

Hays County Master Naturalists NEWSLETTER



-- right here at home -- in the Hill Country

September, 2010

September 2010 Events

Chapter Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 2nd, at the Camp Jacob Watershed Education Center at Jacob's Well Natural Area, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. A map is available [here](#). The meeting is open to members and the public.

If you have any questions or items for the agenda, please contact Dixie Camp, pres@haysmn.org, or 512-517-3111, by August 1st.

Chapter Meeting

The next chapter meeting will be held on Thursday, September 23rd, from 6:30pm to 8:00pm, at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 301 Hays County Acres Rd, in Dripping Springs. A map is available [here](#).

The speaker will be Pauline Tom, President of the Texas Bluebird Society. She is regarded as one of the foremost experts on and advocates for bluebirds in Texas. Her talk will be "Managing for Bluebirds: Habitat, Record keeping, Predators, and Problems". Her presentation covers the following:

- Best practices for nestbox installation to attract Eastern Bluebirds
- How to recognize and improve appropriate habitat for Eastern Bluebirds
- How to interpret bluebird activity outside of the nestbox
- How to deter predators and alien competitors
- The process of egg-laying and incubation
- How to "age" nestlings
- Recordkeeping / record sharing with NestWatch

If you have announcements you would like to have presented at the chapter meeting or suggestions for topics/speakers, please contact Tom Hausler, vp@haysmn.org, or 512-858-1015.



A Naturalist's View

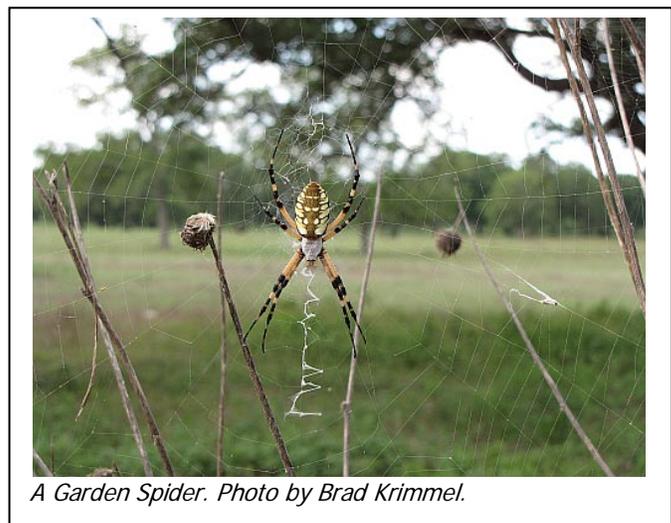
This month we hear from our Brad Krimmel, a member of the Program Committee.

The other day, while having a cup of coffee with a friend, he mentioned that students today are taught

Board of Directors

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TP&WD Rep	Lee Ann Linam

only applied sciences. Keith, a wildlife biologist, said that while today's graduates can identify every species of skunk by their skull, put them on a piece of Hill Country land and they are lost. While they might be able to identify the individual components – white-tail deer and exotics, different grasses and forbs, – they do not understand how all of the components interact in the environment. If you've got a lot of greenbriar that is pretty well eaten you most likely have an overabundance of deer.



A Garden Spider. Photo by Brad Krimmel.

This past weekend I was out at Inks Lake State Park. It was magnificent, but hot! If you own a canoe or kayak, it is a great place to go. On the

drive there, I was of course looking at properties. There was one with a sign advertising goats for sale, and when I got closer the front pasture was full of prickly pear cactus. When a property is overgrazed, often the only thing that grows is prickly pear. When I got to the park, I unloaded my kayak. My dog boarded, and we shoved off. I looked up – straight into a very nice Chinese Tallow tree. On our kayak journey we encountered Green Herons, Great Blue herons, Red-tailed hawks, turtles, fish, and of course - more Chinese Tallow!



An Eastern Hognose Snake. Photo by Brad Krimmel.

