

Kerr County Soil & Water
Conservation District

2104 Memorial Boulevard
Suite 103

Kerrville, Texas 78028

Tel: 830-896-4911 x 3

Fax: 830-896-3336

E-mail: kerrcountyswcd@tx.nacdn.net

www.kerrcountyswcd.com



<https://www.facebook.com/kerrcoswcd>



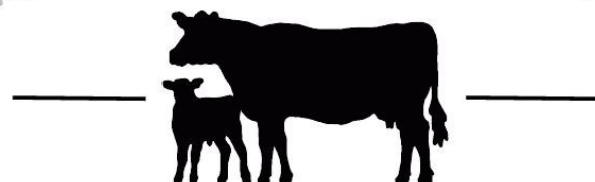
Meet Sid! I've hidden him inside this
Newsletter. The first person to find him and
post it on the Kerr County SWCD's
Facebook page gets a prize!

~Missie Dreiss, Kerr County SWCD District Technician

Save The Date!



COW POKES & LAND FOLKS



TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

Conference

Friday, May 9, 2025 8:00am - 4:00pm

Hill Country Youth Event Center ~ 3785 Hwy. 27 Kerrville, TX 78028

\$35.00 Early Bird Special ~ \$50.00 At The Gate

CEU's (Pesticide Lic.) www.kerrcountyswcd.com/events

Please make checks payable to Kerr County SWCD and Mail to: 2104 Memorial Blvd. Ste. 103, Kerrville, TX 78028



KERR CO. SWCD NEWS

Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District January 2025 Volume 15, Issue 1



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

"Helping People Help the Land"



Claude Ross
Assistant State Conservationist,
Field Operations
3878 W. Houston Harte Expy
San Angelo, TX 76901
(325) 944-0147, ext 3
claudio.ross@usda.gov

Cole Jacoby
Resource Team Leader
Kerrville Team
2104 Memorial Blvd., Suite 103
Kerrville, TX 78028
(830) 896-4911, ext 3
cole.jacoby@usda.gov

Nathan Orsak
District Conservationist
Kerrville Field Office
2104 Memorial Blvd., Suite 103
Kerrville, TX 78028
(830) 896-4911, ext 3
nathan.orsak@usda.gov

Kerr County SWCD #217
2104 Memorial Blvd., Suite 103
Kerrville, TX 78028
(830) 896-4911, Ext 3

Kerr County 2024 Report

FY24 Farm Bill Conservation Program Investments in Kerr County:

\$533K
EQIP
Environmental
Quality Incentives
Program

\$488K
CSP
Conservation
Stewardship
Program

Conservation Outcomes:



CONSERVATION PLANS
were written on:
27,591 acres



WILDLIFE HABITAT
was enhanced on:
54,517 acres



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
was enhanced through
conservation practices on:
61,202 acres



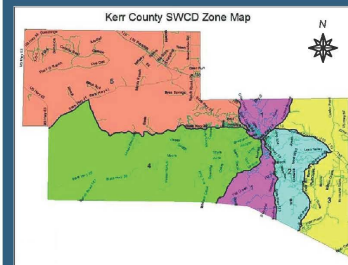
NRCS
MISSION:

We deliver
conservation solutions
so agricultural
producers can protect
natural resources and
feed a growing world.



NRCS
VISION:

A world of clean and
abundant water,
healthy soils, resilient
landscapes and
thriving agricultural
communities through
voluntary
conservation.



Texas NRCS
QR code



Kerr County
SWCD
QR code

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
| 101 South Main St. Temple, Texas 76501 | 254.742.9800 |
nrcs.usda.gov/Texas

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

District Directors:

Zone 1

Barbara Oates, Secretary

Zone 2

Jack Thorn, Vice-Chairman

Zone 3

Paula Russ

Zone 4

David Symm

Zone 5

Jack Clarke, III, Chairman

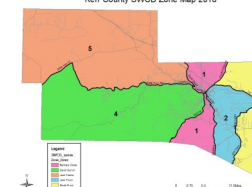
District Clerk

Denise Griffin

District Technician

Missie Dreiss

Kerr County SWCD Zone Map 2018



Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Resource Team Leader

Cole Jacoby

District Conservationists

Nathan Orsak

Soil Conservationist

Jorge Lozoya

Programs Assistant (Farm Bill)

Katy Meador

OFFICE HOURS:

NRCS 8:00-4:30 Mon-Fri

SWCD 9:00-3:00 Tues-Thurs

(830) 896-4911x3

SPRING NATIVE TREE & PLANT SALE

PRE-ORDER BY FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH, 2025

PICK UP ON , THURSDAY, APRIL 17TH 9AM-3PM

ORDER FORMS WWW.KERRCOUNTYSWCD.COM

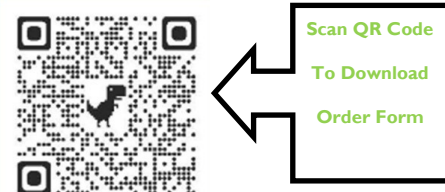


SPRING FISH SALE

PRE-ORDER BY MONDAY, APRIL 21ST, 2025

PICK UP THURSDAY, APRIL 24TH @ 11:30AM

ORDER FORMS WWW.KERRCOUNTYSWCD.COM



WARNING

UNDER TEXAS LAW (CHAPTER 75A, CIVIL PRACTICE AND REMEDIES CODE), AN AGRITOURISM ENTITY IS NOT LIABLE FOR ANY INJURY TO OR DEATH OF AN AGRITOURISM PARTICIPANT RESULTING FROM AN AGRITOURISM ACTIVITY.

