

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2018

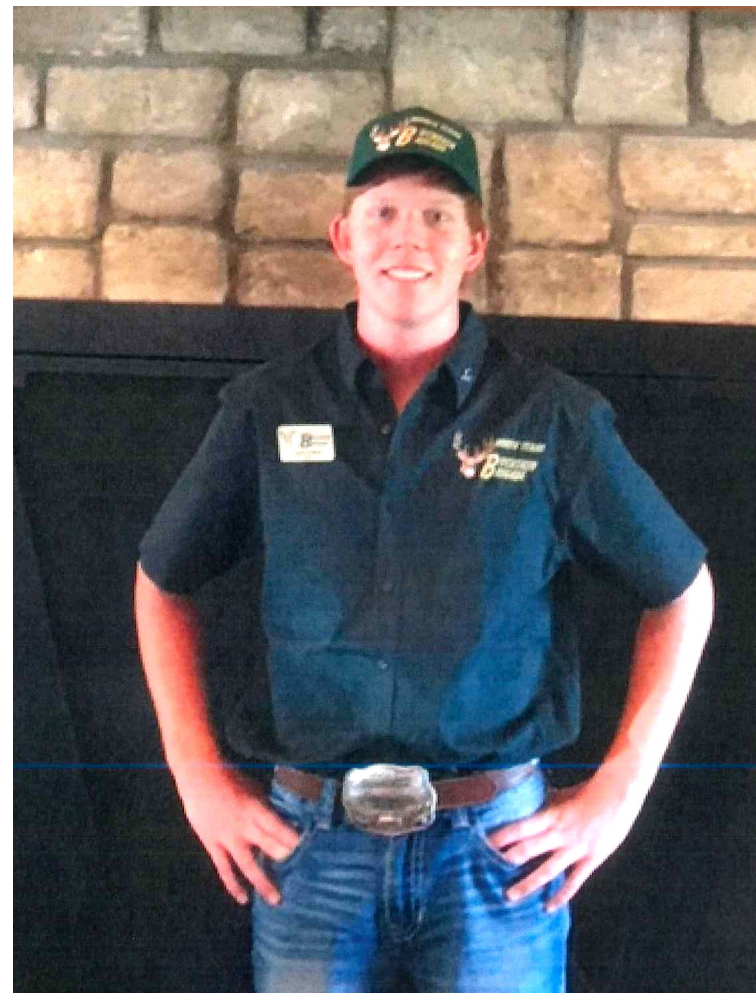
Annual Texas Youth Range Workshop & Buckskin Brigade



Connor McCarver



Christophe Peralt



Caleb Olfers

The Gillespie County Soil and Water Conservation District, Farm Bureau and Gillespie County Wild Game Dinner sponsored two students for TSSRM Youth Range Workshop and one student to the Texas Buckskin Brigade.

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 2018 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 encourages 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.

Connor McCarver is a sophomore at Fredericksburg High School. He is active in 4-H and FFA. He shows livestock (hogs), competed across the TSSRM with his Ag Mechanics project,

and was on the FFA parliamentary procedure and horse judging team.

He played football and did field events in athletics. Connor is also shooting archery competitively through 4-H and competed at the state level this summer.

He lives on the family farm in Hye and spends a lot of his "free" time helping his grandfather with livestock and field work.

He loves working on old trucks and tractors as well as hunting and fishing. Here is what Connor had to say about his experience at camp: "I enjoyed the youth range workshop so much. I learned about cattle and rotational grazing, how it works, how to do it, and why it will improve your ranch and operation. There were so many great people there that were willing to teach us.

"I also made new friends with students from all over Texas and learned about their operations and how different things are across our state. I really enjoyed learning new things, and meeting new people. I would have to say my favorite part of camp was going to the river with my friends, telling stories and jumping off the rope swing!"

Christophe Peralt is a sophomore at Harper High School. Christophe is on the State Range Judging Team. He has also been on the Agronomy and Plant Identification Teams.

Since his participation on the Range Team, he has become interested in a career in a related field.

Christophe was awarded three prestigious awards at camp, Honor Ramrod, Drover and Roger Q. Landers Sr. Trail Boss Award, given to the Outstanding Camper.

Christophe had a lot of fun and met some great people at the TSSRM Youth Range Workshop. One of the most interesting things that he learned about were the natural tendencies of fire before people start suppressing it.

Also, how there is an abundance of juniper in this area as a direct result of this. He also learned some new things about his FFA contest that will help this coming year. He also learned some new plants through a plant ID class.

Buckskin Brigade camp offers participants an in-depth view of Texas' deer.

