



Halls Bayou-Westfield Estates: Watershed Protection Plan and Implementation

Water Body	Halls Bayou (Seg 1006D)
Location	Northeast Harris County
River Basin	San Jacinto River (10)
Contractor	Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC)
Project Period	June 03, 2006 to December 31, 2012
Project Total	\$ 941,718 (Federal 60% and Local Match 40%)

Project Description

Westfield Estates is a small neighborhood in an unincorporated portion of Harris County that contributes drainage to the Halls Bayou watershed. The community is served solely by on-site sewage facilities (OSSF), many of which are failing due to design, maintenance, and/or operational issues. The failing OSSFs, combined with bacterial contamination from domestic animals and other wildlife, have led to elevated bacteria levels in the watershed's drainage ditches that far exceed the state's criteria for contact recreation.

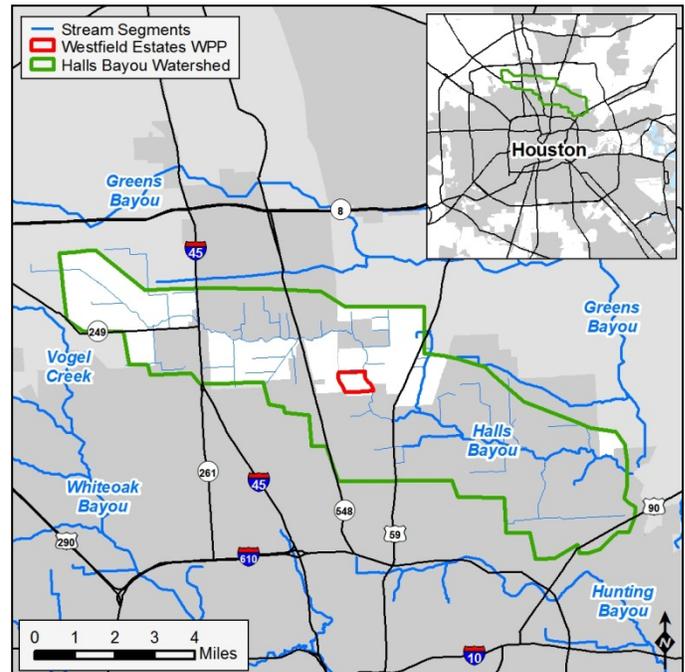
To alleviate these risks, the Westfield Estates Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) was developed through a stakeholder involvement process, led by an interdisciplinary Stakeholders Advisory Group (SAG). The goals of the WPP are to reduce bacteria levels, institute best management practices (BMP) to maintain improved water quality, and raise awareness of water quality issues in the watershed. These aims will be achieved by reducing the human and non-human bacteria load through both structural and behavioral BMPs.

This project will implement the BMPs specified in the WPP. Structural measures include installation of low-flow water devices to reduce flows to OSSFs and a pet waste reduction incentive program that includes waste disposal facilities and waste recycling. An education and outreach program will be implemented through educational meetings, materials, and community events.

The area is economically disadvantaged and sanitary sewer service, the long-term solution, is currently underway. However, this process is likely to take several years and be dependent on funding availability.

Current Status

All the deliverables were received and approved. The project is closed now.



Public Participation

The SAG is responsible for overseeing the development and implementation of the WPP. The SAG is comprised of local stakeholders, many with professional backgrounds, who provide resources and technical assistance for watershed planning efforts. The team also has members who represent the interests of the community.

For More Information

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Websites

H-GAC: [Westfield Estates WPP](#)

Project Highlights

- 06/03/2006 – The contract was initiated.
- 08/10/2010 – A draft of the Westfield Estates WPP was sent to the EPA for review.
- 01/21/2011 – TCEQ received formal correspondence from the EPA regarding the WPP draft.
- 03/03/2011 – The EPA approved the project with changes. The Amendment #1 was executed on 8/15/2011.
- 04/09/2011 – TCEQ sent revised sections of the WPP to the EPA.
- 08/09/2011 – TCEQ received second comment letter from the EPA regarding draft revised WPP.
- 09/07/2011 – TCEQ decided not to seek EPA's acceptance on the WPP.
- 10/04/2011 – The EPA approved project with changes and Amendment #2 was executed on 2/22/2012.
- 01/17/2012 – The QAPP was executed.
- 05/03/2012 – The EPA approved the Amendment # 3 to extend the contract till 12/31/2012 and is currently being processed.
- 08/07/2012 – Amendment #3 executed.
- 01/25/2013 – Final Report received.
- 03/05/2013 – Final Report approved.
- 03/09/2013 – Final invoice received and project closed.