

Sabine-Neches Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc.

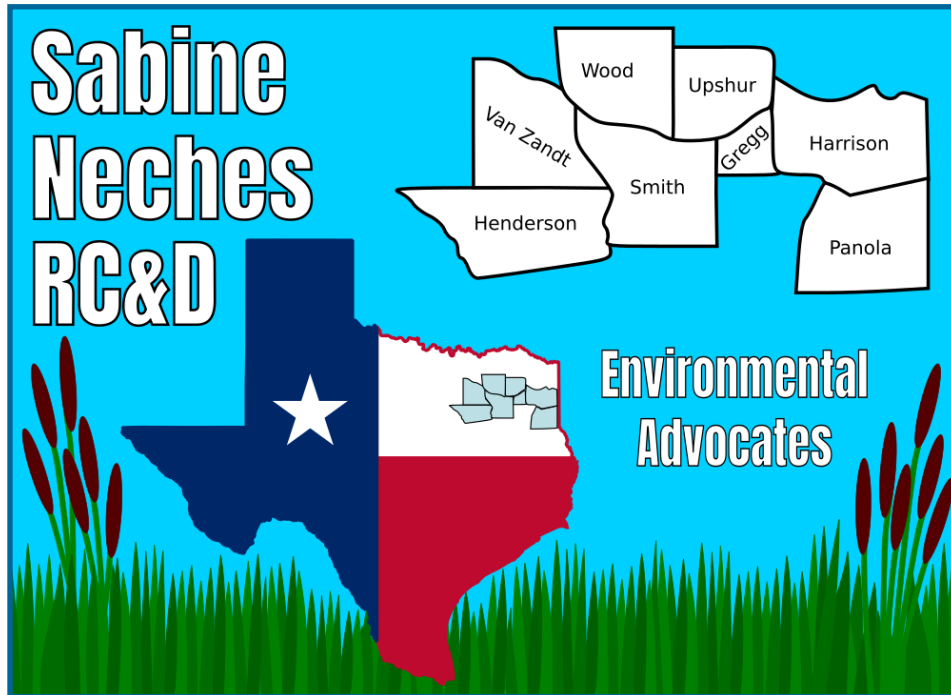
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sabine-nechesrcd.org



**Serving Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Panola, Smith,
Upshur, Van Zandt and Wood Counties**

All programs and services of the Sabine-Neches Resource Conservation and Development Council are open to all persons without regard to any discriminatory factor.

Sabine-Neches

*Resource Conservation
and Development Area, Inc.*



2022 Annual Report

RC&D

Program

The purpose of the RC&D program is to accelerate the conservation, development and utilization of natural resources, improve the general level of economic activity, and to enhance the environment and standard of living in designated RC&D areas. Current program objectives focus on improvement of quality of life achieved through natural resources conservation and community development, which leads to sustainable communities, prudent use (development), and the management, and conservation of natural resources.



Council

Board Members

Chuck Holt, Chairman
Cary Hilliard, Vice Chairman
Darryl Primo, Secretary
Thomas Frazier, Treasurer
William Hatfield
Shane Renberg
James Reynolds
Ken Conaway
Al Harris

County

Wood
Van Zandt
Gregg
Henderson
Harrison
Henderson
Smith
Upshur
Wood

Staff

Joan Meeks, Program Manager

Treva Buck, Program Assistant

Value of Land Training Seminar

Hosted by Sabine-Neches RC&D



Sabine-Neches RC&D Board of Directors



**Mineola Nature Preserve
Riverfront Project
To Protect Native Trees**



Sponsors

Harrison County SWCD

Smith County SWCD

Upshur-Gregg County SWCD

Wood County SWCD

Gregg County

Harrison County

Henderson County

Smith County

Van Zandt County

Wood County

City of Carthage

City of Longview

City of Mineola

City of Tyler

Carthage Improvement Corporation

Upper Sabine Valley Solid Waste Management

Ozarka® Brand 100% Natural Spring Water

Sabine River Authority

Thank you very much for your support!

