

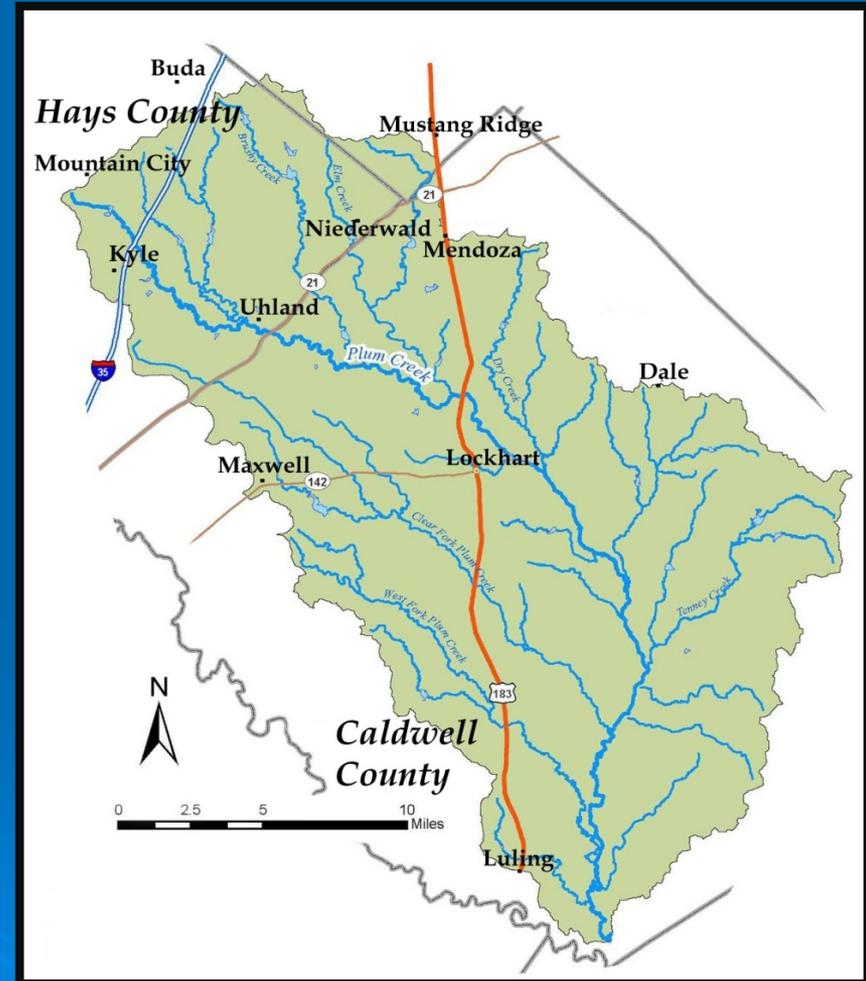
Plum Creek Watershed Partnership

2013 Update to Partners and Stakeholders



The Plum Creek Watershed

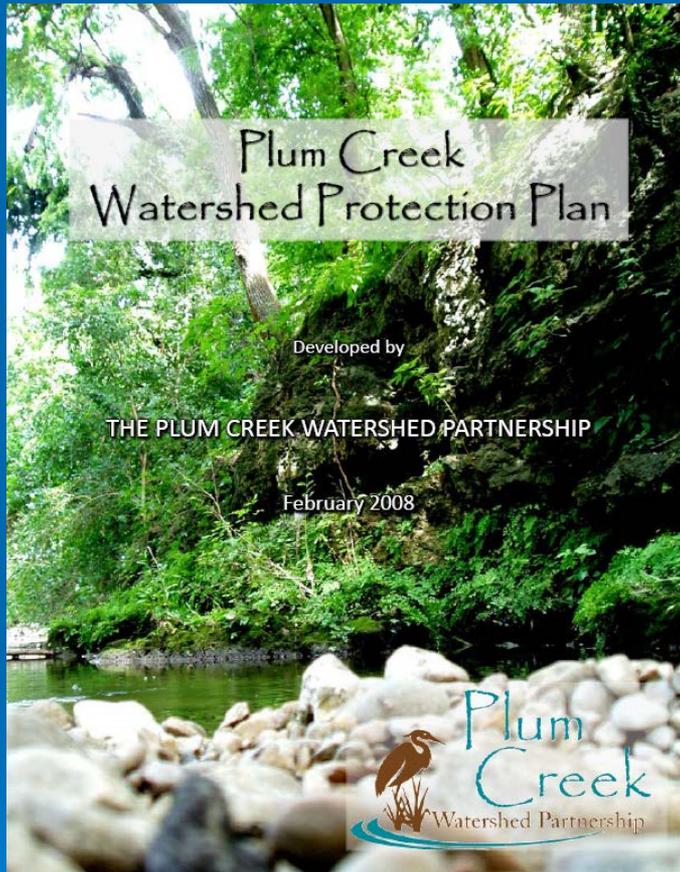
- 397 square mile drainage
- Major tributary to the San Marcos River
- Plum Creek was placed on the State of Texas 2004 303(d) List of Impaired Waters for exceeding the water quality standard for bacteria (*E. coli*) and still does not support its designated use for contact recreation, (126 org./100 ml for contact recreation)
- Plum Creek is also listed on the 2010 Texas Integrated Report for concerns that include depressed dissolved oxygen and elevated nutrient concerns for nitrates, orthophosphorus and total phosphorous.



