

Galveston Bay Coalition of Watersheds

Bastrop Bayou | Dickinson Bayou | Highland Bayou | Jarbo Bayou

Partnering for healthy watersheds.

agrillife.org/coalitionofwatersheds

Tuesday, March 23, 2021 | 10:00-11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via ZOOM with call in option

Fats, oils, grease (FOG) and wipes in sanitary sewer systems

MEETING NOTES

Attendees: Katie Wilson, Steven Johnston, Kendall Guidroz, Daniel Albanese, Charlotte Cisneros, Julie Masters, Nicole Plowman, Debra Webb, Charriss York, and Celina Gauthier Lowry

Projects and Priorities

A brief presentation included instructions for building on the pool of project ideas, including questions to guide the exercise:

- Is there an education or outreach opportunity?
- How can we benefit multiple watersheds or communities?
- Are we the group to implement the idea?

The Coalition will aim to complete six education/outreach efforts before Thanksgiving 2021.

Review project opportunities and refine project strategies and actions

Project idea - **Outreach to apartment residents** – Share FOG education with apartment residents through apartment management and municipal communications.

- Lake Jackson is working with commercial entities through code enforcement and is interested in outreach to apartments directly; complex sizes and city media was also discussed
- Coastal Communities, H-GAC, is working on community based social marketing and will engage apartment complexes; opportunity to leverage both efforts
- Outreach to other MS4s in Coalition watersheds could bring additional partners

Project idea - **Interactive booth at in-person event** – Demonstration of what FOG is (by cooking something yummy) and how to properly dispose of it at an in-person event.

- Can we carry this out in 2021 [Covid-19]?
- Dickinson farmer's market will occur monthly starting on Saturday, April 3

- Gather information on events in Coalition watersheds for potential venues
- Collection event versus cooking and disposal demonstration
- GBF has giveaway materials to share with the Cease the Grease website on them
- Don't feed the grease monster interactive exhibit available through H-GAC Trash Bash
- Keep the message simple and consistent

Project idea - **FOG Collection Points/Receptacles** – Share FOG collection points to encourage residential recycling

- Combine this with the idea above? Publicize drop off locations during in person event?

Project idea - **Outreach to Utility District Residents** – Share FOG education with residents through Utility District communications

- No additional discussion took place at this meeting

Resources shared by Coalition members

Cease the Grease, Galveston Bay Foundation

- map of used cooking oil recycling locations, <http://ceasethegrease.net/>
- partner toolkit (social media posts, etc.), <http://ceasethegrease.net/partner-toolkit/>
- potential giveaway items (funnels and scrapers) with the Cease the Grease website on them

Coastal Communities, H-GAC

- FOG materials available for printing, <https://www.coastalcommunitiestx.com/h-gacs-featured-materials.html>
- Outreach messages by month (social media posts, bill inserts, etc.). Includes FOG and Wipes in pipes, <https://www.coastalcommunitiestx.com/the-roadmap-messages.html>
- Don't feed the grease monster exhibit available to borrow

Protect our pipes, City of Houston

- <https://www.publicworks.houstontx.gov/protect-our-pipes>

Patty Potty, Save Water Texas Coalition

- <http://www.pattypotty.com/>

Next Steps and Future Meetings

The discussion at this meeting will help determine the six or so projects the Coalition will carry out in 2021. Several in attendance expressed being open to providing more information or discussing these ideas further. Celina will follow up project ideas with individual stakeholders. Before the next meeting, information from this meeting and individual stakeholder conversations will be pulled together and shared with the Coalition.