

IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Wimberley Eco-Fest October 16 **“Living Greener Together”**

WIMBERLEY —

Wimberley Eco Fest 2010: Living Greener Together is Saturday, October 16, sponsored by Citizens Alliance for Responsible Development (CARD). Eco Fest 2010 offers a free day of entertainment and ideas, with seminars, booths and activities that will just about fill Katherine Anne Porter School, located at 515 Farm Market 2325, right next to Market Days in the heart of Wimberley. The seven-hour event, from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm, features experts giving talks and answering your questions on subjects chosen to offer help to Hays County residents eager to make practical, cost efficient and environmentally sound decisions about their property. There will also be mini-seminars put on by the Hays County Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists, plus environmental minded booths from businesses and groups, and much more.

“We wanted to create an event that offered free, practical, every day advice for all residents of Western Hays County, advice that would also benefit the land and environment, now and in the future,” says CARD organizer Jim McMeans. “Our group was established to oppose some of the unsound development practices that have been hurting all area residents and which threaten to destroy the very nature of this special place we love. We feel it is just as important for us to promote good practices as to oppose bad ones, and Eco Fest is one way to do that.”

Eco Fest 2010 will feature a 90-minute discussion and seminar beginning at 3 pm: “The Texas Growth Triangle Megaregion—Its Challenges to Lifestyle in Western Hays County,” with Kent Butler, associate dean of the University of Texas at Austin’s Center for Sustainable Development, Hays County Judge Liz Sumter and Wimberley Mayor Bob Flocke.

In addition, one or more speakers will be featured each hour. Morning sessions include: “Central Texas Home Design – A Sustainable Approach,” with Rick Burleson of Burleson Design Group; “Rainwater Collection” with Texas Agri-Life water resource specialist Billy Kniffen; “Selecting and Caring for Hill Country Trees” with Jim Carse of the Texas Forest Service; and “Native Landscaping” with Sheryl McLaughlin, host of KLBJ’s “The Austin Gardener” show.

Afternoon sessions include “Cypress Creek – Wimberley Valley’s Magic Waterway” with David Baker, executive director of the Wimberley Valley Watershed Association; “Zero Energy Homes - New and Refitting” with Lloyd Lee of Hill Country Ecobuilders; “Texas Water, Past, Present and Future” with Andrew Sansom, executive director of Texas State University’s River Systems Institute; and “Sensible Cedar Management” with Permaculture Designer and author Elizabeth McGreevy.

Eco Fest offers free parking and free admission. The Katherine Anne Porter School (KAPS) will offer food and beverages for sale, so you can stick around for as many talks as possible. Booth space is still available for appropriate displays: contact Matt Heineman, 512-944-4323 or email love4water@gmail.com.

For more information, visit the CARD web site at www.hayscard.org.

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