



Lake Conroe Watershed Protection Plan Stakeholder Group Meeting

SJRA Boardroom
September 9, 2014

Agenda

1. Introduction

- a. Welcome
- b. Project overview – schedule/timeline

2. BMPs

- a. Urban Run-off BMPs for the Lake Conroe Watershed
- b. OSSF possible BMPs for the Lake Conroe Watershed

3. Guest Speaker- Kathy Janhsen (HGAC- Public Outreach and Education Planner)

- a. Developing Successful Outreach: Opportunities & Resources with H-GAC

4. Stakeholder Discussion - Michelle Simpson (SJRA- Public Relations Specialist)

- a. Education and outreach in the Lake Conroe Watershed
- b. What is the best way to reach the different “users” of Lake Conroe?

Where We Have Been

- Watershed Protection Plans 101 – **March 2014**
- Define sources and sampling program -**May 2014**
- Sampling program and data overview- **June 2014**
- OSSF program overview – **July 2014**
- MS4 and stormwater management- **August 2014**

Where We Are Going

- Finalize BMPs
 - Program/Plan BMPs
 - OSSF order change
 - Urban Stormwater Runoff Management (LID)
 - Owner BMPs
 - Education and Outreach
- Develop draft WPP plan document
- Finalize WPP plan document

Owner OSSF BMPs

- Conduct annual inspections of septic tanks to evaluate the need for pumping.
- Maintain a vegetative cover over the disposal area.
- Do not plant trees or shrubs on or near the drainfield.
- Do not park heavy equipment or vehicles over the drainfield.
- Use low flow plumbing devices.
- Do not flush hazardous waste, chemicals or trash.
- Do not dispose of medications down the drain.
- Do not overload the system.

Construction Site Runoff Management (Owner BMPs)

- Hydroseeding
- Mulching
- Bioswales
- Siltfence
- Terracing
- Oil/Gas/ Machine containment
- Road Sweeping
- Rock check dams



Municipal, Commercial and Industrial Activities (Owner BMPs)

- Bioretention cells
- Curb and gutter elimination
- Grassed swales
- Green parking design
- Infiltration trenches
- Inlet protection devices
- Permeable pavers
- Rain barrels and cisterns
- Riparian buffers
- Stormwater planters
- Vegetated Roofs

Guest Speaker-
Kathy Janhsen

HGAC

Public Outreach and Education Planner

Developing Successful Outreach: Opportunities & Resources at H-GAC

Lake Conroe WPP
September 9, 2014

Kathy Franklin Janhsen
Public Outreach & Education Planner
Kathy.Janhsen@h-gac.com

Introduction

WHAT IS H-GAC?

The **Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC)** is a council of governments, comprised of **13 member counties** and **126 member cities** in Texas.



The Community and Environmental Planning Department within H-GAC seeks to improve quality of life throughout the region by:

- Providing planning and recommendations for orderly growth;
- Encouraging economic development; and
- **Guiding local and regional planning to maintain and enhance the region's natural environment.**

