

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2016

Annual Texas Youth Range Workshop.



Left: Cydney Walker receiving the Honor Ramrod Award.

Middle: Dr. Landers at Half Circle L. Ranch in Menard talking to Youth Range Workshop students.

Right: Baylee Walker receiving her certificate of recognition.



Above: Baylee Walker received an Outfit Award of Excellence.

The Gillespie Soil and Water Conservation District along with the Farm Bureau sponsored Baylee and Cydney Walker for the 62st Annual Texas Youth Range workshop was held June 26– July 1, 2016.

The Youth Range Workshop provides 4-H and FFA youth from across the state with an intensive 6 days of hands-on training and learning by seventeen volunteer range professionals in the state. A total of 40 youth were accepted for the 2016 workshop. The workshop was conducted at the Texas Tech University located in Junction, Texas. The first Youth Range Workshop was held in Junction in 1955.

The purpose for the workshop is to recognize outstanding young individuals, develop leadership skills, and provide advanced training to 4-H and FFA members interested in practical range ecology, ranch and natural resource management.

One goal of the workshop is the hope that the youth participants will return to their local communities and serve as leaders to educate other young individuals and audiences

about value and management of the rangeland resource.

The workshop curriculum is structured to provide knowledge and understanding in the following areas: land stewardship, range ecology, plant growth, plant-soil-water relations, primary and secondary plant succession, watershed management, livestock and wildlife needs, tools of range and natural resource management, prescribed burning, the impact of management decisions on the range resource, and the landowner.

Hands-on activities provide curriculum reinforcement, visual examples and opportunities to learn skills in plant identification, plant collecting, plant species composition, total resource planning, stocking rate determinations, estimating forage standing crops, and estimating brush densities and ecological trend.

Special sessions on water and range health provide the participants with skills for teaching youth and adults in their home communities.

A media program is conducted which encour-

ages youth participants to use and train others on what they have learned. Extending the knowledge learned or gained to others is one of the highest goals of this program.

Cydney is a senior at Harper High School. She is in the school band where she is a drum major. She plans on attending Tarleton State University to major in Animal Science with a concentration in Pre-Veterinary Studies. After obtaining her bachelor's degree there, she hopes to attend Texas A&M for her doctorate in veterinary medicine.

Baylee attends Harper High School where she is involved in many activities, including marching and concert band, basketball, FFA, Range, ENR, and Skills team. She also competes in Public Speaking. After graduating from high school she plans on attending Texas State University and major in kinesiology.

The Gillespie County SWCD looks forward to sponsoring future students who are interested in the Texas Youth Range Workshop.

Conservation Continues in the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

No one knows more about conservation than NRCS. We can develop a conservation plan tailored to your land and your goals to help you increase the productivity and protect the value of your land.

USDA recognizes that conservation by farmers, ranchers and forest owners today means thriving and sustainable agriculture for our future.

Seventy percent of the nation's land is privately owned and conservation of our nation's private lands not only results in healthy soil, water, air, plants, animals and ecosystems, but it also provides productive and sustainable working lands.

NRCS offers the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) which provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers in order to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion

and sedimentation or improved or created wildlife habitat.

Benefits: Eligible program participants receive financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices, or activities like conservation planning, that address natural resource concerns on their land. Payments are made to participants after conservation practices and activities identified in an EQIP plan of operations are implemented. Contracts can last up to ten years.

Eligibility: Agricultural producers and owners of non-industrial private forestland and tribes are eligible to apply for EQIP. Eligible land includes cropland, rangeland, pastureland, non-industrial private forestland and other farm or ranch lands. Socially disadvantaged, beginning and limited resource farmers, Indian tribes and veterans are eligible for an increased payment rate and may receive ad-

vance payment of up to 50 percent to purchase materials and services needed to implement conservation practices included in their EQIP contract.

Applicants must: Control or own eligible land; comply with adjusted gross income limitation (AGI) provisions; be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation requirements; develop an NRCS EQIP plan of operations.

Additional restrictions and program requirements may apply.

For more information, visit with NRCS in Fredericksburg at 1906 North Llano Street, #106, call 830-997-3349 ext. 3, or consult the NRCS website.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The Gillespie County Soil and Water Conservation District provides technical assistance to all land users in the county through the Natural Resources Conservation Service field office at 1906 North Llano Street, #106, in Fredericksburg, (830) 997-3349 ext. 3.

