

A light blue map of the Houston-Galveston Area Council region, showing county boundaries and the Gulf of Mexico coastline. The map is centered in the background of the slide.

H-GAC Implementation & Outreach Resources

Coastal Communities Outreach Roadmap

Four Focus Behaviors:

- Pet Waste Disposal
- Disposal of Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG)
- Litter & Illegal Dumping
- Maintenance of On-Site Sewage Facilities (OSSFs)

*H-GAC & partner resources, model ordinances, and more also available at coastalcommunitiestx.com



There are **900,000** dogs in the Houston-Galveston region collectively depositing **312 Tons** of poop per day, the equivalent of **52**

Always pick up after your pup

- Carry a bag on your daily dog walk
- Clean up in the yard
- Put waste in the trash

This project is funded in part by the TCEQ through a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Where did all this Litter come from?

1. Litter thrown or blown from vehicles
2. Pedestrian litter from picnics, festivals, etc.
3. Litter from garbage and recycling bins
4. Illegal Dumping

This project is funded in part by the TCEQ through a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

NEVER put FOG down the drain!

Fats **O**ils **G**rease

FOG damages and clogs pipes, which causes sewer backups and overflows that introduce harmful bacteria into contact with people and our waterways.

Learn more about Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) and proper disposal methods at ceasethegrease.net

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4 signs of a failing septic system

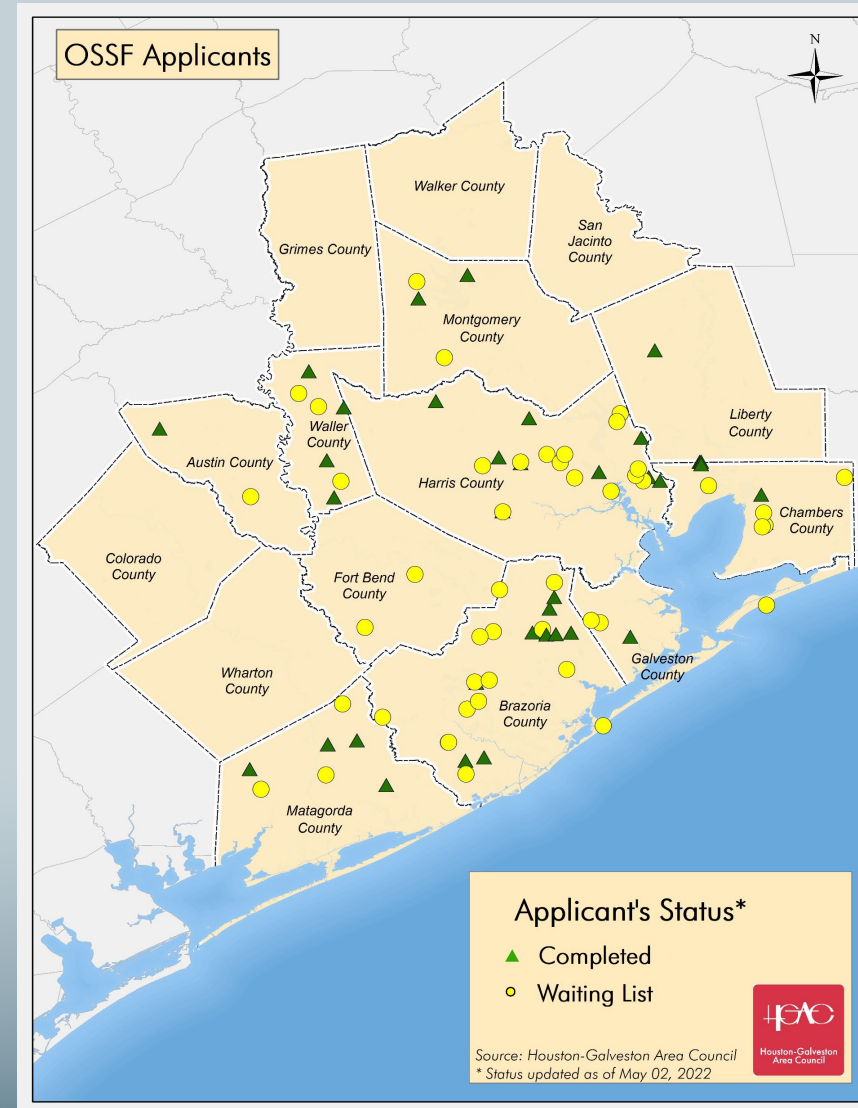
- Strong odor from septic tank
- Wastewater visible in drainfield
- Slow draining sinks and tubs
- Sewage backups in the home

