



**CITY OF LA MARQUE
PARKS BOARD
REGULAR AGENDA
of
January 16, 2025**

Notice is hereby given that the Parks Board of the City of La Marque, Texas will conduct a **Regular Meeting** on **January 16, 2025**, beginning at **6:00 PM** in the **Council Chambers** at **1109-B Bayou Road La Marque, Texas as well as via videoconference hosted through Zoom (bczoom.cityoflamarque.org)**. In accordance with Section 551.127(b) of the Texas Local Government Code the presiding officer and a quorum of the La Marque Parks Board intend to be and will be physically present at 1109-B Bayou Road, La Marque, Texas. This location will be open to the public.

The Board will meet for the purpose of considering the following agenda:

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. REPORTS
 - 3.I. Financial Report
 - 3.II. City Manager Report
 - 3.III. Public Works Report
4. MINUTES
 - 4.I. Regular Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2024
5. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION
LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER PERSON

Comments from the public will be heard at this time. Any person with city-related business who has signed up may speak to the Board (limited to three (3) minutes). If wishing to speak give the Chair or presiding officer your full legal name and the item you wish to speak about. In compliance with Texas Open Meeting Act, the City may not deliberate on comments. Personal attacks will not be allowed, and personnel matters should be addressed to the City Manager during normal business hours. *Press *6 to mute or unmute if you are participating by telephone, press the unmute button if attending*

via zoom on a smartphone, tablet or computer, or stand if attending in person, and the presiding officer will call on you in turn.

6. OLD BUSINESS

Items presented to the Board for discussion and possible action:

6.I. Approving the surveying/engineering for possible reconfiguration of Mahan Park ball fields

7. NEW BUSINESS

Items presented to the Board for discussion and possible action:

7.I. Electing a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for the 2025 calendar year

7.II. Creating and scheduling the 2025 Calendar of Events

7.III. Approving annual of Twin Cities Storage payment in the amount of \$780

7.IV. Scheduling site visits in January with the Wildlife Habitat Federation (WHF)

7.V. Attending the Parks and Natural Areas Awards Celebration on February 21, 2025

7.VI. Considering Saltgrass Subdivision's recommendations to update Saltgrass Park master plan

7.VII. Naming the Park located in the Saltgrass Subdivision

8. REQUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

8.I. The next Parks Board meeting is scheduled on February 20, 2025

9. ADJOURNMENT

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the above notice of meeting was posted at 1109-B Bayou Road, La Marque, Texas on January 9, 2024 by 5:00 p.m.

Kierra K. Nance, TRMC
City Clerk



PARKS BOARD AGENDA FORM

Meeting Date: January 16, 2025

Agenda Item: 3.I.

Prepared by: _____

Reviewed by: _____

Department: _____

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:

STAFF BRIEFING:

Includes October and November reports for Funds 66 and 81.

HISTORY:

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A



CITY OF LA MARQUE
PARKS SURCHARGE FUND 66
October 2024

BEGINNING CASH & INVESTMENT BALANCE 9/30/2024		\$797,610.10
PARKS SURCHARGE RECEIVABLE		\$44,666.07
REVENUES		
Parks Surcharge		15,323.62
Total Revenues		\$15,323.62
EXPENSES		
<u>Date/ Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	
		0.00
Total Expenses		\$0.00
ENDING CASH & INVESTMENT BALANCE 10/31/2024		\$812,933.72



**CITY OF LA MARQUE
PARKS DONATION FUND 81
October 2024**

	Donations			Parks	
	Total Donations Received	50% PARKS Donation Allocation	50% KLMB Donation Allocation	Interest	Expenses
October 2024	1,310.00	655.00	655.00	38.57	42.35
November 2024	0.00	0.00	0.00		
December 2024	0.00	0.00	0.00		
January 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
February 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
March 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
April 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
May 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
June 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
July 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
August 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
September 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
	\$ 1,310.00	\$ 655.00	\$ 655.00	\$ 38.57	\$ 42.35

