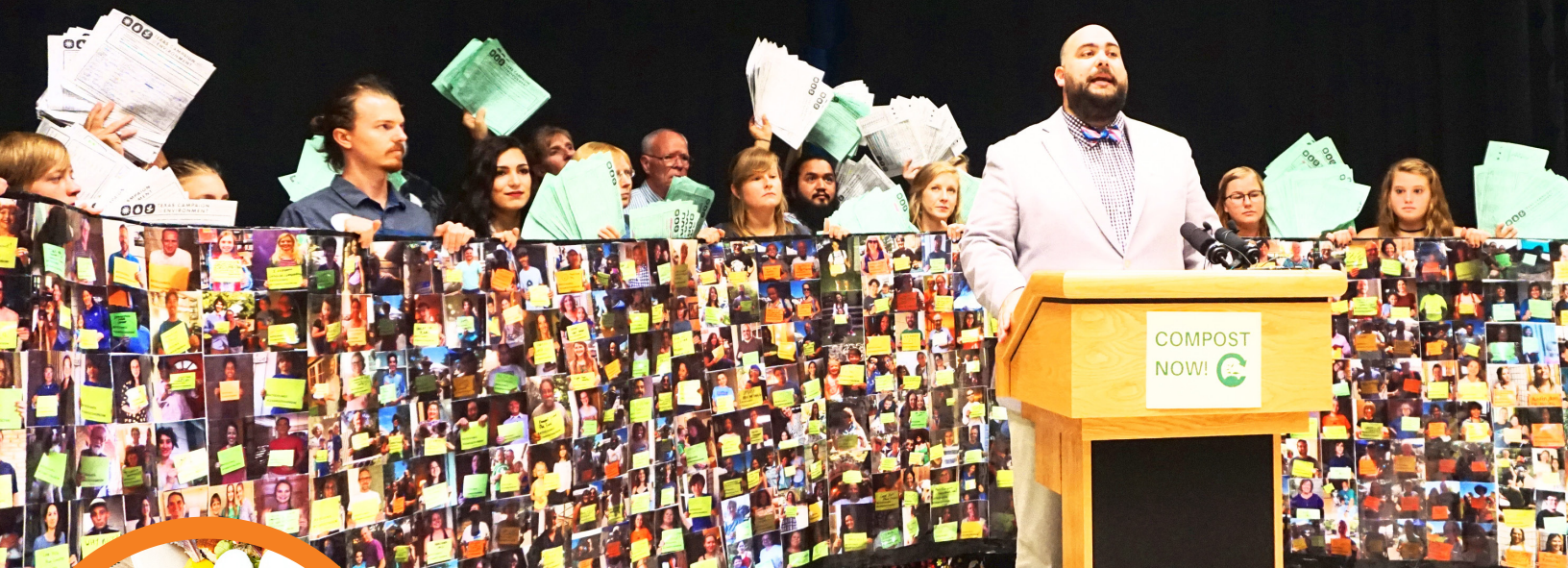


zero waste victories

our local work to starve Texas landfills



This past year TCE Austin secured one of the biggest local victories in our history: we won curbside composting for every Austin family served by the City! This ambitious program will keep hundreds of thousands of tons of waste out of area landfills while generating acres and acres of rich new soil. We campaigned for months, generating more than 27,000 contacts to the City Council, Mayor, and City Manager. The program will be rolling out over the next few years, and education for the service begins this spring!

Aside from that, we helped folks in Fayette and Bastrop Counties fight against proposed sewage sludge facilities and managed to scare off the polluters—they cancelled their permit application and we won! Now we are working at the Legislature to reduce or eliminate this threat for every community in Texas.

We continued our local Zero Waste campaign and kept pushing Dallas officials to expand recycling for all apartments and businesses. We sent canvassers door-to-door in apartment buildings, condos, and homes throughout the city, contacting over 20,000 residents. Elected officials got the message, and now several City Council members are echoing our call to move forward sooner rather than later. We are continuing this work in Dallas and other D/FW cities to ensure that recycling will be accessible for everyone.

In the wake of House Bill 40—a Texas law passed in 2015 that stripped local government authority to set standards for oil and gas development—we've been mobilizing grassroots support to reform the agency tasked with overseeing oil and gas operations in Texas.



Thousands of Houston residents spoke out in 2016 to save curbside recycling...and we succeeded! After some Council members said they wanted to suspend the program, Houstonians wrote letters, emailed, called and used social media to urge city leaders to think long-term and prioritize sustainability. Thanks to public pressure, City Hall responded and reached a temporary, two-year deal so we can keep our bins!

Now for the bad news: the two-year contract eliminated glass from the program. We can definitely do better, and the fight continues. Our growing Zero Waste Houston coalition and new volunteers are calling on Mayor Turner and City Council to establish our first Zero Waste Plan. Want to help? Come to a meeting and get involved!

Empowering Texans to fight pollution...one door at a time.

a letter from our Executive Director



You hold the key! What will decision-makers do on environmental and related public health issues at the local, state and national level? How about the leaders in the executive suites of the biggest companies? Getting their attention and support can be a challenge.

When TCE supporters like you write a personal letter or make a phone call, it's often the key to our success in getting a councilmember, legislator or executive on our side. For elected officials, what's even better is when a voter in their district takes the time to meet with them. If that is something you might be able to do, let me know!

