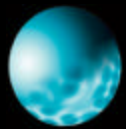


H Y D R O  
F I L E S

**Pollution/Solution**

Austin, Texas is  
known for its...

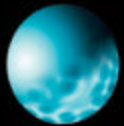


**rolling hills**





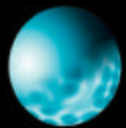
Austin, Texas is  
known for its...



**attractive  
downtown**



Austin, Texas is  
known for its...



**Music scene**



**and...**





its plentiful water.



An aerial photograph of a river, showing the water's surface and surrounding land. The image is split horizontally by a solid black band. The text "WE ALL LIVE DOWNSTREAM..." is centered within this black band in a white, bold, italicized sans-serif font.

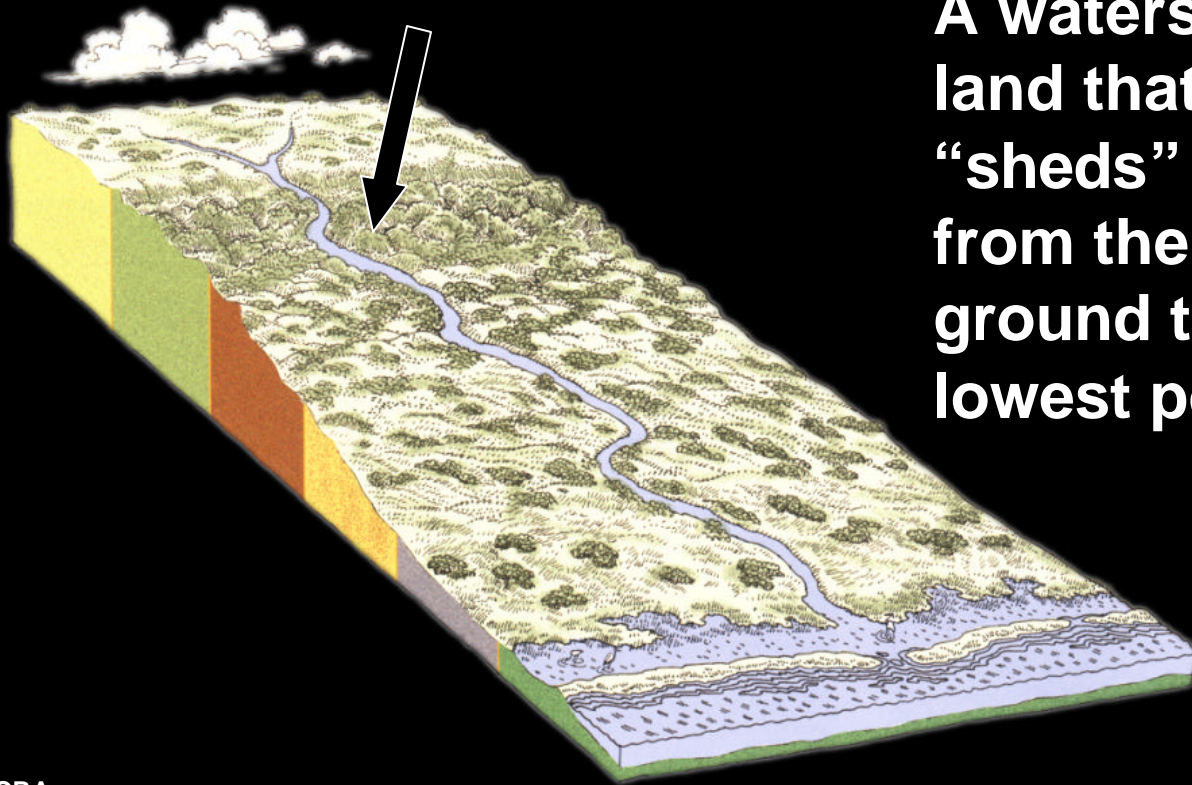
***WE ALL LIVE DOWNSTREAM...***





**There are over 60 watersheds in Austin. All the water that flows over this land eventually drains to the Colorado River**





**A watershed is...  
land that  
“sheds” water  
from the highest  
ground to the  
lowest point**

Diagram:LCRA



Or water could flow underground through caves or sinkholes to the Edwards Aquifer





Our water is all connected - the creeks and springs flow to the Colorado River which flows to the Gulf of Mexico

