

Live Green in Plano

NEWS

PUBLISHED BY THE CITY OF PLANO SUSTAINABILITY
& ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

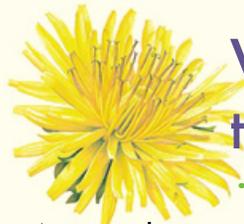
SUMMER 2011
livegreenexpo.net

LGIP Volunteers IN ACTION

Like a scene from a spy movie, Mimi Serrao and Tanis Roelofs met in the First United Methodist Church parking lot on a Thursday in the last week of April and waited for their contact to show up with their gear. Their mission? To teach one hundred preschoolers about water pollution prevention by introducing "Freddy the Fish" and using sponge fish, bottles of colored water and instant coffee to symbolize Freddy's journey through creeks in Plano.

The heart of many a brave warrior quails at the thought of 100 preschoolers, but Mimi and Tanis are seasoned Live Green in Plano volunteers who contribute many hours of their time each month to teach educational programs like Freddy the Fish.

Live Green in Plano volunteers are trained partners of Plano's Sustainability & Environmental Services department. They expand the City's environmental education and community outreach by providing residents with environmental information and simple tips for greener, cleaner, more sustainable living. They not only teach educational programs, but also mark storm drains, participate in community cleanups, and contribute time and energy to many projects beneficial to the environmental health of Plano. If you are interested in becoming a Live Green in Plano volunteer, please visit livegreeninplano.com or contact Deb Bliss at debb@plano.gov.

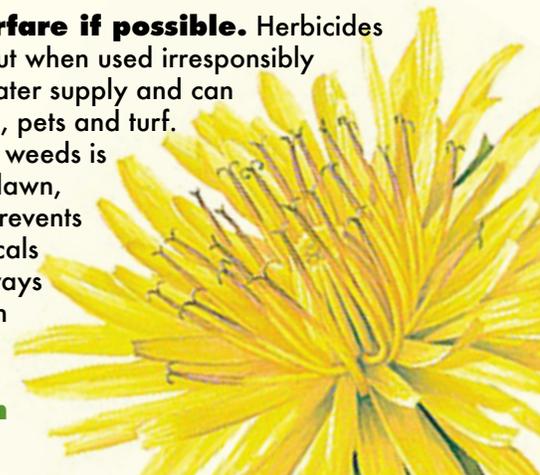


Waving Goodbye to the Weeds in Your Yard

Are you dreaming of a lawn that looks like a golf course but instead facing the nightmare of a dandelion invasion? With a few easy tips, you can get rid of weeds and have a healthy lawn!

- 1 Feed your soil.** Healthy plants start with healthy soil. Use compost or topdressing to give your lawn what it needs to grow well. For more information, visit texaspureproducts.com
- 2 Water your lawn correctly.** Water your lawn using the cycle-soak method to encourage deep roots and prevent lawn problems caused by over-watering. For more information, visit plano.gov/water
- 3 Practice hand-to-hand combat.** Hand weeding is the simplest method for getting rid of weeds. Make sure you pull weeds before they flower and seed. Be sure to remove the entire plant including the root - any root fragments will grow into new weeds.
- 4 Mow high.** Mowing your grass too low reduces the ability of the grass blade to produce enough nutrients, resulting in an unhealthy lawn susceptible to weed invasions. To view a table of recommended mowing heights, visit plano.gov/water
- 5 Avoid chemical warfare if possible.** Herbicides are readily available, but when used irresponsibly they contaminate our water supply and can be dangerous to people, pets and turf. The best way to combat weeds is to grow a thick healthy lawn, which crowds out and prevents weeds. Use lawn chemicals as a last resort, and always follow the instructions on the label.

livegreeninplano.com



What's the Big Deal with Zebra Mussels



A zebra mussel is a small freshwater mollusk about the size of a fingernail which has spread throughout the United States since the late 1980s. Zebra mussels are not native to the United States and as a result, they have very few natural predators and are able to grow rapidly and crowd out native species. By filtering out large amounts of the phytoplankton and algae, which other aquatic organisms depend on as a food supply, zebra mussels disrupt the food web and reduce the numbers of fish and other organisms in the lake. They have sharp-edged shells which cut the feet of unwary water waders. Even though zebra mussels are killed by the water treatment process, they grow inside of the pipes leading to the water treatment plant, eventually blocking the flow of water. For more information on zebra mussels, residents can visit texasinvasives.org.

