Houston-Galveston Area Council Parks and Natural Areas Awards



Each year, H-GAC honors projects that serve as models for planning and implementation for parks and natural areas in the region.

H-GAC has given more than 275 awards since the program's inception in 2006.



Beltway 8 Regional Park Master Plan, Phase I Design Asakura Robinson Company LLC

Sabine-to Bagby Promenade
Buffalo Bayou Partnership

Arthur Storey Stormwater Detention Basin and Park Harris County Flood Control District

2006 Special Recognition

Armand Bayou Nature Center
Armand Bayou Nature Center

Brazos River Corridor Master Plan City of Sugar Land Parks Department

> E.R. and Ann Taylor Park Clark Condon Associates, Inc.

Wussow and City View Parks
Greater Greenspoint Redevelopment Authority

Harris County Precinct 3 Barker Reservoir Trails
Harris County Improvement District #4 (Energy Corridor)

The Park People's Greenway Trails Map: Greater Houston-Harris County
The Park People

The Woodlands Integrated Forest Management Plan
The Woodlands Community Service Corporation

Armand Bayou Watershed Greenprint
Trust for Public Land



2007 Award Winners

Jim and JoAnn Fontero Park
East Harris County Precinct 2 and Page Southerland

Jarboe Bayou Shoreline Restoration Project
City of Clear Lake Shores

Eleanor Tinsley Elementary School SPARK Park & Nature Center Houston ISD SPARK School Park Program

Kickerillo Mischer Preserve Acquisition and Plan
Friends of the Kickerillo Mischer Preserve and Northwest Harris County Precinct 4

2007 Special Recognition

Seabreeze Environmental Landfill Wetlands Restoration Project City of Angleton, Republic Waste Services of Texas, Ltd. And S&B Infrastructure, Ltd.

Alice Staub Liddell Garden Project
Rice University Department of Facilities, Engineering and Planning

Timber Lane Utility District Park Master Plan
Timber Lane Utility District and North Harris County Precinct 4

Northeast Water Purification Plant Demonstration Garden Master Plan Jennifer L. Appel, RLA, LI



Lake Houston Wilderness Park Master Plan (Planning)
City of Houston

Park Set-Aside Ordinance and Agency Accreditation (Policy Tools)
City of Houston

Cypress Creek Hike and Bike Trail (Projects Under \$500,000)

Timber Lane Utility District

Treatment Wetland at Mason Park (Projects Over \$500,000)
Brays Bayou Wetland Partnership

Keith-Wiess Park (Projects Over \$500,000)
City of Houston and Harris County Flood Control District

2008 Honorable Mention

Parks and Pathways Master Plan (Planning)
City of Shenandoah

Wharton County Parks and Open Space Plan (Planning)
Wharton County

East End Park (Projects Under \$500,000) Kingwood Service Association

The Park People's Trails Map (Projects Under \$500,000)

The Park People

Camp Mohawk County Park (Projects Over \$500,000)

