

The Houston Seminar presents a three-session lecture course

Water, Water Everywhere: Strategies and Success Stories

Three Thursdays, February 4, 11, and 18, 5:00–6:30 P.M.

February 4: Galveston Bay and the Storm Surge of Our Nightmares

Every summer, we dread The Big One: a wall of water smashing into Galveston Bay and the Port of Houston, spilling millions of gallons of crude oil and hazardous chemicals into the Gulf of Mexico.

Join a conversation between **Eric Berger and Jim Blackburn** about hurricane storm surges, coastal defense barriers, and mid-bay gate proposals. Mr. Berger is the co-founder of Space City Weather and is a certified meteorologist and senior space editor at Ars Technica. He was a Pulitzer Prize finalist at the Houston Chronicle for his coverage of Hurricane Ike. Mr. Blackburn is a professor of environmental law in the civil and environmental engineering department at Rice University. He serves as co-director of the Severe Storm Prediction, Education, and Evacuation from Disaster (SSPEED) Center.

February 11: Bayous, Reservoirs, Ponds, and More: Strategies for Inland Flood Mitigation

Flood control projects are massive, multigenerational undertakings involving bayou conveyance, retention reservoirs, detention ponds, and private property buyouts. Join a conversation between **Alan Black and Auggie Campbell** to learn about flood mitigation efforts and the paramount need for regional collaboration to address the kind of cataclysmic flooding that doesn't respect municipal boundaries.

Mr. Black has been with Harris County Flood Control District for thirteen years, where he is currently director of operations. Mr. Campbell is the executive director of the Association of Water Board Directors and the co-founder of Houston Stronger coalition, a group which has successfully advocated for billions of dollars in resilience funding from federal, state, and local public entities.

February 18: Low-Impact Development: Mitigation for Property Owners

The City of Houston recently adopted a plan to offer tax incentives for low-impact development (LID). **Michael F. Bloom** and **Kevin Shanley** will lead a discussion about these incentives and the details of LID, which emphasizes small-scale conservation on individual properties to protect water quality, mitigate stormwater runoff, and help ease catastrophic flooding.

Mr. Bloom is in the steering committee of the Houston Land and Water Sustainability Forum, serves as vice chair of the government affairs committee of the Water Environment Association of Texas, and a member of the board of directors of the Bayou Preservation Association. Mr. Shanley is the former CEO of SWA Group, an international landscape architecture and urban design firm that was instrumental in the landmark 1992 plan for Sims Bayou, saving it from being lined in concrete.

To register, www.houstonseminar.org or call 713-666-9000

\$25/session

Zoom invitations will be emailed to subscribers.