

Lampasas River Watershed Partnership Newsletter

March 2017

Texas A&M AgriLife Research

At A Glance



Private Well Screening

Mills County

March 6 – 7, 2017

Lampasas County

March 8 – 9, 2017

Rainwater Harvesting

Copperas Cove

March 30, 2017

Partnership News

I hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the beautiful weather we've had! We are currently wrapping up the data analysis from the water quality samples that were collected through our project entitled "Surface Water Quality Monitoring to Support the Implementation of the Lampasas River Watershed Protection Plan." We have already begun a new project that will continue the sampling efforts. We expect to begin sampling again in the early summer. We've also just kicked off a new project funded by TCEQ to address bacteria concerns from on-site sewer systems, otherwise known as septic systems. More information on this project will be available in the coming months, as we get underway!

Upcoming Programs

Water Well Screening

The Texas Well Owner Network will present water well screenings in March for Mills, Llano and Lampasas counties to give residents the

opportunity to have their well water screened. "Private water wells should be tested annually," said Dr. Diane Boellstorff, Associate Professor and Extension water resource specialist, College Station. "It is very important that only sampling bags and bottles from AgriLife Extension be used and all instructions for proper sampling are followed to ensure accurate results." Collection containers can be picked up during business hours, prior to drop off day at the Mills, Llano and Lampasas County AgriLife Extension offices. Water samples must be dropped off during the specified times in order for the samples to be analyzed.

Samples will be screened for common contaminants, including *E. coli* bacteria, nitrates and high salinity.

The presence of *E. coli* bacteria in water indicates that waste from humans or warm-blooded animals



Water Well Screening, continued

may have contaminated the water. Water contaminated with *E. coli* bacteria is more likely to also have pathogens present that can cause diarrhea, cramps, nausea or other symptoms.

The dates, times and locations for the screenings in the watershed will be:

Mills County:

Sample Drop Off:

March 6, 8:30 -10:00 a.m.

Mills County AgriLife Extension
1011 4th Street, Goldthwaite

Results Meeting:

March 7, 6:00 p.m.

Mills County Community Center
1003 Parker Street, Goldthwaite

Lampasas County:

Sample Drop Off:

March 8, 8:30 -10:00 a.m.

Lampasas County Farm Bureau
1793 N. US Hwy 281, Lampasas

Results Meeting:

March 9, 6:00 p.m.

Lampasas County Farm Bureau
1793 N. US Hwy 281, Lampasas

Drop off and results for Llano County will be on March 7 and 8, respectively. Contact the Llano County AgriLife Extension office for more information.

Rainwater Harvesting Class

A program, "Rainwater Harvesting for Homeowners" will be hosted on March 30 from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. as a joint effort among the Lampasas River Watershed Partnership, Keep Copperas Cove Beautiful, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.



The class will be held at the Copperas Cove Public Library, located at 501 S. Main St., Copperas Cove.

The workshop is free, however participants will have the opportunity to build their own rain barrel to take home for \$50. Keep Copperas Cove Beautiful is sponsoring \$15 of the costs for the first 25 barrels reserved. Space and barrels are limit, so pre-registration is required for the class. Please register early to be sure to secure

your barrel by contacting Lisa Prcin at (254) 774-6008 or at lprcin@brc.tamus.edu. Barrels can be paid for with cash or checks made payable to AgriLife Extension on the day of the program.

If you would like to
be involved,
please visit us at
www.lampasasriver.org

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