

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**HILL COUNTRY WORKSHOP PROVIDES LANDOWNERS WITH INFORMATION ON CONSERVATION EASEMENTS**

**Kerrville, Texas** - The Hill Country Alliance (HCA) is hosting a landowner workshop from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, February 10, 2017, at the Kerr Wildlife Management Area, Bass Conference Facility, 138 Kerr WMA Rd W, Hunt, TX 78024. This workshop will focus on conservation easements—a tool available to help landowners steward and protect their land investment in the long term.

Conservation easements are one of the most flexible and effective means to protect private property. A conservation easement is a voluntary legal agreement that ensures a property will forever be conserved according to the landowner's wishes. This agreement is negotiated between the landowner and the land trust organization which is responsible for monitoring and enforcing the terms of the conservation easement agreement.

Many landowners are concerned about conserving those special natural features on their family-owned property and maintaining the productivity of their land. Landowners face the challenge of increasing tax burdens associated with land ownership, including the potential impact of estate taxes on their heirs. This seminar is designed to provide farmers, ranchers and other landowners with effective tools and resources to help them deal with the issues inherent in passing family land on to future generations.

Workshop topics include: *Land Stewardship, The Consequences of Land Fragmentation, Conservation Easement Basics and Income and Estate Tax Benefits of Donating a Conservation Easement; The Land Trusts Role in the Conservation Easement Process, and Discussion with Conservation Easement Donors.*

The workshop cost is \$20 per person which includes refreshments. Walk-ins are welcome and pre-registration is advised to ensure your seat. Register and find the full program agenda online at <http://www.hillcountryalliance.org/upcomingevents/>

The Hill Country Alliance is hosting the workshop in conjunction with Bowman Consulting and Stowers Ranch. Co-sponsors are the Hill Country Land Trust, the Nature Conservancy of Texas, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Guadalupe Blanco River Trust.

More information is available by contacting the workshop coordinator Carolyn Vogel at [carolyn@texasconservationconnection.com](mailto:carolyn@texasconservationconnection.com) or 512.633.4995

*The Hill Country Alliance is a nonprofit 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. Visit us at [www.hillcountryalliance.org](http://www.hillcountryalliance.org).*

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### **Guadalupe Sunset -- Photo by Todd Winters**

