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Newsletter: Issue 17 October 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 at [Drought Map](#)

#### **No Blanco County burn ban in effect**

Call (830)868-7104 prior to burning

#### **City of Blanco Stage 4 drought declaration is in effect**

#### **Water Leak Hotlines**

City of Blanco (830)554-0716

Johnson City (830)868-7111 Extension 2

### **Next Gathering**

#### **Do you live in Johnson City or Blanco or a HOA/POA?**

Think about how conservation easements can help the land...the county...around you. How can you promote keeping the Hill Country in Blanco County? This session is not just for big landowners....it is for anyone wanting to conserve and preserve Blanco County. Learn how to help.

**WHEN? Next Tuesday, October 22**

## **Agricultural Conservation Easements**

**Chad Ellis**, CEO of Texas Agricultural Land Trust (TALT)

Program at Gem Of The Hills starts at 7:00PM

Doors open at 6:30PM for food and refreshments

**sponsored by Texas Regional Bank**

Chad will discuss conservation easements and the misconception that a landowner loses decision-making power and control of their land that lasts for generations to come. Families can work with a land trust to negotiate the terms of a conservation easement such that it provides peace of mind for the landowners and their family.

After Chad's presentation, there will be a Q&A session where you can ask questions.

Texas Agricultural Land Trust website: [Texas Agricultural Land Trust \(txaglandtrust.org\)](http://txaglandtrust.org)

## **Our First Brochure**

Katy Comal has led us in designing and producing our first brochure. The concept of the brochure is that it is really an invitation to learn more about us and gives you links to do that. Additional educational brochures will be designed to bring detail on specific subjects. We will be offering our first brochure at our October 22 Gathering. We only had 100 brochures printed so we can get your feedback before ordering a bigger batch.

Please come to the Gathering and give us your input. It will make a difference!

## **Blanco County Runs On Water Art Contest**

As this newsletter "goes to press", the Blanco County Runs On Water Art Contest is winding up. This means all entries should have been submitted at the Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District office in Johnson City or the Blanco Library in Blanco. The results will be publicly announced soon.

Entries-to-date and Rules may be seen at [www.bccitx.org/waterartcontest](http://www.bccitx.org/waterartcontest)

## **Online Donations**

BCCI is laying the groundwork to educate the public on what it can do to conserve and preserve the Hill Country in Blanco County. You can help this outreach effort by donating online at [www.bccitx.org/donate](http://www.bccitx.org/donate). Remember, we are an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

## **Best Practices**

The amount of support for **Best Practices** is growing. 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](mailto:bill@bccitx.org)

## **BCCI Status Update**

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

- Now that BCCI has established an operating base and programs, it is time to do some Strategic Planning. November 19 is the date your Board begins creation of an adaptive 10-year plan, 5-year plan, and 2025 plan for BCCI
- Our annual status report is coming due for the Jacob and Terese Hershey Foundation. The Hershey Foundation provided BCCI with seed money to begin operation. April Sansom is assembling the report.
- Planning continues for BCCI Community Educational & Social Gatherings in 2025. Our next available program slot is on April 22, 2025. **What are your suggestions for a topic?**
- 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! Thank you for sponsoring October 22!**

~~~~~A GOOD END TO 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>     |
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