

2339 Commerce St. Suite #163 | Houston, TX 77002

Dear Bayou Advocate,

On a recent morning at **Shady Lane Park**, before noticing the trees or hearing the birds, you see the problem: trash tangled in branches, broken items scattered along the trails, plastic drifting toward **Halls Bayou**. Families walk past it every day. Children play beside it. And with each rainfall, more waste washes into the bayou.

This is not what this community deserves.
And this is exactly why your support matters now more than ever.

Shady Lane Park in North Houston is a vibrant neighborhood spot, with kids riding bikes, families gathering under the trees, and neighbors meeting along the trails. It's a place full of energy and pride. But the park and bayou are under pressure, and the community cannot solve these challenges alone.

Thanks to supporters like you, real progress is already underway. And this year, your impact could not have been clearer.

This Spring, volunteers from the **Greater Northside Management District** and the **Klein Forest High School Interact Club** joined us to clean Shady Lane Park. Together, they **removed 76 abandoned tires, dozens of bags of trash, and nearly 4,000 pounds of waste**. Every pound lifted was a step toward restoring the health and dignity of this cherished community space.

And the impact didn't end that day. After the spring cleanup, 311 data shows no reports of illegal dumping in Shady Lane Park, until August 1, 2025. Even then, the report occurred outside the park boundary and beyond the area volunteers cleaned. Your support helped keep the park intact, protected, and thriving far longer than before.

Because of your generosity, we were also able to:

- Reduce illegal dumping sites that leak contaminants into the soil and water
- Create native pollinator habitats that stabilize soil and reduce runoff
- Restore riparian habitat, nature's frontline filter for cleaner water
- Sample water quality to detect problems early, before they become hazardous
- Partner with local organizations to respond swiftly to environmental threats



With your support, volunteers from Greater Northside Management District and Klein Forest HS Interact Club came together to remove 76 tires and almost 4,000 pounds of trash from Shady Lane Park—proof of what community can do.



These accomplishments are real. They are meaningful. And they happened because you chose to invest in this work.

But we are not finished. In fact, the need is growing.

Illegal dumping continues to introduce chemicals, metals, and waste into the watershed. Litter builds up faster than the community can remove it. Habitat loss reduces the bayou's natural filtration. And every storm sweeps pollutants downstream.

As we approach the end of the year, your renewed support is not only appreciated—it's essential.

Will you make a year-end gift to protect water quality in Halls Bayou?

Your donation today will help us:

- **Remove more dumping sites before contaminants reach the water**
- **Expand volunteer and student cleanups that stop pollution at its source**
- **Plant more native species that naturally filter and slow runoff**
- **Restore additional riparian habitat critical for water health**
- **Strengthen our water-quality monitoring so we can detect and fix problems faster**

Your gift, whatever the amount, goes directly to protecting communities like Shady Lane Park and ensuring Halls Bayou remains a healthy, thriving environment for the families who live, learn, and play here.

Shady Lane Park can be a place where children explore freely, where neighbors feel proud to gather, and where nature rebounds and flourishes. With your help, that future is absolutely within reach.

Thank you for caring. Thank you for showing up. And thank you for standing with the people and places that need you most.

Together, we can turn urgent problems into lasting hope.

With deep gratitude,

Brittani Flowers, MUEP
President and CEO

Paul R. Nelson
Chair, Board of Directors

P.S. Your gift—whether \$60, \$100, \$250, \$1,000, or any amount meaningful to you—will help protect places like Shady Lane Park and keep Halls Bayou healthy. To contribute, simply use the enclosed envelope or visit www.bayoupreservation.org/support. Thank you for being part of this important work.