The Gillespie County Soil and Water Conservation District prohibits discrimination in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply in all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotapes, etc.) should contact the SWCD office at (830) 997-3349 ext. 3. "An Equal Opportunity Employer."



Range Plants of North Central Texas Book is available at the Gillespie County SWCD. It is a donation of \$25.00. You can pick yours up today at the office located at 1906 N. Llano Office # 106. Please call the office at (830)997-3349 ext. 3 with any questions.

Range Plants of North Central Texas
A Land User's Guide to Their Identification, Value and Management
by Ricky J. Linex

Fall Range Tour

The Fall Range Tour was held on Oct. 13 at the Doss Community Center.

The tour was presented by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Gillespie County Soil and Water Conservation District, and Natural Resources Conservation Service.

About 90 people attended the event which began at 5:30 pm.

Jess Anderson, Rangeland Management Specialist NRCS presented a Power Point slide show on hybrid sorghum sudangrass. Clayton Crenwelge offered to have his field planted in 2 different hybrid sorghum test plots. Mega Green and Sweet Forever BMR were the two types planted. Jess compared the differences in the two varieties and how each are different from the traditional sorghum hay that is commonly planted in our area. He explained the growth process, nutritive values, and the photosensitive trait that makes these varieties superior.

Alan McGinty, TAMU Professor and Extension Range Specialist Emeritus, talked about fence line brush control. Royce Herbort allowed Alan and the NRCS to spray some fence line test plots on RR 783, north of Doss. Alan discussed the differences in the applied chemicals and which could be used to target specific brush species. He also discussed broad spectrum brush chemicals and treatment methods.

Three Continuing Education Units were offered.

THANK YOU to All Who Support the Gillespie County SWCD

Businesses & individuals support the SWCD in many ways, and we appreciate all their help! They donate door prizes, assist with Field Days, sponsor conservation awards, help with funding district activities, provide meeting or field day locations, publicize events by newspaper and radio, loan us equipment, and assist the district all year long.

- | | |
|--|--|
| Allied Agricultural Services
American Bank of Texas
Arrowhead Bank
Bar-O-Bar Ranches, Inc.
Behrends Feed & Fertilizer
Behrends Feed at Bode's
Beyer Fertilizer & Feed
Capital Farm Credit
Central Texas Electric Co-op
Creative Awards & Trophies
Willard Dearing
DuPont Crop Protection
Eckert & Son Auto Salvage
Ersch Farms, Agritech
Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post
Bernice Jenschke/
Edmund Jenschke, Inc.
Frantzen Fencing & Welding
Fredericksburg Lions Club
Gillespie County Farm Bureau
Gillespie County Fair & Festivals Assoc.
Gillespie Livestock Co., Inc.
Gordon's Repair Shop
H. Moellering Construction
SW Cattle Raisers | Hill Country State Bank
Hohmann's General Store
JEK's Pit Stop
Jenschke Farm & Ranch Ltd.
Edmund Jenschke, Inc.
KNAF Radio
Kramer's The Outdoor Store
Kunz & Sauer Fencing & Commission
Lochte Storage
Lyssy & Eckel Feeds
Mike & Mary Porter
Oak Valley Outdoor
Security State Bank & Trust
Karl and Steve Stengel
Stonewall Body Shop
Stroehrer & Olfers, Inc.
NAPA
Sutherlands Lumber Co.
Texas AgriLife Extension
Texas Parks & Wildlife
Vernon & Linda Treibs
Turner Seed Company
Weinheimer & Son, Inc.
Welge Ranches |
|--|--|

2016 Area Conservation Awards Banquet

Each year the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board holds a poster and essay contest for students to enter. The Gillespie SWCD organizes the contest for their local students. These entries are judged at the local soil and water conservation district level. These winners are honored here in Fredericksburg with an Awards Banquet and Hamburger Supper for the winners and their families. Each winner is then entered in the TSSWCB for competition on the area level.

This year we had one student from Fredericksburg win at the area level. Caleb Olfers was honored in Wall, at the Area II Conservation Awards Banquet on May 3rd, 2016, he placed first, in the junior division.

The Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post won Runner-up for Friend of Conservation.