Today I met with a potential client. We spoke about rainwater harvesting and the benefits compared to well water for plants. Rainwater gathers nitrogen as it falls, thus providing valuable nutrients for the plant. Originally from Bell County, this couple moved to the Hill Country nine years ago. We talked about the differences in trees and shrubs in the Hill Country. I identified Escarpment Black Cherry and Flameleaf Sumac. In turn, I learned about mountain grapes. This variety of grape grows only at higher elevations. Not vine based like mustang grapes (he has those too), they grow closer to the ground and produce a smaller grape.

The common thread between these three stories is that having been trained as a Master Naturalist, I am much better at recognizing aspects of our environment that I never knew existed. When I look at things now, I try to take in the big picture. Working with clients you have to understand that making a change on the property can impact much of the flora and fauna. Some changes are better than others.



A Texas Spiny Lizard. Photo by Brad Krimmel.

The best thing I've learned so far is to be observant. I still miss a ton, but at least I know that there is something for me to look for. When I encounter something I don't know, particularly an animal, I try to be cautious but have found myself more and more unafraid to observe, examine, and even touch things! Having an inquisitive nature helps. Lots of times though, I can't really find a good answer. In some cases the professional scientists don't even know! Why does the garden spider make that crazy ribbon in her nest? How did an Eastern Hognose snake evolve to play dead like an opossum? Where do Texas Spiny lizards go in the winter? How did this one fall asleep and let me hold her?

- Brad Krimmel



Featured Project

HCMN Training Committee, #501

We've all been through the Master Naturalist Training Class and you probably remember being somewhat overwhelmed with the amount of information being thrown your way. What you may not fully appreciate, however, is the amount of time and effort it takes to put on a successful class each year.

The people behind this effort are the Chapter's Training Committee (TC) and it's due to their efforts that our chapter and county have benefited from a long string of successful classes.

The TC's goal is to create the conditions where the mission statement of Master Naturalists can be implemented. The mission is "to develop a corps of well-informed volunteers who provide education, outreach and service dedicated to the beneficial

management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities for the state of Texas." The TC constructs and implements the training for the HCMN chapter, giving special emphasis to Hays County.



The 2010 kick-off class. Photo by Art Arizpe.

Jean McMeans is the TC Chair this year and is assisted by Mimi Boelter as the Assistant Chair. Jean is a graduate of the HCMN Class of 2005 and has served on the TC as either the Food Coordinator or Training Coordinator since 2006.

She was initially interested in becoming a Master Gardener, but when she read about HCMN in a local paper, she decided we were a better fit for her new life. Jean was a high school social studies teacher for 30 years in Amarillo and Southlake, so being involved with education is very familiar to her.



Minette Marr leads a site visit to Jacob's Well. Photo by Lance Jones.

In addition to Jean, the current TC members are:

- Assistant Coordinator - Mimi Boelter
- Speaker Contact - Karen Langridge
- Secretary - Helane Kennard

- Registration and Attendance - Leah Laszewski and Lin Weber
- Nature Watch Coordinator - Tom Hausler
- Documentation and Logistics - Randy Garst
- Site Visit Coordinators - Lance Jones, Deb Bradshaw, and Donna Browning
- Ad Hoc Food Coordinators - Vicki and Charles Maxcy

According to our chapter's Operating Handbook, the classes must rotate around Hays County, so the TC activities take place all around the county. Although primarily a chapter project, the TC is responsible for contacting, recruiting and coordinating speakers from many universities and other organizations. The TC is also responsible for organizing field trips and site visits.



Ray Franklin, Grillin'. Photo by Lance Jones.

The TC is composed entirely of volunteers who hold the various positions on the committee. Each year the opportunity arises for new volunteers to join as other members rotate off for a variety of reasons. The positions and duties are in the [Chapter Operating Handbook](#), Section E.1 on our web page. The 2011 TC is forming right now.

Jean summarizes it best, "This is a rewarding project because you get to see the new members of each class take their commitment to good land stewardship to a more knowledgeable and dedicated level. Also, you get to meet and work with some incredible people who are just wonderful to know. The friendships you make in MN are special in so many ways."

