

# Dickinson Bayou Watershed WaterSmart Landscapes

Drains to bayous and bays!



Songbirds migrate through Houston!



## The Dickinson Bayou Watershed Needs You!

Here are some ways to protect Dickinson Bayou:

- Read the label carefully before applying any garden products
- Use compost—it builds healthy soil!
- Avoid chemical fertilizers and pesticides
- Reduce the size of your lawn
- “Don’t Bag It”
- Choose plants adapted to our area
- Avoid over-watering to lessen the chance of runoff
- Plant a habitat garden

Did you know?

- Homeowners use 9-10X more fertilizers and pesticides per acre than farmers
- 50%-60% of our water supply goes to watering landscapes

Did you know?

- 60-70 million birds are poisoned each year due to pesticides
- 2/3 of users dispose of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in the trash or down the drain

## Traditional Landscapes



- Major contributors to runoff pollution
- Consist mainly of lawn (turfgrass)
- Consume lots of water
- Dependent on chemical fertilizers and pesticides

## WaterSmart Landscapes



- Are non-polluting
- Use native and adapted plants
- Require less water and less maintenance
- Provide habitat for wildlife

VS.



Create a landscape to attract wildlife



Use native and adapted plants