

# 2024 Parks and Natural Areas Summit and Awards



# CLARK CONDON

**Demystifying Universal Design:  
Turning a Buzzword into Impactful Action**

# Winners



# On-the-Ground Projects Over \$500K Winner



Japhet Creek Park  
Buffalo Bayou Partnership

# On-the-Ground Projects Under \$500K Winner



Martin Elementary SPARK Park  
Alief ISD - SPARK



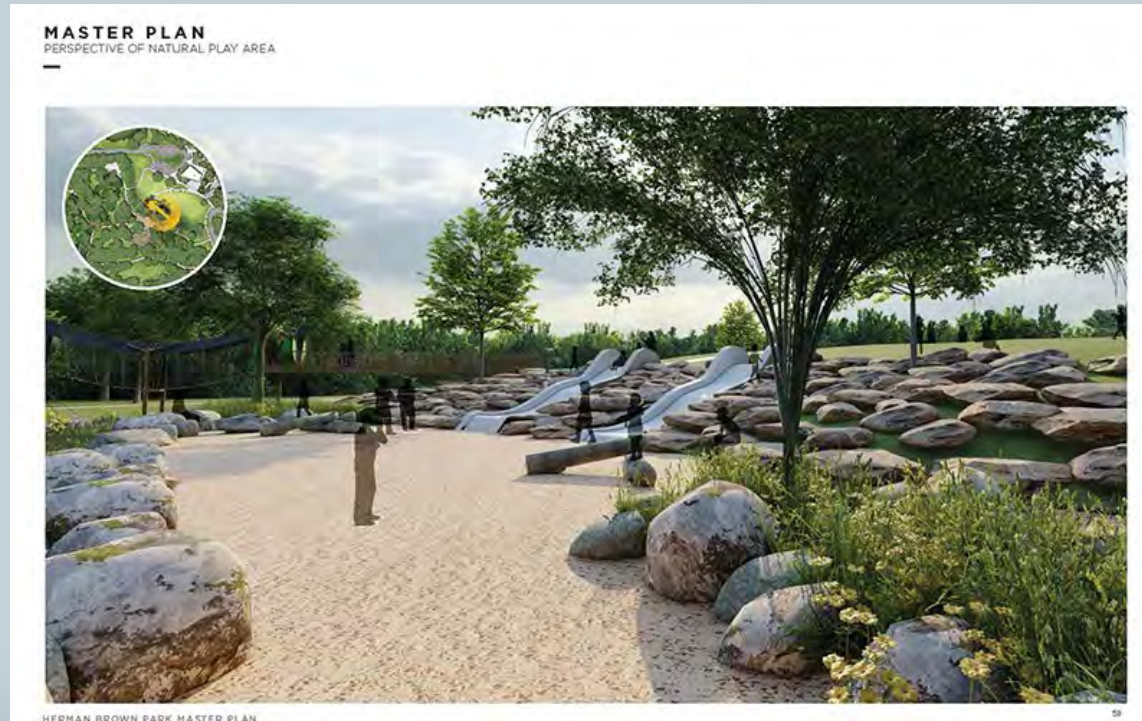
# On-the-Ground Projects Under \$500K Winner



## Truxillo Pocket Park

Houston Housing Authority: Third Ward - Cuney Homes Choice Neighborhood Initiative

# Policy Tools/Planning Process Winner



## Herman Brown Park Master Plan Houston Parks Board

# Policy Tools/Planning Process Winner



Seabourne Creek Park Nature Center  
City of Rosenberg, Texas



# Programming Winner



Interpretive & Educational Experiences in Precinct 4 Parks  
Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones

# Honorable Mentions

# On-the-Ground Projects Over \$500K Honorable Mention



## Greenway Accessibility Willow Waterhole Greenspace Conservancy



# On-the-Ground Projects Over \$500K Honorable Mention



Wetlands Park at Riverstone  
Johnson Development Corporation

# On-the-Ground Projects Under \$500K Honorable Mention



James Bute Park and Frost Town Historic Site  
Art & Environmental Architecture, Inc., Kirk Farris, Founder



