

# TEXAS LITTER DATABASE

**User Survey - August 2022**

Conducted by:



**Keep Texas  
Beautiful**

KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE

# Overview:

- Sent to all user accounts created in the Texas Litter Database
- 47 responses (17%)
  - 36 KTB Affiliates
    - NCTCOG
    - SPLASh
    - Texas Master Naturalist
    - H-GAC Trash Bash
    - 3 volunteer community groups
    - 4 unidentified
  - 11 Others



## Event/Activity Related to Database Use:

- 41 - KTB (Great American Cleanup, Fall Sweep, Keep Texas Waterways Clean)
- 12 - Other (unnamed, one time or their own event)
- 6 - Trash Free Texas Adopt-A-Spot Program
- 1 - NCTCOG Community Cleanup Challenge
- 1 - SPLASh research
- 1 - H-GAC Trash Bash

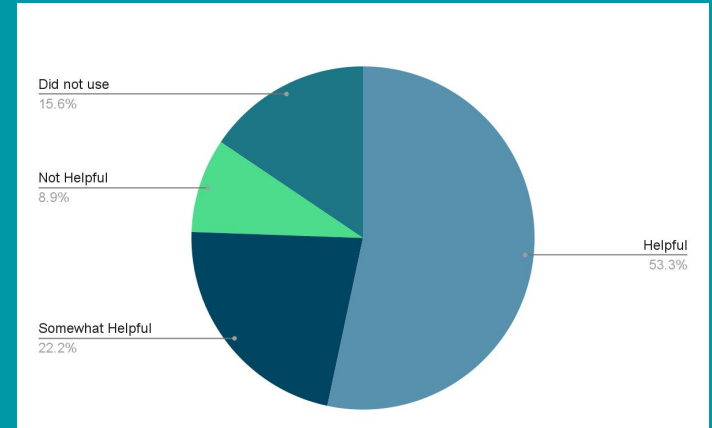


# Resources Used for Assistance:

- KTB website - 43%
- KTB Training Video - 38%
- User Guide on TXlitter.org - 38%
- Video Tutorials on TXlitter.org - 21%
- Partner Websites (NCTCOG, Trash Free Texas mentioned) - 11%
- Other (SPLASh guide, Beta testing mentioned) - 9%

## How Helpful were these resources?

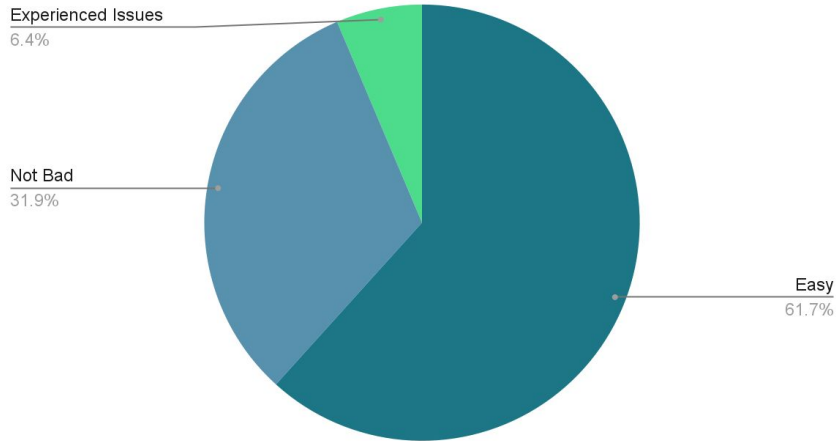
75.5 % thought resources available were at least somewhat helpful



# Database Login:

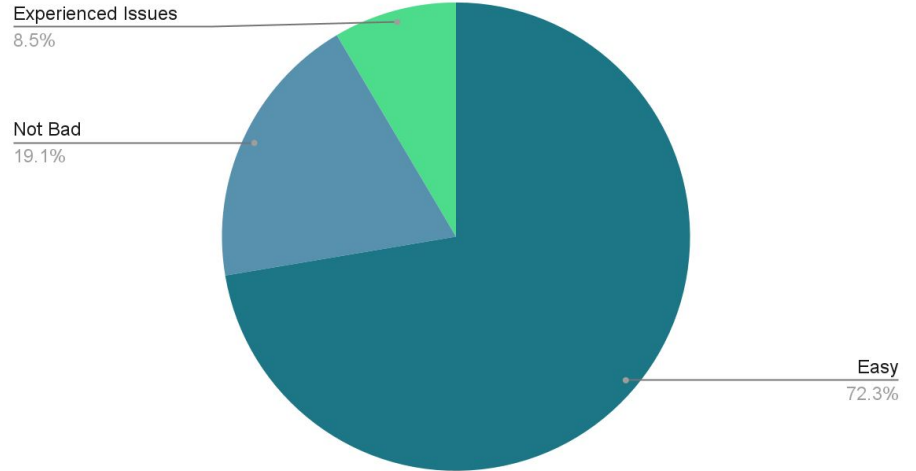
## How easy was it to create a login?

