



Accomplishments in 2021

In Comal County, GEAA's nearly four years of work to support Bulverde Neighborhoods for Clean Water and the City of Bulverde have yielded a breakthrough in an effort to preserve Honey Creek, one of the few remaining pristine streams in the Texas Hill Country and flows through land owned by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) on its way to the Guadalupe River. After opposing a proposed dense housing development upstream of Honey Creek in Comal County, GEAA's ongoing advocacy and the settlement we negotiated in 2020 over the Honey Creek wastewater discharge permit helped catalyze a proposal to convert the private ranch land into a public park, rather than a subdivision. TPWD commissioners approved of funding for the park in August 2021, though discussions needed to finalize the land agreement are still ongoing.

GEAA was also successful in summer 2021 after opposing a San Antonio Water System to route a sewage pipeline planned over private ranch land on the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone protected by the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program. GEAA Executive Director Annalisa Peace helped influence news coverage by multiple San Antonio outlets, including the San Antonio Express-News and San Antonio Report, by encouraging affected landowners to agree to interviews with the outlets. After a strong reaction from the SAWS board, the utility announce it would shift the pipeline to a less sensitive area in June 2021.

Seeking to broaden and strengthen GEAA's efforts in 2022, we posted a job announcement to hire a new full-time staff member in June 2021. Through the fundraising efforts of Annalisa Peace and GEAA board members, GEAA was instead able to bring on two new staff members, Assistant Manager Brendan Gibbons and Technical Director Nathan Glavy. GEAA officially announced their hiring in December 2021.