

WATERSHED WEEK IN REVIEW



Landowners



Have you been wanting to do a project on your land that benefits water, soil and wildlife?

Well now is your chance to get it funded.

The Hill Country Headwaters Initiative is providing **over \$5 million in NRCS funding** specifically for projects in the Texas Hill Country. Applications of Eligibility must be received by May 21st.

See page 4 for more

Llano River Workday Saturday - May 18

Join our partners, Texas Council of Fly Fishermen International, Texas Rivers Protection Association, and Texas Parks and Wildlife, as we host a *Workday on the Llano* to help speed the recovery of the river following the flood.

We will be planting seedling grasses and sedges, assembling a kiosk for signage, and doing some trail building.

Meet at Castell General Store at 11am Saturday

Bring : gloves, sunscreen, insect repellent, water, snacks. **See page 5 for more info.**

Primitive camping available for volunteers at HR Seventh Heaven Leased Access Site.

Please contact David Reichert to RSVP.

Llano Aerial Footage-Pt 3



In December of last year, the Alliance had the opportunity to help Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) analyze the impacts of the Fall Floods on the Llano and South Llano rivers from a TPWD helicopter. The flight was recorded using a GoPro camera mounted on the skid of

the helicopter. Part 3 of this footage, from the Scott's Crossing upstream to Schneider's Crossing, is now available for viewing on the Alliance YouTube Channel. Additional footage will be uploaded in the coming weeks. [View!](#)

700 Springs Tour -2019



Another large crowd gathered April 27th, 2019 for the annual tour of 700 Springs. Since 1995, landowner Lee Pfluger has graciously opened the springs for the Kimble County Historical Commission tour. A copy of the [Frederica Wyatt's Historical Narrative](#) is available here.

LRWA Flood Impact Article in Mason County News Visitor Guide

In addition to the *Junction Eagle* (see last week's newsletter), the Llano River Watershed Alliance also submitted an article for the Mason County News Visitor Guide on Flood Impacts to River Recreation in Mason County.

Page 22, Mason County News Spring Visitors' Supplement - April 10, 2019

Impacts to the Llano River Following the Floods of 2018

By Tyson Broad, Llano River Watershed Alliance

This article contains excerpts from Floods on the Llano River, Texas - Fall 2018 (available online at llanoiver.org)

During the fall of 2018, a series of three flood events swept down the Llano River and its tributaries. The first event, on September 22, impacted mostly the North Llano River and the second event, on October 8, mostly the South Llano River. The third and largest event, on October 16, was a combination of floods on the South Llano River, Johnson Fork, James River, and the mainstem of the Llano River, and resulted in the second largest flood on the Llano in recorded history.



James River Crossing following October 16, 2018 flood



Free Seminar: Landowner Incentive Programs

Save the Date!
Join us Thursday, May 30, from 2:00-3:30PM
at the Eckert Civic Center in Mason

CALLING ALL LANDOWNERS! Join us on May 30 for an overview of programs that provide funding or assistance for conservation and habitat management projects on your land, with a focus on the Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) and Pastures for Upland Birds (PUB). This is a comprehensive look at incentive programs available, who they are for, what to know about them and how to apply!

Hear from special guests and sponsors at Hill Country Alliance and Llano River Watershed Alliance about additional educational and financial resources to support your land stewardship efforts. Family, friends and neighbors welcome! Enjoy snacks and beverages while learning how to protect your land's natural resources.



Come Learn about Landowner Incentive Programs -Mason - - May 30-

Plateau Land & Wildlife Management is partnering with Hill Country Alliance and LRWA to offer a free overview of programs that provide funding or assistance for conservation and habitat management projects. The program will be held on May 30th - 2 pm - at the Eckert Civic Center - 1024 McKinley Ave in Mason.

Sign up Soon for the Hill Country Headwaters Conservation Initiative

From Hill Country Conservancy...

Are you a conservation-minded rancher, farmer or wildlife enthusiast looking to enhance the water, soils or wildlife on your land? If so, you are in the right place. Hill Country Conservancy and its partners (including the Llano River Watershed Alliance) are now offering land stewardship financial assistance, as part of the Hill Country Headwaters Conservation Initiative (HCHCI), to subsidize important land stewardship projects.

The HCHCI is a collaborative program created by Hill Country Conservancy, The Texas Hill Country Conservation Network, and 19 partner organizations to ensure long-term conservation of sensitive agricultural lands through partnership with area landowners. The initiative is financed through a \$5.15 million award from the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) as part of their Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP).

A portion of this award will be directed towards key land stewardship projects that meet the following criteria:

- the project falls within the Blanco, Upper San Marcos and Llano River basins, and within areas of the Middle Colorado [shown on this map](#), and
- the project aims to enhance or protect soil, water and wildlife habitat, long-term.

