

# BRAZOS RIVER CONSERVATION COALITION HOOD COUNTY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 6

April 5, 2007

## James McAusland Will Address the April BRCC-HCC Meeting

The Hood County Chapter, Brazos River Conservation Coalition, will meet on Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Concert Hall of the Langdon Center. The featured speaker will be James McAusland, R.S. Mr. McAusland is the Director of the Hood County Environmental Health Office. He will address the issue of septic systems in the Brazos River watershed, the state of existing systems, current regulations and how the river and lake are impacted by them. Please attend and bring a friend.

## The BRA Board of Directors to Meet in Granbury

The quarterly meeting of the BRA Board of Directors is open to the public and will be held on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m., in the Granbury City Hall second floor court room. There is apparently a full agenda that may require extending the meeting into the next day, April 18<sup>th</sup>. A formal announcement will be published in the Hood County News.

## More BRA News

The BRA publishes a quarterly newsletter titled **The Brazos Basin**. They will begin publishing in e-mail form that will be tailored to the interests of the specific subscriber. For a look at the publication and subscription details go to [www.brazos.org](http://www.brazos.org).

## In Hood County Muddy Waters Is Not a Jazz Musician

The recent heavy rains have caused a dramatic change in the appearance and condition of the Lake Granbury. A huge amount of silt and debris has washed into the lake from upstream causing an

## Where Have All the Turtles Gone?

Chapter Co-chairman Josh Rosenfeld alertly picked up on two articles in the Star-Telegram. It appears that Texas turtles are an Asian food delicacy and are being harvested to near extinction from North Texas lakes and rivers. The State Legislature is considering a bill to control the activities of turtle trappers. See the full stories at: [www.star-telegram.com/275/story/55528.html](http://www.star-telegram.com/275/story/55528.html). [www.star-telegram.com/275/story/58741.html](http://www.star-telegram.com/275/story/58741.html)

The BRCC-HCC Advisory Board is considering casting the chapters support behind the effort of Texas Parks and Wildlife to ban harvesting turtles in the state. Members are urged to express their individual support for the bill introduced in the State Legislature. The turtles are an essential element of the balance of wildlife in our lakes and rivers. E-mail addresses for state representatives are listed at the end of the E-newsletter.

## People and Websites of Interest

BRCC-HCC website: [www.brcchood.org](http://www.brcchood.org)

BRA-Tiffany Morgan: [www.brazos.org](http://www.brazos.org)  
[tiffanym@brazos.org](mailto:tiffanym@brazos.org)

TCEQ-Frank Espino: [www.state.tx.us](http://www.state.tx.us)  
[fespino@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:fespino@tceq.state.tx.us)

County Ext. Agent- Marty Vahlenkamp:  
[Hood-tx@tamu.edu](mailto:Hood-tx@tamu.edu)

U.S. Rep. Chet Edwards:  
[chris.kelly@mail.house.gov](mailto:chris.kelly@mail.house.gov)

U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison  
E-mail through website at:  
<http://hutchison.senate.gov/>

U.S. Senator John Cornyn  
E-mail through Website at:  
<http://cornyn.senate.gov/>

State Senator Kip Averitt:  
[becky.dixon@senate.state.tx.us](mailto:becky.dixon@senate.state.tx.us)

unsightly mess and a hazard to boating and other recreational activities. The source of the contamination has not been identified by the BRA nor has there been any indication that a clean-up effort is planned. This situation differs from conditions after ordinary rains only in volume. The lake is the catch basin for all the problems up river.

State Rep. Jim Keffer:

[Trent.thomas@house.state.tx.us](mailto:Trent.thomas@house.state.tx.us)

Hood County Environmental Health Office

James McAusland, Director:

[jmcausland@co.hood.tx.us](mailto:jmcausland@co.hood.tx.us)

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