



Texas Stream Team

Caring for Our Waters



TEXAS STREAM TEAM

**Water Quality
Monitor Training**

TEXAS STREAM TEAM

PROGRAM MISSION

Facilitate environmental stewardship by empowering a statewide network of concerned volunteers, partners, and institutions, in a collaborative effort to promote a healthy and safe environment through environmental education, data collection, and community action.

TEXAS STREAM TEAM

HISTORY OF TEXAS STREAM TEAM

- Series of fish kills along the Pecos River (1985-1988) leads to the formation of Pecos River Watch
- Texas Water Commission and Texas Parks & Wildlife decide the program should be state wide
- 1991, Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission (now Texas Commission on Environmental Quality - TCEQ) established TEXAS WATCH
- Name changed to TEXAS STREAM TEAM in 2008

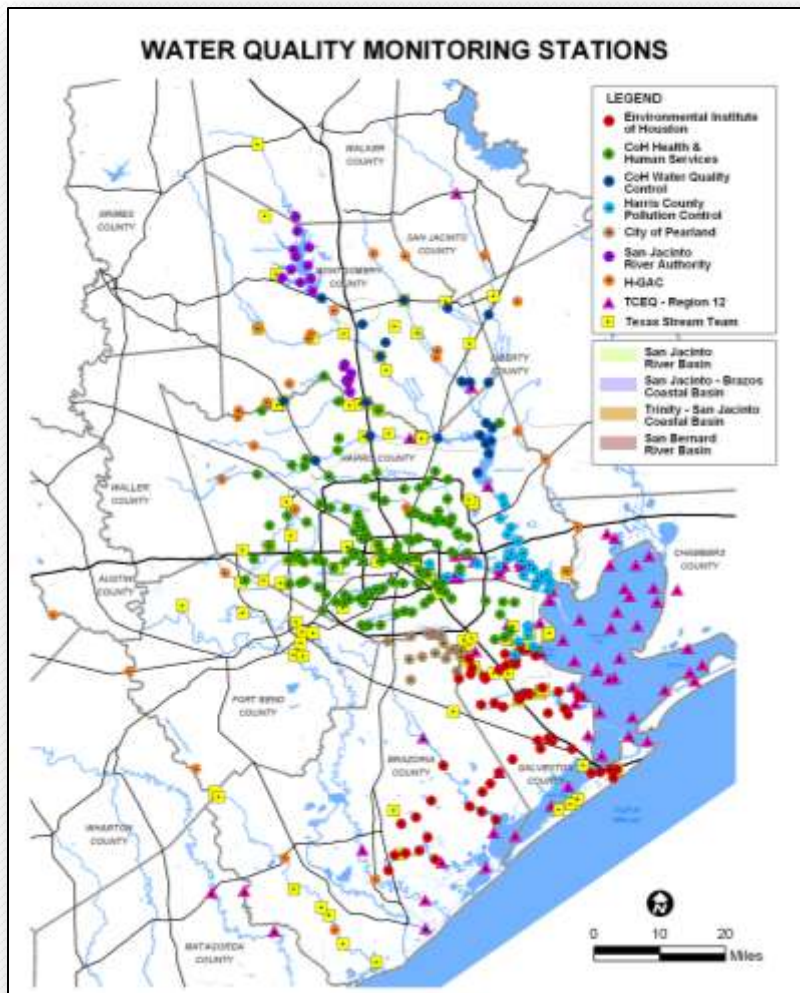
TEXAS STREAM TEAM and H-GAC

Clean Rivers Program



- ▶ TEXAS STREAM TEAM Partner since 1992
- ▶ Coordinates Volunteer Monitors in 13 Counties and Four River Basins
- ▶ H-GAC Staff provide analysis of data and make recommendations to the CRP Steering Committee.
- ▶ Data from TEXAS STREAM TEAM VOLUNTEER MONITORS contribute to establishing trends and supplementing special studies of specific rivers and watersheds

TEXAS STREAM TEAM and H-GAC Clean Rivers Program



► Current Numbers

52 Certified/Active volunteers
45 Sites

TEXAS STREAM TEAM - Clean Rivers Program

Is the water **safe to swim** in?

CONTACT RECREATION

Is the water **safe for fish**?

AQUATIC LIFE USE

Can we **eat the fish**?

FISH CONSUMPTION

Can we **drink this water** if it is treated first?

DRINKING WATER

Can I use this **water for irrigation**?

