

Contact:

Christy Muse, Executive Director
Hill Country Alliance
christy@hillcountryalliance.org
512.560.3135

For Immediate Release

Texas Water Symposium at Schreiner April 12: A Close Look at Hydraulic Fracturing or “Fracking”

Austin, TX (April 4, 2012) – The next Texas Water Symposium will be at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 12, in the Floyd & Kathleen Cailloux Campus Activity Center on the Schreiner University campus.

If nothing else, the record 2011 drought has underlined the importance of water and water use issues for Texas. The Texas Water Symposium, co-sponsored by Schreiner University, Texas Tech University, Texas Public Radio and the Hill Country Alliance, has been addressing these issues for five years now through panels of experts and community involvement.

The topic for the April symposium will be “Fracking and the Energy/Water Nexus: A look at every aspect and every question surrounding this timely issue.” Fracking—or hydraulic fracturing—is a way of releasing oil and natural gas by using a highly pressurized liquid to fracture surrounding rock layers. Fracking creates new channels in the rock, making the extraction of fossil fuels easier. Questions exist about the effects of this process on our water supply.

The panelists for this symposium will include Cyrus Reed, conservation director of the Lone Star Chapter of The Sierra Club in Austin; Leslie Savage, chief geologist for the Railroad Commission of Texas Oil and Gas Division; and Ken Rainwater, director of the Water Resources Center at Texas Tech University-Lubbock. Dr. Tim Summerlin, president of Schreiner University will moderate.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information about this series, visit the Schreiner website at www.schreiner.edu/water.

The annual Texas Water Symposium series is co-sponsored by Schreiner University in Kerrville, Texas Tech University, Texas Public Radio and the Hill Country Alliance. These events are free and open to the public. All of the water forums are taped and aired on Texas Public Radio.

For more information about the series check the Web at www.schreiner.edu/water or contact Dr. Tom Arsuffi at 325-446-2301 tom.arsuffi@ttu.edu.

The Hill Country Alliance (HCA) is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to raise public awareness and build community support around the need to preserve the natural resources and heritage of the Central Texas Hill Country. Please visit the HCA website, www.hillcountryalliance.org, for more information about the latest news, events and initiatives, and how you can contribute to our activities.

###