



## Neighbor to Neighbor

[www.hillcountryalliance.org](http://www.hillcountryalliance.org)

The Mission of the Hill Country Alliance is to bring together an ever-expanding alliance of groups throughout a multi-county region of Central Texas with the long-term objective of preserving open spaces, water supply, water quality and the unique character of the Texas Hill Country.

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### Recent News

#### Hearing begins for hotly debated power line route

In a case that will help determine the final route of a proposed transmission line hooking up West Texas wind farms to the state's population centers, private landowners and the Lower Colorado River Authority will square off today before an administrative law judge. Read full Statesman.com article [here](#).

#### LCRA TSC hosts seven transmission project open houses in February to gather public input

LCRA Transmission Services Corporation (LCRA TSC) invites the public to attend open houses planned in February in Junction, Menard, Mason, Fredericksburg, Eldorado, Kerrville and Sonora concerning a new transmission line project expected to be built by 2013. The project may impact Schleicher, Sutton, Menard, Kimble, Mason, Kerr, Kendall and Gillespie counties. Read more [here](#).

#### Langford Selected for Inaugural Keystone Award for Lifetime Contributions to Land and Wildlife Conservation

David K. Langford is a steadfast conservationist, well-respected regionally and nationally. In recognition of his lifetime of service conserving our agricultural heritage and protecting native wildlife, wildlife habitat, and natural lands in Texas, Langford will receive the inaugural Keystone Award at a reception held at Becker Vineyards in Stonewall, Texas, from 5:00 to 7:00pm, Friday, February 26th. Read full release [here](#).

#### Envision Central Texas Community Stewardship Awards

Apply now for the ECT Community Stewardship Awards. Nominations are accepted through February 26th. ECT honors people, projects and processes that help advance the ECT preferred growth vision. Learn more [here](#).

#### Hill Country Energy Transmission Lines – the process continues

Gillespie County citizen's group, Save our Scenic Hill Country Environment recently posted updates regarding the push for monopoles, public meetings regarding routes, news stories and the PUC process. [Details](#)

#### Texas Water Development Board earns "Atta Boy"

Preserve Our Water commends the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for its decision regarding the protest of the Groundwater Management Area 9 Desired Future Condition (DFC) for the Edwards/Trinity aquifer component. Read full Preserve our Water release [here](#).

#### LCRA wants input for long range water supply planning

Now is the time to let LCRA know your ideas for managing the water in the Highland Lakes. Meetings will be held in Austin, Burnet and El Campo, you can also provide input in writing or take an online survey.

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### Upcoming Events

## February

February 6 in Austin - Get Growing & Keep Going Conference for Educators - a symposium that will provide teachers, administrators and parents with the tools to integrate gardens and nature areas into the school environment - [Details](#)

February 8 in New Braunfels - "Protecting What We Have While We Grow" - The League of Women Voters of Comal Area invites residents to a panel discussion of current land use decisions being made in Comal County and the City of New Braunfels - [Details](#)

February 13 in Cedar Creek - Saving from a Rainy Day - Learn how to harvest rainwater for indoor and outdoor use - Free event hosted by LCRA, McKinny Roughs Nature Park 9:00am to noon - [Details](#)

February 14-16 in San Antonio - New Ways of Looking at Water - The science, politics, law, history, poetry, music, art, spirituality, architecture, fashion, use, misuse, past, present, future, here, there and everywhere of water. - [Details](#)

February 15 in Junction - LCRA Transmission Line Open House - LCRA hosts the first of seven open houses scheduled throughout the Hill Country - [Details](#)

February 16 in Menard - LCRA Transmission Line Open House - LCRA hosts the second of seven open houses scheduled throughout the Hill Country - [Details](#)

February 17 in Mason - LCRA Transmission Line Open House - LCRA hosts the third of seven open houses scheduled throughout the Hill Country - [Details](#)

February 18 in Fredericksburg - LCRA Transmission Line Open House - LCRA hosts the fourth of seven open houses scheduled throughout the Hill Country - [Details](#)

February 22 in Eldorado - LCRA Transmission Line Open House - LCRA hosts the fifth of seven open houses scheduled throughout the Hill Country - [Details](#)

February 23 in Kerrville - LCRA Transmission Line Open House - LCRA hosts the sixth of seven open houses scheduled throughout the Hill Country - [Details](#)

February 23 in El Campo - Public discussion of LCRA's Water Supply Resource Plan - Let LCRA know your ideas for managing the water in the Highland Lakes. Meetings will be held in Austin, Burnet and El Campo, you can also provide input in writing or take an online survey. - [Details](#)

February 24 in Sonora - LCRA Transmission Line Open House - LCRA hosts the last of seven open houses scheduled throughout the Hill Country - [Details](#)

February 25 in Burnet - Public discussion of LCRA's Water Supply Resource Plan - Let LCRA know your ideas for managing the water in the Highland Lakes. Meetings will be held in Austin, Burnet and El Campo, you can also provide input in writing or take an online survey. - [Details](#)

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**February 26-27 in Fredericksburg - 7th Farm and Range Forum - "Sustaining the Hill Country - Now and for Future Generations" - [Details](#)**

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## March

March 5-6 in New Braunfels - Wealth of Wildlife - The 23rd Annual Spring conference of Holistic Management Texas - [Details](#)

March 8 in Austin - Public discussion of LCRA's Water Supply Resource Plan - Let LCRA know your ideas for managing the water in the Highland Lakes. Meetings will be held in Austin, Burnet and El Campo, you can also provide input in writing or take an online survey. - [Details](#)

March 12-13 in Kerrville - Texas Rainwater Catchment Association 2010 State Conference - [Details and Registration](#)

March 25 - Water Issue Symposium "Kids, Water and Science: Perspectives from Our Future" - [Details](#)

#### April

April 28-30 in Austin - 2010 Statewide Land Conservation Conference - [Details and Registration](#)

Check the **HCA Website** for continuous updates on all of the latest Hill Country [news](#) and [events](#)

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