# LAKE CREEK GREENWAY NEWS

**June 2016** 



### AREA WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN

The Houston-Galveston Council has sent out a call for nominations for citizen's interested in serving on a steering committee to guide development of a Watershed Protection Plan for the Lake Creek and West Fork of the San Jacinto Watersheds. If you have an interest in serving on the steering committee contact Justin Bower at Justin.Bower@h-gac.com.

# LAKE CREEK PRESERVE/GREENWAY

# **Flood Damage**

The spring floods left logs and considerable debris on the trails as well as dislodging two 8' sections of the new trail that weren't properly attached to the anchors. We expect to have both the boardwalk and trails restored in time for the 4th of July Holiday.

# **Progress on Trails**

The 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Eagle projects were completed this month. Grayson Roach completed the first 48' section of new boardwalk on a section of the Blue Trail that is consistently wet or muddy. This is a significant improvement to the hiking experience for that section of trail. Yesaiah Ouzounian completed a restoration/improvement project on the entire trail to remove debris from the flooding, widen two sections and trim excessive growth on and adjacent to the trail.



# **Access Road and Parking Area**

We expect that the access road from Fish Creek Thoroughfare to eventually e graveled or paved, but are on hold until improvements to Fish Creek Thoroughfare are complete.

### **Support The Program**

We have received sponsorships from two residents and the Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District to cover 6 trail signs similar to the example below.

# CUTOFF MEANDERS You are looking at an abandond channel of Lake Creek. The low gradient in this area had allowed the stream to meander cutting a floodplain over a mile wide in places. Often the bend in the stream will become so severe that the stream finds a shorter route isolating the old channel, These show up as arcuate wetlands on the aerial photos and topographic maps. These old meanders retain much of the riparian habitat and during wet periods provide aquatic habitat and water sources for area wildlife. They also assist in water storage mitigating flooding and giving water time to seep into the soil. Sponsored by:

We expect to eventually place about a dozen signs along the trail and are looking for additional sponsors for one or more signs. They have been running \$60-90 including backing, posts and mounting hardware. The sponsors name will appear at the bottom of the sign/s.

We need help with other sponsorship items/and operating expenses. To help support our programs visit: <a href="http://lakecreektx.org/membership/">http://lakecreektx.org/membership/</a>

To support an Eagle project visit: http://lakecreektx.org/nature-trail/

### **Trail Maintenance**

We recently received word that we are eligible for support from those adults and juveniles requiring community service through the court system. We are working with the county to determine whether this program can help with our trail maintenance needs freeing the trails committees to focus on planning, management and design issues.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS 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 Greenway, Preserve and Canoe trails a community asset. We need help on the trails committees, mapping, in researching property ownership, coordinating events, making presentations etc. If you have an interest in helping in any way please visit: <a href="http://lakecreektx.org/contact-us/">http://lakecreektx.org/contact-us/</a>

### **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.

# **Educational Programs**

One of our objectives is to improve community understanding of the impact of bottomland forests on water supply, flooding and recreation as well as help distribute expert advice on land management techniques that can help maintain water quality and wildlife and reduce flooding. In that regard we would like to hear from residents as to areas they would like to know more about. Contact us at: <a href="http://lakecreektx.org/contact-us/">http://lakecreektx.org/contact-us/</a>

### **Preserve Tours**

The Board had tentatively set October 22 as a date for an open house for the preserve which will include announced pending completion of access road and parking area improvements.