



**RIVER, LAKES,  
BAYS 'N BAYOUS TRASH BASH**

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NEWS RELEASE □

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*Photographs of past Trash Bash events can be downloaded at  
<http://www.trashbash.org/media.html>.*

24th ANNUAL TRASH BASH® SET FOR MARCH 25, 2017

*Thousands of volunteers to clean area waterways*

River, Lakes, Bays 'N Bayous Trash Bash® is pleased to announce the 24th annual cleanup of the Galveston Bay Watershed at 8:30 AM on March 25, 2017. This event promotes environmental stewardship of our watershed through public education by utilizing hands-on educational tools and developing partnerships between environmental, governmental and private organizations.

“March 25th marks the 24th year that Trash Bash® has cleaned our local waterways. The catalysts for its continued success are our committed sponsors and our dedicated volunteers,” said Lori Traweek, president of the Texas Conservation Fund. “They believe in what we are trying to accomplish with our message that prevention is key to controlling litter and we are all responsible to do our part.”

Get Involved

Wondering what you can do to protect our watershed? Consider volunteering or sponsorship.

*Volunteering*

Trash Bash® provides an opportunity for people from all age groups and walks of life to work together in order to accomplish a single goal: clean up the Galveston Bay Watershed.

Participating in this half-day cleanup event takes just three easy steps!

- (1) Visit [www.TrashBash.org](http://www.TrashBash.org) to select a site and download a registration waiver form.
- (2) Bring your completed and signed registration waiver form to your site's check-in station on the day of the event. *Volunteers under the age of 18 must have a parent or legal guardian sign their registration waiver form.*
- (3) Go out and "Clean It Like You Mean It!"

At check-in, volunteers are provided with gloves, trash bags, and cleanup instructions. Volunteers receive an official Trash Bash® t-shirt featuring the winning student art contest entry, free lunch, eligibility for door prizes, and lots of educational activities and materials. A commemorative patch is available for scouts and collectors.

Closed-toes shoes are required to participate. Please dress appropriately for work outdoors.

Groups of 10 or more are encouraged to reserve their location online and contact their site coordinator for special instructions.

### *Sponsorship Opportunities*

Participation in this important event doesn't mean you have to get your hands dirty. Multiple sponsorship levels are available for our corporate friends, along with gift-in-kind donations, and monetary contributions by private citizens/organizations. All contributions are tax-deductible and help further the cause of protecting our watershed. A Corporate Sponsorship Form can be found online. Inquiries about private and gifts-in-kind donations should be made to [lnorton@gewda.com](mailto:lnorton@gewda.com).

### Facts & Figures

Started in 1994 with 7 sites, Trash Bash® has grown to 14 sites across the Galveston Bay Watershed with thousands of volunteers participating each year.

In 2016, 4,578 volunteers cleaned a record 177 miles of shoreline, collected 53.9 tons of trash and 518 discarded tires, and recycled 1.4 tons of material. Of the volunteers, 2,234 were under 18 years of age, further contributing to the mission of Trash Bash® to educate and empower the next generation to care for the watershed. About 30% of the volunteers were scouts.

Cumulative results for 23 consecutive events are available on the website.

For more information, visit [www.TrashBash.org](http://www.TrashBash.org), call the Trash Bash® Hotline at (281) 486-9500, or email [WaterResources@h-gac.com](mailto:WaterResources@h-gac.com).