



PRESS RELEASE

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Over Fifteen Tons of Trash Removed from the Guadalupe River in 2015

The Upper Guadalupe River Authority (UGRA) announced today that over 15 tons of trash was removed from in and around the Guadalupe River and its tributaries in 2015. “UGRA remains dedicated to the removal of trash from the Guadalupe River and promoting public awareness of this issue within the community. The citizens of Kerr County show great support for this cause through their participation in community clean ups, but unfortunately the amount of trash removed from the watershed continues to be substantial each year,” said Ray Buck, UGRA General Manager.

UGRA’s Trash Free Initiative program is comprised of two main components: 1) year round routine garbage pickup at river crossings; and 2) the annual river clean up. UGRA currently contracts with a local company, Garrett Services, to pick up trash at a number of low water crossings on the North Fork, South Fork, Town Creek, Johnson Creek and the main stem Guadalupe River throughout the year. In 2015, a total of 754 visits to fifteen different river crossings removed 25,503 pounds of trash.

UGRA records the total amount of trash collected on each day the river crossings clean up is conducted. This year, July netted the most trash collected with a total of 5,990 pounds and 2,015 pounds of that was collected immediately after the 4th of July holiday. The month of June came in second place with 4,965 pounds. The summer months are consistently the time of year when littering is at a peak as many people flock to the Guadalupe River for recreation.

In addition to the year-round effort, UGRA hosts a river clean up day to promote awareness of the litter problem by involving the community. The 12th Annual River Clean Up was held on Saturday, July 25, 2015. More than 6,300 pounds of garbage was collected by 403 participants working along the river from above Hunt all the way to the eastern edge of Kerr County. The 2016 River Clean Up will be held on July 23rd.

UGRA also sponsors two community groups that are enthusiastic about keeping the Guadalupe River and Kerr County trash free. Both the Town Creek Clean Up Team and the Kerrville South Community Action Group organize routine clean ups and UGRA provides supplies to support their efforts. The Town Creek Clean Up Team is also supported by Riverside Nature Center and Hill Country Master Naturalists that assist by advertising for volunteers and the City of Kerrville pays for the dump fees. The next Town Creek Clean Up is scheduled for January 23, 2016; please contact UGRA if you are interested in participating.

Let’s Keep Our River Clean



The City of Kerrville hauls away trash removed from the Guadalupe River during the 2015 UGRA Annual River Clean Up.