



**Kerr County Soil & Water
Conservation District**



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Plant Native, Drought Resistant Trees!

**ALL TREES SOLD HAVE BEEN GROWN LOCALLY
AND ARE NATIVE SPECIES. 5 GALLON POTS.**

**QUANTITIES LIMITED, COME EARLY!
SPECIES AVAILABLE:**

BIG TOOTH MAPLE	GOLDEN BALL LEAD TREE
BLANCO CRABAPPLE	MEXICAN PLUM
BURR OAK	MONTERREY OAK
CEDAR ELM	PRIDE OF BARBADOS
CHINKAPIN OAK	RUSTY BLACK-HAW
DESERT WILLOW	TEXAS REDBUD
EYE'S NECKLACE	

\$25

NATIVE TREE SALE

Date: Saturday, November 8, 2014

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Location: TBD

KERR COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S

For More Information or for Special Orders Please Contact:

Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District
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KERR CO. SWCD NEWS

Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District July 2014 Volume 5, Issue 3

**GEORGE HOLEKAMP AWARD AT THE
YOUTH RANGE WORKSHOP**

Once again, the Youth Range Workshop (held by the Texas Section of the Society for Range Management) came to the Hill Country for it's annual camp for teenagers from across Texas. These youth participate in this week-long, hands-on workshop where they are exposed to actual land management practices and decisions through field trips to ranches and a wildlife management area. These field trips bring out facts on goals of land ownership and the responses of vegetation to practices conducted for livestock, wildlife, recreation, and rangeland restoration. All examples will be real-life applications. The camp is headquartered on the Texas Tech University-Junction campus. During their outing to the Kerr Wildlife Management Area every year, the Kerr SWCD provides campers with a much needed reprieve in the AC, along with a delicious lunch! And for the 3rd year in a row, the Kerr SWCD has also awarded the George Holekamp Award. This award is given to the camper that demonstrates outstanding public speaking skills, by giving an informative, 5 minute speech on their chosen conservation topic during the lunch. The campers that participate in this contest have prepared their speech throughout the week on topics that they have learned about while at camp.

This year, the winner of the George Holekamp Award was Randi Buckalew of Jasper, Texas. Seen below, Randi gave a terrific speech and impressed the Board with her public speaking skills. She was presented with a certificate of awards and a belt buckle from the Kerr SWCD. Jack Clarke, chairman of the Kerr SWCD presented the award. The SWCD is proud to honor Mr. Holekamp's memory and his legacy for dedication to conservation management and youth education through this award each year.

More information on the Youth Range Workshop can be found on their website: www.rangelands.org/texas/youtheducation.shtml

Congratulations Randi!



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Dates of Interest:

- August 1 : Kerr WMA First Friday Tour
- September 5 : Kerr WMA First Friday Tour
- September 12: New Landowner Series, Kendalia
- September 27 : HCDJLS Scholarship Fundraiser
- October 3 : Kerr WMA First Friday Tour
- October 23-26 : Kerr County Fair
- November 8 : SWCD Fall Tree Sale

KERR WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA'S

FIRST FRIDAY TOUR SCHEDULE

August 1st: 1 - 5 p.m.

"Elements of Habitat" Understanding central components in management of any wildlife species, food, water and cover are critical to wildlife management success. Join us for programs addressing the diets of native and exotic species, water use, development strategies and cover requirements. Outdoor tour of sites at the Management Area will follow demonstrating topics covered indoors. The program is free charge.

September 5th: 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Lunch provided by Kerr County SWCD, lunch fee TBD

"Addressing Natural Resource Concerns 'Facing the Quail Decline'" TPWD and Texas A & M AgriLife Extension have teamed up to deliver quail ecology, decline issues, research highlights, and statewide initiatives concerning the Northern Bobwhite and Montezuma quail. Join us for programs covering what we have learned and are investigating regarding these species and learn how to participate in the Texas Quail Index. Outdoor tour of sites will demonstrate activities and topics covered indoors. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m., contact the WMA office for registration and lunch details.

October 3rd: 1 -5 p.m.

"Ecosystems Approach to Wildlife Management, putting it all together" Finding a cure rather than treating a symptom. 3rd and final seminar discussing white-tailed deer management, grazing management, prescribed burning, brush control and endangered species. The seminar will also include over 30 years of nutrition and genetics research conducted in the Donnie E. Harmel White-tailed Deer Research Facility. Outdoor tour of sites at the Management Area will follow demonstrating topics covered indoors. This program is free of charge.

