

September 15, 2009

Dear Citizens of the Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed:

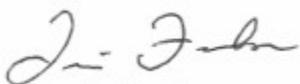
The Texas AgriLife Extension Service, the Guadalupe Blanco River Authority and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board are partnering with local citizens to protect and improve water quality in Texas' watersheds by helping to develop and implement Watershed Protection Plans. Watershed Protection Plans are designed to restore and/or protect surface waters impacted by nonpoint source pollution by implementing best management practices. Geronimo Creek and its tributary Alligator Creek, flow through Comal and Guadalupe Counties, near the cities of New Braunfels and Seguin. This watershed has been selected for development of a Watershed Protection Plan based on water quality concerns for bacteria and nutrients.

You are invited to participate in solving these water quality issues by attending one of two project kick-off meetings and joining the Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed Partnership. We are providing two opportunities for the public to join us to hear about how you can participate in the upcoming water quality protection planning process.

The first of the two public meetings will be held on Tuesday, October 6 in Seguin at the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority River Annex located at 905 Nolan in Seguin. The second meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 8 in New Braunfels at the Landa Haus, located in the heart of Landa Park, at 360 Aquatic Circle. Sign up and refreshments will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the presentations will start at 6:30 p.m. and run until 8:30 p.m. These meetings will provide an overview of what we know about the water quality in Geronimo Creek and its tributary Alligator Creek, and how you can become involved in developing and implementing the Watershed Protection Plan.

Watershed Protection Plans are driven by the local community. Local stakeholders help identify potential sources of water pollution, and plan efforts to improve water quality. The ultimate goal of the Plan is enhance and protect your water resources now, and into the future. Key local partners supporting the process include Comal and Guadalupe Counties, the Cities of Seguin and New Braunfels, New Braunfels Utilities, and the Comal-Guadalupe Soil and Water Conservation District.

Your active participation is essential to the success of this important project. Join us in developing and implementing a Watershed Protection Plan for Geronimo and Alligator Creeks. If you have any questions regarding this process or to RSVP for one of the October meetings, please contact Nikki Dictson with Extension at 979-575-4424 ([n-dictson@tamu.edu](mailto:n-dictson@tamu.edu)) or Debbie Magin with GBRA at 830-379-5822 ([dmagin@gbra.org](mailto:dmagin@gbra.org)). You also can visit our website at <http://geronimocreek.org>. Thank you.



Travis Franke  
Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
Guadalupe County



Jeff Hanselka  
Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
Guadalupe County



Glenn Avriett  
Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
Comal County

Enc: Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed Partnership Information  
Stakeholder Survey



# Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed Meetings

The public is invited to attend one of two upcoming meetings to find out how to help improve and protect Geronimo and Alligator Creeks!

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

GBRA River Annex

905 Nolan St.

Seguin, TX 78155

or

Thursday, October 8, 2009

6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Landa Haus in Landa Park

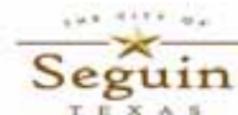
360 Aquatic Circle

New Braunfels, TX 78130

AgriLIFE EXTENSION  
Texas A&M System



For more information <http://geronimocreek.org>



# Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed Partnership

## Contact Information

### Nikki Dictson

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[n-dictson@tamu.edu](mailto:n-dictson@tamu.edu)

### Ward Ling

Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
979-845-2425  
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### Debbie Magin

Guadalupe Blanco River Authority  
830-379-5822  
[dmagin@gbra.org](mailto:dmagin@gbra.org)

### Loren Henley

Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board  
254-773-2250 ext.240  
[lhenley@tsswcb.state.tx.us](mailto:lhenley@tsswcb.state.tx.us)

