

Blanco River Land Conservation Seminar

Eighty area landowners had the opportunity to learn how to conserve their land resources and preserve their property for future generations at the Blanco River Land Conservation Seminar held on Thursday, November 3 at the Old Glory Ranch on the banks of the Blanco River near Wimberley.

“Dr. Tim Bonner from Texas State University talked about the State of the Blanco River, Dr. Neal Wilkins from Texas A&M University discussed Land Fragmentation along the Blanco River, Chuck Kowaleski from Texas Parks & Wildlife Department talked about Programs to Assist Landowners, and Houston attorney Thomas Kelsey made a presentation on Conservation Easements & the Purchase of Development Rights,” said Todd Votteler, Executive Director of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust.

Additional presentations were made on the Blanco River Project by Steve Jester of the Nature Conservancy of Texas and the relationship between land management and springflow David Baker of the Wimberley Valley Watershed Association. “A turnout of almost 80 indicates that many landowners are interested in land conservation in the Blanco River Valley” said Jester.

Hays County Commissioner Will Conley and Julie Johnson of Johnson Ranch in Hays County provided the opening remarks at the seminar. Johnson is a local landowner who has donated a conservation easement as part of the Johnson Ranch conservation and preservation program.

The seminar was a second in a series of seminars sponsored by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust for landowners in the Guadalupe River Basin. This latest seminar was sponsored jointly by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust, Texas Nature Conservancy and the Wimberley Valley Watershed Association.

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