

BIG

BACTERIA IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY 1, 2021–DECEMBER 31, 2021



IMPLEMENTING THE BIG I-PLAN

The 33-member Bacteria Implementation Group (BIG) consists of government, business, and community leaders working with other stakeholders to implement the BIG Implementation Plan (I-Plan), a plan to help reduce bacteria in area waterways.

BIG MEMBERS*

Ralph Calvino, Terracon (Business/Industry)

Jerry Caraviotis, Harris County (Urban County)

Richard Chapin, City of Houston (Large City)

Danielle Cioce, Harris County (Urban County)

Charlotte Cisneros, Galveston Bay Foundation (Conservation)

Christine Cooper, City of Conroe (Small City)

Tom Douglas, Houston Sierra Club (Conservation)

Colleen Gilbert, Greens Bayou Coalition (Conservation)

Teague Harris, IDS Engineering Group (Utility District)

Cassidy Ince, Texas A&M Forest Service (Agriculture)

Andrew Isbell, Walker County (Rural County)

Carol LaBreche, City of Houston (Large City)

Michael Lee, US Geological Survey (Resource Agency/Academia)

Cathy McCoy, Harris County Soil and Water Conservation District #442 (Agriculture)

Paul Nelson, Bayou Preservation Association (Conservation)

Scott Nichols, Montgomery County (Rural County)

Becky Olive, AECOM (Business/Industry)

Mitchell Page, Schwartz, Page & Harding,

LLP (Utility District)

Linda Pechacek, LDP Consultants, Inc. (Public)

Sonia Phillips, City of League City (Small City)

Rachel Powers, Citizen's Environmental Coalition (Conservation)

Patrick Rightmyer, City of Houston (Large City)

Jim Robertson, Cypress Creek Flood Control Coalition (Conservation)

Scott Saenger, Jones & Carter, Inc. (Business/Industry)

Linda Shead, Texas Coastal Partners (Conservation)

Brian Shmaefsky, Lone Star College, Kingwood (Resource Agency/Academia)

Shane Simpson, San Jacinto River Authority (Business/Industry)

Robert Snoza, Harris County Flood Control District (Urban County)

Michael Thornhill, SI Environmental (Utility District)

Scott Tuma, (Business/Industry)

Joanna Wilson, Gulf Coast Authority (Business/Industry)

Vacant, (Rural Small City)

Vacant, San Jacinto County (Agriculture)

* Member list effective as of May 24, 2022.

Parenthetical indicates type of organization represented



BIG ALTERNATES*

Shaun Austin, Gulf Coast Authority
Camila Biaggi, Harris County
Susie Blake, City of League City
Matthew Carpenter, IDS Engineering Group
Nugent Cotton, Harris County
John Ellis, US Geological Survey
Nick Ellis, Galveston Bay Foundation
Dale Everitt, San Jacinto County
Brittani Flowers, Bayou Preservation Association
Sasha Francis, Galveston Bay Foundation
Frank Green, Montgomery County
Greg Hall, City of Conroe
Jody Hooks, City of League City
Steve Hupp, Cypress Creek Flood Control Coalition
Scott Jones, Galveston Bay Foundation
Karen Kottke, AECOM
Jason M. Maldonado, Lockwood, Andrews and Newnam, Inc.
Mac Martin, Texas A&M Forest Service
Reuben Martinez, Montgomery County
Carl Masterson, Texas Coastal Partners
Clint Miller, Terracon
Lisa Montemayor, City of Houston
Thomas Sample, US Geological Survey
Elaine Savage, Harris County
Aaron Schindewolf, San Jacinto River Authority
Kristen Schlemmer, Citizens' Environmental Coalition
Rose Sobel, Bayou Preservation Association
Liz Stone, Jones & Carter, Inc.

Desta Takie, City of Houston

Lam Tran, City of Houston

Roberto Vega, Harris County Flood Control District

Jim Williams, Sierra Club

**Alternate list effective as of May 24, 2022.*

Many stakeholders participated in actions in support of the I-Plan, many of which are documented in this Annual Report

Be Part of the Solution

The BIG project is and will continue to be successful in no small part to the individual actions of each stakeholder. We are eager to build on each success and seek the continued commitment of our partners and renewed interest and participation of our stakeholders.

Most of the implementation activities in the I-Plan are voluntary. Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) Phase I and Phase II operators, local governments, farmers and ranchers, septic system owners, pet owners, and residents can help reduce the number of bacteria entering waterways by selecting one or more of these activities to implement.

Learn more by visiting
www.h-gac.com/BIG.

The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) facilitates the BIG and supports and supplements implementation of the I-Plan through a grant from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Nearly half of the Houston-Galveston region's stream and shoreline miles continue to have bacteria levels higher than state standards for contact recreation¹. High bacterial concentrations may cause gastrointestinal illnesses or skin infections in swimmers or others who come into direct contact with the water (Figure 1). Fecal wastes come from a variety of sources, including human, pets, domesticated animals, wildlife, and invasive species, such as feral hogs.



Figure 1. Water is always a big draw for recreation²

Since 2008, a group of government, business, and community leaders as members of the Bacteria Implementation Group (BIG) have joined together to develop and implement a plan, the BIG Implementation Plan (I-Plan), to reduce

bacteria and improve water quality. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) approved the I-Plan (formally known as the Implementation Plan for Seventy-Two Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL)³ for Bacteria in the Houston-Galveston Region) on January 31, 2013.

The 2022 Annual Report is designed to track progress made in the BIG Project Area (Figure 2) from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021.

MAKING PROGRESS

The good news is we are making a difference. Overall, bacteria levels for waterways in the BIG project area have decreased or remained stable since the BIG began working to address the problem in 2008. Even during a period of continued population growth and area-wide development pressure.

Bacteria levels in waterways have decreased from above six times the state's contact recreation standard to four times the standard (Figure 3). Since 2013, bacteria conditions have improved in 6 assessment units (AU), remained stable in 120, while deteriorating in 18 of the 144 AUs reviewed within the BIG Project area. In fact, two AUs, 1004_01 and 1004D_01 on the West Fork of the San Jacinto River and Crystal Creek, respectively, now meet the contact recreation standard and were delisted for the TCEQ's 2016 Texas Integrated Report⁴.

¹ 2021 Basin Summary Report - <https://www.h-gac.com/clean-rivers-program/basin-highlights-summary-reports>

² Photo from the Cypress Creek Canoe Club

³ BIG I-Plan - <https://www.h-gac.com/bacteria-implementation-group/reports>

⁴

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/waterquality/swqm/assess/16txir/2016_delist.pdf

