



GIVE RECOGNITION WHERE IT IS DUE:

I want to offer my sincerest thanks to all the people who helped me during my first year here as you new county extension agent. With your help, we were able to fix all three kayak trail map kiosks, install 28 PVC trail markers, begin working on the low power radio project scheduled to go on air soon at Indianola, revive the mono-filament recovery and recycling program (MRRP), and help educate me on some of the counties needs.

Stand up and take a bow:

Charlie Jones, Shelly Crow, Sherrie Krause, David Zelenski, Delmer Scott, Irving Sierro, Laurie Lowman, Jim Munro, Jim O'Neil, Natalie Barthelme, Tammy Gilbert, Mike Kennedy, Lori Antman, Cathy Green, Norman Boyd, Philip Bird, Rex Mayes, Terry Whitaker, and Jack Labarge.

My apologies if I left anyone off. I am learning new documentation skills and promise to do better in my second year.

CAN PLASTIC TENNIS BALL CANS BE RECYCLED?

Yes! The cans that tennis balls come in are made of a PET #1 plastic that is accepted in the Containers recycling category. **HOWEVER**, it would be even better to give them to the extension office. I have an upcoming project that will require 1,000 cans.

Please help me collect as many tennis ball cans as possible. Just save them and either drop them off at my office at the Calhoun County Fairgrounds, or give me a call. We'll work out a pick-up.

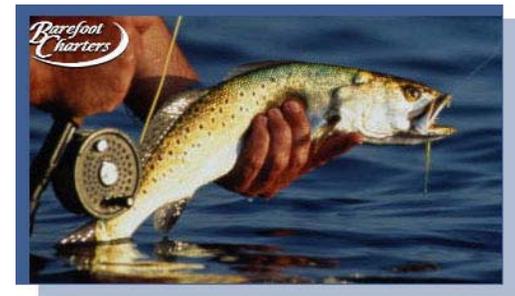


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Coastal & Marine Resource News

Calhoun County
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HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



TROUT CLOUT

Spotted seatrout, speckled trout, specks or simply trout by any other name are the most celebrated member of the Texas inshore fishing fraternity. The number-one species landed by inshore anglers coast wide, about one million spotted seatrout are brought home each year. The species contributes significantly to the state's \$1.3 billion recreational marine fishing industry. Today, any angler, on any given day, fishing anywhere on the coast, has the potential to catch a trophy spotted seatrout.
(By Art Morris)

GOLDEN FRIED SHRIMP

1½ lbs. raw, shell-on shrimp
26-30 count
½ cup crushed saltine crackers
¼ cup flour
2 beaten eggs
1 teaspoon salt
Canola oil for frying

Butterfly shrimp and wash under cold running water. Combine eggs and salt in a shallow bowl. Combine flour and cracker crumbs in a flat pan. Dip each shrimp in egg mixture, and then roll in cracker mixture. Repeat procedure. Fry at 365 degrees for 2 to 3 minutes or until golden brown. Drain on absorbent paper.

Makes 4 to 6 servings.

W.H.E.P.

The 2009 State Contest for the 4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program (WHEP) will be held on April 4, 2009 at the Gus Engeling Wildlife Management Area in Anderson County just northwest of Palestine. This web link takes you to their homepage to gain directions and other information regarding the facility; http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/hunt/wma/find_a_wma/list/?id=10.

This area is located in the Southeast Mixed and Outer Coastal Plains Forests

ecoregion of the WHEP Manual. Your teams at this contest will be responsible for information from this and the urban ecoregions.

If you are interested in forming a team or becoming a coach, please give me a call. Contest registration is made by the local coach through the 4-H Connect online system; <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/4hconnect/index.html>. Contact Ruth McCraw in the Extension office with any questions regarding setting up that system. Registration payment is made online as well.

ADOPT-A-BEACH

It's never too early to start thinking about the semi-annual beach cleanups sponsored in part by the Texas General Land Office (GLO). For many years volunteers have donated their time one Saturday morning in April and another one in September. Usually, Kingfisher beach in Port O'Connor and Magnolia Beach get this extra attention as trash is gathered to improve our Calhoun County Beaches. **Mark your calendars for April 25th.** Details will follow.

Also, it has been suggested that we clean the bay front in Port Lavaca. Some of that area is hard to reach from land, so I am thinking about having a kayak cleanup. We can get some seasoned paddlers to help from the water-side as other help man the shore-side. Details will follow on this as well.

LOW POWER RADIO

If you have not already heard, volunteers are currently writing our first script to be broadcasted from a low power radio (LPR) station out near Indianola. LPR is not subject to FCC regulations and at best will transmit up to two miles on the AM band. We want to teach people about the rich local history, wildlife, flora, fauna, wetland ecology, beach safety, etc. If you are interested in helping out, give me a call. We can always use more writers, editors, proof-readers, subject matter experts, radio voices, etc. We plan on be operational before summer but that is only the beginning.

QUESTIONS?

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via e-mail, contact me and we will add you to our e-mail list. Or if you know of someone who would like to receive this newsletter, my e-mail address is rdcummins@ag.tamu.edu

THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE ONLINE @
<http://calhoun-tx.tamu.edu>

Extension Programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.