FOOD PRODUCTION

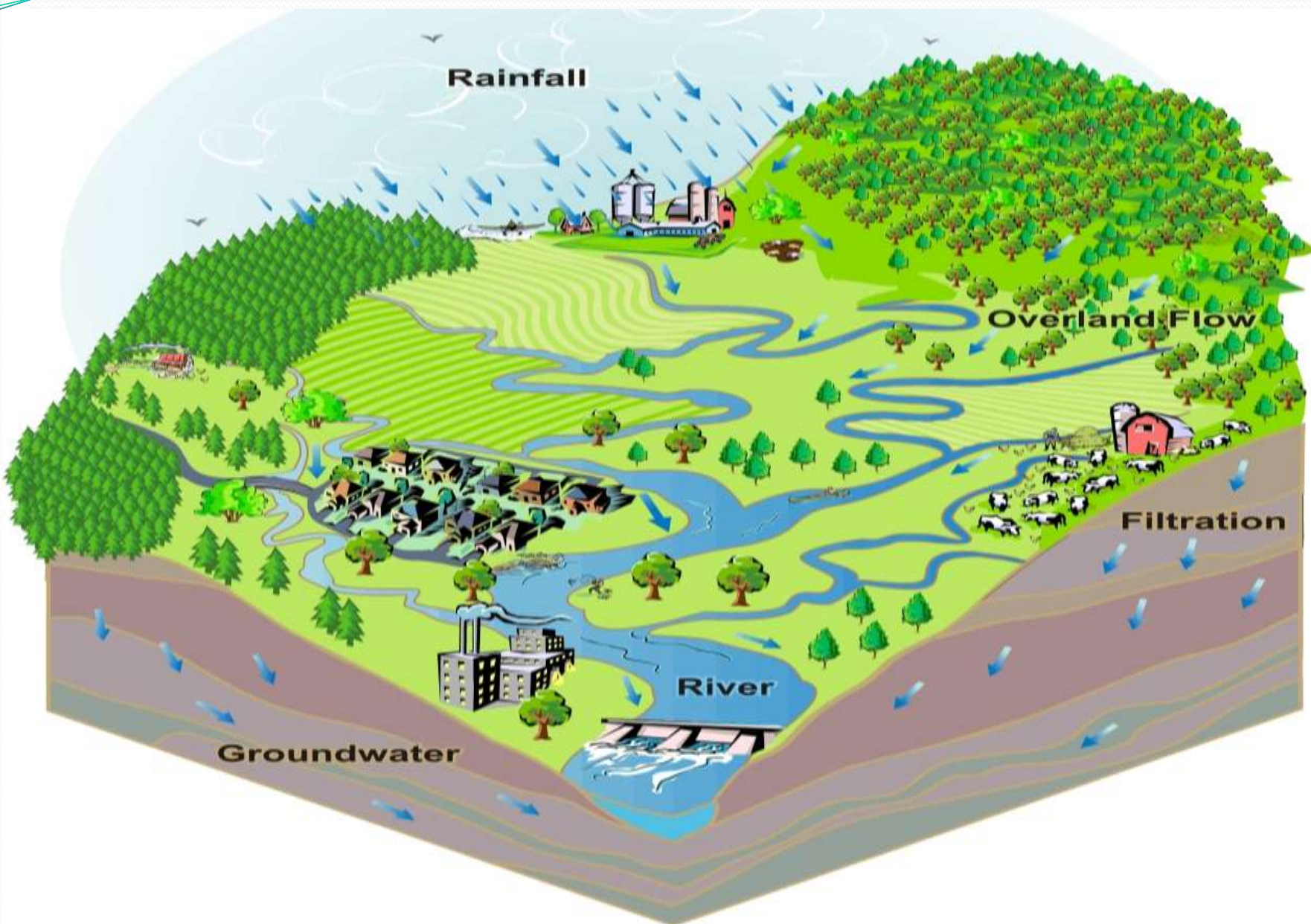
Can I use this **water for my industry**?

BUSINESS

A Watershed...

