

## **Nolan Creek/South Nolan Creek Watershed**

Since 1996, Segment 1218 of Nolan Creek/South Nolan Creek (SNC) has been listed on the State of Texas Water Quality Inventory and 303(d) List as impaired due to elevated bacteria concentrations. The Segment 1218 of SNC was originally listed as a Category 5(c), indicating that the TCEQ needed more water quality data before a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) would be scheduled. With the release of the 2006 303(d) list, Segment 1218 of SNC was elevated Category 5(a). Category 5(a) means that a TMDL is underway, scheduled, or will be scheduled in the near term.

On November 14, 1995, the City Council authorized the City Manager execute a letter of commitment between the City of Killeen and the Brazos River Authority for Nolan Creek Watershed Water Quality Monitoring. On February 22, 2005, the City Council authorized the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the TCEQ to conduct Assessment and Targeting of Bacteriological Sources in the Nolan Creek Watershed as a CWA Section 319(h) grant project (CCM/R 05-18R). The project team identified in the TCEQ agreement included technical support by Carter & Burgess (now Jacobs Engineering). This project was completed in August 2008 and the report was accepted by the TCEQ in February 2009 ([SNCFinalReport.pdf](#)) This project was presented to the Water/Sewer/Drainage Committee and City Council in June of 2009. ([060209SNCGrantPresentationToWSD.pdf](#))

The State of Texas Non-Point Source Pollution (NSP) program recognizes failing septic systems as a significant pollutant source that threatens public health. The City's SNC 319(h) grant study confirmed exceedances of the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (TSWQS) for bacteria and identified on-site sewage facilities (OSSFs) (i.e., septic tanks) as one of the major potential sources of surface water degradation in the SNC Watershed. The grant study also confirmed elevated nutrient levels, which were three to six times greater than the TCEQ screening levels. An estimated 400 septic systems in various states of repair and efficiency exist within the SNC Watershed that is part of the City of Killeen municipal utility service area. In accordance with the City's approved Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) surface water discharge permit, the City of Killeen is addressing failing and failed septic systems by continuing its Septic Tank Elimination Program (STEP) and public education regarding proper septic tank maintenance.

In October 2009 the City Council authorize the City Manager to issue a letter of commitment for in kind services to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for the SNC (Segment 1218) Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) proposed by Texas Agrilife. The SNC WPP Proposal was prepared in light of the results of the water quality tests performed since 1995 and the current designation of SNC as Category 5(a). The proposal was not selected by the TCEQ for Clean Water Act, Section 319(h) FY10 grant funding. However, city staff has been performing periodic dry weather testing along SNC within the City of Killeen in accordance with the City's adopted Storm Water Management Program.