



Stacie Villarreal
County Extension Agent
Ag/Natural Resources
stacie.villarreal@ag.tamu.edu

Upcoming Dates

- ◆ Private Applicator Training Sept. 9, 2016
- ◆ Prospective Winegrower Workshop Sept. 16, 2016
- ◆ UAV Workshop, Sept. 16, 2016
- ◆ Post-Harvest Gathering Sept. 17, 2016
- ◆ 2016 Generation Next: Planning Land Use & Surveying Your Resources Sept. 19, 2016
- ◆ Beginning Farmer & Gardener Conference Sept. 22-23, 2016
- ◆ Bennett Trust Women's Conference Oct. 3-4, 2016
- ◆ 2016 Generation Next: Agricultural Apps for Smartphones & Tablets October 17, 2016
- ◆ Ranch University, Oct. 24-28, 2016
- ◆ Cow Calf Clinic Oct. 28, 2016
- ◆ Grape Camp Nov. 6-7, 2016
- ◆ 2016 Generation Next: Land Management Toolbox Nov. 21, 2016

Ag

Newsletter

September 2016

Fall Army Worms *by Allen Knutson, Extension Entomologist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension*

The fall armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda*, is a common pest of bermudagrass, sorghum, corn, wheat and rye grass and many other crops in north and central Texas. Larvae of fall armyworms are green, brown or black with white to yellowish lines running from head to tail. A distinct white line between the eyes forms an inverted "Y" pattern on the face. Four black spots aligned in a square on the top of the segment near the back end of the caterpillar are also characteristic of fall armyworm. Armyworms are very small (1/8 inch) at first, cause little plant damage and as a result infestations often go unnoticed. Larvae feed for 2-3 weeks and full grown larvae are about 1 to 1 1/2 inches long. Given their immense appetite, great numbers, and marching ability, fall armyworms can damage entire fields or pastures in a few days.



Once the armyworm larva completes feeding, it tunnels into the soil to a depth of about an inch and enters the pupal stage. The armyworm moth emerges from the pupa in about ten days and repeats the life cycle. The fall armyworm moth has a wingspan of about 1 1/2 inches.

The front pair of wings is dark gray with an irregular pattern of light and dark areas. Moths are active at night when they feed on nectar and deposit egg masses. A single female can deposit up to 2000 eggs and there are four to five generations per year. The fall armyworm apparently does not overwinter in north Texas, but survives the winter in south Texas. Populations increase in south Texas in early spring and successive generations move northward as the season progresses.

Management. Fall armyworm outbreaks in pastures and hay fields often occur following a rain which apparently creates favorable conditions for eggs and small larvae to survive in large numbers. Hay fields with a dense canopy and vigorous plant growth are often more susceptible to armyworm infestations than less intensely fertilized and managed fields. Irrigated fields are also susceptible to fall armyworm infestations, especially during drought conditions. Also monitor volunteer wheat and weedy grasses in ditches and around fields which may be a source of armyworms that can move into the adjacent crop.

Look for fall armyworm larvae feeding in the crop canopy during the late evening and early morning and during cool, cloudy weather. During hot days, look for armyworms low in the canopy or even on the soil surface where they hide under loose soil and fallen leaves. A sweep net is very effective for sampling hay fields for fall armyworms. When fields are wet with dew, armyworms can stick on rubber boots worn while walking through the field. Small larvae chew the green layer from the leaves and leave a clearing or "window pane" effect and later notch the edges of leaves.

The key to managing fall armyworms is frequent inspection of fields to detect fall armyworm infestations before they have caused economic damage. Once larvae are greater than 3/4 inch long, the quantity of foliage they eat increases dramatically. During their final 2-3 days of feeding, armyworms consume 80% of the total foliage consumed during their entire development.

If you are interested in the Wine Workshops, please contact Fran Pontasch, Extension Program Specialist Viticulture, Gulf Coast @ fmPontasch@tamu.edu



Master Gardeners News

Congratulations to recent Waller County Master Gardener award winners!

Waller County Master Gardener Association wins several awards for 2015 at the Texas Master Gardener Association state convention in

May. This was the first time Waller County participated in the awards and we were judged against other counties of similar sized Master Gardener Associations. Thanks to Helen Quinn, Historian, for creating and submitting the entries for us.



