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No matter where you live, work or play, you are always in a watershed – an area of land that drains to a particular creek, river, bayou or lake. Understanding our role in watershed management is critical to the protection of our waterways, floodplains, and drinking water, as well as our recreational and fishing areas.

As our population grows, so do the risks to our waterways from activities in the watershed. Watersheds As our population grows, so do the risks to our waterways from activities in the watershed.

Caney Creek and Peach Creek Watersheds Caney and Peach Creek watersheds are located in southeastern Texas, approximately 40 miles north of Houston. The headwaters of Peach Creek originate just west of the Walker-San Jacinto County line and north of SH 150. The southern most extent of the watershed is the confluence of Peach and Caney Creeks, approximately three miles from Lake Houston. The headwaters of Caney Creek originate just east of New Waverly and north of SH 150 in Walker County. The southern most extent runs through the entire length of Montgomery County to the confluence with the East Fork of the San Jacinto River before entering Lake Houston at Kingwood in Harris County.

History A major period of expansion began in the 1870s with the construction of several railroads marking the beginning of the great lumbering boom. Commercial lumbering had begun prior to the Civil War, but access to the river hampered efforts to utilize the area’s rich timber resources. Over the next four decades most of the area’s thick pine forests had been deforested which permanently transformed the landscape and economic base into raising livestock and farming.

In 1932, the area experienced a dramatic change in economics when oil was discovered in south central Montgomery County. The discovery of the Conroe oilfield immediately triggered a tremendous oil boom. Commercial lumbering had begun prior to the Civil War, but access to the river hampered efforts to utilize the area’s rich timber resources. Over the next four decades most of the area’s thick pine forests had been deforested which permanently transformed the landscape and economic base into raising livestock and farming.

As Houston’s population grew to more than one million in 1950 there...