

Clean Water Act Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program Project

***Lampasas Watershed Protection Plan Project***

**Yearly Summary Report Number 1**

[A paragraph or two concerning major activities in the last year]

prepared by

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The Lampasas River rises in western Hamilton County 16 miles west of Hamilton and flows southeast through a rural agricultural landscape in Lampasas, Burnet, and Bell counties. Above Stillhouse Hollow Lake the river is listed as impaired due to elevated bacteria levels. Monitoring also indicates a dissolved oxygen concern on North Fork Rocky Creek. Texas AgriLife Research at Blackland Research and Extension Center (BREC) along with collaborators from Texas A&M University's Spatial Sciences Lab and Texas AgriLife Extension Service are addressing the river's water quality issues through a watershed planning approach.

The Lampasas Watershed Protection Plan Project kicked off its inaugural year in mid 2008. During this time, the project team primarily focused on two themes: project administration/organization, and stakeholder outreach. The administrative/ organizational component focused on the project team. The project team was created and organized, and roles and responsibilities were developed. Project team members performed thorough literature reviews about the issues that may face the Lampasas River watershed to ensure that the most up to date information will be utilized. The project team also created an approved Quality Assurance Project Plan. To aid plan development, the project team also attended other WPP projects' stakeholder meetings.

The second key component for 2008 focused on developing and initiating a stakeholder outreach strategy... Outreach materials such as brochures, presentations, and a website were developed to raise awareness of the LWPPP within the watershed community. Outreach included activities geared towards gathering information and knowledge from two distinct stakeholder groups: 1) those within the watershed that will be impacted by the WPP and/or have knowledge of community issues and people, and 2) those with technical expertise within watershed specific issues, mainly government agency or university staff. Activities also involved identifying and recruiting key people from within the watershed community that are willing to assume leadership roles in developing a stakeholder-driven watershed protection plan. Texas AgriLife Extension is planning a Texas Watershed Stewards Training in

Lampasas in an effort to increase public awareness of watershed issues. Attendance at the TWS training is expected to be approximately 60 people from the Lampasas Watershed and surrounding areas. Through these activities, we are creating informed stakeholders with the knowledge and capacity informed participants in the LWPPP process.



**Figure 1** The Texas Watersheds Stewards Training was held at the Lampasas County Farm Bureau Building in Lampasas, Texas on September 24th, 2008. Fifty-nine people from the watershed and surrounding communities attended the one day training.