



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
September 18, 2017

Contact: Upper Guadalupe River Authority
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UGRA Recognizes Summer Study Volunteers

At an appreciation luncheon on September 14th, UGRA Outreach and Education Committee Chair Diane McMahon, Board Director Wayne Musgrove, and staff recognized UGRA's Volunteer Summer Study Program participants. The volunteers received a certificate of appreciation and a report describing the *E. coli* bacteria test results from the sites they sampled during June through August. UGRA staff also presented additional details about the results and background on the testing procedure to the volunteers.

E. coli bacteria is an indicator of water contamination and is used to assess the risk of contracting a water borne illness while swimming. Therefore, each summer, UGRA tests *E. coli* bacteria levels at twenty-one popular swimming holes throughout Kerr County. UGRA began the Volunteer Summer Study Program in 2004 to supplement water quality data collected by UGRA staff.

"The data collected by our volunteers expands the number of sites we monitor routinely and helps us identify areas that may need further investigation," said Tara Bushnoe, Natural Resources Coordinator. Interested members of the community typically volunteer to collect water samples for bacteria analysis at a location that complements existing UGRA monitoring programs.

This summer UGRA was assisted by 25 volunteers who collected 301 samples at 29 locations throughout Kerr County. Please send your contact information to UGRA (tbushnoe@ugra.org) if you would like to receive notices regarding the 2018 Volunteer Summer Study.

Let's Keep Our River Clean



Pictured L to R: Judy Anderson, Chuck Smith, Debbie Nunemaker, Melinda Wasson, Bob Taylor, Karen Taylor, Bake Foster, Penny Foster, Ken Linscomb, Debi Linscomb, UGRA Natural Resources Technician Travis Linscomb, Debbie Thompson, David Bartels, UGRA Natural Resources Coordinator Tara Bushnoe, Nancy Foster, UGRA Board Director and Volunteer Diane McMahon, Victor Kulagin, and Dee Elliott.