

M A R C H 1 7 , 2 0 1 7

Watershed Week in Review

Llano River Watershed Alliance

Dye tracing on the Edwards Plateau

University of Texas San Antonio and the Edwards Aquifer Authority are collaborating with the Llano River Field Station and the Real Edwards Conservation & Reclamation District to learn more about groundwater flow paths in the South Llano and Nueces.



A harmless dye (think food coloring) will be injected into the pools in the bottom of Devil's Sinkhole this weekend. Charcoal packets deployed at spring openings (left) in the watershed will absorb any passing dye.

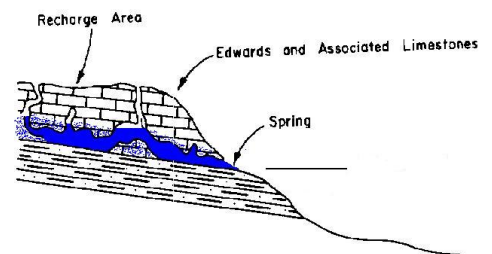
Chris Ray of UTSA prepares one of the packets (known as a 'bug') in the photo above. He is wearing rubber gloves to prevent tainting the bug with any dye that may be on his hands. The dye should not be visible at the springs



Tracing the Dye

Below is a cross section of the Edwards-Trinity Aquifer from Gunnar Brune's [Springs of Texas](#).

The karst limestone of the Edwards Formation sits atop the less permeable Trinity Formation. The contact between these formations, where exposed, is where the springs of the Llano are located, at about 1,900 ft above sea level.



b. Edwards—Trinity (Plateau)

South Llano River State Park celebrates their Dark Sky Park designation with a Star Party

South Llano River State Park was recently designated by the International Dark-Sky Association as an International Dark Sky Park! Come enjoy our dark skies at our first [Star Party](#) since this important designation.



Join Texas Tech University Outdoor School, Mason Stargazers, and park staff as we reenact the legend of Perseus, find our way around the night sky and look through telescopes. We'll also find out what the new International Dark Sky Park designation means for the park, and what we are doing to protect our dark skies.

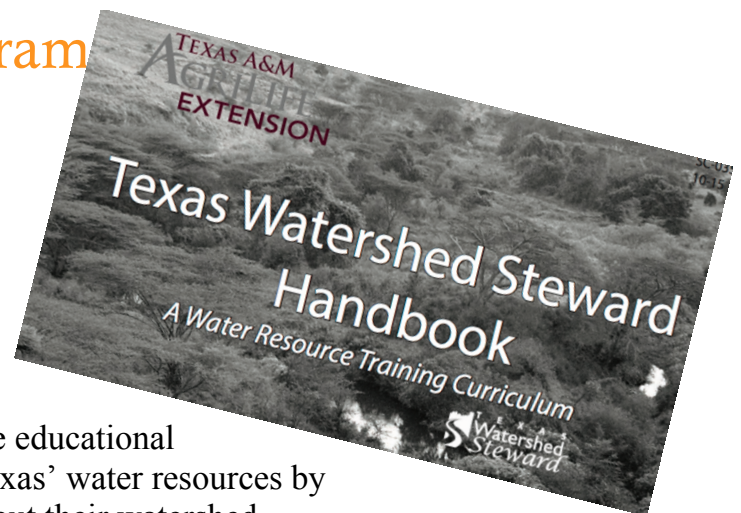
Watershed Steward Program

May 6th - Junction

The Texas Watershed Steward Program will be returning to Junction on May 6th from 8:30 to 12:30 at the Llano River Field Station.

The Watershed Steward program is a statewide educational program designed to improve the quality of Texas' water resources by educating and informing local stakeholders about their watershed.

The program is sponsored by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, and the Llano River Field Station in conjunction with the recently approved Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan.



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER...

Rep. Murr files legislation on Management of the San Saba River

Over the past several years there have been conflicts between water users in the upper San Saba River. Earlier this month, Representative Andy Murr filed legislation (HB 3846) that would allow for creation of a Water Rights Board consisting of San Saba water rights holders and San Saba riparian water users in Mason, Menard, McCullough, and Schleicher counties.

The Board's primary task will be to enforce a Water Management Plan for water right holders and water users that includes measures to maximize the beneficial use and minimize waste of water in the San Saba, protect the environment, protect agricultural activities that require the use of water, and maintain flows in the San Saba. This Plan is to supplement the state's water right system during times of drought or during other emergency shortages. [...more](#)



700 Springs Tour

This year's tour of 700 Springs will be Saturday, April 29th.

As in years previous, the tour will begin at the Kimble County Courthouse in Junction at 10am sharp and caravan to the 700 Springs Ranch.

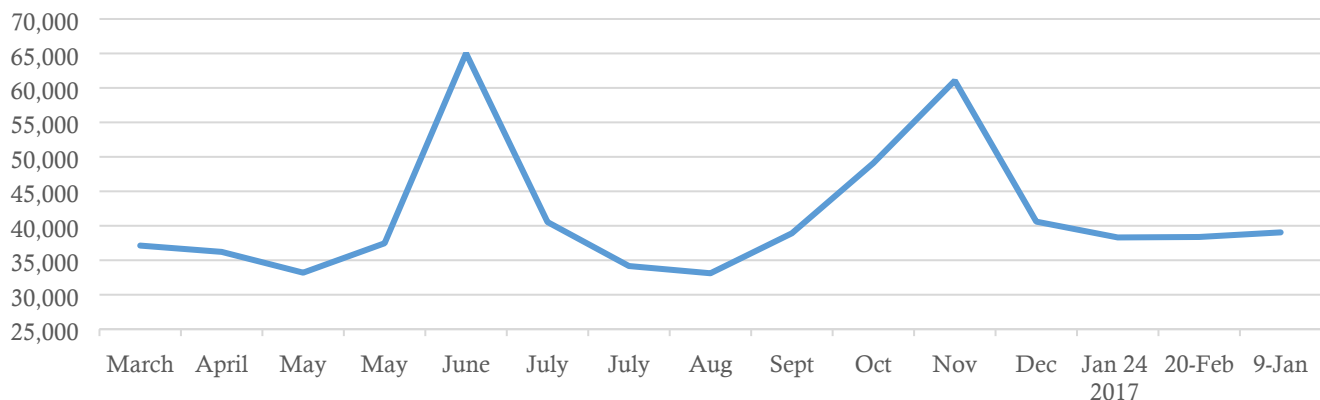


Flows of the South Llano

*From Joel Pigg, General Manager, Real-Edwards
Conservation & Reclamation District
Flow conversions provided by editor*

For those of you that live in the northern portion of Edwards County near Telegraph here are the latest flow measurements for the crossings in your area. The first crossing on Highway 377 near Telegraph had a flow of 38,377 gpm (85 cfs) a few weeks ago and has increased to a flow of 39,044 gpm (87 cfs) or an increase in flow of about 2%. There are a couple of culverts at this crossing that have debris clogging the pipes. The second crossing on Highway 377 near the Evergreen School had a flow of 46,307 gpm (103 cfs) a few weeks ago when I last checked the flow and now has a flow of 42,248 gpm (94 cfs) or a decrease of about 9%. This crossing also has pipes that are clogged with gravel causing some reduction in flow.

Highway 377 @ Telegraph



Highway 377 @ Evergreen School

