Completed Projects

1. Incentives for Action: Incorporating Trading Options into Watershed Improvement Plans for Lake Lewisville
2. Control of Nonpoint Source Loads in the Hickory Creek Sub-basin of the Lake Lewisville Watershed as a Component of a Watershed-Based Water Quality Trading Program
3. Implementation of the Hickory Creek Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) and Adapting the WPP for Other Areas in the Lake Lewisville Watershed
Fire Station #7 - Extended Detention Basin
So What?

Are there other benefits of green space or open space to a community beyond environmental improvement?

Yes, there are social benefits, health benefits, increases in home value, and implications for the tax base and work force in the community.
Social Benefits – Strengthen Neighborhood

- People that use parks, open space and green belts meet their neighbors.
- These are opportunities to share information about the community, social values and expectations and meet like-minded people as well as people with different opinions.
- Conversation among neighbors while walking in the greenbelt may create the nucleus of a group that tackles community problems.
Social Benefit – Neighborhood Safety

- The best prevention against crime is often an active, outdoor neighborhood.
- In urban areas, 90% of graffiti and vandalism is associated with barren and unused areas.
- The Neighborhood Watch program that has been adopted around the country is based on neighbors being outside with “eyes on the street”.

WARNING
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM IN FORCE
IF I DON'T CALL THE POLICE MY NEIGHBOR WILL

TAKE A BITE OUT OF CRIME®
Health Benefits – Preventive Health

- Kids need places to play, and their healthy development includes physical, intellectual, emotional and social development.
- Open space and parks provide opportunities to play, explore and learn about nature, get along with others and give back if they are participating in green belt maintenance like tree plantings.
- Older users of open space and parks that walk, jog, or bike are healthier than non-users. It was found that people over 50 that use parks in Cleveland had fewer doctor visits than non-park users and a better sense of well being.
The 14 parks were between 2.5 acres and 7.3 acres except for two that were .05 and 0.3 of an acre. They were "intermittently maintained" and were selected because of their ordinariness rather than their excellence. The parks were in the neighborhood of single-family houses. The analysis was based on 3,200 residential sales transactions. The price effects compared against home values a half mile from the parks are shown below. Homes adjacent to parks received an approximate price premium of 22 percent relative to properties a half mile away. Approximately 75 percent of the value associated with parks occurred within 600 feet of a park.

From Active Living Research 2010
Cost of Community Services

- A mix of open space and residential development (possibly smaller lots with open space) or mixed use development creates a more favorable financial basis for community services

Cost of Community Service (Hays County, TX study)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial/Industrial</th>
<th>Agricultural/Open Space</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total County Revenues</td>
<td>$82,662,828</td>
<td>$16,461,526</td>
<td>$13,105,427</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total County Service</td>
<td>$104,387,478</td>
<td>$4,935,185</td>
<td>$4,385,261</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of Revenues to</td>
<td>1 : 1.26</td>
<td>1: 0.30</td>
<td>1: 0.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td></td>
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American Farmland Trust
Growing Number of Retired Active People in Excellent Shape

By 2050, 1 in 4 people in the U.S. will be over 65 and older folks are one of the fastest growing segments in our population.

GRAMPIES are often mobile and move to live where there are recreational opportunities including green space in their communities.

They are also relatively affluent and transfer significant assets to local investment and banking institutions.

They are positive tax payers and use fewer services than they pay for through taxes.
Jobs requiring knowledge of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) are becoming more important in the U.S. economy.

Employers of knowledge workers do not locate their businesses to be near the natural resources required to make their products or near centers of transport for their products.

They locate their businesses to be near an educated work force and in an area where they can retain their work force – it’s the race for talent.

A survey of 1,200 knowledge workers by KPMG in 1998 showed that quality of life in the community increased the attractiveness of a job in that community by 33%.

They like to walk and bike, have access to green space and connect with nature and they make good money.

*Competing in the Age of Talent: Quality of Place and the New Economy 2000*
## Economy of the Community – Knowledge Workers

- Dallas/Fort Worth Wages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Non-STEM</th>
<th>STEM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>All Wages</strong></td>
<td>$39,476</td>
<td>$69,784</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Jobs Requiring a Bachelor’s Degree or Higher</strong></td>
<td>$68,144</td>
<td>$87,673</td>
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*Dallas Morning News, June 10, 2013*
The outdoor recreational opportunities in open spaces can support healthier and safer citizens and more engaged neighborhoods.

Green space can increase home values of nearby homes and be a good source of tax revenues relative to maintenance expenditures.

Green space can also attract an age-diverse citizenry, higher income workers, and affluent retirees to a community.

And, these green spaces limit the water pollution and hydraulic impacts of storm water on their watersheds and, ultimately, Lewisville Lake.
Discussion