

**MATAGORDA BAY MITIGATION TRUST**  
**PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**MATAGORDA BAY MITIGATION TRUST ISSUES FUNDING**  
**FOR THE CALHOUN COUNTY YMCA IN PORT LAVACA**

The Trustee of the newly formed Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust (MBMT), Steven J. Raabe, today announced the funding of \$100,000 to provide environmental programs for a summer youth camp through the Calhoun County YMCA.

“We are pleased to provide this assistance to the Calhoun County YMCA to offer a variety of environmental programs for summer camp students in this area,” stated Raabe.

Camp programs will be offered for local children and teenagers and will focus on providing education about how to be a good steward of the local ecosystems. To do this, staff will be hired and trained on the ecology of the Bay Systems. Programming will also include recreation activities and free transportation.

Michele Morales, of the YMCA, states, “We are so lucky to be able to partner with so some great organizations to offer programs to children of Calhoun County through the Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust funding. These organizations include Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service, San Antonio Bay Partnership, Texas Master Naturalists, GBRA and the Texas Floating Classroom.”

“The environment summer camp project that the YMCA is doing with young people in this area is incredibly unique and could grow into a model initiative for all coastal communities,” stated Raabe.

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See Background information on the following page

## **Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust Background**

On July 31, 2017 a federal Clean Water Act lawsuit was filed by San Antonio Bay Estuarine Waterkeeper and S. Diane Wilson against Formosa Plastics, Corp. alleging illegal discharges from Formosa's plant located in Point Comfort, Texas.

On June 27, 2019 the US District Court in Victoria issued a declaratory judgement against Formosa for monetary and injunctive relief after which a settlement was reached that included Formosa's commitment to undertake engineering changes, future monitoring, mitigation payments for future infractions, and remediation of past discharges. The settlement also provided for the establishment of the Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust to be funded by Formosa Plastics, Corp. in the amount of \$50 million over a five-year period.

In February 2020, Steven J. Raabe, P.E. was appointed as Trustee of the Trust.

The Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust became officially established on May 8, 2020.