# Policy Tools/Planning Process Honorable Mention



City of La Marque Parks Master Plan  
City of La Marque



# Policy Tools/Planning Process Honorable Mention



Timber Lane Utility District 2024 Master Plan  
Timber Lane Utility District

# Programming Honorable Mention



Arts in the Parks  
City of La Marque

# Certificates of Recognition

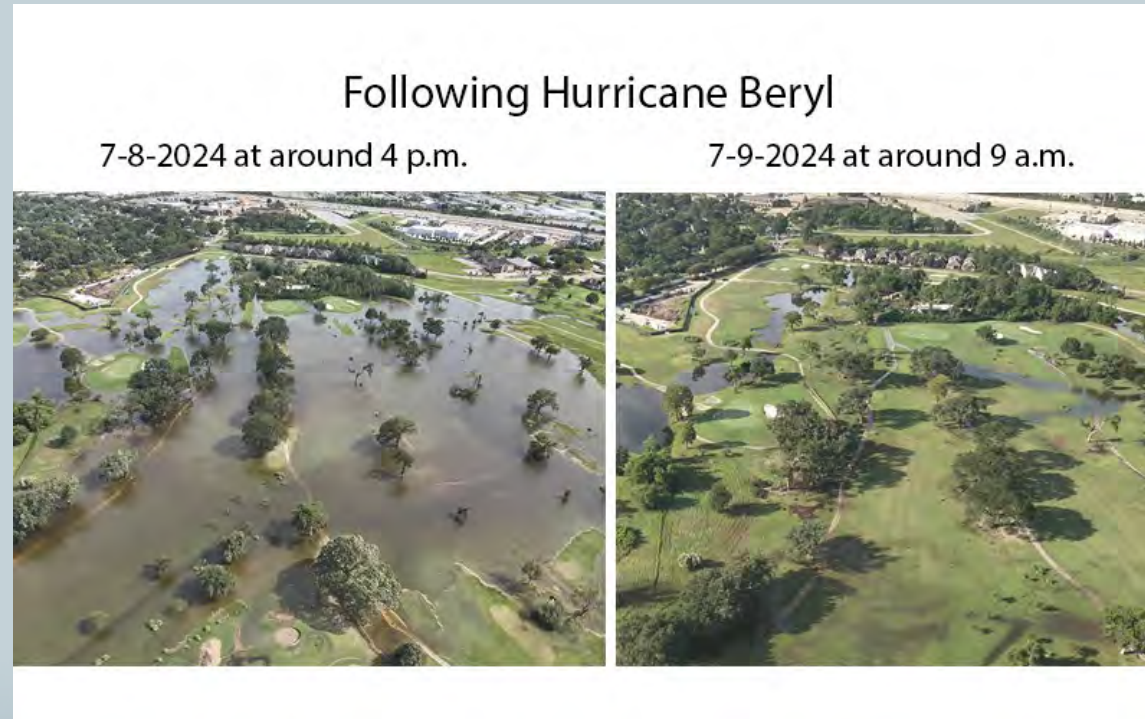


# On-the-Ground Projects Over \$500K Certificate of Recognition



Hackberry Dog Park  
City of Mont Belvieu

# On-the-Ground Projects Over \$500K Certificate of Recognition



Jersey Meadow Berm and Street Drainage Improvement Project  
City of Jersey Village



# On-the-Ground Projects Over \$500K Certificate of Recognition



## T.C. Jester Park Playground

City of Houston General Services Department/City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department