Along with the winners who were able to attend, our Gillespie SWCD District Directors also attended the Banquet.

BONN SURVEYING CAREY BONN

Registered Professional Land Surveyor
Firm Reg. No. 10055800

503 Longhorn Street
Fredericksburg, TX 78624

Office: 830-997-3884
Fax: 830-997-0972

H. MOELLERING CONST., LLC

Fredericksburg, TX 78624 * (830) 998-1686
Land Clearing, Cedar Shearing, Land Preparation,
Cattle Guards, Customized Gates,
Dams, Roads

EDMUND JENSCHKE, INC. CONSERVATION CONTRACTOR

Dams • Roads • Land Clearing • Pond Sealing
** Dams are our specialty **

225 Loop 534 • Kerrville, Texas 78028

Tele: 830-896-6706
Fax: 830-896-2135

SALES:

Sheep & Goats - Tuesdays - 9:30 A.M.
Cattle - Wednesdays - 12:00 Noon

Special Calf Sale and Weaned Stocker/Feeder Sales
Second Wednesday of each month

GILLESPIE LIVESTOCK CO., INC.

P. O. BOX 454 • Fredericksburg, Texas 78624 • 830-997-4394
www.gillespielivestock.com

Wayne Geistweidt
830-997-2368

Shaun Geistweidt
830-998-4233

BEYER FERTILIZER & FEED

3446 Hwy. 16 North, Fredericksburg, TX 78624
(830) 997-9880



Feed - Tubs - Hay
Livestock Feeders - Water
Troughs - Hunting Blinds & Deer Feeders
Fencing Supplies - Sprayers - Dry Fertilizer - Liquid Fertilizer
Seeds - Custom Spreading - Lime - Chemicals

Rentals include:
Sprayers, Rollers, Renovators,
Hay Inverter, No-Till (Seed) Drill,
Gopher Plow, Rock Rake,
Root Grubber, Tree Saw



TURNER SEED CO.

211 CR 151, Breckenridge, TX 76424
Phone 254-559-2065, Fax 254-559-5024
www.turnerseed.com

Native & Improved Grasses, Forbs,
Wildflower Seeds,
Wildlife Seed like Spring Deer Mix and
Quail & Turkey Mix

Order seed through Gillespie Co. SWCD
at 830-997-3349 ext. 3

Call Gillespie SWCD For Grass & Wildflower Seeds

Gillespie County SWCD's main purpose is to provide support to landowners.

To help earn funds for our conservation district, we sell grass seed, and wildflower and wildlife seed. A few of the grass seeds offered are Kleingrass, Wilman Lovegrass, WW-B Dahl, Sideoats grama, Indiangrass, and Little Bluestem. The best time to plant this type of grass seed is February - May.

However, other seed mixes are more for fall planting, like fall deer mix, fall grazing mix, or fall clover mix. Wildflower mixes for fall planting are available, too. Bluebonnets especially need to be planted in the fall, so that they can come up in November or December.

We have several Texas drillers for seed, and you can choose from a large selection of grass, wildflower, and wildlife seeds in bulk. We can give you a list of available seeds and prices, and can help select your seed and recommend seeding rates. If we can't answer your questions, NRCS is happy to help.

We order seed for you; it's shipped to us - and we call you when it arrives. You pay for seed when you pick it up. Depending on the price per pound and quantity ordered, a small shipping charge may be added.

Why not come by or call us to see how we can help with your next seed order.

TATSCH WELL SERVICE

Dennis S. Tatsch, Owner



Serving the Hill Country Since 1973
Submersible Pumps - Jets - Solar Pumps - Windmills
All Your Home and Ranch Needs - Free Estimates
Insured, Licensed & Bonded - LC # 4502 KLP



Find us on Facebook

Office: (830) 997-2413
Fax: (830) 997-4044

web:www.hillcountrywaterwell.com

NIELSEN CONSTRUCTION



ALL TYPES OF DIRT
WORK AND
EXCAVATION
"We'll Move The Earth For You"

Land Clearing & Leveling
Road Work • Building Pads
Tank & Dam Building
Large Rock Retaining Walls
Serving The Hill Country



BRADLEY NIELSEN • STONEWALL 830.644.2649

Fall and Early Winter Stocker Cattle Management

Proper vaccine boosters and nutrition help stocker cattle fare well in the fall.

