

Mill Creek Watershed Stakeholder Meeting

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

MILL CREEK
WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

Summary

Restore & Protect Local Water Quality



Reaching Every Texan in the Mill Creek Watershed

In this time of growth and land fragmentation, the communities in the Mill Creek Watershed can benefit from the education, outreach, and assistance provided by the Mill Creek Watershed Partnership.



Education

New landowners can learn about septic system maintenance, well ownership, riparian stewardship, livestock management, and more.



Outreach

Our partnership is perfectly positioned to reach the community with the message of water stewardship.



Assistance

Implementing new practices is hard - our partnership works to help people identify and secure technical and financial assistance.

Taking Action on Stakeholder Input

On April 25, the Mill Creek Partnership hosted 22 stakeholders for dinner and discussion. Both Austin and Washington Counties were represented, with attendees from Bellville, Brenham, New Ulm, Burton, and surrounding communities. Together with representatives from AgriLife Extension and the Texas Soil and Water Conservation Board, the following issues were discussed.

Advertising Needs

- Challenge - Reach the new landowner audience
- Plan - Create an information checklist or packet to be distributed to new landowners by county permitting offices, contractors, developers, homeowner's associations, and realtors.

Erosion and Flooding

- Challenge - Concerns about several areas of erosion and flooding
- Plan - Schedule a riparian workshop targeting landowners along Mill Creek. Consider hosting a roundtable for city leaders and developers to discuss stormwater management.

Implementation of Water Quality Management Plans

- Challenge - Landowners need a contact for creating and implementing WQPMs
- Plan - Compile and share information for WQPMs with landowners. Direct interested landowners to Brian Koch with the TSSWCB regional office in Wharton at 979-532-9496

2024

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Other Priorities

Restore & Protect Local Water Quality



Outreach and Education

- Streamline website design to guide people to the information they need
- Continue providing programs on well ownership, septic maintenance, and livestock management
- Consider partnering with local schools to reach the next generation of water stewards

Implementation

- Feral hog control and disposal needs to be prioritized
- Grant funds for tire removal and disposal should be identified and pursued
- A bacterial source tracking project would be instrumental in advancing implementation



Managing Finances and Securing Funds

- A solution is needed for the Partnership to accept and hold funds for events
- Potential long-term business partners and event sponsors should be identified
- Grant funding for a bacterial source tracking project should be pursued

Respond to This Report!

Do you have feedback?

Perhaps you attended the meeting and think a topic was left out. Maybe you weren't able to attend. Or, you don't know much about the Mill Creek Watershed Partnership and want to learn more. **Contact the watershed coordinator today!**

Annalee Epps

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