



SJRA in the Community

By: Michelle Simpson & Ronda Trow

One of the San Jacinto River Authority's (SJRA) mission statements is to educate the public about water conservation and water resources. SJRA employees work to accomplish this mission by participating in community events, hosting or sponsoring educational workshops, and speaking at numerous local meetings. Often these events provide an opportunity to serve in the community and build relationships through volunteering. In all cases, it is an opportunity to answer questions and provide information about the operations and activities at SJRA.

SJRA supports a number of local chambers of commerce in Montgomery and Harris counties. By partnering with local chambers, SJRA employees are able to connect with local businesses and gain insights into the local economy. On many occasions, local chambers have referred business owners who have water-related questions to SJRA for answers.

Another event that SJRA employees participate in each year is the "River, Lakes, Bays 'n Bayous Trash Bash." Trash Bash is the largest single-day waterway cleanup in the State of Texas involving thousands of volunteers in the Houston region. SJRA employees maintain an educational booth at the event and volunteer doing trash pickup or shuttling volunteers via boat to reach remote areas around the lake.

WaterFest is an annual event in The Woodlands that provides fun activities and



Highlands Division employees participate in the Highlands-Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce Annual Jamboree.



Wastewater Treatment Model at Trash Bash.



Lake Conroe Division employees answering water quality questions at Trash Bash.



Woodlands Division employees answer questions about wastewater treatment.



Woodlands Division booth at WaterFest.

educational opportunities related to numerous water topics such as drainage and watersheds, water conservation, water quality, stormwater pollution prevention, and water supply. Employees from SJRA's Woodlands Division volunteer at WaterFest and provide information related to the water and wastewater systems in The Woodlands. SJRA's booth includes an educational model that simulates a watershed and water and wastewater treatment systems.

In addition to community events, SJRA partners with local schools and educational organizations by participating in career fairs and offering tours for student groups. At a recent Conroe Independent School District Career Fair, SJRA employees talked about career opportunities in the water and waste-



water industry, showed off some of the technology being used at SJRA's treatment plants, and let students check out a crane truck and vacuum truck used in SJRA's operations.

As a public agency, SJRA employees



recognize that we serve the citizens of our community, so we strive to keep citizens informed about our activities. Volunteering in the community and participating in educational events is an important part of meeting that goal.

For more information on SJRA's activities, including its Vision, Mission, and Principles, please visit our website at www.sjra.net. ♦



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