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Newsletter: Issue 19 December 15, 2024

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 at [South | U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

Blanco County burn ban in effect

Call (830)868-7104 prior to burning

City of Blanco Stage 3 drought declaration is in effect

Water Leak Hotlines

City of Blanco (830)554-0716

Johnson City (830)868-7111 Extension 2

Blanco County Runs On Water Art Contest News

What an awesome community success!! 26 artworks entered. 2 winners. An exhibit of all the artworks plus a reception and a presentation to the winners. Over 80 people attended the Finale which was held on November 22, 2024, at the Blanco Library.

The community saw the public introduction of the end result of the Contest: A poster featuring the artwork of Heather Steele, the Grand Prize Winner. These posters will be available free to the public. If you would like a poster, contact april@bccitx.org

Heather Steele received a \$2,000 Grand Prize. The Youth Winner, Autumn Seltzer, was presented with a \$500 check.

The community met the artists, the Blanco Library staff who donated space, time, curation and talents, Candy Cargill who provided the food and refreshments, and representatives from the six sponsors who created, funded, promoted and managed the contest:

- Texas Runs On Water
- Hill Country Alliance
- Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District
- City of Johnson City
- City of Blanco
- Blanco County Conservation Initiative

If you did not see the art in person, the entries in the contest may be seen at www.bccitx.org/waterartcontest

End Of The Tax Year?

Is it time to make those tax-deductible donations? Did you know that BCCI is a Qualified Charitable Deduction (QCD) from your IRA. Contact your IRA administrator for information on how to make that happen.

You can also help by donating online at www.bccitx.org/donate. Remember, BCCI is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Another Art Contest?

Because of the huge success of the **Blanco County Runs On Water Art Contest**, the Board of BCCI has formed a committee to consider organizing an annual art contest that would, each year, emphasize one aspect of Blanco County Best Practices. If you would like to participate in organizing and working on this project, please contact bob@bccitx.org The first meeting will be held in January.

Need Help With Conservation and Preservation Questions?

Need input on how to conserve and preserve your property....or anything in Blanco County?

The BCCI website is a great resource for finding answers. That is our job....to help you find answers. If you can't find the answers, tell us. We will help.

Look at www.bccitx.org for help.

Best Practices Evolve

The amount of support for **Best Practices** continues to spread. Check **Best Practices** out on our website at [BEST PRACTICES | BCCI \(bccitx.org\)](http://BEST PRACTICES | BCCI (bccitx.org)). The evolving document will change as our knowledge, current technology and our community culture changes over time. We need your continuing input into this evolving document. Email Bill Sisak at bill@bccitx.org

What else is happening?

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

- On November 19th, your Board began creation of an adaptive 10-year plan, 5-year plan, and 2025 plan for BCCI
- A BCCI presentation has been scheduled for the Liberal Ladies luncheon in Blanco on February 28th. If you would like a presentation for a group, contact bob@bccitx.org
- The BCCI Board held a post-mortem about the Blanco County Runs On Water Art Contest. The overall project was a huge success and a lot of lessons were learned!
- Because of the success of the BCCI Community Educational & Social Gatherings in 2024, planning continues for four 2025 programs. The Gathering on January 28th is set: **Xeriscaping Hill Country Style with Carley Howell**, Blanco County Agent for Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service and **Kathryn Brady**, Blanco County Agent for Natural Resources Conservation Service. Plans are being finalized for the April Gathering. **What are your suggestions for topics? Would you like to sponsor a Gathering?**
- 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!**

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

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

## **Your Board Of Directors**

|                                         |                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| April Sansom<br>President               | <a href="mailto:april@bccitx.org">april@bccitx.org</a>   |
| Bill Sisak<br>Vice President            | <a href="mailto:bill@bccitx.org">bill@bccitx.org</a>     |
| Lisa Atckison<br>Secretary              | <a href="mailto:lisa@bccitx.org">lisa@bccitx.org</a>     |
| Mark Zuzanek<br>Treasurer               | <a href="mailto:mark@bccitx.org">mark@bccitx.org</a>     |
| Robert Tysdal<br>Information Technology | <a href="mailto:robert@bccitx.org">robert@bccitx.org</a> |
| Bob Heinonen<br>Administrator           | <a href="mailto:bob@bccitx.org">bob@bccitx.org</a>       |

*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.*