

# **Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District**



## **Bacteria Counts in Bandera's Surface Water (July 28, 2014)**

**CAUTION: The District recommends NO SWIMMING**

**(\*Primary Contact Recreation) to be taken place until conditions improve.**

Levels of *E. coli* at Bandera City Park (Hwy 173 Bridge) are greater than the TCEQ standard. No primary contact recreation should take place at this location. As for the sites that do meet TCEQ standards, this does not mean there is no risk involved. **ALWAYS SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK.** There is always a possibility of infection especially with the current low flow conditions.

Field technicians from Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District took samples from the sites listed to the right on July 28, 2014 to assess the level of *E. coli*. As some may know, *E. coli* is a bacteria known to possibly be pathogenic and can be dangerous to human beings. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has set the standard for *E. coli* levels at 399 colonies per 100mL of water (30 TAC §307.7). If the count is over that, ***no primary contact recreation\**** should take place in that area of the river.

Bandera County has some of the cleanest and most pristine water in the state, however, it is important to know there is always a possibility of *E. coli* infection when swimming and participating in any water recreations in rivers, streams, and lakes *even if sample results are low*. Never drink or ingest river water without proper disinfection, and always swim at your own risk.

The following results were gathered at the BCRAGD lab:

Medina River-Bandera City Park (Hwy 173 Bridge)

*E. coli* — 600

Medina River-Bandera City Park (Midpoint)

*E. coli* — 30 cfu

Medina River-Bandera City Park (1<sup>st</sup> Street Bridge)

*E. coli* — 100 cfu

Medina River-Tarpley Crossing

*E. coli* — <10 cfu

**\* This number is over the TCEQ standard**

**\*Primary Contact Recreation—any activity that includes total submersion of the head under water.**

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact our office at:

830-796-7260.