



Dear GEAA members and friends,

As reported earlier, in May the [City of San Marcos](#) joined [Austin](#) in banning the use of [coal-tar sealants](#) - and we hope [San Antonio is fixing to do the same](#). This coming Thursday (6/30) Mayor Taylor and San Antonio City Council will vote to ban the use of PAH (coal-tar) sealants. [Click here](#) for agenda (item 19).

I received the following from Liza Meyer at the San Antonio Office of Sustainability: *"I want to thank each of you for the tremendous support during our public comment processes. June 30th Council Session will be a milestone for San Antonio's environment as City Council will consider a ban on coal tar based sealants and a policy limiting the idling of heavy duty vehicles... You are welcome to attend in person or you can watch the proceedings on [TVSA](#)."* Our thanks go out to Ms. Meyer and the [City of San Antonio Office of Sustainability](#), as well! Also supporting the measure is the [San Antonio River Authority](#).

In celebration of this occasion, [Cola Tar Free America](#) will be *"bringing our readers our first livestream event of what may become the nation's largest city to ban toxic coal tar sealers."* You can watch and leave comments about the proceedings, even if you can't attend, by [clicking here](#).

We are very grateful to San Antonio Councilman [Ron Nirenberg](#) for championing the ban, and to Dr. Vincent Nathan, Interim Director of San Antonio Metropolitan Health and Doug McMurry, executive vice president of the San Antonio Chapter of the Associated General Contractors for joining Councilman Nirenberg in submitting [this powerful opinion piece](#) to the San Antonio Express News. They observed that *"some coal-tar holdouts are working to counter independent research with public relations campaigns intended to mislead the public."* So, it might be a good idea to advise [Mayor Taylor and the San Antonio City Council](#) not to be taken in by [misleading information](#).

We hope that municipal bans on this compound that is polluting our water may spur the [Trustees of the Edwards Aquifer Authority](#) to revisit this issue and move to ban coal tar sealants throughout the entire Edwards region.

On other news, thanks to all of you San Antonio folks who contacted your City Council members about the purchase of 204 acres of land on the north side of San Antonio. Unfortunately, City Council did vote unanimously for the purchase, which means we will have to be vigilant to make sure that Edwards Aquifer Protection Program funds are not used again to subsidize development of the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone.

And, if you are looking for a place to cool off this summer, you will be pleased to learn that Texas Monthly included [six swimming holes](#) in the Edwards region among their top 19. This is exactly what we are working for. Should the EAA pass a region-wide ban on coal tar sealants these treasures will, no doubt, become even more delightful.

Finally, a shout out to [EarthShare Texas](#), a major supporter of GEAA. If you work for a state or federal agency or the military, the City of San Antonio, San Antonio School Districts, any State University, or [many businesses](#), you can donate to GEAA through your payroll giving plan via EarthShare. Please contact me if your business would like to offer your employees the opportunity to give to GEAA and other great environmental groups through EarthShare.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Annalisa Peace
Executive Director
[Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance](#)

You can always keep up with interesting water news on [GEAA's Face Book page](#)

You can donate to GEAA [on line](#) or mail a check to PO Box 15618, San Antonio, Texas 78212