

Water Quality Program for Lake Granbury, Texas

Texas Water Resources Institute
FY 05 Federal Appropriated Funds
Addition to Project # 03-60768

Quarter no. 2 From 2/1/07 Through 4/30/07

Project Goals and Objectives

The goal for this project is to provide a mechanism to educate local stakeholders about water quality issues that are affecting Lake Granbury. This project will provide an assessment of existing and potential water quality threats related to on-going nonpoint source (NPS) water pollution within the Lake Granbury Watershed. The Texas Water Resources Institute (TWRI) and Texas Cooperative Extension (TCE) will also assist BRA and TCEQ in developing a Watershed Protection Plan (WPP), aimed to improve and protect water quality within the Brazos River Basin. Educational information developed from this project will provide Federal, State and local decision makers with a variety of mechanisms that can be employed to prevent additional degradation of water quality in the watershed.

Key objectives of this project include:

- Holding public meetings to educate stakeholders and clients within the watershed about water quality and its protection
- Providing public educational programs to help achieve improved water quality
- Conduct training events on proper operation and maintenance of on-site wastewater treatment systems and collective facilities

Progress in Meeting Project Milestones and Output Commitments

Task, Deliverables, and Schedules

The Texas Water Resources Institute (TWRI) and Texas Cooperative Extension (TCE) have been diligently working to complete project deliverables. Project efforts during the first quarter focused upon conducting stakeholder meetings in conjunction with BA and TCEQ and gathering information for a targeted educational program. TCE has been working to develop generalized and watershed specific bulletins relating to water quality for the project area specifically dealing with bacterial impairment issues resulting from onsite septic systems. TWRI has developed a Web site containing water quality information, specifically related to project efforts for the general public.

In looking forward to the next quarter TCE specialists will conduct Extension trainings for agents and stakeholder groups, present educational meetings in conjunction with local civic groups as well as continue to develop educational resources.

The status of tasks, milestones and deliverables will be defined using the following terms:

Pending	Work has not started on the deliverable
Initiated	Work has started
Completed	The objectives were achieved and deliverables are finished
Deferred	Work has started, but further action is delayed pending other information, the completion of another objective, staff restraints, etc.
Ongoing	Work will continue throughout the term of the contract

Task 1 Education

Date	Status	Deliverables
4/1/07	Completed	1. Develop a watershed management program bulletin and PowerPoint presentation dealing with on-site wastewater treatment and collective wastewater treatment systems.
4/1/07	Initiated	2. Develop a watershed management program bulletin and PowerPoint presentation dealing with fecal coliform contamination and potential sources.
7/1/07	Ongoing	3. Hold Lake Granbury stakeholder committee meetings.
7/1/07	Initiated	4. Conduct two training programs for local citizens and other selected resource personnel on proper maintenance of on-site wastewater systems.
10/1/07	Ongoing	3. Hold Lake Granbury watershed public meeting on watershed characteristics and pollution problems.

Comments:

- Produced a series of water quality fact sheets pertaining to specific water quality issues in the region, namely, nutrient and sediment loadings, bacteria, urban and agricultural non-point sources, landscape chemicals etc.
- Worked with the North Central Council of Governments to create a Public Service Announcement on Pet Waste Management, a source of bacterial contamination especially for areas adjacent to the lake
- Created and presented information to the local watershed stakeholder group on water quality standards and on-site wastewater treatment system maintenance
- Working with the local County Extension Agent in Hood county to plan additional educational events related to small acreage landowner land management, maintenance of on site wastewater treatment systems, rainwater harvesting and bacterial sources in water
- TCE made a presentations at Lake Granbury Watershed stakeholder meetings regarding on-site septic system maintenance and regional collection systems

- TCE made a presentation to Oak Trail Owners Association, a local home owner association which has issues of high bacterial contamination in its coves. The presentation discussed sources of bacterial impairments, septic maintenance and preventative measures.

Task 2 Administration

Date	Status	Deliverables
1/30/07	Completed	1. Quarterly Progress Reports
4/30/07	Completed	
7/30/07		
10/30/07		2. Final Report

Comments:

- TWRI created a one-page fact sheet providing an overview of the project, including objectives, components and collaborators. The fact sheet identifies project needs and goals and will be used to gain stakeholder involvement and publicize project activity.
- The Institute created an Internet Web site specifically for the Lake Granbury Water Quality Project. The Web site can be accessed at the following address: <http://lakegranbury.tamu.edu>
- Assisted the Brazos River Authority and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in developing a stakeholder group for the development of a watershed protection plan for the Lake Granbury Watershed
- Toured the Lake Granbury watershed by land and by boat with the Brazos River Authority to gain a better understanding of the watershed and document potential sources of contamination
- Attended the Lake Granbury WPP Stakeholder meeting and made a presentation on Golden Algae research and educational program activities on 2/13/06.
- On April 12, 2007 TWRI organized a boat tour and project update with Representative Chet Edwards and his staff at Lake Granbury. Information was provided on current and future planned educational programs, water quality impairments for the area and boat tour to view impaired coves around the lake.

Problems or Obstacles Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

None to report at this time.

Work Planned for Next Reporting Period

Task 1: Education

TCE will continue working with BRA, TCEQ, the local county Extension agent and local watershed stakeholder group to develop and present information on water quality. TCE has scheduled the following events listed below and are currently planning additional activities.

- April 21, 2007. Hood county small acreage landowner land management workshop. Topics to be presented include maintenance of on site wastewater treatment systems, rainwater harvesting and bacterial sources in water
- July 17-18, 2007. Rainwater Harvesting Workshop. This event will teach participant how to install rainwater harvesting systems in an effort to reduce stormwater runoff and nonpoint source pollution.
- Summer 2007. Presentations at Lake Granbury area Home Owner Association meetings
- October 2007. On-site wastewater treatment system installer's training.

Task 2: Administration

TWRI will continue working with BRA, TCEQ, NRCS and TCE in moving forward with project deliverables and reporting its progress on a quarterly basis. Efforts will be made to publicize the project and raise awareness of water quality issues within the study area.