

**Kerr County Soil & Water
Conservation District**



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NOW AVAILABLE!!

**Kerr County Soil & Water
Conservation District**

With a Minimum \$20 Donation



Natural Resources Conservation Service

*A Land User's Guide
to their Identification,
Value and Management
by Ricky L. Iltner*

North Central Texas

Range Plants

Please visit our office to get your copy today!

2104 Memorial Boulevard #103, Kerrville

(In the USDA Service Center, NRCS office)

830-896-4911 x 3 or 830-459-1701 (Deanna Pfeffer)

KERR CO. SWCD NEWS

Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District April 2015 Volume 6, Issue 2

Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District

Presents Our Annual

Spring Range & Wildlife Field Day

May 1, 2015

Location: Kerr Wildlife Management Area, Hunt, Tx

Registration starts at 8:30 a.m.; Programs start at 9:00 a.m.; Ends at 3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$15 / person

Topics Will Include:

Current Feral Hog Research; Brush Management;
Water Development Practices; Prescribed Burning, Plant ID and MORE!

With a Field Tour on the Stowers Ranch

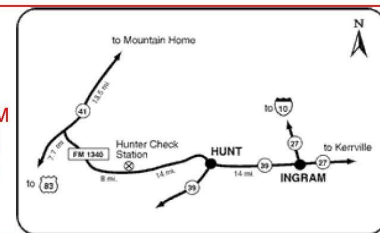
3 CEU's will be available!

Please RSVP with Name and Phone Number by April 24th to:

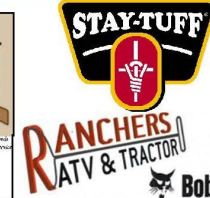
deanna@kerrcountyswcd.com or 830-896-4911 x 3

Driving Directions:

2625 FM 1340, Hunt, Texas. From Kerrville, take Hwy 27 to Ingram. In Ingram, proceed straight on FM 39 to Hunt. Take a right turn in Hunt onto FM 1340 and drive approximately 14 miles to the Kerr WMA entrance on your right!



Our Event Sponsors:



Be sure to check out the enclosed flyer for our Fish Stocking Sale!!

Call the office for more info or for help with stocking rates!

Delivery Date: May 8 Orders Due: April 24

830-896-4911 x 3

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Dates of Interest:

- April 11: Blooms & Barrels Event
- April 14: Pecan Grafting Field Day
- April 18: Native Plant Sale & Festival
- April 23-24: Bennett Trust Landowner Seminar
- April 24: Deadline for Fish Orders & Field Day RSVP's
- May 1: Kerr SWCD's Range Field Day
- May 8: SWCD Fish Sale Delivery

Bennett Trust Land Stewardship Landowner Seminar

The second annual Bennett Land Stewardship Conference is scheduled for April 23-24 at the Inn of the Hills Resort & Conference Center in Kerrville. The conference is funded by the Ruth & Eskel Bennett Endowment and hosted by the Texas A & M AgriLife Extension Service. The Bennett's posthumously provided an endowment that will support land stewardship education in the Edwards Plateau for generations to come.

Cost of the two-day conference is \$75 and includes all meals, break refreshments and tour transportation costs. Register by going to <http://agrifiregister.tamu.edu/BennettTrust> or by calling 979-845-2604. Dr. Rick Machen, AgriLife Extension livestock specialist from Uvalde, said the conference will include "the best and wisest, accomplished stewards, visionaries and legacy-leavers together as educators for this conference. Those with a passion for natural resource stewardship and a love for the Texas Hill Country will want to be there."

USDA-NRCS & TSSWCB Programs Available

Several programs are available for Kerr County residents to apply for and receive assistance in implementing management practices for agricultural land.

The Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) is designed to assist agricultural producers in enhancing their land with certain management practices. Practices that address and improve water quantity and domestic animals are given high priority in Kerr County and include such practices as brush management, livestock water systems, fencing, and seeding.

The NRCS office accepts applications for this program year round and more information can be gained by contacting the Kerrville office at 830-896-4911 x 3 or visit the NRCS Texas homepage at: www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov.

The Water Quality Management Program (WQMP) is a state-funded program made available through Senate Bill 503. It is a site-specific plan developed through and approved by the local soil and water conservation district for agricultural or silvicultural lands. The main goal of these plans is to abate agricultural and/or silvicultural nonpoint pollutant contributions to impaired or threatened waters as prioritized. A WQMP covers the entire operating unit and includes required practices applicable to the planned land use. The first step in obtaining a WQMP is to contact the Kerr County SWCD. There is no charge for the development of a WQMP, but there may be costs for implementing required practices outlined in the WQMP.

Financial assistance is available at this time in the form of a cost-share program for WQMPs in Kerr County. You may read more on this program at TSSWCB's website at: www.tsswcb.texas.gov (click on Programs, then select WQMP). You may also contact the Kerr County Soil and Water Conservation District's office at 830-896-4911 x3 and ask for Deanna (SWCD) or Laura (NRCS) for assistance or to start the application process.