Reservations are requested. CONTACT the KERR WMA for details & RSVP at : 830-238-4483.

There are also similar seminars at the Mason Mountain WMA. Contact their office for dates & details: 325-347-5037.

USDA-NRCS & TSSWCB Programs Available

Several programs are available for Kerr County residents to apply for and receive assistance in implementing management practices for agricultural land.

The Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) is designed to assist agricultural producers in enhancing their land with certain management practices. Practices that address and improve water quantity and domestic animals are given high priority in Kerr County and include such practices as brush management,

livestock water systems, fencing, and seeding.

The NRCS office accepts applications for this program year round and more information can be gained by contacting the Kerrville office at 830-896-4911 x 3 or visit the NRCS Texas homepage at: www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov.

The Water Quality Management Program (WQMP) is a state-funded program made available through Senate Bill 503. It is a site-specific plan developed through and approved by the local soil and water

conservation district for agricultural or silvicultural lands. The main goal of these plans is to abate agricultural and/or silvicultural nonpoint pollutant contributions to impaired or threatened waters as prioritized. A WQMP covers the entire operating unit and includes required practices applicable to the planned land use. The first step in obtaining a WQMP is to contact the Kerr County SWCD. There is no charge for the development of a WQMP, but there may be costs for implementing required practices outlined in the

WQMP.

Financial assistance is available at this time in the form of a cost-share program for WQMPs in Kerr County. You may read more on this program at TSSWCB's website at: www.tsswcb.texas.gov (click on Programs, then select WQMP). You may also contact the Kerr County Soil and Water Conservation District's office at 830-896-4911 x3 and ask for Deanna (SWCD) or Laura (NRCS) for assistance or to start the application process.

NRCS is an equal opportunity provider & employer.

UGRA's Rain Barrel Program

The Upper Guadalupe River Authority (UGRA) has a rebate program to promote water conservation and watershed stewardship through rainwater harvesting. The Rainwater Catchment System Rebate Program is available to anyone with a Kerr County address and will reimburse eligible applicants up to \$50 when they provide proof of purchase of rainwater catchment system equipment.



This incentive program is open to businesses or individuals who will initiate rainwater harvesting in Kerr County. Purchases of rainwater catchment system equipment made after March 24, 2011 are eligible for the rebate and payment by UGRA is subject to the availability of funds. For more information, contact UGRA at 830-896-5445 or visit their website at www.ugra.org.

New Landowner Series

The multi-county 2014 New Landowner Series, presented by Texas A & M AgriLife Extension Service, will be held in 4 counties from March –September. A total of six sessions will be held in Blanco, Gillespie, Kendall and Kerr counties. "These sessions are designed for the novice who just acquired property or is looking into purchasing land in the Hill Country. At these sessions, attendees can meet and speak with some of the top experts in their respective fields, as well as get hands-on experience in learning how to get the most out of their property," says Brad Roeder, Extension Agent in Gillespie county.

All programs begin with registration from 1-1:30 p.m. and presentations from 1:30-5:00 p.m. Specific session sites are being determined and will be provided to attendees before each session. The cost is \$30/session, payable in advance or at the door. Advance notice for each session is requested. For more information, please contact the **AgriLife Extension Office in Gillespie County at 830-997-3452.**

September 12 : Kandalia; Wildlife and Range Management, Brush Work and Sculpting. (2 CEU's)

Run For The Roses - HCDJLS Scholarship Fundraiser

The Hill Country District Junior Livestock Show is having it's annual scholarship fundraiser, themed "Run For The Roses" for 2015. It will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2014. You can visit their website for more details, view sponsors, and even buy event and raffle tickets online! www.hcdjls.org

35TH ANNUAL KERR COUNTY FAIR

The Fair is coming up! Get ready for a weekend full of fun and events! The Kerr County Fair will open on October 23, with the Creative Arts & Coloring Contest Check-In and the Kerr 4-H Food Show. Continuing on Oct. 24, the Chili Cook-Off will take place and a dance to finish off the night! On Oct 25, the Swine and Steer Jackpot Shows, the Fair Parade, more BBQ judging, grounds events, and Bull Riding and Dance will take place. On Oct. 26, the Sheep and Goat Jackpot Shows and Scholarship Pageant will take place! Each day the grounds will be open to general admission where you can visit the petting zoo, vendors and other exhibits, and the Midway Carnival. Check out their website for a full schedule of events! And make sure to check out the Creative Arts Contests and get those baked goods, canned goods, fresh produce, sewing projects, photography, and art projects ready to compete!

WWW.KERRCOUNTYFAIR.COM