

Steps in the Watershed Planning and Implementation Process*

** From the EPA Handbook for Developing Watershed Plans to Restore and Protect Our Waters*

1. Build Partnerships

- Identify stakeholders
- Identify issues of concern
- Set goals
- Develop indicators
- Conduct public outreach

2. Characterize the Watershed

- Gather existing data and create a watershed inventory
- Identify data gaps and collect additional data as needed
- Analyze data
- Identify causes and sources of pollution
- Estimate pollutant loads

3. Finalize Goals and Identify Solutions

- Set overall goals
- Develop indicators/targets
- Determine load reduction requirements
- Identify critical areas
- Develop management measures

4. Design an Implementation Program

- Develop implementation schedule
- Develop interim milestones to track implementation of management measures
- Develop criteria to measure progress toward meeting watershed goals
- Develop monitoring component
- Develop information/education component
- Develop evaluation process
- Identify technical and financial assistance needed to implement plan
- Assign responsibility for reviewing/revising

Characterization and Analysis Tools

- GIS
- Statistical Packages
- Monitoring
- Load Calculations
- Model Selection Tools
- Models
- Database (environmental and social tools)

5. Design an Implementation Program

- Implement management strategies
- Conduct monitoring
- Conduct information/education activities

6. Measure Progress and Make Adjustments

- Review and evaluate
- Share results
- Prepare annual work plans
- Report back to stakeholders and others
- Make adjustments to program

Double Bayou Watershed Protection Plan Document