

J U L Y 1 6 , 2 0 1 6

Watershed Week in Review

Llano River Watershed Alliance

Great new landowner tool from Texas A&M Forest Service

Texas A&M Forest Service has released an online mapping tool – [Plan My Land Operation](#). This tool allows a landowner to delineate their property, then determine the percent soils, identify critical areas (steep slopes, streams), and even determine the necessary culvert size for a point based on the drainage area of a point, its slope and its soils.

The image right shows the sensitive areas around the Llano River Field Station (red, yellow, blue) as well as the drainage area (light pink) for a hypothetical culvert on Flat Rock Road.

Hope you enjoy!



Conserving Texas Rivers Initiative -podcast focuses on the Llano and the Alliance-

Long-time friend of the Alliance, Tim Birdsong of TPWD discusses the Conserving Texas Rivers Initiative of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation in this [recent podcast](#).

Tim, who helped initiate the Guadalupe Bass Initiative, talks about the work that began with the Alliance in 2010 and how this work has shaped statewide conservation efforts.



Kingsland Slab featured as a Day Trip

The [Austin Chronicle](#) recently [featured](#), in their Day Trip Column, this not-so-secret swimming hole on the Llano between Llano and Kingsland.

Over the centuries, the river has cut channels that have become a combination of tube chutes and sandy beaches on tiny islands in the wide riverbed.





Mason County members of Texas Master Naturalist and the Llano River Watershed Alliance tested new water quality monitoring probes on the Llano this week. The probes were obtained through a generous grant from the Mason Community Foundation.

Check out Texas A&M AgriLife Extension's first edition of the Wild Pig Newsletter.

This issue has the latest in Wild Pig Management Strategies, Education Courses, Landowner Cooperatives, Videos, and even the latest App.

[Download newsletter](#)



Family Fun Available this Weekend at South Llano River State Park



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Family Park Program South Llano River State Park Phone: (325) 446-3994



Geocaching 101

Thursday, July 14th, 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Meet at the Acorn Blind

(down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)

Experience the fun of Geocaching, a high-tech treasure hunt you can do anywhere in the world using a GPS unit or your smartphone! Loaner GPS units will be provided for this program. Good walking shoes, drinking water, sun protection, and bug spray are recommended. All ages welcome!

Bird Walk

Friday, July 15th, 8:30 am - 10:00 am

Meet at the Fawn Trail parking lot

(behind Park Headquarters)



Yellow-breasted Chat

Join us as we walk the trails and look for birds. Good walking shoes, sun protection, drinking water, and bug spray are recommended. Binoculars provided, or bring your own. All ages welcome!



Overlook Trail Hike

Saturday, July 16th, 8:00 am - 9:30 am

Meet at the Walk-in Camping parking lot

Join us on a hike for a great view of the park before the day heats up! This trail is a little over a mile round-trip, and is moderate in difficulty, climbing steeply uphill and then flattening out. Trail is mostly paved. Hiking boots or good walking shoes, sun protection, and plenty of drinking water are recommended. All ages welcome!

Skins, Skulls, and More!

Saturday, July 16th, Drop-in between 3:00 pm and 4:00 pm

Held at the Acorn Bird Blind

(down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)



Stop by the Acorn Blind this afternoon to see and touch animal skins and skulls, and find out how a skull tells the story of how an animal survives! All ages welcome.



Fishing with a Ranger

Sunday, July 17th, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Meet at the floating dock at Buck Lake

Try your hand at catch-and-release fishing! All materials provided, and you don't even need a fishing license! Sun protection, drinking water, and bug spray are recommended. All ages welcome! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Park programs are open to the public and free with park entrance fee