



Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District



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The Kerr Co. SWCD offers camp scholarships to conservation-oriented camps such as the Texas Youth Range Workshop or Texas Brigades Camps for youth!

Teacher scholarships are also available for the "Studies in Natural Resources" Workshop!

Please contact us for more information!

TEXAS SECTION SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT
Annual Meeting
FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS
OCTOBER 10-12, 2012

WEDNESDAY:
Registration 1 p.m. @ the Pioneer Pavilion
Heritage Tour 9 a.m.-4 p.m. leaving from Inn on Baron's Creek
BBQ/Social/ Auction/ Range Relays/Plant ID
LIVE MUSIC: ARON KOTRMANI

THURSDAY
PIONEER PAVILION
Exhibits open @ 8 a.m.

Hill Country Heritage Program: (landscape history, ranch sustainability, managing multiple resources.)
Self guided tours of Fredericksburg Spouses' Program-Inn on Baron's Creek
LIVE MUSIC: ARON KOTRMANI

FRIDAY MORNING
INN ON BARON'S CREEK
New tools and techniques for managing rangeland.

Host Hotel
Inn on Barons Creek
304 S. Washington Street
Fredericksburg, Tx 78624
866-990-0202

Overflow Hotel
Fredericksburg Inn & Suites
201 S. Washington
Fredericksburg, Tx 78624
800-446-0202

Peach Tree Inn
Fredericksburg, Tx
800-843-4666

Building on Our Heritage to Prepare For the Future
<http://rangelands.org/texas/aminfo.htm>

Pioneer Pavilion
432 Lady Bird Drive
Fredericksburg, Texas
Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park

For Charles Anderson, 325-450-5771 or Mark Dooling, 210-470-7237

DEADLINE APPROACHING
2013 NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

November 15, 2012 – Deadline to report the **NATIVE and IMPROVED** grass acreage that you will be operating in 2013.

December 3, 2012 - Deadline to apply for coverage on your **NATIVE and IMPROVED** grasses that you will operate in 2013.

The NAP program gives you protection from losses on your pastures and crops. This program has been around several years and has paid out numerous times when the county had below normal rainfall. Please contact the Kerr-Bandera County FSA Office for more details on this program at 830-896-4911 x 2.

USDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

KERR CO. SWCD NEWS

Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District October 2012 Volume 3, Issue 4

Kerr Co. SWCD Tree Sale

KERR COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S

NATIVE TREE SALE

Date: Saturday, November 10, 2012

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Location: Kerr County Ag Barn

ALL TREES SOLD HAVE BEEN GROWN LOCALLY AND ARE NATIVE SPECIES.

QUANTITIES LIMITED, COME EARLY!

SPECIES AVAILABLE :

BURR OAK	ANAQUA
LACEY OAK	BUTTONBUSH
CHINKAPIN OAK	SPICEBUSH
MONTERREY OAK	MEXICAN PLUM
ROUGHLEAF DOGWOOD	DESERT WILLOW
CEDAR ELM	BIGTOOTH MAPLE
KIDNEYWOOD	TEXAS REDBUD
ESCAPMENT CHERRY	CAROLINA BUCKTHORNE
BLANCO CRABAPPLE	

Plant Native, Drought Resistant Trees!



For More Information Please Contact:
Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District
Deanna Pfeffer, Technician
deanna@kerrcountyswcd.com or
830-896-4911 x 3



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Dates of Interest:

- October 4-7 : NPSOT Symposium
- October 5 : Kerr WMA 1st Friday Seminar
- October 6 : Kerr County 4H Wild Game Dinner
- October 10-12 : TSSRM Annual Meeting, Fredericksburg
- November 10 : Native Tree Sale

Kerr County 4 - H Wild Game Dinner - Saturday, October 6

This year's dinner will again be held at the Hill Country Youth Exhibit Center where doors open at 5 pm, dinner is served at 6 pm, and there will be raffle tickets available.

Dinner Tickets available at: Gibson's, Extension Office, Kerrville Ranch & Pet Center, Mike Saur Automotive, Double L Ranch & Wildlife Feed.

For more information, please call 830-257-6568

Kerr WMA's 1st Friday Seminars

The Kerr Wildlife Management Area will be hosting monthly tours on the 1st Friday of August, September, and October addressing resource concerns in the Edward's Plateau.

The final seminar in the series, "Ecosystems Management, Putting It All Together," will be on October 5. It will cover white-tailed deer management,

grazing management, prescribed burning, brush control and endangered species. The seminar will also include over 20 years of nutrition and genetics research conducted in their research pens. Please contact the Kerr WMA office to make reservations or for more details at 830-238-4483.

