

J U N E 1 5 , 2 0 1 8

Watershed Week in Review

A Publication of
Llano River Watershed Alliance and
Llano River Field Station

RACA River Float June 30th



Photo : Texas Parks
Wildlife Department

Llano River Watershed Alliance, in conjunction with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), will host the **RACA River Float** on the South Llano River on *June 30th from 9am to 1pm.*

TPWD's River Access and Conservation Area (RACA) program aims to increase sustainable fishing and paddling access to rivers and streams across private lands. This partnership between local landowners, TPWD and cooperating organizations will allow Texans to more fully enjoy the natural beauty that our local rivers have to offer and riverside **landowners an opportunity to earn extra monthly income.**

more on page 2

Chinaberry Attack in Mason

Volunteers from the Hill Country Chapter of Master Naturalist and Hill Country Alliance gathered at Fort Mason City Park to spray nearly 200 invasive chinaberry in the riparian zone along Comanche Creek. The volunteers also reseeded using [Native American Seed Riparian Recovery Mix.](#)

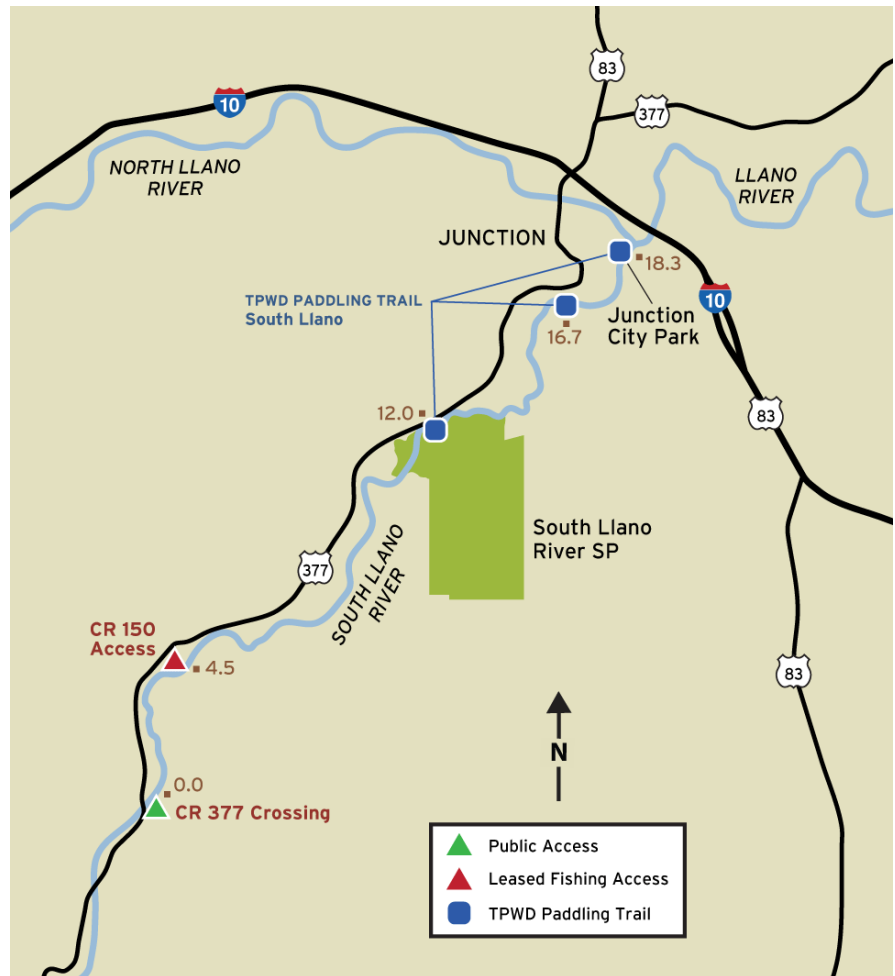


The treatment involves making a hatchet slash in the bark of the tree into which the approved herbicide is applied. The Alliance helped support the effort by providing the herbicide.