In August 2009, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department discovered zebra mussels in Sister Grove Creek, a tributary of the East Fork of the Trinity River. It was used by the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) to transfer water from Lake Texoma, which contributed about 22.5 percent of our water supply. As a result, NTMWD voluntarily ceased pumping raw water supplies from Lake Texoma and has not resumed pumping. Below average rainfall this year prompted NTMWD officials and the City of Plano to initiate Stage 1 Water Conservation Measures effective April 19. The City of Plano requests residents do their part to protect and extend our water supply by using only the water they need. To learn more about how to efficiently use water around the house, visit plano.gov/water.

Looking for ways to save water and money this summer?

Two programs for Plano residents make saving water (and money) easier than ever!

Are you replacing that old, water-guzzling toilet?

Replace it with a Watersense-approved high efficiency toilet and get some credit back on your water bill! Credits are offered for rain barrel and rain/freeze sensor installations, too. Some rules apply, just visit livegreeninplano.com for more details!

Sustainability & Environmental Services offers FREE water conservation items to residents, including:

- > high quality, low-flow shower heads
- > shower timers
- > kitchen and bath faucet aerators
- > toilet leak detection tablets
- > adjustable toilet flappers, and
- > rain gauges.

Come by Customer & Utility Services from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday through Friday to pick up any of these items. Two convenient locations are available:

- > Plano Municipal Center, 1520 K Ave. (between 15th Street and 18th Street)
- > Joint Use Facility, 7501 N. Independence Pkwy. (adjacent to Davis Library)

Visit livegreeninplano.com for more information on how to save water inside and outside the house!

livegreeninplano.com

DO YOU SUFFER FROM Too Much?

A book review by Cherie Ware.

A popular theme in the green movement is to simplify. In our physical environment, simplifying means to de-clutter our excessive volume of material possessions – and that’s where Peter comes in. Peter Walsh is the professional organizer from the hit TLC series *Clean Sweep* and current host of the OWN show, *Enough Already!*

His first book is a New York Times Bestseller called *It’s All Too Much: an Easy Plan for Living a Richer Life with Less Stuff*. The focus is on the home – and how having a lot of stuff doesn’t equate to happiness. Peter challenges our relationship with our things and asks –

Does this item enhance the life we want to live?

Peter’s approach is positive and forward-looking. He asks readers to create a vision of what we want in our spaces and in our life. Practical instructions and tools are provided: a “Kick Start” method for dealing with clutter and a “Room Function Chart” for defining what should stay and what should go. Next, specific guidelines and advice are provided for each and every room in your home. Sprinkled throughout the book are entertaining letters from real people with stories of how Peter’s work has improved their lives. This is a great read for folks feeling overwhelmed and stressed in their own homes. Now I’ll leave you with a direct question from Peter –

Do you own your stuff, or does your stuff own you?

Green Travel Tips

by Maria Gant

With summer approaching at a blazing rate, many people are making plans to travel. Here are some things to consider to make your vacation a little greener. Remember, every little bit helps!

If you are going to travel by car, consider taking your bikes along so you can use them at your destination. If you were planning to travel in your own car, and it is large and/or not very fuel efficient, consider renting a model that gets better mileage.

IF YOU ARE GOING TO RENT A CAR:

- > Choose the smallest size vehicle necessary. It will use less fuel, and may even save you money.
- > Consider renting a hybrid car.