Waller County was recognized for its work on the Hempstead Gazebo Park gardens project with a 3rd place award. The 2015 Intern class spearheaded the project which included the design, procuring the plants (individuals and Hempstead Garden Club contributed) and installation. We received a 2nd place award for our educational booth at the Hempstead Watermelon Festival. Thanks to Nora Knowles, our 2015 chair for this activity, we greatly expanded the size of our booth and included handouts related to gardening topics as well as information about our Association and upcoming events. We are also proud of Mary Ann Drawl who received a 3rd place award for Outstanding Individual Master Gardener. Mary Ann has given countless hours to our Association and is well-deserving of this award.

Come see us at the Pattison Area Volunteer Fire Department's Peddler Days on Saturday, October 29. We'll have free gardening handouts, applications for our 2017 Training Program and you can pre-order Fruit and Nut Trees!

Early Blight Control in Tomatoes by: Joe Masabni Extension Vegetable



Survival and Dispersal

The fungus spends the winter in infected plant debris in or on the soil where it can survive at least one and perhaps several years. It can also be seed borne. New spores are produced the following season. The spores are transported by water, wind, insects, other animals including man, and machinery. Once the initial infections have occurred, they become the most important source of new spore production and are responsible for rapid disease spread.

Control

- 1) Use only clean seed saved from disease-free plants.
- 2) Remove and destroy crop residue at the end of the season. Where this is not practical, plow residue into the soil to promote breakdown by soil microorganisms and to physically remove the spore source from the soil surface.
- 3) Practice crop rotation to non-susceptible crops (3 yrs). Be sure to control volunteers and susceptible weeds.
- 4) Promote good air circulation by proper spacing of plants.
- 5) Orient rows in the direction of prevailing winds, avoid shaded areas, and avoid wind barriers.
- 6) Irrigate early in the day to promote rapid drying of foliage.
- 7) Healthy plants with adequate nutrition are less susceptible to the disease.
- 8) Minimize plant injury and the spread of spores by controlling insect feeding.
- 9) Hand picking diseased foliage may slow the rate of disease spread but should not be relied on for control. Do not work in a wet garden.
- 10) Use resistant or tolerant varieties.
- 11) The preventative fungicide chlorothalonil (Bravo) used on a seven to ten day schedule gives effective control.



Name that Plant? Alligator Weed

Description– Non-Native

Alligator weed is a perennial plant native to South America and often forms very dense stands or mats that make shoreline access difficult.

Aquatic stems are hollow and can be single or branched. **Leaves** are opposite, long, elliptical or lance-shaped up to 3/4 inch wide and 5 inches long with a prominent midrib.

Roots often develop at leaf nodes. Soft, whitish hairs are found in the leaf axis. **Flowers** are singular, small (about 1/2 inch in diameter), white, fragrant clusters of 6 to 10 florets, borne on long branches (to 3 inches). The flowers resemble

those of white clover. A single seed develops within the fruit.

This plant often forms mats in conjunction with Water-hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) and several species of *Ludwigia*. The mats can clog streams, canals, and ponds in coastal and eastern Texas.



Management Options

Mechanical/Physical Control Options
Alligator weed can be cut or grazed but is difficult to control physically because it will propagate from stem fragments or the roots.

For more management options visit: <http://aquaplant.tamu.edu/management-options/alligator-weed/>

Beef Loving Texans – TCB Update – Your Beef Check Off Dollars At Work!



Texas Beef Council Announces Launch of New Campaign - "BEEF Loving Texans" campaign aimed at elevating Texans' passion for beef.

The Texas Beef Council (TBC) is proud to announce the launch of BEEF Loving Texans - a consumer-driven campaign created to share unique recipes, stories, cooking and shopping tips, and expert nutrition information. The BEEF Loving Texans campaign celebrates the pride and values deeply rooted in Texans through family, community and

tradition.

BEEF Loving Texans aims to tell the story of the benefits of beef in a way that's meaningful to Texans and connecting shared Texan values, nostalgia, and pride to the passion Texans have for beef. Beginning July 1, the Texas Beef Council (TBC) will kick-off the advertising portion of the newly launched BEEF Loving Texans brand campaign. Advertising for the campaign will include digital, print, radio, billboards and television across Texas.

