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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## ***Water Experts to Meet in Houston on SWIFT Funding for Conservation January 7, 2016***

**Webster, TX – December 21, 2015** - Water experts from across Texas will meet in Houston on January 7, 2016 to discuss SWIFT (State Water Implementation Fund for Texas) funding for water conservation efforts.

*Attendees of SWIFT Funding Workshop: Focus on Water Conservation* will learn about the SWIFT program, as well as conservation's role in the Gulf Coast region's future water supply. Speakers who have succeeded in funding their projects will explain the ins and outs of SWIFT funding, with a focus on water conservation. The conference is intended for water resource managers, water utility directors, mayors and city council members, city managers, MUD board members, county leadership, business, and community leaders.

Speakers include: Mile Turco, Harris Galveston Subsidence District; Micah Reed, City of Forth Worth; Michael Bloom, R.G. Miller Engineers, Inc.; James Bronikowski and Scott Galloway, Texas Water Development Board and Jason Afinowicz, Freese and Nichols and former TWDB Chairman Carlos Rubinstein.

SWIFT was passed by the state legislature and approved by Texas voters through a constitutional amendment. The program helps communities develop and optimize water supplies at cost-effective rates. It provides low-interest loans, extended repayment terms, deferral of loan repayments and incremental repurchase terms for projects with state ownership projects.

Date: Thursday, January 7, 2016

Time: 10 a.m. -2 p.m.

Location: [Houston Galveston Area Council](#), 3555 Timmons, Suite 120, Houston, TX 77027

Registration: \$25 (lunch will be provided)

Attendees may register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/swift-funding-workshop-focus-on-water-conservation-tickets-19954248695>

The event is sponsored by: Montgomery County/Gulf Coast Water Efficiency Network, Sierra Club's Lone Star Chapter, National Wildlife Federation, Woodlands Joint Powers Agency, R.G. Miller Engineers, Inc., Texas Water Foundation, and Galveston Bay Foundation.

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