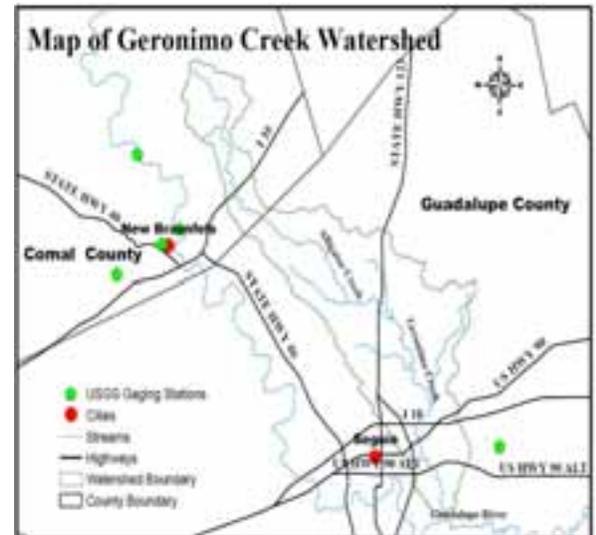
## Geronimo and Alligator Creeks

Geronimo Creek and its tributary Alligator Creek are located in Comal and Guadalupe Counties. The almost 70-square-mile Geronimo Creek watershed lies within the larger Guadalupe River Basin. The lower portion of the Geronimo Creek watershed is in the extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ) of Seguin. The upper portion of the Alligator Creek watershed lies in the ETJ of New Braunfels. Alligator Creek begins on the west side of IH-35 and flows southeast, travelling through a rapidly developing area of the Austin-San Antonio corridor. As development and population growth continue, the percentage of urban land use will rise and play an increasingly important role in the hydrology and water quality of Geronimo Creek and its tributaries.

Based on routine water quality sampling of Geronimo Creek, the stream is impaired by elevated bacteria concentrations and has nutrient enrichment concerns for nitrate-nitrogen. High bacteria concentrations do not support contact recreation use and high levels of nitrogen can cause algal blooms and excessive growth of aquatic vegetation.

## The Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed Partnership

To address these concerns, the Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed Partnership (Partnership), a collaboration between local citizens, cities, counties, and state and federal agencies, is being formed. The purpose of the Partnership is to develop and implement a Watershed Protection Plan (WPP). Anyone can be a member of the Partnership and participate on work groups. A Steering Committee will be formed as the decision-making body for the Partnership. Work groups will be created by the Steering Committee to address specific issues, identify and make recommendations on implementation strategies, and support development of the WPP. A Technical



Advisory Group composed of personnel from key state and federal water quality agencies will provide support and guidance.

Through a federal Clean Water Act §319(h) grant from the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) and the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are facilitating the stakeholder process for development of the Watershed Protection Plan.



Watershed Planning is driven by local stakeholders and includes the following key tasks: 1) identify desired water quality conditions and measurable goals, 2) prioritize appropriate management practices and needed education and awareness programs to achieve those goals, 3) assist in the development of the WPP document, 4) lead implementation of the plan at the local level, and 5) communicate implications of the WPP to other interested constituents within the watershed.

### Please Join the Partnership

Participation by stakeholders from throughout the watershed is essential for the planning process to be successful. Public meetings will be held in the watershed during October 2009, with the planning process getting started in January 2010. Please plan to participate in this important effort to improve and protect your water resources and encourage others to do so as well.

### Stream Water Quality Issues

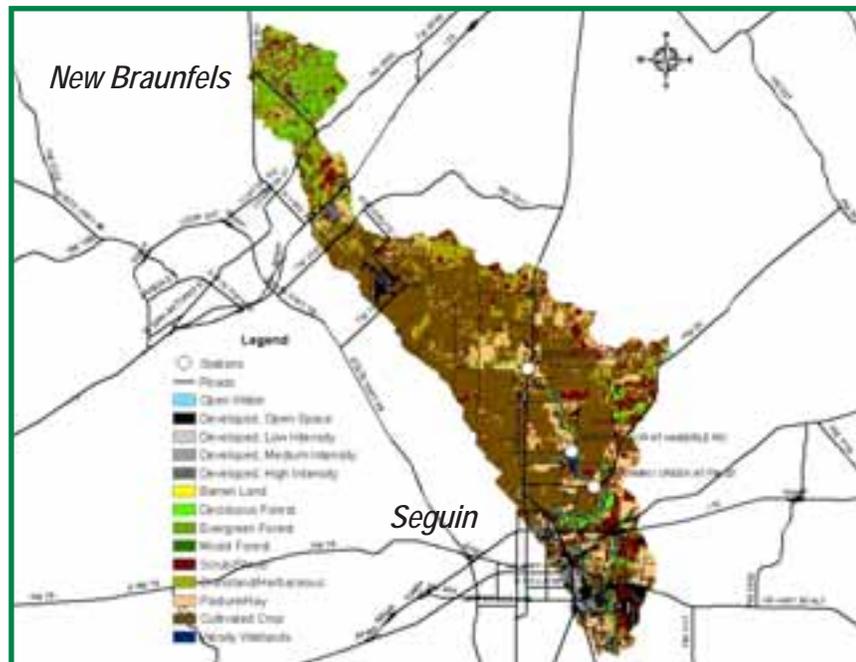
Geronimo Creek has been monitored by GBRA as part of the Clean Rivers Program since late 1996. The creek was monitored at the SH-123 crossing until August 2003, at which time the routine monitoring site was moved to the Haberle Road crossing. The new site was a past TCEQ monitoring site and an ecoregion reference site.

