

Community Resilience Collaborative

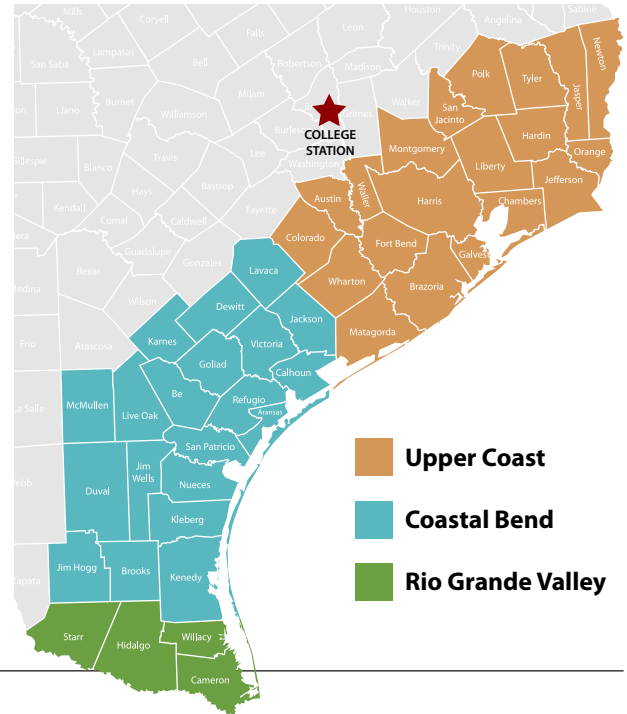
A Partnership of Texas Sea Grant and Texas Target Communities



WHAT IS THE COMMUNITY RESILIENCE COLLABORATIVE (CRC)?

The CRC is a research- and extension-based coastal planning program that combines the reach and resources of two Texas A&M University (TAMU) programs: the Texas Sea Grant College Program and Texas Target Communities (TTC¹). The CRC provides technical assistance for planning, outreach and education aimed at coastal communities, particularly resource managers, land use planners and emergency managers who deal with hazard mitigation. Planning is emphasized to address critical land use, environmental, hazard mitigation and disaster recovery issues through coastal planning. Priority is placed on providing planning assistance to low-capacity, low-resource and/or underrepresented communities. The CRC also funds small grants for community resilience research and facilitates service-learning opportunities for faculty and students in TAMU's College of Architecture, College of Geosciences, College of Engineering, School of Public Health, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Bush School of Government and Public Service, and School of Law and College of Liberal Arts, and at Texas A&M University at Galveston.

Figure 1: CRC PLANNING REGIONS



Goals of the program:



1. Communities adopt high-quality plans to achieve locally defined visions of sustainable development.



2. Communities increase resilience to natural and technological hazards.



3. Habitat, ecosystems and the services they provide are monitored, enhanced and/or restored.



4. Local and scientific knowledge is leveraged in planning and other decision-making processes.

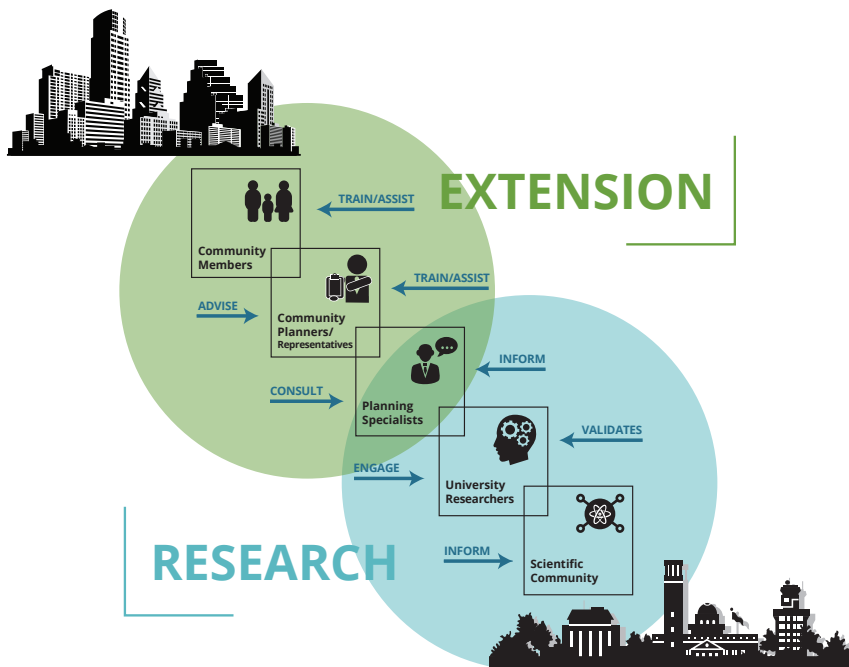
What does the CRC do for the Texas coast?