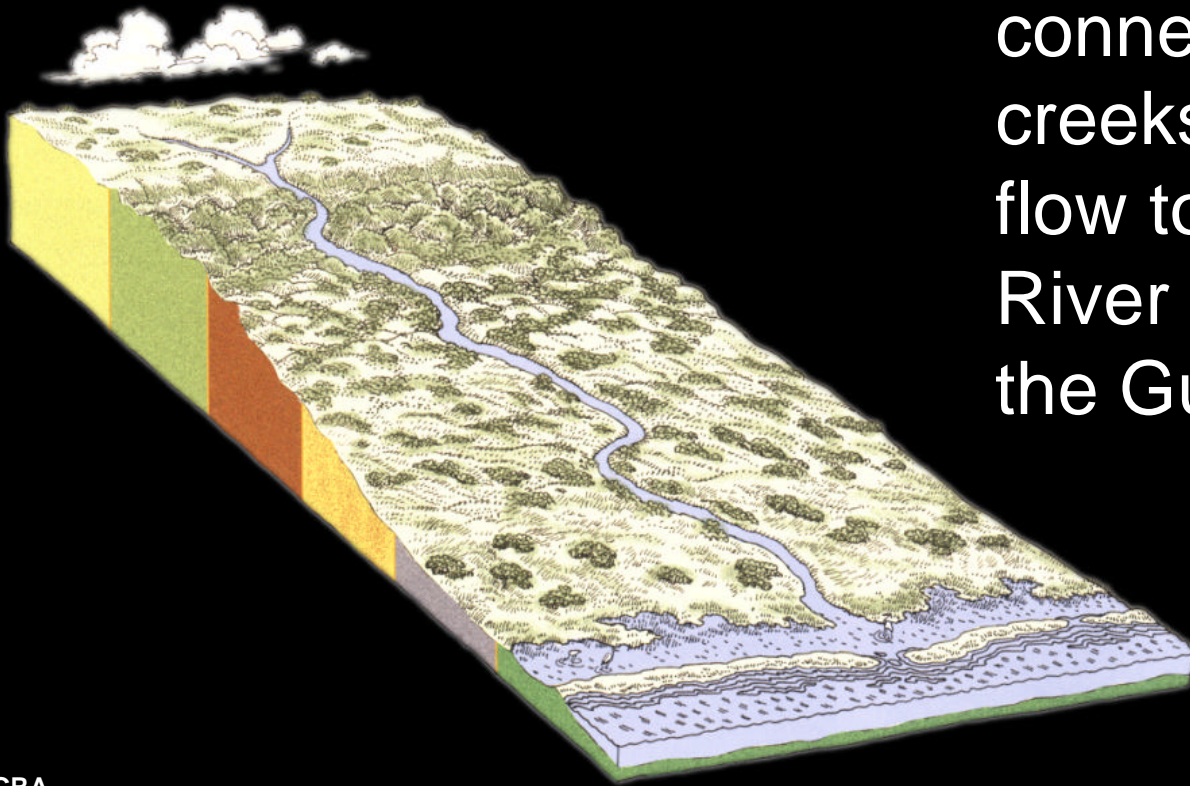


Diagram:LCRA





**We are affected by those who live upstream and  
we affect those who live downstream because...**

An aerial photograph of a river, showing the water's surface and surrounding land. The image is split horizontally by a solid black band. The text "WE ALL LIVE DOWNSTREAM..." is centered within this black band in a white, bold, italicized sans-serif font.

***WE ALL LIVE DOWNSTREAM...***





**Austin is fortunate to be a city with little industry.**

**Many of the older, northern cities are dealing with industrial waste because factories in the past could discharge their polluted waste directly into the river, often through pipes**





