



Walker County Agriculture News Update

November 2017

Greetings from the Walker
County, Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension office!

Hello,

Last month I had mentioned in one of my mailings, the need to RSVP for our educational events. If you are interested in attending educational programs, please RSVP. Due to the travel expenses incurred by our class instructors, we may cancel certain planned events if a class does not have enough participation indicated prior to the event.

Just this month we did cancel a class for this reason. The very painful part of this story is that four additional individuals arrived at our office for the evening class who had not RSVP'd – We could have easily justified holding that educational event had we known the four others were going to join us.

I absolutely do not like cancelling planned events. This was the fourth time during my years here in Walker County where I have “pulled the plug” on an event for reasons other than weather conditions. My past record of planning (multiple) bull testing workshops for days later to become ice storms is a known factor. The topic of cancelling events is not something I take lightly. The reason this subject was even mentioned last month is that we have been seeing a trend of hit or miss response prior to events. I would like to ask you to help me fix that situation because I don't want to lose ANY opportunity to bring excellent educational topics and resource people to Walker County.

We want to see you!

There are two upcoming (VERY) outstanding local area educational events on the calendar which will provide CEU credit for TDA Pesticide Applicators – don't miss them!

Upcoming events:

2nd Annual Town & Country CEU Recertification Seminar (5 TDA or SPCB CEU's)

Thursday, December 14th, 2017

7:30-8:15 AM Registration

Program Site: Montgomery County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office (9020 Airport Rd, Conroe)

\$50.00 /person before 12/4/17, After 12/4/17 \$70.00 /person

Registration form is enclosed in this newsletter. Please fill it out and mail with payment to the Walker County AgriLife Extension office.

Here is the BEST opportunity for either TDA (Texas Department of Agriculture) or SPCB (Structural Pest Control Board) recertification continuing education units!

TDA: 1 IPM, 2 L&R, 2 Gen

SPCB: 1 Weed, 1 Pest, 1 IPM, 1 L&R, 1 L&O

Topics included in this educational event covers landscape tree management, ants impacting our lives, aquatic weed control techniques, pesticide licensee update on regulations, and pesticide labels and calibration.

Interested participants must complete the enclosed registration form and mail or deliver back to the Walker County AgriLife Extension office. This program is a cooperative event with multiple counties in the Southeast Texas area. The on-site presentations which Walker County is participating in will occur at the Montgomery County Extension office. *Please see registration form below:*

(Please Cut Along Perforation)

(ATTENTION: 1 REGISTRATION FORM PER PARTICIPANT: COPY IF NECESSARY)

Registration Form

T.D.A. License #: _____ S.P.C.B. License # _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Company, School or Organization _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(\$50/participant before Dec. 4; \$70/participant after Dec. 4) Check# _____ Purchase

Order# _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Mail to: Walker County Extension Office; 102 Tam Road, TX 77320

(Make check payable to *Livestock & Pasture Committee*)

****Registration form will serve as invoice. No invoices will be mailed.***

Walker County Annual CEU Recertification Conference (6 TDA, CEU's)

Friday, January 12th, 2018

(7:00-7:50 AM) Registration to approx. 3:00 PM

Program Site: Walker County Storm Shelter (455 SH75 N, Huntsville, TX)

\$40.00/participant with lunch, \$30.00/participant without lunch

RSVP by 01/10/18 to (936) 291-1901 ex 3502

We have another great CEU recertification coming up in January!

Protection of Groundwater & Surface Water Resources

Dr. Diane Boellstorff, Associate Professor & Extension Water Resources Specialist

Identification & Control options for Common Weeds & Brush (+) Product & Research Updates

Dr. Scott Nolte, Assistant Professor & Extension State Weed Specialist

Calibration of Spray Equipment

Dr. Mark Matocha, Assistant Professor & Extension Specialist

Pesticide Laws & Regulations Update

Dr. Don Renchie, Extension Program Leader for Agricultural & Environmental Safety

Modification & Environmental Impacts Utilizing Management Tools: Fire, Mechanical, Chemical

Dr. Barron Rector, Associate Professor and Extension Range Specialist

This CEU Conference has been approved by TDA for 1 Hr. L&R, 2 Hr. IPM, and 3 Hr. General credit. SIX HOURS recertification credit in one day!

We are cooperating with the Walker County Soil & Water Conservation District once again for this annual CEU event. There will be a silent auction held on site this year -something new! Proceeds from the silent auction will be utilized supporting the district's scholarship fund. Bring your checkbook!! You may just find something you really need to take home with you, while helping the youth of our county at the same time.

1st Friday Webinars (Monthly Horticulture Topics)

Walker County, Texas AgriLife Extension Office

12 Noon – 1:00 PM

(FREE – RSVP is required 936-435-2426)

We are still offering these sessions! The presentations have been full of outstanding information. If you wish to watch the webinar on your own computer at home or elsewhere, you do have that option. All you must do is go online to <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/smallacreage/> and click on the link for that date, then enter the password which is: online

Interested in some additional horticulture topic trainings? If so, here is the answer! These webinars will be shown at the Walker County AgriLife Extension office. Trainings will be held the first Friday of the month. If you wish to attend, RSVP to (936) 435-2426. RSVP is requested for those attending here on-site so that we may contact you in the event of any changes.