### Six Steps of the Watershed Planning & Implementation Process

- 1) Build Partnerships
- 2) Characterize the Watershed
- 3) Finalize Goals and Identify Solutions
- 4) Design an Implementation Plan
- 5) Implement Watershed Plan
- 6) Measure Progress and Make Adjustments

The 2008 Texas Water Quality Inventory has Geronimo Creek, Segment 1804A, listed with a concern due to elevated nitrate-nitrogen concentrations because all 60 measurements exceeded the screening level of 1.95 mg/L. In addition, the stream is listed as impaired because the geometric mean for E. coli bacteria (162 organisms per 100 milliliters) exceeded the contact recreation stream standard of 126 organisms per 100 milliliters. GBRA is currently monitoring and collecting additional data at 19 sites throughout the watershed. There are three historical monitoring sites that are identified on the map below.

Geronimo Creek Watershed Land Use and Stations Map



For more information visit <http://geronimocreek.org>



Comal-Guadalupe Soil and Water Conservation District



September 24, 2009

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service, the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board are partnering with local citizens to protect and improve water quality in Texas' watersheds by helping to develop and implement Watershed Protection Plans. Watershed Protection Plans are designed to restore and protect surface waters impacted by nonpoint source pollution by implementing best management practices. Geronimo Creek and its tributary Alligator Creek, flow through Comal and Guadalupe Counties, near the cities of New Braunfels and Seguin. This watershed has been selected for development of a Watershed Protection Plan based on water quality concerns for bacteria and nutrients.

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at 979-575-4424 ([n-dictson@tamu.edu](mailto:n-dictson@tamu.edu)) or Debbie Magin with GBRA at 830-379-5822 ([dmagin@gbra.org](mailto:dmagin@gbra.org)). You also can visit our website at <http://geronimocreek.org>. Thank you and we hope to see you on either October 6 in Seguin or October 8 in New Braunfels.

Sincerely,

W.E. West, Jr.  
General Manager

# Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed Partnership



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- Meetings
- Water Quality
- Publications
- Partners

## Geronimo and Alligator Creeks

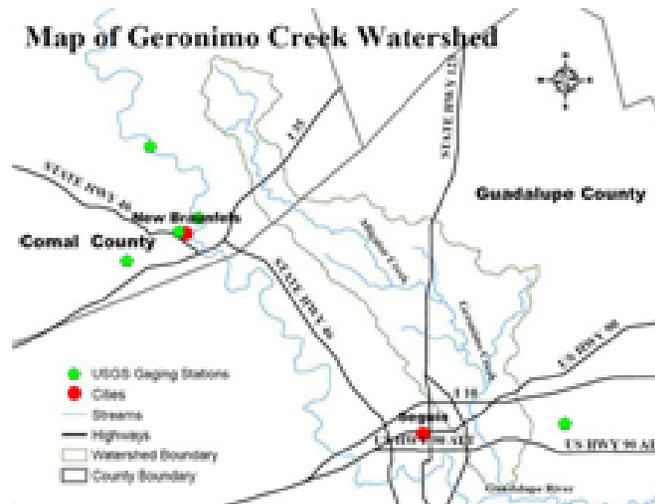
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Map of Geronimo Creek Watershed



September 24, 2009

Irma Lewis  
Outdoor Learning Center  
P.O.Box 262  
McQueeney, TX 78123

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Main Office: 933 East Court Street ~ Seguin, Texas 78155  
830-379-5822 ~ 800-413-4130 ~ 830-379-9718 fax ~ [www.gbra.org](http://www.gbra.org)



**GBRA**

**Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority**  
*flowing solutions*

Your active participation is essential to the success of this important project. Join us in developing and implementing a Watershed Protection Plan for Geronimo and Alligator Creeks. Please fill-out the enclosed survey so we may gauge how involved in the process you want to be. If you have any questions regarding this process or to RSVP for one of the October meetings, please contact Nikki Dictson with Extension at 979-575-4424 ([n-dictson@tamu.edu](mailto:n-dictson@tamu.edu)) or Debbie Magin with GBRA at 830-379-5822 ([dmagin@gbra.org](mailto:dmagin@gbra.org)). You also can visit our website at <http://geronimocreek.org>. Thank you and we hope to see you on either October 6 in Seguin or October 8 in New Braunfels.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W.E. West, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

W.E. West, Jr.  
General Manager

enclosures



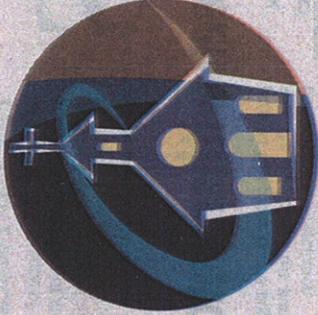
Chance of rain

86° 66°

30% chance of rain, east northeast wind 5-15 mph

# SEGUIN GAZETTE ENTERPRISE

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## FIND FELLOWSHIP

Choose a church to attend in our directory or catch up on current events on our Church page. — SEE PAGE 6-7

FRIDAY OCTOBER 2, 2009

INSIDE



Matadors to tackle Tivy in Kerr. See Sports on page 9.

