



Rural Texan

Office of Rural Community Affairs ☆ Rural News and Information for Rural Texans ☆ Fall 2005

ORCA Frees \$1.9 Million for Non-Border Colonias

Executive Committee Prioritizes Agency Funds to Benefit all Applicants

By Julie V. Kelly, ORCA

Thanks to a special initiative by ORCA's Executive Committee, all applicants for the agency's Non-Border Colonia Fund 2005-06 funding cycle will receive funding for their projects. A total of 10 communities applied for the 2005-06 competition, however, the original allocation of funds provided up to \$500,000 for non-border colonias, an amount sufficient to fund only two applicants for 2005.

At the September 2005 Executive Committee meeting, ORCA staff proposed to make available up to \$1,918,553 from de-obligated and program income funds, so that the agency could fully

fund the remaining eight non-border colonia applicants. Without the additional monies, the eight remaining applicants would have been forced to delay or cancel their projects as they waited for the 2006 US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding.

"It's good to see state government acting progressively to assist communities in a timely manner," said Charles (Charlie) S. Stone, ORCA's Executive Director. "Thanks to this initiative by our Executive Committee, all applicants

(Continued on page 6)

Grant Recipients Honored at Check Ceremonies

In September 2005, ORCA began an ongoing initiative to honor recipients of the agency's grants for their contributions to local communities. In partnership with the Texas Department of Agriculture, ORCA is holding 24 award ceremonies at each of the Councils of Governments (COG) meetings in various regions. During the ceremony, ORCA officials recognize recipients with the presentation of an oversized, ceremonial check to each of the grantees.

All recipients received the grant monies between September 1, 2004 and August 31, 2005. The funds supported a variety of local undertakings, including local infrastructure development projects, disaster relief, healthcare accessibility enhancements, medical facility improvements,

and healthcare professional recruitment.

"We commend the efforts of every recipient for their dedication to supporting their rural Texas community," said ORCA Executive Director, Charles (Charlie) S. Stone. "ORCA was created to assist rural Texans with building their own communities, and I applaud everyone who applied for funding to address the needs of their community."

For dates and locations of ceremonial check presentations, refer to the ORCA events calendar on page seven of the newsletter, or visit ORCA online at www.orca.state.tx.us.

Source: ORCA staff

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OFFICE OF RURAL COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

"The state agency dedicated solely to serving rural Texas."

Texas State Office of Rural Health

HealthFind 2006

Expand Your Horizons

Don't miss ORCA's annual healthcare recruiting event!

HealthFind is the recruiting event where rural communities from across the state meet with health professionals to explore the many practice opportunities in rural Texas.

August 26, 2006

HealthFind 2005 Draws a Crowd

By Julie V. Kelly ORCA

This year's HealthFind drew approximately 102 healthcare professionals and their families to Austin (Travis County) on September 17, 2005 in search of their ideal practice opportunity. With 31 rural communities in attendance, healthcare professionals had plenty of choices in terms of region, community features and practice offers.

The welcoming speaker, Dr. Russell Thomas, DO, spoke on the realities of rural practice and what rural communities and patients can offer to healthcare professionals. Dr. James, Luecke, MD, spoke during the luncheon, addressing telemedicine and rural practice.

ORCA would like to thank sponsors of HealthFind 2005 for their hard work, generosity and dedication to quality healthcare in rural Texas:

TORCH
(Texas Organization of
Rural Community Hospitals)

**Enterprise
Rent-a-Car**

**Texas Medical
Association**

**Texas Dental
Association**

**Texas Hospital
Association**

**North Central Texas
WorkForce**

**West Texas Area Health
Education Center**



OFFICE OF RURAL COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

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From the Desk of ...

Executive Committee Chair

As Hurricane Rita hit Texas, following on the heels of one of the country's most destructive storms, many rural communities turned from places of shelter into disaster areas in less than a month. Mired in the destruction caused by two back-to-back hurricanes, and coping with the largest displacement of Americans since the 1930s, rural Texas communities have emerged as key players in the aftermath of the storms.