BEGINNING CASH & INVESTMENT BALANCE 9/30/2024

\$24,158.60

REVENUES

Donations	655.00
Additional donations	0.00
Interest on Investments - October 2024	38.57
Total Revenues	\$693.57

EXPENSES

<u>Date/ Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	
10/31/2024 Amazon	Supplies for Parks Board (Bayoufest)	42.35
Total Expenses		\$42.35

ENDING CASH & INVESTMENT BALANCE 10/31/2024

\$24,809.82



CITY OF LA MARQUE
PARKS SURCHARGE FUND 66
November 2024

BEGINNING CASH & INVESTMENT BALANCE 10/31/2024		\$812,933.72
PARKS SURCHARGE RECEIVABLE		\$50,246.93
REVENUES		
Parks Surcharge		9,138.79
Total Revenues		\$9,138.79
EXPENSES		
<u>Date/ Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	
		0.00
Total Expenses		\$0.00
ENDING CASH & INVESTMENT BALANCE 11/30/2024		\$822,072.51



**CITY OF LA MARQUE
PARKS DONATION FUND 81
November 2024**

	Donations			Parks	
	Total Donations Received	50% PARKS Donation Allocation	50% KLMB Donation Allocation	Interest	Expenses
October 2024	1,310.00	655.00	655.00	38.57	42.35
November 2024	418.00	209.00	209.00	33.28	300.26
December 2024	0.00	0.00	0.00		
January 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
February 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
March 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
April 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
May 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
June 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
July 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
August 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
September 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00		
	\$ 1,728.00	\$ 864.00	\$ 864.00	\$ 71.85	\$ 342.61

BEGINNING CASH & INVESTMENT BALANCE 10/31/2024

\$24,809.82

REVENUES

Donations	209.00
Additional donations	0.00
Interest on Investments - November 2024	33.28
Total Revenues	\$242.28

EXPENSES

<u>Date/ Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	
11/27/2024 JP Morgan	Wal-Mart/Sam's- candy for trunk or treat	300.26
Total Expenses		\$300.26

ENDING CASH & INVESTMENT BALANCE 11/30/2024

\$24,751.84



**CITY OF LA MARQUE
PARKS BOARD
REGULAR MINUTES
of
November 21, 2024**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Bock called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Mike "Rock" Bock	Chairperson
Tonia Griffin	Vice Chairperson
Mary Limones	Board member
Tamara Smith	Board member

ABSENT:

Mike Wev	Board member
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CITY OFFICIALS / STAFF:

Joe Compian	Mayor Pro Tem, District B
Cesar Garcia	City Manager
Shirley Trahan	Public Works Administrative Assistant

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

***This item was skipped.*

4. REPORTS

4.I. Financial Reports

Board member Smith made a motion to table the discussion of financial reports.
Board member Limones seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4.II. City Manager Report

City Manager Garcia discussed the following items with the Parks Board:

1. Keep La Marque Beautiful Commission applied and received a ten thousand dollar (\$10,000) Coca-Cola grant to add recycling bins and can crushers to the local parks. This will be a joint project between the Keep La Marque Beautiful Commission and the Parks board, and this project must be completed within the next 9 months. A liaison from both the board and commission needs to be selected to work on this project.

2. Trash Bash will be held on March 29, 2025. The clean-up will be on a larger scale throughout the county. The city will be partnered with the Houston-Galveston Council with the location point being Highland Bayou Park.
3. Dura Edge Ballfields traveled to Highland Bayou Park and Mahan Park and will be submitting quotes for a clover field.
4. Chris Lane is the new board member for Bobby Beach Park and the city will conduct discussions with Mr. Lane about the city maintaining that ballpark.
5. Select board members and the City Manager attended the Homeowners Association meeting in the Saltgrass Subdivision and submitted several plans for a newly developed city park and requested community input for the park's master plan.

4.III. Public Works Report

National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) Conference will be held on September 16-18, 2025, in Orlando, Florida.