NRCS is an equal opportunity provider & employer.

Native Plant Society of Texas - Kerrville Chapter
&
Riverside Nature Center invite you to...

2015
SPRING Native Plant Sale & Festival
Saturday
April 18th
8am - 3pm
Free Family Fun



Native Plant Sale

- Native Plants selected to thrive in our climate & soil
- Plant experts to answer questions & offer advice
- Save! One day tax-free shopping for plants & gifts

All net proceeds benefit RNC & NPSOT education efforts.

Expert Speaker

"Let it Go" 11am: Marvin Hatter
Using Locally Native Plants in an
Informal Landscape Design

Demonstrations

"Potting & Sharing your Native Plant Volunteers"
& "Protecting Plants from Deer & Wildlife"

Informative Displays

Ask the Plant Expert * Riverside Nature Center Association
Texas Master Naturalist Hill Country * Native Healing Garden
Native Plant Society of Texas - Kerrville Chapter
Kerr County Cactus & Succulent Society * Public Radio
Hill Country Master Gardeners * ROCKS Exhibit
UGRA - Water Quality & Conservation

Kids' Activities
8am and 2:30pm Nature Walk with Angelo
Kids create fun nature craft projects to take home.

9-11:30am  12:30-2:30pm

For More Details: 830-257-4837
www.riversidenaturecenter.org

150 Francisco Lemos Street • Kerrville, Texas 78028

UGRA's Rain Barrel Program

The Upper Guadalupe River Authority (UGRA) has a rebate program to promote water conservation and watershed stewardship through rainwater harvesting. The Rainwater Catchment System Rebate Program is available to anyone with a Kerr County address and will reimburse eligible applicants up to \$50 when they provide proof of purchase of rainwater catchment system equipment.

This incentive program is open to businesses or individuals who will initiate rainwater harvesting in Kerr County. Purchases of rainwater catchment system equipment made after March 24, 2011 are eligible for the rebate and payment by UGRA is subject to the availability of funds. For more information, contact UGRA at 830-896-5445 or visit their website at www.ugra.org.



Hill Country Master Gardener's Blooms and Barrels Spring Plant Sale Event

Hill Country Master Gardeners welcome spring with Blooms & Barrels, their annual plant and rain barrel sale. "We'll have plants and rain barrels for sale, but we have also lined up a number of educational presentations and exhibits for Saturday, April 11 from 9 am—2 pm at the Hill Country Youth Event Center, 3785 Highway 27, Kerrville," said Sandy Lewis, greenhouse chairman. "We're offering more than 1000 native and adapted plants, and our 55-gallon rain barrels for sale for cash or check only, tax exempt."

Those attending the sale can learn about tomatoes and herbs at 10 am; Hill Country vegetable growing & proper plant placement at 11 am; composting & rainwater harvesting at 12 pm; and beekeeping and vegetable basics at 1 pm. Exhibitors will include Hill Country Master Naturalists, Glory Community Garden, Kerr County Cactus & Succulent Society, The Gardens at the Ridge, Native Plant Society of TX, Kerr Co Soil & Water Conservation District, Riverside Nature Center, Upper Guadalupe River Authority, & Natural Resource Conservation Service. A special children's activity is designed to involve kids while adults shop.

Hill Country Master Gardeners is a service organization helping the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service meet the horticultural needs of the community.

For further information call 830-257-6568 or visit their website: www.hillcountrymastergardeners.org

KERR COUNTY SWCD PROVIDES SCHOLARSHIPS TO CONSERVATION CAMPS SUCH AS TEXAS BRIGADES TO YOUTH LIVING IN KERR COUNTY! PLEASE CONTACT US TO GET MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO RECEIVE SUPPORT!

New Landowner Series Seminars

The multi-county 2015 New Landowner Series, presented by Texas A & M AgriLife Extension Service, will be held in 3 counties from March -June. A total of six sessions will be held in Gillespie, Kendall and Kerr counties. "These sessions are designed for the novice who just acquired property or is looking into purchasing land in the Hill Country. At these sessions, attendees can meet and speak with some of the top experts in their respective fields, as well as get hands-on experience in learning how to get the most out of their property," says Brad Roeder, Extension Agent in Gillespie county.

All programs begin with registration from 1-1:30 p.m. and presentations from 1:30-5:00 p.m. Dates, towns & topics are as follows:

April 17, Kerrville, Live Oak Wilt, Turf, Tree & Landscape Management, Rainwater Harvest

May 1, TBA, Forage Production, Livestock Species Selection, Grazing Management, Fencing

May 15, TBA, Wildlife & Range Management, Brush Control, Plant ID

June 5, Stonewall, Vineyards, Orchards

Specific session sites are being identified, with maps and directions to each location to be provided to attendees prior to each session. The cost is \$30 per session, or \$100 per person or \$150 per couple for the entire series, payable in advance or at the door. Advance notice for each session is requested so adequate take-home materials can be prepared. For more information, contact the AgriLife Extension office in Kerr County at 830-257-6568.