Please contact Jean McMeans, training@haysmn.org, if you would like to help or learn more about this project.



Chapter News

New Hays County Extension Agent

A news release from the Texas AgriLife Extension Office:

Richard Parrish has been appointed to the position of Hays County Extension Agent - Agriculture and Natural Resources according to a joint announcement by County Judge Liz Sumter and Cheryl Mapston, District Extension Administrator.

Richard will begin his duties on September 1, 2010.

Richard earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science from Texas A& M University in College Station, and A Master of Education degree in Agriculture Education from Texas State University in San Marcos.

Richard began his Extension career as Assistant County Extension agent - Agriculture in Orange County. He was promoted to County Extension Agent - Agriculture in Hardin County. In the past 10 years, Richard has served as County Extension Agent for 4-H & Youth Development in Hays County.

"We are extremely pleased to have Richard in the Agriculture and Natural Resources position in Hays County", Cheryl Mapston, District Extension Administrator said. He will be responsible for planning, implementing, evaluating and interpreting effective Extension Education Programs.

2010 Graduation and Gala

Please mark your calendars for the 2010 Graduation and Gala which will be held on Saturday, November 20th at the San Marcos Activity Center.

We are having barbeque with all the trimmings, as well as a vegetarian option, and look forward to recognizing and honoring our 2010 graduates and our Chapter's accomplishments.

- Dixie Camp

Call for Graduation and Gala Committee Volunteers!

Since we have a vacant Host Committee Chair, we are calling for volunteers for the Graduation/Gala Committee to help develop the program and decorate the room. Please contact Dixie Camp, pres@haysmn.org.

- Dixie Camp

2010 Chapter Awards Nominations

We are currently seeking nominations for the 2010 Chapter awards. Please see the procedure for nominations and a description of each award in the [Chapter Operating Handbook](#), Section F.3, on our web page.

Please submit your nominations to Beth Ramey, Chair of the Membership Committee, membership@haysmn.org. Beth is also serving as the Chair of the Ad Hoc Awards Committee.

It's Officer Election Time!

The Nominations Committee will entertain nominations and volunteer offers to serve as an officer of the chapter as it develops the slate for the election at the Annual Gala to be held on Saturday, November 20th at the San Marcos Activity Center.

Please send your nominations or your offer to serve to Dale Shively, pastpres@haysmn.org, our Past President and Chair of the 2010 Nominations Committee, for consideration by the committee.

The Chapter Officer positions are:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

You may find descriptions of these positions in the [Chapter Operating Handbook](#), Section C, on our web page.

Chapter Committees

Perhaps you would be interested in serving on or chairing a committee. Please contact Dixie Camp, pres@haysmn.org.

You may find descriptions of these committees in the [Chapter Operating Handbook](#), Section B, on our web page.

- Membership Committee
- Volunteer Service Projects Committee
- Advanced Training Committee
- Newsletter Committee
- Outreach Committee
- Host Committee
- Historical Committee

Record Breaking 2010 Membership

Congratulations HCMNs, we have more dues paying members for 2010 than ever before! As of this note 94 MNs have paid their 2010 dues. This is 24% greater than 2009 (76 dues paying members) which was a record year at the time.

I don't have a great explanation for this event, but would like to think great training classes and chapter meetings are a key element. Should you be one of the readers wondering if you haven't paid yet please contact me at lecalvert@gmail.com, and I'll check the record for you. So, pat yourselves on the back HCMNs for being an active group.

- Larry Calvert

2011 Training Committee Forming

Congratulations and thanks to our 2011 Training Committee Chair, Jean McMeans, and Vice-Chair, Lin Weber! Please give them your full support as they begin this important task for the chapter.

The application process for the Training Committee starts now. Here's your chance to help train another great HCMN Class and pick up a refresher along the way! If you are interested in any of the positions, please contact Dixie Camp, pres@haysmn.org.

The Training Committee positions are listed below. You may find descriptions of these positions in the [Chapter Operating Handbook](#), Section E.1 on our web page.