HCC is accepting Applications of Eligibility **now through May 21, 2019** at 12:59 p.m. To be considered for this financial award, landowners must take this first step in the application process by the specified deadline. Qualified applicants will be notified of their advancement and receive information about next steps. If you have a prospective project or group of projects, we encourage you to begin the application process by filling out our Application of Eligibility.

Llano River Workday Saturday, May 18th

From TRPA...

The Texas Council of Fly Fishermen International, in conjunction with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept (TPWD), the Llano River Watershed Alliance (LRWA), and the Texas Rivers Protection Association (TRPA), will be hosting a workday on the Llano River at several sites near Castell on May 18th. The plan is for volunteers to meet at the Castell General Store at 11 am, a good place for lunch, and disperse in several groups to several sites. We will be planting seedling grasses and sedges, assembling a kiosk for signage, and doing some trail building.



We will need some post hole diggers, garden trowels, etc. Please bring the normal river stuff: gloves, sunscreen, insect repellent, fluids, snacks, etc.

There will be free primitive camping available Saturday night with a drinking water source and a porta-potty. There are also campgrounds, RV parks, and B&B's in the area. Sunday will be alternate day in case of inclement weather. Otherwise Sunday will be free for fishing and/or boating. The river is clean and clear, is running good, and people are catching fish.

This is the first step for the Conservation Grant to FFI that David Reichert will present to the FFI in late May at their next meeting. But we can't wait that long to plant grasses and sedges because of the summer heat. We already have access to \$5000 donated to the TXCouncil by the TRPA and some funding and help from TPWD and LRWA.

The actual FFI grant money will be spent in the Fall planting trees and building enclosures to protect them from deer. We will have from \$1500-\$3000 for that effort. We will be asking clubs to donate cash for that effort also volunteers.

Please RSVP if you can volunteer to David Reichert at reichert@satx.rr.com. We need some idea how many people to expect so we can plan the work groups.

Thanks for your consideration

Full Slate of Activities at South Llano River State Park Ethan

South Llano River State Park Programs for May 2019

Mother's Day Sunrise Hike - Meet at **Juniper Blind** (located by the walk-in campsite parking lot). Come enjoy the beauty that is mother nature with your mother. Enjoy some treats as well as explore your artistic self. **Saturday, May 11- 6:30am**

Bird Walk – Come meet at the **Agarita bird blind** and walk part of the Golden-cheek Warbler trail and see what we can find. **Saturday, May 11- 8:30am & Tuesday, May 14 – 8:30**

Butterfly Walk- Join a ranger and discover all the colors of those winged beauties. Meet at **Headquarters** and we will provide nets and everything else (feel free to bring your own butterfly net).

Bring: water, sunscreen, sturdy shoes, bug spray **Saturday, May 11- 10:00am**

River Bugs! - Come explore the river and see who lives in the water. Meet at **Main Day Use parking lot** (the big lot) and be prepared to get wet. **Saturday, May 11- 1:30pm**

Frog Watch -Look and listen for frogs with a ranger. Learn all about what they are talking about. We will learn about the local amphibians and hear their story of survival. Meet at the **Acorn Blind**. **No pets, please.**

Bring: water, flashlight (red light one if got it), and bug spray. **Friday, May 17- 9:00pm**

LCRA's Video on Ethan West



The Land Ethic

"The land ethic simply enlarges the boundaries of the community to include soils, waters, plants, and animals, or collectively: the land." - Aldo Leopold



Fostering a Land Ethic Workshop for Informal and Formal Educators

June 16-19, 2019

**Texas Tech University - Llano River Field Station
Junction, TX**

What is it? –An interdisciplinary outdoor educational experience taught by education professionals and natural resource specialists. This workshop will include the skills and teaching methods to engage students in the art and science of nature and will emphasize stewardship of Texas' natural resources and development of a personal land ethic. Participants will explore human connections to the natural world through hands-on experiences in conservation topics related to Soils, Water quality, Land Ethics and Health, Biodiversity, Plant ID, Habitat and Management. Activities will include Fishing, Tubing, Birding, Nature Crafts, Nature Journaling, Hiking, and Plant Pressing.

Who Should Attend? – Anyone who is interested in learning more about fostering a relationship between our youth and the natural world– teachers, scout leaders, parents, naturalists, park rangers, zoo educators, youth group leaders, and private citizens

Sponsored by:

 State Soil and Water Conservation Board

 McCulloch County SWCD

 Upper Llanos SWCD

 Menard County SWCD

 Texas Tech University - Junction

Cost: \$250.00

Includes:

**3 nights lodging and
9 meals**

**25 Hours of
Professional
Continuing
Education Units**

**Certification in
Leopold Education
Project curriculum**

**LEP Curriculum
Guide**

**Copy of Sand County
Almanac**

**Lessons correlated
to the TEKS.**

For information about the workshop, contact Christine Moseley at Christine.moseley@utsa.edu

Full or Partial Scholarships available from local Soil and Water Conservation District