



Tres Palacios Watershed Protection Plan Implementation

River Basin: Colorado-Lavaca
Water Body: Tres Palacios Creek (Segments 1501 and 1502)
Location: Matagorda and Wharton counties

Background

Tres Palacios Creek is the primary source of freshwater for Tres Palacios Bay, which opens into Matagorda Bay. Since 2006, the tidal segment of Tres Palacios Creek (1501) has not met state water quality standards for bacteria or dissolved oxygen. In 2016, Texas Water Resources Institute (TWRI), Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research, and TCEQ worked with stakeholders to develop the Tres Palacios Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) to improve water quality. The WPP was accepted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 2018. TWRI is implementing WPP management measures under three projects.

Project Descriptions

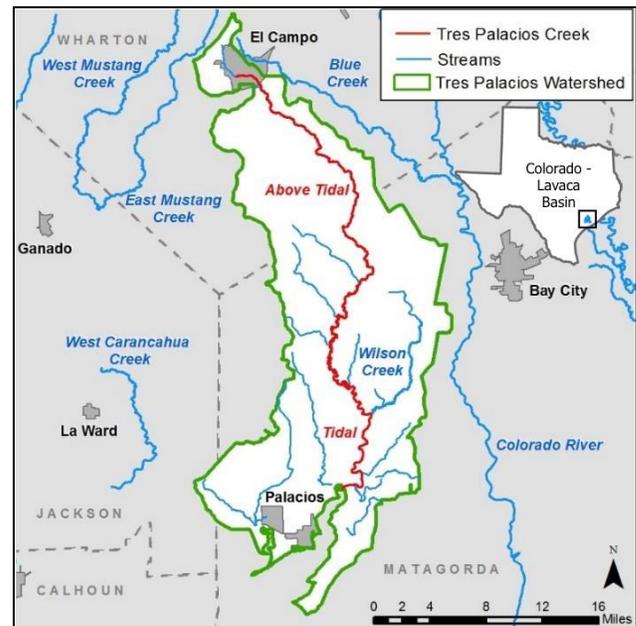
November 2017 – February 2023
Implementation of agricultural best management practices and education programs for agricultural producers is a large WPP component. TWRI supports water resources education, outreach, and participation. This includes organizing new training programs and utilizing existing educational statewide programs such as Lone Star Healthy Streams, Riparian Stream and Ecosystems, and Texas Well Owner Network. TWRI also conducts water quality monitoring to estimate instream load reductions.

July 2018 – February 2023
Failing septic system management is another key management feature in the WPP. TWRI coordinates with Matagorda County and the Tres Palacios Oaks and Tidewater Oaks subdivisions to lead local efforts to expand septic system inspection, repair, and replacement efforts, and to deliver educational materials and programs focused on the purpose, proper installation, operation, and maintenance of septic systems.

November 2019 – August 2022

TWRI is educating watershed residents about stormwater runoff and pet waste pollution by developing, installing, and maintaining water quality education signage and pet waste stations at Legacy Park in El Campo.

The public can participate in training programs, stakeholder meetings, and can stay informed via newsletters, website content and other materials distributed by TWRI.



This map was developed by the Nonpoint Source Program of TCEQ. No claims are made as to the accuracy or completeness of the data or its suitability for a particular use. For more information concerning this map, contact nps@tceq.texas.gov.

For More Information

Project Webpage

www.matagordabasin.tamu.edu/tres-palacios

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