Brazoria County

2008 Special Recognition

Planning

Seabourne Creek Regional Park Plan City of Rosenberg

Campus Master Plan
St. Catherine's Montessori School

Projects Under \$500,000

Ridgeview Park City of Missouri City

Projects Over \$500,000

Clear Lake Nature Park
City of League City

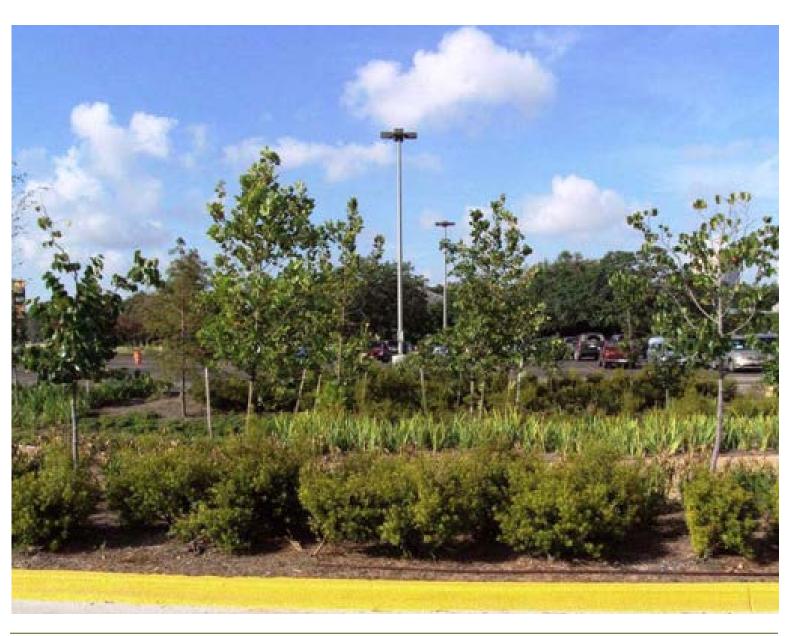
McClendon Park
Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 120

Park on the Bend Reid Road Municipal Utility District No. 1

Detention Pond Improvements
Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 188

Bane Park Harris County Precinct 4

In 2008, the Parks and Natural Areas Committee Introduced four award categories: Planning Process, Policy Tools, Projects Under \$500,000, and Projects Over \$500,000.



The Sugar Land Hike and Bike Trail Master Plan - Creating Connections (Planning)

City of Sugar Land

Urban Gardening Program-Growing Green in Our City (Policy Tools)

Houston Parks and Recreation Department

Friends Park (Projects Under \$500,000)
West University Place

The Mary Gibbs and Jesse H. Jones Greenway (Projects Over \$500,000)

Hermann Park Conservancy

2009 Honorable Mention

Linear Forest (Planning)
Houston Parks and Recreation Department

Resolution Requiring that all Facilities Meet LEED Requirements (Policy Tools)
Harris County Commissioners Court

Hunter's Glen Sprayground (Policy Tools)
City of Missouri City

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Tribute Planting (Projects Under \$500,000)

Houston Parks and Recreation Department

Buffalo Run Park (Projects Over \$500,000) City of Missouri City

2009 Special Recognition

Projects Under \$500,000

Vera May Community Center Play Garden Harris County Precinct 4

Projects Over \$500,000

Hackberry Park
Houston Parks and Recreation Department

City of La Porte Town Plaza City of La Porte Economic Development

2010 Award Winners

Ida Gaye Gardens (Planning)
Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition/The Greenspoint District

Conservation Posse (Policy Tools) Hermann Park Conservancy

J.T. Trotter Park (Policy Tools)
Houston Parks Board

Buffalo Bayou Paddling Trail (Projects Under \$500,000)

Bayou Preservation Association

Sylvan Beach Shoreline Protection and Beach Nourishment Project (Projects Over \$500,000) Harris County Precinct 2, City of La Porte, Texas General Land Office

2010 Honorable Mention

Gannoway Park Master Plan (Planning)
City of Sugar Land

Wetland Reforestation Projects (Projects Under \$500,000)

City of Missouri City

Robert C. Stuart Park (Projects Over \$500,000) City of Houston and Houston Parks Board

2010 Special Recognition

Planning

Memorial Tree Program
City of Missouri City

Fort Crockett Park City of Galveston

Mandolin Gardens Harris County MUD No. 230

Sam Houston Park Master Plan and Cell Phone Audio Tour Program
City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department

The Energy Corridor District Bicycle Master Plan Energy Corridor District **Policy Tools**

Junior Arborist Program
City of Missouri City

Projects Under \$500,000

Liberty Community Garden
City of Liberty

Get Hip to Habitat
Galveston Bay Foundation

Project Blazingstar
Hermann Park Conservancy

AmeriTrail at Lake Houston Wilderness Park City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department

