

## WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

No matter where you are on Earth whether it is Grand Prairie or Beijing, you are in a watershed. A watershed is an area of land where all of the water under or on top of the land goes to the same place. Watersheds are places we call home, where we work, and where we thrive. Keeping them clean is our responsibility.

When it rains, water flows from rooftops, through lawns, over paved streets, sidewalks and parking lots, across bare soil, and eventually flows untreated into storm drains to our streams, rivers and lakes. Not only do wildlife live in our streams, rivers, and lakes, but the City of Grand Prairie gets their drinking water from these waterbodies. The water in Grand Prairie drains into three major water bodies: the West Fork of the Trinity River, Joe Pool Lake, and Mountain Creek Lake.

## Fancy some Fertilizer Fizz?

If you're concerned about the quality of the water you use, you might be interested in knowing where it's been before it gets to you. The way land is used upstream has a direct effect on your water. Most of us live downstream from someone else.



**DOO THE RIGHT THING**

[www.dfwstormwater.com/petwaste](http://www.dfwstormwater.com/petwaste)

**Grand Prairie**  
— T E X A S —

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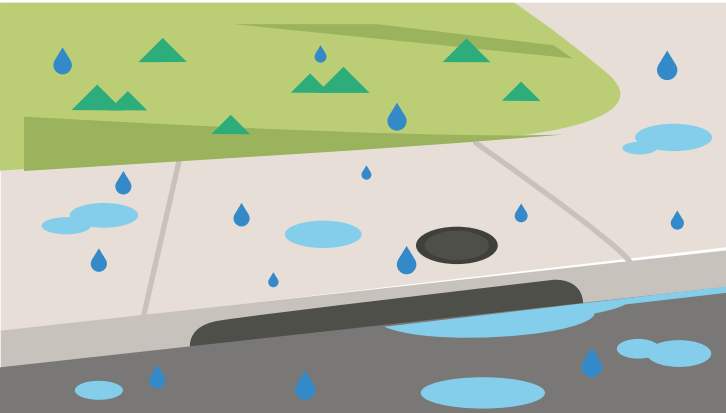
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**Grand Prairie**  
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**FIND YOUR  
WATERSHED ADDRESS  
AT  
[WWW.GPTX.ORG/  
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Protecting Grand Prairie Watersheds



## WAYS TO HELP

### Learn Your Watershed Address

Being aware of your watershed address helps you understand where and how your water is affected.

### Get Involved

All of us have a role in improving our water quality. Grand Prairie has many great volunteer opportunities, such as: Texas Stream Team, Storm Drain Marking, Adopt a Stream, and Clean Company Program.

### Be a Pooper Scooper

Clean up after your pets. Stormwater carries pet waste and other pollutants that may contain damaging bacteria, viruses and nutrients that can harm waterways.

### Don't Dump Oil

One gallon of used oil can pollute two million gallons of water. Take the oil to a recycling center or gas station to be recycled instead of washing it down the drain.

### Landscape with Conservation

Use native plants that requires less care and help hold soil in place. Fertilize in the fall instead of the spring, it can save you money and keep streams clear.

## A WATERSHED



We need water to drink, to keep clean, for recreation, transportation, fishing, and to produce goods and energy. But most people don't spend much time thinking about where their water comes from or how their actions on land can affect their water in rivers and streams. When water runs off the land, it takes fertilizer, loose soil, litter, oil, and other pollutants with it.

Trying to prevent pollution from running off land that drains into a waterway is what watershed management is all about.

## YOUR WATERSHED ADDRESS

Water runs off your roof or driveway into a nearby creek or stream, and then flows to a larger river, bay, or lake. All the land that drains to a particular water body is its watershed. Know your watershed address and where water goes after it rains at your house.

