

Brad Lawson

Public Comment — Edwards Aquifer Protection Program

Dear TCEQ Commissioners,

I am a resident of Salado, Texas, and I am writing to express my strong support for evaluating the expansion of the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program into Bell County, including the watershed surrounding Salado Creek.

My family owns two homes along Salado Creek, and this beautiful waterway is an incredibly special part of our lives. We spend time at the creek almost every day when the weather allows, enjoying its natural beauty, wildlife, and peaceful surroundings. It is a place that brings our family tremendous joy, and one that I feel a deep personal responsibility to help protect.

I was born in Hawaii, where I developed a lifelong appreciation for nature and especially for water. That connection has stayed with me throughout my life, and I feel it just as strongly here in Salado. Our creek is a precious natural resource, and I believe we have a responsibility to preserve it for future generations.

As our community continues to grow, I worry about the potential impact of development on our waterways and groundwater. I recognize that growth is inevitable and important, but I also believe that protecting our natural resources must be part of how we plan for that growth. Once these resources are damaged or contaminated, restoring them can be extraordinarily difficult, if not impossible.

I respectfully ask TCEQ to begin the scientific evaluation and public process necessary to consider extending Edwards Aquifer protections into Bell County, as outlined in Dirk Aaron's thoughtful comments. I believe taking a proactive approach today is far better than waiting until we face environmental problems that could have been prevented.

Salado Creek is more than just a waterway to me. It is part of our home, our community, and our family's everyday life. I want future generations to experience the same beauty, tranquility, and connection to nature that we are fortunate enough to enjoy today.

Thank you for considering my comments and for your work to protect the natural resources that make Central Texas such a special place to live.

Respectfully,
Brad Lawson
Salado, Texas