Homeowner Wastewater Assistance Program

Brian Sims

May 22, 2019
Wastewater Assistance Program

Project Background

• Provides assistance to qualifying homeowners to repair or replace malfunctioning or failing on-site sewage facilities (OSSFs).

• Funding may also be used to provide extension of first-time sewer service, pump-out and sludge hauling, etc.

• Eligible homeowners are not charged for any portion of the cost of the project (no homeowner cost share).
Applicant Qualifications

- Must own and reside at the property
- Must be at or below 80% of the median household income for the county
- Must have a failing on-site sewage facility (includes those who have no system)
Applicant Referrals

- H-GAC watershed-based planning meetings and outreach events held throughout the region

- Outreach by Texas AgriLife Extension/TWRI in the coastal counties

- Authorized Agents (non-TCEQ funding can be used even by those under enforcement)

- OSSF Installers and Maintenance Providers

- Signs posted at installation/repair sites
Project Funding Sources

SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT FUNDING for SEPTIC or AEROBIC SEWAGE FACILITY REPAIR/REPLACEMENT

WORK PERFORMED WITH PENALTY MONIES FROM A TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ENFORCEMENT ACTION

SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT FUNDING SEPTIC or AEROBIC SEWAGE FACILITY REPAIR/REPLACEMENT DONATED BY

HARRIS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Kim K. Ogg
Wastewater Assistance Program

Project Activity (as of April 30, 2019)

• 8 OSSF Repairs Completed
• 2 OSSF Repairs Awarded to Vendors (not completed)

• 8 OSSF Installations Completed
• 13 OSSF Installations Awarded to Vendors (not completed)

• An additional 26 candidates have met the qualifications for the program
Category Descriptions

- **Completed** – a repair or replacement has been successfully completed and invoice processed.

- **Awarded** – work has been awarded to a vendor and a purchase order issued. Funds have been allocated for the work, but work has not yet been completed.

- **In Progress** – applicant has been approved for the program, but work has not yet been awarded to a vendor. Funds have not been allocated.

![OSSF Applicants Map]

**Applicants Status**

- Awarded (14)
- Completed (16)
- In Progress (26)

Source: Houston-Galveston Area Council

*Status updated as of May 1, 2019*
Project Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harris County District Attorney’s Office</td>
<td>$216,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCEQ</td>
<td>$74,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dow/Olin</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$310,975</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Funding from Harris County is not limited to Harris County.
- Funding from Dow and Olin is limited to Brazoria County.
- Funding from TCEQ cannot be used for homeowners who are under enforcement or have been issued a notice of violation.
## Project Expenditures

### Work Completed (as of April 30, 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OSSF Repairs Completed (8)</td>
<td>$26,890.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSSF Replacements Completed (8)</td>
<td>$79,025.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$105,915.25</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Work Awarded (as of April 30, 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OSSF Repairs Awarded (2)</td>
<td>$5,205.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSSF Replacements Awarded (13)</td>
<td>$163,940.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$169,145.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Project Expenditures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Project Expenses (as of April 30, 2019)</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work Awarded</td>
<td>$105,915.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Completed</td>
<td>$169,145.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$275,060.25</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Remaining Funding**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Funding</td>
<td>$310,975.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>($275,060.25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$35,914.75</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Project Successes

- Installation of a new aerobic OSSF in Baytown (Harris County)
- Referred by Harris County Engineering

Failing conventional system draining to ditch

New aerobic OSSF
Wastewater Assistance Program

Project Successes

- Installation of a new aerobic OSSF in Baytown (Harris County)
- Referred by Harris County Engineering

Sewage discharging to cesspool

New aerobic OSSF
Wastewater Assistance Program

Project Successes

- Installation of a new aerobic OSSF in Houston (Harris County)
Project Successes

- Installation of a new aerobic OSSF in Hempstead (Waller County)
- Referred by Waller County Environmental Division
Project Successes

- Installation of a new aerobic OSSF in Hempstead (Waller County)

Line to failed conventional system

Installation of new system
Project Successes

- Homeowner had to disconnect from adjacent home following sale
- Installation of a new aerobic OSSF in Brookshire (Waller County)
Project Successes

- Installation of a new aerobic OSSF in Double Bayou (Chambers County)
Wastewater Assistance Program

Project Successes

- Installation of a new aerobic OSSF in Double Bayou (Chambers County)

Sewage being pumped to cesspool

Installation of new aerobic OSSF
Project Successes

- Installation of a new aerobic OSSF in Double Bayou (Chambers County)
Wastewater Assistance Program

Project Successes

- Repair of aerobic OSSF in Montgomery (Montgomery County)

Failed connection from home to tank

Repaired aerobic system
Wastewater Assistance Program

Project Successes

- Installation of new aerobic OSSF in Hitchcock (Galveston County)
What’s Left?
Wastewater Assistance Program

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Wastewater Assistance Program

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What’s Next?

• Failing OSSFs are a significant issue within the region

• The program is not actively being promoted at this time due to current funding levels

• Applicants are still being accepted, but there are significant wait times

• Additional systems will be repaired or replaced once more funding is available
Questions?

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