

SEPTEMBER 2006

## Actions Speak Louder than Words

Texas follows a great tradition of honoring its leaders. The Texas Environmental Excellence Awards recognize the hard work and roll-up-your-sleeves attitude of people across this great state. Citizens of all ages who take environmental responsibility seriously.

Communities that work together to tackle environmental issues. Companies and organizations that prioritize environmental stewardship—not as an afterthought, but as a guiding, results-driven principle.

The Texas Environmental Excellence Awards mark the highest distinction of environmental honor in the state of Texas. Awards identify outstanding contributions in 10 diverse categories. If you have been a part of an environmental effort that is new, noteworthy, or something Texans ought to hear about, apply for a 2007 Texas Environmental Excellence Award.

For questions or a printed application, call Dana Macomb at 512-239-3150 or e-mail <[awards@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:awards@tceq.state.tx.us)>. The deadline to submit an application is November 3, 2006.



**Texas Environmental Excellence Awards**

Enter today at <[www.teea.org](http://www.teea.org)>, and take a look at the winner profiles to get a taste of the type of projects recognized last year.

## New Clean Texas Applications Available Online: [www.cleantexas.org](http://www.cleantexas.org)

The Clean Texas program recently underwent enhancements that should encourage greater participation among Texas businesses. If you're a current member looking to upgrade your participation, or a business thinking of joining the Clean Texas program, complete an application at the Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Platinum membership levels. Go to <[www.cleantexas.org](http://www.cleantexas.org)> for online applications.



Members that join at the Silver, Gold, and Platinum levels require an active and approved Environmental Management System (EMS). Visit the web site for details about the required EMS elements as well as regulatory benefits for members with an approved EMS.

If your organization is interested in making a positive impact on the environment and would like to gain benefits for your efforts, consider becoming a Clean Texas member. Contact Clean Texas coordinators Larissa Peter, at 512-239-3766, or Kelly Coleman, at 512-239-5171, for more information.

## Safely Discard Agricultural Chemicals During TCEQ Cleanups in Your Area

Would you like to dispose of unwanted pesticides, herbicides, or used motor oil but just don't know where to take them? The answer may be around the corner at one of the TCEQ's one-day collection events scheduled in September. These collections give Texans the opportunity to properly dispose of unwanted products that can cause harm to the people and environment of Texas. By disposing of these products at a TCEQ Agricultural Waste Pesticide Collection, you help Take Care of Texas.

Some of the items eligible for this collection include the following:

- Banned or unwanted pesticides
- Used motor oil and oil filters
- Lead-acid batteries
- Herbicides

City	Date	Contact #
Crystal City	Sept. 20	830-374-2883
Freer	Sept. 22	361-256-4591
Garciasville	Sept. 25	956-487-2306
Raymondville	Sept. 27	956-689-2414
Yoakum	Sept. 29	361-275-5132

For more information on proper disposal methods and for a list of other eligible items for this collection, please visit <[www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/AgWaste/agwaste.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/AgWaste/agwaste.html)>.



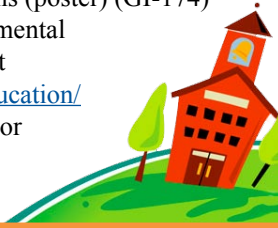
An environmental message brought to you by the Small Business and Environmental Assistance Division.

## TCEQ Offers Educational Materials to Teachers

Educating our young people about the environment is important for our future. The TCEQ offers more than 30 publications to help you educate your students about the environment. Our environmental education publications target students of all ages. We encourage teachers of K-12 students to use our publications as educational tools in the classroom. Some of our most popular environmental education publications include:

- Water Education Field Guide (GI-026)
- Land Use and the Water Cycle (poster) (GI-194)
- Air, Water, Land: Find out what you can! (coloring book available in English and Spanish) (GI-270)
- Six Ways to Take Care of Texas (bookmark) (GI-324)
- Meet the Air Pollution Gremlins (poster) (GI-174)

For a full listing of our environmental educational publications, please visit [www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/education/k-12education/K12education.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assistance/education/k-12education/K12education.html) or send us an e-mail with your order to [educate@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:educate@tceq.state.tx.us).



## Mark Your Calendars

The Texas Environmental Trade Fair and Conference is Texas' premier environmental educational forum, considered by many to be one of the best in the country. The upcoming conference dates are:

Environmental Trade Fair 2007	Environmental Trade Fair 2008	Environmental Trade Fair 2009
Tuesday, May 1 thru Thursday, May 3, 2007	Tuesday, April 29 thru Thursday, May 1, 2008	Tuesday, May 12 thru Thursday, May 14, 2009

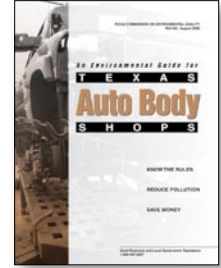
## Texas Recycles Day Coming Soon!



As our state's annual statewide recycling effort, Texas Recycles Day (TRD) has really taken off. Last year more than 30,000 volunteers participated and collected over 583,190 pounds of recyclable material. Our official celebration date of November 15 is just around the corner, so save the date and plan to help Take Care of Texas by volunteering at any of the numerous Texas Recycles Day events. For more information about events in your area and how you can become involved, visit [www.texasrecyclesday.org](http://www.texasrecyclesday.org).

## New TCEQ Publication Available

An Environmental Guide for Texas Auto Body Shops (RG-432) can help auto shop owners or operators understand specific state rules. As an auto body shop owner or operator, you have to stay on top of a variety of environmental regulations, including rules that protect air quality and water quality and rules that affect the way you should manage your wastes. Knowing where to find these rules can present a challenge. Understanding how to comply with them might seem even more difficult. With this guide you will gain a greater understanding of this subject. If you have questions or want a copy of the guide, contact us at 1-800-447-2827 or visit [www.sblga.info](http://www.sblga.info).



## We Have Gone Fishing!

Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB) and the TCEQ have teamed up once again to bring you another season of Lake and River Cleanups. To jump-start this season KTB issued its "Trash Fish" poster, which uses exaggerated photos of fish to show that polluted waterways are a serious problem.



"Trash Fish" is an ongoing campaign to increase participation and awareness of the Lake and River Cleanup Program. Participants in the program can order customized Trash Fish posters and printed advertisements. To order this poster, visit [www.KTB.org](http://www.KTB.org). To register your lake or river cleanup and receive free supplies, go to [www.ktb.org/programs/LR/index.htm](http://www.ktb.org/programs/LR/index.htm). Come join us as we Take Care of Texas by cleaning up our Texas lakes and rivers.

## Upcoming Lake and River Cleanups

Location	Date	Contact #
Trinity River, Haltom City.....	Sept. 16 .....	817-222-7767
Trinity River, Terrell.....	Sept. 16 .....	972-524-0007
Clear Creek, Lake Lewisville.....	Sept. 23 .....	940-349-8737
Community Waterways, Richland Hills.....	Sept. 23 .....	817-589-0218
Fossil Creek, North Richland Hills.....	Sept. 23 .....	817-427-6651
Chacon Creek, Laredo .....	Sept. 30 .....	956-794-1655
Walnut Creek, Mansfield .....	Sept. 30 .....	817-276-4240

For more information about dates and locations, visit [www.ktb.org/programs/LR/L&ReventcalendarFall06.htm](http://www.ktb.org/programs/LR/L&ReventcalendarFall06.htm).

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