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Homeowner Wastewater Assistance Program

Able to cover the cost to repair or replace a failing OSSF for qualifying applicants

- Must own and live on the property
- Income qualifications



Educational Display Loan Outs



Set of 3 Water Quality Outreach Posters: Available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese
<https://www.coastalcommunitiestx.com/h-gacs-featured-materials.html>


Educational Display Loan Outs



THE TROUBLE WITH DOG POOP

and how we can protect our waterways, one bag at a time.

We love our pups, but not the germmy little "gifts" they leave behind. Turns out our rivers, streams, and lakes don't like them much, either.







There are:
900,000
Dogs in the Houston-Galveston Region

Collectively depositing
312 Tons
of poop per day.

Which is the equivalent of
52 dump truck loads per day!

RAIN WATER washes poop left on the ground into our storm drains which connect to creeks and baysou where it decomposes. During decomposition, the poop uses up precious oxygen needed by fish and other creatures to stay alive and healthy.

Not to mention the risk of illness for swimmers and fisherman using the waterway...yuck!


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THIS MEANS THAT...

You could be exposed to bacteria, viruses, and parasites that live in dog poop.

This can be quite dangerous to the old, young, and folks with compromised immune systems.

Pathogens are dangerous to kids playing in the yard, and they can contaminate anything edible growing in your garden.


WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Always pick up after your pet, no matter where it is.


Carry spare bags on your daily dog walk, and use them to encourage others to pick up after their pooch!

If bags aren't your thing, bury waste at a minimum of 5 inches in the ground and far away from your garden or well.

LEARN MORE about the effects of pet waste and what you can do to make a difference by visiting our website, www.petwastepollutes.org.



Funded in part by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Galveston Bay Estuary Program.



I Pledge...

To Throw Pup's Poop Away,
Not Leave It For Another Day.

I Will Not Leave It in the Rain,
And Will Not Flush It Down the Drain.

Each and Every Time My Pup Poops,
I Hereby Pledge to Scoop and Scoop.

Then Straight to the Can I Will Dash,
And Put My Pup's Poop in the Trash.



www.petwastepollutes.org

Pitch the Poop Poster: Available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese
<https://www.coastalcommunitiestx.com/h-gacs-featured-materials.html>

Educational Display Loan Outs



I PLEDGE...

To fight the **GREASE MONSTER** in all his forms,
And never let pouring grease down the drain become

Whether salad dressing or bacon grease,
I hereby pledge to scrape and squeeze.

After each meal, quick as a flash,
I will put the remnants in the trash.

To always make sure my drain stays clear
With each and every meal I cook this year.

DON'T FEED THE Grease Monster

Throw fats and grease in the trash, and recycle cooking oil. Keep our pipes clean. For more information on fighting the Grease Monster, visit www.ceasethgrease.net

Bacteria is a common source of pollution in Texas waters. Improper disposal of fats, oils and grease (FOG) contributes to the problem.

Where does FOG come from?

- ◆ Meat
- ◆ Cooking oils, lard, shortening
- ◆ Butter & margarine
- ◆ Dairy products
- ◆ Mayo, salad dressings, sour cream

Why does FOG matter?

- ◆ Sticks to pipes from the sink to the sewer
- ◆ Causes sewage backups into homes, streets, and storm drains
- ◆ Pollutes local waters with raw sewage
- ◆ Costly repairs for homeowners and taxpayers

What can YOU do?

