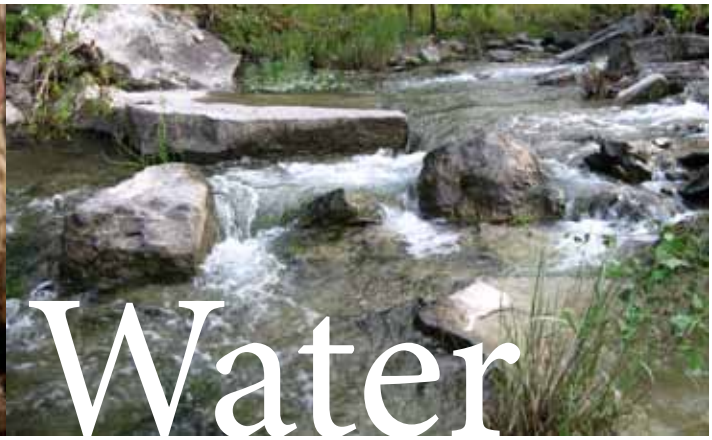

Soil for Water

A new initiative aimed at catching and holding more rainwater in the soil.

Healthy soil, rich in organic matter, acts like a living sponge: holding tens of thousands of gallons of water per acre and slowly releasing it to plants, springs, rivers, and aquifers.

Increasing soil health makes working lands more resilient during drought. And when heavy rainfall occurs, more water can infiltrate before running off into our creeks and rivers.

Recent discoveries in soil science have given landowners new ways of increasing water infiltration, storing carbon in soil, improving soil health, and restoring dead soils to life.

When it is properly planned, livestock grazing can be a powerful tool for accelerating soil restoration in the Hill Country. There are other tools too.

Come learn how to improve the condition of your land, store more water on-site, increase biodiversity and productivity, and reduce the effects of drought and flooding. Improvements can often be seen in months or years, not millennia.

Three FREE Soil Talks in the fall of 2016 will teach practical management techniques:

- *Improve the soil on your land.*
- *Increase the water-holding capacity of your soil.*
- *Recognize key indicators for healthy landscapes.*
- *Use livestock as a regenerative management tool.*

See back of page for details.

For more information visit

soilforwater.org

Or email

soilforwater@ncat.org

NCAT NATIONAL CENTER FOR APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY

hill country alliance

Dixon Water Foundation

The Meadows Foundation

Soil for Water is a project of NCAT in collaboration with the Hill Country Alliance.
Supported by Dixon Water Foundation and the Meadows Foundation.

Featured Trainers

Peggy Sechrist

Our Hill Country project coordinator, Peggy and her husband Richard live in the Pedernales River basin. They have been raising grass-fed beef for over twenty years. Peggy has been a Certified Educator in the field of Holistic Management® for over 20 years.

Steve Nelle

A Natural Resource Specialist and Wildlife Biologist, Steve worked for NRCS for 27 years out of their San Angelo office. His specialties include range plant ecology, grazing management, ranch planning, wildlife habitat, deer herd management, plant identification, riparian management, and watershed management.

Richard Teague, Ph.D.

Range Ecologist, Professor, and Associate Resident Director with Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Richard's work focuses on the effect of management actions on rangeland hydrology, soil carbon and nitrogen, plant productivity, livestock productivity, and economics. He recently completed a research project on nine ranches across three Texas counties to study rangeland function under different management methods.

Tim Steffens, Ph.D.

An Assistant Professor and AgriLife Extension Specialist in Rangeland Resource Management, Tim has worked many years with producers on grazing management, prescribed fire, and livestock nutrition. A native Texan, he is currently focusing on managing ecological succession using targeted grazing management to improve soil quality.

For more information visit soilforwater.org.

Or email us at soilforwater@ncat.org

2016 Soil Talk Series

All talks are free and open to the public but space is limited. RSVP to soilforwater@ncat.org at least a week before each workshop to receive a free boxed lunch. Vegan and gluten-free choices available.

September 30: Ecosystem Function

Peggy Sechrist, Steve Nelle & Dr. Richard Teague

9 a.m.– 5 p.m.

Morning at the Wimberley Community Center
14068 Ranch Road 12, Wimberley, TX

Afternoon spent walking pastures to learn to read the land.

RSVP by September 23 for a free boxed lunch.

October 22: Ecosystem Monitoring

Peggy Sechrist, Steve Nelle & Dr. Richard Teague

9 a.m.– 5 p.m.

Morning at the Wimberley Community Center
14068 Ranch Road 12, Wimberley, TX

Afternoon includes practice monitoring on the land.

RSVP by October 14 for a free boxed lunch.

November 4: Plan Your Grazing

Peggy Sechrist & Dr. Tim Steffens

9 a.m.– 5 p.m.

Ryan Ranch Pavillion
473 Starlit Circle

Located between Blanco and Luckenbach on RR 1888.

Directions provided when you RSVP.

Some time will be spent out on the ranch discussing planned grazing practices.

RSVP by October 28 for a free boxed lunch.

PLEASE NOTE:
Some portion of each workshop will be spent outside walking. Please dress appropriately for your own comfort.