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Newsletter: Issue 12 May 15, 2024

Blanco County is your county....get involved

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Current Blanco County Conditions

Stage 4 drought declaration is in effect

See declaration at: [Drought Declaration](#)

See drought conditions at [Drought Map](#)

No burn ban in effect

Call (830)868-7104 prior to burning

Next Gathering

Water Conservation in Blanco County

with Paul Babb

General Manager of the Hill Country Groundwater Conservation District

Paul will give a presentation plus be interviewed by April Sansom

You can ask questions!

Tuesday, July 23rd at 7:00PM
Gem Of The Hills Activity Center
Open to the public!

Our quarterly Gatherings are at the Gem Of The Hills beginning at 7:00PM.

Here is our upcoming schedule:

October 22: **Agricultural Conservation Easements** with Chad Ellis, CEO of Texas Agricultural Land Trust

January 28: **Xeriscaping Hill Country Style** (speaker to be determined)

Water Conservation Status Meaning

Some of us in Blanco County seem to have had a lot of rain recently. However, that doesn't mean the drought is over. We are still under Stage 4 drought declaration. So, what does that mean to you?

Try for a 50%+ reduction in groundwater use. Here are some of the things you need to do:

- Continue, or increase voluntary reduction in various uses
- Check for and correct all plumbing leaks, including underground piping
- No outside watering of lawns, trees, shrubs, or gardens
- No vehicle washing
- No washing of buildings, driveways, streets, patios, or other outdoor surfaces except as required for human or animal health and safety needs, or for fire prevention
- Watering for dust control only when required by law
- Livestock watered in leak-proof troughs only
- Providing groundwater to lakes, ponds, tanks, reservoirs, or other surface impoundments for holding water is prohibited

Best Practices

The BCCI **Best Practices** went to press in a first draft form on April 16 before the Johnson City Council. **Best Practices'** next public release will be to the Blanco City

Council on June 8. **Best Practices** will be the centerpiece of our website. This evolving document will change as our knowledge, technology and culture change over time.

BCCITX.ORG Website

A 3-member team plus all Board members are in the final stages of designing and implementing the BCCI website. We hope to have good news for you in the next couple of weeks.

BCCI Status

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

- The April 23rd Community presentation by Jo Nell Haas and Wendy Cambridge on the efforts in historical preservation in Blanco County was very well received and had a lot of audience participation
- Bill Sisak introduced BCCI at a Johnson City Council meeting on April 16 and presented the concept of **Best Practices** to them. Three other BCCI Board members also attended the meeting
- BCCI is scheduled to introduce itself at a Blanco City Council meeting and present the concept of **Best Practices** on June 8
- BCCI business laptop computer is now in operation
- A subscription to online cloud-based QuickBooks was purchased and our accounting system has been converted from spreadsheet accounting by our Treasurer, Mark Zuzanek
- The BCCI website is in the final stages of development by Lisa Atckison, Robert Tysdal and Bill Sisak
- 276 people get monthly newsletters plus forwards of relevant emails and FYI's
- Planning continues for Educational & Social Gatherings in 2025 at Gem Of The Hills.
We ask for your suggestions!
- The Board will hold a special meeting on June 8 to discuss the topic of memberships versus supporters plus begin financial planning for 2025.
- BCCI continues to have its monthly and special Board meetings at Texas Regional Bank in Blanco. **Thank you, Texas Regional Bank for letting us use your great Community Room!**

We will keep you posted as we make progress. If you would like to be involved, we can certainly use your knowledge, opinion and help. Contact any of our Board members listed below.

Thank you for your input and support!

Your Board Of Directors

April Sansom, President april@bccitx.org

Bill Sisak, Vice President bill@bccitx.org

Lisa Atckison, Secretary lisa@bccitx.org

Mark Zuzanek, Treasurer mark@bccitx.org

Bob Heinonen bob@bccitx.org

If you do not wish to continue receiving BCCI emails, please Reply "No thank you" to this email and we will remove you from our list....no questions asked....we understand.