Texas Recreation and Parks Society (TRAPS) Conference will be held on February 24-28, 2025, in Dallas, Texas.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- 5.I. Approving a budget not to exceed \$800.00 for "Letter to Santa" project
Vice-Chairperson Griffin made a motion to approve a budget not to exceed \$800.00 for the "Letters to Santa" project. Board member Smith seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6. NEW BUSINESS

- 6.I. Approving a request not to exceed \$200.00 for Christmas decorations for Christmas Parade
Vice-Chairperson Griffin made a motion to approve a request not to exceed \$200.00 for Christmas decorations for the Christmas parade. Board member Smith seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. REQUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no request, announcements, or comments.

- 7.I. The next Parks Board meeting will be January 16, 2025

8. ADJOURNMENT

*****Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.***

Chairperson
Parks Board

**CITY OF LA MARQUE, TEXAS
WORK ORDER – No. 2024-04**

**Engineering Service
Mahan Park – Conceptual Planning for Ballfields and Restroom Areas**

Adico, LLC will provide professional engineering services to the City of La Marque for the Conceptual Planning for Mahan Park Ballfields and Restroom Areas in La Marque, TX 77568.

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

Based on our understanding, ADICO proposed to provide professional civil engineering as set forth in this Agreement.

1. Topographic Survey
2. Coordination with City of La Marque on the planning and location for improvements to the Mahan Park ballfields, including but not limited to the following:
 - a. Reconfiguration of the existing ballfields
 - b. Location of lighting
 - c. Bleacher locations
 - d. Sidewalk layouts
 - e. Parking areas
3. Adico will provide two conceptual plan for review.

COMPENSATION:

Compensation for this assignment shall be in accordance with this letter agreement for Professional Engineering services executed between the City of La Marque and ADICO. Billing for this assignment will be a monthly invoice based on a total percentage of effort provided with payment due 10 days upon receipt from Owner. Based on this agreement and the scope of work described above, we recommend a lump sum **Total Professional Services Fee Not to Exceed \$23,500.00** be established.

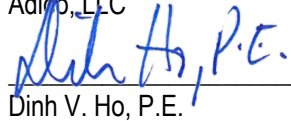
<u>Item</u>	<u>Description:</u>	<u>Fee Basis</u>	<u>Fee</u>
1.	Topographic Survey	Lump Sum	\$15,000
2.	Conceptual Planning	Lump Sum	\$8,500
TOTAL PROPOSED PROFESSIONAL FEES			\$23,500

City of La Marque
Mahan Park Conceptual Planning
Work Order No. 2024-04

If you agree with the professional engineering services that Adico, LLC will provide to the City of La Marque for engineering fee and basis of compensation for our services, please sign both copies of this work order and return one copy to me. Thank you for considering our firm for your professional engineering services.

Very truly yours,

Adico, LLC



Dinh V. Ho, P.E.

5/7/2024

Date

Accepted: City of La Marque, Texas

Mr. Rick Sailler, Public Works Director

Date

EXHIBIT 'A'

**ADICO, LLC
SCHEDULE OF HOURLY RATES**

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2024

<u>DESCRIPTION / TITLE</u>	<u>HOURLY RATES</u>
Principals/PMs	
Principals, Directors	\$245.00
Sr. Project Managers	\$215.00
Project Managers	\$195.00
Project Coordinator	\$135.00
Engineers/Designers	
Engineer I	\$130.00
Engineer II	\$150.00
Sr. Engineer	\$195.00
Designer	\$115.00
Designer II	\$130.00
Cadd Technicians	\$100.00
Construction Management	
Senior Construction Inspector	\$135.00
Construction Inspector	\$110.00
Administrative Support	
Clerical/Administrative Staff	\$85.00

IN HOUSE REPRODUCTION COSTS (NO MARK-UP INCLUDED):

