

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 T H , 2 0 1 5

Watershed Week in Review

Llano River Watershed Alliance

Join Us Next Sunday

Trip Details

The Llano River Watershed Alliance Fall Outing will take place next **Sunday, September 27th at 2 pm.**

Outing participants are asked to provide their own canoes/kayaks and all personal gear (life jackets, paddles, water, hat, sunscreen) and meet at South Llano River State Park parking lot past the bridge over the river. The State Park is generously providing an entry fee waiver for all who sign up for the trip.

At the end of the trip, members of the Alliance will safeguard your equipment while other members provide shuttles from Flatrock Crossing back to your car at the Park.

There is no charge for those who sign up by noon Friday (25th).

Please be sure to bring your all of own gear including water, sunscreen, and hat as well as shoes adequate for wading in the river. Check [this link](#) should you need to rent boating equipment,

To sign up, please send an email with your name and the number of participants to southllanoriver@gmail.com.



Join members of the Llano River Watershed Alliance next Sunday for our Fall Outing on the [South Llano Paddling Trail](#) from South Llano River State Park to Flatrock Crossing (**see details left**).

Researchers from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Llano River Field Station, and the University of Texas will accompany us to provide updates on the latest efforts to restore eroded streambanks, improve riparian habitats, reestablish pure strains of Guadalupe Bass and remove invasive species along the river. In addition, participants will have a hands-on opportunity to learn about the macroinvertebrates (bugs) found in the river.

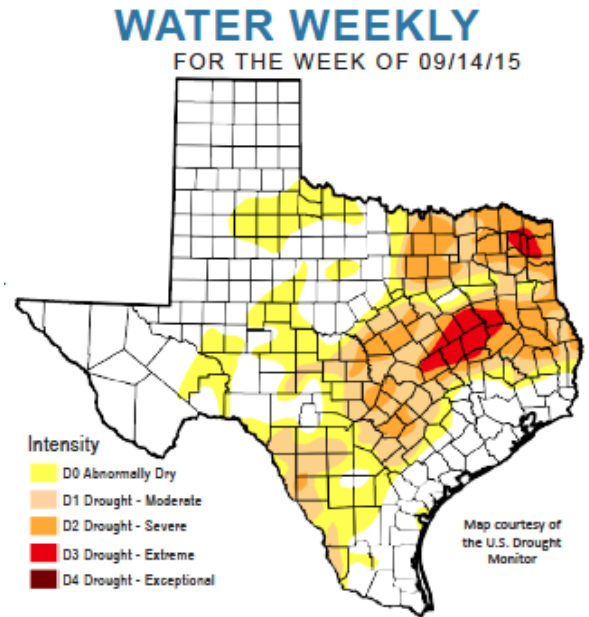
Everyone is invited. This is a great opportunity for the family.

Curious how this familiar map is created?

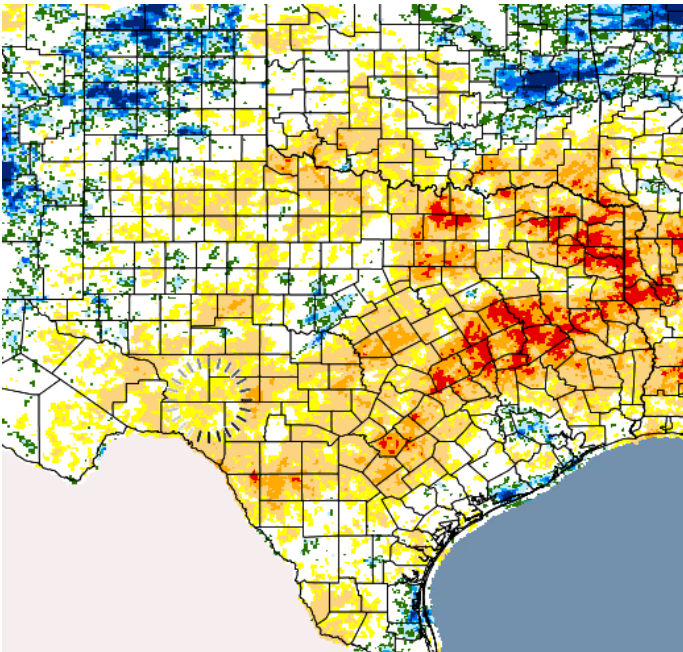
...the colorful drought severity maps, their blotches of red and orange creeping across the landscape to tell us just how bad the drought has become in different regions.

What most people don't realize is that those maps are not generated by software models and computer programs churning away in an air-conditioned server farm on a desert plateau somewhere. The maps are created by hand.

A team of climate and weather experts scattered around the country, working in partnership with the National Drought Mitigation Center, draws the maps each week using voluminous field reports about soil moisture, plant



Another Drought Map



Does it seem as if our friends in McCulloch County have been getting more of the recent rains? Well, according to this map on the State Climatologist website, they have.

We don't begrudge our friends to the north; rather we use this info to highlight the availability of this great resource. This is a map of the Standard Precipitation Index (SPI) over the last 90 days that shows dry conditions for the watershed, extreme dry conditions for east Texas, and exceptionally wet conditions for parts of the Panhandle.

[Go to the website](#) and look at the SPI for the last 30-days and see that most of Central Texas has seen below normal precipitation. Click on an area on the map and get the current index value as well as a graph showing trends over the last 30 days.

The website also shows which Texas counties currently are under a burn ban. Happy exploring.

Upcoming Events

Three-part Educational Lunch Experience in Kimble County



The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service office in Kimble County will offer a three-part Educational Lunch Experience from noon to 1 p.m. Sept. 22-24 in the Kimble County Courthouse in Junction.

“Participants can choose to attend one or all of the presentations,” said Sam Silvers, AgriLife Extension agent in Kimble County. “These programs allow those with busy schedules to come in during their lunch hour and gain a great educational experience while enjoying a catered meal.”

Registration is \$10 per day and includes lunch. For more information and to RSVP by Sept. 18 for an accurate meal count, call the AgriLife Extension office in Kimble County at 325-446-2620.

[Details...](#)

A Vision for the Hill Country Sept 24th - Fredericksburg

Hill Country Alliance’s Annual Leadership Summit

Speakers include:

State Representative Andy Murr

Com Mims - Nueces River Authority

Dr. Robert Mace – Texas Water Development Board

Roel Lopez – Texas A&M Institute Renewable Natural Resources

Bob Yaro – Visiting Professor, University of Texas

[...more info](#)

Water 101 at Hill Country Master Naturalist

Water 101 is a one half-hour explanation of water in Texas. Charlie Flatten, water policy program manager with Hill Country Alliance will discuss science, management, policy, conservation, and the future of our most precious natural resource.

The monthly meeting of the Hill Country Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist program is free and open to the public. Everyone is welcome to attend! Meetings are held in the Upper Guadalupe River Authority Lecture Hall, 125 North Lehmann Drive in Kerrville. Socializing begins at 6:30pm; program starts at 7:00.

[details](#)