

JANUARY 2025

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

GERONIMO & ALLIGATOR
WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

The Geronimo Flow

Geronimo & Alligator Creeks Watershed Partnership



Welcome to 2025 and a new year!

Planning is in full swing for educational and outreach events in the Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed this year. On February 27, we will host a Feral Hog Management Workshop where attendees will learn about feral hog biology, behavior, and control methods. In April, join us for the Annual Spring Cleanup Event! Since 2013, these annual cleanups have removed more than 38,000 lbs. of waste from the watershed. Later in the year, we look forward to sharing about the project with shoppers at the New Braunfels Farmer's Market or with long-term partners during our Stakeholder Meeting. If it's been a while since you connected with the Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed Partnership, consider attending an educational program or dropping by our booth at the Farmer's Market - I would love to update you on all the great things going on!

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Newsletter Highlights

A Note from Your Watershed Coordinator

Measurements Matter: Turbidity

Upcoming Events 2025

Connect with Us



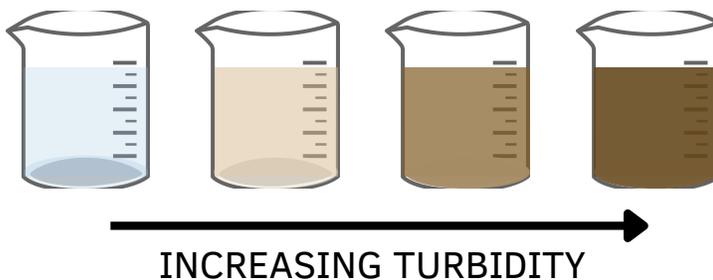
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TEXAS STATE
Soil & Water
CONSERVATION BOARD

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.

MEASUREMENTS MATTER: TURBIDITY

When you imagine a creek, do you picture clear water flowing through a pristine streambed? For many streams, natural processes cause the water to be a shade of brown, blue, or green. But what do these colors mean for water quality in Geronimo and Alligator Creeks? This is the third article in our series exploring the water quality data collected in our watershed.



Turbidity is a measure of **water clarity**, and can be increased by soil, organic material, and microscopic organisms. The cloudier the water, the higher the turbidity.

Turbidity is caused by material floating in the water. Soil particles are suspended in the water column by the erosion of streambanks, often caused by rain events. Organic materials, like leaf fragments, are deposited in the water by plants and animals living in or around the creek. Excess nutrients can cause algal blooms, increasing turbidity.

While most natural waterways have some cloudiness, **increased turbidity** caused by nonpoint source pollution can negatively influence local water quality. Turbid water absorbs more light than a clear stream, which means it gets hotter when exposed to sunlight. An increase in turbidity also means that less light reaches aquatic plants, decreasing photosynthesis. These



effects lead to decreased dissolved oxygen in the water. Solids suspended in the water can also carry contaminants or provide a place for pathogenic microbes to hide. As we monitor water quality, measuring turbidity is important in understanding pollution. We measure turbidity because it matters!

Watershed Calendar

Spring

February 27 - Feral Hog Management Workshop

If you have a feral hog issue, this event is for you. Attendees will learn about feral hog biology, behavior, and control methods.

April - Spring Cleanup

This event is a great opportunity to get out and make a difference in your community! Volunteers receive free breakfast and clean up litter from the watershed.

Summer

Farmer's Market Visits

Stakeholder Meeting

Fall

Fall Cleanup