Types of Outreach



Education – Cease the Grease



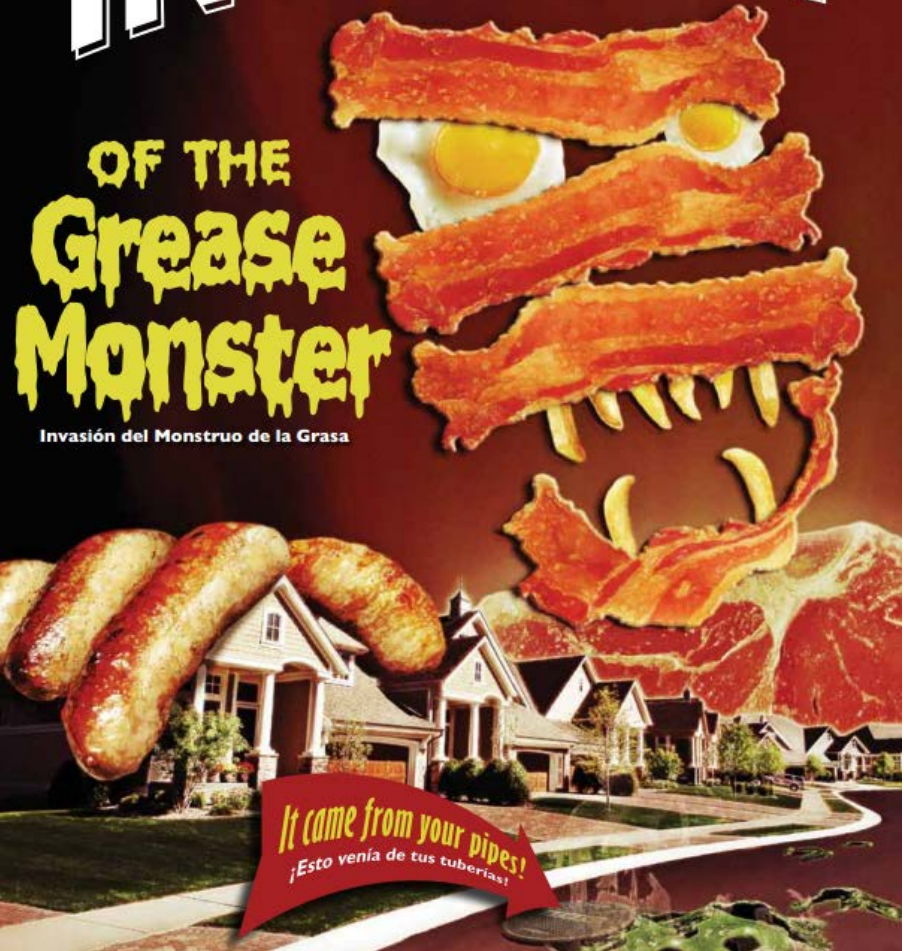
This program seeks to use education and enforcement in order to:

- Reduce environmental impacts
- Pollution prevention
- Cost savings
- Reduce maintenance efforts
- Protect human health

INVASION

OF THE Grease Monster

Invasión del Monstruo de la Grasa



It came from your pipes!
¡Esto venía de tus tuberías!



"Go ahead, pour grease down the drain,
I need a new bass boat!"
- Earl the Plumber
ceasethegrease.org/earl

Every year people pour grease and used cooking oil down their drains, clogging up their pipes and causing smelly, expensive backups in the city's sewer system. Instead, pour your grease and used cooking oil into a sealable container and throw it away or recycle the oil. That's right, we'll take your used cooking oil and recycle it into biofuel and other green materials.

Visit ceasethegrease.org/earl to find your nearest recycling center.



Find out next month if Earl gets a shiny new bass boat.

See how much Earl will charge to unclog your greasy drain.
Visit www.ceasethegrease.org/earl



