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Newsletter: Issue 20 January 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 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

New Board Members!

We are very pleased to announce the addition of two members to our Board Of Directors:

- Katy Comal Gentry

- Susan Armstrong-Fisher

Come and meet them at our January 28th Gathering at the Gem Of The Hills. Check the end of this newsletter for the full list of Board Members.

Blanco County Best Practices Art Contest

The Board of BCCI formed a committee to work on organizing an annual art contest that would, each year, emphasize one aspect of Blanco County Best Practices. If you would like to participate in our **Blanco County Best Practices Art Contest**, please contact bob@bccitx.org. The first meeting was held January 11 and the plans are being laid for announcement on April 1.

Xeriscaping Hill Country Style

We don't live in Houston. We don't live in Phoenix. We don't live in Albuquerque or Amarillo or New Orleans or DFW or Corpus Christi.

We live in The Hill Country.

Our landscaping needs a different.

On Tuesday, January 28, find out how to save water and have your property look beautiful. Doors open at 6:30PM for refreshments and conversation. Program starts at 7:00PM. Gem Of The Hills on the north side of Blanco.

Guided by **Carley Howell**, Blanco County Agent for Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service and **Kathryn Brady**, Blanco County Agent for Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Our Online Presence

Have you checked out our website? You should at www.bccitx.org

Have you kept up with our Facebook page? You should at www.facebook.com/bccitx

Best Practices Keep On Moving Forward

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

Sky Quality Meters in Blanco County

The Blanco County Friends of the Night Sky is installing 13 Sky Quality Meters (SQM) across Blanco County to monitor the darkness of the night sky across the county. This will help them determine if we are gaining or losing in the effort to remove light pollution. A Hill Country Alliance grant is funding 5 of the SQM's. If you are interested in talking about having a SQM on your property or funding a SQM, contact dba@blancocountynightsky.org for more information.

Outreach Programs

Would like to have a BCCI program for your group? Contact bob@bccitx.org

What else is happening?

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

- 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
- A BCCI presentation has been scheduled for the Daughters OF The Republic Of Texas Blanco County Chapter in Blanco on January 18th.
- The giving statements for those who donated in 2024 were sent out on January 10
- 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:info@bccitx.org">info@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:info@bccitx.org">info@bccitx.org</a>   |
| Bob Heinonen<br>Administrator           | <a href="mailto:bob@bccitx.org">bob@bccitx.org</a>     |
| Katy Comal Gentry<br>Social Media       | <a href="mailto:info@bccitx.org">info@bccitx.org</a>   |

Susan Armstrong-Fisher  
Land Trust

[Info@bccitx.org](mailto:Info@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.*