



## **Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program, Inc.**

1305 N. Shoreline, Suite 205, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401-1500 • 361-885-6202 • 361-881-5168  
(fax)

---

### News Release

For Immediate Release  
Dec. 1, 2010

Contact Beth Wilson at (361) 885-6246, (361) 813-7135 (cell) or [bwilson@cbbep.org](mailto:bwilson@cbbep.org)

### Marsh Planting Set for Saturday along Nueces Bay Causeway

Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program invites the media to join our volunteers in planting marsh grass on newly constructed terraces along the Nueces Bay Causeway beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 4.

The planting is part of a project designed to bring back marsh, a critical part of the bay ecosystem as an essential habitat for juvenile fish, shrimp and crabs and feeding grounds for bigger fish and birds.

Drivers going between Portland and Corpus Christi can now see raised terraces, made by scooping up bay bottom to form elevated pods that will support marsh grass. Crews began work in late July and are expected to finish phase one by December.

As much as 340 acres of marsh near the causeway has been wiped out over the last 60 years. Now, through this Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program project, construction of a 160-acre marsh complex is planned for the area

This first phase will build a 72-acre complex designed to mimic natural marshes with grasses on higher land with adjacent channels of deeper water. Subsequent phases will be done as funding becomes available.

CCA Texas has contributed \$24,000 to the project from funds secured through grants from FishAmerican Foundation, West Marine and CCA Texas's project fund.

We invite the media to join us in spreading awareness about this unique habitat.

A short orientation, project overview and planting procedure presentation will take place before the planting. Soft drinks, water and lunch will be provided.

**When:** Saturday, Dec. 4, 2010

**Time:** 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Location:** Nueces Bay Marsh Restoration Site (Nueces Bay Causeway)

To get to the site, from Corpus Christi, take the first Portland exit off Highway 181 (Moore Avenue).

U-turn on the frontage road heading to Corpus Christi. The site is just after the Indian Point Park exit. You'll see CBBEP logo signs at the far end of the construction zone.

**Note:** A large number of volunteers are expected and planting could go faster than planned. Please plan to come early so a boat ride to the terraces can be coordinated. Also, dress accordingly for the muddy environment.

###

