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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Record Breaking Participation Marks Clean Up's 16<sup>th</sup> Year** *16<sup>th</sup> Annual Basura Bash offered 16 cleanup locations with upwards of 3,500 volunteers*

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Basura Bash River and Waterways Clean Up took place on Saturday with approximately 3,500 volunteers picking up trash and recycling waste. The event's success relies on the number of volunteers who are willing to roll up their sleeves, get dirty, and clean up the local waterways. This year marks the largest in Basura Bash history as more tributaries were cleaned with a record-breaking number of volunteers. This year's goal for volunteer participation was surpassed bringing the number of volunteers who pitched in to upwards of 3,500. Volunteers were given a free t-shirt or reusable tote bag, and lunch.

New tributaries included in the clean up efforts at Salado Creek at the International Airport and East Bitters Road, Six Mile Creek at the Missions National Historical Park, and Martinez Creek at Cincinnati Street and University Avenue. While returning tributaries include the Brackenridge Park Area along with Alazán Creek, Indian Creek, Leon Creek, Medina River Natural Area, Olmos Creek, four other segments of Salado Creek, Woodlawn Lake and Zarzamora Creek.

The annual event promotes awareness of the importance of keeping our waterways and its tributaries clean and to increase stewardship through volunteerism. In addition to picking up trash, volunteers collected recyclable waste that was hauled to recycling facilities, instead of the landfill, and Corona Visions Electronic Recycling provided a drop off station at Mission County Park for unwanted computers, cell phones, TV's and other various electronics.

The Basura Bash is made possible through the volunteer and sponsorship efforts of the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, San Antonio River Authority, H-E-B, Valero, San Antonio Water Systems, Greenstar Recycling, San Antonio Testing Lab, Body Lingo, SeaWorld, Corona Visions, Raba-Kistner Consultants, Weston Solutions, Intertek Automotive Research, the Society of American Military Engineers, Firestone Complete Auto Care, Keep San Antonio Beautiful, Blue Star Brewing Company, RJ Rivera Associates, Waste Management, CH2M Hill, Frost Bank, River City Waste, AT&T Pioneers, Medina Consulting Company, iMAP Group, Bartlett Cocke, VIA Metropolitan Transit, Jacobs Engineering Group, Silver Eagle Distributing, and Ximenes & Associates.

With more volunteers and clean-up locations, this year's event hopes to surpass last year's collection numbers and continue to raise awareness so San Antonio River and waterway users will think green and keep it clean. Last year's volunteers collected 4.5 tons of recyclable material, eliminated 30.34 tons of trash from being sent further downstream, and pulled out about 5.5 tons of tires from San Antonio waterways. Totals for this year's event will be posted to the Basura Bash website at [www.basurabash.org](http://www.basurabash.org) by April 30.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL SONIA JIMENEZ AT (210) 872-5437 OR VISIT [WWW.BASURABASH.ORG](http://WWW.BASURABASH.ORG)**