

J U L Y 1 , 2 0 1 6

Watershed Week in Review

Llano River Watershed Alliance

Invasion of the Water Snatchers Video



Last week, the Llano River Field Station's efforts (*in collaboration with the Llano River Watershed Alliance*) to improve riparian habitat and control mesquite were our video feature.

This week, efforts to control *Arundo donax* as part of the Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan are featured in [Invasion of the Water Snatchers](#).

Remember, the [Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan](#), is available for public comment until July 8th.

Hill Country **STEM** Natural Resource Adventures

There is still a VERY short time left to sign up for this great educational opportunity for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders this summer at the Llano River Field Station in Junction.

FREE

TTU's Outdoor School Staff and natural resource professionals will provide students with hands-on outdoor recreation and learning activities the weeks of July 10-14 or July 27-31.

Mark July 13th on your Calendars

AgriLife Living Waters Conference set for July 13 in Junction

Learn about Feral Hogs and their impact on riparian areas, Watershed Management, the Ecological Benefits of Brush Management and more at AgriLife Extension's Living Waters Conference on July 13 from 8am – 2pm. The event will be held at the Coke Stevenson Center on north Highway 83 in Junction. For more information on cost and to make reservations, [click here...](#)

Become a Master Naturalist

The Hill Country Chapter of Texas Master Naturalist is now accepting applications for the Class of 2016. Texas Master Naturalist is a service-oriented organization designed to develop a corps of well-informed volunteers who provide education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their community.

Application Deadline is July 13.

[Go here for more information](#)

Have a Safe & Happy Fourth



Mason County author [Scott Zesch](#) shared this picture taken July 4th, 1911 near the confluence of the Llano and James River.

News from our Neighbors

Study analyzes origin of Pedernales River



A graduate school researcher at Texas State University has published her results of a yearlong study to determine the origin and quality of water in the Pedernales.

“Our goal was to examine the surface water and water chemistry in the river and its tributaries to determine which aquifers the water was coming from. The natural chemistry of the water was used as a ‘natural tracer’ to find its source” –Sarah Zappitello, Department of Biology

Like the Llano, the Pedernales originates from springflow.

[Press release](#)

[Download Full Report](#)

Restoring Guadalupe Bass in the Blanco



The Nature Conservancy and Texas Parks and Wildlife used the recent drought as a benefit to help reintroduce native Guadalupe Bass to the Blanco River.

“It is embarrassing that we almost lost our state fish. In some waters, we probably will never be able to completely recover the Guadalupe Bass population. But there have been a couple of promising methods in restoring them.” – Rachael Ranft, Nature Conservancy North Hill Country Project Director.

[more info](#)

4th of July events at South Llano River State Park



Life's better outside!

 Like us on Facebook!
Facebook.com/SouthLlanoRiver

Family Park Programs

South Llano River State Park

Phone: (325) 446-3994



River Rangers!

Thursday, June 30th, 3:00 pm - 4:00pm
Meet at the Day Use parking lot
(take road across from Park Headquarters, follow to the end)

Hey kids, let's see if the river is healthy! We'll take the water's temperature and look for river insects. Sun protection and drinking water are recommended. Please wear shoes that can get wet!
Recommended for ages 7 and up. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Bird Walk

Friday, July 1st, 8:30 am - 10:00 am
Meet at the Fawn Trail parking lot (behind Park Headquarters)

Join us as we walk the trails and see what birds we can spot! Binoculars available, or bring your own. Good walking shoes, sun protection, and drinking water are recommended. All ages and skill levels welcome!





Skins, Skulls, and More!

Saturday, July 2nd, 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)

Drop by the Acorn Blind 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.

Night Hike

Saturday, July 2nd, 8:30 pm - 10:00 pm
Meet at the Acorn Bird Blind
(down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)

Experience the park after dark, as we enjoy the night and look for nocturnal animals. Bring a flashlight or headlamp. Good walking shoes, drinking water, and bug spray are recommended. All ages welcome!





By J.G. Wang

Japanese Fish Printing

Sunday, July 3rd, 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Meet at the Acorn Bird 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 provided! All ages welcome; children must be accompanied by an adult.

Geocaching 101

Sunday, July 3rd, 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Meet at the Acorn Bird Blind
(down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)

Join us for Geocaching, a high-tech treasure hunt that you can do anywhere in the world! Loaner GPS units will be provided for this activity. Good walking shoes, sun protection, bug spray, and drinking water are recommended.





4th of July Campground Parade

Monday, July 4th, 9:00 am - 10:30 am
Meet at the Overflow parking lot
(across from campsites 18 and 20)

Bring your bike, stroller, wagon, friendly dog on leash, or just yourself for our first ever 4th of July campground parade! Decorating of wagons, bikes, and strollers will begin at 9 am—we will have some decorations available, or bring your own! Parade will begin from the Overflow parking lot at 10 am. Campers are encouraged to decorate their campsites and stand outside to cheer on the parade!

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