RACA River Float...continued

The RACA River Float on the 30th will highlight the existing RACA site on the South Llano at County Road 150, locally known as Boone's Crossing. This site was designated to relieve local landowner concerns about boater parking at the Crossing.

Participants will meet at 9am at Boone's Crossing. FREE shuttles will be provided upstream to the First Crossing (from Junction) of the South Llano at US 377. Boaters will paddle the 2.7 miles downstream to Boone's Crossing, taking time to enjoy the beautiful scenery, swim, fish, and pick up trash (litterbags provided). A prize will be awarded to the boat that picks up the most trash.



For folks who do not wish to paddle, there will be volunteer opportunities Boone's Crossing (CR 150 Access) to improve landscaping and signage at the RACA site.

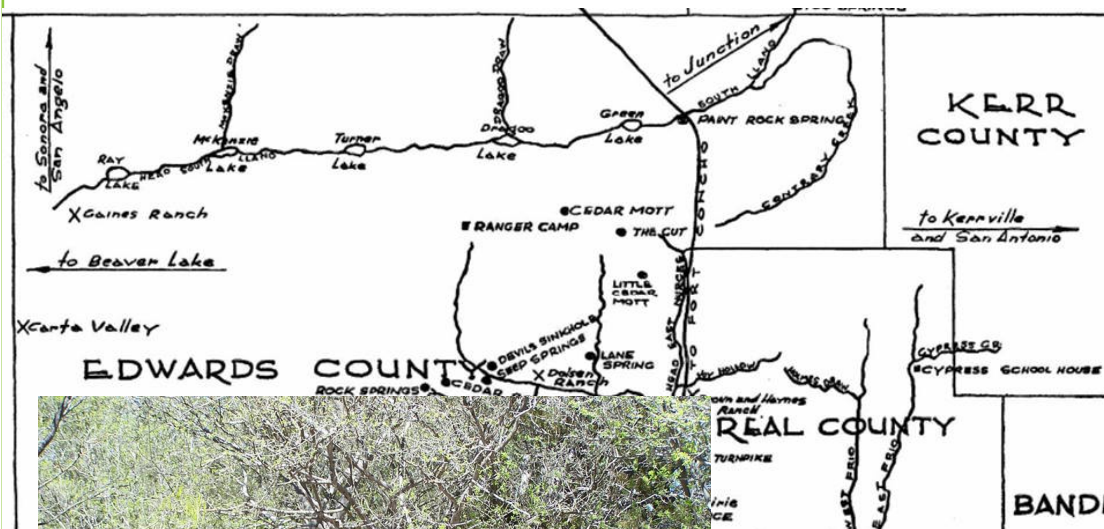
Around Noon, we will gather at the nearby riverside property of Nol Dear to enjoy **FREE BBQ from Lum's** and to learn more about landowner and recreational opportunities available through the RACA program. Staff from TPWD will be on hand to talk about the program and answer questions. Nol, who is the lessor to the Boone's Crossing RACA site, will share her firsthand experiences with the program. **RSVP if you want BBQ**

For more information about the event and the RACA program, visit llanoriver.org. The mission of the Alliance is to Preserve and Enhance the Llano River Watershed by encouraging land and water stewardship through collaboration, education and community participation.

Local Students Learn about Rivers and Erosion at Science in the Sun

Area students (grades 2-5) attending Junction Outdoor School's *Science in the Sun* at the Llano River Field Station this week were able to get quite a bit of hands-on learning this week.

A popular science station stop was the Field Station's Stream Trailer where a portable stream helps student learn about stream meanders, bank erosion, and the importance of large woody debris for protecting stream banks.



The Shoot Out at Green Lake



Ginger Andrews, who administers several great Facebook pages on local history, shared [Harold Jobes' historical article](#) on a gunfight in the upper reaches of the South Llano Watershed.