Calves have to overcome many traumas including birth, weaning and transportation to grass. While the worst may be over once they've become acclimated to a stocker operation, other perils remain.

One of those perils is bovine diarrhea (BVD). There are 2 major genotypes of the BVD virus in the U.S., categorized as Type 1 and Type 2. Dr. Mark Spire, retired from a career as a technical services manager for Merck Animal Health, explains, "While they're cousins, they act like differently in the body. They both can cause mild disease in calves, but the viruses can become very aggressive if they calves are stressed."

That's because they suppress the animal's immune system by destroying white blood cells. This is an invitation for all kinds of pathogenic organisms to invade the calf's body and create a complicated disease problem. One solution is to make sure calves are vaccinated. If you are giving purchased calves their first round of vaccinations at your ranch, make sure the vaccine contains both BVD genotypes. Spire says most calves will respond pretty well. With younger cattle, there are concerns that the dose will be blocked by maternal antibodies still existing in the calf, even though they may be waning.

He says, "This serves as the primary vaccination in younger calves at weaning or in newly purchased calves. We can come back and booster our replacement heifers, which gives them good levels of protection. The booster for 12-14 month old replacement cattle can't take them well into the breeding program."

If the stocker operator has a good vaccination program with minimal health risk in a population of calves and makes the animal health history known to the feedlot, the feedlot operator may decide not to vaccinate upon arrival.

If health issues are present though, or if the feedlot has some low level BVD in its operation, it can administer vaccines that act as boosters, not just against BVD but also for other viruses such as infec-

tious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR), bovine respiratory syncytial virus and PI3.

"Our primary vaccination sets the stage for a vaccination program that carries into the wintertime for fall-weaned calves and newly purchased calves coming from wheat pasture or cool-season forage programs," says Spire.

Some locations, particularly the Southeast or areas where it's very wet, can add leptospirosis to their viral vaccination program. In their vast majority of operations across the U.S., vaccination for clostridia disease should be part of a basic vaccination program. Clostridia and most leptospirosis vaccines are typically followed by a booster within 3 to 6 weeks of the primary dose. Spire says these vaccines are well received by 6 to 8 month old animals, which develop a high level of protective immunity.

Persistently infected calves;

Many operations screen incoming cattle for being persistently infected with BVD (BVD-PI).

Spire says persistently infected calves are the offspring of cows that become infected between the first and fourth months of gestation-day 45 to day 125. If the virus doesn't kill the fetus, the virus replicates as if it were the fetus' own proteins. The BVD virus is recognized as part of the natural protein in the body, so the calf acts like a Trojan horse and carries the virus for life.

The calves then shed vast quantities of the virus through their natural body fluids, infecting their pasture mates. BVD-PI calves are a threat to any cows or replacement heifers that may be running alongside stocker cattle.

Within the 2 types of BVD, we have cytopathogenic BVD is really destructive and aggressive. It causes quite a bit of clinical disease. But the non-cytopathogenic BVD is subtle. While it can cause mild disease, it really likes to attack young, developing fetuses."

Pinkeye and Parasites

There are other concerns for calves arriving at a grazing operation in the fall. Spire says this is right at the end of the pinkeye season, so check calves for pinkeye

symptoms and treat them immediately.

"Generally, late season vaccination or pinkeye doesn't give much bang for the buck, so we tend to rely on active treatment programs," he says. Before the first frost, there is an internal parasite risk. If the calves are dewormed before they go out onto the pasture after the frost, there is very little risk of reinfection. "After deworming, we shift our emphasis toward external parasite control," he says. "We'll see lice overwinter on our stocker calves, so we typically use a product that gets lice and internal parasites at the post-frost treatment period, or we can use a pour-on or an oral feed-through product for internal parasite control. "If the cattle are parasite-clean when they are pulled off of their pastures or forage programs, we'll have a very responsive calf with a very low health risk going into the feedyard. "Spire also says a good time to remove the old fly tags is while you have the cattle in the squeeze chute for deworming or louse control, rather than leaving the tags on through the winter.

During the second and third month after arrival, he suggests that the operator check stocker cattle for major health defects such as eyes injured by pinkeye, swollen and painful joints or feet, or even animals that just aren't gaining weight. While poor weight gain can be due to a number of reasons, it is most generally from respiratory disease lung damage. "We can try to salvage those animals and not carry them into their winter, because they just don't hold up well to environmental extremes," he says. Maintain high animal health welfare standards and move chronically sick cattle out of the operation.

