

Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Partnership meeting slated for Oct. 11
Meeting will be first opportunity to access complete proposed protection plan

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SEGUIN — The Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority and Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board will hold a Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Partnership meeting Oct. 11.

The meeting is free and open to the public. It will be held at the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority's River Annex, 905 Nolan St. in Seguin.

Sign-in and refreshments will be at 5:30 p.m., with proceedings to begin at 6 p.m.

“Thanks to the Partnership’s participation and the involvement of area residents and other stakeholders, we are now in the final stages of completing a watershed protection plan for these two important water sources,” said Ward Ling, AgriLife Extension program specialist.

Ling said the final three chapters of the plan have been drafted, and the Oct. 11 meeting will be the first opportunity for stakeholders to discuss the entire plan. There will be many opportunities to comment on the draft WPP before it will be finalized.

Partnership and public involvement are leading to developing a “comprehensive, sustainable, voluntary and locally-driven watershed protection plan,” he said. “We need to allow stakeholders the opportunity to comment on the plan so we can ensure that it accurately reflects their ideas and vision for improving and protecting water quality in the creeks. Once this is accomplished, we will move forward with its implementation.”

Ling said a draft of the watershed protection plan, as well as meeting information can be found at <http://geronimocreek.org>.

The partnership is considering a mini-tour of the watershed area in lieu of a meeting in November, he added.

Geronimo Creek and its tributary, Alligator Creek, which flow through Comal and Guadalupe counties, were identified for watershed protection plan development due to concerns about high levels of nitrogen and elevated levels of bacteria, as reported in the Texas Water Quality Inventory published by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

“As development and population growth in the region surrounding Geronimo and Alligator creeks continues, and urban land use increases, the need for improved water quality is also increasing,” said Debbie Magin, director of water quality services at the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority.

A Clean Water Act nonpoint source grant was provided to the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to facilitate the development of this watershed protection plan.

Other key area partners supporting watershed protection efforts include Comal and Guadalupe counties, the cities of Seguin and New Braunfels, New Braunfels Utilities and the Comal-Guadalupe Soil and Water Conservation District.

For more information on the meeting, contact Ling at 979-845-6980 or wling@ag.tamu.edu or Magin at 830-379-5822 or dmagin@gbra.org.