



## On-Site Sewage Facility Grants for Homeowners in the Attoyac Bayou Watershed

Do you have a failing conventional or aerobic septic system?

Do you live within close proximity to the Attoyac Bayou?

In an effort to improve water quality and protect public health, the Angelina & Neches River Authority (ANRA) has grant funding available to install or replace OSSFs that may be contributing to bacteria impairments in the Attoyac Bayou.

You may be eligible for a grant to cover 100% of the costs for the design, permitting, and installation of a new On-Site Sewage Facility (OSSF) in the portions of Rusk, Shelby, Nacogdoches, and San Augustine Counties located within the Attoyac Bayou watershed.

Grants will be awarded based upon proximity to the Attoyac Bayou, distance to Sam Rayburn Reservoir, the condition of the current septic system (no system, failing system, or a system that is not appropriate for the soil type), and household income.

Funding for this project has been made available through a federal Clean Water Act Section 319(h) grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

To receive an application packet, please contact:

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# PROJECT OVERVIEW

## Attoyac Bayou On-Site Septic System (OSSF) Remediation



ANGELINA & NECHES RIVER AUTHORITY

## Attoyac Bayou On-Site Septic System (OSSF) Remediation

<b>Water Body</b>	Attoyac Bayou (Segment 0612)
<b>Location</b>	Nacogdoches, San Augustine, Shelby, and Rusk Counties
<b>River Basin</b>	Neches River Basin (6)
<b>Contractor</b>	Angelina & Neches River Authority (ANRA)
<b>Project Period</b>	September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2016
<b>Project Total</b>	\$699,425 (Federal 60% and Local Match 40%)

### Background

The purpose of this project is to identify and address non-point sources of bacteria and nutrients in the Attoyac Bayou watershed. Attoyac Bayou (Segment 0612), a classified water body in 307.10 Appendix A of the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, is listed as impaired for bacteria. Attoyac Bayou is a rural stream that flows into Sam Rayburn Reservoir (Segment 0610), a classified reservoir with the following designated uses: primary contact recreation, public water supply and high aquatic life use.

### Project Description

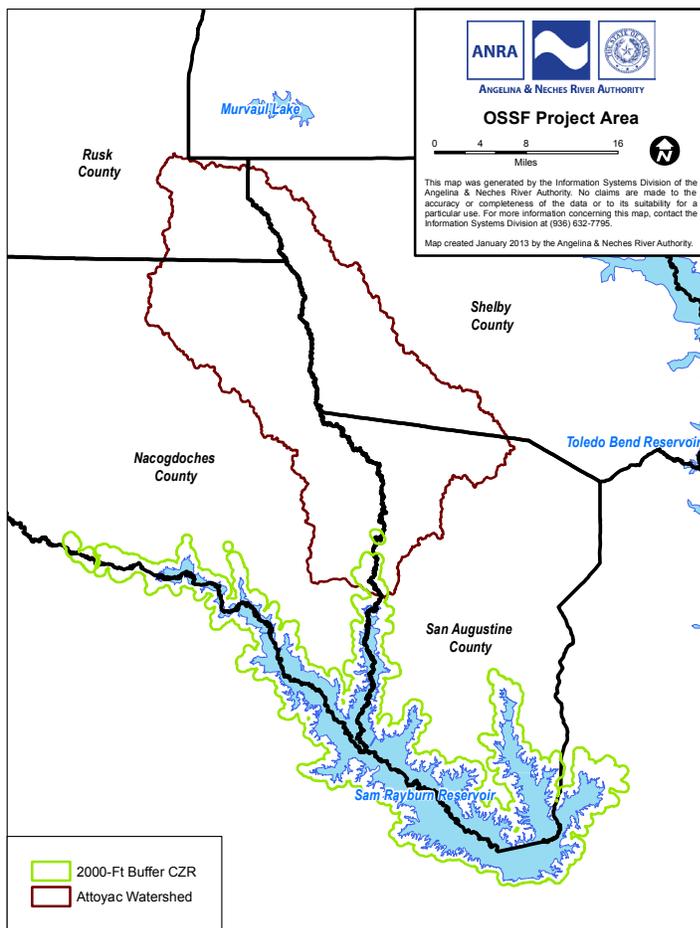
Failing or non-existent OSSFs in the Attoyac Bayou watershed will be identified through a combination of tracking of complaints and violations, field reconnaissance and inspections, and consultation with local officials. Funds from the project will be used to replace (in the case of failing systems) or install (in the case of non-existent systems) OSSFs in the Attoyac Bayou watershed located in Nacogdoches, San Augustine, Shelby, and Rusk Counties. Replacement or installation of OSSFs will reduce potential sources of Nonpoint Source (NPS) pollution that may be contributing to the bacteria impairments in the watershed.

