



GALVESTON BAY FOUNDATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Galveston Bay Foundation will celebrate Earth Day with Marsh Mania!

Houston, TX - April 20, 2017 – Galveston Bay Foundation (GBF) and more than 250 volunteers will restore wetlands on Galveston Bay on Saturday, April 22, 2017 in Anahuac, TX and Dickinson, TX as part of GBF's Marsh Mania event. Marsh Mania is an annual GBF event that involves local citizens in hands-on marsh restoration activities while increasing their awareness and appreciation of wetland habitats and functions.

Marsh Mania volunteers will transplant smooth cordgrass harvested from NRG's EcoCenter ponds in Baytown to the intertidal shorelines of Dickinson Bayou, Levee Road at Fort Anahuac Park, and at White Heron Estates. GBF is working in partnership with private homeowners, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and Chambers County to restore these eroding shorelines.

In its 18 years, Marsh Mania has involved nearly 8,000 community volunteers in the restoration of roughly 207 acres of vital estuarine marsh habitat at 89 sites around Galveston Bay.

The estuarine marsh being restored is important to the life cycles of ecologically and economically significant marine species, including federally-managed red drum, brown and white shrimp, and regionally-managed blue crab.

Marsh Mania 2017 is supported with funding and donated materials and services from a number of local partners and sponsors. Those sponsors and partners include NRG Energy, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, John P. McGovern Foundation, ExxonMobil, Port of Houston Authority, Odfjell, NRCS, Gulf Coast Water Authority, apachEco, Gulf Coast Limestone, Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority, Houston Pilots, Afton Chemical, White Oak Energy, Targa, TPC Group, Keep Dickinson Beautiful, Dickinson Bayou Watershed Partnership, Sea Grant Texas, Texas Coastal Management Program, Texas General Land Office, TCEQ, NOAA, CCA Texas, City of Dickinson, Chambers County, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and the Galveston Bay Estuary Program. All marsh vegetation planted during Marsh Mania is donated by NRG Energy.

About Galveston Bay Foundation

The mission of the Galveston Bay Foundation is to preserve and enhance Galveston Bay as a healthy and productive place for generations to come. The Foundation was incorporated in 1987, and is a non-profit organization under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. GBF is located at 1100 Hercules Avenue, Suite 200 in Houston, Texas. For further information contact GBF at 281-332-3381 or visit the website at www.galvbay.org.

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