## GBRA seeks opinions for water study

**CHANGES:** Agencies want public input on problems at Geronimo, Alligator creeks

By RON MALONEY  
ron.maloney@seguingazette.com

GERONIMO — Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority and two other state agencies are launching an \$800,000, three-year water quality study of the Geronimo and Alligator Creek watersheds with meetings in Seguin and New Braunfels next week they hope will attract widespread attention.

That's because water quality officials hope to invite area residents and landowners to help determine the extent of pollution caused by bacteria or nutrient enrichment, to develop a watershed protection plan — and to perhaps participate in solving the problems.

CREEKS, see page 3

OCTOBER 2, 2009

## LOCAL CREEKS

Elementary will science and com- There will be two its, one for the older and the other will and younger kids. nd cafeteria will be can be pulled aside the space for more

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oor to Rodriguez y stands the new ym at Briesemeister tool. Briesemeister ed a 4 classroom ith extra storage district improve- dle a new gym at dle School that has leted, a six class- ion at McQueeney

Local governments including Seguin and Guadalupe County have signed on to partner in the project.

The study will be similar to others in the Kyle and Lockhart areas in which local residents and other stakeholders identified pollution points and helped clean up and restore Plum Creek and the Town Branch.

Texas AgriLife Extension water quality specialist Nikki Dictson said a 2008 water quality inventory conducted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality showed Alligator Creek, which lies in the Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction of New Braunfels, and Geronimo Creek, which cuts through its namesake community and skirts the east side of Seguin on its way to the Guadalupe River, had high concentrations of bacteria likely caused by pet, livestock or animal waste, meaning the creeks can be unsafe to swim or wade in. In addition, nitrogen often associated with fertilizers and ag by-products has also been found.

The problems can only be expected to increase with increased growth expected to come in the Interstate 35 corridor and in the county's northeastern reaches from the New Braunfels

## SEGUIN GAZETTE ENTERPRISE

Municipal Airport and Geronimo toward Hays County, Dictson said.

GBRA spokeswoman LaMarriol Smith said the study of the creeks near Seguin and New Braunfels are only the latest in an ongoing, decades-long effort by her Seguin-based river authority to address water quality issues in the Guadalupe River.

"We've been working pretty diligently on water quality issues in our basin, and we've sought a lot of community participation," Smith said. "We're trying to get on the front end and get ahead of the curve on water quality."

Dictson said what would happen here would be similar to the ongoing work in Hays and Caldwell counties begun in 2005. Last month, more than 325 volunteers removed 500 pounds of trash and nearly 300 pounds of recyclables from a Lockhart park. In all, 485 volunteers hauled out nine tons of illegally dumped trash and household goods over a two-year period.

In the meetings to be conducted Tuesday and Thursday, study partners hope to introduce the community to what they hope to accomplish and invite participation in capacities ranging from field work to membership in a steering committee and perhaps, some time down the road, in helping clean up the Alligator and Geronimo creeks — and create a resolve in the local com-

munity to partner in helping keep them what could be a \$3.2 million remediation over the coming few years.

"We're inviting area residents and leters to participate in solving these water issues by attending one of two project meetings and joining the Geronimo and Creeks Watershed Partnership," Dictson said. "We're just getting started, and we're with the public to come to these meetings how they can participate in the process." Later, she said, there could be oppo for locals who wish to help to adopt an approach as residents of Hays and counties have.

"We'll be bringing a lot of resources, ing workshops and educating on these i well as community cleanups," Dictson s GBRA Director of Water Quality Debbie Magin said her agency, which h tored pollution levels in the Geronim area since 1996, was looking forward to dovetail with a flood mitigation study n conducted by Guadalupe County.

"We learned a lot in Plum Creek," said. "The active participation of the citi landowners in the watershed is essen success of this important project."

# GAZETTE ENTERPRISE OPINION

OUR VIEW

## GBRA's meetings are an opportunity

The Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority, the Texas Agriculture Extension Service and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board are looking for a little help.