Spire says more feedyards are coordinating with stocker operations, asking them to use specific vaccination programs and treatments. The record prices have had a lot to do with stimulating communications. This can include requests that the calves be dewormed, or they receive specific boosters, trace minerals or a transition ration.

Many in the industry are moving to what he calls "satellite herds" that are owned by the feedyard dur-

ing the grass phase. He says, "We're seeing a lot of cattle come in at 900 pounds now, so it's really important that the feedyard coordinate with their suppliers to have a nice health program set up in advanced. That way, they know what health program the cattle are on before they come into the yard." This helps the feedyards manage their risk of losing a high-priced calf.

Proper Diet Components

Diet and its many aspects are obviously crucial to developing stocker cattle. Dr. Dale Balasi, Extension professor and researcher at Kansas State University (KSU), researches the nutrition management of stocker calves. He models his work on research done at Oklahoma State University's old Pawhuska unit, and by Drs. David Hutcheson and Andy Cole at Texas A&M's station in Amarillo on light-weight, stressed calves and growing programs for stocker cattle. He says, "We take long-hauled stressed calves, predominantly from western Tennessee, and straighten them out for about 45 days. Then we'll continue a performance study on their growth for another 45 to 70 days."

Their basic growing diet is approximately one-third rolled corn, but Blasi says they've had a good success using whole shelled corn with lighter weight calves. They also found a good response when wet corn gluten feed was added to the mix.

For the forage component, he stresses the importance of keeping the particles coarse enough for good rumen action. "We use about 15% alfalfa in our diet," he says. Forage particles that are too fine can lead to problems in the calves' digestive systems.

At KSU, they tend to feed a higher level of protein in the diet than is called for by the National Research Council. "Protein is a relatively inexpensive ingredient when you're bringing a lot of co-product into a diet," he says. Co-products are those grain products left over from a distillation process.

Moisture level in the diet is also important. Blasi believes inclusion of wet co-products adds to a good response by preventing the diet from getting too dry and allowing

better blending and composition of the total mixed diet presented to the calves. There are a few other problems to watch for, among them acidosis, but Balasi believes the distillers grains act to settle the rumen. Starchy grain is a more likely cause of this condition, especially if it's too fine.

Coccidiosis is also a concern. "We always utilize Rumensin in in our standard diet," he says. "The Eimeria cocci can get out of control and have an impact on performance and eventually intake. It can really set calves back if you allow that little insidious organism to get a foothold in the digestive tract."

Blasi says calves typically begin gaining weight 7 to 10 days after arrival, and their intake at the start is quiet low. This creates the need for fortification with protein and energy. Once they get on full feed, you can start to moderate the amount of roughage in the diet. He says KSU has just completed a study that found no difference in performance when calves are fed a 30% ammoniated wheat straw ration versus plain straw with a wet co-product added for moisture.

"The roughage provides for good rumen function by we saw no additional response from the ammoniated what straw in the diet," he says. Spire says once animal health safeguards are put in place, management should be focused on getting the cattle onto a plane of nutrition that will bring them to a target weight by the end of their stay.

"If we've cleaned the parasites out of them-both internal and external-and we've minimized their disease risk, we have a really stable population. The only thing we have to worry about is the effect of major weather events, and we'll adjust our rations and shelter accordingly for those conditions," he says.

"There's a pretty minimal health risk issue in late fall and winter for the cattle we brought in earlier in the season."

By Gary DiGiuseppe

Utilities Inventory - Call Before You Dig

Construction of conservation practices on your property could endanger life and property involvement of utilities located in the construction area.

Because of this, NRCS is required to inform you of the state law requiring you and/or your contractor to notify:

One-Call Board of Texas at
1-800-545-6005,

no more than 14 days nor less than 48 hours excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, prior to starting construction/excavation activities.

You and/or your contractor are also responsible for notifying utilities who are non-members of the Texas One-Call System.

Some local utilities, including water, waste water, slurry and overhead utilities are not required to join a notification or one-call center.

NRCS can provide the form to use for Co-operator Confirmation of the One-Call Utility Safety System; people with EQIP contracts are required to have the completed One-Call form on file.

