

Construction

Section 5.4.6

Outreach



RESEARCH, APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

EDUCATION AND SERVICE

ABOUT US

Mission

RATES, Inc. is a 501 (c)3 Not-for-Profit Corporation formed to promote and coordinate the collaborative and cooperative use of technology by and among different educational and community service organizations and community residents for the benefit of the collaborating organizations, their clients, and community residents.

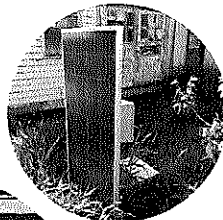
Services

RATES, Inc. offers advanced information technology facilities and related services, to participating organizations, to address environmental and public safety issues. With access to shared databases and through partnerships with institutions of higher learning, regulatory agencies, and regional public service departments, RATES provides in service training while supporting multi disciplinary and collaborative research.

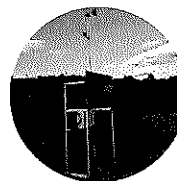
COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS

1. Lower RGV Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

Force: a collaborative effort between regional entities to develop and implement proactive storm water management practices.



2. Lower RGV Flood Response and Resiliency Network: a network of real time hydrologic monitoring stations coupled with a flood forecasting system and integrated decision support system.



3. Water Training Institute: a continuing education program to address the national workforce shortage of qualified water and wastewater treatment plant operators.

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WHEN IT RAINS, IT DRAINS IT ALL HAS TO GO SOMEWHERE

Water from inside our homes goes to a wastewater facility for purification. But water from roofs, streets, and outdoor spigots goes untreated directly into storm drains - straight to our waterways - picking up all kinds of contaminants along the way!

DID YOU KNOW

Excess nutrients, specifically nitrogen and phosphorus, pollute stormwater run-off from urban areas, contributing to **the third greatest cause of lake deterioration** in the US.

DID YOU KNOW

The amount of phosphorus in grass clippings from mowing your lawn just once can produce up to **100 pounds** of unwanted algae if it ends up in our lakes and ponds.

DID YOU KNOW

Leaf "litter" and landscape trash account for **56%** of phosphorus in urban stormwater, not to mention clogging storm drains, causing potential flooding and increasing debris in our waterways.

DID YOU KNOW

Just one pound of fertilizer over-application on the average lawn can equate to **34.2 pounds** of excess algae growth in streams and lakes.

DID YOU KNOW

When you wash your car in the driveway, you're washing about **120 gallons** of grime-filled water downstream. The soap, together with the dirt, grease, and grime flows untreated into nearby storm drains that run into lakes and streams.

DID YOU KNOW

If dog owners don't clean up after their pooches, **390 million pounds** of poop can wash into our waterways every year in just Colorado! Dog waste contains 10% phosphates and 2% nitrates, contributing to algae growth.