



A polluted section of the Arroyo

The Arroyos current condition

Unfortunately the Arroyo Colorado is considered a highly polluted body of water containing high levels of foreign bacteria and pollutants due to years of unchecked storm water runoff, illegal dumping, and a combination of both point and nonpoint source pollution.

Thankfully due to the efforts of the Arroyo Colorado Watershed Protection Plan and the Stormwater Task Force, the Arroyo is slowly reverting back to its former glory, yet it is still nowhere close to being pollutant free.

About the Arroyo Colorado

Located in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of South Texas, the Arroyo Colorado runs through Hidalgo, Cameron and Willacy Counties. The Arroyo is approximately 90 miles long flowing mainly eastward before draining into the Laguna Madre. Originating from Lake Llano Grande in Hidalgo County and is sustained mainly by flows from municipal wastewater treatment facilities. The Arroyo Colorado has been used by generations of anglers, boaters, and swimmers and remains a popular destination for visitors to the area. However, despite its high use, most people give little thought to its history or health.

Contact Us

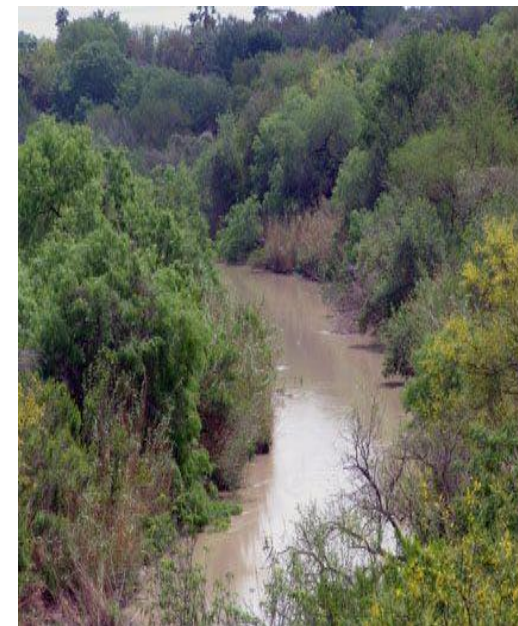
Lower Rio Grande Valley Storm Water
Task Force

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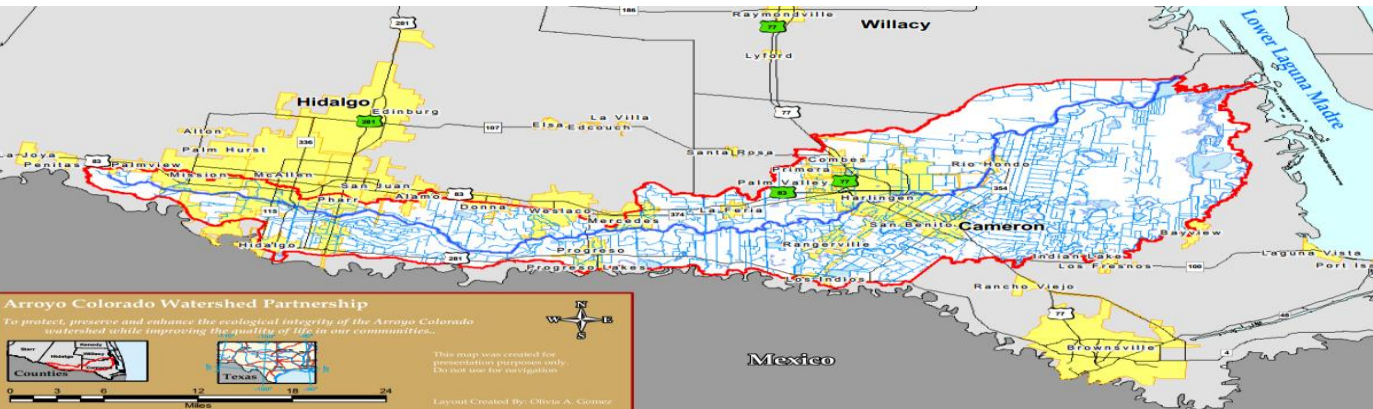
<http://www.stormwater.stei.org>

<http://www.even.tamuk.edu/>



Lower RGV Storm Water Task Force

*Arroyo Colorado: Its importance
and impairment*



Map of the Arroyo Colorado

Why it's important

- Primarily as a floodway and a conduit for wastewater conveyance.
- For commercial barge traffic and as a recreational area for boating and fishing.
- An important nursery and foraging area for numerous marine species.

"When the well is dry, we learn the wealth of water". -Ben Franklin

The Stormwater Task Force

The Stormwater Task Force is a combined effort between the University of Texas A@M Kingsville and multiple cities located in the Rio Grande Valley, dedicated to reducing the harmful effect of storm water in order to protect and conserve our local water bodies. By implementing various projects to help educate the public on the topic as well as taking affirmative action over the situation my monitoring and implementing best management projects(BMPs) as well as low impact development strategies.

Stormwater pollution

Stormwater runoff is rain that falls on streets, parking areas, sports fields, gravel lots, rooftops or other developed land and flows directly into nearby lakes and rivers carrying man made pollutants such as oil, fertilizers, pesticides and unwanted bacteria. These pollutants can build up over time destroying an ecosystem as well as forcing higher taxes on water due to the increased need for water treatment.



The Arroyo Colorado