As a state agency, ORCA must do all it can to assist communities in the recovery effort, and it must respond quickly and effectively with funds and services where help is most needed. The agency is closely involved with its constituents and well positioned to assist rural communities with funding for disaster relief, infrastructure and healthcare – all specifically set aside for rural communities.

As the need arose, ORCA quickly made available \$1 million for improvement of public shelters to rural Texas cities and counties. Soon after, the agency offered the Rural Health Disaster Relief and Recovery grant. And as recovery proceeds, qualifying communities may apply for the agency's Texas Community Development Program Disaster Relief Fund to meet the 25 percent match required by some FEMA grants.

ORCA is now working closely with local governments, with FEMA and with other organizations to assist rural communities and those affected by the storms. Some of these communities are just getting electricity back and for many rural Texans the drive home has yet to begin. The communities that rose to the occasion by providing basic necessities to Katrina survivors are now in need of assistance. It is the government's turn to rise to the occasion, and I am confident that ORCA will continue to respond rapidly and effectively to the rural Texans it serves.

William M. Jeter III
Chair, ORCA Executive Committee

Executive Director

When two powerful hurricanes hit the Gulf Coast at summer's end, many rural Texans found their communities providing emergency shelter to hundreds of evacuees displaced by the storms. Rural Texans responded quickly and generously, offering every resource to their neighbors. State agencies followed this example, and I am glad to report that ORCA was able to provide assistance in the form of grants directly to a number of rural communities.

As the role of rural communities in the evacuation effort became clear, ORCA and other state agencies began searching for the best way to play a part in this monumental recovery effort. ORCA contacted Councils of Governments to get a sense of how the evacuation might affect communities. ORCA's Executive Committee learned that some rural communities needed to upgrade facilities to serve as long-term shelters. More phone calls were made – to local officials, the Governor's office, federal agencies and others – and staff met to share ideas and plot a course of action.

During this meeting ORCA determined that the agency should provide direct financial assistance to our non-entitlement cities and counties to support shelter operations. Our assistance would focus on upgrading the infrastructure and making other renovations to public shelters so that the shelters would be inhabitable and available for hurricane evacuees.

We bounced the idea off federal authorities and received the go-ahead. Staff then worked to design the complete program, application and application guide in little over six hours, creating the most simplified application in the entire CDBG Program. ORCA made the application available to rural communities on September 6th, as Texas sheltered an estimated 250,000 evacuees. The first grant was awarded on September 20th, less than three weeks after Texas declared a state of emergency.

Charles S. (Charlie) Stone
Executive Director, ORCA

ORCA Executive Committee

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Abilene
(Taylor County)

ORCA's Mission:

"To assist rural Texans who seek to enhance their quality of life by facilitating, with integrity, the use of the resources of our state so that sustained economic growth will enrich the rural Texas experience for the benefit of all."

The State of Springs

As Nourishment for Both Body and Spirit, Springs Have No Equal

By Larry McKinney, Ph.D., Coastal Fisheries Director, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

An excerpt from "The State of Springs" is reprinted from the July 2005 issue of Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine with permission from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. For more stories about springs and groundwater, see the magazine Web site www.tpwmagazine.com.

I was born in Big Spring, Texas, and my wife was born in Spring, Texas. My family and I now live in Dripping Springs, Texas. To that extent my life has been defined by Texas springs, as have the lives of many other Texans both present and past. Early Texans, from Paleo-Indian to Anglo settlers, were perhaps more acutely aware of springs than most of us are today — their lives often depended upon them. I cannot imagine any spring site in Texas that is not also an archeological site. The San Marcos Springs site is one of the best documented and has evidence of human occupation for more than 12,000 years. Carrizo (Dimmit County), San Pedro (Bexar County) and Las Moras (Kinney County) springs are a few of the many with well-known historical significance. The location of springs, especially as one went westward, was knowledge worth dying to protect, and many a fight over and around them are chronicled in our history. Bullets and arrows that protected springs in the past have mostly been replaced by lawyers and legal documents today, but one has to be careful. Old-time Texas can bubble up in a flash over these very special places.

Why are springs so powerful? The evident reason is as a source of water, but springs are more than that. The limitless horizons of the sea can overwhelm one at times, as can the raw power of a river, but springs evoke something different, a wonder and renewal — a sense of rightness.

