

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 21, 2022

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H-GAC, TCEQ TO HOST OYSTER CREEK WATERSHED PUBLIC MEETING ON MAY 11

Local Stakeholders Invited to Discuss Water Quality Issues in the Oyster Creek Watershed of Brazoria and Fort Bend Counties

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) will hold an informational meeting to discuss water quality issues impacting communities along the Oyster Creek watershed on Wednesday, May 11.

The meeting is open to the public and will be held at the Angleton Public Library, 401 E. Cedar St., Angleton, Texas, from 1 to 3 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss water quality issues affecting communities in the Oyster Creek watershed south of Sugar Land, including Angleton, Arcola, Bailey's Prairie, Bonney, Clute, Holiday Lakes, Iowa Colony, Juliff, Lake Jackson, Missouri City (Sienna Plantation), Richwood, Rosharon, and Sandy Point. Pollutants, specifically fecal bacteria, in this waterway may impact public health, local economies, and the natural environment. Residents and organizations are invited to participate in this and future meetings to provide input that will be used to review the current draft bacteria reduction plan and to consider the next steps needed to put the plan into action.

"Waterways are impacted by everything that happens on the land that drains to them," said Steven Johnston, senior planner at the H-GAC. "This locally led project seeks to empower stakeholders within the watershed to identify and pursue voluntary solutions to the water quality issues confronting their communities that can also be coordinated with other local flood planning, conservation, and community-led efforts."

For more information about the project, visit <u>www.h-gac.com/watershed-based-plans/san-jacinto-brazos-coastal-basin-tmdl-and-implementation-plan</u>.

Funding for this effort is provided by a Clean Water Act grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), administered by the TCEQ.

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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