

Conservation Matters is published by the [Texas Water Resources Institute](#) and the [Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute](#).

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### **New administration signals changes for toxic “forever chemicals” in drinking water**

With a new presidential administration, regulations may be coming for PFAS, potentially carcinogenic chemicals that have seeped into drinking water across the country. [Read more.](#)



### **Financial, ecological benefits of conservation easements on working lands**

A recent report by the Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute, Texas Water Resources Institute and Texas Land Trust Council shows state-funded conservation easements in Texas provide numerous financial and ecological benefits. [Read more.](#)



### The sinking situation of subsidence

The unique nature of the ground under Houston and the Gulf Coast, plus the area's long history of groundwater pumping, create the perfect storm for sinking cities. [Read more.](#)



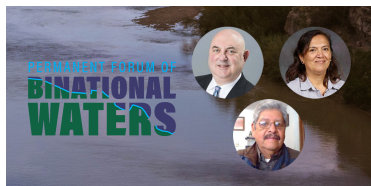
### Prescribed burning protects Texans and benefits wildlife

Naturally, fire is an intimidating and powerful force and is often portrayed in a negative and harmful way. We also know that without fire and prescribed burns, many ecosystem services are suppressed or even completely removed from the environment. This poses a question: Is fire always bad? [Read more.](#)

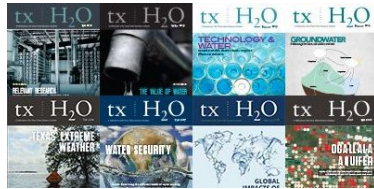


### Climate and weather impacts for 2021

Texas state climatologist John Nielsen-Gammon gives TWRI an outlook on possible climate and weather conditions for 2021. [Read more.](#)







txH<sub>2</sub>O highlight: On the border

[Read more.](#)



Searching for rare and secretive snakes: are camera-trap and box-trap methods interchangeable?

[Read more.](#)

## Events

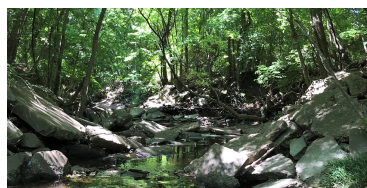
*Previously listed events may be **canceled** or **postponed** to comply with Texas A&M University and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) directives designed to protect public health.*



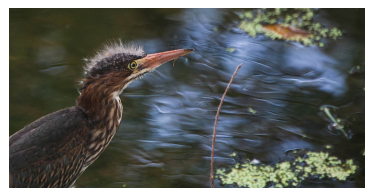
[Coffee Break: Exploring the Rio Conchos: Life and Binational Collaboration,](#)  
January 21, Online



[Sandy Creek and Wolf Creek I-Plan Coordination Committee Meeting,](#)  
February 8, Online



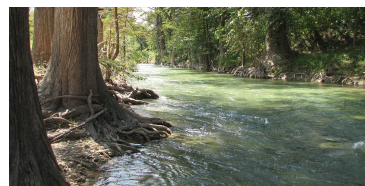
[I-Plan Online Meeting for Middle Neches Watershed,](#)  
February 19, Online



[Texas Chapter of the Wildlife Society Annual Meeting,](#)  
February 24, Online



[Conservation Wrangler Summit and Celebration Dinner,](#)  
April 20, Dallas



[Texas Watershed Planning Short Course,](#)  
April 26-29, Bandera

### University land, water & wildlife news we are reading

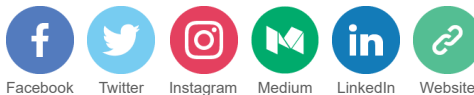
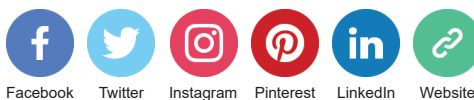
- [Rising Sea Levels Drown Coastal Marshes, Wetlands,](#) Texas A&M Today
- [Desalination Breakthrough Could Lead to Cheaper Water Filtration,](#) UT News
- [Researchers To Examine Risk Of Flood-Induced Chemical Spills At Coastal Facilities,](#) Texas A&M Today

• [Fractured Bedrock in Forests is Overlooked Source of Natural CO<sub>2</sub>](#), UT Geosciences

- [Report: Conservation Easements Yield Financial, Ecological Benefits](#), Texas A&M Today
- [Researcher Develops Formulas To Predict Coastal Sediment Movement](#), Texas A&M Today
- [New living lab to teach local community about aquifer water quality](#), UTSA Today

### Resources

- [Texas Water Journal](#)
- [Texas+Water](#)
- [Wild Wonderings](#)
- [txH<sub>2</sub>O](#)
- [Texas Land Trends](#)
- [Natural Resources Training Program Updates](#)
- [Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service](#)
- [Texas A&M AgriLife Research](#)



TWRI and NRI work together to foster and communicate research and educational outreach programs focused on water and natural resources science and management issues in Texas and beyond. TWRI and NRI are part of [Texas A&M AgriLife Research](#), the [Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service](#) and the [College of Agriculture and Life Sciences](#) at Texas A&M University.

Conservation Matters publishes timely information about water and natural resources news and research at universities and organizations in Texas. If you have information for possible inclusion in Conservation Matters, please contact Kerry Halladay at [kerry.halladay@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:kerry.halladay@ag.tamu.edu). All submissions may be edited for grammar and style.

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