

2025 HILL COUNTRY LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Rooted in Resilience

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 • CAMP LUCY • DRIPPING SPRINGS, TEXAS



8:00-8:45	Breakfast and Networking
8:45-9:00	Welcome and Opening Remarks
9:00-9:30	The Challenges of Hill Country Climate John Nielsen-Gammon, Texas A&M University
9:30-10:15	Our Regional Future: A Conversation with Local Leaders Moderator: Councilmember Emily Kirchner, City of Fredericksburg Panelists: Judge Bella Rubio, Real County Commissioner Damon Beierle, Burnet County Drew Paxton, City of Kerrville
10:15-10:45	NETWORKING BREAK
10:45-11:50	KEYNOTE: Leading in an Era of Upheaval Angela Blanchard
11:50-1:00	HCA Video Launch + LUNCH
1:00-1:30	Heart of the Hill Country
1:30-2:15	Water-wise Development in the Hill Country Moderator: Chandler Crouch, Texas Water Trade Panelists: H.E. "Skip" Preble, Land Analytics Carlotta McLean, Peregrine Land Investments Cameron Campbell, Campbell Landscape Architecture, Inc
2:15-2:30	NETWORKING BREAK
2:30-3:15	Land Stewardship Lessons for Droughts and Floods Moderator: Ryan McGillicuddy, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Panelists: Shelby Taber, Upper Guadalupe River Authority Daniel Oppenheimer, Hill Country Alliance Joan Bryant, San Antonio River Authority
3:15-3:45	From Sacred Mountains to Space Telescopes: Navigating Two Worlds of Astronomy Cody Cly, University of Texas - San Antonio
3:45-3:55	Reflections on Water in the 2025 Legislative Session Sarah Schlessinger, Texas Water Foundation
3:55-4:15	Lightning Round: The Ties That Bind – 5 minutes each <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Protecting Texas Treasures from Harmful Quarrying</i> – Fermin Ortiz, Save Burnet• <i>Local Impacts from the First Night Sky Preservation Fund</i> – Martha Noell, Lampasas County Friends of the Night Sky• <i>In the Path of Development: Planting Seeds for the Future</i> – Ashley Landry, Native Plant Rescue Project
4:15-4:30	HCA Closer – 20 years of HCA
4:30-6:30	Happy Hour