

Nueces River Watershed Partnership

January 2019

To improve and protect the water quality of the Nueces River Watershed so that the river is restored and preserved for current and future generations

Lower Nueces River Watershed Protection Plan Implementation Update

On-Site Sewage Facility (OSSF) Repair and Replacement Assistance Program

The OSSF Repair and Replacement Assistance Program is funded through a Clean Water Act Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant administered by the Texas Commission on Environment Quality (TCEQ) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

As of December 31, 2018, 47 pump outs and inspections have been completed.

Inspection Results:

- 14 systems are in good working order.
- 21 systems need to be completely replaced, 14 of which have been completed.
- 12 systems need some form of repair, 11 of which have been completed.

The picture on the right is one of the replacements.



The program is scheduled to run through February 2020. However, most of the funds designated for the pump outs, inspections, repairs, and replacements have already been spent or allocated to pending repairs and replacements. There are currently four residents on a waiting list: three for replacements and one for a pump out and inspection. Additional funds in the current contract may be freed up if pending repairs and replacements do not cost as much as estimated.

Nueces River Authority (NRA) is working with TCEQ on a proposal to continue implementation of this program. If the 319h(h) Nonpoint Source Grant is approved for funding by the U.S. EPA, it will begin in September 2019. In anticipation of approval, the NRA will continue to accept applications so that the additional work can commence as soon as possible. Contact Rocky Freund at 361-635-2110 or rfreund@nueces-ra.org for more information or

Clean Rivers Program Quarterly Stakeholder Updates

NRA distributes quarterly stakeholder updates that includes information on all water quality activities and news in its three basin area of responsibility: the Nueces—San Antonio Coastal Basin, the Nueces River Basin, and the Nueces—Rio Grande Coastal Basin. The updates are available at <https://www.nueces-ra.org/CP/CRP/>. Contact Sam Sugarek at ssugarek@nueces-ra.org if you would like to be added to the email distribution list.

Nueces River Watershed Partnership Meeting—May 8, 2019

The next meeting of the Nueces River Watershed Partnership is tentatively scheduled for May 8, 2019 at the Hilltop Community Center, 11425 Leopard, Corpus Christi, 78410. Refreshments will be available at sign-in beginning at 5:30pm. The meeting will begin at 6pm. The agenda and a map of the meeting location will be posted on the website a few weeks prior to the meeting.

TEXAS STATE
Soil & Water
CONSERVATION BOARD

www.nuecesriverpartnership.org

Funding for this effort is provided through a State Nonpoint Source Grant administered by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board.



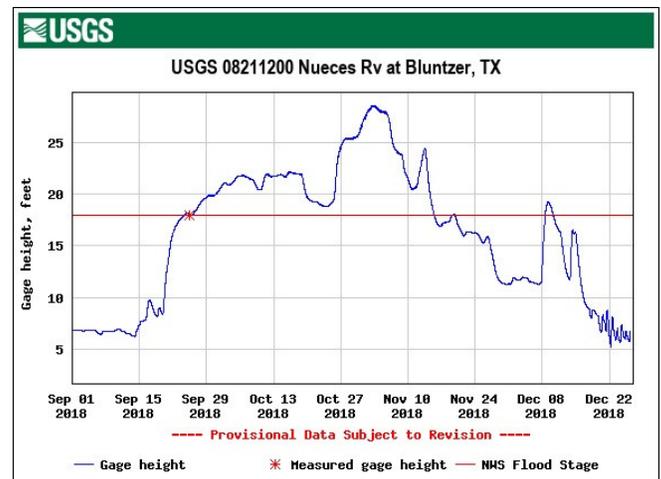
Lower Nueces River Watershed Protection Plan Implementation

2018 Flooding on the Nueces River

Flooding rains occurred in the upper reaches of the Nueces River in September and again in October. The peak flow on the Nueces River topped 100,000 ft³/s at the USGS stream gauge below Uvalde on October 9 and again on October 16. Due to the magnitude of the flows and with the ground being somewhat saturated from August rains, much of the water was able to make its way downstream to Lake Corpus Christi. The picture to the right was taken on the Nueces River at the 19-mile Crossing in Uvalde County on October 8. The flow at this time is approximately 15,000 ft³/s.



In anticipation of the incoming water, and to prevent structural damage to the dam, the City of Corpus Christi began releasing water from the lake on September 16. Flooding downstream of the lake is inevitable when the lake cannot hold all of the incoming water and the reservoir operators have to release the excessive amounts of water. As seen on the graph to the right, the river at Bluntzer went into flood stage on September 24 and remained above flood stage until November 15. Lake Corpus Christi filled on September 28 and remained full until October 12, when the City again began releasing water to make room for the next flood wave. The lake filled again on October 29, and has remained full as of this writing.



The stakeholder meeting originally scheduled for November 7 was cancelled as many of the members who live along the river had bigger issues to deal with. The photos below were posted on the Nueces River at Calallen Facebook page. The picture on the left was taken on October 30 and the picture on the bottom right was taken November 4.