# On-the-Ground Projects Over \$500K Certificate of Recognition



Vogel Creek Greenway  
Houston Parks Board

# On-the-Ground Projects Over \$500K Certificate of Recognition



## Wier Park Improvements West University Place



# On-the-Ground Projects Under \$500K Certificate of Recognition



Deerfield Park  
City of Mont Belvieu



# Policy Tools/Planning Process Certificate of Recognition



## Eagle Pointe Recreation Center Master Plan City of Mont Belvieu

# Policy Tools/Planning Process Certificate of Recognition



Houston Parks and Recreation Department's Water Management Plan  
Houston Parks and Recreation Department



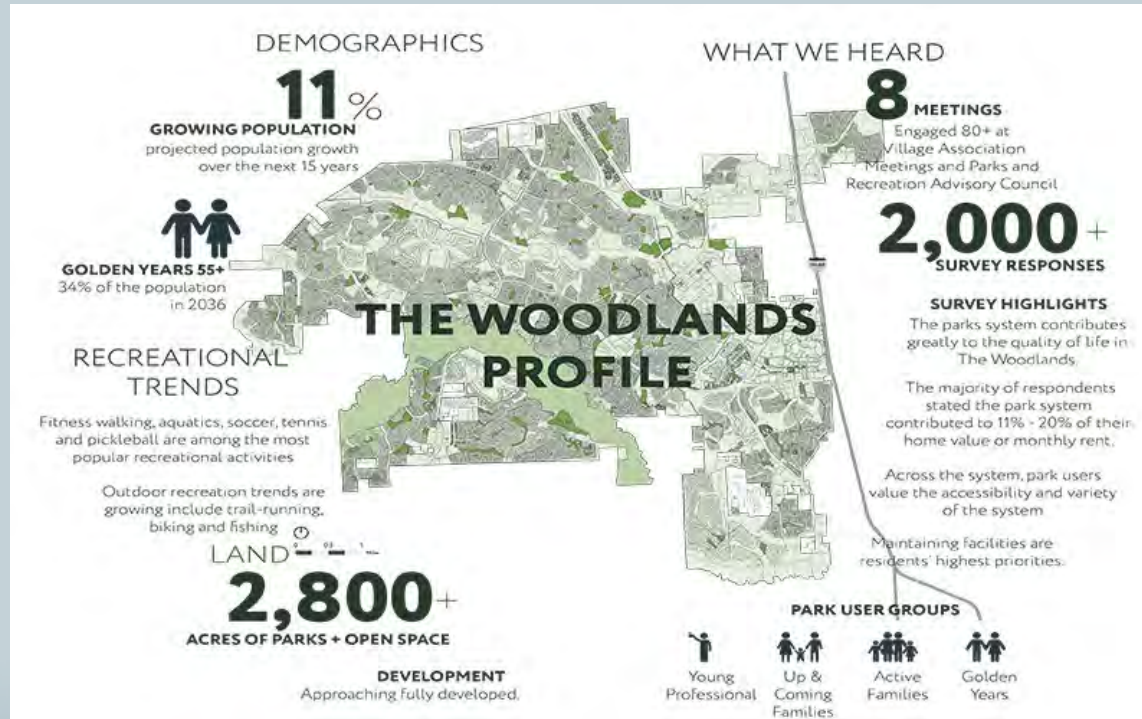
# Policy Tools/Planning Process Certificate of Recognition



## Mahan Park Boat Ramp Expansion City of La Marque



# Policy Tools/Planning Process Certificate of Recognition



## The Woodlands Township 2022 Parks & Recreation Needs Assessment The Woodlands Township

# Policy Tools/Planning Process Certificate of Recognition



Troxell Park Design  
Missouri City Parks & Recreation

# Programming Certificate of Recognition



Agents of Discovery  
Harris County Precinct 2



# Programming Certificate of Recognition



Growing Resilience: Harris County's Towering Solution to Food Access Challenges  
Harris County Precinct 2