BIG Project Area

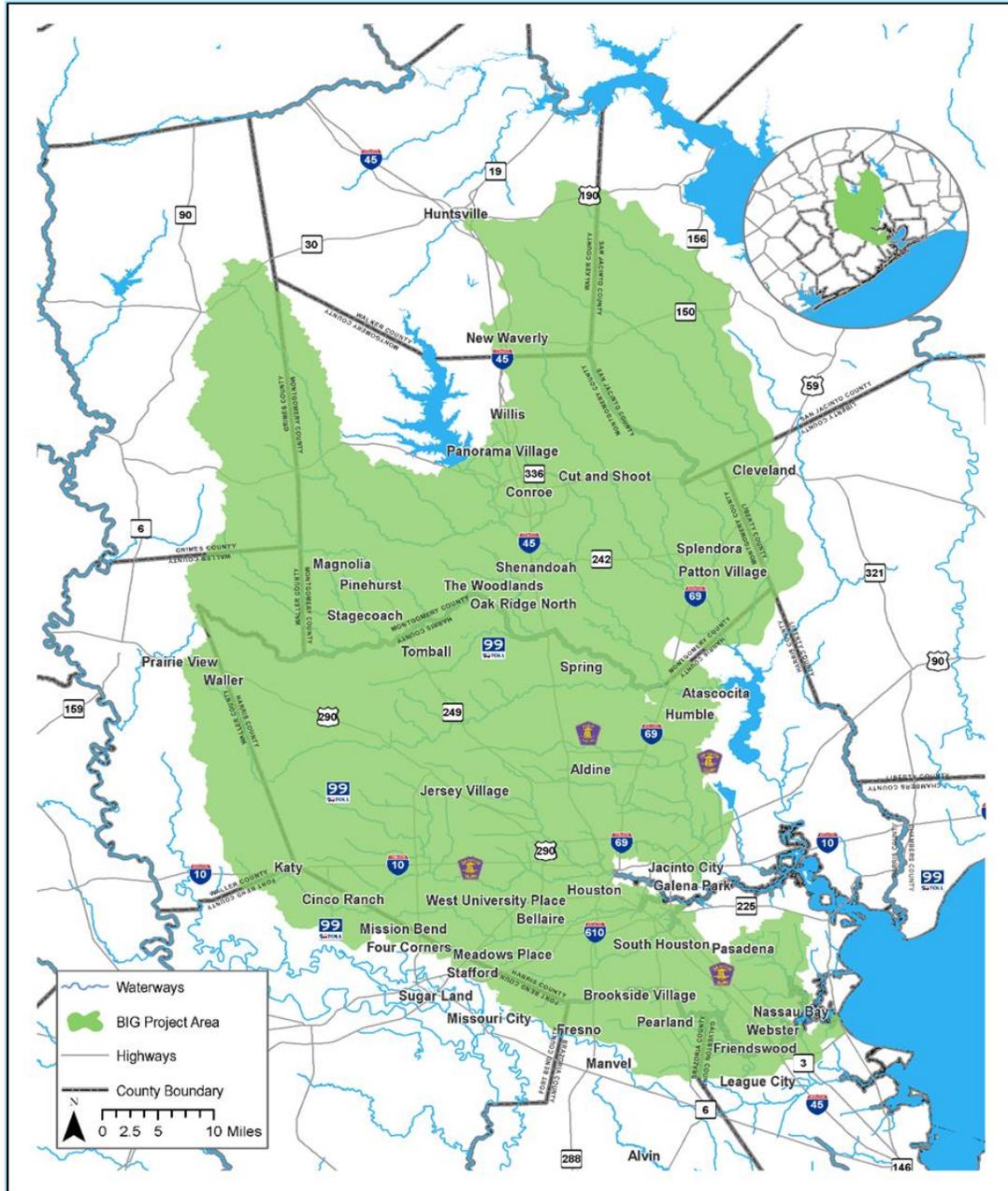


Figure 2. The BIG project area is approximately 3,260 square miles and has a population of nearly five million people. The area encompasses part of 10 counties much of the City of Houston and all or part of another 63 cities.

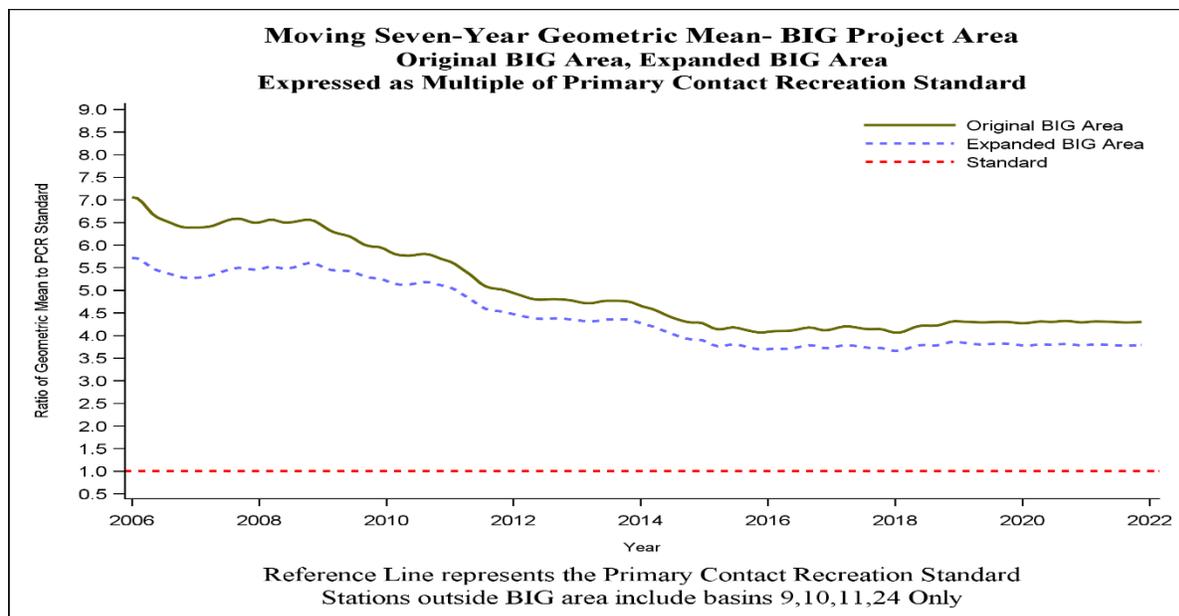


Figure 3. Bacteria trend lines for the BIG Area, Original Project Area and Expanded Project Area 2006-2022.

As a region, we have seen progress, however as Figure 3 shows, the bacteria trend has leveled out with a perceptible increase in recent years. There is more work to do for the BIG and the region if goals of the I-Plan – to reduce bacteria concentrations in the region's waters and eventually fully support contact recreation are to be accomplished.

Many stakeholders are actively implementing and tracking progress. Partners within the BIG are examining the effectiveness of implementation activities in reducing bacteria, including installing and monitoring structural best management practices; addressing bacteria impairments as part of their municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) program; committing resources to address aging and failing infrastructure (Figure 4); educating and

training local wastewater treatment operators, developers, and water quality service providers; and conducting public education and involvement campaigns.



Figure 4. Onsite sewage facility replacement

By working together, the BIG and its partner organizations can continue to identify what is working and what remains to be implemented.

Since the first annual report was published in 2013, the BIG project area (Figure 2) has expanded. The first expansion included the Armand Bayou TMDL project area in 2015. The second expansion in 2016 included the East and West Fork of the San Jacinto TMDL project Area. The last expansion incorporated the Jarbo Bayou watershed in 2018. The original project area was 2,202.7 square miles. The expanded area is now 3,259.89 square miles, roughly the size of Delaware and Rhode Island, combined. The I-Plan was initially written for 72 TMDLs. With additional TMDLs completed within the BIG project area and with the expanded area, the I-Plan now covers 126 TMDLs.

WATERSHED PROTECTION PLANS

H-GAC is working with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to expand watershed protection plans (WPP) within the BIG Project Area. WPPs are similar in process to the I-Plan established for the BIG. WPPs that are created will focus on smaller watersheds within the BIG project area. The goal of each watershed protection plan will be to encourage local watershed stakeholders to participate in plan development, to address water quality concerns, and for eventual plan execution.

The result of the watershed protection plan enactment within the BIG project area is

expected to be more granular. Implementation of WPPs is anticipated to happen alongside implementation of the BIG I-Plan.

H-GAC has established stakeholder groups within five watersheds⁵. The plans have been completed in two, having been approved by the U.S. EPA. One is in review by the U.S. EPA. The remaining two are currently being developed. The five watershed WPPs are:

- West Fork of the San Jacinto River WPP
- Spring Creek WPP (in review)
- Cypress Creek WPP
- Clear Creek WPP (in development)
- East Fork of the San Jacinto River WPP (in development)

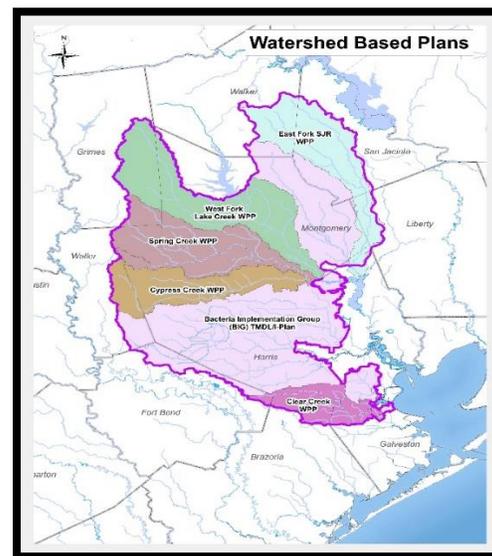


Figure 5. Watershed Protection Plan projects within the BIG project area

⁵ www.westfork.weebly.com
www.cypresspartnership.com
www.springcreekpartnership.com

www.clearcreekpartnership.com
www.eastforkpartnership.com

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Highlighting successful projects is an important part of the BIG Annual Report. The BIG hopes by focusing on model bacteria reduction projects that are having an impact, presenting cost saving opportunities for organizations on tight budgets, increasing knowledge and understanding, improving operation and maintenance, and/or contributing unique and novel approaches will foster a sharing of information and lessons learned, and ultimately result in the expanded use of bacteria reduction projects across the BIG project area. While several projects follow, please note this list is not exhaustive and does not reflect the entirety of successful projects in 2021.

