

Newsletter

August 2021

Contact Us

millcreek@ag.tamu.edu

<http://millcreek.tamu.edu>

(979) 845-2862



Mill Creek Watershed Partnership

A Note from the Watershed Coordinator

We are excited to announce that our face-to-face programs are back! The Mill Creek Watershed Partnership worked closely with the AgriLife Extension Offices in Austin and Washington Counties to bring the following programs to the watershed:

- 💧 Homeowner Maintenance of Septic Systems
- 💧 Texas Well Owner Network
- 💧 Riparian & Stream Ecosystem workshop
- 💧 Lone Star Healthy Streams
- 💧 Texas Watershed Steward

Updates on the implementation of the Mill Creek Watershed Protection Plan will be shared at each of these programs. Scroll down for details!

One easy way to stay informed about the upcoming events is to follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). You can also visit our [website](#) to learn more about the Mill Creek Watershed Protection Plan and our programs.

Evgenia



Funding for this effort is provided through a Clean Water Act §319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant administered by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Homeowner Maintenance of Septic Systems

The Mill Creek Watershed Partnership and the Washington County AgriLife Extension Office are pleased to host the Homeowner Maintenance of Septic Systems workshop on August 27. Visit our [website](#) to learn more and [register](#).

Please note that the upcoming Homeowner Maintenance of Septic Systems program is a short 2-hour course which cannot result in certification to maintain your system; only the 6-hour course can lead to certification.



**HOMEOWNER
MAINTENANCE OF
SEPTIC SYSTEM
COURSE**

August 27, 2021
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Interested in learning how to
keep your septic system
functioning properly?**

This 2-hour course provides a basic understanding of the operational and maintenance activities of conventional septic systems, and explains how activities within the home impact septic systems. Presentations will cover the treatment processes, health and safety considerations, and an overview of how to inspect and maintain the system. This course also provides answers to the most frequently asked septic system questions, including when to pump out a tank and what can or cannot

This program does NOT certify homeowners to maintain their aerobic wastewater management system.

August 27, 2021
Washington County Expo
Sales Facility
1305 East Blue Bell Road
Brenham, Texas 77833

Registration: 9:30 am
Program: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Free!
Pre Registration Required

Register by August 25th to be entered to win door prizes!

Register by visiting:
<https://washington.agrilife.org/septic>

Kara Matheney
Washington County
Extension Agent Ag/NR
1305 E. Blue Bell Rd. Ste. 104
Brenham, TX 77833
(979) 277-6212 ext. 2
kjmatheney@ag.tamu.edu

The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting are encouraged to contact the County Extension Office at (979) 277-6212 prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.

If you have any questions, please contact Kara Matheney at kjmatheney@ag.tamu.edu or Evgenia Spears at millcreek@ag.tamu.edu.

Texas Well Owner Network

If you want to learn more about groundwater resources and water quality, and maintenance of septic systems and water wells, the Texas Well Owner Network program is for you! **Bring your well water samples** the day before the workshop to be screened for nitrate, total dissolved solids, and *E.coli* bacteria. The cost is \$10 per sample. Visit our [website](#) to learn more and [register](#).



TWON
TEXAS
Well Owner
NETWORK

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

TEXAS STATE
Soil & Water
CONSERVATION BOARD

Water Well Owners Educational Event

AUGUST 27, 2021

Registration: 12:30 pm
Program: 1:00 pm

Washington County Expo
Sales Facility
1305 East Blue Bell Road
Brenham, Texas 77833

BRING YOUR WELL WATER SAMPLES!

\$10.00 per sample

Participants must pick-up sample containers with instructions at the Washington County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office beginning August 9, 2021. (1305 E. Blue Bell Road in Brenham).

Well owners must bring water samples and \$10.00 fee to the Washington Expo Sales Facility (same location as the program) on Thursday, August 26, from 7:30am-1:30pm. No samples will be accepted on Friday, August 27, 2021.