- **Chair / Coordinator of Training Committee** – Jean McMeans
- **Vice-Chair / Assistant-Coordinator of Training Committee** – Lin Weber
- **Registration and Attendance** – (2 Positions)
- **Nature Watch Coordinator** – (1 Position)
- **Logistics & Documentation (videography)** – (1 Position)
- **Field Trip and Site Visit Coordinator** – (2 Positions)
- **Secretary** – (1 Position)
- **Speaker's Contact (includes logistics, gifts and evaluation)** – (1 Position)
- **Meals: supported by Chapter's Host**
- **Standing Committee** – (Coordinator and helpers as needed)
- **Graduation** - (Chair and volunteers as needed)
- **Other** - Volunteers as needed and determined by Chair and Vice-Chair

August Chapter Meeting

Kevin Theusen, Ph.D. from the City of Austin Water Utility, Wildland Division Program Manager presented "Advanced Fundamentals of Ecological Restoration: Perpetuity Requires a Plan"

He explained the need for a land management plan to provide guidance and information on how to carry out the tasks, and also to break the restoration effort into manageable pieces. The plan should be a living document, continually updated and adjusted as the program progresses.

He used two examples in his presentation, a 1400 acre Hays County Ranch property on Bear Creek managed by the WOPL, and a privately-owned 20 acre property in Comal County along the Guadalupe River.

He also told us to two invaluable on-line resources which help formulate a land management plan. First is the Web Soil Survey, <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm>, the source of ecological site descriptions.

Second is the Texas Natural Resource Information System, <http://www.tnris.state.tx.us/>, which is a source of map and photo data.

The Prickly Pears Visit Wildflower Center

The Prickly Pears, the HCMN Class of 2010, visited the Lady Bird Wildflower Center August 21.

- Lance Jones



A demonstration of various roof types and the heat absorbed. Photo by Richard McBride.



Minette Marr talking to the class about seed collection. Photo by Richard McBride.



Capital Area Master Naturalists cleaning and sorting seeds for the Wildflower Center. Photo by Richard McBride.

Prickly Pears Site Visit

The Class of 2010 participated in a "fun" site visit on August 17th with a half-dozen floating down the San Marcos River. They were led by Donna Browning, Lance Jones and Alicia Taylor, a biology graduate student at Texas State University.



Preparing to float. Photo by Richard McBride.

Another ten members walked the trail and learned about the plants from Leah Laszewski.



Walking Tour. Photo by Richard McBride.

At the conclusion of the trip at Rio Vista falls the class members walked over to the Nature Center and were guided by Julie King, coordinator for the Nature Center and current class member.

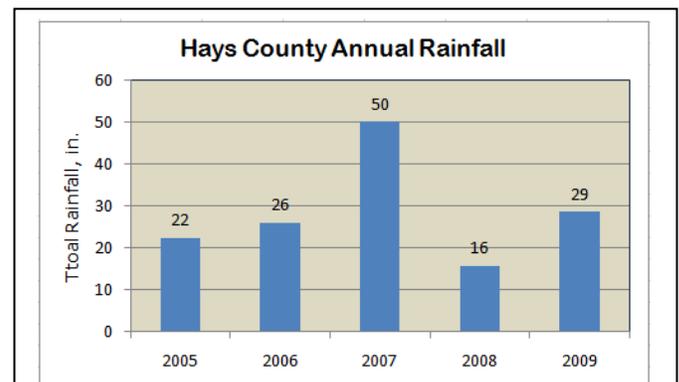
The summer time adventure remained hot as temperatures pushed toward 100 degrees and humid weather prevailed that week in August.

- Lance Jones

HCMN Rainfall Monitoring Project

Over the past five years that we have been collecting data, the annual rainfall varies quite dramatically as you can see in the following chart: a low of 16" in 2008 and a high of 50" the preceding year, 2007. The average over that period is 28.6". This year we have received 21.1" through June.

- Walt Krudop



Hays County Annual Rainfall. Graph by Walt Krudop.