The location of the gun battle is on private property, but the upper ends of Green Lake are visible off Edwards County Road 2630. You will want to take a vehicle with a grill guard as this trip has dozens of bump gates.



Life's better outside.™



Like us on Facebook!

Facebook.com/SouthLlanoRiver

Family Park Programs, June 16 - June 24

South Llano River State Park

Phone: (325) 446-3994

Buck Lake Birds, Butterflies, Bugs & More - Saturday, June 16th

9:00 am - 10:00 am



Meet at Acorn Blind (Down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)
On this easy morning stroll, we'll walk past beautiful Buck Lake, named for the family who donated the land for the state park. We'll look for birds, butterflies, turtles, frogs, insects, lizards and more! There is one steep but short hill, and the rest of the dirt path is fairly level. Good walking shoes and drinking water are recommended, and dress for the weather! All ages welcome.



Skins, Skulls, and More! - Saturday, June 16th

drop in between 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Held at Acorn Blind (Down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)
Stop by between 1:30 and 2:30 to see and touch animal furs and skulls, and find out what a skull can tell us about how that animal survives! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Japanese Fish Printing - Sunday, June 17th

10:00 am - 11:00 am



By J.G. Wang

Meet at Acorn Blind (down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)
Try your hand at the ancient art of Gyotaku, a method that Japanese fishermen used to record their catch! All materials are provided. All ages welcome! Children must be accompanied by an adult.



River Bugs! - Saturday, June 23rd

10:00 am - 11:00 am

Meet at the 2nd Day Use parking lot (take the road across from Headquarters, follow to the end, look for water bug pole)

Come find out what kinds of insects live in the river! We will show you how to use a dip net and a magnifying glass to discover cool aquatic insects! Sun protection and drinking water are recommended.
Wear clothes you can get wet! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Skins, Skulls, and More! - Saturday, June 23rd

drop in between 1:30 - 2:30 pm



Held at Acorn Blind (Down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)
Stop by to see and touch animal furs and skulls, and find out what a skull can tell us about how that animal survives! Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Backyard Bass - Sunday, June 24th

10:00 am - 11:00 am

Held by the floating dock at Buck Lake (down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)
Rods and reels provided. Come practice casting and reeling in your catch! No bait needed since we will not catch real fish. Don't know how to fish? This fun game will help you learn the basics!
Sun protection and drinking water are recommended.
All ages welcome!

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

Land Stewardship 101

Becoming Good Stewards of the Land

How long has it been since you had an opportunity for an Outdoors Experience in a beautiful setting, while earning Professional CEU's? Well that's too long!

JOIN US FOR AN OUTDOOR LEARNING EXPERIENCE ON THE BEAUTIFUL LLANO RIVER!



What is it? –An interdisciplinary environmental educational experience taught by education professionals and natural resource specialists. You will sharpen your skills and teaching methods to engage students in science, nature, and conservation.

Who Should Attend? – Anyone who is interested in learning more about fostering a relationship between our youth and the natural world– teachers, scout leaders, parents, naturalists, park rangers, zoo educators, youth group leaders, and private citizens.

Date: July 17-19, 2018

Cost: \$195.00

(Includes 2 nights lodging, 6 meals, and curriculum materials)

16 Hours of Professional Continuing Education Units

Certification in Leopold Education Program curriculum

For more information, contact Christine Moseley at Christine.moseley@utsa.edu

Texas Tech University Center in Junction, TX

<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/junction/>

Topics	Activities	Sponsors
Soils	Fishing	Texas Tech University -Junction
Water quality	Kayaking	McCulloch SWCD
Land ethics	Swimming	Upper Llanos SWCD
Biodiversity	Birding	Menard SWCD
Plant ID	Nature Walks	
Habitat management	Journaling	

Scholarships may be available through local Soil and Water Conservation Districts

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE!

[Click here for more info...](#)