

APR 2024

TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

GERONIMO & ALLIGATOR  
WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

# The Geronimo Flow

Geronimo & Alligator Creeks Watershed Partnership



Spring has arrived, early though it may be, with wildflowers and warm weather. Do you have a spring cleaning tradition? Well, the Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed Partnership does! Every year since 2013, the community has come together to pick up litter along creekbanks and roadways. To date, volunteers have removed over 33,000 lbs. of waste from the watershed! This year, we are hosting the **11th Annual Spring Cleanup**, and we need you. Our event relies entirely on

volunteers of every age and who come from every background. If you are a member of a service organization and need volunteer hours, if you are a student looking to add to your resume, or if you are a passionate advocate for the stewardship of natural resources,



join us on **April 20, 2024**. Find more details in the calendar at the end of this newsletter. We cover breakfast, coffee, and cleanup supplies - register today!

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## Newsletter Highlights

A Note from Your Watershed Coordinator

What Are Best Management Practices?

Upcoming Events 2024

Connect with Us



[Geronimocreek.org](http://Geronimocreek.org)

TEXAS STATE  
**Soil & Water**  
CONSERVATION BOARD

Funding for this effort is provided through a Clean Water Act §319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant administered by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

## WHAT ARE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES? STEWARDING OUR WATERSHED

Have you ever heard of “Best Management Practices”? This is a broad term that refers to a group of methods that are the most effective means of preventing or reducing the amount of water pollution by nonpoint sources. But how does this relate to our watershed project, and what are those practices? Best Management Practices, or BMPs, are our primary tool in fighting nonpoint source pollution at the watershed scale. These BMPs often focus on reducing runoff and erosion, and can be structural or behavioral. Through outreach, education, and financial assistance, we work to help community members implement these BMPs. To effectively reduce pollution, we need urban and rural stakeholders to do their part. Let’s look at some examples of BMPs and how they reduce nonpoint source pollution.

A great example of a behavioral BMP in agriculture is cover cropping. Bare soil easily erodes and can release excess nutrients. When crop fields are left unplanted for any length of time, there is a nonpoint source pollution risk. However, planting cover crops can significantly reduce that risk. The plants slow water down as it runs across the surface and can increase the amount of water that enters the soil. This decreased erosion and nutrient loss by keeping soil in place.



In urban settings, structural BMPs can be highly effective. One example is using permeable pavement in a store parking lot. While normal concrete seals off the surface, permeable

pavement allows water to flow through the parking lot and into the soil, which reduces the volume and energy of runoff.

These are just two BMPs, but there are so many more to explore. If you want to implement a new BMP at your home, business, or property, reach out today! The Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed Partnership would love to get you connected with technical resources and even financial assistance to make it happen.

# Watershed Calendar

## Spring

### **April 20 - Spring Stream Cleanup**

Register today for the 11'th annual spring cleanup! Volunteers will receive a free t-shirt, breakfast tacos, and coffee. More importantly, you can help make a real difference in your watershed! Visit [www.geronimocreek.org](http://www.geronimocreek.org) to register.

## Summer

**Healthy Lawns Healthy Waters**

## Fall

**Low Impact Development Workshop**

**Fall Stream Cleanup**