Rain Barrel Program

The Galveston Bay Foundation (GBF)⁶ Rain Barrel Program⁷ aims to engage the communities surrounding Galveston Bay in water conservation and quality issues by encouraging rainwater collection (Figure 6). In addition to being a low- maintenance, low-cost method for easily conserving water at home, rain barrels divert rainwater which would otherwise be directed to a storm drain. By using rain barrels, we ensure healthy freshwater inflows into the Bay, reduce the amount of pollution and bacteria being introduced into our watershed, and help to reduce flooding from heavy rain events.

GBF works in partnership with local organizations and cities in the Houston - Galveston area to host distribution events

and workshops (Figure 6) to get rain barrels into communities.



Figure 6 Rain barrel workshop in Kemah, TX.

Since the program's inception in 2013, approximately 3,000 Houston-area residents have attended a Galveston Bay Foundation rain barrel workshop, and their rain barrels save approximately 2,805,600 gallons of water annually, based on the average yearly rainfall in Houston (Figure 7).

- In 2020, a total of 288 rain barrels were distributed to 202 participants at eight events. Combined, these barrels have the potential to save 302,400 gallons of water annually.
- In 2021, a total of 333 rain barrels were distributed to 180 participants at eight events. Combined, these barrels have the potential to save 349,650 gallons of water annually.

⁶ <https://galvbay.org/>

⁷ <https://galvbay.org/work/water-protection/>



Figure 7 Rain barrel workshops in the region.

Targeted Monitoring 2020-2021

Targeted monitoring is an investigative approach to survey a waterbody to identify potential sources of bacteria (Figure 8). The BIG encourages organizations and jurisdictions to increase source monitoring, particularly in AUs where ambient monitoring has determined elevated levels of fecal bacteria. The BIG produces an annual list of the top twenty AUs with the highest levels of fecal bacteria; and has developed a model program for those interested, to follow – Top Five Least Five⁸.



Figure 8 Bayou Preservation Association Interns Targeted monitoring

Beginning in 2020, two targeted monitoring projects were initiated in the region. One was funded through the TCEQ's Clean Rivers Program⁹ and the second, TCEQ's Galveston Bay Estuary Program.

1) For the Clean Rivers Program project, H-GAC and the Environmental Institute of Houston collected 343 samples during field investigations of ten AUs in the region; 52 sample locations were highlighted for future study.

Five of the ten AUs were sent to the proper authorities for further investigation and remediation. Two AUs were recommended for additional field investigations as some high bacteria concentrations had no sources identified and could not be explained.

2) For the Galveston Bay Estuary Program project, the Bayou Preservation Association (BPA) and H-GAC focused on six AUs.

BPA hired two Student Conservation Association (SCA) interns to begin monitoring in October and December 2020. The SCA interns completed windshield surveys for all 6 prioritized AUs, but only completed sampling of one. Twenty-one samples were taken and analyzed from dry-weather flows and tributaries to the AU. Twelve of the samples had bacteria counts higher than the state single-grab limit, but four samples were noted for further investigation by the City of Houston because the bacteria counts were close to or greater than the analysis method's detection limit of 20,000 CFU. Of the four samples, one was near an apartment

⁸ Top Five Least Five Project: <https://www.h-gac.com/bacteria-implementation-group/reports>

⁹ Targeted-Monitoring-Project-FY2020-2021 (h-gac.com)

complex with a history of SSOs and was referred to the Health Department's FOG group for further investigation; one had an SSO reported in the drainage area 6 days after sampling, though the city could not say for sure if that was the cause of the high levels; and one came from a small storm line that was dry when the city investigated but was suggested as possible intermittent issues or illicit discharges along that line. In addition to these samples, the interns located and reported an SSO during the windshield survey stemming from a structural failure of a gravity main line.

Two SCA interns monitored three and a half of the other prioritized AUs between June and July 2021. An unusually wet weather pattern during that time frame prevented the completion of all AUs as dry-weather sampling requires three prior days without significant rainfall. Of those AUs monitored, 53 total samples were taken and 45 were over the state single grab limit for *E. coli* with eight over the 20,000-detection method limit. Results were reported to the City of Houston Public Works Department in November 2021.

Onsite Sewage Facility Mapping Update

H-GAC revised its method for mapping unpermitted systems and added OSSF data for Grimes County in 2021.

For the Unpermitted OSSF Update, H-GAC staff estimates the number and probable locations of unpermitted systems, which were typically installed prior to the requirement that OSSFs be permitted. In previous years, this analysis was performed

using polygons representing parcel and census block data. For 2021, H-GAC used 9-1-1 addressing to estimate the projected locations of potentially unpermitted OSSFs on a county level. This method used an automated script to interpolate the addresses of these unpermitted systems.

While parcel and census block data have been extremely useful in prior years for identifying potential locations of unpermitted OSSFs, H-GAC found it necessary to refine the process by utilizing the 9-1-1 address data set. H-GAC staff developed a methodology to use these data to generate a more accurate and detailed estimation of the numbers and potential locations of unpermitted OSSF systems. A detailed review of this process is presented in the 2022 Water Quality Management Plan report¹⁰.

H-GAC applied this method to Grimes County and was successful in receiving permitted system data from Grimes County.

With the addition of permitted data from Grimes County and the new method for unpermitted systems, the total number of OSSFs increased to 182,096 in the BIG Project area (Table 1, Figure 9).

Table 1. Onsite sewage facilities in the BIG Project area.

Analysis Year	Permitted OSSF	Unpermitted OSSF*	Total
2020	49,856	104,270	154,126
2021	57,739	124,357	182,096

*Estimated unpermitted and non-registered systems within the BIG project area.

¹⁰ <https://www.h-gac.com/water-quality-management-planning>



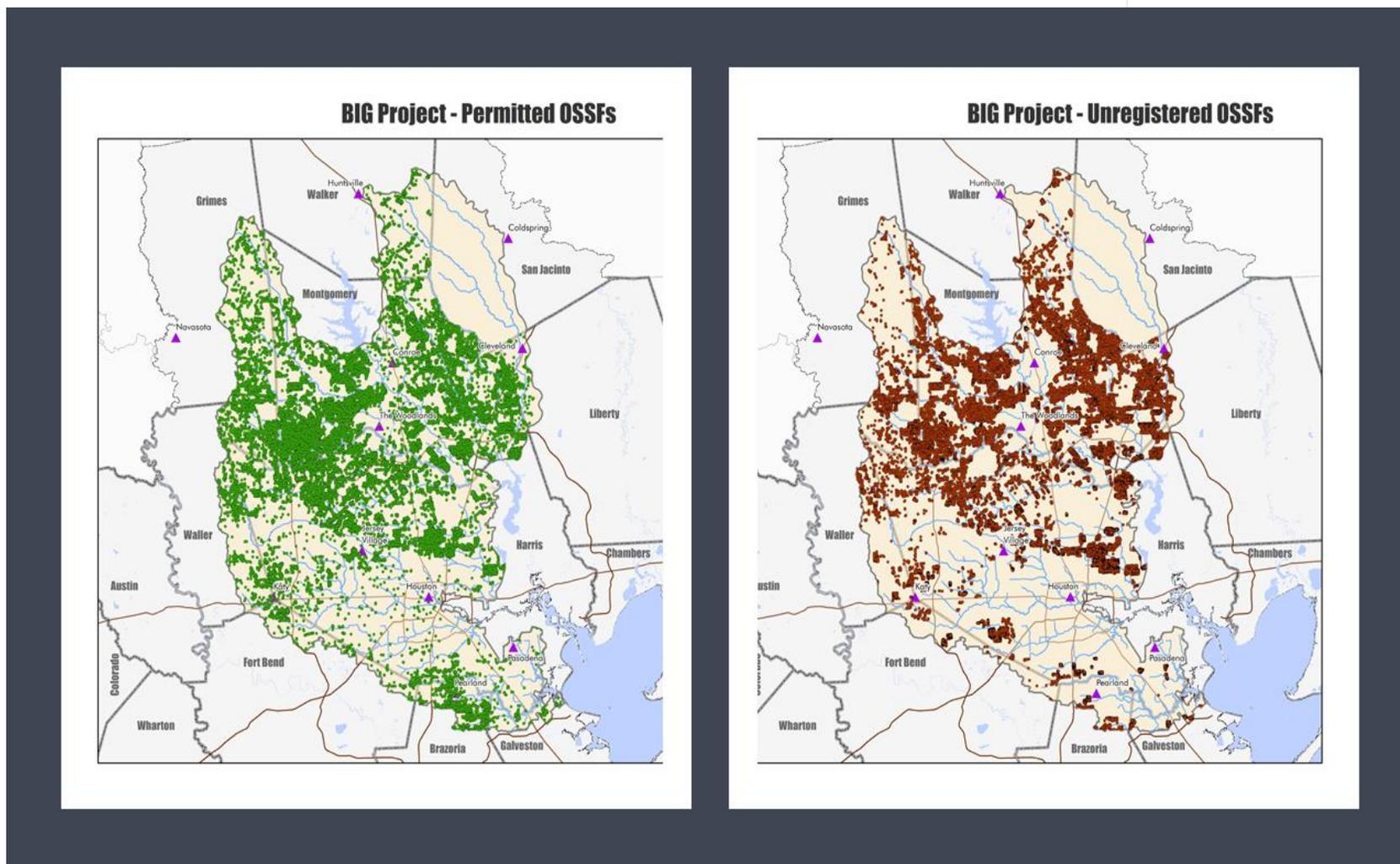


Figure 9. Mapped permitted and unpermitted onsite sewage facilities within the BIG Project Area



