

### CEASE THE GREASE

GALVESTON BAY

# Utilizing Multifaceted Community Outreach Programs to Engage the Public

### About the Campaign

• Cease the Grease (CtG) is a regional campaign coordinated by the Galveston Bay Foundation with the purpose of reducing sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) through public education and awareness.



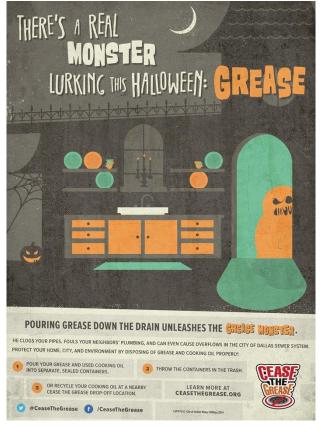
### Goals of the Campaign

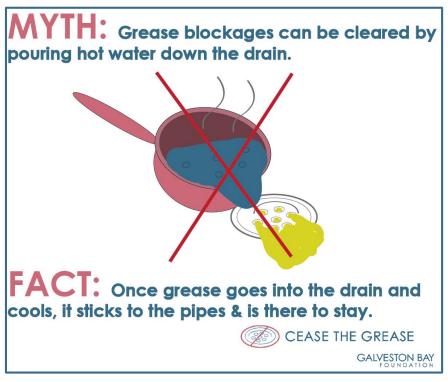
- Create positive behavior changes through teaching people to properly dispose of their kitchen fats, oils, and grease (FOG)
  - Recycle used cooking oil at approved locations
  - Throw fats and grease in the trash, never in the drain
- Decrease the amount of bacteria entering our waterways by preventing SSOs

#### Engaging the Public: Social Media

- Social media campaigns surrounding major "food holidays"
  - In 2016, our posts made 45,000 impressions on Facebook and Twitter







### Engaging the Public: Outreach Events

- In-person interaction through outreach events
- Messaging through giveaways

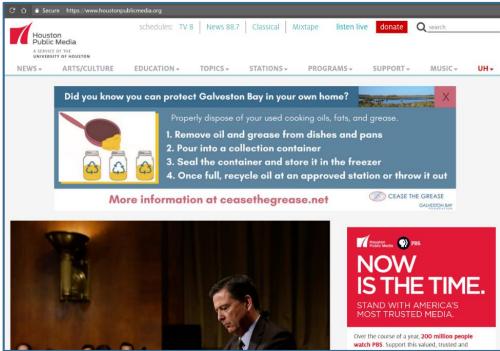
 So far in 2017, we've reached nearly 8,000 people through outreach events



#### Engaging the Public: Mass Media

- Sponsorship radio blurbs on Houston Public Media
- Banners on Houston Public Media and Houston Press websites
- Audio ads and banners on Pandora Radio
- Sponsored content and Youtube pre-rolls on KPRC website







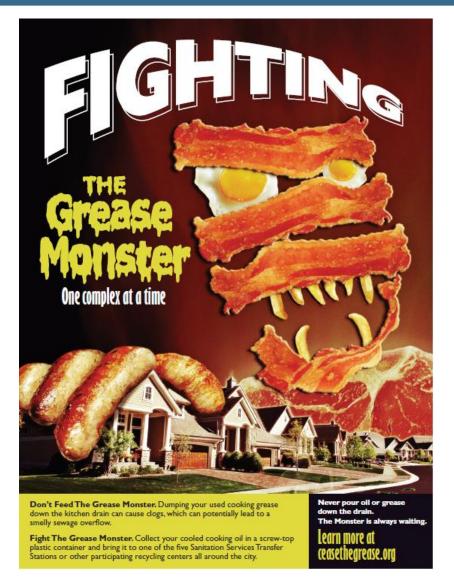
### Engaging the Public: Driving Traffic to the Website

- Campaign website includes more information and resources such as:
  - Map of recycling stations
  - Tips for proper disposal
  - A video game developed with the help of a group of TAMU students



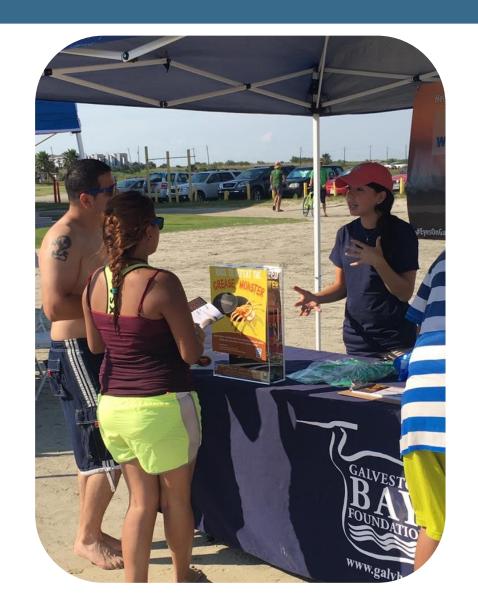
### Engaging the Public: Pilot Apartment Campaigns

- Delivered campaign kits to local apartment complexes for distribution to their residents
- Kits included:
  - Letter to management describing campaign
  - Funnels
  - Scrapers
  - Informational flyers
  - Poster
  - Map of recycling stations



### Engaging the Public: What Works Best?

- In person, face to face outreach!
  - Reaches less people than social or mass media, but provides opportunity for quality interactions
  - Allows you to tailor the message according to the audience
  - Also provides opportunity to distribute materials and tools necessary to encourage behavior change



### Utilizing a Workgroup

- Diverse range of stakeholders representing
  - 8 Bay area cities
  - 3 mass media partners
  - 2 oil haulers
  - 7 other non-profits, watershed partnerships, etc.
- Meetings are once a quarter, newsletters distributed once a month
- Great for brainstorming
- Provide performance indicator data



## Workgroup Collaboration: Oil Recycling Program



Nassau Bay Cooking Oil Recycling Station (Established November 2016)



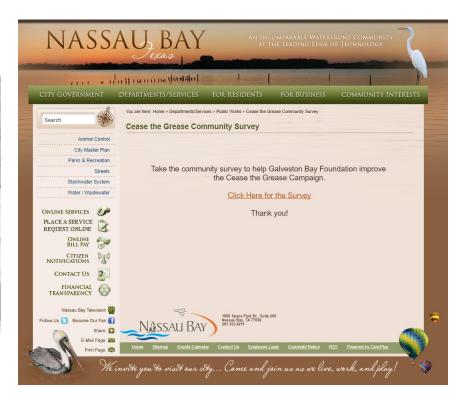
Seabrook Cooking Oil Recycling Station (Established September 2017)

#### Workgroup Collaboration: Outreach

- Provide unique outreach opportunities for us to attend
- Represent the campaign at outreach opportunities that may pop up on their end
- Share our posts online through their websites and social media







#### **Lessons Learned**

- Challenges for performance indicator tracking:
  - Lack of participation in public surveys
  - Lack of consistent outreach tracking and data input from workgroup
- Although too soon to draw conclusions, SSO data indicated a decrease in SSOs caused by FOG between 2014 and 2015
  - Can this be attributed to Cease the Grease? Or is it a coincidence?
- Behavior change is tricky, but tools like community-based social marketing are a huge help!
  - Identify barriers and benefits associated with a selected behavior
  - Design a strategy that utilizes behavior-change tools to address these barriers
  - Pilot the strategy with a small segment of the community
  - Evaluate the impact of the program

### Any Questions?

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