

# *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 220 awards since the program's inception in 2006.



updated 3/8/2021

# 2006 Award Winners

**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



# 2008 Award Winners

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.*



# 2009 Award Winners

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.*

# 2013 Award Winners

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**



# 2014 Award Winners

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

# 2016 Award Winners

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 Dudley 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

# 2018 Award Winners

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



# Special Recognition

## 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

# Special Recognition

## 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.*