

Newsletter

July 2022

Contact Us

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TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

MILL CREEK
WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

TEXAS STATE
Soil & Water
CONSERVATION BOARD

Mill Creek Watershed Partnership

A Note from the Watershed Coordinator

I am excited to share that the preparations for the Mill Creek Cleanup Day are underway! Scroll down to learn more and, as always, feel free to reach out directly to me if you have any questions!

It has been a very hot start of summer! I hope that we will get the very much needed rain sometime soon. With the 4th of July celebrations coming up, I wanted to share some tips below on how to avoid heat exhaustion and other heat-related health issues during extreme temperatures.

I wish you Happy and Safe July 4th!

Evgenia



Summer is here!

Tips to stay safe outside



Heat exhaustion can occur through dehydration. To avoid this, make sure to drink plenty of water



Hats that have at least a 2-3" brim around are ideal as they can protect the areas that are often intensely exposed to the sun



Wearing UPF clothing can significantly reduce your sun exposure risk



UV-blocking sunglasses protect your eyes and the sensitive skin around them



Sunscreen can filter UV rays thus protecting your skin; SPF values 30 and higher are recommended

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.

Upcoming Events

Mill Creek Partnership Meeting featuring Dr. Bill Fox

August 9, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

Washington County Expo Sales Facility

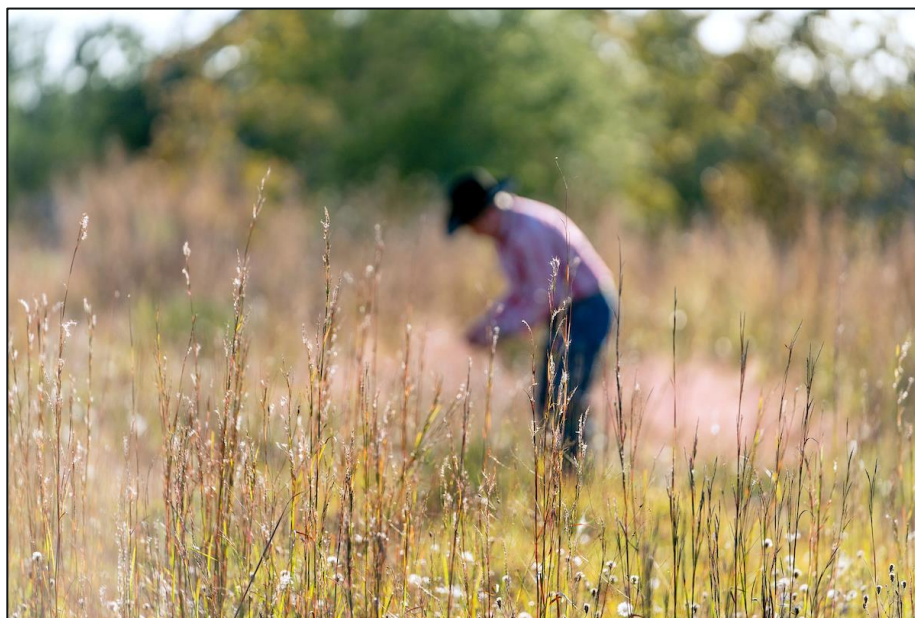
(1305 E. Blue Bell Rd., Brenham, TX 77833)

Join us for the Partnership meeting and a discussion with Dr. Bill Fox, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and the Rangeland, Wildlife & Fisheries Management Department at Texas A&M University. Dr. Fox's work focuses on impacts of vegetation on water resources and working landscapes.



The lecture will cover native grassland restoration practices and post-restoration monitoring and management to ensure continued sustainability and productivity of the land, while meeting a landowners' land operation goals. Along with learning about local invasive and native plant species, participants will hear about best management practices for native grassland restoration and management, including seeding, periodic grazing, control burning, and others.

Interested in attending? Please RSVP here: <https://washington.agrilife.org/ag/millcreek/>



Mill Creek Cleanup Day

August 13, 2022

Trash drop-off at Bleiblerville VFD, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

(3912 FM 2502 Rd., Bellville, TX 77418)



If you reside in the Mill Creek watershed, you are invited to participate in the [Second Annual Mill Creek Cleanup Day](#) by removing unwanted debris and trash from your property!

Bring the collected items to the Bleiblerville VFD on Saturday, **August 13, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

This event is limited to the Mill Creek watershed residents only. **Verification of eligibility is required prior to participation.** You do not have to have Mill Creek run through your property to qualify for participation in the Cleanup Day.

To check your eligibility, please contact Watershed Coordinator at: (979) 865-2862 or millcreek@ag.tamu.edu

- No hazardous waste
- No closed drums
- No asbestos
- No freon-containing refrigeration equipment
- No items containing mercury, lead, or acid
- No batteries
- No tires

We are very grateful for the generous support of our sponsors and partners!

THANK YOU!



Financial Assistance for Septic System Owners



SIGNS OF FAILING SEPTIC SYSTEMS

- Standing water around your septic tank
- Unpleasant smell
- Bright green lush grass around your septic tank
- Sewage backup
- Slowly draining bathtubs, showers, and sinks
- Noises in your plumbing system
- Excessive growth of algae in nearby ponds

When your septic system is not operating properly, it becomes a liability for water quality and human health. Financial assistance may be available to homeowners in the Mill Creek watershed to replace failing septic systems. Please reach out to the Watershed Coordinator to learn more:

(979) 845-2862

millcreek@ag.tamu.edu

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](#)! 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.

Feral Hog Recipe Book

AgriLife Extension is developing a cookbook of tried and true, family tested and approved, feral hog recipes to raise awareness of the feral hog problem - and have a little fun at the same time. If you like the idea of becoming a contributor to our cookbook, feel free to share your favorite recipes and photos with Watershed Coordinator via [email](#) or a [Facebook](#) message.

Let's choose the title, too! [Here](#) are several options – vote for the one(s) you like the most and/or suggest your own.



Mill Creek Stakeholder Survey

If you haven't completed our Mill Creek Stakeholder Survey, please take a moment to fill it out [here](#). Your input will be used to improve outreach and education in the Mill Creek watershed. We greatly value your time and feedback!

Want to get involved?

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

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