



## Neighbor to Neighbor

[www.hillcountryalliance.org](http://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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### RECENT NEWS

#### **Lake Travis water treatment facility raises concerns**

Lake Travis residents and business owners are supported by the Austin environmental community calling on the City of Austin to hold off plans to draw even more water from Lake Travis until conservation measures are fully implemented. Show up and speak up Thursday (tomorrow). Find out more and get involved [here](#).  
[Lake Travis hits 3rd all time lowest level.](#)

#### **Burnet transportation planning meeting tomorrow**

Burnet County will be holding a public meeting tomorrow to share information on potential improvements to address traffic needs in the long-range transportation plan for the county. The plan will serve as a guide for transportation planning and investments through the year of 2035. Public input regarding these proposed improvements is welcome. Read more [here](#).

#### **Cypress Creek Project**

The spring-fed Cypress Creek and surrounding Hill Country landscape is a unique and cherished natural system located in and around Wimberley, Texas. Learn about what's being done to protect this resource, check out the latest Cypress Creek Project newsletter [here](#).

#### **Will we run dry by 2080?**

At the next turn of the century, with the Austin area looking something like today's Houston, Travis County will see a near-tripling in water demand. Williamson and Hays counties will require four or five times as much water as they do now, as our descendants will need water to drink, to bathe and to wash clothes and dishes. Read full Statesman.com article [here](#).

#### **Rainfall patterns at the Fly Gap**

After a wet first half of 2007, why did dry conditions return in late 2007 through early 2009? What are our rainfall prospects for the coming year? What are the long-term trends for rainfall in central Texas? How will global warming affect our rainfall patterns? Read full article by David M. Hillis [here](#).

#### **Green power shouldn't be destructive**

Commentary by Ruth E. Flournoy

Wind energy might not leave a huge carbon footprint, but it is leaving a deep, industrial footprint on the Texas Hill Country. Because our family wanted to maintain the integrity of Dove Creek Ranch, located on the far western edge of the Hill Country, we refused a lucrative contract to place wind turbines on our property. And now, ironically, the ranch sits squarely in the path of two of three high-voltage power line routes proposed by LCRA, connecting the Twin Buttes Station in Tom Green County with facilities in Kendall County. Read full Statesman.com commentary [here](#).

## Upcoming Events

August 1-9 in San Antonio - Green Open House benefiting Cibolo Nature Center - [Details](#)

August 8 in Boerne - Rainwater Harvest Seminar at Cibolo Nature Center - Presented by John Kight - [Details](#)

August 10 in Austin - CAMPO Transportation Policy Board meeting - [Details](#)

August 14 in Bandera - Rainwater Harvesting for your House - 4th in Bandera County and Texas AgriLife Extension Service's four-part rainwater harvesting series - Call for details 830-796-7755

August 17-21 in Bandera - Texas Watershed Planning Short Course - Seats limited - [Details and Registration](#)

August 19 in Helotes - The Fate of a Raindrop - Presented by Matt Wagner, Texas Parks and Wildlife - 6pm at Helotes Creek Nature Center - [Website](#)

August 31 in Austin - Envision Central Texas 81st Legislative Roundup Luncheon - [Details](#) and [Registration](#)

August 31 - Date that bills without specific effective dates (that could not be effective immediately) become law

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

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