Rainwater Revival

From the seven hills of ancient Rome to today's Texas Hill Country, rainwater collection has spanned the globe and the ages. To celebrate this timeless conservation practice, rainwater collection professionals and enthusiasts will converge just outside of Austin in Dripping Springs, Texas on **Saturday, October 9, 2010** for the Rainwater Revival. The festive day will be filled with informative and entertaining presentations by professionals and users of rainwater, water conservation-related business vendor booths, rainwater system displays, and plenty of experts to provide guidance and services. There will also be food and drink booths, live music, and more.

A brainstorm of the Hays County Water Conservation Working Group, the Rainwater Revival supports the mission to spread the good word on rainwater harvesting and water conservation, the importance of which grows with our ever increasing population.

Hays County Commissioner Karen Ford, who has spearheaded the event, sees the daily impact of the growing population on the county's water supply, but is encouraged by the diversity of volunteers, sponsors, and vendors who have rallied to the Rainwater Revival cause.

"No matter what your age, education, or political affiliation, we all need water to survive and thrive," says Ford. "An almost endless resource has been available to us for time eternal, we just need to look upward."

In addition to a roster of speakers providing an experienced cross-section of rainwater collection knowledge, the Rainwater Revival will feature a collection of 55-gallon recycled rain barrels transformed into works of art by local artists. The barrels will be displayed around Hays County during the weeks leading up to the Rainwater Revival and then auctioned off at the event.

Admission to the Rainwater Revival is free. The event will take place on the grounds of Roger Hanks Park in Dripping Springs, Texas. Festivities will kick off at 10:00AM and conclude at 5:00PM.

For the latest information on the Rainwater Revival, including speaker, sponsor, and vendor information visit the event's official website at rainwaterrevival.com.

- Rainwater Revival News Release

Book Reviews

From the [Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute](http://ChihuahuanDesertResearchInstitute.org) Nature Notes:

If you're in the mood for some summer reading, you might be interested in two new books:

Leopold's Shack and Ricketts's Lab: The Emergence of Environmentalism (by Michael J. Lannoo) tells the story of the profound influence that Aldo Leopold and Ed Ricketts had on our perception of the natural world today. Both of these men are giants in the history of environmental awareness. They were born 10 years and only about two hundred miles apart and died within weeks of each other in 1948. Yet they never met and didn't read each others work. This is their story.

Grass: In Search of Human Habitat (by Joe C. Truett) is a conservation odyssey that explores the deep affinities between humans and our original habitat: grassland. With a flair that marks the best of science writing, Truett traces the evolutionary, historical, and cultural forces that have reshaped North American grasslands over the past 200 years.

HaysMN Forum

The forum is a great learning resource. Be sure to check it out. To join the HaysMN Forum, simply go to the haysmn.org web site and look for the Forum application in the menu.

Please let Herb Smith, web@haysmn.org, know if you have any questions or suggestions. Better yet, use the Forum to discuss the Forum.

Reporting Reminder

Reports for August 2010 are due by September 7th. Please submit your reports of Volunteer and Advanced Training hours by using the friendly report forms at www.haysmn.org.

As a reminder, 8 hours of Advanced Training and 40 hours of Volunteer work are required each year to recertify. You have until the end of the year to complete these hours.

If you are uncertain about your status, please contact Beth Ramey, hourshaysmn@gmail.com, and she can send you a report.

Newsletter Items

Have you read a good book lately? Submit a short review and share with the chapter! Have some neat photos of a volunteer or training activity? Let us see

them! Do you have news about yourself or another HCMN? Send it in!

Please send your comments, news items, and photos to news@haysmn.org.



Members News

This section is your opportunity to update the chapter about what you've been doing. Perhaps you went on an interesting field trip and took some nice photos; basically, anything you'd like to share.

Please send your news items to news@haysmn.org.

Tom Hausler's Wildlife Cams

Tom Hausler shares two photos this month. He reports there have been many foxes.



A Blue Grosbeak with an Indigo Bunting. Photo by Tom Hausler.



A Fox. Photo by Tom Hausler.



