

# Tips

80% of litter found in North Texas Creeks & lakes traveled from locations on land.

75% of Earth is covered with water but only a tiny portion of it is available to support people. Less than 3% of the Earth's Water is fresh and most of that is trapped in glaciers and ice caps. We get what's left... less than 1% of the Earth's water is readily available.

We are all water creatures. It makes up 60% of our body; 70% of our brains; 80% of our blood. We can go almost a month without food, but our body can't survive 1 week without water.

Of all the freshwater we take out of rivers, lakes, and ground 70% is used for agriculture, 22% is used for industrial processes and 8% is pumped into cities and homes for drinking, washing and water.

Where does that litter go?

- Rainfall washes litter into storm drains.
- Storm drains lead to the nearest body of water and dump litter into our North Texas creeks and rivers.
- Those creeks and rivers drain into area reservoirs, which happen to be the source of our drinking water supplies.

A Few Facts

- Motorists generate 52% of litter along roadways and highways.\*
- On average there are 51 billion pieces of litter found on roadways, that's 6,729 items alone per mile of roadway!\*\*
- Litter cleanup costs the U.S. more than \$11.5 billion each year – The Metroplex racked up around \$23M in litter cleanup costs.\*\*\*

Chunk Recyclables too!

- Recycling 1 ton of paper saves 17 mature trees, 7,000 gallons of water, 3 cubic yards of landfill space, 2 barrels of oil, and 4,100 kilowatt-hours of electricity — enough energy to power the average American home for five months. (EPA, 2008)
- Recycling paper instead of making it from new material generates 74 percent less air pollution and uses 50 percent less water. (EPA, 2008)
- Toss out one aluminum can and you waste as much energy as if you'd filled the same can half-full with gasoline and poured it onto the ground.\*\*\*\*
- The 36 billion aluminum cans discarded in landfills last year had a scrap value of more than \$600 million. Someday we'll be mining our landfills for the resources we've buried!\*\*\*\*\*