporting





HOW?

- No application, ask VMS admin
 - ✓ **AT:TX Waters Certification Training**

Advanced Training

- 8 eligible AT hours
- Initial certification
- Not in addition to TMN hours
- Combination of Certification

Requirements on TWS webpage

- Limit 4 hours for non-TPWD AT



HOW?

Volunteer service

- 10 hours, annually
- Enter any service opportunity
- Check the TWS box **ONLY** if the service applies to TWS volunteer service (aquatic, water, watershed)
- Approved topics and agencies on TWS webpage

This activity qualifies for the following specialization:

☐ Texas Waters Specialist



TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT | CONSERVATION EDUCATION



Texas Waters

Certificate of Recognition

Presented to

Trans-Pecos Chapter

This certificate recognizes the dedication to protect Ascarate Park, El Paso County's largest public-use recreational park. Since 2018, nine members have cumulatively conducted over 500 hours of water quality testing in both lakes.



Melissa Felty

Melissa Felty
Conservation Education Manager
2020



TEXAS WATERS SPECIAL RECOGNITION

‘SAVE WATER FOR WILDLIFE’ INCENTIVES

TEXAS
PARKS &
WILDLIFE



TRANS PECOS CHAPTER

Dedication to protect Ascarate Park, nine members cumulatively conducted over 500 hours of water quality testing in both lakes

NANCY RABENSBURG

Lost Pines Chapter

- ❖ Dedication to accuracy in reporting and correcting Texas Waters Specialist advanced training and service hours within her Chapter
- ❖ Providing knowledgeable feedback to strengthen the Texas Waters program





CITY OF AUSTIN: RANGER CADET PROGRAM

Dedication to influence diverse youth as the next generation of conservationists by teaching an array of ecological field methods, developing college and career skills, and exposing career pathways in the natural sciences.

TEXAS
PARKS &
WILDLIFE



TERI MACARTHUR

Heartwood Chapter



Dedication to educate residents and high school students as Township water ambassadors, furthering the water conservation message in her community

MARI HANLEY

Heartwood Chapter



- Educates public and schools by attending festivals, community meetings, and field trips
- Demonstrates water conservation practices by planting native plants and proper sprinkler use
- Watershed protection actions include pet waste door hanger project and installing drain markers

SHERYL MILLS

Gulf Coast Chapter

- ✓ Improving wetland habitat by vegetation trash pickup, management, and water testing
- ✓ Providing educational programs and wetland trainings to camp staff and conservation students.

QUESTIONS?



Scan to join TPWD's
Texas Waters or
News of the WILD
listserv

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<https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/water-education>

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/water-education/texaswatersprogram/texaswatersspecialist>

