



CONTACT: Claire Everett  
281-332-3381x208  
[ceverett@galvbay.org](mailto:ceverett@galvbay.org)

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Volunteers to Restore Habitat at GBF's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Marsh Mania**

**Houston, TX, - May 7, 2018** – Galveston Bay Foundation (GBF) and more than 160 volunteers will restore wetlands on Galveston Bay on Saturday, May 12, 2018 in Anahuac, Texas City, and Galveston, TX as part of GBF's 20<sup>th</sup> Marsh Mania event. Marsh Mania is an annual GBF event that engages 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 the Texas City Prairie Preserve, Levee Road at Fort Anahuac Park, and at Virginia Point.

In its 20 years, Marsh Mania has involved over 8,000 community volunteers in the restoration of roughly 209 acres of vital estuarine marsh habitat at 92 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 2018 is supported with funding and donated materials and services from a number of local partners and sponsors. Those sponsors and partners include Cabela's Outdoor Fund, CenterPoint Energy, John P. McGovern Foundation, ExxonMobil, Gulf Coast Limestone, apachEco, Port Houston, Odfjell, Reliant: An NRG Company, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Chambers County, CCA Texas, Texas General Land Office, Shell, Scenic Galveston, The Nature Conservancy, NRCS, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 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](http://www.galvbay.org).

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