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Watershed Week in Review

Llano River Watershed Alliance



Checking Antelope Horns for Monarch Butterfly larvae



Jim Stanley begins his talk in the beautiful meeting facilities at Kerr WMA

Alliance Outing at Kerr WMA

Informative folks, an inquisitive crowd and great weather combined to make a perfect outing at Kerr Wildlife Management Area (WMA) yesterday.

A special thanks to Jim Stanley with Hill County Chapter of Texas Master Naturalist and Ryan Reitz of Kerr WMA for spending their Saturday with the Alliance.



Ryan Reitz demonstrates Plot 9 (behind fence) where no management has occurred since the 1950s—now a cedar break

Lone Star Land Steward Awards Announced



Every year, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, in partnership with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation, honors landowners from across the state with the Lone Star Land Steward Award for their contributions to natural resource conservation and management.

This year's winners include long-time friend of the Alliance, Steve Nelle. Mr. Nelle is receiving a Special Recognition Award for Landowner Outreach and Education. This award is well deserved as he has tirelessly provided his time to the Alliance and other organizations for riparian and other workshops, including the Oasis Fire Workshop.

The Alliance received a Lone Star Land Steward Award in 2013.

Monarch Butterfly Habitat Enhancement Program

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board has announced that beginning next month, funding will be available to landowners, schools, businesses and municipalities to enhance or restore Monarch Butterfly Habitat by planting pollinator friend plant species or installing butterfly gardens in public areas.

Counties in the Llano River Watershed are eligible. Details and applications forms may be [found here.](#)





Photo : James Lidgey

Chatterbox Orchid

The Chatterbox Orchid or Stream Orchid blooms in the Llano from mid-April to early May. It is called Chatterbox because the lower lip and tongue move when the flower is touched.

What to do about *Arundo*?

Arundo donax, or Giant Cane is an invasive species found along Texas Rivers. While problematic in the Llano, it is a very big problem along the Pedernales.

Folks in Fredericksburg will be hosting an [information session](#) next Thursday, May 5th to discuss what landowners can do to treat this invasive.



As for the Llano, the Llano River Field Station and Texas Parks and Wildlife are making plans to treat *Arundo* as part of the Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan. If you locate a patch of *Arundo*, please do not hesitate to let us know at southllanoriver@gmail.com



Stream Bank Restoration Workshop

Make plans now to attend the Stream Bank Restoration Workshop at the Llano River Field Station on *June 3rd*.

Noted fluvial geomorphologist and restoration specialist, Bruce Cole, will provide hands-on training and remedies for landowners who are losing land to stream bank erosion.

This unique event is **FREE** and sponsored by the Llano River Field Station.

Stay tuned for more details!

Texas Water Symposium

Economic and Conservation Perspectives on Protected Species
May 18th - Junction

The second **Texas Water Symposium** of 2016 has been set for May 18th at the Llano River Field Station at TTU-Junction. The program will feature a conversation between leading biology experts about endangered species on the Hill County's river.

Join Dr. Robert Gulley from the Texas Comptroller's Office, Adam Zerrenner from U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Dr. Tom Arsuffi from the Llano River Field Station as they explore the various aspects of how and why we protect our endangered species.

[details](#)



Texas Fatmucket – photo from [Blanco Water Atlas](#)