Plum Creek Watershed Protection Plan

- Watershed Protection Plans are **Voluntary** and have no regulatory authority
- A local Steering Committee of members throughout the watershed representing all types of stakeholders has directed the process
- The goals of the plan are to reduce pollution and improve water quality
- Plan includes strategies for each of the potential sources in the watershed
- An Interlocal Agreement signed by 12 Project Partners in 2011 provided matching funds for a CWA §319(h) grant to support a **local watershed coordinator**
- Start date was March 1, 2012

A Living Document



2012 Update to Plum Creek Watershed Protection Plan

DEVELOPED BY
THE PLUM CREEK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

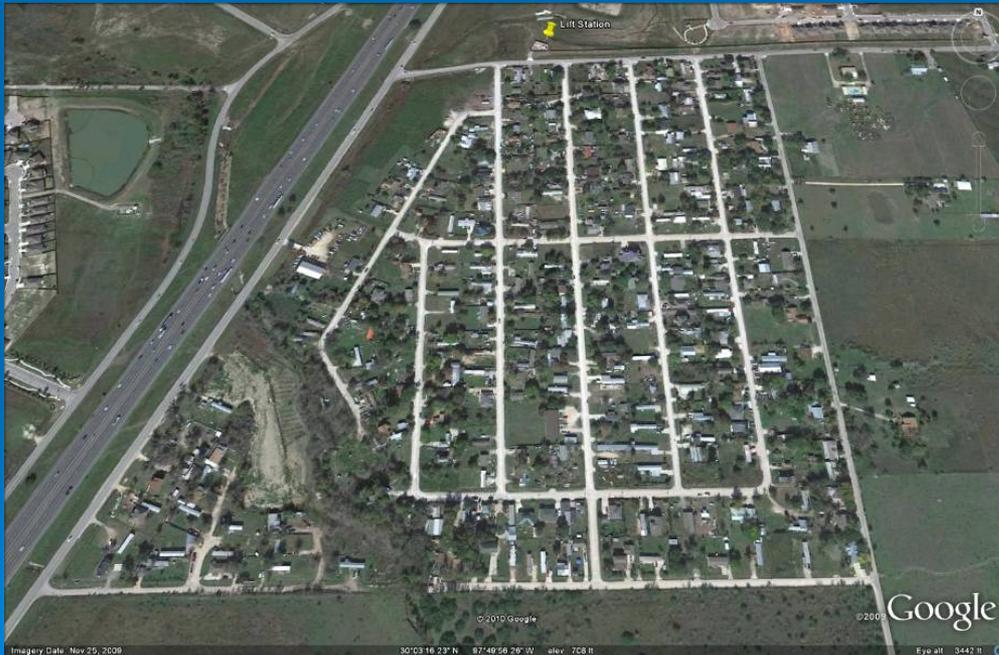
May 2012



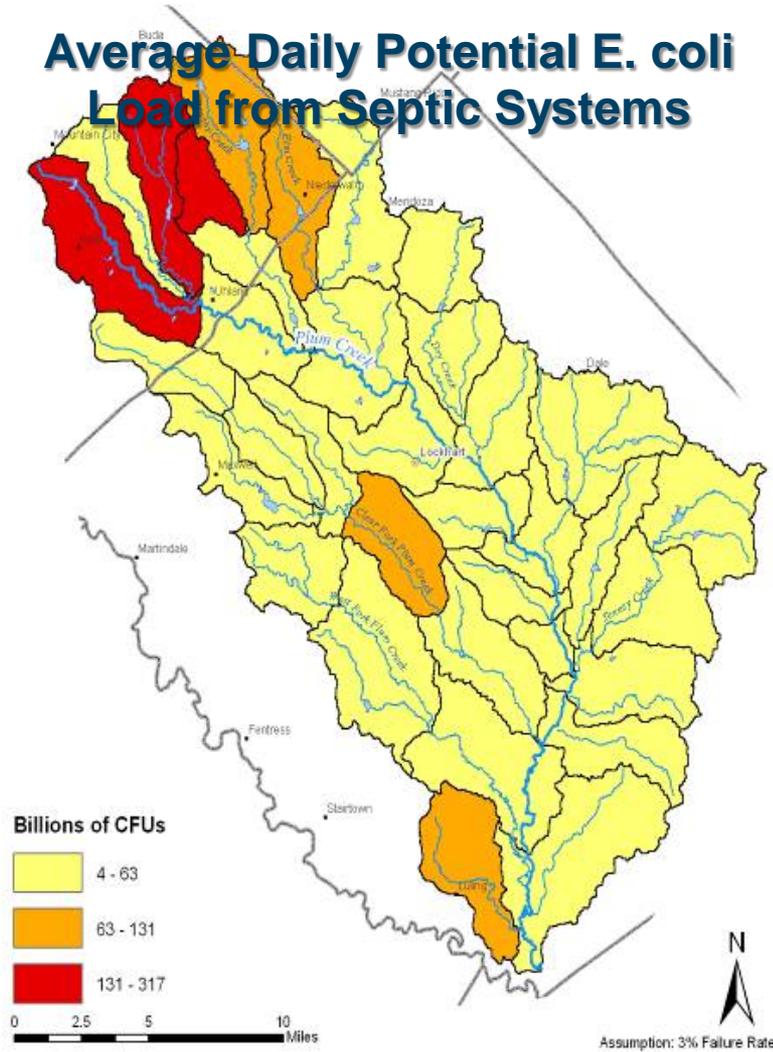
www.plumcreek.tamu.edu



Hillside Terrace Wastewater Project Area



Average Daily Potential E. coli Load from Septic Systems

