

TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE

Texas A&M
AgriLife Extension Service,
Walker County

Visit us on Facebook at:
WalkerCo TxAgrilife

Or on the web at:
<http://walker.agrilife.org>



Agricultural Education Events & News

(*May/June* Edition 2013)

Don't miss out on these educational programs!

Pond & Aquatic Resources Management Program

Event Date: May 23, 2013

Location: Walker County AgriLife Extension Office (Huntsville, TX)

Time: 6:30 PM

\$10.00 Registration Fee

What kind of shape are your farm impoundments in? The past two summers have been hard on most ponds and lakes in East Texas. Although a number have refilled during 2012 and 2013, there are still quite a few that are in need of a little extra help; as well as, restocking. If you are in this situation, here is a chance to receive valuable recommendations and tips for getting your farm impoundments productive once again.

Pond & Lake owners will be able to utilize information from this educational program to revitalize their impoundments.

Topics to be covered by Peter Woods, Extension Fisheries Specialist include:

- Restocking
- Structure
- Pond infrastructure
- Minimization of aquatic weed growth, ID of weeds, and control options

CEU's (1 IPM, 1 General) will be provided for TDA Pesticide Applicators; additional program information is available from the Walker County, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service at (936) 435-2426. **RSVP Required!**



In This Issue:

Local educational programs

*May 23rd Pond & Aquatic
Resource Management program*

May 30th Feral Hog Workshop

June 4th Hay Production Class

Area/Regional educational programs

*Feral Hog Training & Technical
Guidance Available*

More Local Events

Walker Co Farmers Market

Feral Hog Workshop..

Event Date: May 30, 2013

Location: Walker Co Texas AgriLife Office (Huntsville, TX)

Time: 6:30 PM

\$10.00 Registration Fee

Pest, Resource, Destructive, Tasty- just a few words that describe people's feelings toward feral hogs. In addition to the damage created in pastures, hay fields and even yards, there is growing concern about possible contamination to our streams and riparian systems.

There is news on the horizon for additional control options for feral hogs. In addition to research on new controls, research has been conducted to determine more effective methods of trapping these animals. If you are having problems enticing hogs into your old box style traps, you would benefit to learn about the newer recommendations for managing trapping systems.

This workshop will help bring you up to date on some of the items going on in the world of feral hogs. Landowners and resource managers will benefit from participation in this educational program. **RSVP is required**; contact the Walker County, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service office to reserve your seat, (936) 435-2426.

Hay Production Class:

Event Date: June 4, 2013 (Tuesday)

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Walker County Extension Office



Program will be held at the Walker County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office (102 Tam Road, Huntsville, TX). The registration fee for participants is \$10.00. Landowners seeking information on how to grow, process & store grass forages will benefit from this entry level class. Regardless of whether you are new to land ownership and learning to navigate production agriculture in East Texas or an "old-hand" wanting a refresher course, this is your chance to learn about forage production in our part of the world.

Dr. Larry Redmon, State Extension Forage Specialist will discuss hay production in East Texas and cover the following topics:

- Forage/Grass Species
- Fertilization Needs & Requirements
- Grass Crop Management
- Weed Control Issues
- Equipment Selection & Use
- Harvesting Techniques
- Storage

Additionally, time will be directed to water concerns affecting the state of Texas. CEU's will be provided for TDA Pesticide Applicators, additional program information is available from the Walker County, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service at (936) 435-2426. **RSVP is required.**

Feral Hog Control & Distribution Assessment, (+) Educational Trainings & Technical Guidance

Feral hogs cause an estimated \$52 million of damage to agriculture annually in Texas and they are increasing in numbers across the state. They like to wallow in stream systems leading to sediment and bacteria entering our waterways.

To assess feral hog distribution and how landowners are managing to reduce hog, Texas AgriLife Extension has developed a statewide reporting system <http://feralhogreports.tamu.edu>. This system is an effective tool that tracks feral hog sightings and management efforts. Please share this new reporting tool with landowners and members of the public you interact with during your daily tasks.

There are two types of reporting on the website, one for landowners and another for the general public.

We would like us in gathering feral hog reduction efforts provided by individuals. This information will be brought to the attention of the public to bring additional resources to the fight against feral hogs. Mark Tyson, Extension Associate who introduced the Feral Hog Project.



Landowners to join information on their through our secured Information will be kept private. used as leverage to (grant dollars) in the Last month, we our new AgriLife is working on the Landowners can also

provide Mark a written report, and he would be glad to enter the data for them. The public report allows members of the public to enter data on their feral hog observations while driving or conducting other activities.

Mark can offer assistance through landowner visits, providing recommendations on ways to control feral hogs, as well as giving presentations to groups such as members of the public or landowners educating them on methods of feral hog control. In addition, Mark is working on writing several publications that will provide valuable information on controlling damage caused by feral hogs.

Texas AgriLife Extension has also developed a wide range of information and publications concerning feral hogs which can be found at:

<http://plumcreek.tamu.edu/feral-hogs>

<http://feralhogs.tamu.edu/publications>

http://www.extension.org/feral_hogs

Please feel free to contact Mark if you need more information or have questions about feral hogs.

Mark Tyson, M.S.

Extension Associate

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

(979) 845-4698

Mark.Tyson@ag.tamu.edu

These resources are provided through a Clean Water Act Section 319(h) nonpoint source grant from the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Upcoming Webinars

Join online from (Noon – 1:00 PM) at <http://naturalresourcewebinars.tamu.edu/event-category/texas-range-webinar-series/>

Event Dates –

June 6, 2013: **Importance of Plant Identification** with Dr. Barron Rector

Texas Range Webinar Series

Presented by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Ecosystem Science and Management Unit

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Ecosystem Science and Management Extension Unit are conducting lunch-based webinars every month throughout 2013. The Texas Range Webinar Series will present a webinar every first Thursday of the month. The Ecosystem Science and Management Extension Unit is partnering with the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences at Texas A&M University. Information on Forestry and Natural Resource webinars will be available on our website.

TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE

***Interested in joining
the Walker County
Farmers Market?***



***Contact the Walker
County Texas AgriLife
Extension Office at
(936) 435-2426.***

***The organizational
meeting for 2013 will
be held in early May.***

**Visit us on Facebook at:
WalkerCo TxAgriLife
Or on the web at:
<http://walker.agrilife.org>**

If you have questions or would like more information regarding Extension Educational Programs, call us at (936) 435-2426.

Provisions from the American Disability Act will be considered when planning educational programs and activities. Please notify the Walker County Extension Office if you plan on attending an Extension Educational program and need specialized services. Notification of at least three to five days in advance is needed, so that we may have ample time to acquire resources needed to meet your needs. Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is implied.

Reggie Lepley

Reggie Lepley,
County Extension Agent – Agriculture & Natural Resources
Walker County
(936) 435-2426