...is the area in which water, sediments, and pollutants drain into a common body of water

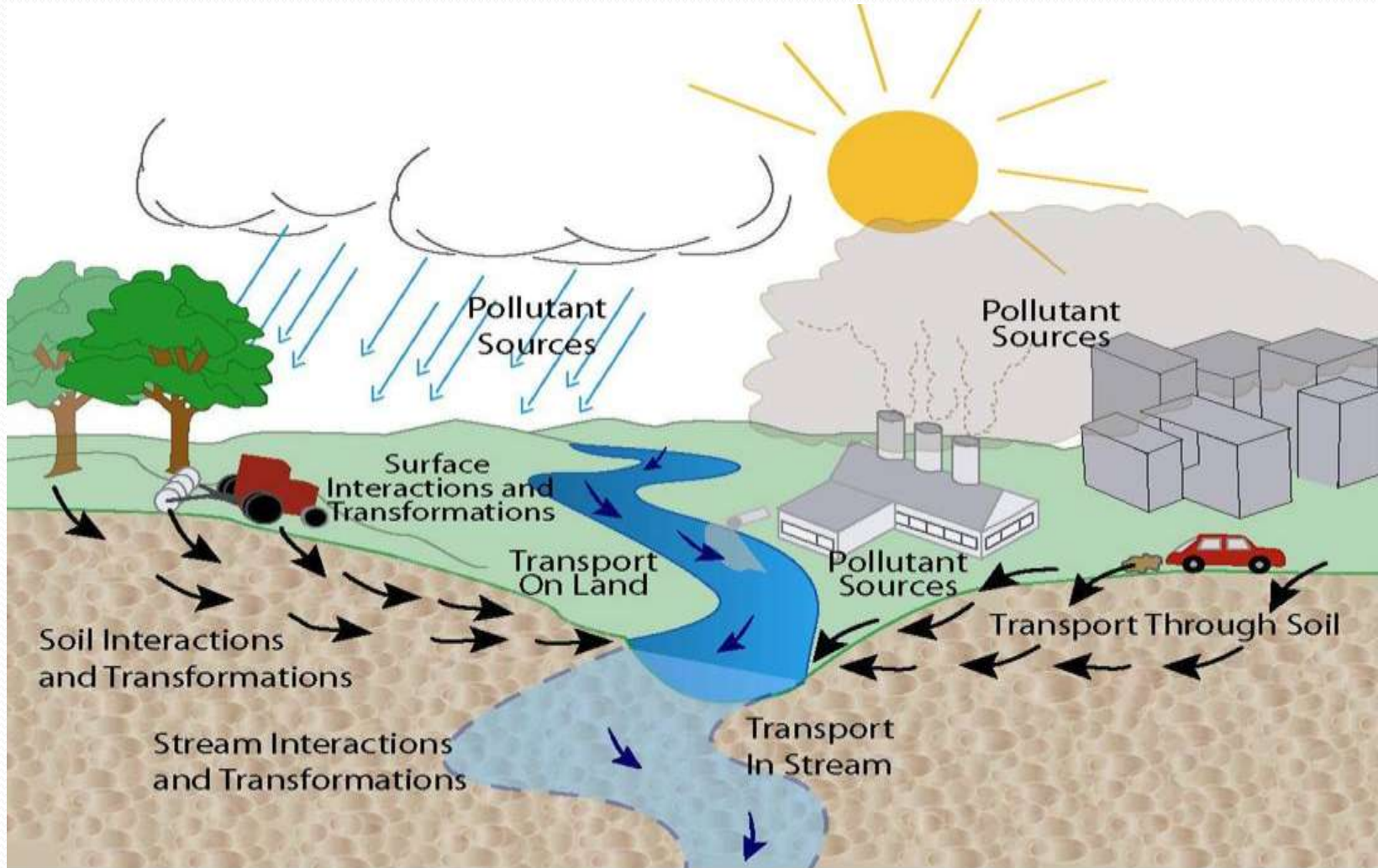
Everyone lives in a watershed



Land Uses and Pollution in Your Watershed...



Pollution Sources



Point and Nonpoint Source Pollution



**Point Source:
factory pipes
and wastewater
effluent**



**Nonpoint Source:
cow manure from a
cattle ranch or a
parking lot dotted
with oil from cars.**



Strong Focus on NPSP Because...

Reduction of non-point source pollution comes from changing behaviors through education



Training New Monitors



Phase I – Classroom

Orientation, Demonstration, Practice



Phase II – Group Field Training

Individual Testing, Focus on Field Observations



Phase III – Site Visit

TEXAS STREAM TEAM Monitoring

- Dissolved Oxygen
- Conductivity
- pH
- Temperature
- Depth
- Field Observations

Field Observations

Flow Level

Algae Cover

Water Color

Water Clarity

Water Surface

Water Conditions

Water Odor

Present Weather

Days Since Last Significant Precipitation

Tide Stage: *(Coastal only)*

Comments

More Advanced Monitoring

Bacteria

Nitrate-Nitrogen

- ✓ Like volunteers to have at least a years worth of monitoring experience before they start monitoring these parameters



Other Opportunities

Data Management

Trainers

Quality Assurance



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