The Westbury Community Garden
Westbury Civic Club

Projects Over \$500,000

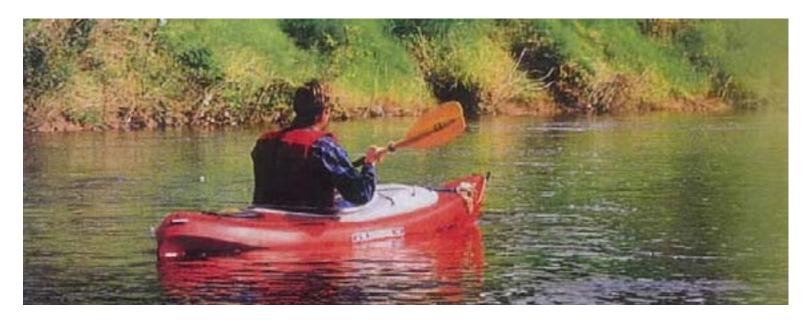
Cypress Creek Nature Trail
General Growth Properties - Bridgeland

Magnolia Park at Altamira
Mission Bend Municipal Utility District No. 2

Riva Row Boathouse
The Woodlands Township Parks and Recreation Department

Bane Park
Harris County Precinct 4

Westpark Tollway Corridor Enhancements from SH 6 to FM 1464
Harris County Toll Road Authority



2011 Award Winners

Playbook 2020 - The Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan for Baytown (Planning)
City of Baytown-Parks and Recreation Department
Halff Associates Inc.

Three for Trees (Policy Tools)
City of Missouri City

Clear Lake Forest Living Shoreline (Projects Under \$500,000)
Galveston Bay Foundation

Lake Houston Wilderness Park Phase 1 Improvements (Projects Over \$500,000)

City of Houston-Parks and Recreation Department

2011 Honorable Mention

Alden Bridge Sports Park-Community Garden/Veggie Village Garden (Planning)
The Woodlands Township-Parks and Recreation Department

Comprehensive Streetscape Policy (Policy Tools)
City of Sugar Land

Edible Arbor Trail (Projects Under \$500,000) City of Missouri City

Mandolin Gardens Park (Projects Over \$500,000)
Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 230
Talley Landscape Architects, Inc.

2011 Special Recognition

Planning

MUD 55 Regional Basin and Overlook at Heritage Park Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 55 Talley Landscape Architects, Inc.

> Greens Bayou Canoe Launch Park Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition

Buffalo Bayou Park - Shepherd to Sabine Master Plan Buffalo Bayou Partnership

Memorial Park Planned Forestry Conservation & Management Program Demonstration Project City of Houston-Parks and Recreation Department Memorial Park Conservancy Community Roots Project
City of Missouri City

WaterSmart Park
City of League City-Parks and Cultural Services

Projects Under \$500,000

Shopping Cart Graveyard Bayou Preservation Association

Projects Under \$500,000

Market Square Park
Houston Downtown Management District
Main Street/Market Square TIRZ
Lauren Griffith Associates

Rosemont Bridge
City of Houston-Parks and Recreation Department

Phase 1 of Outer Loop Trail for Memorial Park City of Houston-Parks and Recreation Department Memorial Park Conservancy



2012 Award Winners

Springwoods Village Open Space Plan (Planning)
Coventry Development Corporation

Baytown Nature Center Tidal Channels and Wetlands Expansion Project (Projects Under \$500,000)

City of Baytown Parks and Recreation Department

Herman Little Park (Projects Over \$500,000)
Timber Lane Utility District

2012 Honorable Mention

Midtown Parks and Open Space Master Plan (Planning)
Houston Midtown Redevelopment Authority

Removal of Litter and Invasive Species at Terry Hershey Park (Projects Under \$500,000)

Bayou Preservation Association

Herman Brown Park Redevelopment (Projects Over \$500,000) City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department

Honorable Mention: Rick Rice Park (Projects Over \$500,000)
Interstate Municipal Utility District

2012 Special Recognition

Planning

Eastern Regional Park
City of League City Parks and Cultural Services

Emancipation Park
City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department

Projects Under \$500,000

Oasis Garden
Harris County Precinct #2

Projects Over \$500,000

Hermann Park Pedestrian Trail Hermann Park Conservancy

Trail Connectivity Project
City of Pearland Park and Recreation Department

No submissions in the Policy Tools category were received for the 2012 awards.

