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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Let's Get Dirty and Clean Up Our Waterways** *Annual Basura Bash still growing with 16 cleanup locations*

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Basura Bash River Clean Up is scheduled for Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m.-noon at 16 locations throughout Bexar County. (Visit [www.basurabash.org](http://www.basurabash.org) for more details on specific locations.) For three hours, thousands of volunteers will get down and dirty and clean up the banks of the San Antonio River as well as several tributaries.

This year's event marks the largest in its history as more tributaries are added to the areas being cleaned. New tributaries include 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, Salado Creek, Woodlawn Lake and Zarzamora Creek.

The Basura Bash's success relies on the number of volunteers who are willing to get dirty and clean up the local waterways. This year's goal for volunteer participation is 3,000. Volunteers will be given a free t-shirt or tote bag, lunch, and community service vouchers are available.

Last year's volunteers prevented 3.04 tons of recyclable material from going to the landfill, eliminated 30.34 tons of trash from being sent further downstream, collected 1.5 tons of scrap metal, and pulled out about 5.5 tons of tires from San Antonio waterways.

The Basura Bash is the largest volunteer clean-up of the San Antonio River and its tributaries. It is an annual event to raise awareness of the importance of keeping our waterways and its tributaries clean and to increase stewardship through volunteerism. Basura Bash is also recognized as an event that encourages responsible disposal of reusable and recyclable waste. All plastic, rubber, and other recyclable waste will be hauled to recycling facilities instead of the landfill and Corona Visions Electronic Recycling will once again provide a drop off station at Mission County Park for unwanted computers, cell phones, TV's and 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.

This year's event hopes to surpass last year's numbers and continue to raise awareness so San Antonio River and waterway users will think green and keep it clean. To register as a volunteer, please visit the event website at [www.basurabash.org](http://www.basurabash.org).

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