



Houston-Galveston
Area Council

Homeowner Wastewater Assistance Program

BECOME A **SUPPORTER**

TOGETHER WE CAN

Directly impact people's lives, improve living conditions,
and help reduce pollution in our waterways



713.627.3200



ossf@h-gac.com

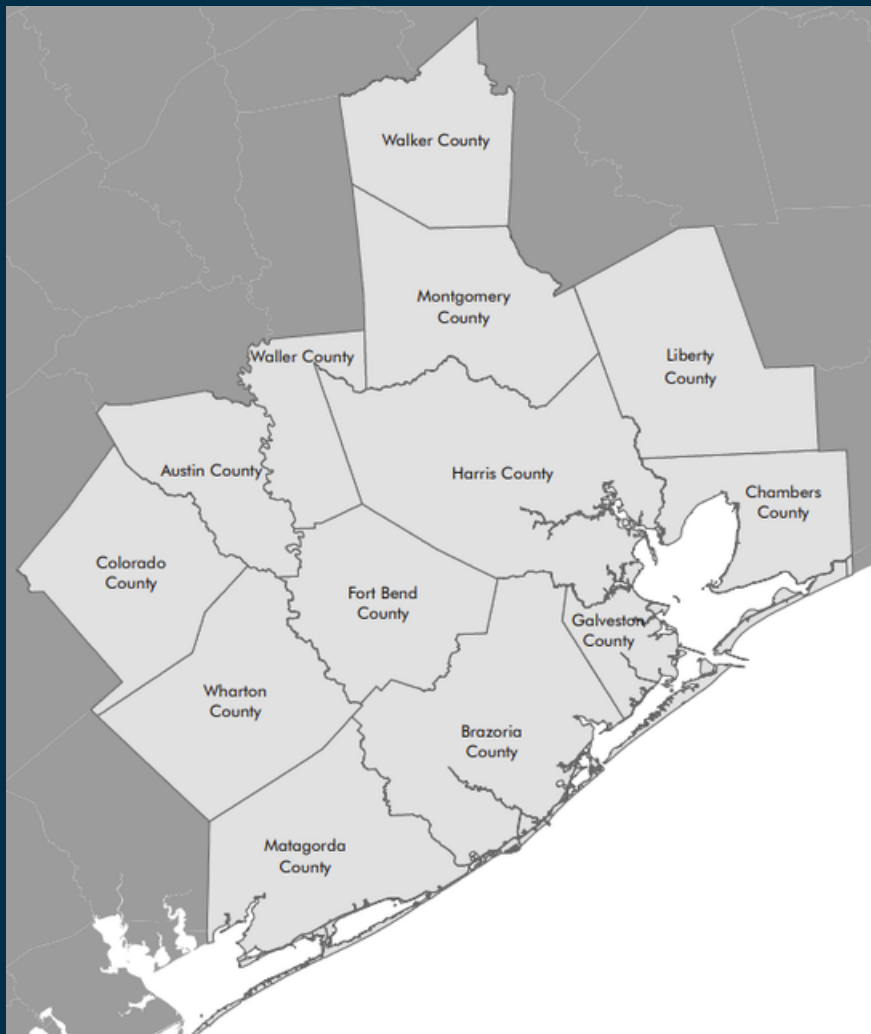


h-gac.com/ossf

About the Program

The Houston-Galveston Area Council's (H-GAC's) Homeowner Wastewater Assistance Program (HWAP) directly improves resident quality of life and local water quality by covering the full cost to repair or replace failing On-Site Sewage Facilities (OSSFs) for qualifying homeowners in H-GAC's 13-county service region.

Failing systems introduce fecal bacteria into the environment and pose a public health risk. Unfortunately, the cost to replace failing systems (\$15,000 - \$25,000) often prevents residents from being able to address the issue on their own.



Map of H-GAC's 13-county service region

Qualifying homeowners must own and reside at the property with the failing system, and must have an annual household income at or below 80% of the median household income for their county. Homeowners must also participate in an educational workshop to learn the importance of proper system maintenance to prevent future failures.

Learn more about the Homeowner Wastewater Assistance Program using the QR code below.