PROGRESS REPORT

Ultimate success for the BIG will be achieved when the waters assessed by the state are no longer considered impaired, meaning they meet the state contact recreation standard. Achieving that goal requires annually assessing progress to determine what is working and what is not working, looking critically at what each of the BIG partners is doing to further the goals set forth in the I-Plan, sharing information, and coordinating future implementation activities. This Annual Report is meant to be a mechanism for annual assessment, encouraging efforts that appear to be working and redirecting implementation that seems to be falling short. It is also an opportunity to look at the I-Plan to see if expectations are being met or if some activities need further refinement.

This report is based on information given to H-GAC through the workgroup process by stakeholders already involved in the BIG's planning effort. This report includes activities through December 2021.

I-PLAN

There are 11 implementation strategies and 38 implementation activities described in the I-Plan and laid out in this report. Activity goals, an assessment, and a summary of implementation efforts conducted throughout the 2021 calendar year are presented for each (Table 2).

The BIG is revising the I-Plan. The goal of the revision is to:

- Update the I-Plan with new information and lessons learned after five years of implementation;
- Adjust strategies and activities due to the expansion of the project area and need to include management of forest lands and boater wastes; and
- Address activities that have not seen significant progress or have been completed.

THREE BIG IDEAS TO CONSIDER

With 11 strategies that include 38 activities (Table 2), the BIG focused and prioritized implementation. A review of available data and an assessment of current actions taken by BIG stakeholders suggest three key implementation strategies for local communities to consider addressing when committing resources to reduce bacteria. The first two BIG Ideas, Reduce or Eliminate Sanitary Sewer Overflows and Address Failing Onsite Sewage Facilities, directly target untreated or partially treated sewage. The third, Reduce Peak Stormwater Runoff, is a broader strategy that expands the landscape's capacity to naturally reduce bacteria and can be an important component of a robust stormwater management plan.

1. **Reduce or Eliminate Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs)** – Develop and implement a routine illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE) program and prioritize rehabilitation and replacement of aging and/or undersized infrastructure, including collection systems, lift stations, and wastewater treatment facilities (Figure 10). Coordinate with other partners to develop and implement effective education and outreach with residents concerning the handling of fats, oils, and grease (FOG). Example programs include the City of Houston's Corral the



Grease and the Galveston Bay Foundation's Cease the Grease programs.



Figure 10. Aging infrastructure

2. **Address Failing On-Site Sewage Facilities (commonly referred to as septic systems)** –

On-site sewage facilities are wastewater infrastructure, albeit on a much smaller and localized scale than wastewater treatment facilities. Like all infrastructure, on-site sewage facilities require periodic inspections, routine maintenance, and eventual replacement to function properly. Residents, cities, and counties should participate in on-site sewage facility function and maintenance training, encourage real estate on-site sewage facility inspections at the time of property sale, and increase the number of resident or water professional inspections. Local governments, as needed, should seek, and make funding available to help incentivize onsite sewage facility rehabilitation or replacement and promote connections to centralized waste

treatment for areas with chronically failing on-site sewage facilities.

3. **Reduce Peak Stormwater Runoff** –

Concrete and other impervious surfaces, particularly when linked together (i.e., gutter to driveway to roadway) increase the speed at which stormwater – and the bacteria it carries – reaches a water body. Pervious surfaces, such as native grasses and specialized, pervious concrete, interrupt the flow and decrease the volume of water to a water body and create a more disconnected drainage system (Figure 11). This allows natural processes time to mitigate bacteria. Consider expanding traditional development methods to include alternative practices that decrease use of and/or disconnect impervious surfaces in redevelopment and new built areas. LID and green infrastructure along with other best practices are designed to reduce pollutant loads while not adversely impacting flood management. Cities and counties can encourage the use of these practices by removing potential ordinance barriers and offering incentives for their use.

The brochure, “BIG Ideas for Cleaner Water 2017: Local Government Strategies for Improving Water Quality,” covers these topics in greater detail. The brochure is available on H-GAC’s website¹¹. Appendix C provides common resource links to available funding, outreach and education materials, more detailed reporting and data information to assist in the implementation of these three strategies and other activities of the I-Plan.

¹¹ <http://www.h-gac.com/community/water/tmdl/BIG/reports.aspx>



Figure 11. Green roof and rain barrel, Ghirardi Watersmart Park, League City, TX¹²

4. Stormwater and Land Development
5. Construction
6. Illicit Discharges and Dumping
7. Agriculture and Animals
8. Residential
9. Monitoring and I-Plan Revision
10. Research
11. Geographic Priority Framework

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Since different sources contribute to the bacteria issue in the BIG project area, there is no one-size-fits-all solution for the problem. This I-Plan is a common-sense approach for reducing bacteria in the region's waterways. Municipalities, industries, landowners, and residents can consider a menu of water protection and implementation activities addressed by the following 11 strategies:

1. Wastewater Treatment Facilities
2. Sanitary Sewer Systems
3. On-Site Sewage Facilities

¹² <https://tcwp.tamu.edu/ghirardi-watersmart-park/>

2021 IMPLEMENTATION

The assessment of each activity includes determining progress made toward achieving the activity's interim goal: Not Started, Initiated, In Progress, or Completed (Table 2).

Additionally, each activity is assessed based on the BIG partner's efforts to advance the activity over the year: Behind Schedule, On Schedule, Ahead of Schedule, or Completed and in Tracking (Table 2). Completed and in Tracking signifies that the activity has been completed and the BIG will continue to track. In a future I-Plan update, the activity will be reviewed to determine if a new activity is needed, a change

to the assessment measure is required, or if the activity should continue and be tracked.

Overall, six activities have been completed and 32 are In Progress. The six completed activities and five of the In Progress activities have been placed into Tracking (11) to evaluate changes over time or are identified to be reviewed during the I-Plan update. Three activities were considered Ahead of Schedule and 24 On Schedule (Figure 12, Table 2). The BIG began a plan review beginning with 2019 reporting year and focused review on the activities that are Behind Schedule or those Completed and In Tracking to determine if the activities were appropriate and the measures valid. The I-Plan update will incorporate this review.