AT YOUR HOTEL:

- > Take quick showers, and don’t leave the water running while you brush your teeth.
- > Turn off the air conditioning, heat, television, lights and any other electric devices when leaving your room.
- > Reuse your sheets and towels instead of having them changed every day.
- > Bring your own toiletries and drinking cup (or reusable bottle), rather than using the prepackaged ones.
- > Pack light! It saves energy and airline fees when your bag weighs less, and it helps save the environment by using less fuel to transport your luggage.
- > Pack clothes that mix and match to create several outfits with just a few pieces.
- > Save make-up and skincare samples to take when you travel; or, buy small reusable containers and fill them at home so you take only as much as you need for your trip.
- > Leave your hair dryer at home if the hotel provides one.

AT YOUR DESTINATION:

- > Walk, rather than drive.
- > Consider renting a bike to get around.
- > Use public transportation when available, or the hotel shuttle van.

Green travel also means supporting the local economy. Buy local foods, take tours offered by local operators, and patronize local businesses. You will support the local way of life and reduce your environmental impact.

MOW BETTER, MOW CLEANER

Gasoline-powered lawn equipment emits a large amount of pollution. By Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates, engines used to maintain lawns account for 5 percent of air pollution in the United States. **In just one hour a gas mower produces the same amount of smog-forming hydrocarbons as driving a vehicle almost 200 miles.** They are also an assault on peace and quiet - just ask someone who wanted to sleep late on a Saturday morning when a neighbor decided to get an early start on their yard work.

There are options to reduce noise and air pollution, while maintaining a beautiful lawn. **The best option is a manual or push, reel mower.** With no engine, the only noise this mower produces is the satisfying sound of blades cutting grass. Reel mower prices start at around \$70. To maximize their effectiveness, sharpen blades regularly and lubricate the wheels. These mowers can last years with proper care. Today's models are lighter and easier to maneuver than those of several decades ago. They are best suited for smaller yards, but can be used on any size lawn as long as the person pushing the mower has plenty of stamina.

Electric and battery-powered mowers offer another clean alternative. Like gas mowers, they are motorized but are much quieter and emit no direct pollutants. Electric mowers can be corded or cordless.

> **Corded mowers** cost from \$150 to more than \$400 - similar to the cost of a gas mower. However, corded mowers come with one big annoyance: an extension cord connected to the house. Users must be careful not to run over the cord with the mower.

> **Cordless, rechargeable mowers** cost from \$200 to more than \$500. They are conveniently powered by a removable, rechargeable battery. Limitations include the size of the yard and the life of the battery pack. To compare makes and models, check manufacturers' specifications and research consumer reviews online. Actual battery life depends on its age, your lawn's grass height, and how quickly you can get the job done.

Gas mowers are a noisy, accepted part of our culture. However, in the face of rising fuel costs and environmental concerns, more people are switching to nonpolluting, human-powered mowers or electric varieties which won't disturb your neighbor's summer nap or pollute the atmosphere.

Save money on the purchase of your new air-friendly lawn mower! For information about the City of Plano's Lawn Mower Rebate Program, visit livegreeninplano.com.



EWS Service Updates

Collections

The Environmental Waste Services (EWS) team posts time-sensitive collection updates at the top of the Live Green in Plano homepage. This information is also available on a recorded message by calling Customer Service at (972) 769-4150. These resources keep you up-to-date on the latest information when you need it most, such as after a severe storm or during weekend surges or operational delays when the service schedule is modified.



Live Green in Plano has a new online learning module, *Let's Take Care of the Trash*. Learn more about recycling and other curbside services and be eligible to receive a free bag of Texas Pure products. Visit livegreeninplano.com and follow the *Let's Take Care of the Trash* link.

livegreeninplano.com



To Recycle or Not To Recycle?

THE ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTION.

THE SIMPLIFIED LIST:

- > All types of paper - if you can tear it and it hasn't touched food, then you can recycle it!
- > Hard plastic containers and lids - all numbers accepted, but we cannot take Styrofoam (it's soft and squishy) and no plastic bags (they bend and wrap around machinery at the Materials Recovery Facility).
- > Aluminum and steel cans - including empty aerosol containers.
- > Glass containers - if you can reuse it, great. If you can't reuse, then always recycle!

