



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Contact: Upper Guadalupe River Authority,
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UGRA's Approves Water Enhancement Cost Share Pilot Program

On January 27, 2010, the Upper Guadalupe River Authority (UGRA) Board of Directors unanimously voted to make more money available to Kerr County landowners for removing cedar. UGRA will contribute \$140,000 to a cost share program in Kerr County to promote water enhancement through brush management. The program begins January 27, 2010 and runs through August 31, 2010.

UGRA's Water Enhancement Cost Share Pilot Program will be implemented in conjunction with the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board's (TSSWCB) Kerr County Guadalupe River Water Enhancement Project (WEP).

UGRA Water Enhancement Cost Share Pilot Program details:

Eligible Projects

The Pilot Program is available for brush control projects located in the:

- North Fork,
- South Fork, or
- Johnson Creek watersheds of the Upper Guadalupe River in Kerr County, Texas.

Projects must be approved by the NRCS under the EQIP Program (2002 Farm Bill) and/or the Kerr County Soil and Water Conservation District under the TSSWCB Guadalupe River WEP.

Landowner Eligibility

Eligible landowners must:

- Have an EQIP 2002 contract or TSSWCB (Kerr County SWCD) contract,
- Complete the brush control task and submit a complete application for payment prior to August 31, 2010, and
- Have incurred costs after January 27, 2010.

UGRA Funding and Cost Share Rates

- UGRA has committed \$140,000 to the pilot program.
- UGRA will pay forty percent (40%) of the amount of the reimbursement previously received by the landowner from TSSCWB (Kerr County SWCD) or NRCS.
- Payment is subject to availability of funds.
- UGRA will accept applications for reimbursement from January 28, 2010 to August 31, 2010 or until funds are exhausted, whichever comes first.
- Payment will be made on a first come first serve basis.

Application for Reimbursement

Landowner must:

- Submit a complete application for reimbursement of approved brush control task costs at UGRA's administrative office by August 31, 2010.
- Submit a payment request to UGRA and attach a copy of the approved NRCS Practice Certification and Payment Application Form (Form NRCS-CPA-1245), or the TSSWCB equivalent form.

UGRA shall review the payment request form. Upon receipt of all required information and subject to availability of funds for this Pilot Program, UGRA shall authorize payment.

Please call Ray Buck or Tara Bushnoe at (830) 896-5445 for more information.

The Upper Guadalupe River Authority is the respected, efficient, responsive, and forthright steward of the Upper Guadalupe River and its tributaries.

Let's Keep Our River Clean