

Dear San Antonio GEAA members and friends,

I can't think of a better day to be reporting on GEAA's <u>Community Rain</u> <u>Gardens</u> project. Last Friday the team visited candidate sites and selected our first project. We are delighted to announce that we will be working with the residents of Woods of Shavano and Boy Scout Troop #66 to install our first <u>Low Impact Development enhancements</u> at Woods of Shavano City Park. You can see the news reports here: <u>WOAI</u> and <u>Fox</u>.



Planning this project will begin this summer, and we will keep you posted. We hope to secure funds to buy plants that Monarch Butterflies love so that our Community Rain Gardens will also contribute to making San Antonio a successful Monarch Champion City. Many thanks to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Wells Fargo Bank, and SXSW Community Fund for making all this possible. We are working hard to add more sponsors to this list so that we can complete all ten projects. If you know of anyone who would like to contribute, don't be shy about cluing us in.

And, if you live on the Recharge Zone in Bexar County and are interested in engaging your neighbors in learning how small scale Low Impact

Development techniques can be employed in your neighborhood or on your property, contact project manager, Greg Harman at gregharman@gmail.com.

It is raining cats and dogs as I write this, and I am hoping that no more lives are lost in the floods. We have been working hard with communities in our region to make sure that new developments don't add to the problems already experienced by all of us who live in Flash Flood Alley. This weekend I will be reviewing drafts of two studies commissioned by GEAA. One catalogs current rates of development in Comal County, and the second will inform how we might best achieve employing sustainable development techniques to minimize impacts of building on our watersheds. We will be releasing both studies this summer. Perhaps someday we will see new communities built to use rainwater as an asset sprouting across our region.

Stay safe and have a great weekend!

Annalisa Peace Executive Director Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance

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You can donate to GEAA on line or mail a check to PO Box 15618, San Antonio, Texas 78212