Xerox	\$ 0.40 per Copy (8 ½" x 11")
Xerox Prints	\$6.00 per Square Foot

Subconsultants and other miscellaneous expenses at cost plus 10%

**EXHIBIT B
AGREEMENT FOR
ENGINEERING SERVICES**

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

BILLING

Statements are issued when appropriate and shall be payable to Adico, LLC (ADICO) upon receipt, whenever issued, unless otherwise agreed. Interest at one percent (1%) per month accruing from the date of statement shall be payable on any amounts not paid within 30 days. All payments thereafter shall be applied first to accrued interest on the fees and reimbursables and then to the principal unpaid amount. Any costs incurred in collecting any of the above amounts, which become delinquent, shall be paid by the CLIENT upon demand, including but not limited to, attorney's fees and the cost of employees' time expended on the collection.

DIRECT PERSONNEL EXPENSE

If the project is performed on the basis of Direct Personnel Expense times a multiplier, Direct Personnel Expense is defined as the direct salaries of the ENGINEER's personnel engaged on the project and the portion of the cost of their mandatory and customary contributions and benefits related thereto, such as employment Texas and other statutory employee benefits, Insurance, sick leave, holidays, vacations, pensions and similar contributions and benefits.

REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES

Reimbursable expenses are in addition to the compensation for personnel time and include actual expenditures made in the interest of the job, such as those for transportation, living expenses in connection with out-of-town travel, long distance communications, expenses for reproductions (excluding reproductions for use in our office or consultant's offices), expense of postage and handling of drawings, specifications and other documents, expense of any renderings or models, and any similar expenses made in the interest of the job. The above expenses shall be reimbursable at 1.1 times actual cost.

SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION OF SERVICES

If the CLIENT fails to make any payment due ENGINEER on account of its services and expenses within thirty (30) days after the date of the statement, then ENGINEER may, after giving (7) days written notice to the CLIENT, suspend services until all amounts due on services and expenses have been paid in full. Further, ENGINEER shall have the right to withhold all drawings, specifications and other instruments of service as of the date services are suspended. In the event that the CLIENT requests termination of the services prior to completion of a report, ENGINEER reserves the right to complete such investigations and analyses as are necessary to protect its professional reputation, or to complete appropriate records of the services performed to date. A termination charge to cover the cost thereof in an amount not to exceed 10% of all charges incurred up to the date of the stoppage of the services may be made at the discretion of ENGINEER.

LAWS/REGULATIONS

This agreement is to be governed by the law of the principal place of business of the ENGINEER. The CLIENT and the ENGINEER are each bound to a policy of non-discrimination and equal employment opportunity. The CLIENT and ENGINEER are committed to complying with Executive Order 11246, as amended; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; the Civil Rights Act of 1991; Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistant Act of 1974; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967; the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and any other applicable local, state or federal statutes or regulations.

Prior to initiating litigation against ENGINEER for any alleged claim, based on negligence or other legal theory, the CLIENT agrees to first negotiate in good faith for a period of thirty days, then to mediate the claim under rules of mediation as agreed to at that time.

LIMITS OF LIABILITY

ENGINEER's services, as limited by the CLIENT, are performed with the usual thoroughness and competence of the ENGINEER and engineering professions in Texas. No warranty or other representation, either expressed or implied, is included or intended in ENGINEER's proposals, contracts, reports, designs, and other services including, without limitation, warranties of fitness or merchantability which are hereby disclaimed. In retaining ENGINEER's services, the CLIENT expressly agrees that in all cases, ENGINEER's liability shall be limited solely to its negligent acts, errors or omissions. ENGINEER's liability to the CLIENT for injury or damage to persons or property arising out of services performed for CLIENT and for which legal liability may be found to rest upon ENGINEER, other than for professional errors and omissions, will be limited to recovery from ENGINEER's general liability insurance coverage and shall be limited to the sum of the fee payable to ENGINEER under this Agreement. For any damages resulting from ENGINEER's negligent acts, errors or omissions in rendering professional services, its liability will be limited to the sum of \$50,000.00 or its fee, whichever is less. The CLIENT agrees that in no event will it make a claim against ENGINEER after the expiration of four years from the substantial completion of ENGINEER's services hereunder, or the expiration of two (2) years from the date the CLIENT knew or should have known of said claim, whichever shall first occur. Following such date, all such CLIENT claims, if any, known or unknown, shall be deemed to be and are hereby waived. To the extent that any applicable statute of limitations provides for a shorter period of time, such shorter time period shall control.