# Awards Judges

**Celina Gauthier Lowry**  
**Texas Watershed Partners**

**Larry Goldberg**  
**BGE (AWBD)**

**Christy Jones**  
**Mercer Botanic Gardens**

**Ed Pettitt II**  
**Texas Southern University**

**Angie Wierzbicki**  
**Harris County Precinct 4**

# 2024 Parks and Natural Areas Award Winner Badge





# Contact Information

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Find more at: [h-gac.com/  
parks-and-natural-areas](http://h-gac.com/parks-and-natural-areas)



# H-GAC Announcements

# WISE AWARDS PROGRAM



The Water Innovation Strategies of Excellence (WISE) Awards recognize innovative **Projects, Programs, or Individuals** in the Houston-Galveston Area 13-County Region that serve as models for **improving and protecting water resources**.

This program is overseen by the Natural Resources Advisory Committee, an advisory committee to the Houston-Galveston Area Council Board of Directors.

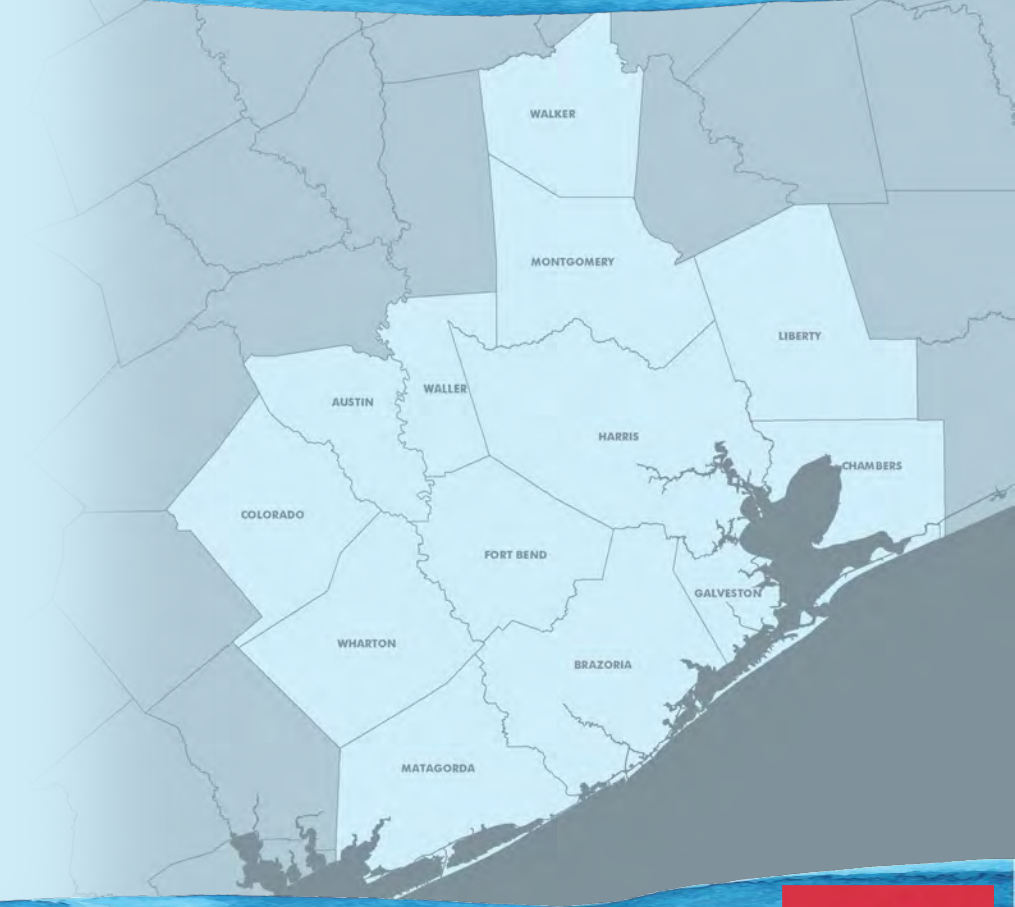


Houston-Galveston Area Council



# ELIGIBILITY

- Local Governments
- Businesses & Industry
- Non-Profit Organizations
- Universities and Educational Institutions
- Utility Districts
- Individuals