Exploration Green (Planning) Clear Lake City Water Authority

Tree Challenge (Policy Tools)
City of Missouri City

Emmett Hutto Parkway (Projects Under \$500,000) City of Baytown Parks and Recreation Department

Clear Creek Paddle Trail (Projects Under \$500,000)
City of League City Parks and Cultural Services

Flewellen Creek Restoration at Cross Creek Ranch (Projects Over \$500,000)

Fort Bend County MUD 169 and Johnson Development Corporation

2013 Honorable Mention

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan (*Planning*)
City of Deer Park

Houston Arboretum and Nature Center Master Plan (Planning)
Houston Arboretum and Nature Center

Parks Standards Manual (Policy Tools)
City of Pearland Parks and Recreation Department

Wilson Wonderground SPARK Park (Projects Under \$500,000) SPARK and Woodrow Wilson Montessori School

Seabourne Park Ecosystem Restoration Project (Projects Under \$500,000)

Coastal Prairie Chapter Texas Master Naturalists and
City of Rosenberg Parks and Recreation Department

2013 Special Recognition

Planning

Shady Lane Park Renovation and Trail System - Parks Build Community (PBC) Project
Houston Parks and Recreation Department

Galveston County Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Natural Resources Master Plan Galveston County Department of Parks and Senior Services

Foster Park
Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition

McGovern Centennial Gardens
Hermann Park Conservancy

Strategic Master Plan for Pirates Bay Waterpark City of Baytown

Virtual Memorial
City of Missouri City

Policy Tools

Missouri City Mayor's Youth Commission Parents' Night Out with The Arc of Fort Bend Missouri City Parks and Recreation Department

Projects Under \$500,000

White Oak Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden
Near Northwest Management District

A WaterSmart Rain Garden: Mitigating Runoff for Galveston Bay Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and Texas Sea Grant

"Clean and Green: Inmate Clean Up" at Terry Hershey Park and Bane Park
Bayou Preservation Association

Projects Over \$500,000

Cypress Creek Park Timber Lane Utility District

LaCenterra at Cinco Ranch Central Green Willow Fork Drainage District

Bethel Park
Houston Parks and Recreation Department



Brazos River Recreation Master Plan (Planning)
Fort Bend Green

Go Native (Policy Tools)
City of Missouri City

Baytown Nature Center 11-acre Wetlands Construction Project (Projects Under \$500,000) City of Baytown

Ghirardi Family WaterSmart Park (Projects Over \$500,000) City of League City

2014 Honorable Mention

Creation of Evelyn's Park (Planning)
Evelyn's Park Conservancy

Irene Stern Butterfly Garden (Projects Under \$500,000)
City of Fulshear

2014 Special Recognition

Planning
Every Day is Earth Day
City of Missouri City

Keith Elementary School Butterfly Garden Keith Elementary School

Projects Under \$500,000

Replenish the Tree Canopy City of Seabrook

Invasive Exotic Plant Removal and Habitat Restoration in Public Spaces
Bayou Preservation Association

2015 Award Winners

Willow Waterhole Prairie Management Area Public Access Plan (Planning)
Harris County Flood Control District

The SOWING Project (Policy Tools)
Men for Change, Inc.

Pine Gully Natural Park (Projects Under \$500,000) City of Seabrook

Universally Accessible Playground (Projects Under \$500,000)

City of Sugar Land

Mandell Park (Projects Over \$500,000) Friends of Mandell Park

2015 Honorable Mention

Parks and Open Space Master Plan - West U (Planning)
City of West University Place

Fort Smith Street Woonerf (Projects Under \$500,000)
The Energy Corridor District

Cypress Park (Projects Over \$500,000)
Harris County Precinct 3 and Harris County Flood Control District

2015 Special Recognition

Planning

Cypress Creek Greenway Trails Master Plan
Cypress Creek Greenway Parks and Trails Coordinating Board

Greens Bayou Paddle Trail Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition

