

MIKE MECKE

Mike is a San Antonio native who as of 2008 retired into the Texas Hill Country outside of Kerrville. He is a graduate of Texas A&M University with Biology and Agriculture degrees. He later earned a Masters of Science in Rangeland Ecology & Watershed Management at the University of Wyoming. Helping people by improving agricultural management, land stewardship, water resources conservation and water resources planning has been the primary aspects of his career.

- Biology & Earth Sciences Teacher 5 yrs. San Antonio
- Range Conservationist 10 yrs. with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA at Brady, Victoria and Robert Lee, TX.
- Rangeland Manager 3 yrs. Bureau of Indian Affairs, USDI on the 2.8 million acre Tohono O'dham Reservation in Arizona. He then had a similar position for the Pueblos in Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- Soil & Water Conservation Manager 5 yrs. on the Wind River Reservation in NW Wyoming. In 1993 took a deferred retirement in order to return to San Antonio to assist his elderly parents.
- Water Resources Planner 6 yrs. San Antonio Water Systems as where he also managed the failed Applewhite Dam project lands.
- Retired from SAWS as new Agricultural Conservation Coordinator 4 yrs. Worked with irrigators from west Bexar County to Uvalde, helping them to become more water efficient. Planned and funded water research with the Uvalde TX A&M Experiment Station. Cooperated with NRCS and A&M staff to study and understand the watershed recharge relationships with watershed management on the watershed at Honey Creek.
- Water Specialist position 7 yrs., newly created, with the Texas Water Resources Institute and Texas A&M's Extension Service. Served West Texas by promoting water planning, water conservation, water quality and rainwater harvesting. He cooperated with a host of federal, state, local and non-profit agencies, plus three Regional Water Planning Groups to promote wise use of scarce water resources across Central and West Texas. Designed large stormwater catchment at Visitor Center at McDonald Observatory near Ft. Davis for fire fighting protection.
- In the late 90's he and a friend, Dr. Sue Watts, formed the Texas Riparian Association to assist with education and improved management of Texas' creeks and rivers.
- Over many years from graduate school until retirement from Texas Water Resources Institute, Mike wrote or co-authored numerous technical bulletins and articles on: rangeland management, coal mine revegetation, toxic range plants, Texas exotic wildlife, water conservation, landscape conservation, riparian issues, Pecos River status reports and rainwater harvesting.

As a retiree in Kerr County, Texas, Mike has continued to be active in water resources planning and conservation, the TCEQ Guadalupe River & Basin Environmental Flows Committee, plus serving on several non-profit boards as an advisor and writing articles promoting wise stewardship of our resources, especially water.

WATER IS LIFE!