Houston-Galveston  
Area Council

# CATEGORIES

- Policy and Planning
- Education and Public Awareness
- Completed Effort (Greater than \$200K)
- Completed Effort (Less than \$200K)
- Research and Monitoring
- Program Performance
- Individual Excellence





# 2024 CEREMONY



Houston-Galveston  
Area Council



# HOW TO APPLY



- Visit [h-gac.com/wise-awards](https://h-gac.com/wise-awards) for the online-only application
- Application period begins **Monday, March 3, 2025**
- Complete applications by **Friday, April 4, 2025**
- There is no entry fee to apply
- Application requirements and scoring criteria available soon

For more information,  
contact Rachel Windham at:  
[rachel.windham@h-gac.com](mailto:rachel.windham@h-gac.com)



# Join the next Clean Waters Initiative Workshop!

## Microplastics in Surface Waters

 Eight guest speakers presenting on current topics

 Discussion and networking

 Light refreshments for in person attendees

**Register today at:**

[www.h-gac.com/  
clean-water-initiative-workshops](http://www.h-gac.com/clean-water-initiative-workshops)



### DATE

Tuesday, February 25



### TIME

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM



### LOCATION

H-GAC and Zoom



Houston-Galveston  
Area Council

# Basin Steering Committee Meeting

- **Clean Rivers Program Basin Steering Committee Meeting**
  - Tuesday, April 29 from 10-Noon
  - At H-GAC and on Zoom
  - [www.h-gac.com/clean-rivers-program/committees](http://www.h-gac.com/clean-rivers-program/committees)



# Solid Waste Management Grants

- Next call for applications will be held in early fall 2025
- Eligible entities
  - Cities
  - Counties
  - ISDs
  - Some special districts
- Some eligible projects
  - Composting and recycling
  - Litter & illegal dumping cleanups
  - Education & training
  - Illegal dumping enforcement



Learn more and sign up  
for the email list



# Disaster Debris Management Workshops

The 2025 workshop schedule is not yet set.

Learn more and sign up for the email list



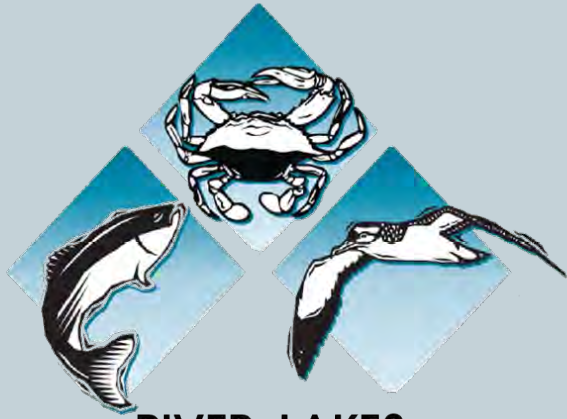
# Spring Park Tour Thursday, March 20

10 a.m. to Noon at Willow Waterhole

Learn more and register at  
[h-gac.com/parks-and-natural-areas](http://h-gac.com/parks-and-natural-areas)







RIVER, LAKES  
BAYS 'N BAYOUS TRASH BASH®

# Trash Bash® is Saturday, March 29!

Learn more and register at [www.TrashBash.org](http://www.TrashBash.org)



# **Livable Centers Roundtable/Workshop Series: Planning, Designing, and Building Healthy Communities**

- **Roundtable 1 - Planning for Healthy Communities**
  - April 3, 9 a.m.
  
- **Roundtable 2 - Designing Healthy Communities**
  - June 26, 9 a.m.
  
- **Annual Workshop – Health-Conscious Communities:  
Integrating Urban Design, Planning, and Public Health**
  - September 18, 9 a.m.

# 2024 Parks and Natural Areas Summit and Awards - Networking

