

Plum Creek Watershed Partnership Steering Committee Meeting

October 8, 2025 6:00 – 6:30 PM Kyle Public Library 550 Scott Street, Kyle, Texas

Meeting Summary

- The Watershed Coordinator (WC) began the meeting by welcoming everyone and doing quick introductions.
- o One Steering Committee member nomination was approved.
- There was a discussion regarding the wastewater treatment effluent limit recommendation. It was proposed to change the recommendation to: "When the Plum Creek WPP was developed in 2008, 12 wastewater facilities were permitted to discharge treated wastewater into Plum Creek, with a total maximum daily discharge of 12 MGD. Plum Creek currently receives treated wastewater from 30 outfalls that are associated with 22 different Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) permits located in the watershed (Figure 9 and Table 3). While there are still four permits pending, this reporting period shows an increase from the 2024 Update, which stated 24 outfalls with 19 permits. Based on the daily maximum flow allowances from Table 3, Plum Creek has the potential to receive up to 31.2 million gallons of effluent daily; this is a 160% increase since 2008.

Plum Creek is a wastewater-dominated stream. According to TCEQ's 2024 Texas Integrated Report, all three assessment units within Plum Creek have been identified as having a concern for Total Phosphorus. Analysis of phosphorus data collected at monitoring stations on the main stem of Plum Creek can be found beginning on page 39. Data collected from 2015 - 2025 show increasing trends in phosphorus in the middle and lower assessment units of Plum Creek, with a mean of 0.97 mg/L and 0.70 mg/L, respectively. Data from the upper assessment unit is not significantly increasing or decreasing, but has a mean of 1.53 mg/L, which is above the 0.69 mg/L screening criteria. While the Partnership originally recommended limits of 5-5-2-1 (5mg/L CBOD, 5mg/L TSS, 2 mg/L NH3-N, 1 mg/L phosphorus), the increasing levels of effluent discharged into the watershed and ongoing concerns for phosphorus have led the Steering Committee to recommend a more stringent phosphorus limit for wastewater treatment facilities. The Partnership strongly recommends that WWTPs discharging into Plum Creek and its tributaries strive to achieve a minimum 5-5-2-0.5 treatment levels (5 mg/L CBOD, 5 mg/L TSS, 2 mg/L NH3-N, 0.5 mg/L phosphorus). The Partnership recommends maintaining open communication with WWTPs to achieve optimal treatment levels. The Partnership encourages

- permittees to implement best available technology to meet ambient stream background conditions and implement beneficial reuse."
- o Because a quorum was not met, no action was taken on the proposed effluent recommendations. An email vote was requested by the Steering Committee.
- The WC notified the Steering Committee of the potential Texas A&M Forestry Service Watershed Protection Plan Implementation Grant. The WC hopes to restore riparian areas in the watershed with the grant funds.

Next Steering Committee Meeting: January 7, 2026

Location: TBD

Funding for this effort is provided through a federal Clean Water Act nonpoint source grant administered by the <u>Texas</u> Soil and Water Conservation Board from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.





Plum Creek Watershed Partnership Public Stakeholder Meeting

October 8, 2025 6:30 – 7:30 PM Kyle Public Library 550 Scott Street, Kyle, Texas

Meeting Summary

- The Watershed Coordinator (WC) began the meeting by providing a brief summary of the Plum Creek Watershed and the Partnership.
- The WC provided updates on the Feral Hog Trap Loan Program with Caldwell-Travis County Soil & Water Conservation District and Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority. Traps are available for Caldwell County landowners to help control feral hog populations.
- The WC shared watershed highlights and initiatives such as stormwater management. This included pet waste collection stations, monthly street sweeping, and rain gardens.
- The WC gave updates on upcoming events in the watershed, like the rainwater harvesting workshop and the Healthy Lawns, Healthy Waters program.
- The guest speaker, Texas Stream Teams Trainer, provided a presentation on the benefits of Texas Stream Teams and community scientists.
- The WC shared how to get more involved with the Plum Creek Watershed Partnership. Plum Creek Stewards is a volunteer water quality monitoring program. Training from Texas Stream Team is required, and volunteers are asked to monitor one site a month.
- The WC adjourned the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and reminded those interested that contact information and other resources were available on the table.

Next Public Stakeholder Meeting: Wednesday, April 8, 2026 Location: TBD

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