Richmond Trails Master Plan City of Richmond

Projects Over \$500,000

McGovern Centennial Gardens Hermann Park Conservancy

North Houston Skate Park Greater Greenspoint Redevelopment Authority

San Bernard Boat Ramp Construction
Brazoria County

Hackberry Gully Regional Park (Planning)
City of Mont Belvieu

Galveston Sand Management Strategies (Policy Tools)
Galveston Park Board

Buffalo Bayou Park (Projects Over \$500,000)

Buffalo Bayou Partnership

Turtle Bayou Nature Preserve Natural Resources Management and Public Access and Education Project (Projects Under \$500,000)

Galveston Bay Foundation

2016 Honorable Mention

Independence Park Phase 1 (Planning)
City of Pearland

Nature Observation Area at National Oak Park (Planning)
City of Alvin

Riverside Community Park (Projects Over \$500,000) City of East Bernard

Rotary Trail (Projects Under\$500,000)
City of Texas City, Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism

2016 Special Recognition

Projects Over \$500,000

Cypress Creek Hike and Bike Trail and Bridge TIP Project
Timber Lane Utility District

Town Square
City of Baytown Parks & Recreation

Projects Under \$500,000

City of Deer Park RC Rock Crawler Course City of Deer Park Parks and Recreation

HCSO Clean and Green - Collins Park
Bayou Preservation Association

2017 Award Winners

Josey Lake Park (Planning) Howard Hughes Corporation - Bridgeland

Dr. Ned & Fay Dudney Clear Creek Nature Center Management (Policy Tools)
City of League City

Kickerillo-Mischer Preserve (Projects Over \$500,000)
Harris County Precinct 4

Yolanda Black Navarro Buffalo Bend Nature Park (Projects Over \$500,000)

Harris County Precinct 2

MD Anderson Prairie (Projects Under \$500,000)

MD Anderson Cancer Center

2017 Honorable Mention

Seabourne Creek Park Nature Center (Planning)
City of Pearland

Brazos River Park (Projects Over \$500,000) City of Sugar Land

Windmill Aeration at Baytown Nature Center's Golden Bloom Pond (Projects Under \$500,000) City of Baytown

2017 Special Recognition

Projects Over \$500,000

Galveston Island Historic Seawall Beach Renourishment Project
Galveston Park Board

Japanese Garden Restoration Hermann Park Conservancy

Patrick's Bayou Stormwater Detention Basin Harris County Flood Control District

Projects Under \$500,000

Explore the Wild Houston Zoo

Nature Observation Area at National Oak Park City of Alvin

City of Sugar Land Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan (Planning)
City of Sugar Land

Harris County John Paul Landing Park (Projects Over \$500,000)
Harris County Precinct 3

Spring Creek Nature Trail (Projects Under \$500,000)
Bayou Land Conservancy

2018 Honorable Mention

League City Parks, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan (Planning)
City of League City

Quintana Beach County Park Discovery Event Center (Projects Over \$500,000)

Brazoria County Parks Department

2018 Special Recognition

Planning

Bay City Parks Master Plan
City of Bay City

Dragonfly Park
Howard Hughes Corporation

Gene and Loretta Russell Park Master Plan City of Baytown - Parks & Recreation

Projects Over \$500,000

Baytown ADA Boat Ramp and Kayak Launch Renovations City of Baytown - Parks & Recreation

> Juan Seguin Historical Park Harris County Precinct 2

> > Mayfield Park
> > City of Sugar Land

No submissions in the Policy Tools category were received for the 2018 awards.

