

# Texas Stream Team Partner Information

## What is Texas Stream Team?

Texas Stream Team supports citizen water quality monitoring, NPS pollution, watershed education, and stakeholder engagement in Texas. The program is supported through a cooperative partnership between the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 6, Texas State University-San Marcos (TXSTATE), and numerous partner agencies.

The Texas Stream Team Partner Program is a network of organizations working with Texas Stream Team to identify areas of concern, reduce pollution, and to provide citizens, industry, and public agencies with the information they need to improve and conserve Texas' natural resources. Trained citizen scientists serve as natural resource witnesses by documenting approximately 4,000 monitoring events to assess water resource conditions at over 400 sites annually.

## Mission

The mission of Texas Stream Team is to facilitate environmental stewardship by empowering a statewide network of concerned volunteers, partners, and institutions in a collaborative effort to promote a healthy and safe environment through environmental education, data collection, and community action.

## Universal Texas Stream Team Partnership Requirements

1. All partners must send two partner activity reports to Texas Stream Team per year. They can be sent via e-mail to [txstreamteam@txstate.edu](mailto:txstreamteam@txstate.edu) or by mail to:  
Texas Stream Team  
Ivey-Moore House – Texas State University  
601 University Drive  
San Marcos, TX 78666
2. All partners must have one certified Texas Stream Team instructor affiliated with their organization. This requirement can be fulfilled via an agreement with any citizen scientist within a partner's community or region.

## Partner Program

Every business and organization in Texas is encouraged to become a Texas Stream Team Partner. As a Texas Stream Team Partner, you will receive benefits that will help you and your community reach environmental goals and earn recognition for your leadership activities. These benefits include:

- ◆ *Headwaters*, a quarterly newsletter for Texas Stream Team participants
- ◆ Recognition on the Texas Stream Team website and social media
- ◆ Recognition at Texas Stream Team Regional and Statewide meetings
- ◆ Technical assistance in implementing citizen monitoring and education activities
- ◆ Outreach materials and NPS watershed model for distribution upon request
- ◆ Ability to extend professional monitoring resources by utilizing supplemental data
- ◆ USEPA-approved certification of partner and volunteer participants as Texas Stream Team Citizen Scientists, Instructors, Quality Assurance Officers
- ◆ On-line dataviewer with analysis functions (2011)
- ◆ Customized data reports and datasets
- ◆ Provide technical staff training/technical assistance with water quality issues
- ◆ Support education and outreach activities – Staff training, curriculum (develop and usage), events (travel reimbursement may be necessary)
- ◆ Professional networking opportunities
- ◆ Building stakeholder involvement through monitoring
- ◆ Watershed Protection Plan stakeholder recruitment and coordination
- ◆ Implementation of monitoring plans/water quality improvement plans
  - Can include MS4, TMDL, WPP initiatives
  - Supplemental water quality data
- ◆ Collaborative grant writing and fundraising
- ◆ Materials and content for customer/client/community outreach

## Partnership Levels

Texas Stream Team Partners can join at one of three membership levels:

*Patron Partners* contribute funds as a one-time contribution or as on-going support to maintain program activities and/or any TST activities within their own membership. These contributions may be provided to assist smaller groups, facilitate watershed monitoring efforts, or to fund general Texas Stream Team activities and support such as routine monitoring and training sessions, technical assistance, and education and outreach.

*Supporting Partners* contribute in-kind services to an existing network of partners and citizen scientists. These services might include laboratory services, data management resources, or organizational staff to provide field or training support. Supporting Partners are independent entities within the overall Texas Stream Team umbrella, but may occasionally require financial assistance from Texas Stream Team.

*Leadership Partners* coordinate their own monitoring and education programs using the Texas Stream Team Program's standardized protocols and environmental education tools. A Leadership Partner may work with a network of Patron and Donor Partners to fully support its group. Unlike Patron or Supporting Partners, Leadership Partners are entirely financially self-sufficient in supporting their Texas Stream Team activities. However, Texas Stream Team staff may assist Leadership Partners in writing grants to secure extra funding and loan out training materials whenever necessary.

*Educational Partners* utilize Texas Stream Team's Education and Outreach materials and curriculum for purposes that may include:

- Incorporating TST water quality monitoring as part of their educational activities
- Utilizing TST/environmental educational curriculum, but not necessarily employing active water quality monitoring as part of their educational activities.