They've formed a partnership to study pollution in the Alligator and Geronimo creeks and decide what to do about it.

The \$800,000 three-year study begins Tuesday with an informational meeting that begins at 9 p.m. at the GBRA's River Annex on Nolan Street, and invitations have gone out to many people who have been identified as stakeholders or potential partners in the study of the 70 square mile watershed that begins north of New Braunfels and skirts the airport area, Geronimo and the east side of Seguin on its way to the Guadalupe River.

A similar study in the Plum and Town creeks in Hays and Caldwell counties accomplished much more than identifying pollution in that watershed. It empowered members of the community with the information they needed to make positive change, and for the last two years, area residents have volunteered to remove nine tons of illegally dumped trash and household items from those watersheds.

GBRA has asked the public to support this new study that could lead to a cleanup of one of this county's great natural resources, and has invited anyone interested to attend Tuesday's meeting in Seguin or a similar one to be conducted two nights later in New Braunfels.

This is an example of state government working for its constituents, GBRA says public participation will be key to the study's success.

Here's a chance to help. Don't pass it up.

### LET YOUR LEADERS KNOW WHAT YOU THINK

**TX Rep. Edmund Kniapp**  
Room 049, 3N106  
P.O. Box 2910  
Austin, Texas 78768  
Austin - (512) 463-0602  
Seguin - (830) 379-8732

**TX Sen. Jeff Wentworth**  
P.O. Box 12068  
Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711  
Austin - (512) 463-0125  
S.A. - (210) 826-7800

**U.S. Rep. Henry Queller**  
336 Cannon  
House Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
D.C. - (202) 225-1640  
Seguin - (830) 401-0457

**U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison**  
294 Russell Senate  
Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
D.C. - (202) 224-5922  
S.A. - (210) 840-2885

**U.S. Sen. John Cornyn**  
612 Hart Senate  
Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 205  
D.C. - (202) 224-2993  
S.A. - (210) 224-7448

Get something to say? Something to add? Write a letter to the editor.

Letters to the editor should be approximately 500 words or less, and should include the author's name, hometown and a daytime telephone number for verification purposes. The telephone number will not be published. Authors are invited to be as direct as possible in their comments. Letters will be edited for content, grammar and space. We apologize for our inability to publish all letters. We do not accept liability for any damage or loss of data.



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Send e-mailed letters to [letters@seguintribune.com](mailto:letters@seguintribune.com) or [web3.seguinpractico.com](http://web3.seguinpractico.com)



Mail

Send mailed letters to 1012 Schriever Road Seguin, TX 78155



Fax

Send your letter editor via 830-379-5454

October 2009

6

Tuesday

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Volume 44, Number 198  
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86/75  
Wednesday

88/75  
Thursday

Seguin Daily News

seguintoday.com

The Voice of Seguin Today

## Public Geronimo, Alligator creek watershed meetings kick-off tonight

### Groups to discuss elevated bacteria, nutrient concerns, improvement

By Jessica Domei

(Seguin) -- Cleaning up two local creeks that flow through the county will be the focus of a public hearing tonight. The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority and the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are hosting the first of two meetings tonight to help kick off the Geronimo and Alligator Creek Watershed Partnership.

Tonight's meeting kicks off with sign-in and refreshments at 6 p.m. in the GBRA Annex. Loren Henley, the nonpoint source project manager, says the focus of the partnership is to create a protection plan to restore the waters impacted by nonpoint source pollution.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), nonpoint source pollution is caused by rainfall moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries away natural and man-made pollutants and carries them into water sources.

Henley says the watershed planning efforts are important for the area because it allows local residents the chance to be involved in the process to clean up our local waterways and water sources.

"First off we're going to kind-of introduce our-

self to the public. We're going to discuss some of the water quality problems that are going on in the watershed. It's very important to get the locals involved in this process, in the watershed planning process, and we're going to discuss that process with the people that come to the meeting," said Henley. "It's important because at this point we don't really know a whole lot about the local level, what they think and it's important for them to come to try to explain to us their concerns. We'd like to get feedback from them about some of the things that are going on in their watershed."

Aaron Wendt, statewide watershed planning coordinator, says some of the things that residents should be concerned about in this watershed include bacteria.

"The state monitors water quality in a lot of watersheds across the state, including Geronimo and Alligator creeks. Over the past several years, elevated levels of bacteria and elevated levels of nutrients been seen in those watersheds. So those would be the types of issues that would be discussed - bacteria and nutrients. We'll explain to the stakeholders, the local landowners and citizens, and try to understand better what's happening to the watershed," said Wendt.

