

Kerr County Soil & Water
Conservation District

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www.kerrcountyswcd.com



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



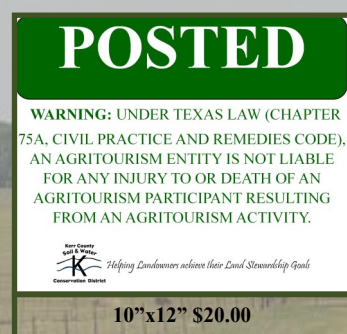
Meet Sid! I've hidden him inside this
Newsletter. The first person to find him and
post it on the Kerr County SWCD's Facebook
page gets a prize!

-Missie Dreiss, Kerr County SWCD District Technician



Happy Independence Day!

Order Your Personalized Gate & Agritourism Signs Today!



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 agricultural 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 following language: 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. Once the signs are posted in the proper place, the landowner's work is done.



KERR CO. SWCD NEWS

Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District July 2020 Volume 10, Issue 3



Scholarship Winner



Pictured left to right: Kerr County SWCD Board Vice-President Jack Thorn, Board Member David Symm, Board Secretary Barbara Oates, Board President Jack Clarke, Scholarship Winner Makayla Waiser, Amy Waiser, Travis Waiser, Retired Kerr County Extension Agent Roy Walston

Congratulations to Makayla Waiser of Tivy High School

The Kerr County SWCD is proud to announce Makayla Waiser as the recipient of the 2020 Scholarship Award and present her with a \$1,000 check. Makayla will be attending Texas A&M University with a proposed major in Agricultural Leadership and Development. While attending Tivy High School, she was inducted into the *National Honor Society*, received the *Merit Award* which is given to students who are hard workers with a positive attitude, was on the *Principals Team* which means she's had all A's all year, was a part of the schools *PAL's Program (Peer Assistance & Leadership)* where she was awarded the *Gold Presidential Service Award*, and served on the *Antler Leadership Team and Team Together Group* where she helped students learn how to work as a team. Makayla has also been a participant on the *Youth Agricultural Lifetime Leadership Tour* where she visited many different aspects of agriculture and she has attended the *Texas Ranch Brigade Camp* where she learned about ranching and how to raise livestock from the land to the cattle that end up on a plate. **"I believe that we need ethical leaders armed with knowledge and skills in using our natural resources, plants, and animals is the best way to create a sustainable food source that will provide for a growing society."**, says Makayla Waiser and we here at the Kerr County SWCD believe that she is well on her way to becoming that ethical leader.

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

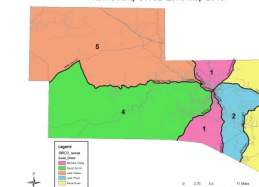
District Clerk

Denise Griffin

District Technician

Missie Dreiss

Kerr County SWCD Zone Map 2018



Natural Resources
Conservation Service (NRCS)

Resource Team Leader

Cole Jacoby

Programs Assistant (Farm Bill)

Katy Meador

Soil Conservationist

Richard Atkinson

Rangeland Specialist

Christian Hopkins

OFFICE HOURS:

NRCS 8:00-4:30 Mon-Fri

SWCD 9:00-3:00 Tues-Thurs

(830) 896-4911x3



Wes Joost recently became the new **Soil Conservationist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in the Boerne Field Office.** He will also be assisting in neighboring field offices in Kerrville (Kerr), Bandera (Bandera), Rocksprings (Edwards and Real), and Junction (Kimble).

Joost was born and raised on a large family row crop farm in La Grange. He spent his entire life in agriculture in everything from farming to the seed and crop input business to managing an ag retail location. He graduated Texas A&M with a Bachelor of Science in Agronomy in 1983. While competing in college, he won regional and

national awards as a 2-year member of the TAMU Soil Judging team.

Wes has been married to his wife Elizabeth for 34 years and they have three children that are grown and successful with their own careers.

"I am a proud lifelong Texan with a passion for protecting our natural resources and look forward to serving the land stewards of Kendall and surrounding counties.", said Joost.

As precautionary health measures are put in effect nationwide to reduce the spread of coronavirus, the USDA is taking steps to ensure the safety of its employees and customers. USDA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only. While our program delivery staff will continue to come into to the office, they will be working with our agriculture producers by phone and using email and online tools whenever possible. Producers should contact their local service center by phone to schedule time for program or loan services needed. For the latest information on Service Center operations, visit farmers.gov/coronavirus.



