Texas Conservation Corps at American YouthWorks

Youth Engagement in Ecological Restoration: A Useful Tool For Land Managers and Professional Development
An Introduction to TxCC

• An AmeriCorps National Service program
  – Youth and young adults
  – Participants earn a living stipend and an education award

• TxCC
  – Focus on Leadership Development, Habitat Restoration and Management, Trail Construction and Maintenance, and Disaster Response and Mitigation
  – Work with a diverse group of agencies, both locally and regionally
Overview of 3 Projects

• Bull Creek District Park Riparian Restoration and Stormwater Treatment (2010)
• Barton Creek Greenbelt Trail Crew (2011)
• San Antonio Acequia Restoration (On-going)
Bull Creek District Park Riparian Restoration and Stormwater Treatment

• Formerly an off-leash dog park in West Austin
• City of Austin identified significant resource degradation
• Restoration focused on the southern end of the park
Profile A-A Through Centerline of Rain Garden

- 8"-12" rock apron underlain by geotextile fabric
- Top of Containment Wall Elev. 539.5, or ≥ 3" higher than ground surface, whichever is greater, but maximum elevation not to exceed 540
- Existing ground surface
- WQV Elevation = 539
- 6" ponding depth
- 12" soil media
- 3" pea gravel layer 5' wide along centerline of pond

See Rain Garden Outlet Detail
Rain Garden Construction
City Of Austin also specified:

Cedar and Limestone Terracing
Permanent Soil Retention Fabric

Coir Logs

Cedar Exclusion Fencing
Significant Flood Event in September 2010
The Barton Creek Greenbelt path is a multi-use trail. Please respect the rights of others using the trail. Maintain control and safe speeds while cycling. Bicyclists are always required to yield to hikers. Notify others before passing. Please stay on designated trail (making other trails creates erosion problems). Stay out of closed areas - these areas are undergoing revegetation. Dogs must be controlled; a leash law is enforced. Special note: trail use is extremely high on weekends and during the holidays. Trail closures are possible due to high water and/or muddy trail conditions. Frequent creek crossings will require wading through waist deep water (except during the dry seasons).

Flood Warning: Barton Creek is susceptible to dangerous flooding. If the Barton Creek watershed has received heavy rainfall exercise extreme caution. Call 512.472.1267 for the latest trail information or visit the LCRA on the web at http://www.lcra.org for stream flow information.

map copyright edward tasch 2005
Invasive Species Removal

Targeted Species: Ligustrum, Nandina, Chinaberry

Over 100 Acres Treated and Managed
Bank Stabilization
Twin Falls, MoPac and
Gus Fruh
Trail Work
Drains, Erosion Control Features, Stepping Stones, Signage, Flood Debris Removal
San Antonio Acequia Restoration

What is an Acequia?
Example: Acequia Espada and Acequia San Juan
Invasive Species Removal in Partnership with the National Park Service Exotic Plant Management Team (EPMT)
In Partnership with
San Antonio Missions
National Historic Park
Restoration of a historic waterway for the San Juan Colonial Demonstration Farm as part of the San Antonio Missions NHP
Partnerships, Pre-professionals, and the Public