

Participant Pre-workshop Input

What's one topic/issue you would like to see covered in the Riparian Workshop?

Tree Care

- How to keep new planted saplings by tree folks alive.
- Survival a volunteer trees and Treefolks trees

Hydrology

- Best practices for recharging groundwater

Ecosystem Services, Riparian Plants

- Examples of land and waterway improvement after riparian management is implemented.
- I am particularly interested in converting the Golf Course Pond in Woodcreek from present status to excellent habitat / Birding Center for native and migratory species.
- How riparian plants differ from upland species in root structure
- How to establish a riparian area in a new pond
- Best Riparian plant species
- The "transition area" between the water and land. What components/elements make contribute to ensuring this area of the riparian is healthy and functioning well.
- Creating Artificial Wetlands for Water Quality
- Restoration of degraded riparian zones
- Anything related to Riparian area management
- Understanding OBL and FAC (OBL (Obligate Wetland Plants)—Almost always occur in wetlands. FAC (Facultative Wetland Plants)—Occur in wetlands and non-wetlands.

Invasive Species Management

- Best practice for invasive species management
- Invasive species

Recreation Access

- balancing appropriate recreation access
- How Master Naturalist might help in the development of this new park.
- How can the community best help and care for this wonderful public space?
- How this preserve is going to provide education to our citizens.

Resources

- an organizational chart of all the groups working to on riparian issues (local, state, federal) and how their goals fit together or overlap, if at all.

In your view, what is the most challenging aspect of maintaining healthy riparian areas?

Weather/Climate/Hydrology

- Restoration from 2015 flood
- Lack of rainfall
- preventing erosion
- Climate change and the present drought conditions.
- Managing or preparing for another big flood like in 2015.
- Stability of the slopes
- This region's violent, repeated flash flooding wiping out vegetation, and the struggle to then restore it under pressure from future flash floods, climate, and too-many-deer browsing the young plants.

Vegetation

- Learning what vegetation is helpful and what is non-native/harmful.
- removing nonnative or invasive plants
- Invasive species
- invasive species

Human

- Balancing with usage and accessibility along with visually appealing to patrons
- balancing appropriate recreation access
- Citizen interest, motivation and action
- Lack of knowledge
- The urge of many to mow because of fear of snakes
- the effects of humans
- Managing human impacts, such as removal of native vegetation, trampling of plants and compaction of soil, etc.
- Pollution in a rapidly growing area
- Educating the public - these areas should not be "Urban groomed". for example.
- Water quality
- Lack of understanding/familiarity with private landowners and private investors.
- Getting people to care
- keeping humans respectful and cognizant of how critical riparian areas are to other species
- Educating private landowners throughout the state about the importance of healthy riparian areas to ALL Texans, and overcoming the green lawn mindset that results in the clearing of natural riparian vegetation in order to install turf grass for waterfront residences and other buildings.
- Land owner maintenance