The committees select the students who will participate in a five-day, intensive training to develop an in-depth understanding of one of the most sought-after trophies in Texas. Along with training to assist with the development of leadership skills, public speaking and working

as a team, Buckskin Brigade teaches participants deer anatomy and biology, habitat and nutrition requirements, rattling, scoring and survey methods, as well as rifle and archery basics, and hunting/firearm safety.

The Brigade model of leadership development, education and empowerment continues with Buckskin Brigade programs.

Caleb Olfers is a sophomore at Fredericksburg High School. Caleb is very involved in FFA and 4-H. He enjoys competing on the Livestock Judging Team, and the Chapter Conducting Team. He is hands on working with livestock to further his knowledge of large animals.

During Caleb's free time, he enjoys hunting, fishing, snow skiing, and water skiing. He is excited to continue to learn about animals and looks forward to attending Texas A&M and studying veterinary medicine. Caleb attended the North Texas Buckskin Brigade in Santa Anna.

This is what Caleb had to say, "While at camp, we learned everything from deer anatomy to water and soil conservation with leadership activities mixed in throughout the week. After attending the North Texas Buckskin Brigade, I have a much better grasp on deer herd management than I ever thought I would. I am confident moving forward that I will be able to make logical decisions when it comes to managing our deer heard on the 4-0 Ranch in Gillespie County. I would highly encourage all youth between the ages of 13-17 to attend one of the Texas Brigades programs. They offer 8 different wildlife leadership camps across Texas every summer. I feel if the youth of today would have a basic understanding of wildlife management, the youth of today would understand wildlife preservation, soil and water conservation, and good leadership qualities. They could accomplish so much more in the fight to preserve our heritage and agriculture-based community."

The Gillespie County SWCD looks forward to sponsoring future students who are interested in the Texas youth camps throughout the state.

**FARM SERVICE
AGENCY NEWS
UPDATES**

- **Acreage reports for 2019** – The last day to file an acreage report for 2019 native and improved grasses without having to pay the late filing fee is November 15, 2018. Please note that acreage reports must be filed yearly.
- **Late-filed acreage reports for 2018** – The last day to pay for a late file acreage report for 2018 native and improved grasses and be eligible for LFP benefits is November 15, 2018.
- **2018 Livestock Forage Program (LFP)** - Sign-up is underway for Gillespie, Kendall and Blanco counties and will end January 30, 2019. Don't forget if you have not been in the office in a few years, we will need to get a late file annual acreage report of native and improved grasses for 2018 by November 15, 2018.
- **2019 Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)** – The last day to sign up for native and improved grass coverage is December 3, 2018
- **Farm Record update;** To participate in any USDA program, you must have a farm record established with FSA. We will need a survey plat, deed, name and address of the owner and/or operator. This information must be identified in the FSA software mapping system.
- Producers can sign up for text messages by texting Txgillespie to FSNOW (372-669), on your phone, to subscribe to text message alerts from Gillespie, Kendall and Blanco counties. Standard text messaging rates apply. Contact your wireless carrier for details associated with your particular data plan. Participants may unsubscribe at any time.
- Newsletters, are only being sent out by email. If you are not receiving an emailed version of the newsletter, please stop by the office and supply us with a current email address. This is the only way of making sure you do not miss out on any programs that you may be eligible to participate in.

For information about these programs or any other program or question you may have, 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.

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.

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Fall Range Tour

The Fall Range Tour was held on October 4 at the Gillespie County Fair Grounds.

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

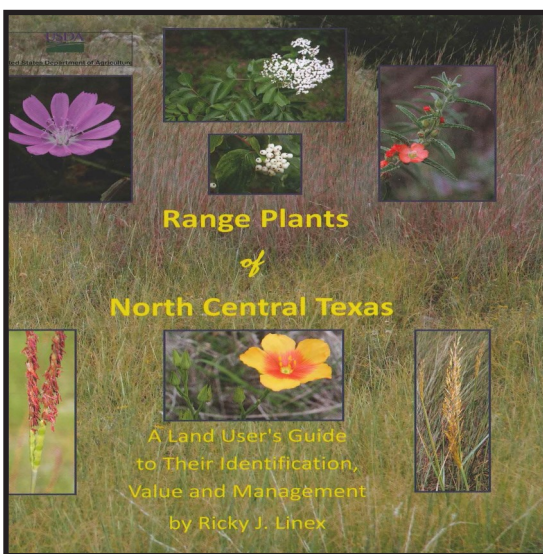
About 60 people attended the event which began at 5:30 p.m.

Misty Martin, ag communications manager for the Texas Beef Council, discussed Beef Checkoff updates and programs.

Trooper Watson gave an update on the laws regarding various trailers. There have been some changes as to the weight, length and type of drivers licenses needed, depending on weight and length.

