



CONTACT: Claire Everett  
281-332-3381 X 208  
[ceverett@galvbay.org](mailto:ceverett@galvbay.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Galveston Bay Foundation to host Living Shorelines Workshop for contractors, consulting and engineering firms**

**Houston, TX, – November 15, 2016** – The Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010 has resulted in billions of dollars flowing into the Gulf Coast region over the coming years. Much of this money will go to erosion control and coastal restoration projects of which living shorelines are a major component.

The Galveston Bay Foundation will host a Living Shorelines Workshop for marine contractors, consulting firms, engineering firms, and waterfront property owners on November 15, 2016, from 9:00am-2:30pm in the Seabrook/Clear Lake Area.

The purpose of the workshop is to provide professionals already working in the Galveston Bay area with basic information on designing and constructing “living shorelines” an alternative to bulkheads for shoreline erosion control. Living Shorelines are cost effective shoreline protection methods which mimic or utilize natural processes effectively protect real property while also providing ecosystem services such as restoring native marshes that provide habitat for native finfish, shellfish, and birds. This workshop will define and explain the benefits of living shorelines instead of or in addition to traditional erosion control methods as well as the methods used to install a living shoreline.

As governmental agencies and NGOs receive money to construct new projects, the demand for marine professionals with knowledge and experience in this type of work will be strong. This workshop will provide the basic tools to use the equipment and personnel routinely used for traditional shoreline stabilization methods in a new way and will open up job opportunities for those interested in expanding their areas of expertise.

The workshop will include a classroom portion and a site visit to an established living shoreline project. There is no cost for the workshop, and all materials used in the workshop will be made available to participants. Lunch will also be provided.

Please RSVP at [www.galvbay.org](http://www.galvbay.org) or call Galveston Bay Foundation at 281-332-3381. All attendees must RSVP.

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