I am providing this set of diverse presentations as continuing education credit for our Walker County Master Gardeners; however, anyone is invited to attend. Bring your lunch with you! The remaining 2017 schedule is:

- December 1 – Hugelkultur

If you haven't heard of Hugelkultur, you need to look it up! This is a very interesting topic that many of us gardeners in the eastern portion of Texas just may be able to be successful with. Join us for this last webinar of 2017 and don't forget to bring your lunch!

Online Educational Topics:

2017 Texas Range Webinar Series

12:00 PM (Recommended: check each webinar prior to day to confirm starting time)

No Cost for non-CEU recipients/\$10.00 with CEU's

Enroll in Course: <http://naturalresourcewebinars.tamu.edu/upcoming/>

December 7 – Grazing with a purpose – Managing for what you WANT

Local Assistance Opportunity:

Testing of Flooded Water Wells (Round #2)

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is offering **free testing of private water wells affected by Hurricane Harvey**. If you have a well which was impacted by the hurricane, please read the information below. This testing is being offered in numerous counties.

I strongly encourage any owner of a storm flooded well to contact their County Extension office for information or to participate in that counties testing as available. Testing is limited to 1 sample per well owner.

If your well to be tested is from Walker County, our collection date to have samples returned to the Walker County, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office is **November 20th** as mentioned below. The well water samples need to be taken 24-30 hours from them being processed in College Station. This means that a Walker County sample **should be collected at the absolute earliest, late on the evening of November 19th or even better, the morning of November 20th and then delivered immediately** to the Walker County office. Samples must be delivered to the Walker County office by 8:00 to 11:00 AM, Monday, November 20th. We ask that you please keep your samples on ice.

Local Volunteer Opportunity:

This next item of mention is special to both myself and our Walker County Animal Issues Committee. During emergency incidents the Walker County CERT group assists the Office of Emergency Management with a wide variety of volunteer efforts. CERT volunteers have been on hand many, many times to provide needed support to my group of volunteers who work with the animals. We know that when a call is placed to the OEM-Operations Center that they will have somebody who will help us fill our supporting request. This group of individuals undertake a wide variety of supporting roles to assist local emergency management operations. If you are not familiar with the CERT organization, please take a moment to view this web page: <https://www.ready.gov/community-emergency-response-team>

2018 Walker County CERT Class (CERT: Community Emergency Response Team)

Classes to be held January 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, & 11th will meet 6:00 – 9:00 PM
***Class meeting on January 6th will meet 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

Required: *Individual personal desire to learn basic concepts of emergency management with interest in joining the Walker County CERT Team.

Course curriculum will be taught to instruct potential CERT Volunteers in various aspects of emergency management support activities (see web link above). Students will need to bring one large three-ring binder, personal note paper, pens & pencils. Clothing should be comfortable for the outdoor weather with appropriate shoes (no flip flops or short pants).

Interested individuals needing additional information, and those with questions are requested to contact Joe Connell at (936) 581-5565.

If you have questions or would like more information regarding Extension Educational Programs, call us at (936) 435-2426.



Reggie Lepley

Reggie Lepley,
County Extension Agent – Agriculture & Natural Resources
Walker County
(936) 435-2426

Provisions from the American Disability Act will be considered when planning educational programs and activities. Please notify the Walker County Extension Office if you plan on attending an Extension Educational program and need specialized services. Notification of at least three to five days in advance is needed, so that we may have ample time to acquire resources needed to meet your needs.

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

6 Hour CEU Pesticide Applicator Recertification Program

Registration 7:00-7:50 AM

7:55 AM

- **Welcome & Introductions**

Reggie Lepley, County Extension Agent-Agriculture, Walker County

8:00
AM

Protection of Groundwater & Surface Water Resources

Dr. Diane Boellstorff, Associate Professor & Extension Water Resources Specialist

9:00
AM

Identification & Control options for Common Weeds & Brush (+) Product & Research Updates

Dr. Scott Nolte, Assistant Professor & Extension State Weed Specialist

10:00
AM

Calibration of Spray Equipment

Dr. Mark Matocha, Assistant Professor & Extension Specialist

11:00
AM

Pesticide Laws & Regulations Update

Dr. Don Renchie, Extension Program Leader for Agricultural & Environmental Safety

- **Lunch (12:00 –1:00 PM)**

1:00 PM

Modification & Environmental Impacts Utilizing Management Tools: Fire, Mechanical, Chemical

Dr. Barron Rector, Associate Professor and Extension Range Specialist

2:55 PM

Questions, Program Wrap Up, Program Evaluation Completion & C.E.U. Certificate Distribution

3:00 PM (approx.) Adjourn

Provisions from the American Disability Act will be considered when planning educational programs and activities. Please notify the Walker County Extension Office if you plan on attending an Extension Educational program and need specialized services. Notification of at least two weeks in advance is needed, so that we may have ample time to acquire resources needed to meet your needs. Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE



WALKER COUNTY
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT # 453

January 12, 2018

(Friday)

Walker County

Storm Shelter

455 SH75 N –Huntsville, TX

Registration 7:00-7:50 AM

\$ 40.00 Registration Fee includes

Lunch

(\$30.00 without Lunch)

**RSVP by 01/10/2017 to
291-1901 ext 3502**

TDA CEU's:

1.0 hr L&R

2.0 hr IPM

3.0 hr GEN

0.0 hr Drift

Door Prizes!

&

Silent Auction!

**Proceeds from the Silent Auction
will support the Walker County
Soil & Water Conservation
District Scholarship fund.**