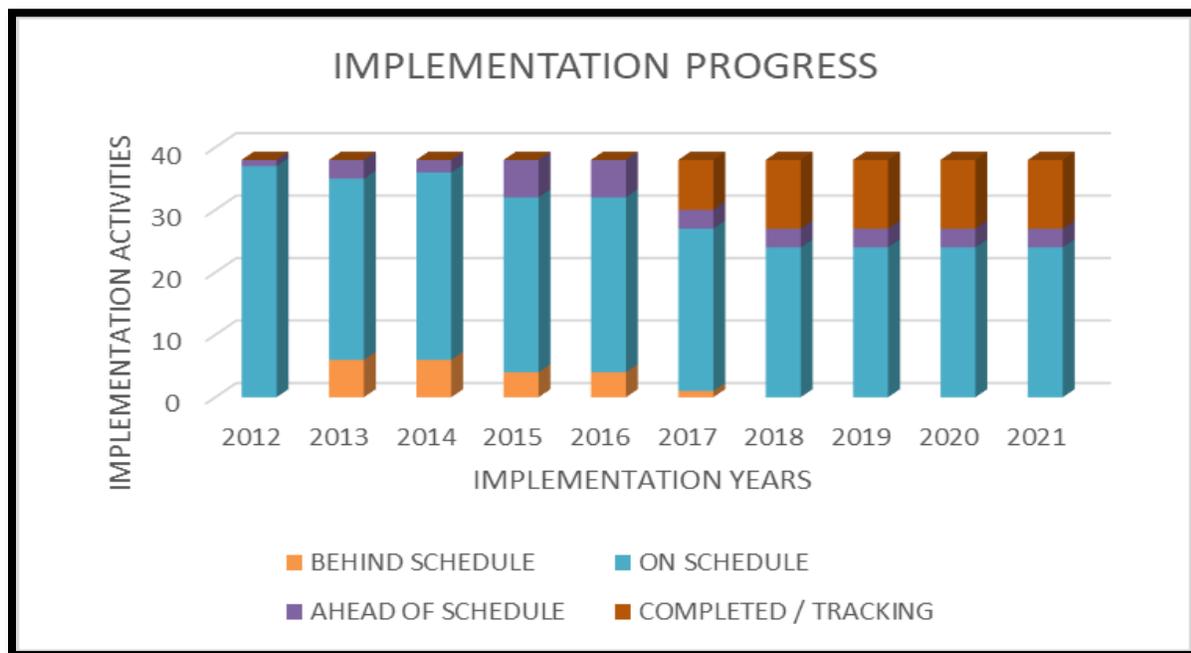
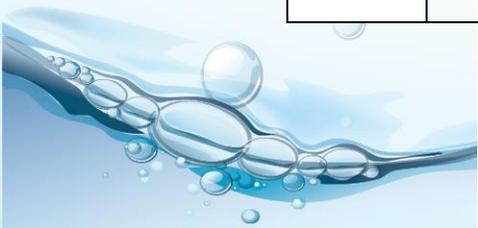


Figure 12. Implementation tracking for all 38 I-Plan Activities. Note: Completed and in Tracking is a new category added for the 2019 Annual Report.

Table 2. 2021 Implementation Progress

Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
1.0 Wastewater Treatment Facilities	1.1	Impose More Rigorous Bacteria Monitoring Requirements	<p>More strict monitoring frequency requirements found in the I-Plan have not shown up in wastewater permits. The BIG submitted a letter which requested TCEQ consider this measure in 2017. It was determined that the monitoring frequency can be changed at the request of the wastewater treatment facility. A general adjustment of the frequency to the recommendation found in the I-Plan would not be carried out.</p> <p>No change is to the status of this measure is reported, the BIG is modifying this measure with the I-Plan update.</p>	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	1.2	Impose Stricter Bacteria Limits for WWTF Effluent	<p>More stringent limits have been implemented for wastewater permits. Activity is programmatically complete. In 2021, there were 690 active permits in the project area, with 550 submitting discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) with 534 reporting bacteria in their DMRs. Wastewater treatment facilities with bacteria permits: 510 domestic and 18 Industrial. 449 (84%) reported 63 cfu/100 mL as their limit in 2022.</p>	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	1.3	Increase Compliance and Enforcement by the TCEQ	<p>WWTF DMRs report 97.5 percent compliance in 2022 with their permit limit, like the 97.7 percent the year prior (Grab/Max).</p> <p>A review of Harris County Pollution Control data for WWTFs within Harris County, Daily Grab/Max compliance was 95.5%. For same plant DMRs, compliance was 95.9%. Note, Harris County did not report events for plants greater than 5 MGD. DMRs for those sized plants were lower on average compared to DMRs from smaller plants.</p>	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking



Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
	1.4	Improved Design and Operation Criteria for New Plants	Title 30 Chapter 217 of the Texas Administrative Code was updated to reflect current permitting practices of TCEQ and updated wastewater treatment facility standards and criteria. Harris County reviews new wastewater treatment facility plan sets and specifications. In 2021, Harris County screened 52 wastewater treatment facility plan sets for compliance with state disinfections standards. None needed to be referred to outside consultants for in-depth plan review.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	1.5	Upgrade Facilities	TCEQ's Permit Central Registry provides general information on the number of wastewater treatment facility upgrades by county. The information lacks specificity on the number of non-compliant wastewater treatment facilities that have been upgraded.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	1.6	Consider Regionalization of WWTFs	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and TCEQ maintain non-compliant lists. TCEQ through the latest Chapter 217 requires new wastewater treatment facilities to consider regionalization if an existing plant is within a three-mile radius. The City of Houston reported that there was no wastewater treatment facility consolidation in 2021.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking



Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
	1.7	Use Treated Effluent for Facility Irrigation	TCEQ's Permit Central Registry provides general information on the number of wastewater treatment facility applications for reuse by County.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
2.0 Sanitary Sewer Systems	2.1	Develop Utility Asset Management Programs (UAMPs) for Sanitary Sewer Systems	TCEQ's voluntary sanitary sewer overflow initiative has 16 wastewater treatment facility operators participating as of 2018. H-GAC, TCEQ and EPA offer technical training and workshops tailored to encourage the use of life-cycle maintenance and dedicated wastewater treatment facility and sanitary sewer funding. The City of Houston and the EPA have agreed to the city's plan to address the city's sanitary sewer overflows.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	2.2	Address Fats, Oils, and Grease	Several model fats, oils, and grease (FOG) programs are available from the City of Houston ¹³ , San Jacinto River Authority ¹⁴ and H-GAC ¹⁵ . There were 696 reported SSOs in 2021 attributed to grease blockages releasing an estimated 509,804 gallons of untreated sewage into the waterways.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking

¹³ <https://www.protectourpipes.org>

¹⁴ <http://www.pattypotty.com/>

¹⁵ <https://coastalcommunitiestx.weebly.com/materials.html>



Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
	2.3	Encourage Appropriate Mechanisms to Maintain Function at Lift Stations	The TCEQ upgraded portions of Title 30, Chapter 217 of the TAC, which addressed emergency power requirements. TCEQ's Permit Central Registry provides general information on the number of Lift Station applications made by county.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	2.4	Improve Reporting Requirements for SSOs	<p>There is not a searchable database online. H-GAC receives annual updates on the number of sanitary sewer overflows in the project area through a request to TCEQ.</p> <p>TCEQ appears to be notified of sanitary sewer overflows as required. In 2021, there were 1,626 sanitary sewer overflows reported with an estimated 7.9 million gallons of untreated effluent released in the project area.</p> <p>TCEQ extended the electronic reporting rule till December 21, 2023 that may require MS4 Phase II permittees to report SSOs electronically.</p>	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	2.5	Strengthen Controls on Subscriber Systems	<p>TCEQ was asked via letter from the BIG to consider adding a permit requirement to document subscriber systems or require subscriber system permits. There are no plans to add subscriber systems as permittees.</p> <p>H-GAC maintains subscriber system sample contracts via its website.</p>	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking



Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
	2.6	Penalties for Violations	The TCEQ is revising its Enforcement Initiation Criteria, revision 15. TCEQ inspectors can conduct focused sanitary sewer overflow investigations during rain events even if the facility has never reported a sanitary sewer overflow.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
3.0 Onsite Sewage Facilities	3.1	Identify and Address Failing Systems	<p>H-GAC maintains the on-site sanitary sewage facility permit database that shows permits by age, authorized agent, and the number of on-site sewage facilities per square mile. In 2021, there were 57,739 permitted OSSFs and an estimated 124,357 without permits.</p> <p>Harris County and the East Aldine Management District has worked to install sewer service in the East Aldine region using grant funding. There have not been any new sewer connections since 2019, as the partners await future funding. Harris County and East Aldine Management District had made 846 connections and abandoned a total of 1,493 systems since 2014. Many of the abandoned OSSFs were failing as evidenced by violations.</p> <p>Harris County and the Airline Improvement District continue to install sewer service in the Airline region using grant funding. Harris County and the Airline Improvement District had made 45 connections to new sanitary service in 2021 for a total of 321 since 2017. Fifty OSSFs were abandoned in 2021 for a total of 558 since 2017. Many of the abandoned OSSFs were failing as evidenced by violations.</p> <p>H-GAC addresses failing systems through a supplemental environmental project. No new systems were repaired or</p>	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking



Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
			replaced in 2021. Since 2018, 11 systems have been repaired or replaced, while 12 await funding.		
	3.2	Address Inadequate Maintenance of OSSF	<p>Model on-site sewage facility regulations and policies are available online. H-GAC created a website for homeowners, homebuyers, local governments, and real estate professionals.</p> <p>2021 Harris County hosted its 12th annual OSSF seminar for water professionals. The webinar reached 244 attendees of which 174 held TCEQ licenses. The two-day event presented new innovations, best practices, and rules and enforcement updates.</p>	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	3.3	Legislation and Other Regulatory Actions	<p>House Bill 2771 was enacted in September 2017 to create a dedicated fund using \$10 from OSSF application fees. TCEQ will use the fund for competitive research grants.</p> <p>Harris County hosted the 12th Annual Wastewater Seminar in May 2021 with 244 water quality professionals in attendance, 144 with TCEQ licenses. The two-day event presented new innovations, best practices, and rules and enforcement updates.</p>	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	4.0 Stormwater & Land Development	4.1	Continue Existing Programs	<p>Two phase I municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) permits (Joint Task Force [JTF] and Pasadena) and 129 MS4 phase II permits are partially or fully found in the BIG project area. A review of MS4 Phase II permit annual reports continues to see these programs identify best practices, begin linkages to impaired waters, and support educational opportunities.</p> <p>TCEQ renewed the MS4 Phase II permit on January 24, 2019. Notable changes include a lower benchmark for TSS, 50 mg/L; requirement to post annual reports on MS4</p>	Not Started
Initiated					On Schedule
In Progress					Ahead of Schedule



Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
			website; and Level 4 MS4s control of floatables and evaluation of flood management practices for impact on water quality.	Completed	Tracking
	4.2	Model Best Practices	Harris County Flood Control District continues to host and update the Regional BMP Database ¹⁶ . H-GAC manages a LID/Green Infrastructure online resource ¹⁷ . H	Not Started	Behind Schedule
Initiated				On Schedule	
In Progress				Ahead of Schedule	
Completed				Tracking	
	4.3	Encourage Expansion of Stormwater Management Programs	<p>There are over 129 municipalities and utility districts in the BIG project area subject to the MS4 Phase II General Permit.</p> <p>City of Houston GI Incentive Program was kicked-off and underway in 2021.</p> <p>Harris County maintains a detention offset program for developers that incorporate stormwater quality practices within their projects.</p> <p>H-GAC has a grant to evaluate BMP monitoring data to recommend practices best suited to this region. Project funding was awarded in 2020 and project will get underway in 2022.</p> <p>Workshops are held to encourage the use of bacteria reduction measures. The number of workshops was low due to COVID-19.</p> <p>1. Bayou Preservation Association – 18th Annual Symposium October 6-7, 2021: Why Green Infrastructure.</p>	Not Started	Behind Schedule
Initiated				On Schedule	
In Progress				Ahead of Schedule	
Completed				Tracking	

¹⁶ www.bmpbase.org

¹⁷ www.h-gac.com/community/go/LID



Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
			2. Galveston Bay Foundation Rain Barrel Workshops distributed 333 rain barrels to 180 participants at eight events in 2021.		
	4.4	Promote Recognition Programs for Developments that Voluntarily Incorporate Bacteria Reduction Measures	H-GAC developed an award program, Water Innovation Strategies of Excellence Awards (WISE). The program was released in 2018 and the second annual awards were to be given in May 2020 for projects completed in 2019 or prior. The awards were delayed due to COVID-19. They are expected to be awarded in February 2021. City of Houston is including a reward program as part of their initiative to expand the use of green infrastructure practices in development projects within the city.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
Initiated				On Schedule	
In Progress				Ahead of Schedule	
Completed				Tracking	
	4.5	Provide a Circuit Rider Program	H-GAC maintains a LID and green infrastructure website and toolkit ¹⁸ . There are 90 projects that can be located via an interactive map on the website.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
Initiated				On Schedule	
In Progress				Ahead of Schedule	
Completed				Tracking	
	4.6	Petition TCEQ to Facilitate Reimbursement of Bacteria Reduction Measures	TCEQ reimburses for water quality features. Contact TCEQ for questions or coordination for reimbursement.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
Initiated				On Schedule	

¹⁸ www.h-gac.com/community/go/LID



Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
5.0 Construction	5.1	Increase Compliance with and Enforcement of Stormwater Management Permits	The City of Houston and Harris County manage mature programs to address construction site compliance. City of Houston reports onsite education is a big factor in ensuring compliance.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
6.0 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination	6.1	Detect and Eliminate Illicit Discharges	<p>Analysis of MS4 annual reports indicated that MS4 operators have regulatory mechanisms in place and procedures for detecting illicit discharges, including mapping to meet 10-year goal. Reporting of the number identified and addressed remains a work in progress.</p> <p>H-GAC and Bayou Preservation Association with TCEQ completed a targeted monitoring surveys within the BIG. Project identified several potential sources and is working with the City of Houston for further assessment. The project partners anticipate additional funding in 2022.</p> <p>H-GAC and the Environmental Institute of Houston completed a targeted monitoring project using Clean Rivers Program funding. Project results identified several potential sources which were reported to local jurisdiction. Additionally, several assessment units were identified as needing further survey work. The partners anticipate receiving new funding in 2022.</p>	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking



Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
			A model wet and dry weather discharge monitoring program for local governments is available online ¹⁹ .		
	6.2	Improve Regulation and Enforcement of Illicit Discharges	<p>MS4 Phase II operators review and implement regulations as a permit requirement. H-GAC continues to compile existing regulations. H-GAC maintains an online resource of enforcement topical presentations given at environmental workshops held at H-GAC²⁰.</p> <p>Citizen reporting tools are available to assist local governments find illicit discharges and illegal dumping – 311²¹ and the Galveston Bay Action Network²² are examples.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2021, there were 56 pollution reports to GBAN. Of these, one was identified as boat sewage, one was an abandoned vessel, seven were for chemicals or discolored water, and two were for sanitary sewer overflows. 	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	6.3	Monitor & Control Waste Hauler Activities	<p>No waste hauler tracking fleet program has been identified for a pilot project. City of Houston maintains a mature waste hauler tracking program.</p> <p>Potential online tracking programs have been developed (e.g., Track My FOG²³). Dallas maintains a program that uses Scantron device (XC2 and Pearson Scan Tool Software) to upload manifests.</p>	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking

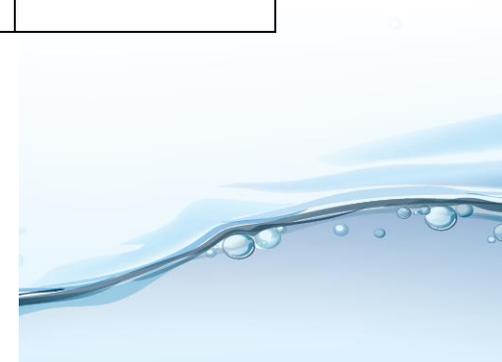
¹⁹ <http://www.h-gac.com/community/water/tmdl/BIG/documents/Top5-Least5-Final%20Report-06-5-17.pdf>

²⁰ <http://www.h-gac.com/community/environmental-enforcement/workshops.aspx>

²¹ www.CleanBayous.org

²² www.galvbay.org/gban

²³ <https://www.trackmyfog.com/>



Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
7.0 Animals, Agriculture	7.1	Promote Increased Participation in Existing Programs for Erosion Control Nutrient Reduction, and Livestock Management	Natural Resource Conservation Service and Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board manage and promote land management programs in the project area. The Texas Forest Service works with landowners with forest product management. Stakeholders recommended expanding the use of water quality management plans and conservation management plans. One suggestion is to seek a modification to property tax assessments to allow stacking of water quality property tax exemption on to an agriculture or conservation land exemption.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	7.2	Promote the Management of Feral Hog Populations	County Extension Agents report holding one-on-one meetings with landowners to address feral hogs.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
8.0 Residential	8.1	Expand Homeowner Education Efforts Throughout the BIG Project Area	H-GAC, though slowed by COVID-19, continued the series of Clean Water Initiative workshops ²⁴ : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed-based Plans 8/26/2021 Galveston Bay Foundation provides outreach and education, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rain barrel workshops – 333 distributed in 2021 to 180 participants at eight events. Boater waste education – 18 events reaching 1,200 individuals in 2021. San Leon Community Day – 10/30/2021 Texas AgriLife's Texas Coastal Watershed Partners' outreach and technical assistance, included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exploration Green – volunteers and planting events. 	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking

²⁴ www.h-gac.com/cwi



Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Galveston and Brazoria County (includes Clear Creek and Jarbo Bayou) Coalition seeks to implement watershed-based plans in the two counties. <p>Bayou Preservation Association – 18th Annual Symposium October 6-7, 2021: Why Green Infrastructure.</p>		
9.0 Monitoring and I-Plan Revision	9.1	Continue to Utilize Ambient Water Quality Monitoring and Data Analysis	The region's Clean Rivers Program's ambient monitoring data forms the backbone of assessments used in this report. Eight monitoring partners collect ambient data at 208 monitoring sites in the BIG project area. Additional data is provided by the network 19 Texas Stream Team volunteers.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	9.2	Conduct and Coordinate Non-Ambient Water Quality Monitoring	<p>Harris County Flood Control District continues to monitor water quality at several detention basins. Data is uploaded to their BMP database.</p> <p>In 2021, GBF collected and analyzed 319 water quality samples and processed 66 bacteria samples with the assistance of 48 water quality monitoring volunteers at 50 bay-wide locations. Of these samples, 27 of the bacteria samples (approximately 40%) exceeded the single grab recreational limit of 104 MPN.</p>	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking



Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
	9.3	Create and Maintain a Regional Implementation Database	H-GAC maintains an online Regional Implementation database ²⁵	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	9.4	Assess Monitoring Results and Modify I-Plan.	The BIG produces an annual report. The I-Plan has been modified through four addendums that expanded the project area and added additional TMDLs. In 2019 there were 126 impaired AUs with TMDLs. In 2018, the BIG began the process to revise the I-Plan to codify changes and updates. The process will be completed in 2020.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
10.0 Research	10.1	Evaluate the Effectiveness of Stormwater Implementation Activities	<p>Harris County Flood Control District continues to monitor BMPs installed at detention basins.</p> <p>H-GAC received a grant from the TCEQ's Galveston Bay Estuary Program to evaluate available performance data to develop a recommended list. Project will begin in 2022.</p>	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking

²⁵ <http://h-gac.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a75ba4bb46ca40658066c5755a8dba6e>



Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
	10.2	Further Evaluate Bacteria Persistence and Regrowth	No local or regional programs were identified in 2021.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	10.3	Determine Appropriate Indicators	EPA continues to study the use of Coliphage as surrogates for pathogens. EPA evaluated validations for two coliphage measurements methods for ambient water with an aim to publish draft criteria in 2018 ²⁶ . Recent paper was published in 2019 ²⁷	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking
	10.4	Additional Research Topics	House Bill 2771 went into effect on September 1, 2017. The bill requires TCEQ to award competitive grants using funds collected from the \$10 on-site sewage facility permit fee. Eligible projects include research and demonstration projects for on-site sewage facility treatment technology that improves water quality, reduces costs, and/or wastewater reuse	Not Started	Behind Schedule
				Initiated	On Schedule
				In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
				Completed	Tracking

²⁶ John F. Griffith, SCCWRP Commission, Sept. 8, 2017

²⁷ Boczek, L. U.S. EPA: Proposals and Method for Coliphage as Surrogates for Environmental Pathogens. WEFTEC, Chicago, Illinois, Sept. 21-25, 2019



Strategy	#	Activity	Achievements	Progress	Status
11.0 Geographic Priority	11.1	Consider Recommended Criteria When Selecting Geographic Locations for Projects	H-GAC developed the Top 10 "Most Likely to Succeed" and "Most Wanted" Streams lists to help local stakeholders prioritize water quality improvements. Geographic prioritization continues to be used to target areas.	Not Started	Behind Schedule
			One model project The Top Five / Least Five project was completed in 2017 ²⁸ , which can form the basis for local government investigations.	Initiated	On Schedule
			Based on the model project and previous investigations by BPA and BIG stakeholders, H-GAC and Bayou Preservation Association with TCEQ completed in 2021, a targeted monitoring survey of five AUs within the BIG project area.	In Progress	Ahead of Schedule
			H-GAC with the Environmental Institute of Houston using Clean Rivers Program funding completed a targeted monitoring survey of 10 AUs in 2021, most of which were located within the BIG project area.	Completed	Tracking

²⁸ <http://www.h-gac.com/community/water/tmdl/BIG/reports.aspx>



Appendix A

Acknowledgments

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Nicole Hall

Nicole Reed

Jason Leifester

Jazmyn Milford

Wyatt Eason

Manashi Paul

Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board

Brian Koch

Houston-Galveston Area Council

Justin Bower

Jessie Casillas

Steven Johnston

Todd Running

Brian Simms

Andrea Tantillo

Rachel Windham

Animals and Agriculture Workgroup

Camila Biaggi, Harris County

Richard Chapin, City of Houston

Danielle Cioce, Harris County

Brian Koch, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board

Mac Martin, Texas A&M Forest Service

Kyle Wright, National Resource Conservation Service

Stormwater and Land Development and Construction Workgroups

Camila Biaggi, Harris County

Richard Chapin, City of Houston

Danielle Cioce, Harris County

Tom Douglas, Sierra Club

Teague Harris, IDS Engineering Group

Rick Felan, NASA

Justin Klump, Stormwater Solutions

Carol LaBreche, City of Houston

John Moss, Eco Services

Ly Nguyen, City of Houston

Sonia Philips, City of League City

Jim Robertson, Cypress Creek Flood Control Coalition

Robert Snoza, Harris County Flood Control District

Liz Stone, Quiddity

Roberto Vega, Harris County Flood Control District

Coordination and Policy and Plan Revision Workgroups

Camila Biaggi, Harris County

Ralph Calvino, Terracon

Richard Chapin, City of Houston

Danielle Cioce, Harris County

Charlotte Cisneros, Galveston Bay Foundation

Tom Douglas, Sierra Club

Teague Harris, IDS Engineering Group

Carol LaBreche, City of Houston

Jason Maldonado, Lockwood, Andrews and Newnam

Mac Martin, Texas A&M Forest Service

Paul Nelson, Bayou Preservation Association

Sonia Phillips, City of League City

Linda Pechacek, LDP Consultants

Jim Robertson, Cypress Creek Flood Control Coalition

Linda Shead, Shead Consulting

Aaron Schindewolf, San Jacinto River Authority

Linda Shead, Texas Coastal Partners



Brian Shmaefsky, Lonestar College
Robert Snoza, Harris County Flood Control District
Michael Thornhill, SI Environmental
Scott Tuma, Boater
Roberto Vega, Harris County Flood Control District
Jo Wilson, Gulf Coast Authority

Research, Monitoring, and Watershed Outreach Workgroups

Camila Biaggi, Harris County
Richard Chapin, City of Houston
Danielle Cioce, Harris County
Karen Kottke, AECOM
Carol LaBreche, City of Houston
Robert Snoza, Harris County Flood Control District

On-Site Sewage Facility and Illicit Discharges Workgroup

Raymond Beckford, Harris County
Darla Branch, Chambers County
Camila Biaggi, Harris County
Danielle Cioce, Harris County
Kristin DeBone, TCEQ
Tom Douglas, Sierra Club
Ryan Gerlich, Texas Agrilife Extension
Frank Green, Montgomery County

Vince Jodie, Brazoria County
Miranda Jordan, TCEQ
Carol LaBreche, City of Houston
Tonya Mewis, Waller County
Shane Simpson, San Jacinto River Authority
Robert Snoza, Harris County Flood Control District

Wastewater Treatment Facility and Sanitary Sewer Systems Workgroup

Susie Blake, City of League City
Camila Biaggi, Harris County
Richard Chapin, City of Houston
Danielle Cioce, Harris County
Tom Douglas, Sierra Club
Frank Green, Montgomery County
Teague Harris, IDS Engineering
Carol LaBreche, City of Houston
Karen Kottke, AECOM
Jason Maldonado, Lockwood, Andrews and Newnam
Scott Nichols, Montgomery County
Robert Snoza, Harris County Flood Control District
Desta Takie, City of Houston
Michael Thornhill, SI Environmental
Jo Wilson, Gulf Coast Authority