Wendt says residents are invited to attend the meeting because the organizations would like

to have residents involved to help draft the watershed protection plan. He says the effectiveness of the plan to improve the watershed is directly proportional to the amount of public interest and participation in the planning.

"The concept behind these watershed protection plans is truly local. It's a voluntary, locally-driven process and so while it is the state Soil and Water Conservation Board, AgriLife Extension and Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority kind-of sponsoring this and funding it, the actual process to sit down, talk about the issues and to talk about solutions, will be driven by the stakeholders that participate in the process and come to the meetings," said Wendt.

Watershed protection plans are created as frameworks to address nonpoint source pollution and implementing voluntary management strategies, according to Henley. She says these plans and strategies are designed with the long-term health of a watershed and water quality improvement in mind.

The GBRA Annex is located at 905 Nolan Street in Seguin. The presentations tonight begin at 6:30 p.m. and will continue until 8 p.m.

Another meeting is also scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday in New Braunfels at the Landa Haus. Landa House is located at 360 Aquatic Circle.

# Farm and Ranch

## Karnes County Livestock Exchange, Inc.

Livestock Auction Report for Sept. 24, 2009

Cattle on hand: 140

Market for calves was stronger compared to last week.  
Market for cows was softer compared to last week.

No. 1 steer and bull calves

(200-300) 109-130  
(300-400) 108-131  
(400-500) 100-120  
(500-600) 87-95  
(600-700) 89-94

No. 1 heifer calves

(200-300) 100-110  
(300-400) 94-106  
(400-500) 83-99  
(500-600) 86-94  
(600-700) 82-87

Stocker cows:

Good cows and heifers: 57-87  
Medium cows and heifers: 45-52

Packer cows:

Higher dressing utility and cutter cows: 41-46  
Lower dressing and cutter cows: 38-40  
Light weight canner cows: 32-36

Packer bulls:

Heavy weight bulls: 50-54  
Utility and canner bulls: 47-49

## News from the Guadalupe County Farm Service Agency

Emergency Loans Now Available  
Guadalupe County has been declared a contiguous county on April 27. Generally, that means farmers who have lost at least 30 percent of their production due to damages and losses caused by drought, above-normal temperatures, and associated wildfires on Jan. 1, 2009, and continuing may be eligible for FSA loans, providing eligibility

requirement are met. The loans have a fixed 3.75-percent fixed rate. Proceeds from crop insurance are taken into consideration when determining eligibility. The deadline to apply for these Emergency Loans is Dec. 28, 2009.

### Livestock Producer Meeting

I know many of you have been waiting quite a while for something like this to come out, but the time has come. Thursday, Oct. 1, 2009, Guadalupe Co. FSA will be holding a Producer Meeting to discuss the upcoming Livestock Forage Program (LFP). The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Texas Agricultural Education and Heritage Center, otherwise known as the "Red Barn." The important thing to remember is you must have had rainfall insurance or NAP to qualify for this program. We will cover information for both 2008 and 2009 disaster years. Information on relief is still coming in and will be discussed at the meeting. Eligible livestock under LFP include beef cattle, alpacas, buffalo, beetalo, dairy cattle, deer, elk, emus, equine, goats, llamas, poultry, reindeer, sheep and swine.

A separate meeting will be held at a later date to discuss the Supplemental Revenue Program (SURE) for disaster on row crop and hay production.

### Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed Meetings

The Texas Agriculture Extension Service, the Guadalupe Blanco River Authority and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board are partnering with local citizens to protect and improve water quality in the watershed. Come and learn about how you can participate in the upcoming water quality protection planning process in your watershed by joining the Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed Partnership. The first public meeting opportunity will be held on Tuesday, October 6 in Seguin at the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority River Annex located at 905 Nolan in Seguin. The second meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 8 in New Braunfels at the Landa Haus located in the heart of Landa Park at 360 Aquatic Circle. Sign up and refreshments will begin at 6:00 p.m. These meetings will provide an overview of what we know about the water quality in Geronimo Creek and its tributary Alligator Creek, and how you can become involved in the process to solve these water quality issues. The ultimate goal of the plan is to enhance and protect your water resources now, and into the future.

If you have any questions regarding this process or to RSVP for one of the meetings, please contact Nikki Dictson with Extension at 979-575-4424 (ndictson@tamu.edu) or Debbie Magin with GBRA at 830-379-5822 (dmagin@gbra.org). For more information, visit www.geronimocreek.org.

### Important Information About Disaster

Many people have had questions about eligibility for the disaster programs. Hopefully, I can clarify some of these questions and what you need to do in order to be eligible for 2010 if another disaster occurs.

