

**2014-2015**

School year

# Watershed Protection School Outreach





# EARTH CAMP 2014-2015

## Background

Earth Camp began in 1997 as a City of Austin Watershed Protection Department field science study program to promote water quality protection. Video about the program -

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=5m\\_Br6GgUaU&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5m_Br6GgUaU&feature=player_embedded)

Earth Camp targets fifth-grade students attending Title I schools in AISD. Students attend during school hours, and all content is correlated to Texas schools standards.

Participating schools attend Earth Camp for free. Teachers receive 6 hours of Continuing Professional Education credit, classroom curriculum, and assist students during Earth Camp field investigations. The City of Austin provides the environmental expertise, teacher training, field trips, tours, lessons, and equipment that make Earth Camp a success. For more information visit [www.austintexas.gov/earthcamp](http://www.austintexas.gov/earthcamp).



**Teacher Comment:** *"Thank you for bringing our classroom to life. Our students were in such awe of the experience."*

## Results

Total number of students reached: **754**

Total number of schools reached (Earth Camp only): **17**

Participating Schools: Allison, \*Barrington, \*Brooke, \*Brown, Campbell, \*Dawson, \*Govalle, Harris, McBee, \*Reilly, \*Rodriguez, Sanchez, Travis Heights, \*Walnut, Williams, Winn, Wooten

\*Schools participating in both Earth Camp and Teacher-Led because they have both new teachers and Earth Camp trained teachers bringing their class to Earth Camp and Teacher-Led.





# TEACHER-LED 2014-2015

## Background

Teacher-Led Earth Camp encourages Earth Camp trained and mentored AISD teachers to lead Earth Camp with the support of the City of Austin. This allows more classes to participate in Earth Camp than could otherwise be reached by City staff. The City pays for transportation, schedules the field trips, provides materials and hires trained teachers to lead part of the class in order to maintain the small group size necessary for hands-on learning in the field.

<http://www.austintexas.gov/content/1361/FAQ/5335>



**Teacher Comment:** “Fabulous camp....great instructor.... A week of outdoor learning is amazing! My students get so much out of it. We learn so much and it puts it all at a level that they can learn and grow. It helps us prepare for a great year in Science.”

## Results

Total number of students reached: **928**

Total number of schools reached: **13**

Participating schools: \*Barrington, Becker, Blackshear, Blazier;, \*Brooke,\* Brown, \*Dawson, \*Govalle, Guerrero-Thompson, Joslin, Langford, Ortega, Pecan Springs, \*Reilly, Ridgetop, \*Rodriguez, Sims, St. Elmo, Sunset Valley, \*Walnut, Zavala

\*Schools participating in both Earth Camp and Teacher-Led were counted with the Earth Camp school outreach (not counted in the Teacher-Led school outreach total).

# EARTH SCHOOL 2014-2015



## Background

Earth School was established in 2003 to reach fifth graders in Austin that do not receive Earth Camp. Earth School provides a one-hour classroom presentation that covers customized information about Austin's watersheds, the Edwards Aquifer and local water quality issues. Students identify pollution threats in their neighborhood and model how water and pollution can flow across a watershed and through an aquifer. The curriculum is correlated with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. This program is offered to Austin schools for free by the City of Austin Watershed Protection Department. In addition to continuing to reach fifth graders in Austin and Eanes Independent School Districts, Earth School initiated a pilot expansion into Del Valle Independent School District and created a new Earth School video that is posted on the Earth School website to help teach Austin youth about our local water resources and what they can do to help keep the water clean.

[www.austintexas.gov/earthschool](http://www.austintexas.gov/earthschool)



**Teacher Comments:** "I loved this presentation last year, and it is even better this year." "Excellent in every way!"

## Results

Total number of students reached: **5,583**

Total number of schools reached: **60**

Participating schools: [Austin](#), [Del Valle\\*](#), and [Eanes\\*\\*](#) Independent School District

Allison	Eanes**	Mills
Andrews	Forest Trail**	Norman
Baldwin	Galindo	Oak Hill
Baranoff	Gilbert*	Oak Springs
Barbara Jordan	Graham	Odom
Barton Creek**	Gullet	Overton
Barton Hills	Hart	Padron
Blanton	Highland Park	Palm
Boone	Hornsby-Dunlap*	Patton
Bridge Point**	Houston	Pease
Bryker Woods	Kiker	Pickle
Casey	Kocurek	Pillow
Casis	Langford	Pleasant Hill
Cedar Creek**	Lee	Popham*
Clayton	Linder	Summitt
Cook	Maplewood	Valley View**
Cowan	Mathews	Widen
Cunningham	McBee	Woolridge
Davis	Menchaca	Wooten
Doss	Metz	Zilker



# Clean Creek Campus 2014-2015



## Background

The Clean Creek Campus program is a partnership between the City of Austin, Watershed Protection Department and Keep Austin Beautiful to provide students with hands on learning experiences about watersheds and our environment and inspire lifelong stewardship.

