

Stewarding Our Water Future Conference

Thursday & Friday, March 21 & 22, 2024

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Harrington Center for Philanthropy,
Amarillo Area Foundation
919 South Polk Street Amarillo, TX

Schedule (Draft):

Thursday, March 21st

- 8:30am Doors Open: Registration & Exhibit Viewing
- 9:00am **Crossings: An Opening Reflection**
Darryl Birkenfeld, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Ogallala Commons, Nazareth, TX
Dr. Claudia Stuart, poet & author, Amarillo, TX
Mike Fuller, singer-songwriter, Amarillo, TX
- 9:25am **"How Our Past, Present, and Future Shapes Conservation"**
Manuel T. De Leon, State Wildlife Biologist, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Tahoka, TX
- "Migrating to the Ogallala: Using Historical Analysis to Imagine New Hydrologic Cycles"**
Sam Hege, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Associate, Agrarian Studies, Yale University, New Haven, CT
- 10:15am Break & Exhibits
- 10:45am **"Practices to Move from Water Scarcity to Water Abundance"**
(Zoom Presentation)
Andrew Millison, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR
- 11:40am Catered Lunch and Exhibit Viewing
- 12:40pm **"Playas: Keystone Ecosystems of the Southern High Plains"**
(Zoom Presentation)
David Haukos, Ph.D., Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS
- "Tomorrow's Water: Restoring the Water Cycle for Communities"**
Mike Carter, Director, Playa Lakes Joint Venture, Lafayette, CO

- 1:30pm **"Recharging the Ogallala & Living Within a Water Budget"**
 Dr. Christopher Grotegut, *Tierra de Esperanza*, Hereford, TX
- "Let Nature Do the Work—Restoring Soil Biology"**
 Chad Wall, Natural Ecosystem Restoration, Wolfforth, TX
- "Managing Small Acreages with Grass & Grazing"**
 Marie Nava, Rancho Alma Linda, Tucumcari, NM
- 2:30pm Break & Exhibit Viewing
- 3:00pm **Bus Tours** (those attending on March 21st must select one option):
Tour #1: Grasslands and Playas at *Tierra de Esperanza* near Dawn, TX
Tour #2: Stream Restoration at Wildcat Bluff Nature Center (Amarillo)
Tour #3: Streetscape Water Harvesting (Dr. Habersang residence),
 City of Amarillo Water Treatment Plant (River Road) and examining the
 intermittent stream bed on Amarillo Creek (4 miles north of plant)
- 5:30pm Buses Return to Harrington Center for Philanthropy
- 6:45pm **Adjourn**

Friday, March 22nd

- 8:00am Doors Open: Registration & Exhibit Viewing
- 8:30am **"Stewarding Wonder: Our Lives Are Rivers, and Aquifers Too"**
 Shelley Armitage, author and poet, Las Cruces, NM
- 8:45am **"Utilizing the Run-Off: Shifting to a "Hydro-Local" Approach"**
 (Zoom Presentation)
 Catlow Shipek, Sr. Program Director, Watershed Management Group,
 Tucson, AZ
- 9:45am Break & Exhibit Viewing
- 10:20am **"A Community Vision for Preserving the Ogallala Aquifer"**
 Dr. Ladona K. Clayton, Ogallala Land & Water Conservancy, Clovis, NM

“New Water Capture in Regional Water Planning”

Paul Jo Lemonds, HDR Engineering, Austin, TX

11:20am Catered Lunch and Exhibit Viewing

12:15pm **“Working Like Beavers: Spring and Stream Restoration”**

Stephen Bennett, Principal & Co-Founder, Anabran Solutions, Logan Utah

1:00pm **Avenues for Public Awareness & Continuing Education**

Janet Guthrie, North Plains Water Conservation District, Dumas, TX
John Beusterien, Spanish & Comparative Literature, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
Berlin Arellano, New Mexico Coordinator, Ogallala Commons, Tucumcari, NM

1:45pm Break

2:10pm **Networking & Action Planning: Small Group Discussion**

3:00pm **Feed Back from Small Groups**

3:20pm **Next Steps & Wrap Up**

3:40pm **Adjourn**