

BACKYARD, BAYOU AND BEYOND:

A Watershed Symposium

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National Experts on Flooding and Water Quality to Present in Houston

Remember Allison? For those affected by that infamous Tropical Storm, the name will not be soon forgotten. Learn how you can play a role in preventing future flooding and improving local water quality at ***Backyard, Bayou and Beyond***, a one-day symposium to take place on **Wednesday, April 7, 2004**, from **8am to 5pm** at the **University of St. Thomas**. The symposium will offer presentations and advice for the home, neighborhood and commercial district by local, state and national experts in their fields. This timely and informative event is being presented by the **Bayou Preservation Association**. Tickets are \$50 for adults, \$15 for students.

Houston floods. When it does, we often look to the City, the County, the State and the Federal Government to "do something." Yet, these government agencies can't do it alone. This symposium will offer dozens of ideas to help Houston-area residents and business owners to take action. The *Backyard, Bayou and Beyond* symposium will help raise awareness of the ways our actions impact our bayous and will provide attendees with various techniques and tools for preventing the further degradation of our waterways. Topics will include native plantings, pervious pavement, renewing urban streams, and incentives for best water practices.

This Symposium is just one way the Bayou Preservation Association furthers its mission of protecting and restoring Houston-area waterways through activism, collaboration and education. Since the 1960's, the BPA has been advocating for the more than 2,000 miles of bayous and streams that interlace our city. The BPA's goal is to foster a healthy system of waterways, which will provide habitat for flora and fauna, natural watersheds to prevent flooding and multiple recreational opportunities for walkers, canoeists and naturalists.

Other organizing sponsors for the Symposium include: Buffalo Bayou Partnership, Galveston Bay Estuary Program, Harris County Flood Control District, Houston-Galveston Area Council, Texas Cooperative Extension/Texas Sea Grant, The Trust for Public Land, and the University of St. Thomas.

To reserve a space for the *Backyard, Bayou and Beyond* Symposium, contact Mary Ellen Whitworth by phone at 713-529-6443 or e-mail bpa@hic.net.

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