

TURKEY GULLY SURVEY UPDATE - NOVEMBER 2015

The Harris County Flood Control District is committed to keeping residents informed about flood damage reduction studies, projects, and maintenance efforts on bayous, creeks and ditches throughout Harris County. Following is an update on the Flood Control District's survey effort on Turkey Gully (formally referred to as Unit E106-00-00), a White Oak Bayou tributary that runs through the western part of the Greater Heights neighborhood.

Turkey Gully Analysis

Earlier this year, the Harris County Flood Control District conducted a field survey and preliminary analysis of the existing channel conditions of Turkey Gully (formally referred to as HCFCF Unit E106-00-00) from W. 27th Street near North Loop 610 to its confluence with White Oak Bayou near T.C. Jester and West 11th Street (highlighted in yellow on the map below).



The results indicated that the section of the gully south of 17th Street has the stormwater-carrying capacity to handle runoff from a 1 percent or 100-year storm (approximately 4 inches of rainfall in an hour).

The section of the gully north of 17th Street has issues related to the gully's stormwater-carrying capacity. Upstream of 17th Street, the gully has less than a 2-year storm capacity, which means that it can carry stormwater runoff from a storm that produces less than an inch of rainfall per hour. Beyond that, the gully fills to capacity and goes out of its banks. The preliminary analyses also revealed that a section of Turkey Gully runs underground just upstream of 20th Street, and that the culverts could be restricting the flow of stormwater.

The survey did not analyze the internal storm sewer system - underground pipes and roadside ditches that carry the water to the gully and to nearby White Oak Bayou – but there could also be issues with the storm sewer system’s capacity contributing to localized flooding.

Potential Partnership Project

The Flood Control District and City of Houston met to discuss opportunities for addressing flooding problems in the upper Turkey Gully watershed. Among the approaches discussed was a potential City of Houston/Flood Control District partnership study that would analyze the effectiveness of making improvements to the internal storm sewer system as well as to the gully.

Though no design or construction project has been scheduled or funded on Turkey Gully, the City of Houston and Flood Control District are pursuing a partnership to study options, and will provide additional information to the community when it is available.

Please note: Turkey Gully is located within the City of Houston city limits; all efforts related to the ditch, including analysis of the survey effort and any resulting recommendations, will be coordinated with the city. The Flood Control District has limited to no right-of-way on Turkey Gully, which means that our ability to perform maintenance work (mowing, selective clearing, etc.), or flood damage reduction projects along the channel is extremely limited.

ABOUT THE HARRIS COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

The Harris County Flood Control District provides flood damage reduction projects that work, with appropriate regard for community and natural values. With more than 1,500 bayous and creeks totaling approximately 2,500 miles in length, the Flood Control District accomplishes its mission by devising flood damage reduction plans, implementing the plans and maintaining the infrastructure. To learn more about the Flood Control District, visit www.hcfcd.org.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions or comments from the public may be directed to the Flood Control District's Project and Study Information Line, which is monitored daily, at 713-684-4040, or may be emailed to ProjectCommunications@hcfcd.org