Welcome to the Cotton Bayou Watershed Breakout Session

We will get started after a five-minute intermission

Clean Waters Initiative Workshop
August 26, 2021
Watershed Area

Legend

- **Cotton Bayou**
  - AU 0801E_01
  - Impaired AU 0801C_01
  - Cotton Bayou Watershed

- **Stream Network**
- **Major Roadways**
- **City Boundaries**

Chambers County

Galveston Bay

Old River Winfree

Mont Belvieu

Cove

Cotton Lake

Dutton Lake
Project Background

- Contact recreation use **impaired** due to high levels of fecal indicator bacteria (Enterococci) in surface water.

- Other water quality **concerns** include low dissolved oxygen and high concentrations of nutrients.

- This project is focused on characterizing sources of fecal indicator bacteria to determine a **Total Maximum Daily Load** (TMDL) for the impaired water body.
Bacteria Sources

- **Human Waste**
  - Wastewater
  - Septic/Aerobic Systems
  - Illicit Sewage

- **Domestic Animal Waste**
  - Pets
  - Livestock

- **Wildlife and Invasive Waste**
  - Deer and Other Wildlife
  - Feral Hogs
Project Timeline

Identify Water Quality Issues
Receive & Incorporate Feedback
Develop Technical Support Document & Determine TMDL
Identify Reduction Strategies
Develop Implementation Plan
Implement!

You Are Here
Progress Update

- Technical Support Document still in development
  - Revising population estimations
  - Revising flow calculations

- Revisions will improve TMDL calculation
Next Steps

- Develop an **Implementation Plan (I-Plan)** to address issues identified in the TMDL
  - Describes strategies for achieving reductions
  - Outlines schedule for implementation activities

- **Stakeholder participation** essential for tasks including:
  - Source surveys
  - Formation of Work Groups
  - Formation of Coordination Committee
  - Feedback and review
Other Ways to Get Involved

- Share your knowledge and feedback
- Help us coordinate with local efforts
- What are your ideas for this watershed?
Discussion and Questions

For more information, please contact:

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Visit our project website at:

www.h-gac.com/watershed-based-plans/cotton-bayou-tmdl

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