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Watershed Week in Review

Llano River Watershed Alliance



Dr. Gary Garrett honored as Texas Distinguished Scientist

Llano River Watershed Alliance Vice-President Dr. Gary Garrett was presented the Texas Academy of Science Distinguished Scientist Award last night at the Academy's Awards Banquet in Junction. Nearly 500 attendees, including Texas Tech University Chancellor Senator Robert Duncan and Provost Dr. Lawrence Shovanec saw Dr. Garrett receive the award from Academy President Dr. Dannette Rene' Vines. Some of Texas' brightest learn about the South Llano

The Llano River Field Station hosted the <u>Texas Academy of</u> <u>Sciences</u> 119th Annual Meeting this past weekend in Junction.

Approximately 380 undergraduate and graduate students from nearly every Texas university presented posters and papers during the 2-day event.

During breaks and social sessions, they found time to visit the South Llano River on campus and learn about the many benefits it offers the community.



Date of annual 700 Springs Tour Announced

The Kimble County Historical Commission announced this week that Mr. Lee Pfluger has once again graciously invited the general public to his 700 Springs Ranch on Saturday, April 16th, 2016.

Seven Hundred Springs are one of the headwater springs of the South Llano River. A visit to these springs is an unforgettable experience for the entire family.



Additional details will follow in forthcoming newsletters.

Water Right Amendment filed for Maynard Creek in the North Llano

Downstream water right holders and Junction residents were notified on February 10th that a <u>Water</u> <u>Rights Amendment</u> for an existing reservoir on Maynard Creek has been filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Maynard Creek is a tributary of the North Llano.

The Alliance has received several inquiries regarding this water right and has been trying for several weeks to get additional information from the agency. This past week, with the 30-day deadline for comment or hearing request quickly approaching (March 11th), we finally received a <u>copy of the draft permit.</u>

While we have been unable to discern the reason for this permit amendment, we do know that the amendment requests recreational use (no diversion) of water for an existing reservoir through the purchase of a portion of a 1913 irrigation right on the North Llano. This amendment is subject to the <u>State's environmental flow allocation process</u> and water behind the dam must be allowed to pass downstream (via siphon) during Severe Drought Conditions when the North Llano stream gage reaches certain flow levels, for example, 1 cfs during summer months.

The Alliance is still attempting to get additional information from TCEQ (without having to drive to Austin). We will pass along any additional information we obtain from TCEQ via our listserve. The Alliance Board has taken no formal position on this matter.

Llano Earth Art Festival March 11-13th Llano

Make plans to attend this year's <u>Llano Earth Art Fest</u> just below the bridge in Llano.

The Alliance will be hosting a booth. Look for our banner and stop by and say hello.

lim Stanley



Save the Date! Spring Outing! April 30th

Jim Stanley at Kerr Wildlife Management Area

Join the Alliance and noted land stewardship author Jim Stanley **on April 30th, 2016** from 1-4 pm at the Kerr Wildlife Management Area (WMA) as we explore firsthand how our land management practices can help (or hinder) our rivers and streams. The event is FREE.

Please RSVP to southllanoriver@gmail.com