TEXAS WELL OWNER NETWORK PROGRAM

The Texas Well Owner Network (TWON) program is a educational training for Texas residents who depend on household wells for their water needs. TWON is for private well owners who want to become familiar with groundwater resources, septic system maintenance, well maintenance, water quality and water treatment. Private well owners are independently responsible for monitoring the quality of their wells. Essentially, they are the operators of their own water system and are responsible for ensuring that their water is safe.

Pre-register for the workshop by 8/25/2021 at <http://washington.agrilife.org/TWON> or call 979-277-6212 ext. 2




The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting are encouraged to contact the County Extension Office at (979) 277-6212 prior to the meeting to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.

If you have any questions, please contact Kara Matheney at kmatheney@ag.tamu.edu or Evgenia Spears at millcreek@ag.tamu.edu.

Lone Star Healthy Streams

Another great workshop is coming to the Mill Creek watershed!

The Mill Creek Partnership has been working closely with the Austin County AgriLife Extension office to offer the Lone Star Healthy Streams workshop. This program educates Texas livestock producers and landowners on how to best protect Texas waterways from bacteria originating from livestock production and non-domestic animals. **Three general CEUs are available!**



The goal of the Lone Star Healthy Streams (LSHS) program is the protection of Texas waterways from bacterial contamination originating from livestock operations and feral hogs that may pose a serious risk to Texas citizens.



November 9th, 2021

12:30pm Registration
1:00pm-5:00pm
Bleiberville VFD
3912 FM 2505 RD
Bellville, TX 77418

**** 3 General CEUs available ****

This free workshop will focus on the Mill Creek Watershed, basic watershed function, water quality, and specific best management practices that can be implemented to help minimize bacterial contamination originating from beef cattle, horses, and feral hogs.



“Funding for this project is provided through a Clean Water Act 319 Nonpoint Source Grant from the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.”





LONE STAR HEALTHY STREAMS

<http://lshs.tamu.edu>



BEEF CATTLE FERAL HOGS HORSES

To learn more about this program please visit our [website](http://lshs.tamu.edu). If you have any questions, please contact Leanne Wiley at Leanne.Wiley@ag.tamu.edu.

Save the date!

Riparian & Stream Ecosystem Workshop

Save the date to join us for the Riparian and Stream Restoration training this fall! This program will focus on the function of streams and riparian zones and cover the topics on basic hydrology, watershed processes, riparian vegetation, and many more!

Friday, October 1, 2021
Millheim Harmonie Verein
Sealy, TX



Texas Watershed Steward

The Texas Watershed Steward workshop is a statewide program that offers a great opportunity to learn about the watershed approach to address nonpoint source pollution and water quality impairments. The topics include watershed impairments, water quality law and policies in Texas, water quality improvement projects, best management practices, and others.

Wednesday, December 8, 2021
1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Kenney Agricultural Society Hall
Bellville, TX

The details about the upcoming programs will be posted on our [website](#) and [Facebook](#) once they become available.

Virtual Homeowner Maintenance of Septic Systems Course

Need to become certified to maintain your septic system? Great news! You can complete the Homeowner Maintenance of Septic Systems course [online](#)! Once registered, you will have 30 days to finish this class. Upon completion, contact your TCEQ authorized agents to finalize the certification process.

For Austin County residents

Erica Resendez at 979-865-5911 or planning3@austincounty.com

For Washington County residents

Mark Marzahn at 979-277-6290 or mmarzahn@wacounty.com

Both Austin and Washington Counties accept this course for certification. If you reside in a county other than Austin or Washington, please contact your TCEQ authorized agent to verify if the online format is sufficient to grant certification.

If you have any questions about this program, please contact Dr. Anish Jantrania at Anish.Jantrania@ag.tamu.edu.

Want to get involved?

Reach out to Evgenia Spears at millcreek@ag.tamu.edu or (979) 845-2862.

Copyright © 2021 Mill Creek Watershed Partnership. All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you agreed to receive updates related to the Mill Creek Watershed Protection Plan. If you wish to stop receiving messages from the Mill Creek Watershed Partnership, simply reply STOP to this email.

Mill Creek Watershed Partnership
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
2474 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843