All acceptable recycling material is listed on our website's **RECYCLING** page.

DON'T PUT NON-ACCEPTABLE MATERIAL IN YOUR RECYCLING CART. THIS COULD PREVENT US FROM SERVICING YOUR CART ON YOUR SCHEDULED COLLECTION DAY.

TEXAS PURE CONTRIBUTES TO HIGHER LEARNING

TEXAS PURE IS THE APPROVED ORGANIC

COMPOST PROVIDER FOR THE GEORGE

W. BUSH PRESIDENTIAL CENTER LOCATED

ON THE MAIN CAMPUS OF SOUTHERN

METHODIST UNIVERSITY, DALLAS.

METHENY COMMERCIAL LAWN

MAINTENANCE, DALLAS, WON A BID

TO INSTALL APPROXIMATELY 10,000

CUBIC YARDS OF TEXAS PURE COMPOST

AT THE SITE.



Texas Pure compost, topdressing, mulch and soil blend products have developed solid reputations as high-quality yard and garden products. Each year, an increasing number of residents, businesses and municipalities use Texas Pure products for their landscaping and water conservation needs.

Plano accepts yard trimmings and clean wood from Allen, Frisco, McKinney, Plano and Richardson residential collections and wood from green builder programs operating in Frisco and Plano. In addition, all yard trimmings and clean wood dropped off at the Custer Road Facility is diverted to the composting facility.

The Regional Composting Facility produces and markets the material as Texas Pure. A completely finished and stable product, the City of Plano certifies its products by participating in the United States Composting Council Seal of Testing Assurance program, which requires ongoing testing, disclosure of test data, and providing educational information to customers. Texas Pure products are OMRI Listed, recognition by organic farmers and producers through the Organic Materials Review Institute.

To arrange for a bulk delivery of Texas Pure or learn more about convenient retail locations for bagged product, visit texaspureproducts.com or call (972) 769-4150.



2010 Annual Drinking Water Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

CITY OF PLANO PWS 0430007 (972) 769-4160

This report is available online at livegreeninplano.com

En Español: Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre éste informe en español, favor de llamar al tel. (972) 769-5130 para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

OUR DRINKING WATER IS REGULATED

This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

Sources of Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- > Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- > Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- > Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- > Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- > Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Where do we get our drinking water?

The source of drinking water used by City of Plano is purchased surface water from the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD). To contact NTMWD, call (972) 442-5405. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment allows us to focus source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information is available on Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/>. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

Public Participation Opportunities: To learn more about future public meetings concerning your drinking water or about how to protect and save our water supplies, please visit plano.gov/water or livegreeninplano.com.

ALL drinking water may contain contaminants.

When drinking water meets federal standards there may not be any health benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

SPECIAL NOTICE (Required language for ALL community public water supplies): You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly, or immunocompromised persons (such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer; those who have undergone organ transplants; those who are undergoing treatment with steroids; and people with other immune system disorders) can be particularly at risk for infections. You should seek advice about drinking water from your physician or health care provider. Additional guidelines and appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Secondary Constituents: Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium, or iron) which are often found in drinking water, can cause taste, color, and odor problems. The taste and odor constituents are called secondary constituents and are regulated by the State of Texas, not the EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concern. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document by federal law but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

Abbreviations and Definitions: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

N/A: Not applicable.

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units.