OSSF Failures & Growing Need

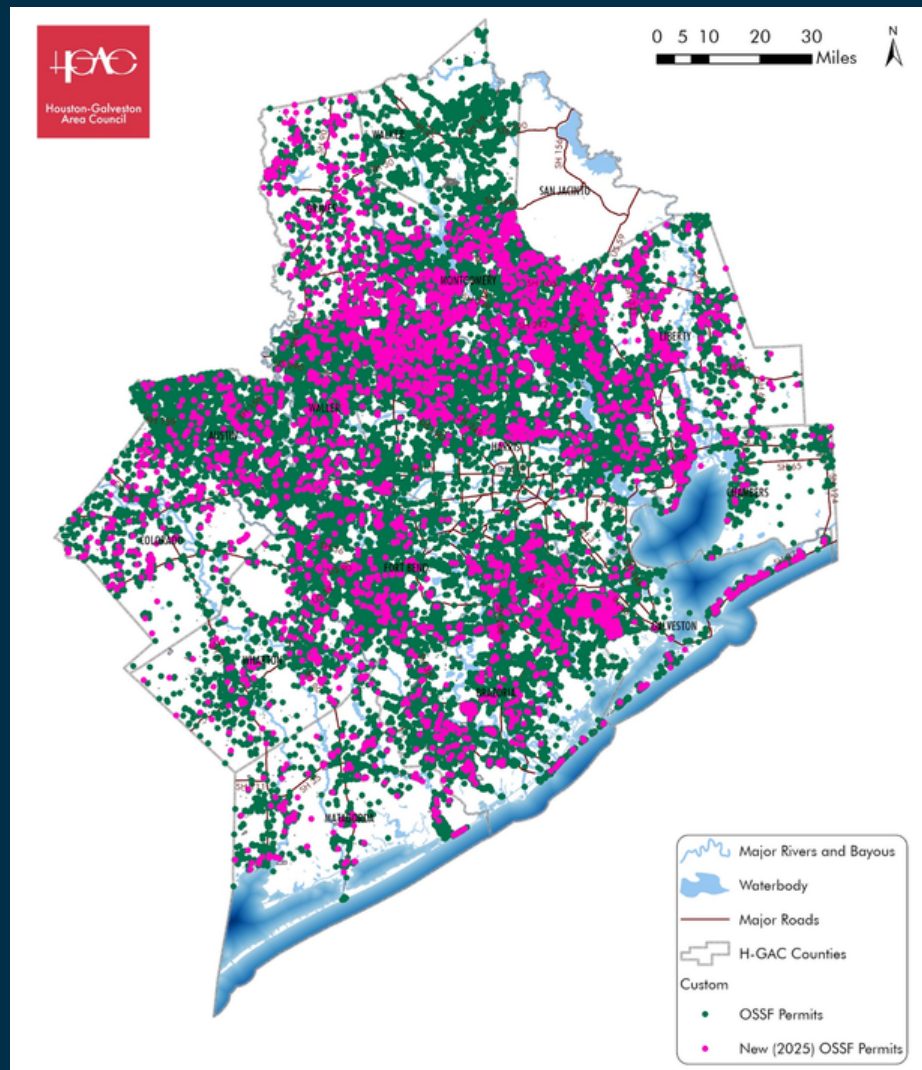
On-site Sewage Facilities (OSSFs) can be an effective solution for wastewater treatment in areas without centralized treatment systems. However, the estimated failure rate for OSSFs in Texas is 12%. With more than 364,000 OSSFs in the H-GAC service region, that means that as many as 45,000 systems could be failing.

As OSSFs in our area continue to age, this number is likely to increase, with some of our most vulnerable residents unable to address the situation without assistance. While the Homeowner Wastewater Assistance has been successful and had meaningful impacts on individual families, communities, and local water quality, the program's success is hampered by the ratio of available funding to the need in our area.

Program Testimonial

"There are no words to express our gratitude and appreciation for everything that was done to help us... This was no small task, and we recognize all the effort and financial funding that went into this project... This is something we are beyond grateful for, we are blessed to have crossed paths, we can never repay the financial assistance and kindness."

-System replaced in 2023



Map of permitted OSSFs in H-GAC's service region

Support Opportunities

► Direct Giving

Industries, foundations, nonprofits, management districts, and other entities can contribute funds to the HWAP to help residents across the H-GAC region.

► Community Sponsorship

If desired, contributions can be restricted to use within a specific geographic area such as a county, community, or watershed, and work can be paired with educational workshops on request.

► Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP)

Entities facing fines for air or water violations from the TCEQ can contribute the fines to the HWAP SEP (SEP #2012-15 titled Wastewater Treatment Assistance).

► Pro-Bono Installation Work

OSSF installers interested in providing pro-bono or discounted assistance to the program can contact H-GAC for more information.

Supporter Benefits

Direct Giving donations are tax deductible and supporters can be listed on signs at installation sites and on the program website. Annual reports on progress can also be provided upon request.

Contact H-GAC to start making a difference today



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