93.6 % thought it was not bad to easy

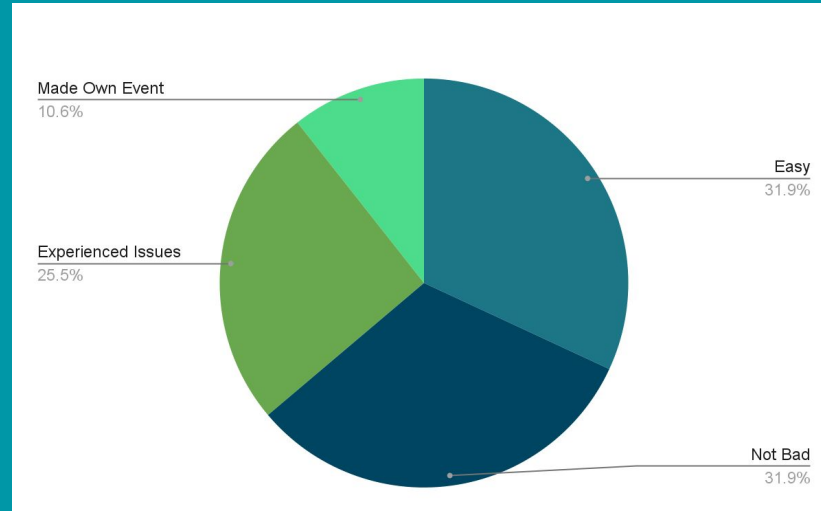


## How easy was it to log in?

91.4 % thought it was not bad to easy



# How easy was it to find the Event you wanted?

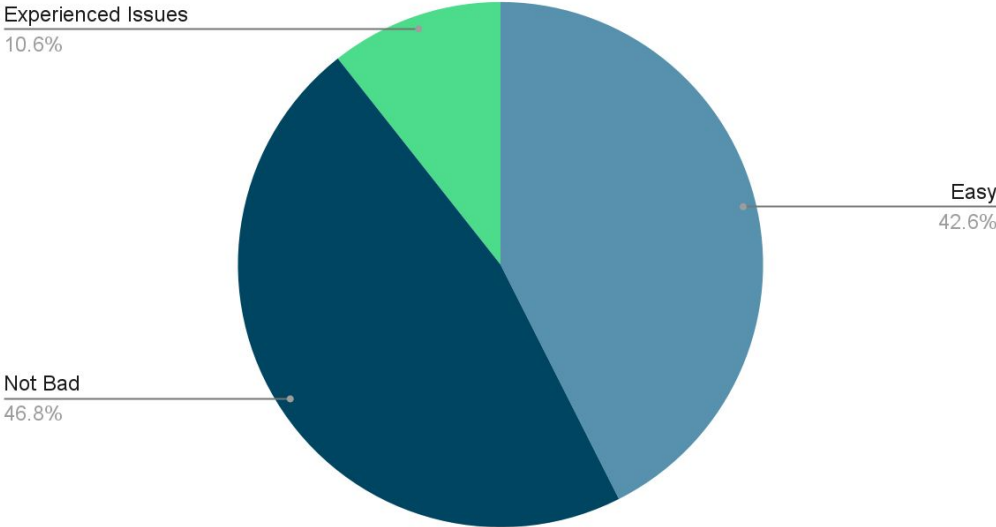


## Notes:

- 36% had difficulty and 5 created their own event because they did not understand to use an existing one
- This is more than 4 times the difficulty experienced for any other activity in the database
- This was a challenging item for many and a common issue when staff fielded in person questions and assisted users during the past year.
- **We recommend updating this section to be more user friendly and easier to understand.**

# How easy was it to enter your data?

89.4% thought it was not bad to easy



## Viewing Existing Data:

- 45% of those surveyed have attempted to view/download existing data
- Of those, 90% thought it was not bad to easy

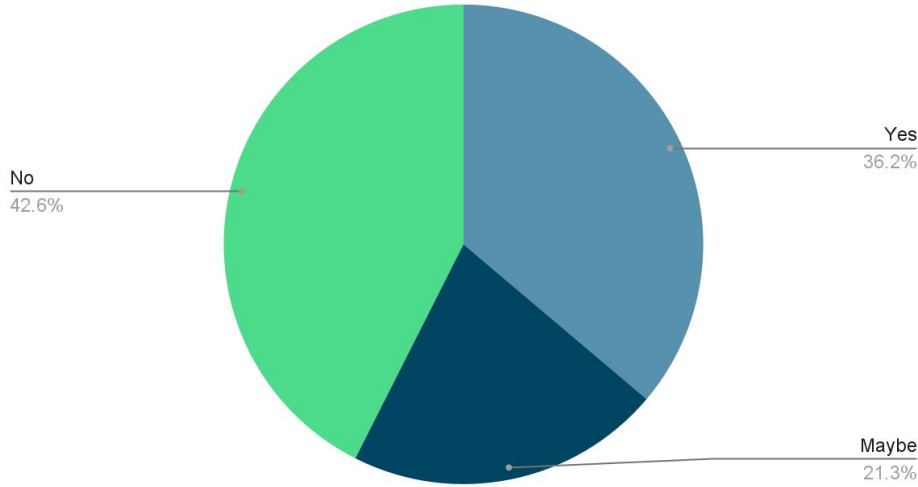
## Comments:

- Most liked the Dashboard feature and enjoyed being able to manipulate and view only the data they entered
- Some wanted data to be linked by organization and not just login account
- Many did not like having to download the entire database and thought it should have search parameters to narrow what you are shown
- Long term improvements would include a filter/sorting system for data already in the database.