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter—or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter—or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

Inorganic Constituents

| Year | Contaminant | Average Level | Minimum Level | Maximum Level | MCL | MCLG | Unit of Measure | Possible Source |
|------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----|------|-----------------|--|
| 2010 | Barium | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.08 | 2 | 2 | ppm | Erosion of natural deposits. |
| 2010 | Fluoride | 0.58 | 0.51 | 0.64 | 4 | 4 | ppm | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive. |
| 2010 | Nitrate | 0.26 | <0.07 | 0.51 | 10 | 10 | ppm | Runoff from fertilizer use. |
| 2010 | Gross Beta Emitters | N/A | N/A | 4.4 | 50 | 0 | pCi/L | Decay of natural and man-made deposits. |

Organic Constituents

| Year | Contaminant | Average Level | Minimum Level | Maximum Level | MCL | MCLG | Unit of Measure | Possible Source |
|------|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----|------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 2010 | Atrazine | <0.1 | <0.1 | 0.24 | 3 | 3 | ppb | Runoff from herbicide use. |
| 2010 | Simazine | <0.07 | <0.07 | 0.08 | 4 | 4 | ppb | Runoff from herbicide use. |

Maximum Residual Disinfectants

| Year | Disinfectant | Average Level | Minimum Level | Maximum Level | MRDL | MRDLG | Unit of Measure | Possible Source |
|------|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------|-------|-----------------|--|
| 2010 | Chloramines | 2.63 | 0.9 | 4 | 4.0 | <4.0 | ppm | Disinfectant used to control microbes. |
| 2010 | Chlorine Dioxide | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.8 | 0.8 | ppm | Disinfectant. |
| 2010 | Chlorite | 0.33 | 0.01 | 0.75 | 1.0 | N/A | ppm | Disinfectant. |

Disinfection Byproducts

| Year | Contaminant | Average Level | Minimum Level | Maximum Level | MCL | Unit of Measure | Possible Source |
|------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----|-----------------|---|
| 2010 | Total Haloacetic Acids | 23.31 | 14.9 | 30.2 | 60 | ppb | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection. |
| 2010 | Total Trihalomethanes | 32.41 | 25.5 | 36.8 | 80 | ppb | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection. |

Unregulated Disinfection Byproducts

| Year | Contaminant | Average Level | Minimum Level | Maximum Level | Unit of Measure | Possible Source |
|------|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---|
| 2010 | Chloroform | 13.88 | 10.7 | 15.33 | ppb | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection. |

Note: There is no maximum contaminant level for this chemical at the entry point to distribution.

Lead and Copper

| Year | Contaminant | Average Level | Minimum Level | Maximum Level | MCLG | Unit of Measure | Possible Source |
|------|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| 2010 | Lead | 0.00131 | 0.000359 | 0.00959 | 15 | ppm | Corrosion of customer plumbing |
| 2010 | Copper | 0.8466 | 0.251 | 1.42 | 1.3 | ppm | Corrosion of customer plumbing |

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. This water supply is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Turbidity

| Year | Contaminant | Highest Single Measurement | Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits | Turbidity Limits | Unit of Measure | Possible Source |
|------|-------------|----------------------------|--|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 2010 | Turbidity | 1.14 | 99.86 | 0.3 | NTU | Soil runoff. |

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

Unregulated Constituents (No associated adverse health effects)

