

# Keep Irving Beautiful Newsletter

## Water a Major Focus for Earth Month

Last month's newsletter was all about the Trinity River, an important resource that provides water for millions of Texans. As we enter into "Earth Month" as April has become known, we are continuing our focus on water and how vital it is to conserve it. According to the Texas State Water Plan, our state's population is projected to increase by 90% by 2050, but water supply from existing sources will meet only 75% of the projected water demand.

Most of the city of Irving's water originates from 85 miles to the northeast in Lake Chapman (formerly known as the Cooper Reservoir), then goes to Lewisville Lake and is treated by the City of Dallas. Irving also purchases water directly from Dallas to supplement the Lake Chapman water, which may be from the following lakes: Ray Hubbard, Tawakoni, Grapevine, Lewisville and Ray Roberts.

A great source of information on water usage is our own City of Irving Water Utilities Department. Their page on the city's



A kayaker enjoying a beautiful day on the Elm Fork of the Trinity River

website is full of useful links, such as tips on saving water, the annual Water Quality Report, and even videos, including one about their partnership with the Irving ISD in a one-of-a-kind hydrotechnology program which trains students to qualify for water testing exams. The site keeps residents informed on the latest status on watering restrictions, which at the time of this writing was Stage 2, or watering allowed 2 days per week. You may register for alerts of any changes.

You may also use the site to request an audit of your water usage at no charge. As a courtesy to Irving residents, a representative will come to your home to assess any indoor or outdoor leakages, and will also inspect your irrigation system. The Water Department also offers water conservation program presentations to Homeowner's Associations and civic groups, which can also be requested online.

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### Did You Know?

Thanks go to the Water Utilities Department for these water conserving tips. Did you know that...

- A water-efficient shower head can save as much as 6 gallons of water per minute
- High-efficiency washers use at least 40% less water than the conventional machines
- A faucet aerator can cut sink water consumption in half
- One inch of water per week in the summer is usually sufficient to maintain most common lawn grasses.



KIB volunteers have worked both on the land and in the water itself to help keep our waterways clean and litter-free

## KIB and Volunteers Support Water Conservation Efforts

Here at KIB, we emphasize keeping litter out of our waterways during our cleanups. Many of our events are held at Champion Trails parks, next to the Trinity River, so our volunteers can see how they are the last line of defense before trash makes its way to the river, and eventually to the Gulf of Mexico. Our next event will be the "Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off," which will

be held at Trinity View Park on Saturday, April 11, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Online registration will be up through April 3, so if you or your organization want to volunteer with us, please go to the KIB website, [www.keepirvingbeautiful.org](http://www.keepirvingbeautiful.org) and sign up. Volunteers of all ages are welcome, so we hope to see you there.

