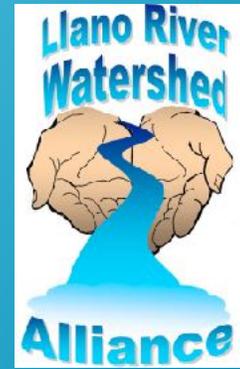


# WATERSHED WEEK IN REVIEW



## What's your Soil Type?

Last week we ran an article on how to determine your Soil Type (using the Web Soil Survey) in order to help determine your Ecological Site.

Newsletter reader Larry Hicks showed us an easier way: SoilWeb App 2.0. It uses the location data from your phone to provide the Soil Type.



Using this info, you can then search Ecological Site and your "soil type".

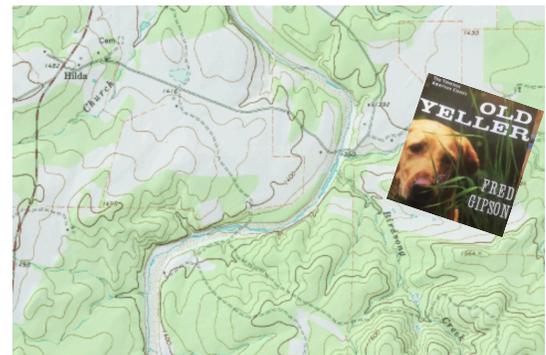
Thanks Larry!

[Download from here.](#)

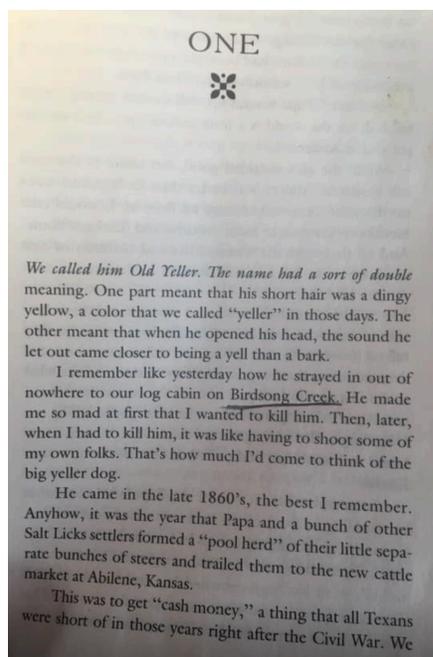
## Old Yeller Lived Here

Thanks to Don Gray for creating our own watershed Map to the Stars.

*"I think of Old Yeller and Fred*



*Gipson every time I drive past these places... Near Hilda, you can see where Birdsong Creek enters Beaver Creek as you drive to the east across the Beaver Creek Crossing on Loeffler Lane (as you cross the creek slab, look toward your 2 o'clock)."*



[Read more of Don's Facebook post...](#)

## Llano River has More of These than Any River in the State

The Llano River is currently experiencing heavy weekend usage, especially at James River Crossing (see below). Perhaps you are you looking for other options? The answer may be just a click away.



*Photo: Amelia Banner Zesch*

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, through the River Access and Conservation Area (RACA) program has signed lease agreements that allow public river access across private land. Anglers and paddlers may use these leases areas for fishing and launching kayaks, canoes, or other non-motorized boats. These sites are open from 30 minutes

before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset; **camping is not permitted.**

Thanks to the efforts of the Alliance, the Llano River has 5 RACA sites, more than any other river in the State. [A list of these sites can be found here.](#) Please contact the number provided before accessing the site.

For more information about RACA and to see if your property might qualify, [click here.](#)



## Supreme Court Determination may provide additional Protections for Spring-fed Rivers

A recent US Supreme Court finding in *County of Maui v. Hawaii Wildlife Fund* ruled that discharge from disposal wells that travel through groundwater and discharge into navigable water should be considered a point source of discharge, subject to the Clean Water Act. While the Clean Water Act has traditionally regulated discharge to navigable waters (surface waters), the Court ruled 6-3 that a permit is required when there is a direct discharge from a point source into navigable waters or when there is the functional equivalent of direct discharge.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Alliance is not aware of any scenarios similar to Maui in the Llano watershed. In the Editor's opinion, such a ruling provides additional protections for spring-fed rivers (such at the Llano) by providing protections for the groundwater that feeds these rivers through groundwater conduits, a functional equivalent of direct discharge.

*Read more from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension on the ruling.*

## Improving Soil Health and Water Holding Capacity - Free Webinar May 14

The National Center for Appropriate Technology's ATTRA Sustainable Agriculture Program are presenting *Five Guidelines to Improve Soil Health and Increase Water Holding Capacity*. In the noon to 1:30 webinar, specialist Kara Kroeger and Colin Mitchell will walk you through several practical and affordable ways to measure and improve soil health, catch more water in your soils, and monitor changes in soil health over time.



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