

**Texas AgriLife Extension Service
Texas Water Resources Institute**

Provide Assistance to Improve Water Quality in Hood County

FY 08 Federal Appropriated Funds
USDA-NRCS Agreement # 69-7442-8-804

Quarter no. 3 From 2/1/09 Through 4/30/09

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 non-point source (NPS) water pollution within the Lake Granbury Watershed. The Texas Water Resources Institute (TWRI) and Texas AgriLife Extension Service 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 AgriLife Extension Service continued to work on project deliverables during the third quarter. Project efforts focused upon conducting several educational/outreach events for over 100 homeowners and practitioners.

In looking forward to the next quarter, Texas AgriLife Extension Service specialists and the local County Extension Agent will present water quality information at various meetings and events in conjunction with local 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
7/15/08	Initiated	1. Develop an informational fact sheet specific for Lake Granbury that describes best management practices and ways to minimize bacterial loading from an individual's property.
7/15/08	Ongoing	2. Hold Lake Granbury stakeholder committee meetings in cooperation with BRA and TCEQ.
7/15/08	Ongoing	3. Hold informational meetings with the cooperation of the local AgriLife Extension agent, HOAs and civic organizations regarding ways in which to protect and improve water quality.
10/30/08	Pending	4. Conduct an informational meeting with county and city officials regarding water quality issues on the lake and its associated coves. The program will discuss plausible sources of the bacterial contamination and best management practices needed to correct the impairment. Septic system maintenance and permitting will also be discussed.

Comments:

- On August 7, 2008, presented draft of the outreach and education component of the watershed protection plan to stakeholders at Lake Granbury Watershed Meeting. Working with BRA to incorporate stakeholder suggestions into outreach and education plan.
- Continued to develop model to determine potential loading of onsite septic systems for the Oak Trail Shores subdivision
- Worked with Hood County Extension Agent to schedule several educational programs for 2009
- Hired Extension Assistant, Ryan Gerlich, to assist with project tasks
- Developed and displayed booth with information on water quality and watershed protection planning at Hood County Fair, January 7-10, 2009
- On January 22, 2009, presented to stakeholders at Lake Granbury Watershed Meeting
- On March 2009, displayed informational booth at Granbury Birthday Bash

- On April 6, 2009, held Stormwater Management in the Home Landscape course attended by 24 individuals
- On April 7, 2009, held Water Quality and Rainwater Harvesting Training course attended by 45 individuals
- On April 14, 2009, Hood County Extension Agent and Extension Specialist were on local television station to discuss watershed management, bacterial sources, and BMPs
- On April 15, 2009, held Health and Maintenance of your Aerobic Treatment System course for homeowners attended by 1 individual
- On April 16, 2009, Wastewater Practitioners Training course was attended by 11 practitioners
- On April 29, 2009, spoke to 30 individuals of the Pecan Plantation Breakfast Club on pet and wildlife waste management

Task 2 Administration

Date	Status	Deliverables
10/30/08	Completed	1. Quarterly Progress Reports
1/30/09	Completed	
4/30/09	Completed	
7/30/09		
10/30/09		2. Final Report

Comments:

- TWRI continues to update and distribute the one-page fact sheet, developed during the previous funding period, which provides an overview of the project. The fact sheet identifies project needs and goals and will be used to gain stakeholder involvement and publicize project activity.
- The Institute continues to maintain 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>
- Attended the Lake Granbury WPP Stakeholder meeting on August 7, 2008.
- Attended the Lake Granbury WPP Stakeholder meeting on January 22, 2009.

Problems or Obstacles Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

None to report at this time.

Work Planned for Next Reporting Period

Task 1: Education

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

- June 1-3, 2009: Rainwater Harvesting Specialist Training
- Small Acreage Landowners Symposium for Somervell/Hood Counties has been postponed until the fall

Task 2: Administration

TWRI will continue working with BRA, TCEQ, NRCS and Texas AgriLife Extension Service in moving forward with project deliverables and publicizing the project to raise awareness of water quality issues within the study area.