**SURE** - This program is intended to help with lost revenue in crop production due to natural disasters. All crops will have to have at least CAT level insurance on insurable crops or NAP coverage for all non-insurable crops. This includes all grains; hay, cotton, fruits and vegetables, etc. Grasses with an intended use for hay must also have insurance. In addition, all acreage must be certified in the county office with planting dates if applicable.

**LFP** - This program is intended to assist with the loss of revenue from livestock grazing due to drought or fire. In order to be eligible, either NAP or rainfall insurance is required. Only crops and grasses intended for grazing are eligible at this point. Before you can file for this program, you must certify your acreages in our office (planting dates required for annually seeded crops). Anyone who has not participated in FSA programs in the past is encouraged to contact the office for more information and to make an appointment.

### NAP Deadlines

The deadline to purchase NAP insurance is approaching fast. Dec. 1, 2009, is the deadline to purchase coverage for all grasses, mixed forages, asparagus, potatoes, and radishes. Production records for individual crops need to be filed with our office to establish an approved NAP yield. If this is the first year to participate in NAP, you can provide production and acreage information from prior years to establish your yield (must be reliable and verifiable). Each crop will be a \$250 fee, not to exceed \$750 per county or \$1,875 total.

Submitted by: Adam Acker, CED - Guadalupe County FSA

## Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed Partnership Survey and Partnership Sign-up Sheet

1. What best describes your stakeholder position in the watershed: (please circle answers)
 

a) business person	f) land owner
b) homemaker	g) industry
c) public official	h) permitted operation
d) agricultural producer	i) other _____
e) educator	
  
2. What best describes the amount of land that you own or manage in the watershed?
 

a) < 1 acre	d) 11- 50 acres	g) 300-500 acres
b) 2 – 4 acres	e) 51-100 acres	h) >500 acres
c) 5 – 10 acres	f) 101-300 acres	
  
3. Prior to this meeting, were you aware of water quality concerns in the Geronimo Creek Watershed?
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
  
4. Would you be willing to serve as a member of the Watershed Partnership?
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
  
- 4b. If your answer was yes, in what capacity are you willing to serve? (Circle all that apply)
  - a) Steering Committee member (requires attendance at scheduled meetings)
  - b) Workgroup member (requires attendance at scheduled meetings)
  - c) General participant (attendance at some/most meetings)
  - d) No, I cannot or do not wish to participate on a regular basis.

4c. Please mark all days and times which would be **best** for you to participate in meetings:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Morning</b>						
<b>Afternoon</b>						
<b>Evening</b>						
<b>Anytime</b>						

4d. If you would like to participate, or if you would like to receive more information about the project as it moves forward, please provide your contact information.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

5. Are there any topics or issues in your watershed that you would like us to include in future discussions?

6. Would you be interested in learning more about the Texas Watershed Steward Program?

- a) Yes
- b) No

7. How did you find out about this meeting? (Circle all that apply)

- a) Mail
- b) Newspaper
- c) Email
- d) Website
- e) Newsletter
- f) From a friend
- g) Flyer

**Please return completed surveys to: Nikki Dictson, Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
Mail: 355A Heep Center, 2474 TAMU,  
College Station, TX 77843-2474,  
Phone: 979-458-3478 or 979-575-4424  
Fax: 979-845-0604,  
Or E-mail Surveys: [n-dictson@tamu.edu](mailto:n-dictson@tamu.edu).**