Surface water quality monitoring in the Attoyac Bayou watershed will be used to identify improvements in water quality following the replacement of failed or non-existent OSSFs, as well as monitoring effectiveness of Best Management Practices (BMPs) established by the Attoyac Bayou Watershed Protection Plan.

### Funding Source

TCEQ Nonpoint Source Program CWA §319(h)

In cooperation with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



### For More Information

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# GRANT SELECTION CRITERIA

## Attoyac Bayou On-Site Septic System (OSSF) Remediation



ANGELINA & NECHES RIVER AUTHORITY

## Attoyac Bayou On-Site Septic System (OSSF) Remediation

The **Angelina & Neches River Authority (ANRA)** has received funding through a Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 319 grant to fund the installation of On-Site Septic Facilities (OSSFs) in the Attoyac Bayou watershed in an effort to improve water quality in the Attoyac Bayou, which is listed as impaired for bacterial contamination.

Funding for this project is provided by the **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)** Nonpoint Source Program and the **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** to address nonpoint sources of pollution. Failing OSSFs have been identified as potential sources of pollution in the Attoyac Bayou Watershed Protection Plan. Funding will be available to install approximately 23 OSSFs within the watershed.

### General Eligibility

Homeowners within the Attoyac Bayou watershed that meet certain criteria are eligible to apply for one of the available grants to install or replace septic systems within the watershed. In order to qualify, the following criteria must be met:

- Your home must be within the portion of Nacogdoches, San Augustine, Shelby, or Rusk Counties that lies within the Attoyac Bayou watershed.
- Your residence must be a single family home served by a septic system.
- You must own the property.
- The home must be your primary residence and be occupied for the majority of the year.
- The property must have a septic system that has failed or have no septic system to treat sewer discharge. Septic systems that are inappropriate for the soil type may also be considered if sufficient funding is available.
- Eligible sites will be limited to those where the household income is at or below 150% of the Median Household Income (MHI), based on household size. The MHI used for eligibility determination is based on the average MHI for Rusk, Shelby, Nacogdoches, and San Augustine Counties. Priority will be given to individuals and households with lower Median Household Incomes.
- Priority will be given to properties within 2000 feet of an impacted waterbody.

### For More Information

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# GRADING AND SCORING CRITERIA

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Funding for this project is provided by the **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)** Nonpoint Source Program and the **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** to address nonpoint sources of pollution. Failing OSSFs have been identified as potential sources of pollution in the Attoyac Bayou Watershed Protection Plan. Funding will be available to install approximately 23 OSSFs within the watershed.

### General Criteria

In order to award grants for the replacement of installation of OSSFs in the watershed, ANRA will evaluate and score the applications using the following general criteria:

- Proximity to the water body
- Distance to Sam Rayburn Reservoir
- OSSF system condition
- Household Income

### Criteria #1: Proximity to the Waterbody

Priority Zones around the Attoyac Bayou and its major tributaries will be established, as OSSFs in closest proximity to an impaired waterbody can have the largest impact on water quality.