Television Ads - The BEEF Loving Texans television ad will be airing in Dallas, Houston and Austin for nine weeks beginning July 1 and will conclude September 5. Some of the cable networks airing the commercial include the Food Network, Fox News, Hallmark, VH1, TLC, Lifetime, TNT and ESPN. The television ad is expected to reach more than 2 million people with a frequency of approximately four times. [Watch - What Makes A Beef Loving Texan](#)

Radio - Radio ads will be featured on Pandora radio reaching more than 2.3 million Texans. [Hear us online!](#)

Billboards - Texans will also see BEEF Loving Texans ads on 153 billboards across the state with the expected reach of more than 2 million impressions. Looking for a billboard near you? [Download billboard locations.](#)

Texas Monthly - A two-page spread will also be featured in the July and September issues of Texas Monthly reaching 2.7 million readers.

Garden Helpers

Master Gardeners are asking if you enjoy gardening and would like to help others in their garden please let them know. Several individuals have approached them as they need younger labor to help with their gardening chores. Also in turn if you need help in your garden from time to time to let them know as well.

Help stray livestock get home

**Property
Gate Signs**

**\$12
each**

OWNER/AGENT: _____
**Waller County
Sheriff's Office 979-826-8282 #XXXX**

Unclaimed livestock strays will be held in the custody of Waller County Civil Division a minimum of 18 days and a Notice of the impoundment may be posted on the public notice board at the county courthouse, posted on the website, posted on Facebook or advertised in the local newspaper once per week, for two consecutive weeks and the animal will be held an additional 3 days at the conclusion of the advertisement. In an effort to expedite locating the owner(s) of stray livestock, the Waller County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office, through the Beef & Forage is offering pasture gate signs to assist law enforcement in identification of landowners and operators.

These signs are available to the residents of Waller County for \$12.00 each and are about 5"x20" in size. They can be attached to gates or fences where they are visible from the road. The signs are durable and individualized for each producer with an assessing number and a place for a phone number, Ranch name, or Owners Name.

Please call Waller County Extension Office at 979-826-7651 or visit the Extension office at 846 6th Street in Hempstead, TX for further information or to purchase yours today.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Waller County Office &
Beef & Forage Committee

846 6th Street
Hempstead, TX 77445

Phone: 979-826-7651 / Fax: 979-826-7654

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Cooperative Extension Program at Prairie View A&M University 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.

Generation Next

Our Turn to Ranch Webinars

Join us for a 12-Webinar Series Agricultural Business Start-Up School

- ✓ Gain ideas for operations you can add to an existing ranch
- ✓ Learn options for setting up grazing & wildlife leases
- ✓ Discuss business types, tax info, & insurance needs
- ✓ Exposure to all the latest land management tools & techniques
- ✓ Taught by professionals in each field and topic

**GENERATION
NEXT**
Our Turn to Ranch

*One Monday of every Month
during the noon hour
January-December 2016
Watch from your computer!*

Course Includes: 12 webinar classes of Expert Instruction and
a Generation Next School Completion Certificate

Registration Fee: \$120

To Register: <https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/GenNextWebinar>

Or call 979-845-2604

Contact: Megan.Clayton@ag.tamu.edu or 361.265.9203

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
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2016 Generation Next: Our Turn to Ranch

Webinar School – noon to 1 pm

January 11th (early because of MLK day)

- Setting up a New Agriculture Business

February 15th

- Understanding Business Taxes 101

March 21st

- Business Insurance Needs

April 18th

- How to set up Grazing and Wildlife Lease Agreements

May 16th

- Shaping Your Own Future Using Social Marketing

June 20th

- Ecotourism

July 18th

- Alternative Ranching Operations

August 15th

- Understanding Market Fluctuations

September 19th

- Planning Land Use and Surveying Your Resources

October 17th

- Agricultural Apps for Smartphones and Tablets

November 21st

- Land Management Toolbox

December 19th

- Targeted Wrap-Up Session



Private Applicators Licenses Training

Training-\$10

Books - \$40

Please RSVP to reserve your spot, space is limited. First come/RSVP, First served!

