

Coalition Newsletter and Updates



Reimagining Our Coast's Climate Transition

SEPT 23, 2025

WELCOME FALL 2025

Quick Coalition Update



This past week marked the 17th anniversary of Hurricane Ike, a reminder of the devastation our coastal communities continue to face and of the urgent need for solutions that protect people, ecosystems, and futures while ensuring equity for those most impacted by flooding and coastal storms.

Over the past year, we've lifted up community voices, tracked major developments in the 2025 Texas Legislative Session, and stayed connected to updates coming from the Gulf Coast Protection District on the status of the Coastal Barrier, or "Ike Dike".

As we head into the final months of 2025, the Surge Forward Coalition is carrying forward the energy and determination that's fueled our work all year as we start to think ahead for 2026 coalition planning and community engagement.

Now, we want to make it even easier for you to stay connected and informed about what's happening within our coalition and across our Galveston Coast.

Who is the Surge Forward Coalition?

Surge Forward is a coalition of local and regional community organizations in the Houston-Galveston Region committed to advocating for better solutions than the proposed Ike Dike, also known as the Coastal Barrier.

We focus on promoting alternative approaches to coastal resilience, such as nature-based solutions, and addressing the specific needs of coastal communities.



Coalition Events and more on Galveston Island!



COMMUNITY EVENT

SURGE FORWARD COASTAL HERITAGE PRESERVE TOUR

JOIN US ON OCTOBER 11, 2025

Join Artist Boat, CEER, and Bayou City Waterkeeper, CTRL + Create, and other partners from Galveston Island for a day of regeneration at the Coastal Heritage Preserve honoring the restoration of Galveston Island following Hurricane Ike. There will be a Guided Bus and Walking Tours of the Ancient Dune Swale complex & Coastal Prairie Restoration. This event will be from 9am to 2pm.

To register, click the link or scan the QR Code below:

bit.ly/CHPOctober11

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER



Gala and Fundraiser

THE ART OF SAVING SEA TURTLES

Join *Turtle Island Restoration Network* on Sunday, Oct. 12, 1–3:30 p.m. at The Bryan Museum in Galveston for an afternoon of art, community, and sea turtle conservation. Enjoy the Turtles About Town art project, raffle, drinks, and hors d'oeuvres — all supporting local sea turtle and ocean programs.

[BUY TICKETS AND FIND SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION HERE](#)



Celebrate the conservation of Ghost Wolves

GALVESTON ISLAND BREWERY GHOST WOLF RED LAGER RELEASE

Join *Ghost Wolf Canine Project* on Oct 4th, from 2–4pm at Galveston Island Brewing for the special release of Gulf Ghost Red Lager, honoring the ghost wolf movement and supporting red wolf recovery.

[8423 STEWART RD., GALVESTON, TX 77554](#)

Stay updated with the Gulf Coast Protect District

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COASTAL BARRIER PROJECT?

The **Gulf Coast Protection District** meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. and invites the public to attend. You can watch meetings via **livestream** (also shared on the **GCPD Facebook** page), but to provide public comment you must be present in person and sign up in advance. Attending these meetings is a great way to learn more about the Coastal Barrier Project and other GCPD initiatives. Agendas are posted about a week before each meeting. We encourage you to check their website or contact **info@gcpdtexas.com** for details.

These meetings are livestream for the public, but meaningful engagement is limited to in-person testimony. Community voices are essential – sign up to testify and make sure your concerns are heard.

As we face growing coastal flooding and storm risks, we must demand transparency, accessibility, and accountability from GCPD. This includes clearer communication of project costs and impacts, more accessible opportunities for public input, and stronger commitments to equity in coastal protection.

Surge Forward is not officially affiliated with the Gulf Coast Protection District, however we encourage community members to stay engaged and make their voices heard.



- Upcoming GCPD Meeting Dates include:
- October 8, 2025
 - November 12, 2025
 - December 10, 2025

Want to learn more about our work? Check out the resource hub below

Click the Surge Forward tab on the resource hub to find more information or reach out to Bayou City Waterkeeper.

ACCESS RESOURCE HUB HERE

SURGE FORWARD

[HTTPS://BAYOUCITYWATERKEEPER.ORG/SURGE-FORWARD/](https://bayoucitywaterkeeper.org/surge-forward/)