In the event the CLIENT makes a claim against ENGINEER at law or otherwise, for any alleged negligent act, error or omission arising out of the performance of its professional services, and the CLIENT fails to prove such claim, then the CLIENT shall pay all costs incurred by ENGINEER in defending itself against said claim, including but not limited to, attorney's fees, experts' fees, consultants' fees, and the cost of employee's time expended on the claim.

In the event of a claim against ENGINEER and its consultants arising out of or in any way related to the negligence or other liability of the CLIENT, the Contractor or any others associated with or related to the CLIENT's project, the CLIENT shall indemnify and hold ENGINEER and its consultants harmless from and against such claim and any associated liability or expense including but not limited to, attorney's fees, experts' fees, consultants' fees, and the costs of employees time expended on the claim.

EXCLUDED SERVICES

ENGINEER has not been retained or compensated for and shall not have control or charge of and shall not be responsible for construction means, methods, techniques, sequences or procedures, or for safety precautions and programs in connection with the work of any Contractor or Subcontractor or any other person performing work, or for any acts or omissions of any of them, or for the failure of any of them to carry out work in accordance with their contract documents.

ADDITIONAL CONSULTANTS

Fees for services of additional consultants to be retained under subcontract to Adico, LLC, when required, and when authorized by the CLIENT, will be billed to the CLIENT at 1.1 times such consultants' net billings to Adico, LLC, unless otherwise agreed.

CONFIDENTIALITY

ENGINEER, its agents, employees, and Consultants shall hold client information, data, and documents (collectively, "the information") that they receive, or to which they have access, in strictest confidence. ENGINEER, its agents, employees and Consultants shall not disclose, disseminate, or use the Information unless the Client authorizes such in writing.

CLIENTSHIP OF DOCUMENTS

All documents field notes and data prepared or obtained by or through ENGINEER and related to the CLIENT's project will be joint property of the ENGINEER and CLIENT and may be transferred to other parties or used for other purposes (e.g., marketing) with written consent from the other party. **Any expense of the documents without written authorization from ENGINEER shall be at the CLIENT's own risk and without liability to ENGINEER.**

TIME LIMIT

Agreement or proposal is subject to renegotiation if not accepted within 30 days.



PARKS BOARD AGENDA FORM

Meeting Date: January 16, 2025
Prepared by: _____
Department: City Clerk

Agenda Item: 7.I.
Reviewed by: _____

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:

STAFF BRIEFING:

Electing a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for 2025.

HISTORY:

This is an annual election that takes place at the first meeting of each calendar year.

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A



PARKS BOARD AGENDA FORM

Meeting Date: January 16, 2025

Agenda Item: 7.II.

Prepared by: _____

Reviewed by: _____

Department: Public Works

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:

STAFF BRIEFING:

City Staff is requesting a complete Calendar of Events from the Parks Board for 2025, which is due by February's Parks Board meeting.

HISTORY:

In 2023, a Calendar of Events was provided. In 2024, a Calendar of Events was not provided. The city is requesting a Calendar of Events for 2025.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No funding required

Twin Cities Storage
4028 FM1765
Texas City, TX 77591

Invoice
Date 11/25/2024

Bill to:

City of La Marque / Parks Board
1111 Bayou Road
La Marque, Texas 77568

Due	Item	Description	Amount Due	Tax
12/1/2024	101260057	Rent - Unit B19 rent for 12 month period starting 12/1/2024	\$780.00	\$0.00

Subtotal	\$780.00
Tax	\$0.00
Total	\$780.00



PARKS BOARD AGENDA FORM

Meeting Date: January 16, 2025

Agenda Item: 7.IV.

