

CLEAR CREEK PROJECT
SELECTIVE CLEARING WORK PLAN

General Information

The suggested reach covered by this work plan begins at the easterly end of Ranch Viejo Subdivision, which is the easterly boundary of the Galveston County Consolidated Drainage District and continues through out that District, the City of Friendswood, the City of Pearland, and Brazoria Drainage District #4 to the Fort Bend County line. The work plan is designed for a three-phase operation to be conducted from the water and the land beginning with dead and downed tree removal which are collecting debris and preventing the flow of storm water and the removal of live trees and pruning. The project will end with the removal of trees that are trapping debris and selective clearing of a defined section of the Creek. The trees shall be removed by cutting the trunk at the ground line and removing the upper portion. The dominant tree species located at or near the toe line, within this reach, are green ash, Chinese tallow, box elder and American elm. Some of the species that were observed to occur along the toe line include water oak, water hickory, and bald cypress. Most of the vegetation growing within some trees having falling into the main channel or have leaned at an angle of more than 45 degrees and in need of pruning. No mechanized land clearing or earth moving is proposed in this effort within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Creek.

Procedure

The work plan includes both water based and land based operations. Crews from the Galveston County Consolidated Drainage District will use a barge mounted forestry loader from Rancho Viejo Subdivision to FM 2351 to remove dead trees, snags caused by fallen trees and trees that have been uprooted at the toe of slope line. Upstream of FM 2351 to the Fort Bend County line, crews from both Galveston County Consolidated Drainage District and Brazoria Drainage District #4 will use chain saws and weed eaters to continue the operation. All debris will be removed from the side by either Galveston County Consolidated Drainage District or by Brazoria Drainage District #4. The project is divided into three phases.

Phase One, conducted by Galveston County Consolidated Drainage District will consist of removing dead trees, downed trees blocking the channel and pruning large tree limbs that overhang the water from Rancho Viejo Subdivision to FM 2351. Limbs will be pruned above the surface of the water and should include only those that may obstruct conveyance. Certain live trees will also be removed under specific conditions and shall include those growing horizontally from the toe line and blocking the natural flow of water and thickets that are growing on the high water bypasses will be selectively thinned by removing dead tree species such as Chinese tallow and underbrush. The concave portions of meanders may be pruned but no live vegetation will be removed in these areas. All debris will be removed from the site.

Phase Two, conducted by Brazoria Drainage District #4 from Dixie Farm Road to the Fort Bend County line will be conducted simultaneously with Phase One. This phase shall consist of the same requirements as Phase One but will be entirely land based. All debris will be removed from the site.