



PRESS RELEASE

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UGRA Provides Cost Assistance for Rainwater Catchment Systems

The Upper Guadalupe River Authority (UGRA) awarded Canyon Springs Ranch Homeowners Association \$2,500 to support the construction of a rainwater catchment system at the Hunt Volunteer Fire Department satellite firehouse located in the neighborhood. “We’re very grateful to the Upper Guadalupe River Authority for their substantial financial assistance for this project, and to the Hunt Volunteer Fire Department for their design and construction assistance. I also want to thank our Canyon Springs Ranch neighbors who provided the labor involved in installing the system. This project will provide a valuable firefighting resource not just to Canyon Springs Ranch, but to the surrounding community as well,” said Gretchen Harris, Canyon Springs Ranch Homeowners Association President.



Pictured L to R: Bill Booker and Kevin Barry, Hunt Volunteer Fire Department First Responders and Canyon Springs Ranch residents; Aaron Bulkley, UGRA Board Director and Outreach and Education Committee member; Diane McMahon, UGRA Board Secretary and Outreach and Education Committee Chair; Steve Stang, Canyon Springs Ranch Homeowners Association Treasurer; Gretchen Harris, Canyon Springs Ranch Homeowners Association President; and Bob Taylor, Hunt Volunteer Fire Department President.

The project was the 2019 recipient of UGRA Rainwater Catchment System Cost Assistance Program funding. The program was initiated in 2017 to fund larger rainwater catchment systems and to complement UGRA's longstanding program to provide \$100 rebates on rainwater catchment system equipment.

The rainwater catchment system at the Canyon Springs Ranch satellite firehouse diverts runoff from the 27' x 27' roof into two 2,950-gallon water storage tanks complete with fire hose threaded fittings. The Hunt Volunteer Fire Department uses satellite firehouses to disperse firefighting resources throughout western Kerr County. "We're pleased to be part of this worthwhile project that will be an asset to many people in the community. The rainwater catchment system not only assists with public safety, but also demonstrates responsible use of our water resources," said Diane McMahon, UGRA Board Secretary and Outreach and Education Committee Chair.

Applications for cost assistance funding are accepted annually between October 1st and November 30th. The program is open to all individuals and entities interested in initiating a rainwater catchment system or expanding a current system in Kerr County. Applications will be evaluated against specific judging criteria and the highest priority will be given to applications for systems that will promote water conservation to the public and be used as an educational tool. Visit www.ugra.org for complete guidelines or contact Tara Bushnoe with questions (tbushnoe@ugra.org; 830-896-5445).

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