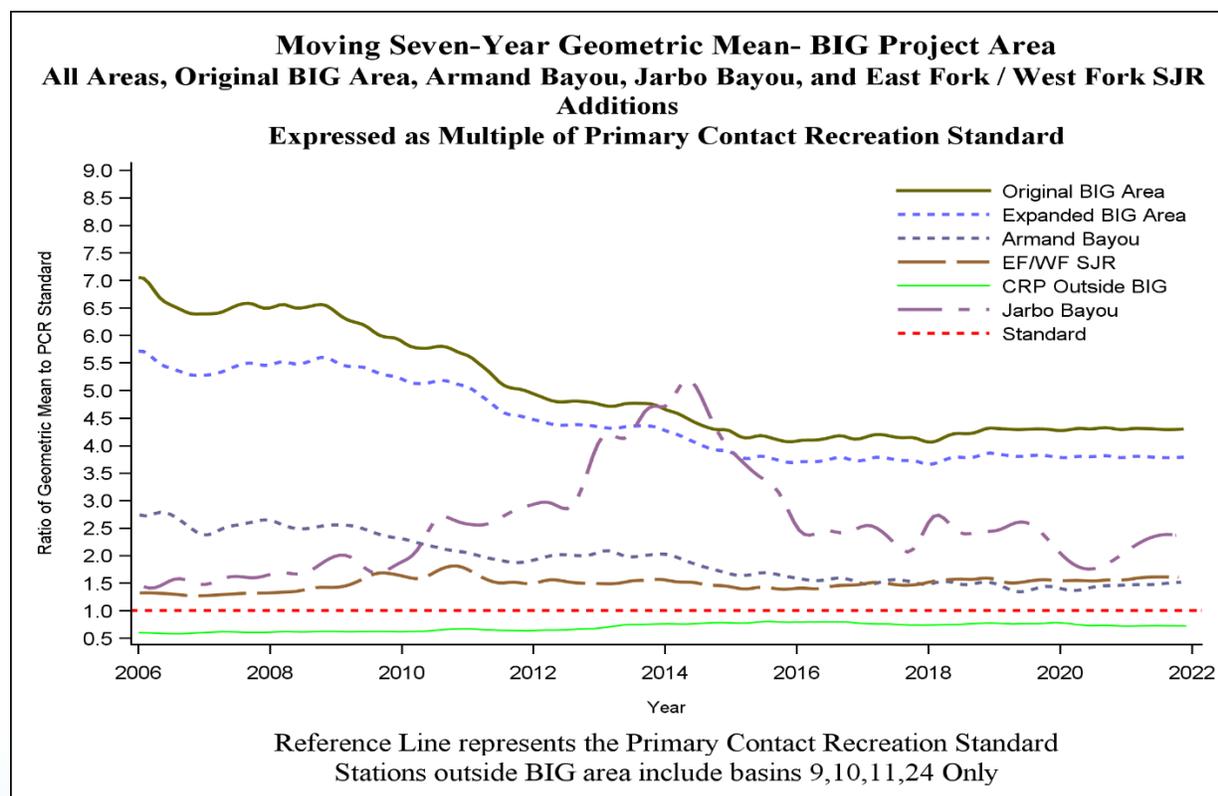
Appendix B

Bacteria Trends

The area's relative geometric mean is just above four times the state's water quality standard for bacteria (Appendix B - Figure 1). This is down overall from six times the standard in 2006. While the overall bacteria trend in the BIG project area continues to decline, it appears to have leveled out with a potential increase with recent geometric means. The background, those areas outside of the BIG project area has also seen a general rise over the same timeframe.

Appendix B - Figure 1 illustrates how the rolling seven-year geometric mean for bacteria levels has changed over time (2005-2018). It is based on ambient water quality data collecting indicator bacteria samples (*E. coli* and Enterococci) from all Clean Rivers Program monitoring stations within the BIG project area through the calendar year 2018. Included are bacteria trend lines for the BIG (short dashed royal blue line), the Expanded BIG (solid dark purple line) including Armand Bayou, Jarbo Bayou and East and West Fork of the San Jacinto River (EF/WF SJR), Armand Bayou (short dashed green line), EF/WF SJR (long dashed brown line), Jarbo Bayou (long-short dashed light purple line) and bacteria trend for CRP areas outside of the BIG project area (solid light blue line).

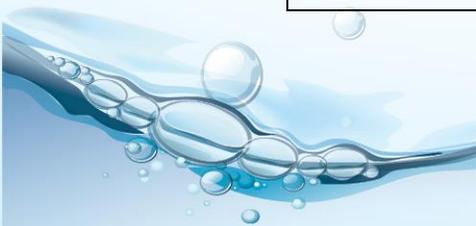
The lines were generated using a ratio of the geometric mean of the rolling seven years with that of the state's contact recreation standard, either *E. coli* or Enterococci, 126 colony forming units (cfu)/100mL or 35 cfu/100mL, respectively. The short dashed red line represents the standard normalized by dividing by the standard. This allows both standards to be used on the same graph. The geometric means were also divided by the appropriate standard.



Appendix C

Implementation Resources

IMPLEMENTATION RESOURCES			
RESOURCE	NAME	USE	WEBSITE
FUNDING and TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	319 Nonpoint Source Grant	Non permitted Nonpoint Source Reduction Measures	https://www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/nonpoint-source/grants
	319 Nonpoint Source Grant	Agriculture and Silviculture Nonpoint Source Measures	https://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/programs/texas-nonpoint-source-management-program
	320 Estuary Program	Water Quality Improvement, Conservation, Restoration, Public Outreach and Education, and Research	https://gbep.texas.gov/
	Clean Water State Revolving Fund	Low-cost financial assistance for wastewater, reuse, and stormwater infrastructure	http://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/CWSRF/
	EPA Water Infrastructure and Resiliency	Resource to explore innovative finance solutions	https://www.epa.gov/waterfinancecenter
	Low Impact Development / Green Infrastructure	Guidance on use and maintenance (H-GAC)	https://www.h-gac.com/low-impact-development
		City of Houston Incentives for Green Infrastructure	http://www.houstontx.gov/igd/
	Natural Resources Conservation Services Environmental Quality Incentives Program	Resource Conservation for Agriculture and Silviculture	https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/eqip-environmental-quality-incentives



IMPLEMENTATION RESOURCES			
RESOURCE	NAME	USE	WEBSITE
	Onsite Sewage Facility	Homeowner, real estate, and inspector technical assistance and funding	https://www.h-gac.com/on-site-sewage-facilities
	Texas Parks and Wildlife Landowner Incentive Program	Enact conservation practices on private lands	https://tpwd.texas.gov/landwater/land/private/lip/#menu
	Texas Water Infrastructure Coordination Committee	Identify and develop solutions to water and wastewater	https://twicc.org/resources/funding.html
	USDA Rural Development Grant	Rural Wastewater Infrastructure	https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program
	USDA Waste and Environmental Program	Multiple assistance programs	https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/all-programs/water-environmental-programs
	Water Quality Management Plan	Soil and Water Conservation for Agriculture and Silviculture	www.tsswcb.texas.gov/index.php/programs/water-quality-management-plan
Outreach and Education	Clean Waterways	Water quality outreach and education	www.cleanwaterways.org
	Clean Waters Initiative Workshops	Technical workshops covering a variety of water quality information	https://www.h-gac.com/clean-water-initiative-workshops
	Coastal Communities	Nonpoint source outreach and education information	https://www.h-gac.com/coastal-communities
	Fats, Oils, Grease, Wipes	Cease the Grease	http://ceasethegrease.net/
		Protect Our Pipes	https://www.publicworks.houstontx.gov/protect-our-pipes
		Patty Potty	www.pattypotty.com
	Lone Star Healthy Streams	Agriculture BMPs	http://lshs.tamu.edu/bmps/
	Municipal Public Education	Regional Public Education Services Program	https://www.hcfc.org/Resources/Education-Materials/Regional-Public-Education-Services-Program
Coastal Communities		https://www.h-gac.com/coastal-communities	



IMPLEMENTATION RESOURCES			
RESOURCE	NAME	USE	WEBSITE
	Onsite Sewage Facility	Public outreach and education	https://www.h-gac.com/on-site-sewage-facilities
	Pet Waste	Basic information on pet wastes	www.h-gac.com/community/pet-waste/default.aspx
Reporting	City of Houston Bureau of Pollution Control and Prevention	Service helpline and pollution reporting	www.houstontx.gov/311 and 713.837.0311
	Galveston Bay Action Network	Pollution reporting in five counties surrounding Galveston Bay	www.galvbay.org/gban
	HCFCDCitizen's Service Hotline	Telephone reporting system	713.684.4197
	Illegal Dumping	Pollution reporting system for MS4s	www.cleanbayous.org
Data	Clear Rivers Program	Ambient monitoring data	https://www.h-gac.com/clean-rivers-program/data
	EPA Enforcement and Compliance History Online	Permit tracking and compliance database	https://echo.epa.gov/
	HCFCDCBMP Database	Best Management Practices Monitoring	www.bmpbase.org
	LID Tracking	Low Impact Development Resource	https://www.h-gac.com/low-impact-development/designing-for-impact
	Onsite Sewage Facility	Mapping tool	https://datalab.h-gac.com/ssf/
	Wastewater and Stormwater	Permit look up	www.tceq.texas.gov/agency/data/lookup-data/status-stormwater-wastewater.html





Houston-Galveston
Area Council

Houston-Galveston Area Council
3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120
Houston, Texas 77027
713.627.3200
h-gac.com