Ricky Neffendorf, County Executive Director, Farm Service Agency, Gillespie-Kendall-Blanco County FSA Office, gave some important updates on new information needed to participate in any USDA programs.

Gillespie County Agent, Brad Roeder introduced Warren Day, the new District Conservationist USDA - NRCS in the Fredericksburg office.



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**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
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- Arrowhead Bank
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- Bar 7 Ranch
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- Gillespie Commodity Association,
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- Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post
- Bernice Jenschke/Edmund Jenschke, Inc.
- Fredericksburg Lions Club
- Gillespie County Farm Bureau
- Gillespie County Fair & Festivals Assn.
- Gillespie Livestock Co., Inc.
- Gordon's Repair Shop
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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."

Cattle Management

The calf's nutritional transition from birth through weaning is a gradual one and can be made smoother and less stressful by paying attention to the need of both the calf and cow.

After birth and then through most of the pre-weaning time, at least a portion of the calf's nutrition is coming from the cow. Initially, the cow must be in a good situation in which to provide milk and continue to provide it over time, as well as get pregnant and support the growth of that new fetus.

Body condition scoring (BCS) is a useful management tool for distinguishing differences in nutritional needs of beef cows in the herd. This system uses a numeric score to estimate body energy reserves in the cow, ideal range of 5 to 6 in cows. Through their nutrient requirements increase substantially during early lactation, cows should maintain good body condition through the breeding cycle.

Maintaining that body condition of 5 to 6 helps the cow's subsequent reproductive performance and supports calf nutrition and growth.

The most important point is not to wait too long before attempting to get the cow into condition. The cow's body condition score should be monitored and if it's less than optimal heading into calving, supplemental energy and protein should be provided in the winter or early spring.

A positive thing in most spring-calving operations is that when environmental conditions are normal, and

moisture is good, we rely on pasture and forage to provide enough energy and protein to support both lactation and reproduction in the cow, primary during early growth stages in warm-season forages.

For a fall calving herd, a couple of management components change. If the animals are placed on a pasture with native or warm-season forages: protein content will get low after mid-summer and supplementation may be needed earlier, compared with cattle that are on cool-season forages that grow quite a bit during the fall as well as earlier in the spring.

Calves will begin eating solid feed as early as 3 weeks of age and that will increase over time as they head toward weaning. At 6 weeks of age, calves should be in a situation where they can consume other feedstuffs. Where there is a lot of forage available, the calf is going to learn from the cows how to eat the forage. Many ranchers use grazing systems designed to divert higher quality forages to calves, under the broad definition of creep feeding.

Creep feeds can consist of highly concentrated, energy-based supplements. These could be higher levels of cereal grains, corn or byproducts. From a dry feed standpoint, you can offer protein-based feed like cottonseed meal, soybean meal or some corn processing byproducts.

Other alternative methods include first-last grazing, where animals that need the highest nutrition get new

grass first, as well as forward creep grazing and strip grazing which has the highest efficiency of all grazing methods. The more frequently we move our livestock, rotating them in our pastures, the more we are increasing their efficiency. They are going to be more effective harvesting nutrients from forage and converting it into our goal as producers.

Weaning is the most stressful period in the calf's life, so all we can do to prepare that calf to successfully go through the weaning process is a positive thing. The cows will initially remain close to the calves, and then begin to venture away over a relatively short period of time. There are also devices that can be placed in the calf's nose to prevent nursing, while allowing the animals to remain in the herd, or more labor-intensive methods of separation, such as placing the cow in a separate pen or pasture during periods of the day. The key is low-stress management of the weaning process.

The calf needs to be able to grow to its potential during the pre-weaning period, so there is a risk of malnutrition during times of low forage availability; typically, due to an improperly stocked pasture or during drought conditions.

As warm season forages like bermudagrass begin to mature late in the summer and become low in protein, a high-protein creep feed might be beneficial. Intake of supplement is recommended to about 1 pound per day per

calf through the use of salt or ionophores. The protein derived from a supplement can stimulate the microbial organisms in the calf's rumen and increase forage intake in calves by as much as 11 to 12 percent.

Heat stress can cause significant reductions in performance, particularly in animals that are not adapted to the conditions. In the spring, we go from cooler, wetter conditions to suddenly being hot. When the temperatures change in a short period of time, heat stress can be induced at lower temperatures, and earlier in the season than we might have seen later in the season, after animals are well adapted.

Producers should keep an eye on the forecast. When the relative humidity climbs up into the 80s and 90s, and when nighttime temperatures are in the mid-70s or higher, we don't provide a good opportunity for animals to dissipate the heat that they have absorbed throughout the day. As multiple days with those types of conditions continue, the heat load continues to increase.

