



protecting our future

clean energy, not plastic pollution

It's no secret that Texas is in the midst of a massive drilling boom. However, many people are surprised to learn the final destination of all this oil and gas: wasteful flaring, export abroad, and huge new plastics facilities. This tragic misuse of our natural resources fouls air and water in Texas communities and contributes to the world's climate and plastic pollution crises. Our state has a long history in fossil fuels, but our future depends on defending and managing these resources for generations to come.

Permian Fracking

In West Texas, oil and gas fracking is producing billions of gallons of toxic wastewater that can pose a risk to underground water sources. And because drilling companies are extracting more gas than they can transport and sell, they are simply releasing and burning it in open air flaring. In fact, the amount of gas wasted in the Permian Basin is greater than most U.S. states use in an entire year! These flares also produce so much air pollution that now our "clear skies" wilderness in the Big Bend region is becoming clouded with smog.

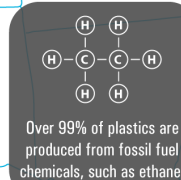
Gulf Coast Exports & Plastics

Industry giants are targeting the Gulf Coast to build numerous export terminals and massive new petrochemical facilities that turn fossil fuels into plastics. As a result of this strategy, the World Economic Forum predicts plastic production will double in the next 20 years. We now have overwhelming evidence that plastic pollution is already endangering our oceans, the marine food chain, and our own health—doubling that problem would be nothing short of catastrophic. These proposals are also threatening critical wildlife habitat as well as fishing and eco-tourism economies in beloved coastal destinations such as Port Aransas. In response, we've helped form a new Coastal Bend coalition to fight industry tax subsidies for new plastics facilities and export terminals, and we're helping oppose environmentally damaging seawater desalination plants that are needed for the planned industrial build-out.

Take Action to Support Sustainable Investment

While they produce slick advertisements about energy independence and economic growth, in reality the world's biggest oil and gas companies are attempting to extract and export Texas' natural resources to maximize short-term profits before this boom turns to bust. We are working with a national coalition to urge the banks and insurance companies that support wasteful fossil fuel projects to invest their money in clean energy projects in Texas instead! You can add your voice today at www.texasenvironment.org/take-action.

THE FRACKING BOOM IS CREATING A FLOOD OF SINGLE-USE PLASTICS



FRACKING SHALE GAS
in Texas is creating a glut of fossil fuels that are the raw materials for plastic.

Map produced by Texas Campaign for the Environment Fund with data from Environmental Integrity Project (JAN 2020) and S & P Global Platts (OCT 2019)

PLASTICS PRODUCTION
is growing rapidly as the Gulf Coast is targeted for huge new petrochemical facilities and export terminals.

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

letter from Robin Schneider, TCE Executive Director



Someone recently told me that 2019 is the year people outside of Texas discovered Texas Campaign for the Environment. All exaggeration aside, it certainly feels that way.

We've been working away for nearly three decades with the backing of people like you. However, 2019 saw concerns about climate change reach a tipping point as the Amazon and Australia burned and unprecedented floods devastated Midwest farmers. The extent of the plastic pollution crisis also became more well-known as scientists discovered microscopic plastic particles far beyond the world's oceans, in everything from Arctic snow to the table salt in our homes.

These two global problems are connected by oil, gas, and petrochemical production—much of which is centered right here at home. In many ways, Texas is ground zero in the U.S., both in causing and experiencing the devastation from extreme weather and the daily impacts of pollution from this industry.

Houston in particular has been hit hard. Our biggest city has experienced four historic flood events in the past five years. Many people live in the shadow of petrochemical plants and refineries and experience often invisible "floods" of air pollution. A huge fire at a tank farm last April released a miles-long plume of smoke over the city for days, and explosions at petrochemical facilities often rock Texas communities.

The good news is that Texas generates more wind power than any other state, we rank 5th in solar power, and we have enormous potential to ramp up both. We must turn the ingenuity and can-do spirit of Texans towards more sustainable and less toxic endeavors. This clean energy transition must avoid the boom-and-bust cycles of the fossil fuel industry and create long-lasting work opportunities. Let's also put a focus on the development of alternatives to single-use plastic products and packaging.

We are growing in response to these opportunities and challenges—for the first time we have a lead organizer and canvassers in the Coastal Bend. We also have a new, dedicated D/FW Zero Waste organizer and a Statewide Communications Director. We hope our new capacity will keep you informed and engaged.

In 2020, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first Earth Day. As a TCE supporter, you play a critical role in our work to fulfill the long-term vision of a better future that people have embraced ever since then. Thank you so much!

Robin Schneider



Join us for our annual meeting in Dallas!

You're invited to our annual members meeting where we'll celebrate our 2019 accomplishments and enjoy Sean Fitzgerald's stunning photography!

