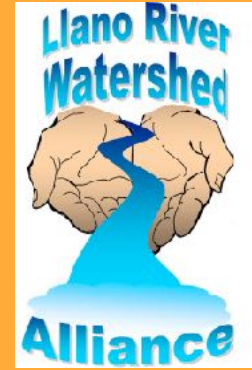


# WATERSHED WEEK IN REVIEW



## Mystery Location Game

### Round Four Answer

Four Mile Dam was built in 1904 by G.W. Ragsdill to divert water into ditches to supply mill power, irrigation and drinking water to Junction City.



More info Page 7

And here are this week's mystery coordinates:

[30.708530 -98.921687](https://www.google.com/maps/place/30.708530,-98.921687)

## More Annual Highlights

**Here are some more of the activities the Alliance provided the community over the past year. Please consider showing your support by joining. Your membership donation is a critical funding source for these efforts (page 4).**



Replanted and reseeded riparian areas damaged by October floods.



Monitored water quality at 10 sites on the Llano



Hosted Flood Forecasting Workshop with National Weather Service and US Geological Survey

Released 200th edition of Watershed Week in Review



# What you and your dog need to know about Blue-Green Algae

We have had a couple of inquiries following the canine deaths due to blue-green algae in Lady Bird Lake in Austin.

## **Is my dog at risk on the Llano River?**

The Answer : Not very likely, but here are some tips to look for from Texas A&M Agrilife.



While one can not be 100% sure, there are several 'red flags' to look for when identifying blue-green algae, or cyanobacteria, to use the correct term. Cyanobacteria is buoyant and forms floating mats that can turn water blue, green, brown, or reddish-purple. It can grow in lakes, ponds, reservoirs and slow-moving streams when temperatures are warm, with plentiful sunshine, and there are an abundance of nutrients like phosphorus or nitrogen. The scum forms a sheen that is visible on the downwind side of ponds. Dead aquatic species are sometimes found along the shore line.

On the Llano, there is slow-moving water near dams and long pools, but generally the water is flowing, which tends to reduce the threat. Phosphorus and nitrogen also tend to be low in the Llano, but please remember, there was likely an influx of these nutrients into the river following the flood. Given the requirements for growth, it appears that the threat of blue-green algae on the Llano is low, but a little knowledge doesn't hurt.

[For more information...](#)

## Alliance Welcomes New Board Member

At the LRWA Board meeting last month, the Board unanimously voted to add Lorissa Digiacomio to the Alliance Board. Lorissa is the Park Interpreter at South Llano River State Park. Originally from San Antonio, Lorissa is a graduate of Texas Lutheran University with a Bachelor's in biology and of Texas State University with a Master's in Population and Conservation Biology. Prior to accepting the position at the State Park, she was a zookeeper at San Antonio Zoo, primarily working in the education department.

You may see Lorissa and her husband and their border collie Ronan at the sheep herding trials early next year.



Welcome Lorissa. Check out Lorissa and the rest of our great board members [on our website](#).

## *Save the Date*

## Become a Water Quality Monitor

Texas Stream Team and Llano River Watershed Alliance are hosting a Water Quality Monitor Training at the Castell General Store, **Friday, Oct 25th, from 9am-1pm.**

*Lunch will be provided.*

*Learn how to monitor the health of the waterway you care about.*



THE MEADOWS CENTER  
FOR WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

TEXAS STREAM TEAM





## OUR RESOURCE OUR RESPONSIBILITY

The protection and preservation of the Llano River is an environmental, economic, and cultural concern. We all benefit from the River; it is up to each of us to work for its protection.

Your membership donation is a critical funding source to help the Alliance achieve this mission.

### **Membership in the Alliance is**

- **\$20 for an Individual**
- **\$100 for a Business**

**Business Sponsorship includes a business link on Alliance website and recognition in Alliance Newsletter.**

**[www.llanoriver.org](http://www.llanoriver.org)**



## Upcoming LRWA Members Tours

September 21, 2019 9-11am  
North Llano “Farmette”



Are you a new landowner in the  
Hill Country?

Or do you just want some new  
ideas?



Come see how Melissa and Andrew  
Burnard have transformed this  
‘neglected’ piece of North Llano  
acreage into a small farm.

*Breakfast snacks provided.*

*Alliance members only—plus one*



October 20, 2019 9:30am-12:30pm  
Blue Mountain Peak Ranch

Just Announced! Members of the Alliance will have the opportunity to tour Blue Mountain Peak Ranch in Mason County this fall. Owner Richard Taylor and partner Suzie Paris are the 2016 Sand County Foundation Leopold Conservation Award Recipient for their efforts to increase species diversity and put more water back into the aquifer.

The Ranch has graciously waived guided tour fees for members of the Llano River Watershed Alliance. Stay tuned for details.

## **Your Choice!**

### **Choose between two interesting programs September 14**

SONORA — The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Great Plains Fire Science Exchange are teaming up to host a prescribed fire field day in Sonora.



Fiery Legacy: Maintaining Rx Fire in Texas will take place Sept. 14 at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research Station, 395 County Road 760 in Sonora. The event will run 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; lunch will be served. Participants may register for free at <https://tinyurl.com/y5n6slcq>.

#### **KERR WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA Wildlife Management and Research Seminar**

Join us at the Lee and Ramona Bass Conference Facility for discussions on wildlife management and research in the Texas Hill Country.



Join us at the Lee and Ramona Bass Conference Facility on the Kerr WMA for discussions on wildlife management and research in the Texas Hill Country.

This free, all-day event will include:

- Information on ecosystems management and taking a holistic approach to land improvement;
- Deer research past and present;
- Ecology and control of feral hogs;
- CWD in Texas update.

Bring your own lunch.

A field tour of habitat and research facilities follows the seminar. [deanna.pfeffer@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:deanna.pfeffer@tpwd.texas.gov).



# Activities at South Llano River State Park



Life's better outside.

Like us on Facebook!  
Facebook.com/SouthLlanoRiver

## South Llano River State Park Programs for September 2019

**Hike with a Ranger!** - Come hike with a ranger and explore the West Canyon Loop trail! The trail is rated as moderate - it's 4 miles long. We will meet at the **Agarita bird blind** next to HQ. **Thursday, September 5, 9-11am**

**Scat and Tracks!** - Come learn about what gets left behind. Held at the **Acorn Blind**. **Saturday, September 7, 10am**

**Skins and Skulls!** - Held at **Acorn Blind**. Come see and touch animal furs and skulls. Find out what a skull can tell us about how an animal lives! **Saturday, September 7, 1:30pm**

**"One way to open your eyes is to ask yourself, 'What if I had never seen this before? What if I knew I would never see it again?'"**

**- Rachel Carson**

## More about Four Mile Dam

The dam was constructed of native stone and cypress wood. Remains of the dam are still visible within South Llano River State Park.

Water diverted from the South Llano at Four Mile Dam flowed into a 4-ft ditch on the north bank of the river. From there, the ditch ran roughly parallel and to the east of what is now US 377 South to what was then called Junction City.

Four Mile Dam, along some of the other early dams in the area, had fish ladders (photos right). It is uncertain how effective they were, but it is nice to know fish passage was important to our ancestors. Thanks to Kimble County Historical Commission for providing the old photos.

