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Watershed Week in Review

Llano River Watershed Alliance

Coming to Junction this Saturday

TEXAS Watershed Steward



Junction, TX

Workshop provided through Clean Water Act 319 nonpoint source grant funding from the TWSSWCB and U.S. EPA

The Llano is the second cleanest river in Texas – after the remote Devils River.

Come learn what is being done to keep it that way and what you can do to help.

The event is FREE. So are the breakfast tacos and CEUs.

Learn more on Page 2

Texas Watershed Steward Workshop – May 6th in Junction

JUNCTION – A Texas Watershed Steward workshop on water quality related to the Upper Llano River watershed will be presented from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. May 6 at the Llano River Field Station, 254 Red Raider Lane in Junction.

The workshop is free and open to anyone interested in improving water quality in the region. Participants are encouraged to preregister at the Texas Watershed Steward website at <http://tw.s.tamu.edu>.



Program presenters are the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board in cooperation with the Llano River Field Station and Upper Llano Watershed Coordination Committee. Light refreshments will be provided.

This workshop is designed to help watershed residents improve and protect their water resources by becoming involved in Llano River watershed protection and management activities,” said Michael Kuitu, College Station, AgriLife Extension program specialist and coordinator for the Texas Watershed Steward program.

The workshop will include a discussion of watershed systems, types and sources of water pollution, and ways to improve and protect water quality. There also will be a group discussion on community-driven watershed protection and management.

For more information on the Texas Watershed Steward program go to <http://tw.s.tamu.edu> or contact Kuitu at 979-862-4457, mkuitu@tamu.edu or Silvers at 325-446-2620, gssilvers@ag.tamu.edu.

[read more](#)

Tilling the Soil helps Infiltration. Merit or Myth?

A series of videos from South Dakota State University compares water infiltration with various types of farming practices.

[Watch Video One](#)



The Texas Tribune recently talked with Llano Field Station Director Dr. Tom Arsuffi...

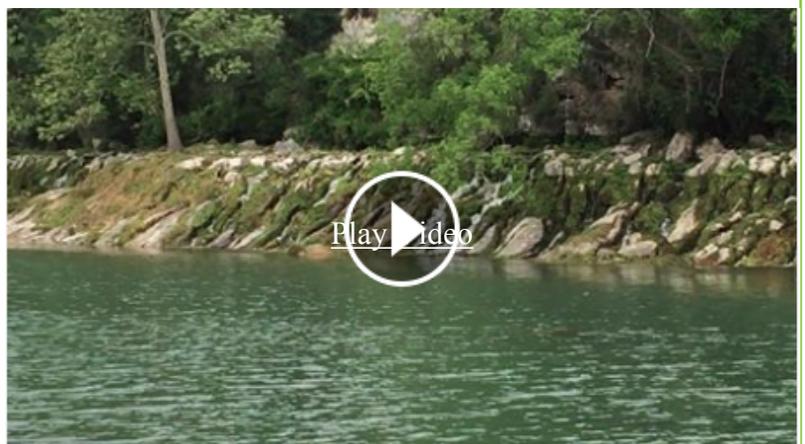
Dr. Arsuffi, also a Director of the Llano River Watershed Alliance discusses the watershed protection plan, education, and the Texas Legislature

[read the interview](#)

Folks from as far away as Alabama gathered last Saturday at the Kimble County Courthouse for the convoy to Lee Pfluger's 700 Springs Ranch. There, they heard Frederica Wyatt recite the [History of 700 Springs](#) and Pete Rose give an excellent presentation on the geology of the springs.

The woman from Alabama's parents had their honeymoon at the Springs and a picture of the Springs hung in their house all her life. This was the first time she had ever seen 700 Springs.

700 Springs Tour



Water Well Testing in Junction – May 9th

Don't assume that the well water you drink is OK!

...from the Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan... In June of 2013, 46 wells in Kimble County were screened as part of the Texas Well Owner Network and water screening. Of the wells, 63% tested positive for total coliform and 13% tested for positive for *E.coli*. Similar screenings by the local groundwater district in 2014 showed 23% (35 wells) testing positive for *E. coli* and 14% for nitrates. In 2015, 15% (34 wells) tested positive for *E. coli* and 9% for nitrates.

When Have You Tested Your Private Water Well?

Private Water Wells should be tested annually. Kimble County Groundwater Conservation District and the Real-Edwards Water Conservation and Reclamation District are sponsoring a water well screening day for area residents on Tuesday, May 9, at the Kimble County Courthouse. Samples must be turned in on the morning of May 9 by 10:00 a.m. and will be run that day.

This well screening day is designed to inform private water well owners and users on the condition of their well water of possible contamination from common contaminants. These contaminants are fecal coliform, salinity and nitrate. The cost is \$5 per sample.

The presence of fecal coliform in water indicates that feces (bodily waste from humans or animals) may have contaminated the water. Water contaminated with feces have microorganisms present that can cause a number of "waterborne" diseases such as cholera, typhoid, and dysentery.

Nitrates in ground water at levels of 10 milligrams per liter mg/L or parts per million) is considered unsafe for human consumption. Nitrate levels above 10 mg/L can disrupt the blood's ability to carry oxygen throughout the body. Nitrate is converted to nitrite which combines with hemoglobin, the chemical that carries oxygen in the blood, to form methemoglobin. Oxygen can not bind with methemoglobin, therefore, oxygen is not carried throughout the body. As a result, oxygen starvation occurs. This condition is called methemoglobinemia. If left untreated, death may result. Infants less that six months in age and young livestock are most susceptible.

Salinity in the form of Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) will also be determined on each sample.

You will need to pick up a sample bag and instructions from the Kimble County Groundwater Conservation District office. You can contact the Kimble County Groundwater Conservation District Office by calling 325-446-4826 to receive an approved water sampling bag and instructions for taking your well water sample. It is very important that only sampling bags from the Water District Office be used and all instructions for proper sampling followed to insure accurate results.

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Facebook.com/SouthLlanoRiver

Family Park Programs

South Llano River State Park

Phone: (325) 446-3994



Bird Walk

Friday, May 5th, 8:30 am - 10:00 am
Meet at the Fawn Trail parking lot
(behind Park Headquarters)

Birding is terrific at South Llano River State Park. Join us as we walk the trails, sit in the blind, and see what we can spot! Good walking shoes, sun protection, and drinking water are recommended. Binoculars provided, or bring your own. All ages and skill levels welcome.

Fawn Trail Nature Hike

Saturday, May 6th, 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Meet at the Walk-in Campground parking lot



Join us for a morning hike on our Fawn Trail as we find out more about the plants and animals of the Hill Country. This hike is 3 miles round-trip, and is moderate in difficulty -- parts of the trail are steep and rocky, and others are more flat. Hiking boots or good walking shoes, sun protection, and plenty of drinking water are recommended. All ages welcome.



Skins, Skulls, and More!

Saturday, May 6th, Drop in between 3:00 pm and 4:00 pm
Held at the Acorn Blind

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

Stop by the Acorn Blind between 3:00 and 4:00 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.

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