

AGENCY PRESENCE IN THE NORTH BOSQUE RIVER WATERSHED

Agency/Entity: Texas Cooperative Extension (TCE)

Web Address: <http://texasextension.tamu.edu>

Brief Introduction: Texas Cooperative Extension has provided informal education to Texans for 87 years. Formerly known as the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, the agency's name was changed in July 2001 to better reflect Extension's broad responsibilities in environment and natural resources, family and consumer sciences, youth development, and community development, as well as production agriculture. The new name represents a renewed commitment to serving each of the state's 254 counties as a part of The Texas A&M University System's outreach to all Texans, from all backgrounds, in all areas of the state.

Agency/Entity Interest in the North Bosque Watershed: As a part of educational outreach to the citizens of Texas, TCE offers demonstrations and publications aimed at increasing public awareness of issues related to the environment and natural resources. TCE maintains an office in each county in the North Bosque Watershed. Each office has a full-time staff which includes County Extension Agents who provide educational programs and result demonstrations of new technologies and methods to area residents. Extension Specialists are located at the research and extension center in Stephenville. These specialists are for agents to contact and to utilize in programs and demonstrations.

Educational efforts are carried out by TCE in a variety of ways including media, one-on-one and group meetings, etc. The state-required Dairy Outreach Program Area (DOPA) continuing education credits for dairy operators in an area that includes the North Bosque Watershed is administered by the TCE. Past DOPA topics have included lagoon management and phosphorous management education.

Recently at the TCE in Erath County, in the heart of the dairying community, result demonstrations have compared the use of compost vs. inorganic fertilizer on Bermuda grass, examined the phosphorous uptake of certain crop varieties for potential use as a cover crop on dairy waste application fields, and explored the use of food additives to decrease the amount of phosphorous excreted by dairy cows.

Current Involvement in North Bosque Watershed Projects:

- [Compost Manure Incentive Project](#)
- [Texas Phosphorous Index](#)