

Dear GEAA Members and Friends,

This year GEAA will not be participating in any of the many lovely celebrations of Earth Day. We are too busy trying to put a stop to a whole slew of bad bills that would forever compromise your and our ability to protect our natural resources here in Texas.

The best way you could join us in celebrating the earth today would be to [contact your legislators](#) to stop the following bad bills:

[SB 709](#) has passed in the Senate and its companion, [HB 1865](#), is going to the [Calendars Committee](#) next week. This legislation would make it nearly impossible for Texans to contest permits for projects that would harm our environment. Just yesterday I had a call from some folks out in Comal County asking if GEAA could help them protest an asphalt plant to be built right across the street from their home – and the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone. If this bill passes, they will not have the same rights in opposing this project come September 1st (when the bill would take effect). Please contact the [members of the Calendar Committee](#) to ask that they put a hold or stop on HB 1865. And contact your State Representative to ask them to vote against [HB 1865](#) if it comes to a floor vote.

Another problem bill we are highlighting this Earth Day is [HB 3298](#), which “would have Texas follow the deeply flawed California model of massive and costly pumping of water all over the state.” We agree with the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club this bill “would focus the attention of the state away from what is needed first and foremost to meet our state’s water challenges.” [Click here](#) to see Ken Kramer’s guest editorial that ran in the Austin American Statesman and San Antonio Express News.

You can post comments on the op-ed in the Statesman [here](#).

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Please [contact your legislators](#) to ask them to oppose HB 3298.

If you feel like supporting something positive, there are many good bills that could also use a kind word from you. For a list of bills that GEAA supports and opposes, click [here](#) and [here](#) (links on this document will pull up everything you need to know about a particular bill.) We are delighted with all of the good legislation that has been filed and are working to support those bills, too.

We hope that you are getting some of this lovely rain wherever you. If we act today we might have cause to truly celebrate some victories come next Earth Day.

Best wishes and warm regards,

Annalisa Peace

Executive Director

[Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance](#)