



November 2015

CITGO Caring for our Coast Program Creates Wildlife Food Plot



Student volunteers from three area schools dedicated their Saturday morning to creating a wildlife food plot at the Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program's (CBBEP) Nueces Delta Preserve as part of *CITGO Caring for our Coast* – a yearlong program to promote environmental conservation and restoration through a series of volunteer and educational efforts.



To create the wildlife food plot, 80 student volunteers from Moody High School, and Oak Park and Evans Elementary Schools, as well as 25 CITGO volunteers seeded almost 3 acres with a mixture of grains and legumes including clover, wheat, oats, rye, alfalfa, triticale, turnips, chicory and radishes. The students were involved in every step of the process, from assembling the seed bags to spreading seeds in the designated areas.



The efforts of the volunteers will go a long way in promoting wildlife protection and coastal conservation at the preserve. Expected to sprout in the spring, these seeds will provide nourishment for various species of birds and native wildlife that utilize the preserve, as well as increases diversity and productivity of the plant communities.

“It is a pleasure working with a partner like CITGO that is equally committed to both education and environmental causes, and truly understands the importance of preserving these unique habitats.” said Jake Herring, Director of Land Conservation with CBBEP. This event marks the third *CITGO Caring for our Coast* event held at the preserve in the last year. Last June Moody High School students joined with volunteers from CITGO and CBBEP to plant native trees, and prior to that in November of 2014 over 400 students and volunteers participated in seeding and planting wetland areas. Learn more about the *CITGO Caring for our Coast* initiative at <http://citgocaringforourcoast.com>.





Participants seeding food plot.

Photos: CBBEP File



The Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting and restoring bays and estuaries in the 12-county region of the Texas Coastal Bend. CBBEP is partially funded by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

For more information about the Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program, contact Kathryn Tunnell at (361)885-6202 or ktunnell@cbbep.org.

This report published in November 2015.

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