- Facilitates and leads project management of planning processes including comprehensive planning, hazard mitigation planning and environmental planning.
- Facilitates community and stakeholder engagement in planning processes.
- Provides technical assistance and transfers and translates planning data and tools to support decision making.
- Educates and trains community elected and appointed officials and staff on planning resources, tools and best practices.
- Conducts applied research on social vulnerability, coastal planning, risk perception, hazard mitigation, ecosystem services and the economic impacts of coastal hazards.
- Facilitates multi-jurisdictional watershed planning to protect water quality and quantity and to mitigate stormwater runoff.
- Supports research and fills information gaps in the current understanding of ecosystem management best practices.
- Provides service/transformational learning opportunities for university students – the next generation of coastal stakeholders and leaders.

The CRC is headquartered at TAMU in College Station and has a team of extension-based coastal planners in the field. The coastal planners work in three regions of the Texas coast: Upper Coast, Coastal Bend, and Rio Grande Valley (Figure 1). In addition to the counties bordering the Gulf of Mexico or bays, the planners work with communities in the next two counties inland due to the wide-reaching impacts of inland development patterns and land use planning practices on coastal communities. CRC coastal planners provide planning technical assistance, outreach and professional development education and act as a bridge between university researchers and local communities, transferring the best available science and data to communities and transferring back information about community needs to university researchers (Figure 2).

¹ From the Public Partnership & Outreach of the Office of the Provost and the College of Architecture.

Figure 2: TWO-WAY FLOW OF INFORMATION BETWEEN COMMUNITIES AND UNIVERSITY SCIENTISTS.



CRC Team

Heather Wade,
Co-Director, Senior
Associate Director
for Planning and
Extension at Texas
Sea Grant

Jaimie Masterson,
Co-Director, Associate
Director at Texas Target
Communities

Jeevasmi Thapa,
Program Coordinator,
Texas Target
Communities

**Walter McLendon
Peacock**, Planning
Specialist, Upper
Coast/Coastal Bend

Kate De Gennaro,
Research Associate

Stuart Carlton,
Healthy Coastal
Ecosystems and Social
Science Specialist,
Texas Sea Grant

Bill Balboa, Matagorda
County Marine Agent,
Texas Sea Grant/Texas
A&M AgriLife Extension
Service

John O'Connell,
Brazoria County Marine
Agent, Texas Sea Grant/
Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension Service

Julie Massey,
Galveston County
Marine Agent, Texas
Sea Grant/Texas A&M
AgriLife Extension
Service

Rhonda Cummins,
Calhoun County Marine
Agent, Texas Sea Grant/
Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension Service

Tony Reisinger,
Cameron County
Marine Agent, Texas
Sea Grant/Texas A&M
AgriLife Extension
Service

Program Affiliations

The CRC is affiliated with the following centers, academic entities and federal programs:

- Center for Housing and Urban Development
- Center for Texas Beaches and Shores
- Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center
- Institute for Science, Technology, and Public Policy
- Institute for Sustainable Communities
- Mission-Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve
- NOAA Office for Coastal Management, Gulf of Mexico Region
- Public Policy Research Institute
- Texas A&M University at Galveston
- Texas A&M University Bush School of Government and Public Service
- Texas A&M University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
- Texas A&M University College of Architecture
- Texas A&M University College of Engineering
- Texas A&M University College of Geosciences
- Texas A&M University College of Liberal Arts
- Texas A&M University School of Law, Real Estate and Community Development
- Texas A&M University School of Public Health

Texas A&M University Faculty Affiliates

Lisa Alexander, Professor,
School of Law, Real
Estate and Community
Development Program

Phil Berke, Director,
Institute for Sustainable
Communities

Samuel Brody, Director,
Center for Texas Beaches
and Shores

John Cooper, Director
and Associate Professor
of Practice, Texas Target
Communities

Jens Figlus, Assistant
Professor, Department of
Ocean Engineering

Kirby Goidel, Director, Public
Policy Research Institute

Burak Guneralp, Assistant
Professor, Department of
Geography

Inci Guneralp, Associate
Professor, Department of
Geography

Wes Highfield, Associate
Director, Center for Texas
Beaches and Shores

Jennifer Horney,
Department Head, School
of Public Health

Dawn Jourdan, Executive
Associate Dean, College of
Architecture

Ali Mostafavidarani,
Assistant Professor,
Department of Civil
Engineering

Timothy Mulvaney, Pro-
fessor of Law and Associate
Dean for Faculty Research
and Development, School
of Law

Galen Newman, Associate
Professor, Department of
Landscape Architecture
and Urban Planning

Walt Peacock, Director,
Hazard Reduction and
Recovery Center

Kent Portney, Director,
Institute for Science, Tech-
nology, and Public Policy

Ashley Ross, Assistant
Professor, Department of
Marine Sciences

Courtney Thompson,
Assistant Professor,
Department of Geography

Shannon Van Zandt,
Department Head, Depart-
ment of Landscape Archi-
tecture and Urban Planning

Sierra Woodruff, Assistant
Professor, Department of
Landscape Architecture
and Urban Planning

For More Information Contact:

Heather Wade, hwade@tamu.edu, 979-845-3855, or
Jaimie Masterson, jaimiehm06@neo.tamu.edu,
979-458-1295