<b>LJG</b>	<b>September-09</b>	<b>Geronimo Crk Sampling Report</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>CRP Routine Sample Description</b>	<b>Site ID Notes</b>
9/14/2009	Alligator Creek at FM 1102 near New Braunfels, TX	GB706 Dry - No Sample Collected
9/14/2009	Alligator Creek at FM 1101 near New Braunfels, TX	GB707 Dry - No Sample Collected
9/14/2009	Alligator Creek at Barbarosa Road (CR 107A) near Geronimo, TX	GB708 Dry - No Sample Collected
9/14/2009	Geronimo Creek at Pieper Road (CR 130) near Geronimo, TX	GB709 Dry - No Sample Collected
9/14/2009	Alligator Creek at Huber Road, near Geronimo, TX	GB701 Wet Weather Targeted - Dry with Pools
9/14/2009	Geronimo Creek at Huber Road near Geronimo, TX	GB700 Dry - No Sample Collected
9/14/2009	Geronimo Creek at SH 123 near Geronimo, TX	14932 Wet Weather Targeted
9/14/2009	Unnamed tributary at Heinemeyer Road (CR 121) near Geronimo, TX	GB710 Dry - No Sample Collected Wet Weather Targeted/Ammonia Charged to Geronimo Creek Monitoring Account
9/14/2009	Geronimo Creek at Haberle Road, near Geronimo, TX	12576 Creek Monitoring Account
9/14/2009	Unnamed tributary at Laubach Road (CR 108) near Geronimo, TX	GB711 Dry - No Sample Collected
9/14/2009	Geronimo Creek at FM 20 near Geronimo, TX	12575 Wet Weather Targeted
9/14/2009	Geronimo Creek at US HWY 90A in Seguin, TX	GB703 Wet Weather Targeted
9/14/2009	Baer Creek at East Walnut Street in Seguin, TX	GB702 Wet Weather Targeted - Dry with Pools
9/14/2009	Geronimo Creek at Mount Vernon, below Baer Creek Confluence, in Seguin, TX	GB704 Wet Weather Targeted
9/14/2009	Geronimo Creek at Hollub Road, above Guadalupe River confluence, near Seguin, Texas	GB705 Wet Weather Targeted
	<b>WWTF Sample Description</b>	
	10277-003 City of Seguin Geronimo Creek WWTF	GB712 Not Sampled
	<b>Groundwater Well Sample Description</b>	
	Groundwater Well near Alligator Creek at Huber Road, near Geronimo, TX	GB713 Not Sampled
	Groundwater Well near Geronimo Creek at Laubach Road, near Geronimo, TX	GB714 Not Sampled
	Groundwater Well near Geronimo Creek at Hollub Road, near Seguin, TX	GB715 Not Sampled

# Make a Splash With The Texas Watershed Steward Program!

Did you know that you, and everyone around you, live in a watershed? A watershed is an area of land that water flows across, through, or under as it drains into a stream, river, lake, ocean, or other body of water. Because we all live in a watershed, things we do at home and where we work and play can affect water quality and the health of our watershed. In Texas alone, nearly 92 percent of the streams, rivers, and lakes are impacted by some form of water pollution.

What can be done? Well, protecting water quality begins with you and those in your community and there is help to get started. The Texas Watershed Steward program is a one-day training event sponsored by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service (formerly Texas Cooperative Extension) and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board in coordination with the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA). It is designed to help watershed residents improve and protect their water resources by getting involved in local watershed protection and management activities.

Texas Watershed Stewards learn about watershed systems, water quality regulation and monitoring, methods to improve water quality, and community-driven watershed protection and management. The training also provides the basic knowledge and tools needed to form a watershed action group, participate in and organize local watershed activities, and become more involved in protecting and enhancing your community water resources.

The next training event will take place in Guadalupe County which is home to the Geronimo Creek Watershed. The watershed is located between the two major metropolitan areas of Austin and San Antonio and is easily accessed by major roadways. This region is undergoing rapid urbanization which has created water quality concerns for Geronimo Creek and its tributaries.

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and the GBRA, along with other stakeholders, have been working on a plan to improve the water quality in the Geronimo Creek Watershed. You can be a part of the solution by attending this event.

All program participants will receive a free day of education and training, a free copy of the Texas Watershed Steward Curriculum Handbook, free prizes and gifts, and a certificate of completion. In addition, the program will also provide seven continuing education units in soil and water management for Certified Crop Advisors, seven Texas State Board for Educator Certification continuing professional education credits for certified teachers, seven American Institute of Certified Planners certificate maintenance credits for planners, seven hours for the Texas Board of Professional Engineers, and three general continuing education units for Texas Department of Agriculture pesticide license holders.

The training program will be held in Seguin on Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 8am-4pm at the GBRA River Annex on 905 Nolan Street. Pre-registration is now open and required for participation. Texas Watershed Stewards is a great opportunity to get involved and make a difference in your watershed.

For more information and to get your name on the pre-registration list, please visit the Texas Watershed Steward website at <http://tw.s.tamu.edu> or call/email Jennifer Peterson at 979-862-8072/[jlpeterson@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:jlpeterson@ag.tamu.edu).

# Texas Watershed Stewards



The Texas Watershed Steward program is a free, one-day educational workshop designed to help watershed residents improve and protect their water resources by getting involved in local watershed protection and management activities.

**November 10, 2009: 8:00am-4pm**

Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority River Annex  
905 Nolan  
Seguin, TX 78155



The workshop will provide an overview of water quality and watershed management in Texas. It will primarily focus on water quality

issues in the Geronimo Creek watershed as well as efforts by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board to help improve water resources and the health of the surrounding watershed.

Pre-register for the workshop by going to:  
<http://tws.tamu.edu>.

Geronimo Creek Watershed





# Texas Watershed Steward Workshop

**November 10, 2009**



**8 am - 4 pm**

