

News from the Coastal Bend Bays Foundation



NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

ANNOUNCING A MEETING OF THE Cole and Ropes Parks (CARP) Bacteria Reduction Implementation Plan Coordination Committee

**Friday, July 18, 2014, 12 noon
Del Mar College Center for Economic Development
3209 S. Staples Street
Corpus Christi, Texas**

You are invited to attend this meeting, which is open to the public. Please be aware there is reserved seating for CARP members.

For more comprehensive information about the Corpus Christi Bay Beaches TMDL, including an Interim Monitoring Report, and a Historical Data Review and Site Assessment, please visit:

<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/tmdl/97-corporisbeachesbacteria.html>

You may also go to the Coastal Bend Bays Foundation web site <http://www.baysfoundation.org/projects/tmdl-cc-beaches/>. If you have any questions about this meeting or the project, please email Teresa

Carrillo (tcarrillo@baysfoundation.org) or call 361-882-3439.

Background and Goals of Project

The goal of the project is to reduce bacteria levels in order to protect people who swim and recreate at the beaches. Swimming and other types of water recreation are referred to as "contact recreation" in the state's standards for water quality.

Several public beach parks along Corpus Christi Bay are monitored as part of the Texas Beach Watch Program. Data assessed from this program indicated bacteria concentrations were higher than the criteria for protecting contact recreation at Cole Park and Ropes Park beaches. When bacteria counts are greater than the criteria, Texas Beach Watch recommends that people be advised not swim in the area. High concentrations of bacteria may indicate a health risk to people who swim or wade in a water body.

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C § 1313(d)(1)(C), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) implementing regulation, 40 CFR § 130.7(c)(1), require the establishment of the Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for waters identified by states as not meeting water quality standards under authority of § 303(d)(1)(A) of the CWA. TMDLs are established at a level necessary to implement applicable water quality standards with seasonal variations and a margin of safety, accounting for lack of knowledge concerning the relationship between pollutant loading and water quality.

-CBBF Staff

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