Spring Fish Sale

The Gillespie County SWCD will hold a Fish Sale this Spring. The date will be announced in the newspaper.

Just some of the fish that will be available are: Bluegill Sunfish, Red Ear Sunfish, Crappie, Largemouth Bass, Channel Catfish, Minnows (Fathead or Golden Shiners) and Goldfish. Grass Carp will also be available, you must have a permit for these.

You can stop by our office and pick an application or they are available on the Texas Parks & Wildlife website.

Brush Clearing • Custom Farming • Roads • Tanks
Building Pads • GPS & GIS Mapping
Native Food Plots & Grass Seed • Livestock & Wildlife Management

Bar O Bar Ranches Inc.
Ranch Construction and Management



Kurt Geistweidt
Office: 830-669-2352
Cell: 830-998-1466
barobarranch@hctc.net

LAND CLEARING
BRENT STRACKBEIN, INC.
Professional Land Clearing: cedar, mesquite, oaks, etc.

Remove unwanted trees and brush with little disruption to your land.
Also available for shredding.
Since 1995. Free estimates.
Pricing by the hour, acre, or job.
(830)864-5061



The Ranch Outfit LLC

Specializing In
The Removal Of
Cedar & Live Oak Decline,
Sendero And
Right-Of-Way Clearing

Our equipment provides a much faster and more cost effective means of land clearing than cutting by hand. Compared to bulldozing there is minimal ground disturbance. The trees are cut off smooth so that the remaining ground stumps can be driven over. Other benefits include safety, water enhancement and increased forage production for wildlife and livestock and property value.

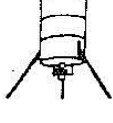
Give us
a call today!
Please call:
John McDougall
830/864-4167
jbm_theranchoutfit@yahoo.com



KRAMER'S
The Outdoor Store, LLC



Brent Kramer
830-997-9457



2363 N. US Hwy. 87
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
kramers.store@gmail.com

161 Industrial Loop
Fredericksburg, Texas

Water Well Drilling
Pump Sales & Service


(830) 997-4966
or (325) 247-4249
www.virdelldrilling.com
virdelldrill-



WE WOULD BE PROUD
TO BE YOUR BANK.

SAME GREAT FOLKS
SAME FRIENDLY SERVICE FROM
LELAND GEISTWEIDT
830.990.7773

AMERICAN BANK OF TEXAS
JOINS FIRST UNITED BANK.



Banking | Mortgage | Insurance | Investments

KUNZ & SAUER FENCING

4689 White Oak Road
Fredericksburg, Texas 78624
All Types Fences and Pens
For Free Estimates, Call After 6 P.M.
Patrick Kunz - (830) 997-8982

Gillespie County SWCD Equipment Rentals

The district owns rental equipment for agricultural use in the county. Weed sprayers and a seed spreader are kept at Beyer Fertilizer & Feed, 3446 Highway 16 North, in Fredericksburg.

You can make rental arrangements with Dwayne Beyer at (830) 997-9880. The sprayers each rent for \$2.50/acre with a \$50 minimum. The grass seed spreader with 700 lb. capacity rents for \$35/day.

The district's drip torch and small seeders are kept at the NRCS/SWCD office at 1906 North Llano. To rent our small equipment, call the SWCD at (830) 997-3349 x3. The drip torch and cyclone hand seeder each rent for \$5/day. The seeder for a 4-wheeler rents for \$15/day.

SWCD equipment rentals are taxable unless used for agricultural purposes and an ag/timber number is provided for tax exemption.



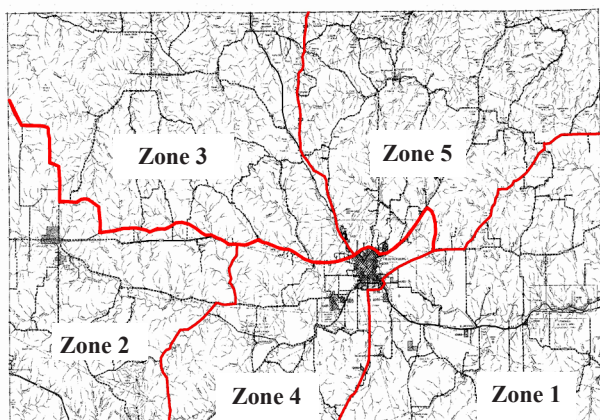
Gillespie County SWCD General Info.

www.gillespiecountyswcd.org

We are a member of the Assoc. of Texas Soil & Water Conservation Districts, National Assoc. of Conservation Districts & Texas Assoc. of Watershed Sponsors.