11/13-21 © City of Fulton Water Utilities 2010

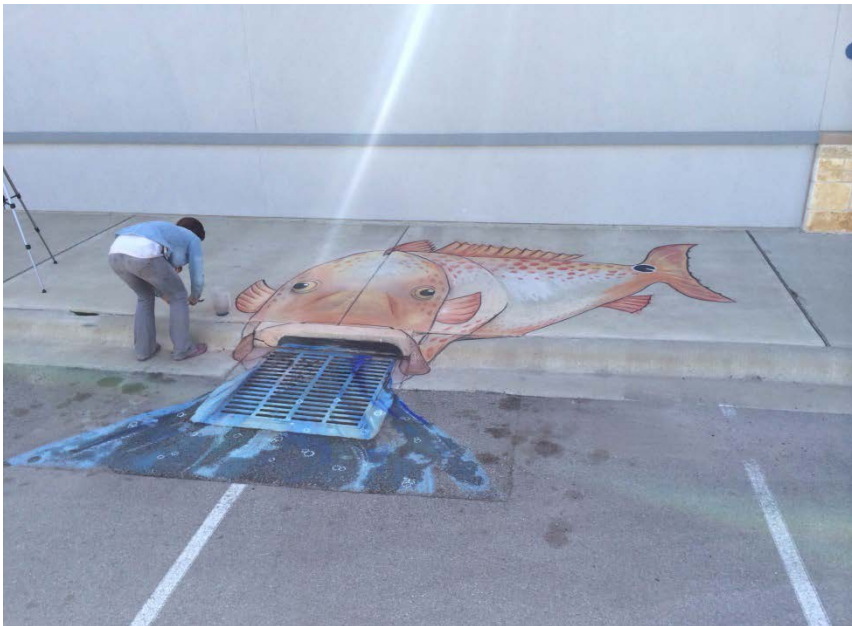
Education – Back the Bay



BACK THE BAY
P R E S E R V E G A L V E S T O N B A Y

Back the Bay aims to improve the environmental quality of Galveston Bay by increasing awareness about the Bay's value among the public.

1. Improving water quality
2. Conserving water
3. Protecting critical fish and wildlife habitats



PARTNER



TOOLKIT

Free materials to show your support for Galveston Bay

As a partner of the Back the Bay campaign, you can choose from a library of professionally produced advertising and collateral materials to support your own marketing efforts. Artwork files are provided in formats commonly required by vendors and may be downloaded using the links below. Click on thumbnail images for a larger view.

Review our [brand guidelines](#) for more information about the campaign and proper use of these materials.

- Online
- TV & Radio
- Print
- Logos & Misc.



Promo Button

Show your support and spread the word about Galveston Bay by placing this clickable button on your website.

Download: Ver 1

Volunteerism – Trash Bash



RIVER, LAKES BAYS 'N BAYOUS TRASH BASH®

Since 1994, **90,000** volunteers have collected more than **2,000 tons** of trash and **over 8,000 tires** at cleanup sites.



Volunteerism – Stream Team



Texas Stream Team

Caring for Our Waters

Texas Stream Team is a network of trained volunteers and supportive partners collecting water quality monitoring data.



Training & Resources - OSSF

This TREC-approved course provides **six continuing education hours** to certified real estate inspectors to aid them in visually inspecting OSSFs.

The goal of this course is to reduce E.coli from entering area waterways through failing and/or outdated systems.

OSSF INSPECTION TRAINING COURSE

Did you know there are **HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS** of On-Site Sewage Facilities in the region, many of them failing?

Join the Houston-Galveston Area Council for this Texas Real Estate Commission-approved course to learn about how you can benefit your business by visually inspecting on-site sewage facilities (OSSFs). All participants will receive six continuing education hours from TREC.

Repair or replacement of a system can cost thousands to tens of thousands of dollars. Many home inspectors choose not to inspect OSSFs, but with the proper knowledge and instruction, a home inspector can:

SAVE
potential home buyers the cost of repair or replacement

&

INCREASE
the scope of services you provide during inspection

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM

BRAZORIA COUNTY AGRILIFE
EXTENSION OFFICE
21017 COUNTY RD. 171
ANGLETON, TX 77515

Participants receive
6 continuing education units
from the TREC.

This course was designed to educate real estate inspection professionals, as well as to help the Houston-Galveston region's waterways meet state and federal water quality standards.

For more information, contact Will Merrell at Will.Merrell@h-gac.com or 713-993-4594.



Training & Resources - CWI



The Clean Waters Initiative offers workshops that help local governments, landowners, and citizens develop effective strategies to reduce pollution in our area waterways.

Past topics include:

MS4 Minimum Control Measures

TCEQ Small Business Assistance

Landscaping, Land Use, and LID

Social Media Training

Training & Resources - WRIM

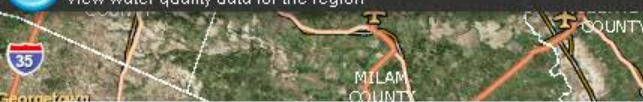
The **Water Resources Information Map (WRIM)**, developed and maintained by H-GAC, integrates geographic, impairment, and water quality information into a single mapping program.



This program is updated at least three times per year and can be sorted using a number of different search queries.

Using the information housed in the WRIM, H-GAC developed the “How’s the Water?” iPhone app to provide a snapshot of WRIM data for users on the go.

