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Oyster Restoration

Hands-on and festival volunteering to support oyster reef restoration and oyster shell recycling

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2026: Bayou Vista Oyster Garden Creation Event

Happens On May 23, 2026
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

RESPOND RESPOND AS TEAM

Description



Be part of building mini ecosystems from recycled oyster shells!

Every April and May, volunteers join Galveston Bay Foundation in creating gardens that will foster the growth of baby oysters ("spat") that will help filter water and strengthen the Bay's health.

To become an Oyster Gardener, you must:

- Build an oyster garden(s) during the Garden Creation Event using materials provided by GBF
- Maintain your garden(s) throughout the season by periodically pulling it from the water, rinsing it, checking for spat, and removing predators, algae, or mud
- Return your garden(s) during the Garden Collection Event at the end of the season (October–November)
- Help document spat counts before gardens are prepared for transplantation to a nearby restoration reef to boost the local oyster population

At the garden creation event, you will work alongside GBF staff and fellow volunteers to:

- Check-in with GBF volunteers and staff
- Build an oyster garden(s) using materials provided by GBF
- Document how many gardens you create and which type before you leave.

Come anytime during the event to build your garden(s).

If someone else is going pick up your garden(s), please email Shannon Batte at sbatte@galvbay.org

Volunteers will meet at the pavilion located at Bayou Vista City Park on the corner of Neptune Dr and Bonita Dr. Restrooms may not be available onsite, but there is nearby gas station if they are unavailable.

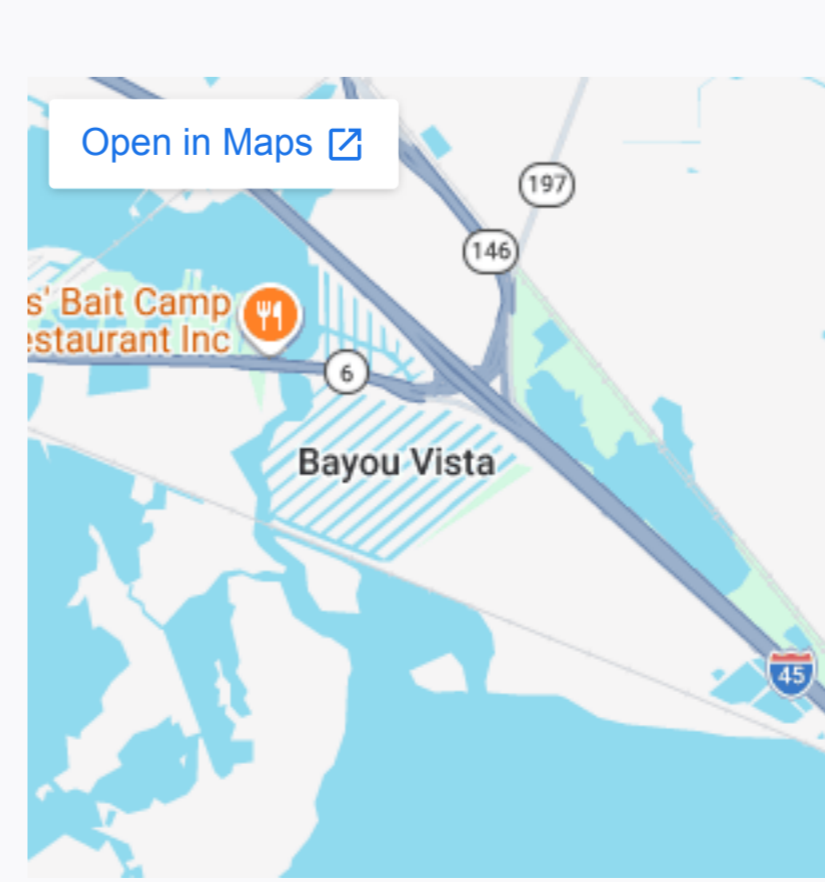
By caring for your oyster gardens throughout the season, you play an active role in growing reef habitat that filters water and strengthens Galveston Bay.

Details

- Volunteers should be between the ages of 10 and 99.
- Is Family Friendly
- Is Outdoors
- Inclement Weather Plan: Shannon Batte will notify participants by email of any weather-related information that will impact the event.
- wear closed-toe shoes
- Bring a reusable water bottle
- GBF will provide all necessary equipment
- Wear appropriate clothing for the weather day of.
- Come any time during the duration of the event.

Location

Bonita Dr
Bayou Vista, TX 77563



Community Science

Program

Oyster Program

Site Supervisor

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