



## Municipal Information Services

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## **City of Waco and WMARSS Wins Competitive Grant For New Wetland**

**The City of Waco is pleased to announce that Waco and its partner cities in the Waco Metropolitan Regional Sewerage System (WMARSS) have won a competitive grant for \$588,000 to construct a wetland that will receive treated effluent from the WMARSS Central Wastewater Treatment Plant. The plant's effluent currently being discharged to the Brazos River meets or exceeds current EPA and TCEQ requirements. With this project, that effluent will be directed through the new wetland and benefit from a natural filtering process that will further enhance the quality of the water as it reenters the Brazos River.**

**The competitive grant process began in 2012 followed by authorization from the Waco City Council in 2013 to use twelve acres of land across from the WMARSS wastewater treatment plant for the project. In addition to providing the land, the City is responsible for basic site preparation. All other aspects of construction including piping, liners, etc will be paid by the grant funds over a 5 year period (total project estimated to be \$1.8 million).**

**Termed the Brazos River Demonstration Wetland Project, it is a collaborative effort of the US Bureau of Reclamation, Baylor University, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), City of Waco Water Utilities Services Department, engineering consultants, resource agencies and outreach organizations. Construction is estimated to begin in early 2015.**

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