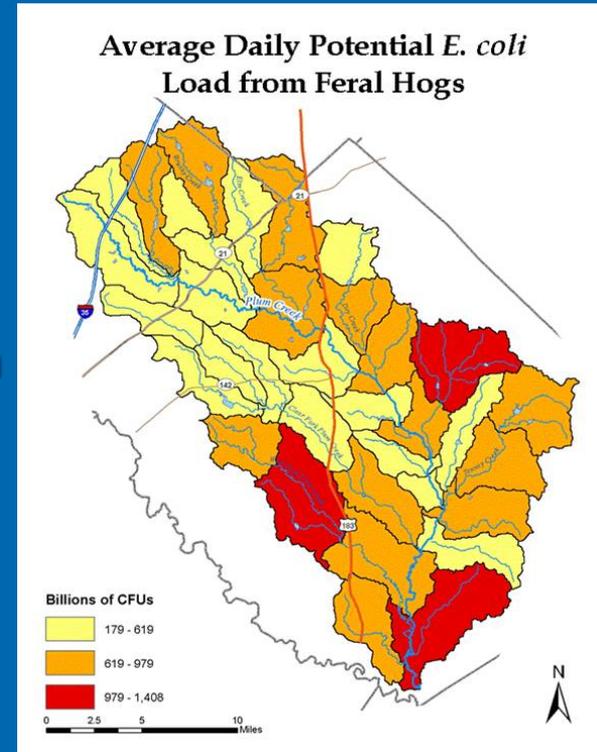


Hillside Terrace Project

- Over 265 homes in the subdivision are on onsite wastewater systems
- Majority of lots are small, wastewater issues are reported often to the County
- The total project for infrastructure to connect these homes is estimated to cost \$5.6 Million (Planning and Design - \$400K)
- Funding through Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program – low-interest loans and principal forgiveness
- 2012 was the third year for consideration of the Hillside Terrace Project
- Project qualified for 70% loan forgiveness toward P&D due to disadvantaged community status.
- October 30, 2012 – Interlocal agreement approved by Hays County Commissioner's Court to split costs with City of Buda for unfunded principal portion of P&D.
- November 1, 2012 – Application submitted to TWDB.
- TWDB meeting to approve financing and loan forgiveness for \$400,000 P&D set for April 16th

