



April 5, 2013

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) and Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research (TIAER) cordially invite you and your neighbors to a meeting regarding the Recreational Use Attainability Analysis (RUAA) Project for Sweetwater Creek. At this meeting, you will have the opportunity to learn about the study and related upcoming activities. The meeting will be held April 15, 2013 at 6:00pm at the Wheeler County Ag and Family Life Center in Wheeler, located at 7939 US Hwy 83 in Wheeler, Texas 79096. A map to the meeting place is enclosed.

Sweetwater Creek is a headwater tributary of the North Fork Red River within the Red River Basin. The creek flows 69 miles east from Gray County to the Texas-Oklahoma state line in Wheeler County. The watershed includes approximately 242,655 acres that encompass the cities of Mobeetie and Wheeler. Sweetwater Creek is one of many rural waterbodies listed on the *Texas 303(d) List* due to elevated levels of *E. coli*, the non-pathogenic indicator bacteria found in warm-blooded animals. These indicator bacteria are used to assess the possible presence of pathogens that would limit the contact recreation use of a waterbody. Sweetwater Creek was first listed as having a bacteria impairment for contact recreation on the *2002 Texas 303 (d) List*. Funding for this project is provided through a State General Revenue Nonpoint Source Grant from the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board. The Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research at Tarleton State University is facilitating the stakeholder process for this recreational use attainability analysis. The objective of a RUAA is to collect information that can be used to evaluate factors affecting attainment of recreational use in Sweetwater Creek.

At this meeting, stakeholders will be asked to participate and provide guidance on site identification for recreational use data collection and to provide input on historical uses of the waterbody. Your participation is fundamental to the success of this project.

More information about the study is available at:

<http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/en/managementprogram/RUAASWEETWATER>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Leah Brown at (254) 968-0513, or [lbrown@tiaer.tarleton.edu](mailto:lbrown@tiaer.tarleton.edu). We look forward to seeing you on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

Sincerely,

Leah Brown  
Project Coordinator, TIAER at Tarleton State University

Enclosure: 1

**TEXAS INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH**

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