

Kickoff meeting for the Joe Pool Lake Watershed Protection Plan on November 12th will focus on local involvement

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The Trinity River Authority of Texas (TRA), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and local partnership group consisting of the cities of Cedar Hill, Grand Prairie, Mansfield, and Midlothian are partnering with local governments, business owners, and residents to protect and improve water quality in the Joe Pool Lake Watershed through the development of a watershed protection plan. The public is invited to attend the project kickoff meeting and meet fellow watershed stakeholders in person or virtually. This public meeting will be held from 1:00-3:00 p.m. on November 12th, 2020 at the Ruthe Jackson Center in Grand Prairie, TX, located at 3113 S Carrier Parkway, Grand Prairie, TX 75052 or may be attended virtually. Please register for in-person attendance [HERE](#). Please register for the virtual meeting [HERE](#). At this meeting, residents, landowners, and other stakeholders will have the opportunity to learn more about water quality in the Joe Pool Lake watershed and get involved in making decisions about local water resources.

To improve and protect water quality in the Joe Pool Lake watershed TRA, TCEQ, and the local partnership, have initiated work on a 3-year, stakeholder driven study aimed at identifying the sources of elevated bacteria and nutrients within the Joe Pool Lake watershed. The watershed protection plan process is a voluntary, non-regulatory approach to achieve water quality goals. At the study's conclusion, recommendations for best management practices (BMPs) aimed at addressing the identified sources will be made. Application of these BMPs will not only address existing water quality concerns, but are expected to help mitigate potential future impairments as the watershed develops.

Public participation is vital to the success of this stakeholder-driven process. We are seeking interested local landowners, businesses, municipalities, and citizen groups to share questions and concerns during public forums, drive the source identification study in a direction that will accurately characterize the watershed, and ultimately provide direct input that will guide the development of Joe Pool Lake Watershed Protection Plan. We need your help!

For more information about the kickoff meetings, other current events, and the watershed, go to <http://www.trinityra.org/joepoolakewpp> or contact Heather Firn at 817-467-4343 or firmha@trinityra.org.

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