# We asked users if they would use the database outside of required reporting for their parent organization?

(Example: KTB requires affiliates to report on Fall Sweep, but some affiliates continue to use it for their own internal projects and reporting)



- 64% were unsure or said “No”
- Users site these as barriers:
  - #1 Time
  - #2 Difficult to Use
  - #3 Too many different databases asking them to report the same data

## Comment:

“It is time consuming to upload each of our individual cleanups. Would be great to have the option to upload a spreadsheet with the format needed to create the individual forms for each cleanup (i.e. coordinates, location name, amount of trash, etc.)” - City of Plano, Keep Plano Beautiful

# Litter Audits & Sampling

**To Audit or Not to Audit, That is the Question!**

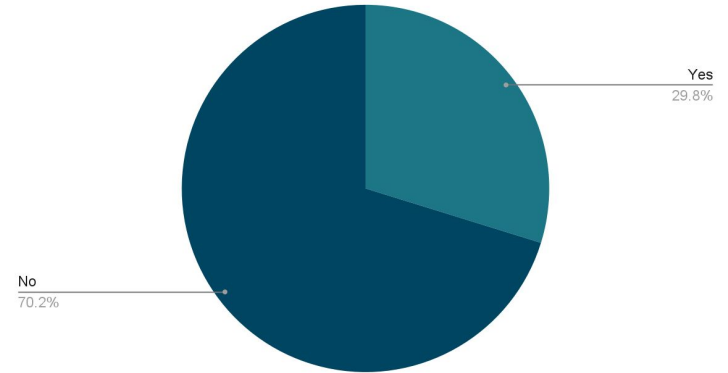
# Audit Participation and Outcomes

Less than 30% have ever participated in an audit before, BUT over 85% would consider trying it!

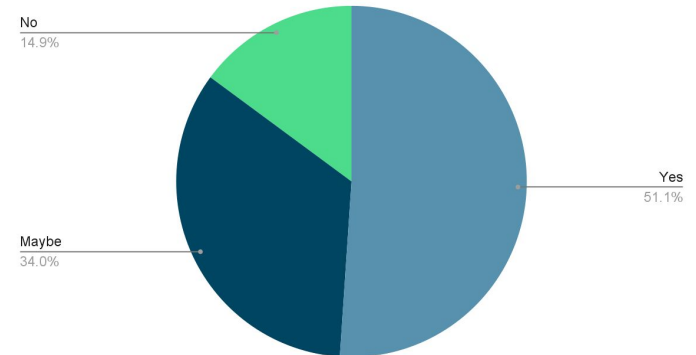
## Feedback from those who have audited:

- Most had a positive, eye opening experience
- Some had new infrastructure installed in areas where the audit took place (trash cans, recycle bins, signage, etc.)
- Some took their audits to decision makers to take action on an issue.
- Some increased education on certain topics after their audit.
- Some used their audit to identify hot spots for future cleanups.
- SPLASh reports that audits have helped them determine that styrofoam fragments are the most abundant litter item collected in the Houston-Galveston Region.

Participated in an Audit



Would consider performing an audit in the future.



# Interest in Audit/Sample Training

- Webinar Series (virtual) - 66%
  - In person training (local, regional, conference) - 36%
  - Hands on Assistance during an audit event - 28%
- 
- KTB is developing multiple training tools and providing education through our partners at



# Positive Outcomes

- Users think it is EASY to
  - Create a login
  - Log in
  - Enter Data
  
- Over 75% thought our current resources were helpful
  
- High interest in audit and sampling
  - 85% would consider doing an audit/sample
  - 81% would attend an audit/sample training
  - 66% would attend a virtual webinar series



# Improvement Plan

- Improve “Event” section to be easier to understand and utilize
- Improve “Location” section (this was not addressed on the survey, but has caused much confusion with users)
- Create way for data to be filtered/sorted before downloading from database
- Create way to batch upload for organizations with a large number of events and data
- Educate and increase the audit/sample details reported
- And, of course.....SPREAD THE WORD and increase our user numbers!



Let's end on a positive note!

**Great way to quantify  
litter problems and start  
conversations about  
reducing the volume!  
Thanks for taking the  
lead on this!**

**The Woodlands Township/ Keep  
The Woodlands Beautiful**

**I love the concept and  
can't wait to see the  
resources and  
popularity grow!**

**Keep Cleburne Beautiful**

**Love the database!**

**Keep White Settlement Beautiful**