

Sustainability Snapshot

KIDS COLLEGE SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS



MCC Kids College students working on their community garden outside the CSC

Kids College now offers educational opportunities for school-aged students throughout the school year through MCC's Continuing Education classes.

In the Kids College program, we promote sustainability by reusing and recycling materials in our activities.

Leftover cardboard, donated newspapers, plastic bottles, and egg cartons are often used in art and science projects. We always appreciate any donations that help support these creative efforts.

Additionally, our students will soon begin working on the community garden boxes outside the CSC E wing.

Plans are in place to plant spring vegetables, providing students with hands-on experience in growing, harvesting, and sharing food as they learn about where our food comes from and how to care for the earth.

MCC'S CONTINUING ED CERTIFICATION COURSE



Community Composter Certification

The Community Composter Certification Course trains McLennan County residents in advanced composting to build a network of educators. This six-week course includes 1-2 field trips, 25 hours of volunteer work, and an independent project. Participants will learn to promote composting within the community.

Location: Urban REAP, 1509 N. 15th St., Waco, Texas

Cost: \$25

March 20-April 24 TH, 6-8 p.m. HALT 1005.11



TEXAS ARBOR DAY
HOSTED BY THE TREE COMMITTEE

We appreciate everyone who came out to celebrate Texas Arbor Day with us last Fall at MCC's ESEC.

LIFE IS GREEN AT MCC

M
MCLENNAN
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

LUNCH WITH THE MASTERS SERIES

MCC's Continuing Ed *Lunch with the Masters* is returning this Spring. This free class meets every third Wednesday, beginning on February 19, 2025.

- Emergency Services Education Center (ESEC), 7601 Steinbeck Bend
- From 12pm – 2pm. Please call 254-757-5180 for more details

Be sure to bring your lunch or a snack, and a drink to this session.

This is a free program offered to anyone in the community by the McLennan County Master Gardeners, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension.

To contact the MCC sustainability committee, please feel free to send an email to sustainability@mclennan.edu



ADOPT A SPOT

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN
KEEP WACO BEAUTIFUL & THE CITY OF WACO

The Sustainability Committee has a Spring street cleanup scheduled for Thursday, April 10, beginning at 1:00 pm.

All volunteers will meet in Parking Lot R on Powell Drive before 1pm.

More details will be coming soon.

SPRING SHRED DAY

FRIDAY, APRIL 11 2025 – 7:30 – 10:30 AM – MAC PARKING LOT

- For assistance with picking up shred materials before the event, email Cynthia Niles at cniles@mclennan.edu or call her at 254-299-8863.
- Bring your shred items from both home and work.
- Please bring your material to the truck by 10:15 am.
- We will also accept AA, AAA, hearing aid, and standard 9V batteries to recycle and dispose of properly. Please bring these in a separate container.

MCC'S CONTINUING ED EDUCATIONAL CLASS

New Landowner Educational Series

The McLennan County AgriLife Extension will host a New & Small Landowner Educational Class designed to help property owners understand and manage their land effectively. Topics include Wildlife Management, Property Tax Valuation updates, Intro to Beekeeping, NRCS & USDA updates, Pond Management 101, Livestock Production, Business planning for small acreage landowners, Cottage Food Law Updates, and more. Guest speakers and specialists will present on various topics. For those who cannot attend in person, a virtual option will be available.

Location: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office, 4224 Cobbs Dr., Waco, Texas

Cost: \$49

April 14-May 12 M, 6-8 p.m. HALT 1012.02

REDUCE . REUSE . DIVERT

Waco takes pride in being able to divert from the landfill and recycle. Here are a few ways you can make a sustainable impact with local resources in our community.

GLASS RECYCLING



Look for the large purple roll-off dumpsters in Waco at:

- McLennan Community College in Parking Lot S
 - Heritage Square in Downtown Waco
 - East Waco Library
- Goodwill Headquarters on New Road

Containers are free and available 24/7 for glass bottles and food glass jars. Remember, only glass can be tossed in the containers – **please no bags or boxes!**

CAMPUS RECYCLING

Recycle Bin



Please help to keep Waco and MCC Clean!



ACCEPTABLE: Paper, junk mail, magazines, newspapers, clean plastics & cans (no liquid), cardboard, boxes, cartons – **NO FOOD RESIDUE!**

NOT ACCEPTABLE! Shredded paper, frozen food boxes, food waste, garbage, coffee cups, toys



NOT ACCEPTABLE! Scrap metal, batteries, shopping plastic bags, Styrofoam, electronics, aerosol cans, clothes

Sustainability in the Community

YOU HELPED KEEP WACO BEAUTIFUL IN 2024

OUR VOLUNTEERS HAVE CONTRIBUTED
\$122,514.47
ECONOMIC VALUE TO WACO

EVERY VOLUNTEER HOUR IS GIVING
BACK \$33.49 OF ECONOMIC VALUE
TO OUR CITY, THROUGH CLEANUPS
AND BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS.



