

Contact: Nick Dornak
The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment
(512) 245-6697
FeralHog@txstate.edu

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment
601 University Dr. San Marcos, Texas 78666**

Feral Hog Management to Include Bounty Program in Hays County for 2022

SAN MARCOS, TEXAS – January 2022 – Hays County will be continuing countywide feral hog management efforts in 2022 after receiving a \$7,500 grant from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Wildlife Services. The Hays County program will include a five-dollar bounty on feral hogs, one workshop, one webinar, a countywide survey and damage assessment and the continuation of a volunteer-led trapping effort.

Hays County is an affiliate of the Central Texas Feral Hog Task Force and has partnered with The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University, the Cypress Creek Project, the San Marcos Watershed Initiative and the Plum Creek Watershed Partnership to assist with implementation, research and educational components of the program in 2022.

“The 2022 feral hog program in Hays County has a great opportunity for sustained success as we have received both the continued funding and support to coordinate on a regional scale with projects in Caldwell County,” said Nick Dornak, Director of Watershed Services at The Meadows Center.

Texas is home to an estimated 3 million feral hogs. Lacking sweat glands, hogs seek out shelter along creeks and rivers, which can result in contamination of those waterways, such as Cypress Creek and the San Marcos River. Recognized as an invasive species, feral hogs are responsible for significant agricultural and property losses in Texas, exceeding \$500,000,000 each year.

“Feral hogs continue to pose significant problems for both agriculture producers and residential property owners in Hays County,” said Mark Jones, Hays County Commissioner.

Bounty Program – Beginning in February 2022, there will be two bounty claim opportunities per month for feral hogs harvested in Hays County. A \$5 per hog bounty will be paid by check on tails and/or certified buying station receipts. Participants will be required to complete a W-9 and a participation form, which can be obtained at the Hays County bounty station or from the [Central Texas Feral Hog Task Force Website](#).

**Hays County Extension Office
200 Stillwater Rd
Wimberley, TX 78676
Second Mondays from 8am to 12pm
Feb. 14 to July 11, 2022**

**Hays County Precinct 2
5458 FM 2770
Kyle, TX 78640
Third Fridays from 10am to 1pm
Feb. 18 to July 15, 2022**

Other Programs – The [Plum Creek Watershed Partnership](#) will be coordinating educational workshops for Hays and Caldwell County stakeholders throughout the spring and summer of 2022. Final dates and

-MORE-

locations for landowners, hunters, trappers and conservationists to learn more about managing wild pig populations and damage will be provided in the coming weeks. Additionally, landowners engaging with the Hays County feral hog program will have the opportunity to participate in an ongoing, remote-operated feral hog trap sharing cooperative. These remote-operated traps were upgraded in 2021 to enable live video feed sharing.

For more information on these programs and to complete your 2022 feral hog survey, please visit the project website, <http://www.feralhogtaskforce.com/hays> or email the Task Force at feralhog@txstate.edu.

About The Meadows Center

The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University was named following a generous gift from The Meadows Foundation in August 2012. The Meadows Center inspires research, innovation and leadership that ensures clean, abundant water for the environment and all humanity.

###