



**Kerr County Soil & Water  
Conservation District**



2104 Memorial Boulevard  
Suite 103  
Kerrville, Texas 78028  
Tel: 830-896-4911 x 3  
Fax: 830-896-3336  
E-mail: kerrcountyswcd@tx.nacdnet.org  
www.kerrcountyswcd.com

## TEXAS BRIGADES CAMP - 2015 SEASON

*The Texas Brigades' mission is to educate and empower youths with leadership skills and knowledge in wildlife, fisheries, and land stewardship to become conservation ambassadors for a sustained natural resource legacy.*

The Texas Brigades is a wildlife-focused leadership development program for high school youth (ages 13-17). There are five different camps! You will be introduced to habitat management, hone your communication skills, and develop a land ethic. The state's leading wildlife and fisheries biologists and land managers serve as instructor and mentors. Each camp is 4 1/2 days long. Camps are held on private ranches in different areas of the state. In addition to learning animal anatomy and behavior, botany, nutrition, habitat management, population dynamics, etc., you will learn valuable leadership skills. You will write news releases, practice public speaking, and find out how to handle radio and television interviews. If you are interested in biology, conservation, leadership or just appreciate the outdoors, you should consider applying to one of these camps!

**KERR COUNTY SWCD PROVIDES SCHOL-  
ARSHIPS TO CONSERVATION CAMPS  
SUCH AS TEXAS BRIGADES TO YOUTH  
LIVING IN KERR COUNTY! PLEASE CON-  
TACT US TO GET MORE INFORMATION**

### 2015 Camp Dates

Rolling Plains Bobwhite, Coleman - June 13-17, 2015  
South Texas Buckskin, Uvalde - June 14-18, 2015  
South Texas Bobwhite, McCoy - June 26-30, 2015  
Bass Bridage, Santa Anna - July 7-11, 2015  
Ranch Brigade, Santa Anna - July 14-18, 2015  
North Texas Buckskin, Santa Anna - July 19-23, 2015  
Waterfowl Brigade, Tennessee Colony - July 19-23, 2015



# KERR CO. SWCD NEWS

Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District October 2014 Volume 5, Issue 4

## KERR COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S

# NATIVE TREE SALE

**Date: Saturday, November 8, 2014**

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

**Location: 2104 Memorial Boulevard**

At the USDA Service Center, Next to MG Building Supply

**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  
BLANCO CRABAPPLE      TREE  
BURR OAK      825 MEXICAN PLUM  
CEDAR ELM      MONTERREY OAK  
CHINKAPIN OAK      PRIDE OF BARBADOS  
DESERT WILLOW      RUSTY BLACK-HAW  
EVE'S NECKLACE      TEXAS REDBUD

**Plant Native, Drought Resistant Trees!**



For More Information or for Special Orders Please Contact:

Kerr County Soil & Water Conservation District

Deanna Pfeffer, Technician

deanna@kerrcountyswcd.com or

830-896-4911 x 3



### In this issue:

Fall Tree Sale	1
Conservation Tip	2
NRCS & WQMP Programs	2
UGRA Rain Barrel Program	3
Kerr Co Forage Meeting	3
Kerr County Fair	3
Texas Brigades Camp	4

### Dates of Interest:

- October 23-26 : Kerr County Fair
- October 27 : Kerr County Forage Meeting
- November 8 : SWCD Fall Tree Sale

## Conservation Tip: Caring for Native Plants

We all know the benefits of planting native plants, but how do we care for them best once we have them? Let's focus in on trees and woody shrubs, although many of these suggestions can be used across the board for all native plants.

Established native plants should be able to survive without watering, fertilizing or pruning but these practices can be utilized to improve the plant. Most newly planted plants need to be watered about an inch weekly to establish themselves for the first year. For established plants, water no more than a few times a month, watering slowly allowing the water to penetrate deeply. Watering for established plants may only need to take place during drought conditions, as some species can react adversely to over-watering.

Pruning is not necessary for native plants either, unless you want to improve the appearance of a plant. Any pruning should be done carefully. Always sanitize your tools with rubbing alcohol to prevent the spread of diseases or fungus. Also make sure to paint all pruned spots on all species!

Fertilizers, again, are not necessary but can be used on native plants. Always fertilize in the early spring months and never in drought conditions. Avoid fertilizers with a high level of nitrogen, opting instead for a mild fertilizer.

Be observant in changes in your native plants. Any time a disease or problem is suspected, use local resources to diagnose the situation. Your local AgriLife Extension Office is a great place to start since they have numerous information packets and experts on staff to answer your questions. Kerr County also boasts a great Master Naturalist and Master Gardner Programs (through the Extension Office as well), as well as a chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas and the Riverside Nature Center for resources.

***Above all, enjoy your drought-resistant, low maintenance native plants as they are!***

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.ugra.org).

## Kerr County Forage Meeting—October 27

The Kerr County Hay Show & Forage Meeting will be just around the corner. On October 27 Dr. Larry Redmon, Extension Forage Specialist will discuss forage management, as well as new improved forages, insect and weed control and new products to control fall armyworms, grassy weeds, etc. The program will begin at 1 pm. to 4 pm. with three hours of CEU's offered to Private, commercial and non-commercial applicators. Registration for this program will be \$15 per person payable at the door or pre-registration is \$10 by October 18.

## 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. New this year is the Swifty Swine Pig Races! 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! Please come out and support the youth and adult participants in this age-old tradition of our COUNTY FAIR!!

**[WWW.KERRCOUNTYFAIR.COM](http://WWW.KERRCOUNTYFAIR.COM)**



**KERR COUNTY  
FAIR ASSOCIATION**