BY THE END OF 2024,
WE ALL DIVERTED

**7.76
TONS**

OF WASTE, AND 455.5
BAGS OF TRASH FROM
OUR CITY STREETS,
PARKS, AND WATERWAYS!

IN 2024, WE INVESTED
\$20,000

IN BEAUTIFICATION
EFFORTS IN WACO

CREATING GREEN NEIGHBORHOODS
WITH THE COMMUNITY AT
COMMUNITY GARDENS AND
ACCESSIBLE SPACES.



<https://www.keepwacobeautiful.org/volunteer>

CITY OF WACO WINTER WEATHER TIPS

Winter weather is already upon us, Waco! Here are some tips to help you take care of your house and pets:

- Cover all outdoor faucets.
- If you find a leak at home, turn off the water using the valve next to your meter. (Make sure you know where your water valve is!)
- Insulate indoor and outdoor pipes.
- Open cabinet doors, allowing heat to get to uninsulated pipes under sinks.
- Let water drip overnight, especially on outside walls.
- Bring your pets inside - exposure to extreme temperatures can lead to hypothermia, frostbite, and even death.
- Cover plants with plastic, or bring them inside a warm space or a green house.



Our landfill is one of the area's single largest emitters of greenhouse gas pollution. This happens because organic matter (like food waste) creates methane, which is more potent than carbon dioxide for its impact on global climate change. The best solution we have to deal with this problem is keeping food waste out of the landfill. Click here to begin working with one of the [SCRAP Collective partners](#) to turn your food waste into compost.

Creating Green NEIGHBORHOODS

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FEB-APRIL

Help us beautify and transform Baylor Scott & White Getterman Wellness Center's outdoor walking track to benefit their clinic patients!



THANKS TO OUR GRANT FUNDERS:



Creating Green Neighborhoods takes a deeper approach to strategically problem solving and creating beautification in neighborhoods across Waco, Texas.

We envision a vibrant city that our community has the opportunity to benefit from beautiful surroundings. With that vision, we play a role alongside valuable residents who share the mission of a more beautiful Waco!

We aim to collaborate with groups who care about beautifying our city. While we understand navigating the processes can be tricky, we are here to help bring your vision to reality.

Urban REAP Community Workshop: Fruit Trees!

Did you know some fruit trees need a certain number of chill hours to produce fruit? Did you know that pruning your trees means you will get more fruit? Come to our Fruit Tree Workshop this month to hear from horticulturalist Sarah Mayo to learn the basics of fruit tree pruning, get hands-on experience pruning Urban REAP's peach trees, and get your orchard questions answered!



Date: February 22, 2025 - 11:00 am to 12:30 pm - **Event Location:** Urban REAP – at 1509 North 15th Street

Click here for more information: <https://missionwaco.org/urban-reap/>

KEEP WACO BEAUTIFUL WORLD WATER DAY



WORLD WATER DAY

MARCH 22 | RIVER CLEANUP + WATERFEST
WATERFEST IS FREE AND FOR YOUTH OF ALL AGES

PRESENTED BY: **TRUETT INSURANCE**

World Water Day is a day to engage communities together for water-related education, fostering a sense of collective responsibility on the global water crisis. In conjunction with this global observance, we are partnering with City of Waco Watershed Protection, Baylor University Office of Sustainability, Baylor University Center for Reservoir Aquatic Systems Research, City of Waco Wetlands, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and many others.

This one-day FREE event will kick off with a river cleanup on The Brazos River, followed by on-site STEAM/STEM activities for attendees of all ages. This event is perfect for area schools to bring students to learn more about the importance of clean water.

Free family event - open to the public, and to all ages. Any questions can be emailed to jacob@keepwacobeautiful.org

GET INVOLVED WITH KEEP WACO BEAUTIFUL!

Every volunteer hour is contributing \$33.49 of economic value to Waco.

Our volunteers are EVERYTHING! We have year-round activities engaging our community to make a difference in multiple ways.

Check out our upcoming volunteer activities and get involved!



VOLUNTEER EVENTS:

Green Neighborhoods:
February to April

Trash Free Brazos:
March to April

Trash, Dash & Bash:
Saturday, April 12

Earth Week:
April 22 – 24

Click here for volunteer opportunities:
keepwacobeautiful.org/volunteer

HOUSE BILL: PFAS CHEMICALS

89(R) HB 1674: Many fertilizers contain "forever chemicals" (PFAS). There is evidence PFAS chemicals are linked to environmental and health problems. This bill seeks to severely limit how many PFAS chemicals can be used in commercial agricultural fertilizers.

89(R) HB 1730: This bill seeks to provide money to study the effects of PFAS chemicals on public health.