That's when we tend to have bigger reductions in performance and see the large heat-stress death losses that you find in feedlots from time to time.

It's best to prepare for heat stress before it occurs. In addition to monitoring ambient conditions, keep a closer eye on animals at higher risk; such as newly arrived cattle, dark-coated cattle, and those that are in fatter body condition.

Access to shade and to water

sources that the cattle can enter can ease the effects of heat. If there's a pond where cows might take refuge from heat, is that the same source that provides the drinking water? If it's a relatively small pond and the cows spend a lot of time there, that may reduce the freshness of the water.

In situations where cattle are receiving feed, that can also be managed during times of heat stress to reduce the heat increments of the rotations. If the fat content is increased, it can replace the energy the animal gets from carbohydrates while reducing overall intake, as well as the amount of heat that would be associated with fermentations and digestion.

Something else to be mindful of is handling or working cattle later in the day during times of heat stress. If it is going to be hot, try working them early in the day before the impact of the sun takes effect. Fly control is also very important. By controlling flies on cattle, many economic benefits can be obtained, including: More pounds of meat produced, more pounds of milk produced, better conception rates, Reduced incidence of pink eye and Greater producer returns.

One final management tool is make sure there is a quality trace mineral block or mix available during the summer, so the animals can replace and electrolytes or minerals they lose by sweating.

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 sources 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. Call (830)997-3349 x3.

Conservation Continues in the USDA

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 bene-

fits 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 advance 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.

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
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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.

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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.



2018 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.

The Gillespie SWCD District Directors attended the Banquet.

Calendar of Events Beginning November of 2018

Fall Farmer's Market: Every Thursday from 4-7 p.m. 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.

Now until Feb. 1, 2019: 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 County 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. 17, 2018: Wild Game Dinner, Gillespie County Fair Grounds.

Nov. 23-25, 2018: The Peddler Show, Gillespie County Fair Grounds.

This year's Gillespie County Pecan Show is set for November 30, 2018 at the Gillespie County Extension Office. Entries are due to our office by 5 p.m. on November 28, 2018.

Jan. 10-11, 2019: Gillespie County Youth Livestock Show, Gillespie County Fair Grounds.

March 20, 2019: Annual Hamburger Dinner and Conservation Awards, sponsored by the Fredericksburg Lions Club, Security State Bank and Trust, and Gillespie County SWCD.

2018 Annual TSSWCB Meeting

The annual Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board held its annual meeting on Oct. 29-31, 2018 in Fort Worth. Gillespie County SWCD Directors Guenther Ottmers 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 600 conservation leaders, including district directors, district employees, and federal and state employees who attended.



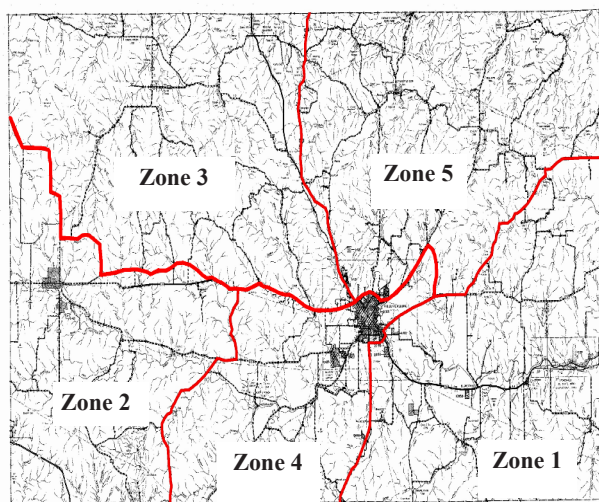
Gillespie County SWCD General Info.

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, 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. SWCD office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 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 12-1 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. Phone is 830-997-3349 x 3.



Gillespie County Fair Grounds Hosted Spring Field Days 2018, 2017, 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
- Authur 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 Warren Day. Wayne Seipp is the District Technician. They will be happy to help you with conservation concerns. NRCS' office hours are 8a.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/>.

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.

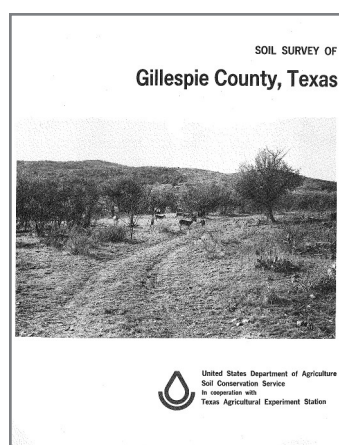
Free Soil Survey Book at NRCS Office 1906 N. Llano # 106 Fredericksburg, TX 78624

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 and 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.



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