

Killeen Guide for... Seeps & Springs

What are Seeps and Springs?

Seeps and Springs come from areas with naturally occurring groundwater that rises from the bedrock or soil to become surface water. The difference between the two is the rate of flow. Seep water rises to the surface quickly and continuously. Spring water, on the other hand, rises slowly and intermittently.



Why Do We Have Seeps in Killeen?

Killeen is located on a kind of landscape known as karst, a type of bedrock that has undergone chemical erosion giving it a sponge-like appearance. The type of karst depends on the type of bedrock and long-term erosion. Killeen's bedrock is made of limestone karst which is riddled with tiny holes perfect for causing seeps.

How Does Karst Form?

Limestone is chemically erosive when it comes in contact with carbonic acid, a mild acid made of water and carbon dioxide, commonly found in acid rain and soda. Just as a coin begins to dissolve in soda, so does limestone in acid rain. Fortunately, the chemical erosion takes several thousand years to occur.

You can reach us by clicking on the QR Code
or by emailing:

Stormwater@killeentexas.gov



What Do Seeps, Springs, and Utility Leaks Look Like?

- ◆ Groundwater Seeps — clear water with tiny air bubbles and green algae nearby; may have an odor, sheet flow.
- ◆ French Drains — same as ground water seep minus algae.
- ◆ Springs — a single point system.
- ◆ Water Line Leaks — clear water with chlorine and air bubbles.
- ◆ Sanitary Sewer Line Leaks — clear/cloudy/grey water; may have foul odor.

What Factor Affect Seep Locations?

There are three key factors that determine where and when seeps will pop up throughout the City of Killeen.

- ◆ Bedrock — the more holes and cracks there are in the bedrock, the more likely seeps will form.
- ◆ Water Table — abundant rain raises the water table causing more seeps to well up.
- ◆ Artificial Discharge — leaks from utility lines.

How The City Can Help

- ◆ Site Inspections.
- ◆ Testing for chlorine/bacteria.
- ◆ Evaluation for minor Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)
- ◆ Assist resident with local private options

You Can Help Keep Killeen a Beautiful City!

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