Trinity River Paddling Trail

Trinity Coalition
TRINITY RIVER, DALLAS-FORT WORTH, TEXAS

The Urban Stretch of the Trinity River that runs through the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex has historically been inaccessible. For decades the river has become increasingly contaminated by pollutants such as urban and agricultural runoff, illegal dumping, and litter. While the Trinity River water quality conditions have improved, there is still much that can be done to ensure a clean and healthy river remains for generations to come.

7.4 million people in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex depend on the Trinity River water supply for domestic, industrial, and agricultural use. In addition, the downstream population of 6 million people, including the city of Houston, depend on this water source and are directly impacted by the actions of upstream users.

With the support of local municipalities, Trinity Coalition is increasing river access by creating a contiguous 130-mile Trinity River Paddling Trail that will provide countless recreation and education opportunities and foster stewardship by increasing public awareness about the importance of the Trinity River and its associated ecosystems.

Currently, 21 launch sites exist across the following cities: Fort Worth, Arlington, Irving, Carrollton, Lewisville, and Dallas. Trinity Coalition’s goal is to work with cities along the Trinity River to install informational kiosks at each launch site, create additional launch sites to shorten the paddling distance between existing launch sites, and make launch sites accessible for more users.

Trinity Coalition’s future plans for the Trinity River Paddling Trail include receiving the National Park Service’s National Trail Designation and extending the paddling trail along the entire length of the Trinity River to its terminus at Galveston Bay and the Gulf of Mexico.

The entire Trinity River Watershed encompasses 18,000+ SQUARE MILES

7% of the total land area of Texas

Travels through 38 TEXAS COUNTIES 5 ECOREGIONS

22 MAJOR RESERVOIRS within the Trinity River Basin provide drinking water to urban and rural communities

14+ MILLION PEOPLE depend on the Trinity River as a water source
IMPACT

- Increase in awareness, access, and volunteers will aid in reducing the $8,546,200 spent annually by Fort Worth alone to prevent, combat and clean up litter and illegal dumping, and to keep it from ending up in waterways.¹
- A dedicated Riverkeeper to monitor and improve the Trinity River water quality and riparian habitat.
- Recreation, education, and volunteer opportunities for more than 7 million people.
- Blue space, such as the Trinity River promote social connections and recreation which can be beneficial for mental and physical health.

Texan by Nature is working with Trinity Coalition to broaden awareness and educate the public about the importance of the Trinity River through increasing recreation, education, and volunteer opportunities. TxN is working with Trinity Coalition to make connections to new partners, increase volunteer recruitment, develop informational materials, and more!

¹ THE COST OF LITTER & ILLEGAL DUMPING IN TEXAS - A STUDY OF NINE CITIES ACROSS THE STATE, February 2017, Burns & McDonnell

NEEDS

- **Funding:** Financial support to sustain two river-based staff members, organizational operations, volunteer days, water quality monitoring, educational materials, marketing/communications resources, and paddling excursions.
- **Partners:** Connections to expand the reach of the project.
- **Volunteers:** Volunteers for citizen science reporting on water quality and to help keep the Trinity River and its surrounding habitats clean.

For more information visit texanbynature.org or contact us at programs@texanbynature.org or 512-284-7482.