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. 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 830-896-4911x3 and ask for Missie (SWCD) or Cole (NRCS) for assistance or to start the application process.

CTA Program

Conservation Technical Assistance

CTA Program provides land users with proven conservation technology and the delivery system needed to achieve the benefits of a healthy and productive landscape. Technical assistance is the help provided by NRCS, employees of other entities or agencies under the technical supervision of NRCS, to clients to address opportunities, concerns, and problems related to the use of natural resources. **Your Land ~ Your Investment ~ Your Plan**

EQIP

Environmental Quality Incentive Program

EQIP provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers in order to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation or improved or created wildlife habitat. Payments are made to participants after conservation practices and activities identified in an EQIP plan are implemented.

CStP

Conservation Stewardship Program

CSP helps agricultural producers maintain & improve their existing conservation systems & adopt additional conservation activities to address priority resource concerns. Participants earn CSP payments for conservation performance, the higher the performance, the higher the payment. Participants take additional steps to improve the resource conditions on their land including- soil, air & habitat quality, water quality & quantity, and energy conservation.

WQMP

Water Quality Incentive Plan

WQMP is a site-specific plan developed through and approved by SWCD's for agricultural or silvicultural lands. The plan includes appropriate land treatment practices, production practices, management measures, technologies or combinations thereof. The purpose is to achieve a level of pollution prevention or abatement determined by the TSSWCB, in consultation with local SWCD's, to be consistent with state water quality standards.

Native Tree Sale

We are planning our Fall Native Tree Sale!

Pre-order by November 12th!!

Trees will be ready for pickup on **Wednesday, November 18th.**

Order forms are available at www.kerrcountyswcd.com.



*"The best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago.
The second best time is NOW."*

UGRA 17th Annual

River Clean Up

Volunteers Wanted!

**Saturday, July 25th
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

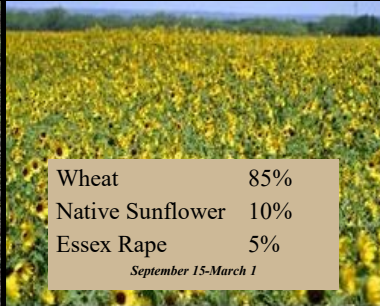
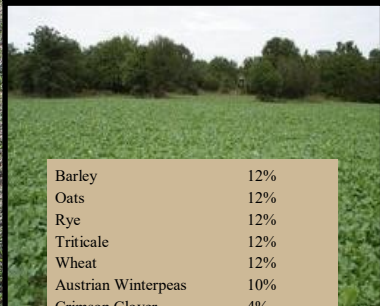
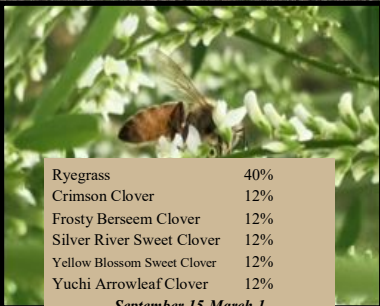
Cleanup sites will be assigned throughout Kerr County. Trash drop off at Flat Rock Park

Volunteers are strongly encouraged to pre register before July 10th!

Let's Keep OUR River Clean!

**T-shirts For First 300 Volunteers!!
Refreshments and Prizes, too!!
For More Info and to pre register, visit:
www.ugra.org**

Food Plots

Fall Dove Mix	Fall Deer Mix	Fall Clover Mix
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wheat 85% Native Sunflower 10% Essex Rape 5% <p><i>September 15-March 1</i></p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barley 12% Oats 12% Rye 12% Triticale 12% Wheat 12% Austrian Winterpeas 10% Crimson Clover 4% Essex Rape 4% Frosty Berseem Clover 4% Purpletop Turnips 4% Yellow Blossom Clover 4% Yuchi Arrowleaf Clover 4% Hairy Vetch 3% Alfalfa 2% Silver River Clover 1% <p><i>September 15-March 1</i></p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ryegrass 40% Crimson Clover 12% Frosty Berseem Clover 12% Silver River Sweet Clover 12% Yellow Blossom Sweet Clover 12% Yuchi Arrowleaf Clover 12% <p><i>September 15-March 1</i></p>

Time to prepare seedbeds for fall seeding! Kerr County SWCD can order exactly what you need!