<http://arccgis02.h-gac.com/wrim>



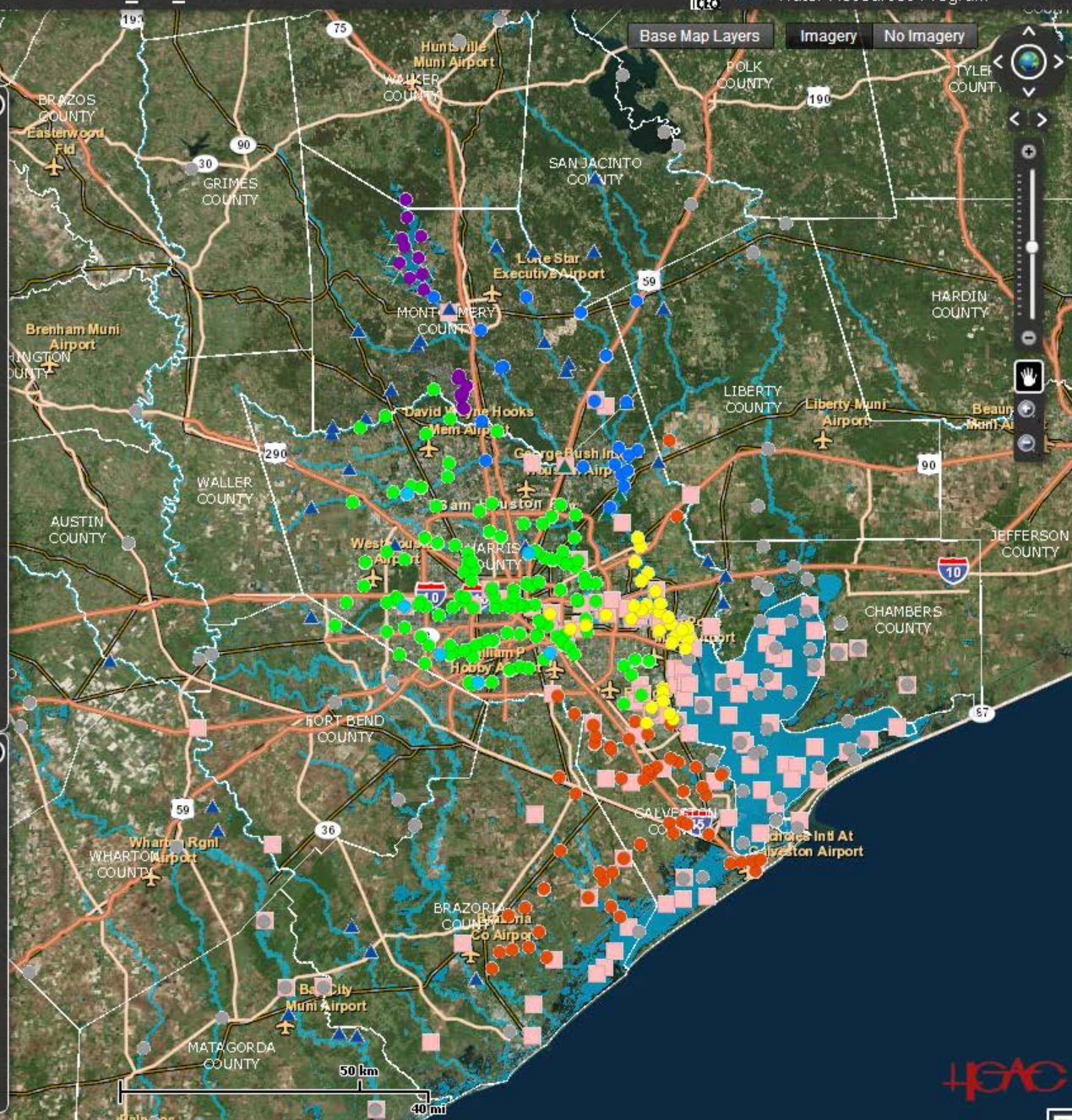
Map Layers and Legends

- Layer Transparency 0% 100%
- Current Selected Layer is:
- Click '+' icon to expand layers to view legends
- Monitoring Stations
 - Texas Stream Team Monitoring Sites
 - Wastewater Outfalls
 - USGS Stream Gauges
 - Water Quality Impairments
 - Watersheds
 - Wetlands
 - Land Cover (15 Class)
 - Land Cover (22 Class)