Texas Department of Agriculture ~ Hog Out County Grants Program

- Hays and Caldwell County programs facilitated by Plum Creek Watershed Partnership
- Program conducted October 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012
- Award Information for FY2013
 - Highest scoring county awarded \$20,000
 - 2nd highest awarded \$15,000 and 3rd highest \$10,000
 - Other counties awarded based feral hog harvest count
- \$2 per tail bounty instituted (receipt from Certified Holding Facility also accepted)
- Over \$1,000 in prizes donated
- Cabela's Grand Prize for top individuals
- All donations tax deductible through the San Marcos River Foundation



Hog Out County Grants Program - PCWPP Publicity and Support



Tiger Tote

Luling Feed and Supply



Caldwell County Farm and Ranch



C&J's Auto Supply



Triple "S" Feeds



Salt Flat Feed and Mercantile

Hog Out County Grants Program – Results

- Hays County results:
 - 110 feral hogs harvested
 - 57 individuals educated (3 workshops)
- Caldwell County results:
 - 1,025 feral hogs harvested
 - 68 individuals educated (2 workshops)
- \$5,000 TDA grant awarded to Caldwell County!
 - Promotion and Advertising
 - Feral hog survey
 - Floating wireless trapping system for county
- March 1, 2013 – Prizes from drawing awarded to winners during the Caldwell County Youth Livestock Show



Hays and Caldwell County ~ Feral Hog Task Force

- December 21, 2012 – Watershed Coordinator met with Lt. Governor's Office to discuss potential funding for feral hog project in Caldwell County
- January 8, 2013 – First meeting of the Task Force facilitated by Plum Creek Watershed Coordinator
- Watershed Coordinator was approached by TDA staff to propose a feral hog pilot project
- Discussion on joint effort with Hays County
- February 18, 2013 – Watershed Coordinator met with State Representatives to discuss funding for local feral hog program
- Developed FY2014 and FY2015 feral hog action plan for Hays and Caldwell County
- February 26, 2013 – Task Force meeting approved Action Plan
- March 6, 2013 – Meeting with TDA staff
- The future of feral hog management!

Caldwell County Community Collection Events

- \$18,349 in CAPCOG funding for four FY2012-2013 CCEs
 - October 20, 2012 – Maxwell, TX (Pct. #3)
 - December 10, 2012 – Addition funding (\$3,000) for tire collection approved by Caldwell County Commissioner's
 - January 12, 2013 – Luling, TX (Pct. #2)
 - April 6, 2013 – Dale, TX (Pct. #4)
 - June 1, 2013 – Lockhart, TX (Pct. #1)

Established tire recycling program for Caldwell County!



Caldwell County Community Collection Events 2012 - 2013 Maxwell, TX and Luling, TX



Keep Lockhart Beautiful-
Plum Creek/Town Branch/Lockhart Springs
5th Annual Cleanup and Environmental Fair

- Event took place on September 22, 2012
- Watershed Coordinator Served as Co-Director with GBRA
- Results
 - Over 300 volunteers (287 officially in 2012; 311 volunteers in 2011)
 - 2,130 lbs of trash (590 lbs in 2011)
 - 310.5 lbs of recyclables (680 lbs in 2011)
 - 4.5 stream miles
- Environmental Fair 2012
 - Over 100 participants
 - Environmental Fair Passport
 - Prizes donated from local families and businesses
- Total fundraising = \$2,210 (tripled since 2011)





