

Kendall Soil & Water Conservation District #216

For 75 years, the Kendall Soil & Water Conservation District has been striving to improve Kendall County's knowledge of good land stewardship. We feel it is our obligation to our landowners to get information out to them concerning good water and soil conservation. We continue to be active members of the Texas Association of Watershed Sponsors, Texas Section Society for Range Management, the Hill Country Prescribed Burning Association, the Hill Country Association of SWCDs, the NACD, the Association of Texas Soil & Water Conservation Districts, and several local organizations.

We have four flood control structures that we are responsible for along with Kendall County and the City of Boerne. We meet with state legislators as often as possible to discuss these structures...the history of the flood control structures, the need for the structures, and the dire need for funding to keep all the flood control structures in the state maintained and up to date. We feel it is of utmost importance to keep our legislators knowledgeable concerning anything dealing with these valuable structures.

The Kendall SWCD holds an annual tree sale and an annual fish sale to raise funds for educational use. We award one or two scholarships every year to high school graduating seniors who plan to major in a field of agriculture. We provide the Conservation Roundup magazine for our local 4H leaders to use with their kids. We have bought a Rainfall Simulator for our NRCS personnel to use in speaking with school groups. We are buying stream tables for each of the 8 elementary schools in Kendall County. We are also looking into purchasing a groundwater model for use at field days, ranch tours, etc.

We host an annual ranch tour or field day. These have been held at various venues – the most popular ones are held at local ranches. Our ranchers love to see what their neighbors are doing on their places and share knowledge!

We have had essays and posters for the Conservation Awards every year. We give monetary awards to the kids and their teachers and we have even had a state winner!

The Kendall SWCD has a display table at the annual Kendall County Fair – we try to let our landowners know who we are and what we do – and they get some goodies to take home.

We sponsor youth for the Youth Range Workshop and the Texas Brigades – again – education is our goal.

We have been involved with the Water Supply Enhancement Program and the Water Quality Improvement Program for many years.