



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Partnerships to Keep Our River Healthy

If you have driven past 125 Lehmann Drive in Kerrville during the past year, you probably noticed that the grounds around the Guadalupe Basin Natural Resources Center have undergone a transformation. In 2018, the Upper Guadalupe River Authority completed the UGRA EduScape which is an educational landscape that wraps around the building. Visitors can stroll along the landscape path to view numerous examples of practices that conserve water and protect the Guadalupe River through stormwater management. Interpretive signs enhance understanding of the landscape elements, as well.



Front row pictured l to r: Harley Belew, Kerr Co. Commissioner, Pct. 1; Jonathan Letz, Kerr Co. Commissioner, Pct. 3; Diane McMahon, UGRA Board Secretary; Blake Smith, UGRA Board Vice President; Bonnie Dietrich, Kerr Co. Maintenance; Don Harris, Kerr Co. Commissioner, Pct. 4; Shane Evans, Kerr Co. Maintenance Supervisor. Back row: Mike Grinstead, Kerr Co. Maintenance.

An additional feature is being added to the EduScape through a partnership with Kerr County. A rain garden and dry creek bed will be constructed along the parking lot to capture additional runoff in an effort to keep stormwater from flowing off the site and reaching the Guadalupe River. Kerr County staff lent their expertise and equipment to excavate a trench along the parking lot as the first step in the construction of the rain garden. “Our joint cooperation on this water conservation project is another example of the excellent working relationship between Kerr County and UGRA,” said Jonathan Letz, Kerr County Commissioner, Precinct 3.

The next steps in the construction of the rain garden will be completed by Travis Pflughaupt of Beyond Irrigation and the feature will be

highlighted during UGRA’s upcoming seminar, “Landscaping to Keep Our River Healthy.” UGRA along with Kerr County, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Hill Country Master Gardeners, Beyond Irrigation, Medina Garden Nursery, and Hill Country Master Naturalists are hosting this educational event on Thursday, September 12, 2019 from 8:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. This seminar is free of charge and includes lunch. We will discuss strategies and incentives to use landscaping to conserve water and control stormwater runoff to protect our waterways. We encourage both professionals and homeowners to attend. For more information and to register, visit www.ugra.org.

Let’s Keep Our River Clean