



HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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H-GAC RECOGNIZES PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS AND WATER INNOVATION STRATEGIES OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS WINNERS

HOUSTON, TX – More than 20 projects across the Houston-Galveston region were honored for serving as models for best management practices in parks, natural areas, and water quality as part of the Houston-Galveston Area Council’s annual Parks and Natural Areas Awards and Water Innovation Strategies of Excellence (WISE) Awards recognition ceremony. The event was held online on Feb. 5.

Winners were selected for recognition by panels of expert judges and industry professionals. Those recognized include:

Parks and Natural Areas Awards

Parks and Natural Areas Awards Planning Process

- **Winner:** *Buffalo Bayou East Master Plan*, a project by **Buffalo Bayou Partnership**
- **Honorable Mention:** *Pasadena Healthy Parks Plan*, a project by City of Pasadena Parks and Recreation
- **Special Recognition:**
 - *Parkland Square*, a project by Bridgeland - The Howard Hughes Corporation
 - *Parks and Pathways Master Plan*, a project by City of Fulshear
 - *Strategic Conservation Plan*, a project by Bayou Land Conservancy
 - *Sylvan Beach Park Master Plan*, a project by Harris County Precinct 2
 - *The Groves*, a project by Ashlar Development
 - *Wilcrest Park*, a project by Westchase District
 - *Woodchase Park*, a project by Westchase District

Parks and Natural Areas Projects Over \$500,000

- **Winner:** *Clay Family Eastern Glades*, a project by **Memorial Park Conservancy**
- **Honorable Mention:** *Atascocita Area Park*, a project by Harris County Precinct 2
- **Special Recognition:**

Houston-Galveston Area Council

H-GAC is a voluntary association of local governments and local elected officials from the 13-county Gulf Coast planning region, which includes an area of 12,500 square miles and more than 7 million people. H-GAC works to promote efficient and accountable use of local, state, and federal tax dollars; serves as a problem-solving and information forum for local governments; and helps analyze trends and conditions affecting the region. For more information, visit h-gac.com.



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- *Greens Bayou*, a project by Houston Parks Board
 - *Heart of the Zoo: Kathrine G. McGovern Texas Wetlands Exhibit*, a project by Houston Zoo, Inc.
 - *Kathrine G. McGovern Canopy Walkway & Visitor Pavilion*, a project by Houston Audubon Society
 - *Timber Lane Utility District Community Center*, a project by Timber Lane Utility District
 - *Willow Fork Park*, a project by Willow Fork Drainage District

Parks and Natural Areas Projects Under \$500,000

- **Winner:** *Butterfly Pocket Park*, a project by Greater Northside Management District
- Honorable Mention: *Trailside Park*, a project by Westchase District

Water Innovation Strategies of Excellence (WISE) Awards

Planning & Policy Award Winner

- Houston Wilderness for the *Gulf-Houston Regional Conservation Plan: Second Key Goal*

Education & Public Awareness Award Winner

- City of Houston-Houston Public Works for the *Imagine a Day Without Water Campaign*

Special Recognition for Exemplary Environmental Advocacy by a Citizen's Group

- Friends of the River San Bernard for *Addressing Bacteria Impairment of the Tidal San Bernard River*

Special Recognition for Exemplary STEM Engagement of K-12 Students

- City of Houston-Houston Public Works for the *Houston Public Works 2019 Water Works Festival*

For more information about the Parks and Natural Areas Awards, visit h-gac.com/parks-and-natural-areas/awards.

For more information about the WISE Awards, visit h-gac.com/board-of-directors/advisory-committees/natural-resources-advisory-committee/wise-awards.

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