Sat. September 22, 2012 @ 9:00 am

KEEP LOCKHART BEAUTIFUL

Plum Creek/Town Branch/Lockhart Springs

5th ANNUAL CLEANUP

Free T-Shirts (while supplies last),
Food, Environmental Fair & Prizes

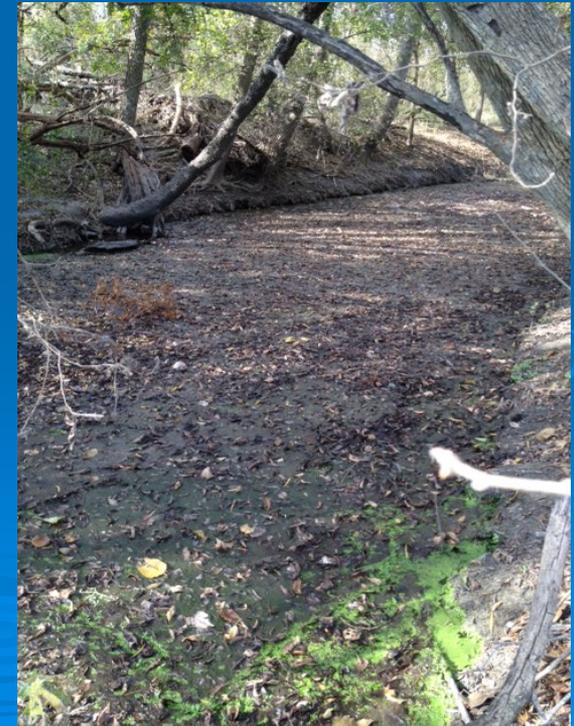
Registration:
9:00 am City Park Pavilion

Liz Sedlacek, Goat Bayou River Authority
512-378-5422, sedlacek@gbra.org
Nick Domak, Plum Creek Watershed Partnership
512-213-7389, ndomak@plumcreekwatershed.org
Sonja Villalobos
512-213-5810, marvillalobos@rocketmail.com

Event Sponsors: Guadalupe Blanco River Authority, Texas AgriLife Extension, Plum Creek Watershed Partnership

2012 Kyle WWTP Spills

- Kyle WWTP operated by Aqua Texas
- Plant malfunction resulted in spills into Plum Creek on November 20 and December 3, 2012
- Total volume of spills unknown
- Black sludge first noted at Heidenreich Lane during routine sampling by GBRA on 11/15
- Plum Creek Development wet well filling with unusual number of solids in November
- Watershed coordinator conducted approximately 10 post-spill site visits with representatives from TCEQ, Aqua Texas and TPWD
- TCEQ requested dewatering and additional clean up by Aqua Texas. This began in early March.
- ***Potential SEP for watershed!***



Next Steps



2013 Remaining Workshops and Events

- April 20, 2013 – Bastrop-Caldwell WMA Wildlife Extravaganza
- May 9, 2013 – TX Well Owner Network Workshop
- May 16, 2013 – Luling Foundation Field Day
- May 2013 – Navarro Elementary H2O for You, Water Fair
- June 15, 2013 – Chisholm Trail Round Up and Natural Resources Fair
- June 2013 – TWRI Riparian Workshop
- September 2013 – 6th Annual Keep Lockhart Beautiful, Plum Creek Clean Up
- October 2013 – Hog Out Month activities and workshops
- Fall 2013 – NEMO Workshop
- Fall 2013 – Soils testing campaigns

2013 Major Watershed Projects

- CWA §319(h) grant to continue funding the District SWCD Technician and WQMPs to support Plum Creek
 - \$607,080 Federal Funds (proposed)
- CWA §319(h) grant for Plum Creek Isotope Study
 - \$216,113 total project cost
- Hillside Terrace Project – \$400,000 Planning and Design
- Community Collection Events – \$21,349 in CAPCOG and Caldwell County Funds
- FY2014 and FY2015 Hays-Caldwell Feral Hog Action Plan
 - \$5,000 TDA Hog Out County Grant
- SEP for the Plum Creek Watershed (Kyle WWTP spill)
- 6th Annual Keep Lockhart Beautiful, Plum Creek Clean Up
- Large watershed cleanup proposal to TPWD
- Plum Creek Stream and Wetland Mitigation Area Management Plan

The Plum Creek Riparian Cooperative

- Develop riparian landowner network for the Plum Creek watershed, the Plum Creek Riparian Cooperative (PCRC)
 - Enhance stakeholder knowledge of riparian ecosystems
 - Encourage participation in BMPs identified in the Plum Creek WPP
 - Develop 30+ WQMPs on riparian lands over next 3 years
- Guided by the PCRC Leadership Committee
 - Facilitated by the Plum Creek Watershed Coordinator
 - Semi-annual meetings
- “On Ranch” and “Living Room” workshops based on Nueces River Authority model
 - 15 to 20 workshops over 3 years
 - Reach 300+ riparian landowners
- Deliver online content using the existing PCWP website
- Evaluation component

PCWP Steering Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 2, 2013

6:30 to 8:00 pm

Lockhart State Park, Lockhart

Guided hike to begin at 5:30!



Thanks!

Nick Dornak,
Plum Creek Watershed Coordinator

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