Please mail checks or bring money by before the event. Checks payable: to Extension Program Council

Nonrefundable

When: Friday, September 9, 2016 @

8:30-12:30 pm

Registration will begin at 8:00am

Where: Waller County Extension Office,

846 6th Street, Hempstead, TX 77445

Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Waller County and Texas Department of Agriculture are offering certification and recertification training for private applicators license. The purpose of this training is to obtain a Private Applicator License from Texas Department of Agriculture. This license will enable the applicator to purchase and apply state limited use and federally restricted chemicals on his land or land he has control of for the purpose of production of agricultural commodities. All farm and ranch operators who do not have a Private Applicator's License to purchase "restricted use" pesticides (such as 2, 4-D, Grazon P+D, Tordon 22K, etc.) will need to attend this training. There are two manuals that can be purchased for \$40 that are used in the class. Having these manuals in advance will help you become familiar with pesticide prior to attending the training.

If you are interested in obtaining a Private Applicator license, please contact the Waller County office at (979) 826-7651 to RSVP and to purchase the manuals.

**TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION**

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Waller County Office & Cooperative Extension Program

846 6th Street
Hempstead, TX 77445

Phone: 979-826-7651
Fax: 979-826-7654

<http://waller.agrilife.org>

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Cooperative Extension Program at Prairie View A&M University 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.

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Prospective Winegrower Workshop

September 16, 2016

Texas A&M Horticulture TREC

College Station, Texas

Agenda



8:30 – 8:45 Registration

8:45 – 9:00 Introduction



9:00 – 10:30 Vineyard Establishment

10:30 – 11:15 Break



11:15 – 12:00 Water, Soil, & Irrigation

12 – 1 LUNCH



1:00 – 1:30 Texas Wine Industry

1:30 – 2:30 Growing Grapes

2:30 – 2:45 Break

2:45 – 3:15 Limitations



3:15 – 4:00 Labor & Material Investments

Managing Natural Resources with UAVs:

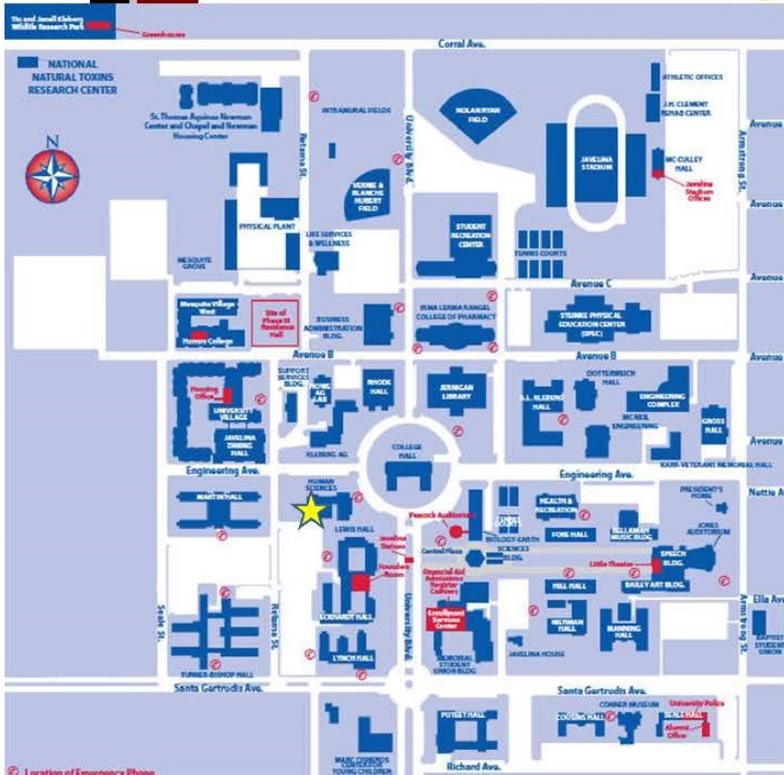
Present & Future Possibilities

September 16, 2016
TAMU—Kingsville
Human Sciences Room 125
1:00-5:30 pm

Learn what you could do with drones!