Kerr County Fair

Oct. 26-28

Kerr County Fairgrounds

Gate Admission: \$5 Adults, Children 10 & Under Are Free

Gates Open: Friday, 26th, 5:00 - 9:00 pm; Saturday, 27th, 10:00 am - 10:00 pm; Sunday, 28th, 10:am - 6:00 pm

Carnival & Midway Hours: Thursday, 5:00 - 9:00 pm; Friday, 5:00 - 10:00 pm; Saturday, 1:00 - 11:00 pm; Sunday, 1:00 - 8:00 pm

Events to Include: Rodeo, Prospect Show, Parade, Cook Off, Scholarship Pageant, Creative Arts, Youth Activities, Washer Pitching, Hay Show, Skillet Throwing, Vendor Area

Visit www.kerrcountyfair.com for more info!

Free Parking!

Come see us in the Vendor Area!

USDA-NRCS 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 Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) is designed for landowners

who focus more on wildlife management than agriculture and most of the practices involved are the same as EQIP's. The Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) is a program designed to improve grazing management and protect rangeland from development with either rental or easement options.

The NRCS office accepts applications for all of these programs 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.

NRCS is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Rainfall Data for 2012

January - 2.05"	June - 0.12"
February - 2.42"	July - 1.89"
March - 4.16"	August - 1.67"
April - 0.07"	September - 4.47"
May - 5.92"	

2012 Total Year To Date Rainfall: 22.77"

Normal Year To Date Rainfall: 20.27"

2011 Total Year To Date Rainfall: 5.19"

Weather Data Taken From:

<http://www.ars.usda.gov/Main/docs.htm?docid=14130>

We are working on the Kerr County SWCD's Annual Calendar for 2013 and we have advertising spaces available!

Promote your business or agriculture product all year long in our calendar!

Please contact Deanna for more information and pricing.
deanna@kerrcountyswcd.com

Or

830-896-4911 x 3

Native Plant Society of Texas Fall Symposium Oct 4-7 at the YO Ranch Hotel in Kerrville

This year's symposium will explore the history of the Edwards Plateau eco-region, highlights the factors that have influenced its transformation and debates the issues that we face today in conserving our native plants and habitats. A variety of speakers and field trips will be available for participants along with exhibitor booths and a silent auction for scholarships.

Please visit: npsot.org/wp/symposium2012/welcome/ for more details!

Conservation Tip: Deer Management

There are many conflicting ideas and theories on the right way to manage a deer herd. While many of these have good points, I'm sure most have some aspect that someone will disagree with. So we are not going to get into specifics on what particular deer to harvest. Let's focus on the population and numbers in general. The best advice out there is to USE YOUR RESOURCES! There are local resources available free of charge through TPWD and NRCS. There are also individual consultants or wildlife biologists that will hire out their services to assist landowners in this process. Here in Kerr County, we even have the privilege of living close to a deer research facility, with years of research under their belts at the Kerr WMA. Why try to mold your tactics around an article written by someone out of state when you have these local resources at your fingertips?!

On a normal, non-drought year, a good guideline for deer density in this area of the Hill Country is a deer to 10-14 acres. Of course, many factors can influence whether this ratio is effective, such as drought, whether supplemental feed is present, range condition, and whether other animals that directly compete with whitetails (i.e. exotics, goats) are present. A good general goal to

set for pre-deer season is a ratio of 1 deer to 14 acres and a post-season ratio of 1 deer to 10 acres. Your post-season ratio obviously is affected by harvest each year and harvest rates should be determined by how many deer need to be removed to reach your post season goal. As the summer approaches and the fawn crop is born, your population should rise back up to your pre-season goal, completing the yearly circle. For example, our pre-season goal is 1 deer to 10 acres and post-season goal is 1 deer to 12 acres.

Now one might ask, how do you know where to start in this circle of population goals? The easiest way to start is by determining your pre-season deer density and population ratios. You can then take this and use harvesting to reach your first post-season population goal. There are many methods of surveying populations, including helicopter surveys, spotlight counts, incidental counts, stand counts, and trail camera counts. I'm sure there are others, but these seem to be the most popular. Helicopter counts are usually more effective in open brush country such as South Texas has. Spotlight counts are done at night and are done on a fixed route multiple times. The acres seen from the route are calculated and that percentage of the prop-

erty is used to estimate total density. Incidental and stand counts are both daytime counts that are used more to determine sex ratio and fawn crop. Trail cameras can be used to identify individual bucks and determine an estimate of total bucks. Using a combination of these different survey methods can give you an estimate of your total population, including density, sex ratio, and percent fawn crop.

Here is where those local resources come in. Talking to your local biologist through TPWD, NRCS, or an individual consultant can help you determine which survey methods will be right for your property. They will also be able to calculate your findings into actual population estimates and give you harvest recommendations to achieve your goals.

Keeping your deer population under control and at a manageable number will help keep your rangeland in good condition for the coming years. It should also increase the quality of bucks and overall health of your herd.

Remember, above all, use your local resources!