### How Do I Join?

Please provide the information requested on the following pages and send it to Will Butler, Monitoring Coordinator, at [wstreamteam@txstate.edu](mailto:wstreamteam@txstate.edu) or, alternately, e-mail the form to [txstreamteam@txstate.edu](mailto:txstreamteam@txstate.edu). This form may also be mailed to:

Texas Stream Team  
The Ivey-Moore House – Texas State University  
601 University Drive  
San Marcos, TX 78666

After we receive your application, we will contact you to discuss your partnership in detail.

### Period of Enrollment

Enrollment is for one year and may be continued through notification.

### Annual Reporting

Texas Stream Team Partners will be sent an annual reporting form to document progress toward their environmental and outreach goals.

If you have questions or comments....

Contact Texas Stream Team at:

Texas Stream Team  
Meadows Center for Water and Environment  
601 University Drive  
San Marcos, TX 78666

Phone: (512) 245-1346

Fax: 512/245-2095

E-mail: [txstreamteam@txstate.edu](mailto:txstreamteam@txstate.edu)

Applications and additional information are available on the Texas Stream Team web site:  
[www.txstreamteam.rivers.txstate.edu/](http://www.txstreamteam.rivers.txstate.edu/)

**Texas Stream Team Partner Program  
Membership Registration**

**Name of Organization:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Organization** (check boxes that most closely describe your organization):

- River Authority     Regional Council     Local Government     Government Agency  
 Industry     Educational Institution     Nonprofit     Retail Business     Service Industry  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**County:** \_\_\_\_\_

**River Basin:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**We were recruited by:** \_\_\_\_\_

# Texas Stream Team Partnership Commitments

## Volunteer Monitoring and/or Environmental Education Activities

1. From the list below, select a partnership level that best describes the type of volunteer monitoring and/or environmental education activity your organization plans to support over the next one to three years. If these categories do not apply please write the information that best applies to your organization.

### Partnership Level Activity or Type of Support

- Donor Partner**     Purchase monitoring equipment     Sponsor Texas Stream Team Meetings     Donate meeting facilities     Attend Texas Stream Team Partner Meetings     Donate a general contribution to the Texas Stream Team 501C3 Fund (contact Texas Stream Team for more details)  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Commitment Level:**    Three years    Two years    One year

- Patron Partner**     Provide technical assistance for Volunteer Monitoring     Provide Data Management support  
 Provide geo-referenced locations for volunteer sampling sites  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Commitment Level:**    Three years    Two years    One year

- Lead Partner**     Recruit, train, and coordinate volunteer monitoring and education activities, including performing data management, volunteer recognition, and other activities that ensure a strong program.  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Commitment Level:**    Three years    Two years    One year

- Educational Partner**     Utilize Stream Team water quality monitoring for educational activities  
 Utilize environmental education materials and TST curriculum  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Commitment Level:**    Three years    Two years    One year

□ Other

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2. In the space below indicate your volunteer monitoring and/or outreach and education goals for the next three years.

<b>Partnership Level</b>	<b>Examples of Goals</b>
Donor	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Donate \$1000 annually to the Texas Stream Team Fund to support general Texas Stream Team activities</li><li>2) Sponsor the Texas Stream Team Meeting of the Monitors</li><li>3) Attend Texas Stream Team Partner meetings</li></ol>
Patron	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Commit 1 staff member from my organizations to be Certified as Texas Stream Team Monitor, Trainer and Quality Assurance Officer</li><li>2) Identify the latitude and longitude of Texas Stream Team sites using a GPS system</li><li>3) Provide data management support</li></ol>
Lead	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Provide full support for volunteer monitors</li><li>2) Coordinate one volunteer recognition event</li><li>3) Attend the Meeting of the Monitors</li></ol>
Educational	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Train 1 teacher as a certified Texas Stream Team water quality monitoring instructor</li><li>2) Organize an annual field trip using TST/environmental education curricula</li><li>3) Implement a course using or organized around TST's education and outreach materials and curriculum</li></ol>

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Partnership Level	Description of Goals
Donor	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> </ol>
Patron	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> </ol>
Lead	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> </ol>
Educational	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> </ol>

- 3.** Attach a brief description of your anticipated Texas Stream Team activities. Include information such as outreach methods, success indicators, number of citizens or volunteers involved, your program schedule, and any other information you think is appropriate.

Signature of responsible official: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return application to:**  
Texas Stream Team Program Manager  
Texas Stream Team Program  
601 University Drive  
San Marcos, TX 78666