

P. O. Box 1355, Johnson City, TX 78636 info@bccitx.org Newsletter: Issue 23 April 15, 2025

Keeping the Hill Country in Blanco County™

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Current Blanco County Conditions

Stage 3 drought declaration is in effect

See declaration at: Drought Declaration

See drought conditions map of Blanco County, TX | U.S. Drought Monitor

No Blanco County burn ban in effect

Please call (830)868-7104 prior to burning

City of Blanco water and drought news

Water Leak Hotlines

City of Blanco (830)554-0716 Johnson City (830)868-7111 Extension 2

Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District Board Meeting April 17

BCCI Quarterly Gathering

Next Tuesday, April 22, our quarterly Gathering is at the Gem Of The Hills. Doors open at 6:30PM for refreshments and conversation; the program begins at 7:00PM.

Don't miss this one! Drought Proof Texas: Learn how to drought proof your land with Pete Van Dyck of Van Dyck Earthworks and Design

This event is free for all.

Land conservation is water conservation, and Pete knows how to get it done. Pete Van Dyck specializes in earthworks that help capture rainfall and store it in the soil to recharge aquifers,

replenish springs and restore life to your landscape. The results can be seen throughout the hill country - including Balcones Canyonland Preserve and Horseshoe Bay Nature Park.

Following the presentation, April Samson will lead an engaging interview and Q&A session so you can get your questions answered.

Paradise Creek Pocket Meadow

A Blanco Library Collaboration Begins: Across Pecan Street from the Blanco Library, a onceforgotten lot is transforming into a vibrant native landscape. The *Paradise Creek Pocket Meadow* blends wildflowers, water-wise design, and community-powered restoration into a living model of conservation in action. Inspired by a shared concern for our land and water, the *Meadow* is growing into a space for learning, exploring, and reconnecting with the Hill Country's natural rhythms.

With support from BCCI, local volunteers and experts in sustainable land management, the site now features a 110-foot rain-harvesting berm built by **Van Dyck Earthworks & Design**. This conservation structure will demonstrate how to capture runoff, nurture native plants, and help recharge local springs. Pete will cover some of the methods used in this exciting new project at our April 22 Gathering.

To view the **Master Conceptual Plan** for the **Meadow** or learn how to get involved, visit <u>blancolib.org</u>.

2025 BCCI Best Practices Art Contest

We are getting ready to ramp up the first annual **BCCI Best Practices Art Contest**. Each year a collectible poster will be created from the Grand Prize winning artwork. Each year will have a different BCCI Best Practices theme. The Grand Prize in 2025? \$2,000 plus the artwork will be displayed on our 2025 poster. All ages may enter.

Late-May has been set for the formal announcement of the Plan. The art work submission time is being targeted for late October. The theme for this first year is *Land & Wildlife*.

What else is happening?

Here is some of the other stuff we had going on in the last month:

- BCCI was at Blanco Founders Day
- BCCI collaborated with Keep Blanco Beautiful trash pickup
- BCCI attended the Blanco County Commissioners meeting
- BCCI continues to have its monthly and special Board meetings at Texas Regional Bank in Blanco. Thank you, <u>Texas Regional Bank</u> for letting us use your great Community Room!

~~~~A GOOD PLACE TO END THIS NEWSLETTER~~~~

As with any nonprofit organization, we are dependent on donations from supporters. You may donate to BCCI at DONATE | BCCI

Contact any of your Board members listed below for information and to give support. We want to hear from you!

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