BLACKLAND RESEARCH & EXTENSION CENTER



January 31, 2011

Lampasas River Watershed Partners,

We are gearing up for the final stage of the development of our Lampasas River Watershed Protection Plan. We are still on track to have a final draft available to our stakeholders for public comment by this summer. In order to accomplish that, we need to garner as much interest and participation in the upcoming meetings to be sure that we have addressed all stakeholder concerns. Listed below are the topics that we will tackle at our upcoming meetings.

February 2011 – Work Group Meetings – Finalize best management practices (BMPs), implementation schedule, and cost associated with each practice

Agriculture and Wildlife Work Group Thursday, February 17, 2011, 6 – 9 p.m. Lampasas County Farm Bureau Building 1793 U.S. 281, Lampasas, TX 76550 Urban Nonpoint Source Work Group

Friday, February 18, 2011, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. City of Killeen Solid Waste Building 2003 Little Nolan Road, Killeen, TX 76542

March 2011 – Work Group Meetings – Develop outreach and education strategies to support BMP implementation, outline a long-term water quality monitoring strategy

April 2011 – Steering Committee Meeting – Finalize all remaining Work Group recommendations including BMPs to reduce bacteria, interim goals, financial and technical assistance, long-term monitoring and the outreach and education strategies

Summer 2011 – Partnership Meeting – Release Watershed Protection Plan for public comment!

The release of the WPP will be followed by a 45-day public comment period so that we can get feedback about the plan. Following the public comment period, we will reconvene in a Partnership meeting to discuss all of the comments that we received and how they were incorporated into the WPP. The final draft of the Watershed Protection Plan will then move through both the TSSWCB and EPA for a consistency review.

Once we finally reach the review periods, our stakeholders will be able to take a much needed break from our monthly meetings. In short, we will be very busy over the next few months, but we are nearing our goal. We should have a final WPP by the end of 2011 that we can begin implementing to sustain and improve water quality in the Lampasas River Watershed.

More information about the Lampasas River Watershed Partnership as well as materials from previous meetings are available on our website (http://www.lampasasriver.org). If you have any questions, please call me at (254) 774-6008 or email <u>lprcin@brc.tamus.edu</u>.

Sincerely, Lisa Prcin Lampasas River Watershed Coordinator