

Shoal Creek Watershed

Notable Resources

- Shoal Creek Greenbelt
- Shoal Creek Trail
- Pease District Park
- Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park
- Republic Square
- Wooldridge Square
- Austin Recreation Center
- Northwest Recreation Center
- Lamar Senior Activity Center
- Caswell Tennis Center
- Central Library/Austin History Center
- North Village Branch Library
- Yarborough Branch Library
- Old Quarry Branch Library

Historic Management Summary

- Shoal Creek is the largest of the city's urban watersheds, with high levels of impervious cover and low amounts of remaining undeveloped land. Infill and redevelopment are the most likely sources of future increases in impervious cover.
- The Northern Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone extends throughout the portion of the watershed west of MoPac. Springs discharging from the aquifer provide critical habitat for the threatened Jollyville Plateau Salamander.
- Shoal Creek has already experienced significant channel enlargement in the past. Efforts to control erosion have focused on channel restoration including sideslope stabilization and riparian area restoration, such as the current project underway at Pease Park.
- The 1981 Memorial Day Flood killed 13 people and resulted in over \$35 million in property damage. Following this major storm, several large flood detention ponds were constructed in the upper portions of the Shoal Creek watershed, including the Far West pond, the Wood Hollow pond, the MoPac/Steck ponds, the ZK pond, and the Upper Shoal pond.
- Flooding continues to be a significant issue in the Shoal Creek watershed, as witnessed in the 2015 Memorial Day Flood. In addition to the solutions that have already been implemented, potential flood solutions include storm drain improvements, channel improvements, and a stormwater bypass tunnel.