Search and Identify

Search Layer:

Use a tool to select monitoring station



Opportunities & Challenges

OPPORTUNITIES

Growing interest in water quality & environmental concerns

Switch to surface water will pique community interest

CHALLENGES

Lack of federal and/or state funding for non-impaired water bodies

Maintaining interest and long term behavioral changes within the community

Other opportunities and challenges for the Lake Conroe WPP?



Questions?

THANK YOU!

Contact Kathy Janhsen at Kathy.Janhsen@H-GAC.com



Public Education and Outreach Discussion

Michelle Simpson

SJRA – Public Relations Specialist

Building Partnerships by Increasing Public Outreach

- Informative Tours: Dam and Water Quality Lab
 - Local Schools, Non-Profit Organizations, Community Leaders, Utilities, MUDs, Cities, etc.
- Outlets: press releases, articles, advertisements, and representation on social media/website
- Handouts: pamphlets, rack cards, FAQs, etc.
- Public Speaking Opportunities: HOAs/POAs, expos, clean-up events, etc.
- Signage
- Hotline

The collage features several items:

- HOA Meeting Tonight**: A white sign with black text.
- www.r1stormwatersolutions.org**: A website URL at the top right.
- our Lawn Care** and **Water-Friendly?**: Text from a pamphlet or sign.
- ONLY RAIN**: A blue circular sign with white text.
- 800-452-7273**: A large red rotary phone with the number printed on its base.
- Stormwater**: Text from a pamphlet, including "Stormwater directly to the water", "No filters.", "Pollutants from stormwater", and "the water".
- Check the weather**, **Avoid using car washes**, and **Use less will**: Text from a pamphlet.
- Sweep Up!**: Text from a pamphlet, including "Anything that's lying on the ground", "stormwater", "If any lawn clippings", "them back onto the lawn", "Even grass clippings", and "Sweep, don't blow".
- Produced by R1 Stormwater Solutions**: Text at the bottom of the collage.
- TEXAS WILDLIFE & WOODLAND EXPO** and **and SPRING FLING!**: Text from a green leaf-shaped sign with balloons.

Stakeholder Categories

- **Recreational:** angling, boating, swimming, skiing
- **Environmental:** TPWD, USFS
- **Residential:** property owners, real estate interests
- **MUDs/WWTPs:** utility districts and wastewater treatment plants
- **Civic/Governmental:** City of Conroe, City of Huntsville, Montgomery County, Walker County
- **Law Enforcement:** Montgomery County Constables
- **Commercial/Business:** marinas, real estate companies, chamber of commerce

Stakeholder Volunteers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Terry Bowie	President, Lake Conroe Communities Network
Timothy Cade	Lieutenant, Montgomery County Precinct-1 Constables
Peter Czerwinski	Resident, Walden on Lake Conroe
Ron Gunter	President, Seven Coves Bass Club
Scott Harper	President, Greater Conroe/Lake Conroe Area Chamber of Commerce
Jim Haymon	President, Far Hills Utility District
Andy Isbell	Director of Planning and Development, Walker County
Tyler Jacobs	Land Broker/Ranch Owner, Jacobs Properties

Stakeholder Volunteers Cont.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Scott Nichols	Director of Environmental Health Services, Montgomery County
Vernon Miller	Owner, Shoreline Services
Paul Nelson	Lonestar Groundwater Conservation District
Warren Oja	District Ranger, Sam Houston National Forest
Carol Reed	Director of Public Works, City of Huntsville
Ben Richardson	Owner, The Palms Marina
Ruth Stultz	Owner/Broker, Ruth Stultz & Co. Realty
Scott Taylor	Director of Public Works, City of Conroe
Mark Webb	District Supervisor, Inland Fisheries, TX Parks and Wildlife Dept.