AgriTourism Warning Sign

\$25 Donation

WARNING

UNDER TEXAS LAW (CHAPTER 87, CIVIL PRACTICE AND REMEDIES CODE), A FARM ANIMAL PROFESSIONAL OR FARM OWNER OR LESSEE IS NOT LIABLE FOR AN INJURY TO OR THE DEATH OF A PARTICIPANT IN FARM ANIMAL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING AN EMPLOYEE OR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR, RESULTING FROM THE INHERENT RISKS OF FARM ANIMAL ACTIVITIES.

Farm Animal Liability Warning Sign

\$25 Donation.

Passed in 2015, the Texas Agritourism Act (the Act), states that an agritourism entity is not liable to any person for injuries or damages to an agritourism participant injured on agriculture land if, before the activity, the landowner posts required signs or obtains from the participant a signed, written agreement containing required language. Posting required signage Under the statute, warning signs must be clearly visible on or near any premises where an agritourism activity occurs and must contain the proper language. Once the signs are posted in the proper place, the landowner's work is done.

This sign is critical for farm and ranch owners. Previously, farm and ranch owners and lessees were not required to hang the sign. Now, however, they will need to do so. Moreover, because the statutory language required for the sign has been changed (by including farm owners or lessees to the list of those protected and adding the language about independent contractors or employees), farm animal professionals and farm and ranch owners may want to obtain signs with this new language out of an abundance of caution. Once the signs are posted in the proper place, the landowner's work is done.

Spring Planting Season Is Just Around The Corner

Kerr SWCD can take care of your seed needs! From custom grass mixes, wildlife/deer/dove mixes, tank dam mixes or specific species seed, we can order exactly what your needs call for! Call the office to discuss what you are looking for and get your seed in time for the Spring planting season! (830) 896-4911x3

Tips To Planting Seed

Always plant on fresh disturbed soil

Establish a firm seedbed

Don't plant too deep

Develop a root system

One of the most common mistakes when planting is not planting the seed into freshly disturbed soil. There have been several field plantings that farmers would begin planting and be rained out before finishing. Some would go back into the field and continue planting without disturbing the un-sown part of the field. The part of the field that was not disturbed after the rain would never have the stand that the freshly disturbed seedbed would have. The only exception to this is when the seed is planted with a no-till grass drill. The second problem that occurs when planting

small seed is having a firm seedbed. When most fields are plowed, air pockets are placed in the soil by the plow. During limited rainfall times, these pockets can allow the seed to germinate and then die when the roots grow into air pockets. With adequate moisture, the "raindrop splash" effect will firm the seedbed where there aren't any air pockets. Through years of planting it has been found that a seedbed can never be too firm. In fact, the firmer the seedbed, the better the stand. Some people will firm the seedbed by rolling it before planting the seed. Others will plant the seed then roll the seedbed. Both ways work in establishing a crop. We feel that rolling the seedbed before planting is more important than after and rolling before and after is best. The third problem in planting is the depth in which the seed is planted. The old timers had a saying that seven times the diameter of the seed is the maximum depth that any seed should be planted. The state of Oklahoma did a study, and found out that up to fifty percent of the wheat seed planted in Oklahoma never came up because it was planted too deep. Considering the size of wheat in comparison to grass and flower seed makes depth of planting critical to success. If a grass seeder with disk openers is used, then make sure that each disk has a depth band on it to insure proper depth placement. If the seed is broadcasted, firming the seedbed by rolling it will insure that the seed is not placed too deep. The fourth problem in planting seed is the amount of time that the stand needs to establish itself. The Government recommends one full growing season before grazing. This is a wise management practice. Perennials, unlike annuals, need to establish a root system before being grazed. Few stands, if any, have ever died during the winter of the first year if they were allowed to develop their root system. Several stands have been wiped out by grazing or haying the first season due to lack of root development.



Kerr County SWCD Scholarship Program

Honoring Mr. Charles Flack

Deadline for applications

Tuesday, April 1st

Do you have a graduating senior interested in pursuing a career in agriculture?

The Kerr County SWCD offers a **\$1,000 Scholarship** for students that reside in or attend/attended school in Kerr County. Download the application from our website today!

www.kerrcountyswcd.com