Letter from the Chairman

Letter from the Chairman— February 1, 2023

I extend our sincere appreciation for your continued support for the important environment and conservation mission done by your Sabine-Neches RC&D Council . Our board members represent all eight counties which compose the Sabine-Neches area. We recently extended a \$25,000 grant for the City of Longview and Gregg County to help fund a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day which was highly successful. Work continues on our task of cleaning the Sabine River front in the Mineola Nature Preserve with the use of \$500,000 grants funds received for this project. Other recent projects include funding clean and efficient buses for school districts, cleanup of abandoned tire sites, and replacement of failing septic systems across the region.

In October, we sponsored a Value of Land Seminar in Canton, Texas for landowners across our Region. The program featured attorneys and land experts who provided citizens information about topics such as: Estate Planning, Landowner Liability, Water Use Planning, Water Rights, Oil and Gas Leasing and Fence Law. It was a very successful event with every seat filled. We plan to hold other similar events in our region in the future.

We have limited state funds for other worthwhile projects like disposing of abandoned tires, household hazardous waste collection, illegal trash dump cleanup and septic system replacement. If you have these types of environmental problems, then please contact me or your county RC&D representative and we will look for solutions.

Respectfully,



Chuck Holt, Chairman

Sabine-Neches RC&D

SEP Projects



The SEP projects in Sabine-Neches RC&D area include: illegal trash dump cleanup, replacing failing sewer systems for low-income home owners, household hazardous waste collection days, helping purchase new school buses, and abandoned tire cleanup.



SEP Projects



The Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEP) program allows organizations fined by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to direct the money to a local project with direct environmental benefits. In the past, this program has funded about \$2 million a year through RC&Ds across the state.



What is Sabine-Neches Resource Conservation and Development?

The RC&D Council is a voluntary, local, nonprofit entity that represents the eight counties in our area: Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Panola, Smith, Upshur, Wood and Van Zandt. The purpose of the RC&D council is to advise, plan, implement and develop programs: to ensure the wise use of funds that are intended to protect the environment, improve community infrastructure, enhance rural economies and to improve local communities' environmental planning and projects.

Sources of funds for our Council's projects come from: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), environmental enforcement fines, the participation of county and city governments, local Soil & Water Conservation Districts and sponsors. Because the legislature approved up to 10% of SEP funds for administrative reimbursement, we now have two paid part-time staff members who oversee SEP projects for both Sabine-Neches and Pineywoods RC&D areas. This is a welcome improvement and sponsorship funds from the eight counties, SWCD's and several cities provide the funds for non SEP related expenses.

Sponsorship and financial assistance is vital to fund these operational expenses and will enable the Sabine-Neches Council to continue our important work throughout our area.

Vision Statement

Our most important resource is our people, who have a desire to better themselves and in the spirit of working together, strive to make our area a better place to live.

Mission Statement

Our council will utilize the diversity of our volunteers to tap the resources of federal, state, and local governments and the private sector to achieve our goals.



District Conservationists

John Stone (Acting).....	Upshur
Jared Clements	Harrison
Don Skiles	Athens
Justin Park (Acting).....	Panola
John Stone	Wood
Justin Singleton	Van Zandt
C.J. Brinlee	Smith



Projects Completed and Ongoing

<u>County</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Wood	Abandoned Tire Cleanup	\$ 6,000.00
Henderson	Wastewater Treatment	\$ 7,360.00
Gregg	Extension of HHW (due to COVID-19)	\$ 25,000.00
Wood	Riverfront Work to Protect Native Trees	\$ 500,000.00

Potential Future Projects

Harrison	Abandoned Tire Cleanup	\$ 750,000.00
Henderson	Failed Septic System Repair	\$ 8,000.00
Van Zandt	Failed Septic System Repair	\$ 8,000.00