SWCD Directors are:

- Zone 1 Guenther Ottmers, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer
- Zone 2 Patrick Kunz, Vice-Chairman
- Zone 3 Neal Eckert, Director
- Zone 4 Cade Bonn, Director
- Zone 5 James Wahrmond, Chairman



We share office space with NRCS at 1906 N. Llano, Fredericksburg, TX 78624. Phone is 830-997-3349 x 3. SWCD office hours are Mon., Tues., Thurs. from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (closed 12:00-1:00 p.m.).

NRCS hours are M-F 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed 12:00-1:00 p.m.), but staff may be out in the field on any given day.

Please call before driving in to meet with the SWCD or NRCS, to be sure the person you need will be there.

Please note: When you attend future educational events to earn CEUs toward renewing your private pesticide applicator license, bring your license number with you. When you register for CEUs, you will need to have your pesticide license number in order to receive a CEU certificate. Texas AgriLife can no longer accept your Texas Driver's License number in lieu of your private pesticide applicator license number when you register.

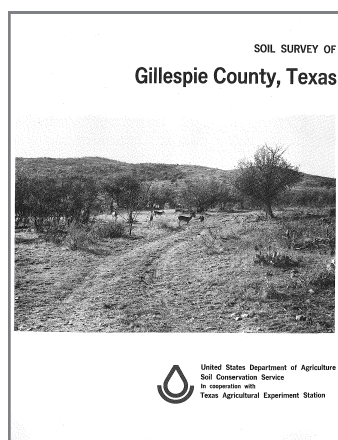
Free Soil Survey Book at NRCS Office 1906 N. Llano # 106 Fredericksburg, TX 78624

Our Fredericksburg NRCS office has extra copies of a book, *Soil Survey of Gillespie County, Texas*, published in 1975 by USDA Soil Conservation Service with Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

While supplies last, anyone who wants a free copy may drop by the office & ask for one.

It has a color General Soil Map for Gillespie County and 77 detailed (b&w) soils maps which together cover the whole county. Soil types are described in detail and there are 40 pages about use and management of the soils.

The maps are also online at http://soils.usda.gov/survey/online_surveys/texas/. But if you'd rather read maps in a book, please come & get one.



FARM SERVICE AGENCY NEWS UPDATES

- Acreage Reporting Deadlines for 2017 are as follows:
 - * Oats is January 15, 2017
 - * Wheat, Barley and Triticale is February 15, 2017
 - * Native and Improved grasses is November 15, 2016
 - Note: With all the different acreage reporting dates, we are asking you to report your crop as soon as you have the crop planted. This will help eliminate the chance of missing these reporting deadlines.
 - Sign-up for native and Improved grasses for 2017 NAP coverage is December 1. NAP is an insurance program that covers these grasses in times of drought and other natural disasters.
 - Farm Record update. To participate in any USDA program, you must have a farm record established with FSA. We will need a survey plate, deed, name and address if the owner and/or operator. This information must be identified in the FSA software mapping system.
 - Changes occurring this year in the drawing of your farm on the mapping system. We are required to take out houses, barns, roads, water bodies, pens, and other areas that cannot be grazed by livestock. Please review these maps when you visit the office.
- For information about these programs or any other program or question, please either stop by the FSA office at 1906 North Llano Ste. 107 in Fredericksburg or call (830) 997-3453 ext.2 or (830)997-3713 ext.2

Calendar of Events Beginning November of 2016

Fall Farmers Market: Every Thursday from 4-7 at the Pioneer Museum Grounds, 325 W. Main. Local farmers, ranchers and wineries bring locally grown fall produce and products.

Fredericksburg Trade Days: Every third weekend of the month. Located at 355 Sunday Farms Lane, Fredericksburg, TX.

Now until Feb. 1, 2016: Conservation Poster & Essay entries accepted at Gillespie SWCD office. Schools can call 997-3349 x3 and request that entries be picked up. Judging will be the first week of February.