Prepared by: _____

Reviewed by: _____

Department: Public Works

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:

STAFF BRIEFING:

The Parks Board approved obtaining certificates to be certified in Wildlife and Native Garden. The Wildlife Habitat Federation will schedule a site visit for the Conservation assessment.

HISTORY:

The Board discussed and approved in September 2024

FISCAL IMPACT:

No funding required

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY TONIA FOR WHF SITE VISITS

On Mon, Dec 30, 2024, 11:16 AM Tonia Rene Griffin <trenegriffin01@gmail.com> wrote:

Schylar,

Thank you for your prompt response! I have included those to assist with getting the form completed and back to you.

The Parks Board will schedule a site visit at 10:00am on January 23rd, 24th, 29th, or 30th.

Please contact me and/or Alice Ashley as primary contact. Thank you, Tonia



PARKS BOARD AGENDA FORM

Meeting Date: January 16, 2025

Agenda Item: 7.V.

Prepared by: _____

Reviewed by: _____

Department: Public Works

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:

STAFF BRIEFING:

H-GAC established the Parks and Natural Areas awards program in 2006 to highlight best practices and innovative park planning and implementation approaches. This program recognizes outstanding parks and natural areas around the region.

HISTORY:

This is an annual event since 2006.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No funding is associated with this award program.



Parks and Natural Areas 2024 Awards

APPLY NOW!

Winning projects serve as models for the H-GAC region on how parks can improve water quality, habitat, and quality of life.

Apply at h-gac.com/parks

Applications Due 9/1/24-9/30/24

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE 2024 AWARDS

WHERE TO APPLY?

Applications must be completed online at h-gac.com/parks. Click on the "Parks Awards Program" tab. No paper submissions will be accepted.

Projects in Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Harris, Galveston, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, and Wharton counties are eligible.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Any public, private, or nonprofit organization may apply. There is no entry fee. Submittals in any category must be for activities completed between September 1, 2020, and August 31, 2024.

By submitting a project, the applicant agrees all materials may be used in presentations and publications developed by the Houston-Galveston Area Council without further acknowledgment. Selected projects may be featured on the H-GAC website.

WHEN ARE APPLICATIONS DUE?

Applications must be received by 5 p.m., Monday, September 30, 2024. Applicants will receive e-mail confirmation of receipt.

Winners will be notified in December 2024 and honored in February 2025.

WHAT TYPE OF PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE?

Examples of types of activities include:

Planning Process

- Plans: Comprehensive and Policy Tools, Regional, Visioning, Master
- Natural Areas Studies
- Environmental Studies
- Planning and Design
- Public Involvement
- Land Use Policies
- Resolving Multi-use Conflicts
- Conservation Easements
- Protective Codes
- Deed Restrictions
- Acquisition
- Operations/Maintenances

On-the-Ground Projects (Over and Under \$500K)

- Preservation of Natural Areas
- Restoration of Natural Areas
- Bayous, Rivers, Streams, Waterways
- Forests, Prairies, Coasts, Wetlands
- Pocket Parks, Greenways, Hike and Bike Trails
- Interpretive Signage and Environmental Graphics
- Information and Educational Centers
- Multi-use of Detention Facilities

Programming

- Education and Training
- Tree Plantings
- Demonstration Gardens
- Special Environmental Education Events



Houston-Galveston
Area Council

About the Houston-Galveston Area Council

H-GAC is a voluntary association of local governments and local elected officials from the 13-county Gulf Coast planning region, which includes an area of 12,500 square miles and more than 7 million people. H-GAC works to promote efficient and accountable use of local, state, and federal tax dollars; serves as a problem-solving and information forum for local governments; and helps analyze trends and conditions affecting the region. For more information, visit h-gac.com.