



Neighbor to Neighbor

www.hillcountryalliance.org

The Mission of the Hill Country Alliance is to bring together an ever-expanding alliance of groups throughout a multi-county region of Central Texas with the long-term objective of preserving open spaces, water supply, water quality and the unique character of the Texas Hill Country.

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Happy Earth Day!

Hill Country Photo Contest in Full Swing

Your winning photo could be featured in our 2011 Hill Country Calendar! Only six weeks left to enter. [Click here](#) for complete details.

Hill Country News

Presidential Memorandum -- America's Great Outdoors

Americans are blessed with a vast and varied natural heritage. From mountains to deserts and from sea to shining sea, America's great outdoors have shaped the rugged independence and sense of community that define the American spirit. Read more [here](#).

Low Impact Design Workshop May 10 -11 in Austin

Advanced Low Impact Design for Sustainable Storm Water Management workshop presents leading-edge and underutilized low impact concepts, innovative green storm water techniques, and integrated management practices. Great for hill country planners, policy makers and developers. Learn more and register [here](#).

Get on the Record, Stand Up and Be Counted

Hill Country residents have another chance to tell our stories regarding the LCRA high-voltage transmission lines. Your personal story can be put on the record as part of the scoping meetings hosted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Read more [here](#).

New Braunfels Future Growth Plan Requires Shared Vision

New Braunfels was once promoted as "The Beauty Spot of Texas". A regional land use plan that expresses goals for sustainable growth will help the city and surrounding land retain its beauty and enjoy prosperity as it grows. Read more [here](#).

EARIP seeks public input

The Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program (EARIP) and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) are seeking public input regarding the effects of certain actions on federally protected species associated with the Edwards Aquifer. The two entities will hold seven public meetings across the Edwards region in April. People are invited to attend the meetings to learn more about the EARIP activities and provide public comment. Read full media release [here](#).

Pickens wants court to derail state water plan

Billionaire T. Boone Pickens wants a court to derail state approval of a water management plan that he claims would take \$10 million off the value of his groundwater rights in the Texas Panhandle. Read full Statesman.com article [here](#).

Hill Country Land Trust celebrates conservation partners

The Hill Country Land Trust (HCLT) recognized its conservation partners during a ceremony at the Stonewall Heritage Society's Lindig cabin on March 27. Read more [here](#).

Up to date news about CREZ from SOS Hill Country Environment

Hearings continue April 23rd regarding the Fredericksburg to Lampasas line. US Fish and Wildlife begin Hill Country public meetings regarding the Environmental Impact Statement. Mason County in the News and SOSHE schedules a meeting for May 11th in Fredericksburg. Details [here](#)

Upcoming Events

April

April 22 in Junction - CREZ project Environmental Impact public meeting - [Details](#)

April 24 in Austin - Nature Photography Workshop at Westcave Preserve - Learn the basics of nature photography at one of the most beautiful settings in Texas - Led by Mike Murphy, former photo editor of Texas Highways magazine - [Details](#)

April 24 in San Marcos - Aquarena Earth Day Celebration - Aquarena Center's 4th annual Earth Day Celebration - [Details](#)

April 24 in New Braunfels - 4th Annual New Braunfels Earth Day Celebration - [Details](#)

April 26 in Lampasas - CREZ project Environmental Impact public meeting - [Details](#)

April 26 in San Antonio - The Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program & the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service public meeting regarding the effects of certain actions on federally protected species associated with the Edwards Aquifer - [Details](#)

April 26 in Kerrville - Hill Country Texas Master Naturalist meeting on Aquifer Planning and Protection - Speaker Ryan Bass, Watershed Planning Coordinator for the Upper Cibolo Creek Watershed - [Details](#)

April 27 in Fredericksburg - CREZ project Environmental Impact public meeting - [Details](#)

April 28-30 in Austin - 2010 Statewide Land Conservation Conference - [Details and Registration](#)

April 29 in Junction - Free Texas Watershed Steward training - Learn about watershed systems, water quality regulation and monitoring, methods to improve water quality, and community-driven watershed protection and management - [Details](#)

April 29 in Kerrville - The Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program & the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service public meeting regarding the effects of certain actions on federally protected species associated with the Edwards Aquifer - [Details](#)

May

May 1 in Bandera - 10th Annual Medina River Cleanup - [Details](#)

May 3 in San Antonio - Increasing Springflow Across the Edwards Plateau: Implications for Management and Restoration” - Hosted by the Nature Conservancy - [Details](#)

May 10-11 in Austin - Low Impact Design Workshop - Learn about leading edge and underutilized low impact concepts, innovative green storm water techniques, and integrated management practices - Great for hill country planners, policy makers and developers - [Details](#)

May 10-14 in Bandera - Guadalupe Basin Watershed planning short course - Hosted by Texas Riparian Association - [Website](#)

May 11 in Fredericksburg - Negotiating Transmission-line Easements in Lieu of Condemnation - SOSHCE public presentation with CREZ updates - [Details](#)

May 14 in Johnson City - Conservation Easement Workshop - Presented by LCRA - [Details](#)

May 31 - Last day of 2010 Hill Country Alliance Photo Contest.

Check the **HCA Website** for continuous updates on all of the latest Hill Country [news](#) and [events](#)

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