Advanced Training Opportunities

Wildland Conservation Division

Our Wildlands hikes take a hiatus during the heat of summer, but we'll be back full swing in the fall. The BCP Hike and Lecture Series will continue, so check out the following hikes and we'll see you on a trail soon!

BCP Hike and Lecture Series

Sat., Sept. 11, 9am to 11:30am - Birding Habitat of Westcave Preserve **2.0 Hours Advanced Training**

Sat., Sept. 25, 9am to 11:30am - Exploring Wild Basin **2.5 Hours Advanced Training**

Sat., Sept. 25, 1pm to 3:30pm - Exploring Wild Basin for Kids & Families **2.5 Hours Advanced Training**

Sat., Oct. 9, 10am to 1pm - Rediscover Hamilton Pool **3.0 Hours Advanced Training**

Sat., Nov. 13, 9am to 11:45am - A Bird's Eye View of Stillhouse Hollow

2.75 Hours Advanced Training



Volunteer Opportunities

The big 4-0! Racking up 2010 Volunteer Hours

Have you done your MN math? About this time of year, some chapter members and trainees realize they need more volunteer hours to reach the 40-hour total minimum needed to complete annual certification requirements.

Good news! Upcoming one-time events offer a chance to rack up some time and to interact with the general public. It's going to be a busy fall, so please join us for some outreach fun.

September 18, Saturday, 8:30-12noon, Brookshire Brothers, Wimberley Project #704 Know Your Grasses Booth

Our chapter will set up a demonstration table to educate shoppers about Hays County native grasses and to answer other questions. Rainfall simulator also in action. We need two members with solid grass knowledge and other volunteers to help set up and take down, answer questions, collect names of those interested in the next class. Contact Susan Nenney 512.289.8166; snenney@peoplepc.com

October 9, 10a-5p: Rainfall Revival, Roger Hanks Park, Dripping Springs, Project # 905

HCMN will host a booth with the rainfall simulator and our other two water-related models.

Coordinator needed for this booth as well as members and trainees to work in shifts. Volunteers collect and assemble materials as needed, run the models, answer questions, set up and take down before and after. Contact Susan Nenney: 512.289.8166; snenney@peoplepc.com

October 16, Saturday, EcoFest, Wimberley Project #704

HCMN will host a booth with various materials, grasses and simulators. Volunteers start conversations, answer questions, distribute materials, collect contact info for possible trainees, operate/assist with Rainfall Simulator, set up and break down. Contact Susan Nenney 512.289.8166 snenney@peoplepc.com

October 16, Saturday, EcoFest, Wimberley Project #1008

General volunteers needed to support EcoFest. Most hours available late September through the event include advance work (for example, distributing flyers), cleanup at KAPS before and after event, working at registration, assisting visitors and exhibitors, set up and take down. Contact Louis Parks 512.289.8666; louis.parks@gmail.com

October 22-23, Texas Master Naturalist State Meeting, New Braunfels Project # 403

The annual silent auction is hosted this year by our chapter. Volunteers needed to assist with auction items displays, facilitating purchases, collecting money, etc.

Oct 22, Friday, 12:30p to 7:00p

Help Judy Burdett receive and set up all silent auction items.

Oct 23, Saturday evening 7:00 pm until concluded

Take the money and distribute auction purchases.

Oct 24, Sunday 9am – 12:30

As needed for final distribution of purchases. Contact Judy Burdett oonaburdett@aol.com

- Susan Nenney

***Monitoring Chimney Swifts,
Project #912***

The North American Chimney Swift Nest Site Research Project (NSRP) is a joint effort of the Driftwood Wildlife Association with support from Texas Partners in Flight and the Nongame Urban Program of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The goal of the project is to monitor existing nest and roost sites and to develop and test smaller, more manageable towers which can be easily installed by homeowners.

To find a nesting site or roost, keep your eyes on the skies at dusk and watch for areas where swifts are feeding. Look for a tall shaft, chimney or similar

structure to find where Chimney Swifts go to roost in your area. Observe the roost starting about 30 minutes before dusk and estimate the number of swifts that enter. E-mail the roost location and number of swifts observed to DWA@austin.rr.com. Monitoring can be done on a one time basis or regularly until the swifts migrate in October.

