Bayou NewsStream

July 2020 edition

BAYOU-DIVERSITY:
Celebrate, Protect & Restore

17TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

Tickets & Sponsorships Now Available!

We are delighted to announce Bayou Preservation Association’s 17th Annual Symposium will be going virtual this year and span two days to reach a wider audience than ever before!

Taking place on Thursday, October 1 and Friday, October 2, 2020 from 8 AM to 12 PM via Zoom, this year’s Symposium theme Bayou-Diversity: Celebrate, Protect & Restore will address the expanding importance of diversity in all its forms — physical, geomorphological, biological, socioeconomic, and conceptual.
"Explore the broad interconnectivity of diverse landscapes, wildlife, recreational uses, and communities that our bayous support and how critical our waterways are to enriching our region’s future growth."

Photo by Beth Ortiz

This month, we returned to Harris County Precinct One’s Challenger Seven Memorial Park to continue the Clear Creek Riparian Restoration Project. The project had some major successes over the last several weeks as we complete Phase I and begin transitioning to Phase II.
We continued our collaboration in July, with EBR Enterprise, and a team of five amazing Texas Conservation Corps crew members making progress at the park. The crews removed many large tallow and Ligustrum trees, making room and providing light for native understory plants to return.

In the photos above you can see the crew members observing social distancing in the remote areas of the park (away from trails). Once a large invasive tree is cut down, the bark is scraped back, then the stump and root flares are sprayed with herbicide (mixed with a blue dye) to prevent the return of the tree.
Correction

In the May edition of Bayou NewsStream, staff incorrectly linked to an outdated copy of the Clear Creek Riparian Restoration Project.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

We invite you to join as Houston environmental leaders ask questions.

On August 20, 2020, the Houston environmental community will host a virtual candidate forum with Tom Ramsey and Michael Moore, the two candidates for Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 3.

This informational forum is not affiliated with any party or candidate.
Environmental Issues Virtual Forum with Tom Ramsey & Michael Moore, Republican and Democratic Candidates for Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 3

August 20, 2020
7:00 P.M. - 8:15 P.M.
ZOOM

You must register in advance at https://tinyurl.com/environmentalforum2020

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the meeting.

We will have an interpreter available for anyone who wishes to listen in Spanish. Translations will be provided when the Zoom meeting starts.

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INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Bayou Preservation Association is currently seeking to fill several intern positions

Conservation Interns (2 positions available)

Dates: Sept 6-Oct 31, 2020

Investigate bacteria sources in the most impaired water ways, learn Texas Stream Team protocols, conduct wind shield surveys, collect targeted bacteria samples, lab analysis to detect bacteria, follow up field sampling, and more!

Full description

Environmental Communications & Marketing Intern

Dates: Ongoing (Flexible)
Environmental Public Relations & Marketing Intern

Dates: Ongoing (Flexible)

Explore creative ways to engage and expand Bayou Preservation’s network of constituents, supporters, and stakeholders and more!

Full description

MOMENT OF ZEN

"Let the rain sing you a lullaby."

- Langston Hughes

Video: courtesy of Tom Douglas

Check out this month’s relaxing Moment of Zen captured by Bayou Preservation Association Council of Advisors member Tom Douglas on a peaceful paddle through the still, quiet waters of a cypress forest in the Trinity watershed.
Can you use your eagle eye to spot the bird in this tributary of Buffalo Bayou?

**Hint:** This species often nests near or over water in pine and oak trees—as high as 60 feet or more off the ground.

**Think you have the right answer?**

E-mail us your answer to be entered into a contest to win a free Bayou Preservation Association custom fridge magnet.

**Contest rules:**

- Submissions must include either an image with the bird circled or a valid description of the bird's location in the photo.
- One winner will be selected at random from all participants with correct answers.
- Answers must be submitted by Friday, August 7, 2020 by 12 p.m. noon CST.
The winner will be notified within one week of their submission and contacted for an address to mail the prize.

**Note: Answers must be spelled correctly to be entered to win. Many will enter, only one will win.**

E-mail us your answer

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Introduction & Purpose of the Bylaws

The Harris County Flood Control Task Force was created by Harris County Commissioners Court in 1972 to advise and recommend "policies and programs to adequately protect homes and businesses from the hazards of flooding and facilitate economic development." Harris County is in the process of reshaping this entity into the Harris County Community Resilience Task Force to reflect a broader approach to the infrastructure challenges and opportunities in our community.

Learn More

Overview

"There are more than 2,500 miles of waterways within Harris County, ranging from natural bayous and creeks to manmade channels. Managing these urban rivers, bayous, creeks, and drainage features while finding a balance between urban development and natural functions presents many unique challenges. Urban expansion impacts water quality, wildlife habitat and the ultimate stability of the channel infrastructure. One indirect result of urbanization can be excessive streambank erosion."