

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN
H.B. Ruckman, III

VICE CHAIR
Louis E. Rowe

SECRETARY
JC Turner

TREASURER
Leo J. Gleinser

MEMBER-AT-LARGE
Thomas G. Weaver

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bexar County
District 1
Jim Johnson

District 2
Roberto G. Rodriguez

District 3
Louis E. Rowe

District 4
Thomas G. Weaver

Wilson County
A.D. Kollodziej, Jr.
JC Turner

Karnes County
Truett Hunt
H.B. Ruckman, III

Goliad County
Adair Sutherland
Leo J. Gleinser

At Large
Nancy M. Steves
Sally Buchanan

General Manager
Gregory E. Rothe

PARKS

Calaveras Lake
12991 Bernhardt Rd.
San Antonio, TX. 78220
210-635-8359
calaveraspark@sara-tx.org

Braunig Lake
17500 Donop Rd.
San Antonio, TX. 78233
210.635.8289
braunigpark@sara-tx.org

General Inquiries:
sara@sara-tx.org
www.sara-tx.org
www.sanantonioriver.org



SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY

Water Brings Us Together

HEADQUARTERS:

100 East Guenther
San Antonio, Texas 78204
Phone: (210) 227-1373
Toll Free: (866) 345-7272

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 839980
San Antonio, Texas
78283-9980

MISSION:

The San Antonio River Authority is entrusted to protect and preserve our shared water resources and together with our partners, pursue innovative solutions that will serve generations to come.

PURPOSE STATEMENT:

The State of Texas has empowered the San Antonio River Authority to preserve, protect and manage the resources and environment of the San Antonio River and its tributaries. Our district spans Bexar, Goliad, Karnes and Wilson counties, yet our concern for the quality and quantity of water extends our focus beyond these boundaries, as factors outside the district contribute to the health and well being of the river and our communities. Through the knowledge and skill of professional and technical staff, we continue to develop and sustain the expertise needed to fulfill our service mission.

ABOUT US:

In 1917, the voters of Texas recognizing the necessity of developing and conserving the State's water resources and inspired by devastating floods of 1913 and 1914, passed a Constitutional amendment allowing the Legislature to create special purpose political subdivisions of the State to serve regional areas, generally coincidental with river basins and to be generally known as river authorities.

SARA, created in 1937, is one of many such active River Authorities in the State. Its jurisdiction covers 3,677 square miles, being all of Bexar, Wilson, Karnes and Goliad Counties.

The legislated responsibilities of SARA include flood control, pollution prevention, soil conservation, sewage treatment, water conservation (including storage, procurement, distribution and supply), irrigation, navigation, parks, recreational facilities, fish preservation and forestation measures. In the recently adopted Five Year Service and Financial Plan, SARA defines its service areas to be:

- Flood Control
- Environmental Services and Water Quality
- Water Resources
- Wastewater Services
- Parks

A twelve member Board of Directors governs SARA. Six Directors are elected from Bexar County and two are elected from each of the three downstream counties with each member serving six years. Policies established by the Board are executed by the management organization under the direction of a General Manager appointed by the Board.

KEY CONTACTS

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
Steven Ramsey
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HUMAN RESOURCES
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UTILITY OPERATIONS
Steve Mergele
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ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
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FLOOD CONTROL
INFRASTRUCTURE
James Blair
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REAL ESTATE
Claude Harding
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PARKS

Calavares Lake
12991 Bernhardt Rd.
San Antonio, TX. 78220
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FLOOD CONTROL:

- Partnership with Bexar County for more than 50 years to provide project management and technical expertise on Flood Control projects and programs
- Local Sponsor for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- FEMA Buy-out Programs
- Regional Flood Control, Drainage and Storm Water Quality Program
- Watershed Master Planning
- Flood Warning System

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND WATER QUALITY:

- Water quality laboratory where SARA conducts weekly tests of drinking water and/or wastewater for cities within the basin in order to improve water quality, habitats and the environment.
- Total Maximum Daily Load and Clean Rivers Program aimed at reducing pollution in San Antonio River. We sample water from the San Antonio River at 37 locations from Bexar to Goliad Counties to create historical database
- Respond to environmental problems and issues to promote the health of the ecosystem.

WATER RESOURCES:

- Partner in water resource development activities that could lead to new water supplies
- Project Administrator of SB1 Regional Planning Program in South Central Texas (Region L). Promoted and achieved regional consensus on Water Plan, built upon advanced conservation, that has received approval by the Texas Water Development Board

WASTEWATER SERVICES:

- Operate and maintain three wastewater treatment plants and collection systems in Northeast Bexar County
- Operate and maintain La Vernia wastewater plant
- Provide contract services to Texas Department of Transportation for rest stop on IH-10 East
- Expanding service area in Bexar County to meet demands
- Build/acquire new wastewater plants
- Completed Wastewater Needs Assessment of communities within the San Antonio River Basin

PARKS:

- Operate two lake-based recreation areas (Braunig Lake and Calaveras Lake) in partnership with San Antonio's City Public Service serving 350,000 persons annually
- Support/assist communities with parks/recreational needs
- Develop master plan for basin-wide recreation

FUNDING SOURCES:

- FY 2002-03 Budget is \$42.3 million based on approved Five Service and Financial Plan
- 1.64 cent per \$100 of assessed valuation and Intergovernmental Contracts for Projects
- Fees for Parks and Laboratory Testing and Wastewater Services

TAXING AUTHORITY:

- For operations and maintenance activities only
- Limit of two cents per \$100 of assessed valuation (collected from 1961–1981, reinstated in 2002)