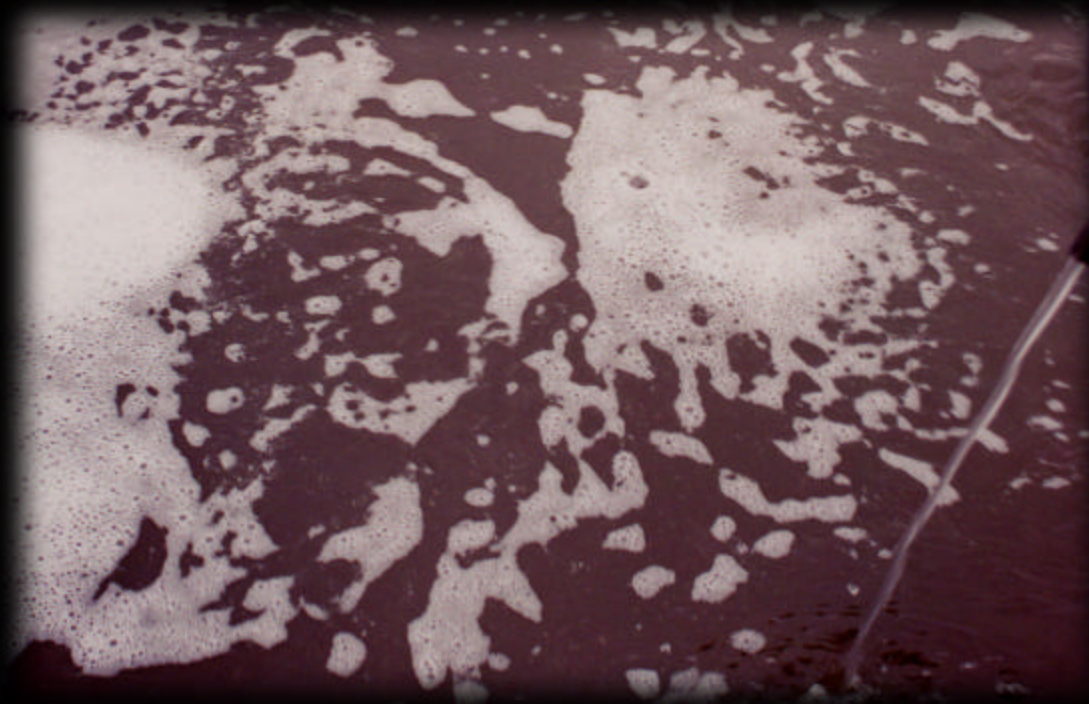
# POINT SOURCE POLLUTION

These are called “point” sources of pollution because the source can be traced to one specific point





**In Austin, our point sources are mostly limited to broken wastewater lines or other accidental leaks of toxic materials**







**Like all cities and towns, Austin  
has to deal with a more difficult  
type of pollution to control**

## **Non-point Source Pollution**

# Non-point Source Pollution

**It comes from any toxins that are in our yards and on our streets that runoff during rainstorms**





# Non-point Source Pollution

The runoff travels down our streets to storm drains. In Austin, these drains flow directly to our creeks




# Non-point Source Pollution



The pollutants in the water flow to the creek without being treated, degrading the water quality and harming aquatic life.





**We can't trace the source to one spot-it's  
an accumulation of all of our pollution**

Our drinking water comes from  
The Colorado River (Lake Austin and Town Lake)





## What do we find in the water?

**In Northwest Austin, springs in developed areas have nutrient concentrations that are eight times higher than springs in undeveloped areas**





**What do we find in that water?**

**DDT and Chlordane are still present in sediments in Town Lake even though they were banned in the 1980's**



The image features a teal-colored background with a textured, rippling water effect. A solid black horizontal band runs across the center of the image, serving as a backdrop for the text.

**WHAT ARE THE CAUSES?**

**Our leaking cars...**



**We all cause pollution**



**Washing our cars...**



**We all cause pollution**



**Our yard care habits...**



**We all cause pollution**



**Our dogs...**



**We all cause pollution**





**Our litter...**



**We all cause pollution**





**WE ARE THE SOLUTIONS TO POLLUTION**





# **Car Care**

**Wash your car on the lawn or at a car wash**

**Fix leaking oil tanks**





# **Yard Care**

**Use lawn chemicals  
only when necessary  
and never before a rain**

**Avoid over fertilizing**

**Never fertilize before a rain**

**Clean up after your pet.  
Look for Scoop the Poop  
boxes in your local park**





# **Pollution Spills**

**Call the Environmental  
Hotline at**

**974-2550**





# **Excess Chemicals**

**Take your leftover chemicals  
and oil to the Household  
Hazardous Waste Collection  
Center**

**Call**

**974-4343**

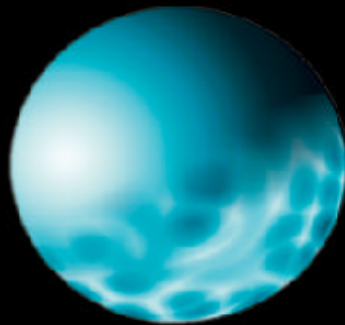
**for information.**





**JOIN IN...BE THE SOLUTION.**





HYDRO  
FILES