| Year | Contaminant | Average Level | Minimum Level | Maximum Level | Secondary Limit | Unit of Measure | Possible Source |
|------|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| 2010 | Bicarbonate | 100 | 73 | 120 | N/A | ppm | Corrosion of carbonate rocks. |
| 2010 | Calcium | 56 | 34 | 87 | N/A | ppm | Abundant naturally occurring element. |
| 2010 | Chloride | 28 | 24 | 34 | 300 | ppm | Abundant naturally occurring element. |
| 2010 | Copper | 0.09 | 0.04 | 0.13 | 1 | ppm | Corrosion of household plumbing. |
| 2010 | Hardness as Ca/Mg | 174 | 162 | 185 | N/A | ppm | Naturally occurring elements. |
| 2010 | Iron | <0.2 | <0.2 | <0.2 | 0.3 | ppm | Erosion of natural deposits. |
| 2010 | Magnesium | 4 | 3.6 | 4.7 | N/A | ppm | Abundant naturally occurring element. |
| 2010 | Manganese | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.002 | 0.05 | ppm | Abundant naturally occurring element. |
| 2010 | Nickel | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.05 | N/A | ppm | Erosion of natural deposits. |
| 2010 | pH | 7.8 | 7.4 | 8.6 | >7.0 | units | Measure of corrosivity of water. |
| 2010 | Sodium | 32 | 25 | 36 | N/A | ppm | Erosion of natural deposits. |
| 2010 | Sulfate | 79 | 56 | 96 | 300 | ppm | Natural occurring. |
| 2010 | Total Alkalinity (CaCO ₃) | 100 | 73 | 120 | N/A | ppm | Natural occurring soluble mineral salts. |
| 2010 | Total Dissolved Solids | 346 | 336 | 355 | 1000 | ppm | Total dissolved mineral constituents. |
| 2010 | Total Hardness (CaCO ₃) | 149 | 107 | 186 | N/A | ppm | Natural occurring calcium. |
| 2010 | Zinc | <0.01 | <0.01 | 0.17 | 5 | ppm | Abundant naturally occurring element. |

Total Coliform

| Year | Contaminant | Highest Monthly % of Positive Samples | MCL | Unit of Measure | Possible Source |
|------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2010 | Total Coliform Bacteria | 12.6 | * | Presence | Naturally present in the environment. |

* Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% or more of the monthly samples. REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA.

Violations Table

| Violation Type | Violation Begin | Violation End | Violation Explanation |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---|
| Total Coliform MCL, Monthly | 06/01/2010 | 06/30/2010 | Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment; while not disease-causing themselves, they are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. In an unusual occurrence, Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed in one month and this was a warning of potential problems. No pathogenic organisms (those which cause illness) and no indicators of fecal contamination have been detected. |
| Monitoring (TCR), Repeat (Minor) | 06/01/2010 | 06/30/2010 | We failed to collect all of the follow-up samples in response to finding Total Coliform bacteria in a routine sample. |

Steps to Correct Violations:

- 1) All samples had shown chlorine residuals greater than 2.8 ppm, which would protect the water system from minor contaminations.
- 2) No pathogenic organisms (those which cause illness) and no indicators of fecal contamination have been detected.
- 3) For the remainder of 2010, all water samples have tested "good", with no presence of Coliform bacteria.
- 4) Working with Plano Health Department and North Texas Municipal Water District, the City completed thorough replications of testing procedures to identify possible sources for the abnormal results. This testing review determined several sites were found to have physical problems which have been corrected.
- 5) For quality assurance, a private lab and environmental consultant were employed to corroborate results and evaluate our procedures. The private lab results did not detect Total Coliform bacteria, and the consultant recommended procedural changes which have been implemented.
- 6) Since the time of the violation, the City has been implementing extra monitoring for additional parameters such as monochloramines, pH, etc. in order to obtain more information to improve monitoring of water quality. It is the responsibility of the City to inform you of this isolated occurrence. Be assured that your water is and will continue to be safe to drink and use. Ensuring the quality of water delivered to City of Plano customers is of the utmost importance and every step is being taken to prevent any further occurrence.



Live Green Expo Celebrates!

The 2011 Live Green Expo was a tremendous success with over 15,000 attendees. North Texans learned more ways to go green and over 200 exhibitors provided information to save people a little green, while protecting the planet's green resources.

Here are a few exciting milestones from the 2011 Live Green Expo:

ZERO WASTE EVENT

Reached a diversion rate of 87 percent with a whopping 1,700 pounds of recyclable materials and 1,200 pounds of organics collected. (Only 400 pounds of trash were collected.)

DIY ROOM

150 bags were made from reused materials such as jeans and t-shirts.

BON APPÉTIT LOCAL FOOD CAFÉ

83 people savored local food products prepared by Collin College Culinary Arts students and sampled local wines.

RAIN BARREL WORKSHOPS

160 rain barrels were made and distributed.

