Plum Creek Watershed Partnership Steering Committee Meeting
Lockhart State Park
2012 State Park Rd., Lockhart, TX 78644
Thursday, February 27, 2019
12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Agenda

12:00 Sign-in, Welcome, Introductions, & Meal Served – Steve Risinger, PCWP
12:20 Watershed Coordinator Updates – Steve Risinger, PCWP
12:50 Kyle WWTP Expansion – Yvonne Gilvallejo, City of Kyle
1:10 2020 Water Quality Report Discussion – Lee Gudgell, GBRA
1:40 Steering Committee Member Updates
2:00 Adjourn

Next Meeting: May, 2020
Location: TBD
PCWP Meeting

Funding for the development and support of the Plum Creek Watershed Protection Plan is through a Clean Water Act grant provided by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
Plum Creek Watershed Partnership Meeting

27, February, 2020

Lockhart State Park
In Loving Memory of
Chief Carine Calfoun
Lunch Sponsored by: Caldwell County
Agenda

❖ Welcome And Introductions
❖ Watershed Updates
❖ City Of Kyle WWTP Expansion
❖ Water Quality Update
❖ Steering Committee Updates
Watershed Updates
Larry Warren is an employee of the Caldwell-Travis SWCD. He is a field technician who works with agricultural producers to develop water quality management plans and implement best management practices.

Caldwell County SWCD
1403 Blackjack St. Lockhart,
TX 78664
(512) 398-2121
Oil Spill in Uhland

• Oil Spill in Uhland on HWY 21 IVO Plum Creek
  • 60 Gallons
  • Before precipitation
• City of Uhland Cleaned and disposed of oil waste at Caldwell County Unit Road
Plum Creek Flood Control Structures

• State Upgrades
  • Site 2
  • Site 14

• Rehabilitation
  • Site 10
  • Site 12
  • Site 21
  • Site 28
Town Branch Riparian Restoration

- Collaboration between:
  - TCEQ
  - City of Lockhart
  - Nueces River Authority
  - The Plum Creek Watershed Partnership

- Project Status:
  - No-mow grow areas established along Town Branch
  - Educational signage installed
Grow Zone
(No Mowing!)

Riparian Zones with tall grasses and plants:
- Improve water quality and quantity
- Stabilize streambanks from erosion
- Provide wildlife habitat and food
- Shade streams and lower temperatures

Zona ribereña delicada
¡No corte las hierbas!

Zona ribereña de pastos altos y plantas silvestres:
- Mejoran la cantidad y calidad del agua
- Estabilizan los causas de erosión
- Proporcionan un entorno de vida silvestre y de alimentos
- Hay mucha sombra para el suelo y para modesar las temperaturas del agua

plumcreekwatershed.org
Collaboration Between:

- TCEQ
- Caldwell County
- The Plum Creek Watershed Partnership
- The Meadows Center

Project Status:

- Educational Signage Installed
- Close Out Date February 29, 2020
SAY GOODBYE TO WATERING YOUR LAWN

Did you know that landscape watering accounts for more than 30 percent of single-family residential water use in Texas?

Xeriscaping is a landscaping style that uses water-efficient, native plants to create a visually attractive landscape that thrives with very little water. Properly installed and maintained, a xeriscape can use less than one-half the water of a traditional landscape and require less maintenance than a landscape that is primarily lawn.

Xeriscaping is commonly used in arid or semi-arid environments and can be used to showcase a wide variety of hardy plants - from succulents to native grasses.

When designing your landscape for water efficiency, choose plants that are defined as low water use or drought tolerant for your area. The following plants are just a few species that are able to thrive in Central Texas with minimal, if any, need for supplemental watering.

Here are some examples of plants you can use in your own backyard xeriscape:

- **Antelope Horn**
  - **Asclepias asperula**

- **Century Plant**
  - **Agave americana**

- **Mexican Bush Sage**
  - **Salvia leucantha**

- **Blue Grama Grass**
  - **Bouteloua gracilis**

While xeriscapes vary greatly, they can often be recognized by their distinct drought resistant plants, rocky groundcover, and lack of an irrigation system.

Find out more about water conservation through landscaping and drought-tolerant plants here:

- [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org)
- [www.texaslivingwaters.org](http://www.texaslivingwaters.org)

Funding for this project was provided in part by the EPA through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.
Is there a way to protect our waterways while also beautifying the landscape?

Not only are rain gardens aesthetically pleasing, but they also filter pollutants that might reach the watershed via surface runoff. Rain gardens reduce surface runoff by intercepting and absorbing the water, along with bacteria and pollutants that might come along with it. Rain gardens can be used in both residential and commercial construction in low laying areas to capture the most water.

Rain gardens protect the Plum Creek Watershed by:
- Reducing surface runoff
- Reducing pollutants such as sediment, bacteria, etc. from entering our waterways
- Lowering the risk for flooding and erosion

This rain garden at the Caldwell County Justice Center has the potential of diverting approximately 1,012 pounds of pollutants per year via infiltration.