Also, mark your calendar to participate in Swift Night Out, a continent wide event, to raise awareness about Chimney Swifts. On one night over the weekend of August 6, 7, 8, and/or September 10, 11, 12 observe the roost starting about 30 minutes before dusk and estimate the number of swifts that enter. When you have your number, email us at DWA@austin.rr.com. That's all there is to it!

Want to do more? Build an artificial Chimney Swift tower or if your chimney flue is not metal, take the cap off and enjoy being a Chimney Swift landlord.

For more information, go to www.chimneyswift.org or contact Ann Connell at asc0707@gmail.com or 512.913.1441.

Barsana Dham Trail Building

**Friday, September 3rd, 10th, 17th, & 24th
9:00am-12:00pm
Hays MN Project #909**

For more information, contact Dennis Wagner (Dennis@UnitedCountryCentralTexas.com).

Elephant Ear Removal

**Wednesday, September 1st & 15th
4:00pm-7:00pm
Hays MN Project #408**

The unique and critical habitat of Spring Lake requires a carefully managed habitat conservation program. Volunteers meet the first and third Wednesday of each month to remove the invasive Elephant Ear plant that grows along the banks of the lake. Work begins at 4pm.

For more information, contact Leah Laszewski (laszewski@yahoo.com).

Hyacinth Removal

**Saturday, September 25th
9:00am-12:00pm
Hays MN Project #408**

The unique and critical habitat of Spring Lake requires a carefully managed habitat conservation program. The San Marcos River Foundation works with Aquarena to provide regular water hyacinth removal the 4th Saturday of every month.

Volunteers meet at the Wetlands nursery at 9 AM and work until about noon.

For more information e-mail Diane Wassenich (wassenich@grandecom.net).



State and National News

Plano man converts yard to wild prairie of native plants

From the Dallas Morning News:

"After turning the corner onto Michael McDowell's street in south Plano, his house is easy to identify: It's the lot-size chunk of wild prairie that suddenly breaks up the band of turf grass stretching across every other yard on his side of the block."

You can read the full article [here](#).



Local News

6th Annual Naturescapes Exhibition

Congratulations to HCMNs **Linda Keese, Paul Keese, Winifred Simon, Herb Smith, and Art Arizpe** who have photographs selected for the 6th Annual Naturescapes Exhibition.

The Naturescapes Contest and Exhibition is co-sponsored by the San Marcos Greenbelt Alliance and the Hill Country Photography Club.

The goals of the contest include increasing public awareness of the importance of protecting our natural world and giving photographers at all levels of experience a chance to capture, share, and receive recognition for beautiful and inspiring images.

The exhibition runs from September 11th through November 5th at the San Marcos Activity Center's Walkers' Gallery. Please be sure to check it out!



Links to Chapter Sponsors and Partners

Sponsors:

Texas Master Naturalist -- State Website -- masternaturalist.tamu.edu
Texas AgriLife Extension -- texasextension.tamu.edu

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department -- www.tpwd.state.tx.us/

Agencies of Interest:

Bamberger Ranch -- bambergerranch.org
Native Plant Society of Texas -- www.npsot.org
San Marcos Greenbelt Alliance -- www.smgreenbelt.org
San Marcos River Foundation -- www.sanmarcosriver.org
Texas Outdoor Women's Network -- www.townsanmarcos.org
Texas Cooperative Extension -- Sea Grant Program - texas-sea-grant.tamu.edu
Texas Forest Service -- txforestservice.tamu.edu
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers -- www.usace.army.mil
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service -- www.fws.gov
U.S.D.A. Natural Resource Conservation Service -- www.nrcs.usda.gov
Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority -- www.gbra.org

Partners

Austin Nature Day -- www.austinnatureday.org
LBJ Wildflower Center -- www.wildflower.org
San Marcos Nature Center -- www.ci.san-marcos.tx.us/departments/parks/Nature_Center.html
Gorge Preservation Society -- www.canyongorge.org