COMPOST FAIR

Over 300 people attended the Compost Fair.

FOOD WASTE COMPOSTING

Over 200 people attended the food waste composting class featuring the use of worms.

TEXAS PURE

460 bags of compost were given away and more coupons from the Live Green Expo continue to be redeemed.

Partner-supported and volunteer-driven – The Live Green Expo planning committee thanks sponsors, participants, City of Plano staff members and most importantly, over 415 volunteers who filled 597 positions and donated approximately 2,200 hours toward the success of the event. The collaborative effort and heartfelt commitment of everyone involved, allowed the Expo to reach more people in more ways.



SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2012.

For developing Expo news and updates, bookmark our site and check back often – livegreenexpo.net.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE

- 11 Electronics Recycling**, 9 to 11 a.m.,
St. Andrew United Methodist Church
5801 W. Plano Parkway at Mira Vista
- 11 Environmental Waste Services Open House**,
9:30 to 11 a.m., Environmental Education Center,
4116 W. Plano Pkwy., FREE, Register
- 18 Electronics Recycling**, 9 to 11 a.m.,
Christ United Methodist Church
3101 Coit Road at Parker Road

JULY

- 2 Reuse Center - Closed**
- 2 Electronics Recycling**, 9 a.m. to Noon,
First United Methodist Church
3160 E. Spring Creek Parkway at Parker Road
- 4 City Offices - Closed**
Trash, recycling, yard trimmings and bulky waste
collections slide forward one day
(Mon on Tues, Tues on Wed, etc).
Reuse Center - Closed
**Texas Pure Custer Rd Retail site and Regional
Composting Facility in Melissa - Closed**
NTMWD Transfer Stations - Closed
- 9 Electronics Recycling**, 9 to 11 a.m.,
St. Andrew United Methodist Church
5801 W. Plano Parkway at Mira Vista
- 16 Electronics Recycling**, 9 to 11 a.m.,
Christ United Methodist Church
3101 Coit Road at Parker Road

AUGUST

- 6 Electronics Recycling**, 9 a.m. to Noon,
First United Methodist Church,
3160 E. Spring Creek Parkway at Parker Road
- 13 Electronics Recycling**, 9 to 11 a.m.,
St. Andrew United Methodist Church
5801 W. Plano Parkway at Mira Vista
- 20 Electronics Recycling**, 9 to 11 a.m.,
Christ United Methodist Church
3101 Coit Road at Parker Road

SEPTEMBER

- 3 Reuse Center - Closed**
- 3 Electronics Recycling**, 9 a.m. to Noon,
First United Methodist Church,
3160 E. Spring Creek Parkway at Parker Road
- 5 City Offices - Closed**
Trash, recycling, yard trimmings and bulky waste
collections slide forward one day
(Mon on Tues, Tues on Wed, etc).
Reuse Center - Closed
**Texas Pure Custer Rd Retail site and Regional
Composting Facility in Melissa - Closed**
NTMWD Transfer Stations - Closed
- 10 Electronics Recycling**, 9 to 11 a.m.,
St. Andrew United Methodist Church
5801 W. Plano Parkway at Mira Vista
- 17 Electronics Recycling**, 9 to 11 a.m.,
Christ United Methodist Church
3101 Coit Road at Parker Road
- 17 Environmental Waste Services Open House**,
9:30 to 11 a.m., Environmental Education Center,
4116 W. Plano Pkwy., FREE, Register
at livegreeninplano.obsres.com
- 22 - Oct. 27**
Live Green in Plano Volunteer Training,
Six consecutive Thursdays, 7 to 9 p.m.,
Environmental Education Center, 4116 W. Plano Pkwy.,
FREE, Register at livegreeninplano.obsres.com

Nominal fee charged for electronic recycling to ensure proper tracking measures of components.



City of Plano
Sustainability & Environmental Services Department
P.O. Box 860358
Plano, Texas 75086-0358

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Waving Goodbye to Weeds
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LGIP Volunteers in Action