

FEBRUARY 2013

COASTAL & MARINE RESOURCE NEWS

CALHOUN COUNTY

TAKE THE 40 GALLON CHALLENGE



Across the southern United States individuals are being encouraged to take the 40 Gallon Challenge. The 40 Gallon Challenge is a regional campaign that challenges residents to conserve at least 40 gallons of water per day.

On average, Texans use anywhere between 100 to 150 gallons of water per person per day. The 40 Gallon Challenge Pledge Card suggests practical tips to conserve water including simple no-cost suggestions, such as shortening your shower by two minutes, to tips which require more effort and money, such as

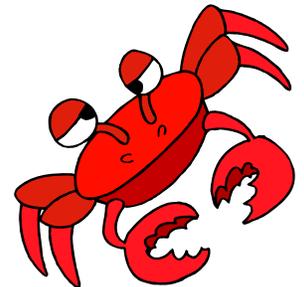
replacing an old, non-efficient toilet with a new low-flush toilet.

The 40 Gallon Challenge now boasts more than 4,600 participants in 42 states who have either adopted or plan to adopt water-conservation strategies amounting to a daily water savings of over 870,000 gallons nationwide.

Learn more and take a pledge at <http://www.40gallonchallenge.org/>. Come on! Let's get Calhoun County on the map!

2013 CRAB TRAP CLOSURE IS FEBRUARY 15 - 24

It's that time again, time to spend a beautiful Texas winter day on the bay collecting abandoned crab traps. The crabbing closure will be February 15-24. If the weather cooperates February 16 will be the target day for our consolidated effort. As in recent years Charlie's and the POC TPWD docks will be facilitated and have dumpsters. If you have questions, contact Norman Boyd, TPWD Coastal Fisheries at 361-983-4425 ext. 223 or by email at norman.boyd@tpwd.state.tx.us



COOKING WITH SEAFOOD: IT'S NOT THAT HARD

PROGRAM EXTENDED BY POPULAR DEMAND!!! That's right. If you missed us in January, you still have a chance. Come join Tina Trevino, Rhonda Cummins, and a cast of volunteers for free cooking demonstrations and samples using fresh, local seafood.

Come on down and join the fun. Space is limited, but the fun is not.

When: Monday nights at 6:00 p.m. during February

Where: Big Bear Shrimp & Seafood, 2241 Hwy 35 N, Port Lavaca (bright blue building between the Texas Highway Dept. and the Exxon)

Why: Why not? Seafood is easy to cook and it is good for you.



For more information, contact:

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<http://texasseagrant.org>

GOLDEN FRIED OYSTERS

[HTTP://TEXAS-SEA-GRANT.TAMU.EDU/WHATWEDO/ONLINE%20PUBLICATIONS/GOLDENFRIEDOYSTERS2012.HTML](http://TEXAS-SEA-GRANT.TAMU.EDU/WHATWEDO/ONLINE%20PUBLICATIONS/GOLDENFRIEDOYSTERS2012.HTML)

24 fresh shucked oysters
2 egg whites, 1 egg yolk
2 tablespoons milk
1 teaspoon seasoned salt
1/4 teaspoon black pepper
1 cup yellow cornmeal
1/2 cup flour
Canola oil for frying

Drain oysters. Combine eggs, milk and seasonings. Dip oysters in egg mixture and roll in dry mixture. Repeat process to form double breading. Heat oil to 365 degrees. Fry oysters 2 to 3 minutes until golden brown. Makes 4 servings of 6 oysters each.



NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP)

All those around the country with NFIP coverage will be hit hard over the next few years by changes in 2012 legislation passed before Hurricane Sandy hit New Jersey and New York. The law decreases the subsidies that taxpayers give to the NFIP and will increase the number of properties required to have NFIP coverage to receive federally-insured mortgages. These changes will affect far more than those currently living within a flood zone as indicated by current Flood Insurance Rate Maps. As FIRMs are redrawn, many new properties will be added and the zone of properties currently within a flood area may increase. These changes can lead to massive increases in premiums. Learn more by visiting Florida Sea Grant's Coastal Planning website @ www.flseagrant.org/coastalplanning/hurricane-sandy-and-new-flood-insurance-rules-increase-rates-and-hit-middle-class/

MANY THANKS TO LAST MONTH'S VOLUNTEERS:

Thank you, dear volunteers, for your efforts in January:

Willie & Donna Younger, Joe Surovik, Shelly Crow, Theresa Dent, Karen Lyssy, Debbie Dugan, Leslie Hartman, Chris Scroggs, Norman Boyd, Jack LaBarge, Mike Mitchell, Joan Konecy, Macy Dietzel, Charlie Jones, Terry Mosier, and Jim Munro.

The projects were wide ranging from building fence to cooking seafood, collecting monofilament to offering advice, completing financial reports to moving chairs. They say it takes a village to raise a child; well, it takes dedicated volunteers like you (including my advisory council) to have successful Extension programs and projects. Thanks again for all your help and support.

ALL ABOARD!!!



The Annual OLG Valentine Gala will be held on Feb 16, 2013 at the Formosa Guest House. The theme is Murder on the Orient Express. Come enjoy the fun, food, silent auction, and entertaining exploits of Agatha Christie's famous detective Hercule Poirot. Proceeds from this fabulous event provide bonuses for the teachers. Call 361-552-6140 ext. 6 for details and tickets.

*"It matters
if you just
don't give
up."*

*—Stephen
Hawking*

This newsletter is available online @ <http://calhoun.agrilife.org/newsletters/coastal-and-marine-resources/>