

On-Site Sewage Facilities Workgroup
Monday, November 17, 2008
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Individuals Present:

BIG Liaison – Jason Iken (City of Houston); Pat Buzbee (Montgomery County); Steven Johnston (TCEQ); Mark Lowry (AECOM); Don Bennet (HCPID-Permits Group); Wes Hubert (Sterling Septic Services); Pat Duncan (Montgomery County Environmental); Frank Green (Montgomery County); Mel Vargas by phone (Parsons); Wayne McNease (Montgomery County); Harry Jackson (UofH); Scott Nichols (Montgomery County); Raymond Beckford (HCPID-Permits Group); Alisa Max (Harris County); Bryan Eastham (TCEQ); Mike Lindsey (Montgomery County)

H-GAC Staff Present:

Carl Masterson; Rachel Powers; Erin Anderson

Sources:

- Surface discharge and runoff
- Lack of maintenance
- System overloading
- Poor design and construction
- Old systems before permitting
- Piped to the ditch
- Transport of solids/illegal dumping
- Household behaviors (too many chemicals, too much water at once)
- Inadequate disposal area
- Inadequate treatment
- Falsification of maintenance records
- Improper switch to sanitary system
- Some property owners don't have the funds to maintain

Implementation Activities:

- Electronic monitoring of maintenance
- Inventory and strategize to replace or hook up to sanitary
- Increase in compliance inspections
- Tertiary treatment (10/10)
- Education of proper maintenance
 - For companies
 - For septic system owners
- Follow research of the TOWTRC

- Have developers and government put in WWTF as appropriate (targeted areas, could be a package plant until larger plant constructed)
- Proper site evaluation and design
- Make treatment plants take on new customers if they have the capacity
- Rule about “have to hook up to sanitary if within ____ feet of a sanitary line”
- Grass/vegetation
- Find grant funds to repair failing systems or hook up to sanitary
- Require secondary treatment methods
- Use GIS to map failing systems

Next meeting:

Monday, December 8, 2008, 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM, Upper Kirby District, 3015 Richmond, Houston, TX 77098