

LAKE CREEK GREENWAY

NEWS

May, 2016



GREENPRINT PROJECT COMPLETE

The Trust for Public Lands presented their final maps for the Greenprint Study they were conducting on the area watershed. The study focused on areas considered high value to protect for water quality and/or recreation. The full report will be available online soon. For additional information on the Greenprint concept and the study objectives visit <http://lakecreektx.org/greenway-project-information/>

AREA WATERSHED PROTECTION PLANNING BEGINS

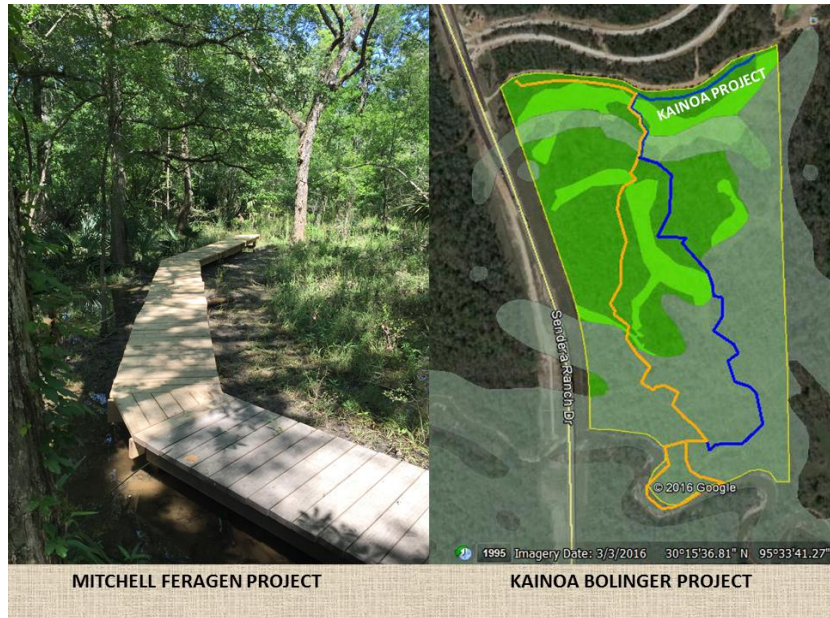
The organizational meeting for the West Fork San Jacinto Watershed Protection Plan was held at the San Jacinto River Authority Offices on May 5. The study will encompass the Lake Creek and West Fork of the San Jacinto Watersheds. The plan is scheduled to take 2 years to develop and will involve working with area residents and property owners to determine critical issues related to water quality and to develop volunteer approaches to reducing our impact on the surface water.

The Lake Creek is one of the few creeks in our area (San Jacinto River watershed) that still meets water quality standards for both aquatic life and human contact recreation. However, it is also in one of the fastest developing areas of the state. This has implications for increased runoff, water pollution and loss of accessible recreational opportunities. The watershed protection plan is designed enlist the support of area property owners, businesses including developers to implement conservation practices to minimize the impact of development on water quality and water based recreation. These practices will most likely have the added benefit of reducing downstream flooding.

LAKE CREEK PRESERVE/GREENWAY

Progress on Trails

22nd and 23rd Eagle projects have completed the last section of boardwalk on the Orange trail and cut new trail from the current trail head to the NE corner of the preserve to join with the adjacent future Woodforest park. Mitchell Feragen has completed the last 48' of boardwalk on the Orange trail to protect the preserve wetlands and make for a more pleasant walk in the woods during wet weather.



Kainoa Bolinder led the project developing a connecting trail to the NE corner of the preserve. Two additional projects are in planning that will add to the nature guide and begin work on the Blue Trail boardwalks.

Access Road and Parking

Work on improvements to the access road and parking area for the preserve has been delayed due to construction problems with the widening of Fish Creek Thoroughfare (FCT). Improvement to the access road will focus on better drainages and improved wet weather surface for access and parking.

Looking for Sponsors for Signs, Scout Projects and Community Programs

Those who have walked the trails have seen the first section of numbered posts placed to identify the trees along the trail. The guide associated with the posts can be obtained from our web site at <http://lakecreektx.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/LCP-TRAIL-GUIDE-SEC-A.pdf>. In addition to the posts we are planning to add signage similar to the one below that describe key features of the preserve encountered along the trail.



We expect to eventually place about a dozen signs along the trail and are looking for sponsors for one or more signs. They are estimated to cost around \$100/sign and your name would appear at the bottom of the sign/s that you sponsor.

Other sponsorship items/donation opportunities: Supporter, community program expenses etc. Visit <http://lakecreektx.org/membership/> or <http://lakecreektx.org/nature-trail/> for more information on how to contribute.

Next Trail Maintenance Day Planned for May 21

Keeping the trail in shape for use by residents is done entirely by volunteers. The preserve is beginning to dry out from the recent floods and the grass and weeds are beginning to grow. In addition there are several areas where logs and debris have floated in to cover parts of the trail. The next work day can be looked at as a spring cleaning, but we need community support. If you can spare a morning on the 21st contact Bob Wise at:

bob.wise@intertek.com.

Committee Members/Volunteers Needed

We are currently a completely volunteer run organization so our success depends on financial and volunteer support of the community. Join us in making the Preserve, Canoe trails a community asset. We need help on the trails committees, mapping, in researching property ownership making presentations etc. If you have an interest in helping in any way please contact Glenn Buckley at glenn@lakecreektx.org.

COMMUNITY EVENTS BEING PLANNED

Fishing Day

Currently in discussions with the Woodforest Lifestyle Director regarding cooperating on a Fishing/Freshwater Ecology Day in the Fall. Date TBD.

Preserve Tours

Dates to be announced pending completion of access road and parking area improvements.