



Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
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Lockhart Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 2 Named Treatment Plant of the Year

For More Information

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CALDWELL COUNTY - Lockhart Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 2, operated by the Guadalupe Blanco River Authority (GBRA), was honored as the 2009 Wastewater Treatment Plant of the Year in Category 2 by the Water Environment Association of Texas (WEAT). The award recognizes a wastewater treatment facility for consistently exhibiting outstanding performance in daily activities beyond the normal call of duty.

The plant was built by GBRA in 1999 to aid the City of Lockhart with discharge permit requirements through diversion of a portion of the wastewater flow from the city's existing Larremore Street Plant, also operated by the GBRA. The plant has an excellent compliance history never failing bio-monitoring requirements, including the seven-day chronic and 24-hour acute tests.

The GBRA's outstanding health and safety programs have been recognized by Texas Safety Association, the Texas Water Conservation Association Risk Management Fund and the Texas Water Utility Association. The objective of every Authority employee is zero lost time; a goal that has been achieved every year the GBRA Lockhart Wastewater Treatment Plant System has been in operation. In addition to strict adherence to the GBRA Safety Manual and the GBRA Health and Safety Policy Manual, safety meetings are conducted monthly.

By blending technical expertise, a safe working environment, and facilities maintenance, the staff of the Lockhart Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 2 operates a facility that consistently produces high-quality effluent necessary to protect the sensitive waters of the Guadalupe River Basin. Operations Manager Eduardo Montana holds a TCEQ Class A wastewater license as does fellow operator Jason Eeds. Angel Castillo holds Class "B" wastewater license while Eric Mendez, Richard Gonzales and Joe Leal Jr. hold Class C licenses. Robert Delgado aids in operation and maintenance of the two plants, performing process control laboratory analyses and monitoring.

"WEAT is thrilled to recognize the City of Lockhart and the Guadalupe Blanco River Authority for their outstanding performance," said Carol Batterton, WEAT's executive director.

"We are honored to have received this recognition from WEAT. It validates the hard work that our team does on a daily basis and the support received from our customer, the City of Lockhart," said John Smith, GBRA Operations Manager Upper Basin.

The Water Environment Association of Texas is a member association of the Water Environment Federation (WEF). Formerly known as the Texas Water Pollution Control Association (TWPCA), WEAT was founded in 1928 by professionals in the field of water quality as a non-profit, educational organization. Association members have helped lead the way toward existing state and federal clean water programs. Today the association has over 1500 members representing diverse backgrounds and specialties, but all of which are involved in protecting and enhancing Texas' precious water resources through sound science and good stewardship.

WEAT members include civil, design, and environmental engineers, biologists, chemists, local and state government officials, treatment plant managers and operators, laboratory technicians, students, professors, lawyers, environmental scientists, and equipment manufacturers and distributors.

Texas Water 2009™, held in April 14 - 17 in Galveston, is the largest regional water conference in the United States. It is jointly sponsored by the Water Environment Association of Texas and the Texas Section of the American Water Works Association.

The GBRA was established by the Texas Legislature in 1933 as a water conservation and reclamation district. GBRA provides stewardship for the water resources in its 10-county statutory district, which begins near the headwaters of the Guadalupe and Blanco rivers, ends at San Antonio Bay, and includes Kendall, Comal, Hays, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Gonzales, DeWitt, Victoria, Calhoun, and Refugio counties.

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