Oct. 11 - May 31, 2017: Gillespie Co. Predator Contest; help control coyote, bobcat, fox and feral hogs. Sponsored by Gillespie County Agricultural Commodity Assn. Call 830-997-3452 for rules and prize info.

Nov. 19, 2016: Wild Game Dinner, Gillespie County Fair Grounds.

Nov. 25-27, 2016: The Peddler Show, Gillespie County Fair Grounds.

Jan. 14, 2016: Gillespie County Youth Livestock Show, Gillespie County Fair Grounds.

March 22, 2017: Annual Hamburger Dinner and Conservation Awards, sponsored by the Fredericksburg Lions Club, Security State Bank and Trust, and Gillespie County SWCD.

2016 Annual TSSWCB Meeting

The annual Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board held its Annual meeting on Oct. 17-19, 2016 in Waco, TX. Gillespie County SWCD Directors Guenther Ottmers Jr., James Wahrmond and Patrick Kunz, attended the meeting.

They attended various meetings to examine issues relevant to the conservation of the state's natural resources. There were speakers from local, state, and national levels who addressed a wide variety of agricultural and conservation topics.

There were close to 650 conservation leaders, including district directors, district employees, and federal and state employees who attended.

Gillespie County Fair Grounds
Hosted Spring Field Days
2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012,
2011, 2010, 2009, 2007, 2006,
2004, 2002, 2000, 1996, 1990
and 1984

- Terry and Joan Bonn
Fredericksburg, 2008
- LBJ Historical Park Show Barn,
Stonewall, 2005
- Snaffle Bit Ranch/ David
Dewhurst, Fredericksburg, 2003
- Camey Stewart
Willow City, 2001
- Henry Louis Welge Ranch
Doss, 1999
- Ronald Stehling
Fredericksburg, 1998
- Ted Masser, Harper, 1997
- Presley Arhelger, Doss, 1995
- LBJ Ranch, Stonewall, 1994
- Billy Teague, Crabapple, 1993
- Calvin Weinheimer
Stonewall, 1992
- Kermit Kothe
Fredericksburg, 1991
- McGinley Ranch, Harper, 1989
- LBJ Ranch, Stonewall, 1988
- Red Stone Ranch
Stonewall, 1987
- Marvin Grona
Fredericksburg, 1986
- Ken Sultemeier
Fredericksburg, 1985
- Selma Apelt Farm/Vernon Fluitt,
Fredericksburg, 1983
- Athur Lynn Hahn, Doss, 1982
- Max Schmidt (Estate)/Rex Glover,
Fredericksburg, 1981
- Kenneth Wahl, Stonewall, 1980
- Melvin Bonn
Fredericksburg, 1979



The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Fredericksburg field office provides technical assistance to land users in Gillespie County. The NRCS District Conservationist for Fredericksburg is Wayne Seipp. NRCS Rangeland Management Specialists Amanda Kirchner and Jess Anderson will also be happy to help you with conservation concerns. NRCS' office hours are 8:00a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The phone number is (830) 997-3349 x3. The NRCS Texas web site is at <http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/>.

Allied Agricultural Services, Inc.

Stonewall, Texas 830-644-2411

Custom Fertilizing & Spraying Liquid Fertilizer Blended to Special Needs, Purina Liquid Feed and Bag Feed, Lyssy & Eckel Feeds, Lindner Feed, Honor Show Feeds, Deer Feed Bulk & Bag, Seeds, Insecticides, Sullivan Show Supplies, Livestock and Drip Irrigation Supplies



Master Gardeners Will Answer Gardening Questions

Hill Country Master Gardeners are happy to answer gardening questions from residents of local and surrounding areas. Master Gardeners is a service group helping Texas AgriLife Extension to meet the community's horticulture needs.

To ask questions, please call 830-257-6568; send an email to kerr@ag.tamu.edu, or visit www.hillcountrymastergardeners.org. Contact them, they'll be happy to help you.

stroehrer & son, inc.
& others, inc.

(830) 997-4382
Fax (830) 997-0137
1-800-369-9173

509 S. Adams St., Fredericksburg, TX 78624
"Serving the Hill Country Since 1928"

RUNNING CLEAN CAR WASH •
TIRES • BATTERIES • ACCESSORIES •
PETROLEUM PRODUCTS