- ◆ No FOG or food scraps down the sink or garbage disposal
- ◆ Wipe grease off dishes before rinsing
- ◆ Flushing FOG with hot or cold water will NOT prevent grease build-up in pipes
- ◆ Call a professional rather than use chemicals to clear a grease clog

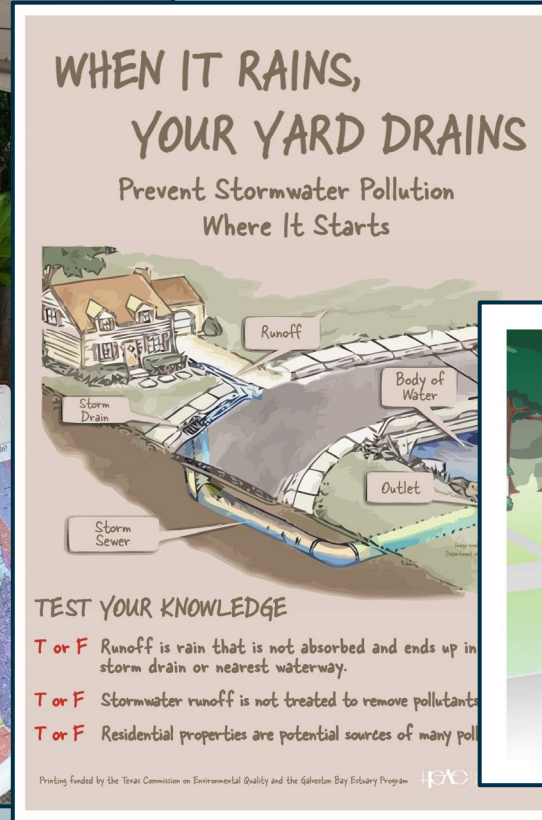
GREASE: A MONSTER OF A PROBLEM

Funded in part by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Galveston Bay Estuary Program

Grease Monster Poster: Available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese

<https://www.coastalcommunitiestx.com/h-gacs-featured-materials.html>

Educational Display Loan Outs



Low Impact Development Poster: Available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese
<https://www.coastalcommunitiestx.com/h-gacs-featured-materials.html>

Educational Display Loan Outs



I PLEDGE...

To not be rash,
And not just throw something in the trash.

I will look before I throw,
To find the place where it should go.

Recycle, Reduce, and Reuse,
These are the options I will choose.

I will limit waste in all these ways,
So it doesn't pollute our waterways.

TCEQ **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** **H-GAC**

This Project is funded in part with a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's Galveston Bay Estuary Program.

Fish Me From The Watershed

and sort me where I go

@ home	@ retailers
@ the recycle center	household hazardous waste

shows the type of plastic - to find where items can be recycled near you, visit Earth911.com

35% of trash in the U.S. is recycled annually

80% of marine debris comes from inland sources

TCEQ **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** **H-GAC**

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Litter Poster: Available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese
<https://www.coastalcommunitiestx.com/h-gacs-featured-materials.html>

Texas Stream Team

Community Scientist Water Quality Monitoring

- State-wide program
- H-GAC coordinates a local network in 4 river basins
- Monthly monitoring of a local waterway



THE MEADOWS CENTER
FOR WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT

TEXAS STREAM TEAM

Texas Stream Team

**TCEQ-Approved
Quality Assurance
Project Plan**

**3 Phases
Of monitoring
training**

**2 Year
Commitment to
monitor monthly**



Texas Stream Team

Core Water Quality Parameters

- Field Observations
- Temperature (air & water)
- Water transparency/water clarity
- Depth
- Conductivity or Salinity
- Dissolved Oxygen
- pH



Texas Stream Team Trainings



Phase I

- Orientation
- Demonstration
- Practice



Phase II

- Individual testing
- Field Observations
- Trainer Assistance



Phase III

- Demonstration of mastery

H-GAC's Water Resources Information Map (WRIM)