All are welcome to join us for an informal afternoon learning about possible uses for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in research

- ◆ What's being done with UAVs
- ◆ Equipment and Software
- ◆ South Texas Livestock, Wildlife, and Forage Project
- ◆ After the Flight: What to do with the data!?
- ◆ Rules for Flying



FREE! Pre-Register by Emailing
Dr. Randy Stanko
Randy.Stanko@tamuk.edu

Sponsored By:



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY KINGSVILLE
 COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES & HUMAN SCIENCES

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

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PECANS, PECANS, GET YOUR PECANS HERE!!!

**Family & Consumer Sciences Program Committee of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service,
Waller County office are taking orders for 2016 Pecan Crop**

Early Bird Prices

**Large Fancy Pecan Pieces
\$10.50 for 1 pound**

**Pecan Halves
\$11.50 for 1 pound**

After September 30, 2016

**Large Fancy Pecan Pieces
\$11.50 for 1 pound**

**Pecan Halves
\$12.50 for 1 pound**



**Great for Holiday Baking, wonderful
gifts, snacks,
salads and more.....**

Don't Miss Out!!!

**846 6th Street
Hempstead, Texas
Monday thru Friday
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**

***Orders must be placed in
person with payment at
time of order.***



**Funds raised support
educational program
supplies coordinated by the
Family & Consumer Sciences
committee.**

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The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION



Beginning Farmer and Gardener Conference

September 22-23, 2016

Overton Research and Extension Center
1710 FM 3053 N
Overton, TX 75684

Program Agenda

Day 1

8:00 AM	Registration Begins
8:30 AM	Welcome Soils, Dr. Leon Young Water, Dr. Monty Dozier Farm Loans, Mr. Charlie Rand
Noon	Lunch (Included) Business Planning, Dr. Blake Bennett Marketing, Panel Discussion Crop Production, Dr. Joe Masabni
4:15 PM	End of Day 1

Registration Information

Fee: \$60 for 2 days, \$40 for 1 day.
Registration Deadline September 20, 2016
Additional \$5 for late registration after
Cancellation policy: No refund

Make checks payable to:
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Mail to: Dr. Joe Masabni, P.O. Box 38,
Overton, TX 75684

Day 2

	<u>Organic Production</u>	<u>Conventional Production</u>
9:00AM	Diseases, Dr. Tom Isakeit Insects, Dr. Alan Knutson Weeds, Dr. Joe Masabni	Weeds, Dr. Joe Masabni Diseases, Dr. Tom Isakeit Insects, Dr. Alan Knutson
Noon	Lunch (Included) Pollinator Management, Mr. Terry McFall Community Gardens, Mr. Stephen Hudkins & Dallas Co. Master Gardeners	
3 PM	End of Day 2	

For more information, contact Dr. Joe Masabni at jmasabni@tamu.edu or 903.834.6191
Or your local County Extension Agent

A Free Extension Sponsored Health Fair

For Senior Citizens at the Waller County Fair

Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016 9:30 — 11 a.m.

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION



Cooperative Extension Program

Educational Exhibits

- Chronic Illness information
- BMI Tests, Nutrition and Fitness
- Controlling High Blood Pressure
- House of Help Information
- Emergency Preparedness/First Aid
- Home Health Care Services
- Senior Activities with AARP
- Public Transportation

If you are interested in volunteering at the Senior Health Fair and other family related activities Please contact the AgriLife Extension office, 979.826.7651

Free Screenings

- Blood Pressure
- Blood Sugar (Glucose)

Door Prizes for Health Fair are
Provided by the Health Fair Vendors

A Brunch and Entertainment
and additional Door Prizes are

Provided by the
Waller County Fair Association Directors
and
Sponsors.

Free Transportation:
Colorado Valley Transit
Call by **Monday, September 26th**
For Home Pick-up:
1-800-548-1068

Health Fair

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Family Consumer Science Program Advisory Committee issues special thanks to Top Ladies of Distinction, Prairie View Chapter for assisting with Health Fair registration.

A member of the Texas A&M University System and its statewide agriculture program, educational programs of 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.

