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## Texas Springs: Making Connections between Groundwater, Surface Water, Science and Stewardship

*Water, essential for life, is our most precious and valuable natural resource. But water supply is limited and under increasing pressure from a growing population. How will we protect this resource and plan for a sustainable future? There is a great need for a water-literate public; decisions being made today have far reaching and long lasting effects for our children and future generations.*

The Texas Water Symposium provides perspectives from landowners, policy makers, scientists, water resource experts and regional leaders.

Join us as we explore the complex issues and challenges in providing water for Texans in this century.

Each session is free and open to the public. The hour-long program begins at 7:00 pm, followed by discussion time with Q&A. The events are recorded and aired on Texas Public Radio one week later.

Stay informed about future programs by subscribing at [www.HillCountryAlliance.org](http://www.HillCountryAlliance.org)

More information at:  
[www.schreiner.edu/water](http://www.schreiner.edu/water)

Photo: Hamilton Pool  
 Photographer: David Wilson

### Friday, March 8, 2013

Texas Tech University in Junction  
 Doors open at 6:30  
 Program 7:00 – 8:30 pm

**Moderator:** [Edwards County Judge Souli Shanklin](#)

**Rural Land Steward Panel:** [David Langford](#), [Tom Vandivier](#) and [Ruthie Russell](#)  
**Groundwater and Science:** [Dr. Robert Mace](#), [Deputy Executive Administrator Water Science and Conservation, Texas Water Development Board](#)  
**Springs, Surface Water and Science:** [Dr. Tom Arsuffi](#), [Director, Texas Tech University Llano River Field Station](#)

Sadly it has been documented that at least 63 historically significant Texas springs have completely ceased flowing. (Gunnar Brune's *Springs of Texas* 1973)

As Texans grapple with water shortages and the expensive challenges ahead to provide water supply for growing populations, it is important to understand the nature and value of spring flow.

Spring flow is a barometer of underground water supply. Springs provide what hydrologists call base flows, the water that feeds streams and rivers after runoff from rainfall ceases. In order to protect these springs, it is essential that we care for land on a large landscape scale.

Conserved rural lands ensure healthy springs, rivers and aquifer systems which provide long-term drinking water supply for cities and towns downstream. This is a unique opportunity to listen to Hill Country landowners' stories and understand the connection between their stewardship efforts and our water supply.

It is not a coincidence that this program is being held the day before Kimble County's annual public field trip to 700 Springs. Join us!