OSSFs in close proximity to the Attoyac Bayou will have the highest priority, followed by systems located in close proximity to one of the major tributaries (Nacouche Creek, Terrapin Creek, Big Iron Ore Creek, Waffelow Creek, and West Creek).

### Criteria #2: Distance to Sam Rayburn Reservoir

The Attoyac Bayou discharges into Sam Rayburn Reservoir. Although Sam Rayburn Reservoir is not listed as impaired for bacteria, the reservoir is used extensively for both primary contact recreation and public water supply use. Minimizing the amount of bacteria loading entering Sam Rayburn Reservoir is protective of public health.

### Criteria #3: OSSF System Condition

OSSF Inspections can determine if a system has failed or if it simply needs repair or to be pumped.

In many instances, a home may not have a system at all. Priority will be given to these households, as they have the greatest potential for bacterial loading into the watershed.

### Criteria #4: Household Income

Grants will be awarded to individuals/households that are at, or below, 150% of the Median Household Income (MHI) for Rusk, Shelby, Nacogdoches, or San Augustine Counties.

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# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Attoyac Bayou On-Site Septic System (OSSF) Remediation



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Funding for this project is provided by the **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)** Nonpoint Source Program and the **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** to address nonpoint sources of pollution. Failing OSSFs have been identified as potential sources of pollution in the Attoyac Bayou Watershed Protection Plan. Funding will be available to install approximately 23 OSSFs within the watershed.

### Who is eligible to receive grant funding?

Property owners within the Attoyac Bayou watershed are eligible to apply for grant funding. The property must have a failing septic system (or no septic system), and the property owner must qualify as either low income, very low income, or extremely low income.

### What are the income requirements for this grant program?

In order to qualify for funding under this project, applicants must meet certain income requirements. Grants are reserved for individuals or households at less than or equal to 150% of the Median Household Income (MHI), based upon household size. The MHI used for determining eligibility is based upon the average MHI for Rusk, Shelby, Nacogdoches, and San Augustine Counties.

### How do I determine if my septic system is failing?

The most common signs of septic system failure are the smell of sewage, sewage leaking on the lawn, and sewage backing up into the home. In order to determine if your system is truly failing, it will be necessary for the system to be inspected.

### If my septic system is failing, will it be reported to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality?

No. The goal of this program is to replace failing septic systems within the Attoyac Bayou watershed in order to improve water quality and public health, not to identify failing systems for fines and enforcement purposes.

### Will I have to hire contractors (installers, site evaluators, designers, etc.)?

Contractors for this project will be selected by the Angelina & Neches River Authority (ANRA) through a competitive sealed bidding process.

### Will this program pay for all of my costs for replacing my septic system?

It is ANRA's intention to have this program fund 100% of the cost of installation of a suitable on-site septic facility for qualified grant recipients. The property owner would be responsible for on-going maintenance and upkeep of the system.

### For More Information

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## Attoyac Bayou On-Site Septic System (OSSF) Remediation Grant Program Income Categories

ANGELINA & NECHES RIVER AUTHORITY

To be eligible for funding, an individual or household must be at or below 150% of the Median Household Income (MHI) for Rusk, Shelby, Nacoches, and San Augustine Counties. Preference will be given to individuals and households in lower income brackets.

Household Size	Annual Maximum Gross Income Categories				
	<50% of MHI	75% of MHI	100% of MHI	125% of MHI	150% of MHI
1	\$14,441	\$21,661	\$28,882	\$36,102	\$43,322
2	\$16,504	\$24,756	\$33,008	\$41,260	\$49,511
3	\$18,567	\$27,850	\$37,134	\$46,417	\$55,700
4	\$20,630	\$30,945	\$41,260	\$51,574	\$61,889
5	\$22,280	\$33,420	\$44,560	\$55,700	\$66,840
6	\$23,931	\$35,896	\$47,861	\$59,826	\$71,792
7	\$25,581	\$38,371	\$51,162	\$63,952	\$76,743
8	\$27,231	\$40,847	\$54,463	\$68,078	\$81,694