[www.keeptexasbeautiful.org/CleanCreekCampus](http://www.keeptexasbeautiful.org/CleanCreekCampus)



**Teacher Comment:** “Keep doing what you do! I love this program and Keep Austin Beautiful. We will do it every year.” Karen Hart, NYOS Teacher

## Results

Total number of students reached: **1,934**

Total number of school reached: **20**

Participating schools: Middle: [Not Your Ordinary School](#), [Lamar](#), [Ann Richards](#)  
Elementary: [Williams](#), [Hill](#), [Patton](#), [Austin Jewish Academy](#), [Cook](#), [Maplewood](#), [Sims](#), [Baldwin](#), [Vista Academy](#), [Austin International School](#), [Langford](#), [Odom](#), [Kiker](#), [St. Andrews Episcopal](#), [UT Charter](#), [Matthews](#), [Metz](#)



# Watershed Detectives 2014-2015

## Background

Watershed Detectives is a middle school program that offers the Fish Kill Mystery curriculum and water quality Field Investigations to caves, creeks, and springs. In the Fish Kill Mystery, students conduct experiments using watershed models, identify locations on the land that drain to a pond where a fish kill occurred, and perform simulated water quality tests to determine what pollutant caused the fish kill, discover the source of contamination and provide solutions to pollution. Watershed Detectives Field Investigations provides educational support for field trips related to water quality issues, including caving into the Edwards Aquifer, water quality testing of local creeks and educational tours of Barton Springs.

[www.austintexas.gov/watershededetectives](http://www.austintexas.gov/watershededetectives)



**Teacher Comment:** “Students loved it! Kids were saying ‘this is fun!’ It was one of the most engaging activities thus far.”

## Results

Total number of students reached by the Fish Kill Mystery: **1,168**

Total number of students reached by Field Investigations: **491**

Total number of schools reached: **14**

Participating schools: [Bailey](#), [Bedicheck](#), [Covington](#), [Fulmore](#), [Gorzycki](#), [Kealing](#), [Kealing Magnet](#), [Khabele School](#), [Lamar](#), [Martin](#), [Not Your Ordinary School](#), [Small Green Tech Academy](#), [Trinity Episcopal School](#), [West Ridge](#)





## Hydrofiles 2014-2015

### Background

The Hydrofiles, a City of Austin water quality education program, offers professional development for high school teachers, field trips, water test kits, and classroom presentations. Field trips include caving into the Edwards Aquifer and monitoring the schools local creek. All content is focused on scientific research, problem solving and critical thinking and is correlated to the TEKS.

For more information about the program visit [www.austintexas.gov/department/hydrofiles](http://www.austintexas.gov/department/hydrofiles) .



**Teacher Comment:** *“Thanks for the fun and instructional trip with our kids today. I got thanked by several students, which almost never happens – that means they really liked the day at the creek!”*

### Results

Total number of students reached: **583**

Total number of schools reached: **7**

Participating schools: [Bowie](#), [Travis](#), [Westlake](#), [Ann Richards](#), [Anderson](#), [Connally](#), [Leander](#)

# Austin Youth River Watch 2014-2015



## Background

Austin Youth River Watch (AYRW) is a non-profit that offers high school students in AISD at risk of dropping out paid jobs monitoring water quality. Youth development activities that focus on environmental stewardship and academic support to finish high school are also provided. This year, AYRW launched a new program focused on week-long service projects that benefit local waterways. Service projects include activities such as native-vegetation plantings, stream-bank stabilization, and trail building and are offered in addition to water quality monitoring. In fiscal year 2015, Watershed Protection Department provided funding for AYRW. For more information about the program visit <http://www.ayrw.org/>.



**Student Comment:** “The science we do in River Watch is fun, because it’s outside and it’s real. We’re doing something for Austin.”

## Results

Total number of students reached: **91**

Total number of schools reached: **9**

Participating schools: [Akins](#), [Austin](#), [Crockett](#), [Eastside](#), [Lanier](#), [LBJ](#), [McCallum](#), [Reagan](#), [Travis](#)



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