For special auxiliary accommodations contact: Stacie Villarreal Waller County Extension Agent at 979.826.7651 by September 26, 2016

RANCH MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY

October 24-28, 2016

April and October

College Station, TX



For more information please contact: 979-862-8072

Matthew Brown: matthew.brown@tamu.edu

Larry Redmon, PhD: l-redmon@tamu.edu

TEXAS A&M
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EXTENSION

Ranch Management University

An intensive 4.5-day event for new or inexperienced ranchers and landowners.

Topics covered include:

- Soils and soil fertility
- Forage establishment
- Pasture management
- Livestock management
- Wildlife management
- Horse management
- Small ruminant production
- Pond fisheries management
- Field demonstrations

All meals (breakfast, lunch, and supper) and break materials are included in the registration fee. Attendees all receive a giant manual filled with all Power Point presentations and a resource CD with ~100 publications regarding all aspects of livestock production, wildlife management, soils and fertility, forages, weed management, and much, much more.



For more information, visit:

<http://forages.tamu.edu/workshop.html>

Check us out on Facebook!



SAVE THE DATE

45th South Central



Texas Cow-Calf Clinic

October 28, 2016

At the Washington County Fairgrounds in Brenham, TX.

For details or to get involved keep checking our
website at Washington.agrilife.org or

Welcoming
Display Bulls
& Heifers!!

Like us on Facebook:
[www.facebook.com/
washingtoncountyextension](http://www.facebook.com/washingtoncountyextension)



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PRAIRIE VIEW
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COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Cooperative Extension Program

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
Service
Waller County Office &
Cooperative Extension Program

846 6th Street
Hempstead, TX 77445

Phone: 979-826-7651
Fax: 979-826-7654

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Waller County
Extension Office

We're on the web
<http://waller.agrilife.org/>

Stacie Villarreal
County Extension Agent
Ag/Natural Resources
stacie.villarreal@ag.tamu.edu

Vacant
County Extension Agent
Family and Consumer Science
email

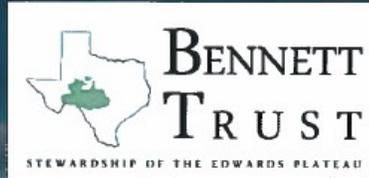
Te'Anna Reed
CEP Extension Agent
Family and Consumer Sciences
treed@ag.tamu.edu

Joshua Williams
CEP Extension Agent
4-H and Youth Development
joshua.williams@ag.tamu.edu

Vacant
CEP Extension Agent
Ag/Natural Resources

Dee Abrams
Office Manager
dabrams@ag.tamu.edu

Debbie Tiner
Assistant Office Manager
dgtiner@ag.tamu.edu

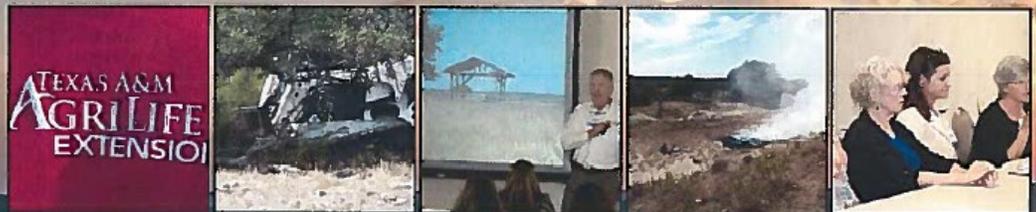


TEXAS A&M
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EXTENSION

Bennett Trust Women's Conference

October 3-4, 2016

Inn on Barons Creek
308 S. Washington St.
Fredericksburg, Texas 78624



Join us for an exclusive 2-day conference for women with property in the beautiful Edwards Plateau.

Conference

Conference includes presentations, discussions, and "behind the scenes" tour:

- History of the Hill Country
- Stewardship of Natural Resources
- 1-D-1 Land Tax Valuation
- Brush Management
- Financial Literacy/Estate Planning

Conference attendees receive all meals, break refreshment items and field tour transportation. Come and join us as we discover the history and resource management of a very special region of Texas—the Edwards Plateau.

For more information and to register, please visit:

BennettTrust.tamu.edu