2019 Award Winners

Haden Park (Planning)
City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department and Spring Branch Management District

Exploration Green (Projects Over \$500,000)
Clear Lake City Water Authority and Exploration Green Conservancy

Dreamscape (Projects Under \$500,000) City of Bay City

Honorable Mention

Mae S. Bruce Therapeutic Garden (Planning)
City of Santa Fe

Cullinan Park Phase 1 Improvements (Projects Over \$500,000)
City of Sugar Land

Independence Park Phase 1 Renovation (Projects Over \$500,000)

City of Pearland

Wallaroo Park (Projects Under \$500,000)
Woodforest Development by Johnson Development



Planning

Alabonson Sports and Nature Complex Harris County Precinct 4

Alief Neighborhood Center and Park
City of Houston

Chrysalis Lake
The Howard Hughes Corporation

Hermann Square at City Hall Honoree is City of Houston

Sustainable Wildlife Habitat Comprehensive Master Plan
Timber Lane Utility District

Projects Over \$500,000

Busby Park Improvement Project
City of Houston

Disc Golf Course at Briscoe Park City of Alvin

Founders Park in The Woodlands Hills
The Howard Hughes Corporation

Lakeland Heights Town Square Park
The Howard Hughes Corporation

Projects Under \$500,000

Bark Park at Countryside
City of League City

Stewart Beach Entrance Enhancements
Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston

No submissions in the Policy Tools category were received for the 2019 awards.

2020 Award Winners

Buffalo Bayou East Master Plan (Planning)
Buffalo Bayou Partnership

Clay Family Eastern Glades (Projects Over \$500,000)

Memorial Park Conservancy

Butterfly Pocket Park (Projects Under \$500,000)
Greater Northside Management District

Honorable Mention

Planning

Pasadena Healthy Parks Plan
City of Pasadena Parks and Recreation

Projects Over \$500,000

Atascocita Area Park Harris County Precinct 2

Projects Under \$500,000

Trailside Park
Westchase District



Planning

Parkland Square
Bridgeland - The Howard Hughes Corporation

Parks and Pathways Master Plan
City of Fulshear

Strategic Conservation Plan
Bayou Land Conservancy

Sylvan Beach Park Master Plan Harris County Precinct 2

The Groves
Ashlar Development

Wilcrest Park
Westchase District

Woodchase Park Westchase District

Projects Over \$500,000

Greens Bayou Houston Parks Board

Heart of the Zoo: Kathrine G. McGovern Texas Wetlands Exhibit Houston Zoo, Inc.

Kathrine G. McGovern Canopy Walkway & Visitor Pavilion Houston Audubon Society

Timber Lane Utility District Community Center
Timber Lane Utility District

Willow Fork Park
Willow Fork Drainage District

No submissions in the Policy Tools category were received for the 2020 awards.

2021 Award Winners

Mont Belvieu City Park Phase II & III Master Plan (Planning Process / Policy Tools)
City of Mont Belvieu

Brock Adventure Park (Projects Over \$500,000) City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department

HPARD's Riparian Restoration Initiative Pilot Project (Projects Under \$500,000)

City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department

Outdoor Education Initiative (Programming)
City of League City Parks and Recreation Department

Honorable Mention

Planning

Joe Matthews Park
City of Mont Belvieu

John Paul Landing North Basin Cell Harris County Precinct Three

Projects Over \$500,000
Prairieland Village

The Howard Hughes Corporation

Projects Under \$500,000

3rd Ward Chess Park
Ed Pettitt

Keep Friendswood Beautiful Pollinator Garden Keep Friendswood Beautiful/City of Friendswood

Programming

Woodchase Park Programming
Westchase District

Planning Process / Policy Tools

Baytown Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan City of Baytown Parks and Recreation Department

> Super Dave's All Abilities Park Fort Bend County

Waller County Parks, Trails, & Open Space Master Plan Waller County, Texas

Projects Under \$500,000

Amistad Community Park Splashpad
City of Bay City

East End Lagoon
Galveston Island Park Board of Trustees

Sneed Dog Park Westchase District

Programming

Adventures with Edu-Katie: An Environmental Education Video Series City of Pearland Parks & Recreation - Natural Resources Division

> Friendswood Fairy Trail Keep Friendswood Beautiful

In 2021, H-GAC combined Planning Process and Policy Tools and introduced a Programming category.

