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Watershed Week in Review

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

TONIGHT!

Free Symposium on Free Benefits from the Natural Environment

*Rep. Andy Murr
Hughes Simpson
Dr. Tom Arsuffi*

-What are Ecosystem Services?

-What are some Examples?

-Can the Free Market reliably protect them?

*-What can we do to
protect them?*

Join our team of panelist tonight, **May 10th**, from **7-8:30 pm** at the Llano River Field Station in Junction to learn more about what we get for free from the environment.

This event is FREE as well, thanks to Hill Country Alliance, Schreiner University, Texas Public Radio and Texas Tech University.

More info on Page 2

The Chump is Stumped!

At the 700 Springs Tour, Frederica Wyatt asked if there is any record of Grandstaff Spring?

She did not know of said spring, but passed along that the person asking about it thought it was on the James River near the homestead of pioneer Creed Taylor.

There are several unnamed springs in the Noxville area around Mr. Taylor's homestead, including Big Spring on the Little Devils River. The James River Report tells that Big Spring flowed 137 gallons per minute in 1996.

*Any readers know of
Grandstaff Spring?*



Photo by Zac Witte

Created in partnership with [Schreiner University](#), [Texas Tech University](#),
[Texas Public Radio](#) and [Hill Country Alliance](#)



Ecosystem Services: *How We Can Help Preserve and Protect Our Natural Assets*

The Texas Water Symposium provides perspectives from landowners, policy makers, scientists, water resource experts and regional leaders.

Join us as we explore the complex issues and challenges in providing water for Texans in this century.

Each session is free and open to the public. The hour-long program begins at 7:00 pm, followed by discussion time with Q&A. The events are recorded and aired on Texas Public Radio one week later.

Learn more:

www.texaswatersymposium.com

Stay informed by subscribing at

www.hillcountryalliance.org

Listen to past shows online at:

<http://tpr.org/people/texas-water-symposium>

Water, essential for life, is our most precious and valuable natural resource. But water supply and quality are under increasing pressure from a growing population. How will we protect this resource and plan for a sustainable future? There is a great need for a water-literate public; decisions being made today have far reaching and long lasting effects for our children and future generations.

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Texas Tech University Llano River Field Station - Junction
254 Red Raider Ln. Junction, TX 76849
Doors open at 6:30 pm, Program 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Panelists:

State Representative Andy Murr: Texas House District 53

Hughes Simpson: Program Leader - Texas A&M Forest Service

Tom Arsuffi: Director of the Llano River Field Station at Texas Tech University

Moderator: Katherine Romans: Executive Director, Hill Country Alliance

Ecosystem Services are the benefits that are provided -- for free -- by the natural environment. Healthy rivers, uplands, and aquifers provide safe drinking and irrigation water. Plants act as filters that generate oxygen and clean our air. Healthy soils retain moisture and capture carbon. Natural systems help regulate temperatures, maintain nutrient cycles, and provide a wide range of other necessary services that would otherwise require mechanical solutions and cost taxpayer dollars.

What would it cost to replace the ecosystem services we currently receive for free? As a society, we tend to overlook, take for granted, or even neglect and abuse the things that come to us at no cost. To help inform decision-makers, many of these ecosystem services are being assigned economic values. Join us as we explore the ecosystem services provided by our Hill Country natural resources and how we can help preserve and protect our natural capital.

Thank you for helping Texas Water Symposium celebrate 10 years of water exploration!

FREE Rainwater Harvesting Workshop Coming to Junction, June 9



Rainwater Harvesting
For Irrigation,
Livestock, Wildlife,
Firefighting

Rainwater Harvesting Class
June 9, 2018
9:00 to 12: noon
FREE

Texas Tech University - Junction
Center

Address: 254 Red Raider Ln, Junction,
TX 76849

Location Phone: 325-446-2301

Class Information Number:
972-952-9688

Registration:
wateruniversity.tamu.edu

Sponsors


Texas Water
Resources Institute
make every drop count

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION



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[Register](#)



Think “Big Tank” and help save on your customer’s water bill!!! This program covers design, construction, maintenance and benefits of a large rainwater collection system. Participants will learn how to calculate rainwater capture, design an above or below ground collection system and utilize rainwater using large tank systems for home or business applications. This program will also cover installing drip irrigation.

Joe David Ross honored by Rep. Andy Murr

State Representative Andy Murr honored Joe David Ross, a headwater rancher on the North Llano River in Sutton County, with a Texas Legislative Proclamation honoring his 33 years of service on the Sutton County Underground Water Conservation District.

Joe David, one of the founders of the Conservation District in 1986, has been a long-time advocate for sound stewardship of our land and water resources in the Llano Watershed.

Joe David also diligently served on the Coordination Committee for the Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan and provided valuable input into the development of the Watershed Conservation Plan for the Llano River Watershed Alliance.

We all owe a Joe David Ross our debt of gratitude.



Joe David Ross (left) accepts legislative proclamation from Rep. Andy Murr. *(photo: Meredith Allen)*

2018 Texas Tech University Axis Deer Project Update

By: Matthew Buchholz, Warren Conway, Blake Grisham, and Thomas Arsuffi



Photo : Robert Stubblefield

Following the completion of the Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan in 2016, Texas Tech University's Department of Natural Resources Management and Llano River Field Station developed a research project to better understand the ecology of free-ranging axis deer along the South Llano River. The goals of this project are to assess the effects that axis deer have on native riparian habitats and vegetation, assess current and possible future population status and growth, investigate possible issues with the spread of disease between axis and white-tailed deer, and assess habitat selection by free-ranging axis deer. [Read more...](#)



Life's better outside.

Like us on Facebook!
Facebook.com/SouthLlanoRiver

Family Park Programs, May 12th - 20th

South Llano River State Park

Phone: (325) 446-3994

Birding 101 - Saturday, May 12th

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Meet at the Acorn Bird Blind (down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)

How do you tell all those colorful birds apart? Join us to learn binocular and bird ID tips, and then we'll practice our newfound skills at the bird blind! If time permits, we may also take a short bird walk. Good walking shoes and drinking water are recommended.

Binoculars provided, or bring your own. All ages and skill levels welcome!



Skins, Skulls, and More! - Saturday, May 12th

drop in between 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Held at Headquarters Front Porch

Stop by Park Headquarters 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.

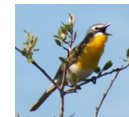


Bird Walk - Friday, May 18th

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Meet at the Fawn Trail parking lot (behind Park Headquarters)

South Llano River State Park is a great place to go birdwatching. Join us and see what we can spot! We will walk to the bird blind and see what birds come in to bathe, drink, or feed. If time permits, we may walk the trail to look for target species. Good walking shoes and drinking water are recommended. Binoculars provided, or bring your own. All ages and skill levels welcome!



Yellow-breasted Chat

"The Park After Dark" Night Hike - Saturday, May 19th

8:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Meet at the Acorn Bird Blind (down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)

Experience the park after dark! We'll walk an easy trail (~ 1 mile round-trip) in the pecan forest and look for fireflies, bats, deer, spiders, and more! Good walking shoes, bug spray, drinking water, and a flashlight are recommended. All ages welcome!

No pets, please.



Japanese Fish Printing - Sunday, May 20th

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 are provided. All ages welcome! Children must be accompanied by an adult.



By J.G. Wang

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