MARCH 29 • 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Sean Fitzgerald Studio
2814 Canton St. • Dallas, TX 75226

To RSVP, call 512.326.5655 or email
jeffrey@texasenvironment.org

meet the staff



TCE staff at our annual summer retreat in Colorado Bend State Park



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regional updates

think globally, win locally

Imagine a Texas free
from pollution

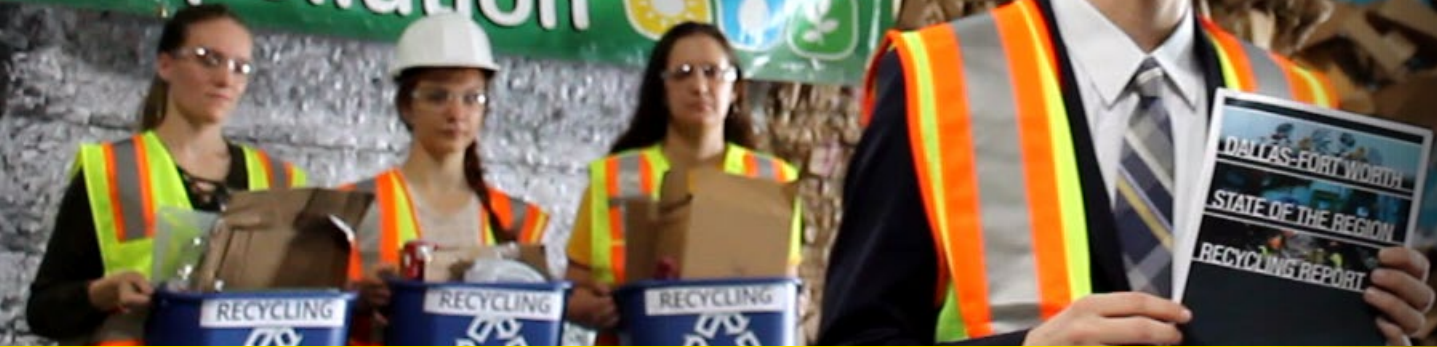


PHOTO COURTESY OF EDDIE LOIT ON BEHALF OF TEXAS CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



In 2019 we continued to push for environmental policies that will keep Houston moving toward sustainability. Years of advocating for Zero Waste policies at the City of Houston has resulted in local officials starting the process to implement a long-term recycling plan, a resiliency roadmap, and a climate action plan! We're making sure these new plans will be finalized and adopted, and we're working to include critical waste reduction programs such as recycling for multi-family buildings and businesses.

We also scored a big victory when local officials finally began to investigate the health impacts of toxic sites across the city. As a result, one cancer cluster has already been identified in the Fifth Ward in a community near a creosote facility. As always, we continue to empower residents who deal with polluted sites and problem waste facilities—connecting communities with tools to fight back.

Houston



In Central Texas, two major trash fights emerged as the dominant stories of 2019. Thanks to years of organizing work and the leadership of local officials, it appeared we scored a major victory when Travis County and the City of Austin took action to prevent any future expansion of the Waste Management-Austin Community Landfill. However, mere days after these ordinances passed, the company submitted an application for a massive trash transfer station at the same site. So the garbage clash continues in Northeast Travis County in 2020.

If that wasn't enough, a problem landfill located only a few thousand feet from the runway at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport proposed a large expansion of its own. Due to its poor operating practices, this dump has a long history of attracting birds, which poses a threat to air travel. Despite enduring some aggressive intimidation tactics at the hands of this trash company, TCE continues to lead on both fronts.

austin



In 2019 we continued to make major strides toward Zero Waste in D/FW. Dallas implemented its multi-family recycling ordinance on Jan. 1 2020, and we are working to ensure that it will be enforced so all apartment and condo residents will have access to recycling—and we're pressing city officials to expand recycling and composting to all businesses as well. We are also organizing to ensure that the city's upcoming long-term climate action plan is strong enough to get Dallas to net-zero emissions by 2050.

Thanks to our efforts in Denton, for the first time the city will create a long-term plan for recycling and other waste reduction strategies. We've also been working with residents to fight the proposed expansion of the Denton landfill and to scale back on the amount of waste imported from surrounding cities for disposal. Stay tuned for victories here and throughout North Texas!

d/fw

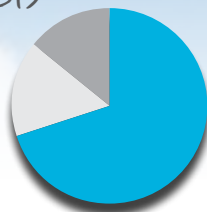
financials

When you engage with our intrepid canvassers at your doorstep and on the phone, you're participating in the heart and soul of our work: applying grassroots pressure on key decision-makers at a strategic time and place to protect our air, water, and land. We believe lasting change comes from the ground up, which is why our biggest source of funding will always be tens of thousands of individual contributions—in other words, you. There are no shortcuts or silver bullets to fight pollution, just the day-in, day-out work that you help make possible. Please consider using the enclosed envelope to renew your support for our efforts today, for a more sustainable tomorrow!

where we got our funding in 2019

revenue total: **\$1,274,027**

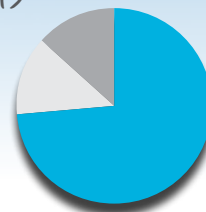
- 70% grassroots contributions from over 30,000 individual Texans
- 16% major gifts & events
- 14% special projects funding



how we used our funding in 2019

expense total: **\$1,298,707**

- 74% environmental advocacy, community organizing & public education
- 13% managing TCE
- 13% fundraising to sustain TCE



source: TCE financial statement, 2019



**TEXAS CAMPAIGN
FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

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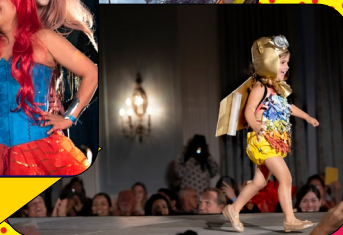


**TRASH MAKEOVER
CHALLENGE**
**SHEROES
&
HEROES**

We realize we keep saying this every year, but the 2019 Trash Makeover Challenge was the most successful yet! Join us on **September 12, 2020** for the tenth edition of our signature event featuring fashions made of recycled and reclaimed materials!



2019 1ST PLACE WINNER



PHOTOS COURTESY OF
ALICIA WELLS PHOTOGRAPHY