Learn more about the Plum Creek Watershed and other ways you can help at [www.gbra.org/plumcreek](http://www.gbra.org/plumcreek).

GREAT NATIVES FOR YOUR GARDEN

- American Beautyberry
- Texas Lantana
- Mexican Feathergrass
- Texas Sage
- Inland Sea Oats
- Gulf Coast Muhly

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SAVE WATER - GO NATIVE!

When you think of a backyard, what do you imagine? Depending on where you grew up, you may picture a simple field of green turfgrass. However, here in the Blackland Prairie of Central Texas, we are lucky to have more than 2,000 species of native flowering plants!

When you include hardy, native plants in your backyard you encourage local pollinators to stop by for a visit. Native species such as Texas Star Hibiscus and Texas Lantana are great for bringing in hummingbirds, while Texas Sage produces lovely, fragrant flowers year-round – even in drought!

By including more than just turfgrass in your yard, you not only save a significant amount of irrigation water, but also can increase habitat for native species.

Here are some of the native plants you can find in the xeriscape and raingarden at the Caldwell County Justice Center:

- American Beautyberry
  Callicarpa americana

- Texas Lantana
  Lantana urticoides

- Gregg's Mistflower
  Conoclinium greggii

- Esperanza
  Tecoma stans

- Switchgrass
  Panicum virgatum

- Rock Rose
  Pavonia lasiopetala

- Texas Sage
  Leucophyllum frutescens

- Mexican Feathergrass
  Nassella tenuissima

- Four-nerve Daisy
  Tetraneuris scaposa

- Texas Star Hibiscus
  Hibiscus coccineus

Thank you to the Caldwell County Master Gardeners, Keep Lockhart Beautiful, and local volunteers for their support in the selection, planting, and maintenance of the native plants found at the Caldwell County Justice Center.
You use water everyday. What can you do to reduce your water bill while conserving water?

Rainwater harvesting is the collection of rainwater into a storage vessel for outdoor watering, or indoor use with the proper filtration system.

Rainwater harvesting systems protect the Plum Creek Watershed by:

- Reducing stormwater runoff
- Reducing nonpoint source pollution

This rainwater harvesting system at the Caldwell County Justice Center has the potential to collect more than 195,900 gallons per year. Water collected by rainwater harvesting systems can be used in a variety ways such as watering landscapes or when treated correctly, can be reused for cooking!

Learn more about the Plum Creek Watershed and other ways you can help at www.gbra.org/plumcreek.

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Uhland Elementary
Feral Hog Bounty Program

➢ Started February 4th 2020
➢ 362 feral hogs removed
➢ 15 Landowners
Upcoming Events
Rain Garden Volunteer Days

➢ Monthly Cleanups And Educational Events
   Starting Feb 29

➢ Community Groups
   • Texas State University Dept. Of Geography
   • Girl & Boy Scouts Of America
   • The Pegasus School
   • Keep Lockhart Beautiful
2020 Caldwell County Tree Adoption Event

Goal: Plant 1,000 Trees in April

Dates
- April 18
- April 25

Sign-up at
- ccTREE.org

Locations
- Lockhart Food Pantry
- Luling Public Library
- Lockhart Public Library
- Martindale United Methodist Church
- McMahan Women's Center
- Dale Community Center
- Lytton Springs General Store
Great Texas River Cleanup

- Saturday, March 7, 2020 @ 9am
- Location
  - Kyle, TX
- 2019 Results
  - 58 volunteers
  - 2000 lbs. of trash
  - 550 lbs. of metal recycling
  - 4 tires
Plum Creek Watershed Cleanup

➢ May 2\textsuperscript{nd} 2020

➢ Locations
  - E. Market St
  - Lover’s Ln

➢ Sponsors
  - City of Lockhart
  - Keep Lockhart Beautiful
  - Caldwell County
  - The Plum Creek Watershed
Over 265 homes are in the subdivision on onsite wastewater systems.

Majority of lots are small, wastewater issues are reported often to the County.

Upcoming planning meeting with Dain Larsen, Texas Water Development Board.

Sign up today!
Texas Watershed Steward Workshop

- Wednesday, June 2, 2020
- Luling Foundation Farm 8am-12pm
- Educating and informing local stakeholders about their watershed, potential impairments, and steps that can be taken to help improve and protect water quality in their watershed.
Questions?
Steering Committee Updates

➢ Individual Member Updates?
➢ Any updates regarding our 5 strategies?
  ● Urban Stormwater Management
  ● Wastewater Management
  ● Agricultural Non-Point Source Management
  ● Wildlife & Non-Domestic Animal Management
  ● Education and Outreach
➢ Grant funding ideas or needs?
Next Meeting
May 2020
6:30pm
Kyle, Tx
Thanks!

Steve Risinger
Plum Creek Watershed Coordinator
srisinger@plumcreekwatershed.org

405 E. Market Street
Lockhart, TX 78644

(830) 557-7358