Texas Surface Water Quality Standards

Charles Bayer
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Water Quality Assessment in Texas

Brenda Archer
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Update on Hays County Regional Water Quality Protection Plan

Bryan Davis
Hays County Agent
Texas Cooperative Extension
Hays County Regional Water Quality Protection Plan

- For more information please see the website: [http://www.waterqualityplan.org](http://www.waterqualityplan.org)

- Final version of the regional plan can be downloaded from the website
Update on Overall Project Activities

Nikki Dictson
Texas Cooperative Extension
Plum Creek Watershed Partnership

- December 15, 2005 - Plum Creek was selected as the pilot watershed
- January 6, 2006 - Meeting with Local County Agents, GBRA, and PCCD
- January thru March – Meetings and Media Promoting Project
- April 2006 – Three Public Meetings in Watershed
- May 9, 2006 – First Steering Committee Meeting
- June 20, 2006 – Steering Committee Meeting
- July 2006 – Five Work Group Meetings
- July 27, 2006 – Watershed Tour
Plum Creek Watershed Partnership

- August 10, 2006 - Second Steering Committee Meeting
- September 2006 – Five Work Group Meetings
- October 26, 2006 – Today’s Steering Committee Meeting.
September Work Group
Reports

Nikki Dictson
Texas Cooperative Extension
September Work Group Meetings

1. Outreach and Education
   - Tuesday, September 5, 2006 from 9:00 - 12:00 am
   - Luling Foundation Farm Office, Luling

2. Wastewater and Industry
   - Thursday, September 21, 2006 from 2:00-5:00 pm
   - San Marcos River Foundation Office, San Marcos

3. Urban Stormwater and NPS
   - Thursday, September 21, 2006 from 9:30 am -12:30 pm
   - Buda City Hall, Buda

4. Agriculture NPS
   - Tuesday, September 13, 2006 from 6:00 - 9:00 pm
   - Lockhart State Park, Lockhart

5. Water Quality and Habitat
   - Wednesday, September 20, 2006 from 6:00-9:00 pm
   - Polonia WSC Office, Lockhart
Outreach and Education Work Group Report

- Discussed how to prioritize the efforts that the PCWP could implement for Outreach and Education.
- Reviewed the Arroyo Colorado’s WPP marketing plan.
- Discussed creating a marketing plan for the project and future efforts, including a logo.
- Created a Branding Survey to get feedback from stakeholders in the Plum Creek Watershed.
The Remaining Work Group Reports

- All members of the other work groups completed the Branding Survey
- Discussed the potential sources of pollutants
- Looked at examples of data assessment tools including:
  - Subwatershed and land use maps
  - Discussed methods for determining numbers and distribution for potential sources (cattle, deer, septic systems, etc.).
Discussed information provided by USDA NRCS in Hays County on agriculture land use practices.

Discussed information on cattle, horses, sheep and goats, deer, feral hogs, and septic systems and provided feedback.

Reviewed livestock numbers and example distribution and density maps.
Reviewed water quality standards and concerns.

Discussed numbers, distribution and density maps on pet numbers, deer, feral hogs, and septic systems and provided feedback.

Discussed new deer survey information from Texas Parks and Wildlife.
Urban Stormwater and NPS Work

Group Report

- Reviewed water quality standards and concerns.
- Reviewed and discussed numbers, distribution and density maps for pet numbers, households and septic systems and provided feedback.
- Discussed example Load Duration Curves.
Arthur Talley, TCEQ, presented information and tables on WWTPs in the watershed including: permit histories, permit limits, and loadings.

- Discussed numbers, distribution and density maps on deer, feral hogs, and septic systems and provided feedback.

- Discussed example Load Duration Curves.
Work Group Needs

- Cattle Numbers
- Deer Numbers
- Feral Hog Distribution
- 911 Addresses and County Subdivision Information
- Septic System Violation Information by County
- Sewer CCN Information
Cattle Numbers

- Texas and Southwest Cattle Raisers Association (Crystal Bryant) indicated they do not keep records on cattle numbers. Recommended we use data from the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service.

- Independent Cattlemen’s Association (Bill Hyman, E.D.) believes based discussions with several professional cowboys that cattle numbers are approximately 60,000 in Caldwell County and 20,000 in Hays County.

  - Cited recent drought as a major impact, and estimated the 60,000 figure is a 20% drop from previous years.

  - Also recommended the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service as the best available information on cattle numbers.
Deer Numbers

- Data that we reviewed used county estimates for deer per 1000 acres from Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD).

- TPWD was contacted and sent us new survey information by management unit and Ecoregion.

- These data also have deer per 1000 acres and are the best currently available from TPWD.
Feral Hog Distribution

- Initial plan was to distribute hogs at perennial stream sections and below WWTPs.

- Works groups recommended also including lakes in the watershed.

- Maps used to distribute feral hogs will include any lakes and the flood control structures managed by Plum Creek Conservation District.
911 Addresses

- Contacted the Capital Area Council of Governments and received the 911 addresses for all three counties.
- They have a lot of good information on their website (http://www.capco.state.tx.us/)
County Subdivision Information

- Received information on subdivisions from both Hays and Caldwell Counties
  - Hays County – Unfortunately the date column has very few dates in the spreadsheet
  - Caldwell County Appraisal District – Has dates for most of the subdivisions in the county, but has not been updated in the last 1.5 years.
Update on Septic System Violation Information

- **Caldwell County:**
  - Suspected violations are turned over to the County Inspector, no information is filed.
  - Inspector writes a ticket which is turned into the local JP Court and filed.

- **Hays County Environmental Health Department**
  - Tom Pope was following up on information from their files on violations.
  - We have not received anything yet.
Sewer CCN Information

- Lockhart: within city limits
- Luling: within city limits
- Kyle: No information yet
Source Identification
Strategies and Methods

Nikki Dictson
Texas Cooperative Extension
Load Duration Curve Method

Matt Berg
Texas Cooperative Extension
November Work Groups

1. Outreach and Education
   - Tuesday, November 7, 2006 from 9:00 - 12:00 am
   - Luling Foundation Farm Office, Luling

2. Wastewater and Industry
   - Tuesday, November 7, 2006 from 6:00-9:00 PM
   - New Kyle Fire Station, Kyle

3. Urban Stormwater and NPS
   - Thursday, November 9, 2006 from 9:00 am -12:00 pm
   - Buda (TBA)

4. Agriculture NPS
   - Tuesday, November 14, 2006 from 6:00 - 9:00 pm
   - Courthouse Annex Lobby, Lockhart

5. Water Quality and Habitat
   - Wednesday, November 15, 2006 from 6:00-9:00 PM
   - Polonia WSC Office, Lockhart
December Steering Committee Meeting

December 14, 2006
6:00 to 9:00 pm
Sign in and refreshments starting at 5:45 pm
Location TBA

Speaker – George Ozuna
US Geological Survey
Presentation on Hydrology and the Water Cycle