Robin Schneider

For the first time ever, TCE is holding webinars—starting with a focus on the state legislature—to provide our supporters with an opportunity to get more informed and involved. For details on how to join these free events, email me directly (robin@texasenvironment.org) or call the office closest to you.

Our ambitious Zero Waste agenda at the local level provides lots of volunteer opportunities, too. If you feel passionate about recycling issues and can take some time to help, we want to get you plugged in!

TCE is also preparing to get engaged at the national level as issues arise that threaten the environment in the federal government or with companies that need to up their game. Because TCE has gone door-to-door and found supporters like you across Texas, we can also boost national efforts, so stay tuned.

This year marks 20 years since I started with TCE as a volunteer and 17 years since I've had the honor of being TCE's Executive Director. I'm so proud of all that we've accomplished together over those years and can't thank you enough for providing the backing that we depend on to get us closer to our vision of a Texas free from pollution!

Robin Schneider

update!

TCE has been participating in the national "Mind the Store" campaign to appeal to retailers to work on getting toxic chemicals out of the products they sell. One focus was on canned goods sold in major grocery chains. We bought cans of tomatoes and beans at a Randalls. These were tested and found to have the toxic chemical BPA in the can linings. Nationwide, 67% of the cans tested had BPA in the can liners and/or lids. TCE held actions outside Randalls' headquarters in Houston and outside grocery stores in Austin and Houston.

meet the staff

This is our staff at the State Capitol on the first day of the 85th Texas Legislative Session. Lookin' good, right? They may not be quite so dapper when they come to your door, but they're just as serious about getting the job done. And when you contribute, write letters, refill water bottles—everything you do for TCE—you make us a success. Thank you.



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state legislature

our priorities at the Capitol

source: triggz8b © 2011



recycling



landfills



sludge



oil & gas



bags

Every other year the Texas Legislature convenes for five months to set policies for the state, and every time they come together TCE is there to push for better policy for our air, water, land and health. This session, we're standing up for...

COMPREHENSIVE BATTERY RECYCLING More than 250 million household batteries are landfilled in Texas every year. HB 1874 would establish industry-led battery recycling.

IMPROVED PERMITTING FOR POLLUTING FACILITIES We want all pollution permit applications on the internet. SB 551 would stop allowing landfill companies to make the state fill out their applications for them.

NEW PROTECTIONS FOR SLUDGE NEIGHBORS Right now, sewage sludge is used as fertilizer in Texas, even though it can contain harmful materials. SB 746 would help keep industrial wastes off the land and out of our water.

BETTER ENFORCEMENT OF OIL & GAS LAWS The folks who are supposed to enforce oil & gas law—the Railroad Commission of Texas—don't even keep track of what they're doing. We're working to ensure that HB 1818 will provide better data on complaints and violations, more transparency, and fair penalties to protect the health and property of Texans.

PRESERVING LOCAL OPTIONS ON SINGLE-USE BAGS The last four sessions, our lawmakers have worked to take away cities' options on bags. We'll be fighting bills like SB 103.

Take action today by visiting www.texasenvironment.org/take-action to send a message to state lawmakers. Your voice counts, so make it heard!

you are invited!

TCE ANNUAL MEETING
march 26 & march 27
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
McKinney Roughs Nature Park
1884 Highway 71 West
Cedar Creek, TX 78612

GRASSROOTS LOBBY DAY
begins @ 9:00 am
Texas State Capitol in Austin
1100 Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701

Join us for our Annual Members' Meeting and potluck at the lovely McKinney Roughs Nature Park, then come to the State Capitol the next day to advocate for the environment with your lawmakers at our Grassroots Lobby Day.

RSVP FOR ONE OR BOTH OF THESE EVENTS: 512.326.5655 • ZAC@TEXASENVIRONMENT.ORG

grassroots organizing

by the numbers

Just some of the numbers that show our success from knocking on doors all over Texas in 2016...

294,676
households visited

61,678
letters generated

38,106
contributors

88
cities visited

financials

The challenges we face working to protect our shared surroundings in Texas have never been tougher. The obstacles in the way of passing good environmental policy have never been bigger. But as a contributing member of TCE, you provide the people-power that makes it possible for us to win campaigns anyway, against the odds. Building a broad base of grassroots support is the only path to lasting success. That's why we knock on hundreds of thousands of doors every year—yours included. Thank you for being part of this solution! Please consider using the enclosed envelope to renew your support for our work today, for a more sustainable tomorrow.

where we got our funding in 2016

revenue total: **\$1,464,103**

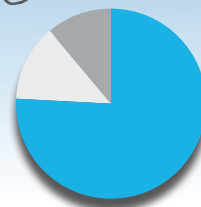
- 82% grassroots contributions from over 38,000 individual Texans
- 8% special projects funding
- 10% reimbursed expenses, miscellaneous



how we used our funding in 2016

expense total: **\$1,504,156**

- 76% environmental advocacy, community organizing & public education
- 11% managing TCE
- 13% fundraising to sustain TCE



source: TCE financial statement, 2016



**TEXAS CAMPAIGN
FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

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 **TEXAS CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT** presents

trash makeover challenge 2016

It just keeps getting better! For TCE's sixth edition of our Trash Makeover Challenge, designers were tasked with creating fashions inspired by the music and culture of the year TCE was founded. Hence the theme... *Party Like It's 1991!* And that, homies, we most certainly did. On your left, you'll see some cutouts of the totally awesome designs from the show. If this year's edition is half as bodacious as the last, you definitely won't want to miss it!