2022 Award Winners

John R. Harris Park (Planning Process / Policy Tools)
Harris County Pct. 2

James Driver Inclusive Park (Projects Over \$500,000)
Harris County Pct. 2

JHEC Reforestation (Projects Under \$500,000)

City of Pearland

Women in Coastal Science (Programming)
Park Board of Trustees of the City of Galveston

Honorable Mention

Planning - Policy Tools

Clear Creek Paddle Trail Extension - Kansas Avenue and the Dr. Ned and Fay Dudney Clear Creek Nature Center City of League City Parks and Recreation Department

Projects Over \$500,000

Sylvan Rodriguez Park Habitat Restoration Project Houston Parks and Recreation Department (HPARD)

Projects Under \$500,000

Resoft County Park Trail Development Brazoria County Parks Department

Programming

Go Wild! Program at Riverside Park
City of Bay City

Projects Over \$500,000

Dow Elementary School Park
Old Sixth Ward Redevelopment Authority

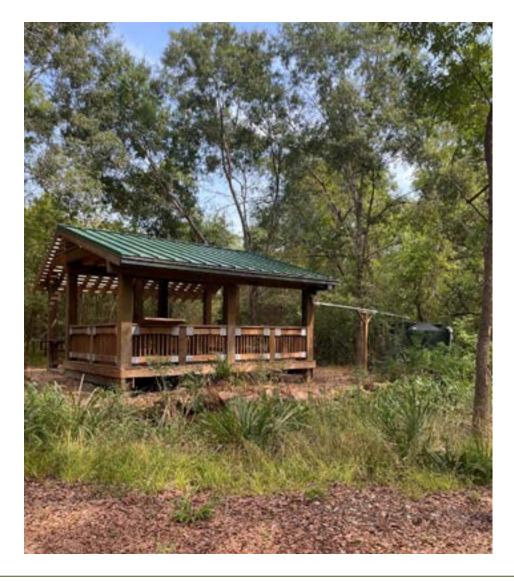
Hanson Riverside County Park Columbia Bottomlands Education & Improved Access
Brazoria County Parks Department

Northwest Harris County MUD 5 Trails Improvements
Northwest Harris County MUD 5

Projects Under \$500,000

Final Segment - Cypress Creek Hike and Bike Trai
Timber Lane Utility Distric

Northeast Hike and Bike Trail
City Of Deer Park Parks and Recreation



2023 Award Winners

City of Houston Nature Preserve Ordinance (Planning Process / Policy Tools)
City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department [HPARD]

Harris County Precinct 3 Parks and Trails Master Plan (Planning Process / Policy Tools)
Harris County Precinct 3

Hackberry Park Phase I (Projects Over \$500,000)
City of Mont Belvieu

Lakeside Park (Projects Over \$500,000)
City of Angleton

Reed Park at the Urban Prairie (Projects Under \$500,000)

New Hope Housing

Clean Bayous Program: Pots for Plots Initiative (Programming)
Bayou Preservation Association

Honorable Mention

Planning - Policy Tools
Clear Creek Master Plan
City of League City

Projects Over \$500,000
Alief Jefferson Early Learning Center
Alief ISD

Chrysalis Lake Howard Hughes

Projects Under \$500,000

Beach Toy Borrow Boxes

Galveston Park Board

Programming
Park Programs
Harris County Precinct 3

Planning - Policy Tools

57-acre Nature Center
City of Kemah Economic Development

Missouri City Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Master Plan
Missouri City Parks and Recreation

North Houston District 2023 Parks Master Plan
North Houston District

Planning - Primrose Park
City of Fulshear

Harris County Precinct 2 Parks and Trails Plan
Commissioner Adrian Garcia

Projects Over \$500,000

East Aldine Town Center
East Aldine Management District

San Luis Pass County Park Education Center & Multi-Use Renovation
Brazoria County Parks Department

Projects Under \$500,000

Oak Creek Exploration Zone at The Parish School

The Parish School

Restoration of Wetland and Native Grasses at Fort Anahuac Park
Chambers County

Riverside Tree Give Away Bay City Parks and Recreation

Texas AIDS Memorial Garden
Michael Lee

Programming

City of Angleton Parks and Recreation In- School Program
City of Angleton Parks and Recreation