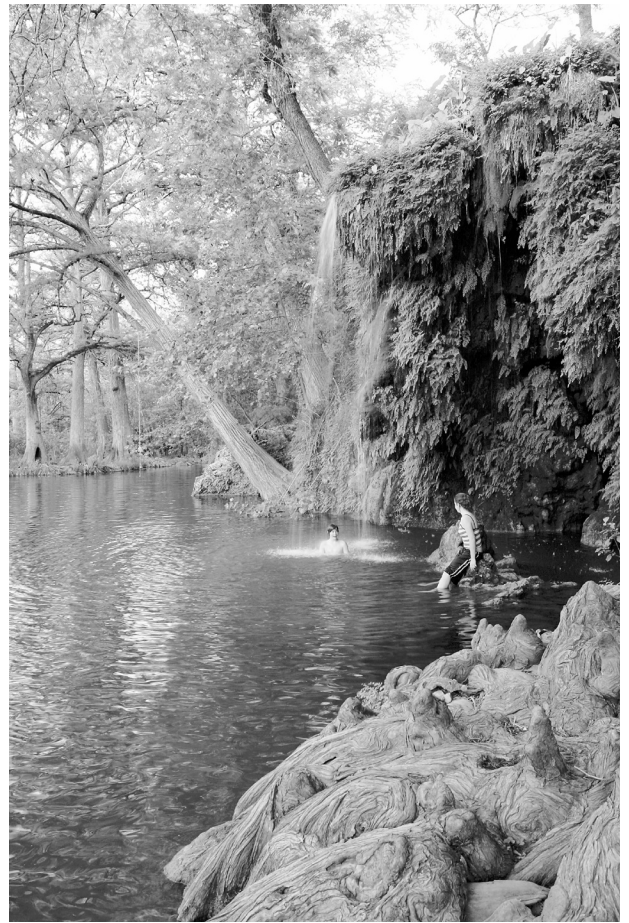
Helen Besse's introduction to Springs of Texas quotes Paul Horgan's 1954 book *Great River: The Rio Grande in North American History*.

Horgan captured it best in his discussion on the apparent meaning of springs to the earliest Americans:

Gods and heroes were born out of springs, and ever afterward came and went between the above and below worlds through their pools. Every pueblo had sacred springs somewhere near-by. There was every reason to sanctify them — physical, as life depended upon water, spiritual, as they had natural mystery which suggested supernatural qualities; for how could it be that when water fell as rain, or snow, and ran away, or dried up, there should be other water which came and came, secretly and sweetly, out of the ground and never failed.

There remain in Texas places that can still evoke such thoughts and feelings. Standing in the flush of waters exiting from the base of 300-foot-high cliffs and tumbling across exposed limestone rocks into the Devils River for as far as one can see is a wonder. In the quiet of an early summer morning, when the only sound is the rush of water and occasional splash of a fish, one can stand lost in reverie as the growing light of day exposes a tableau that remains unchanged through time. Those flows have never ceased as far as we know.

The complete article, published in the July 2005 issue of *Texas Parks and Wildlife* magazine, is available online at www.tpwmagazine.com/archive/2005/jul/.



A classic example of a Texas spring ... a spring-fed waterfall in Burnet County.

Photo courtesy Texas Parks & Wildlife Department © 2005. (Photo by Earl Nottingham, TPWD).

Rural Health Book Shares Information, Inspiration

By Julie V. Kelly ORCA

Hope in the Face of Challenge: Innovations in Rural Health Care, a publication commissioned by the National Rural Health Association, celebrates the accomplishments and struggles of rural communities throughout the nation as they innovate, collaborate and facilitate in some very creative ways to meet their healthcare needs.

Presented in a hardback book with black-and-white photography and well-told stories, the book is an effort to share success stories and honor the determined people who make a difference in their rural communities. Hard facts are there too, meant perhaps to help others duplicate the successful results in their own projects; each story includes a "just the facts" section with target population, partners, budget, and contact information.

The book is divided into five task-based chapters – Expanding the Work Force, Broadening Access to Care, Meeting Special Needs, Improving Facilities and Reaching the Remote. Stories come from all regions of the country, from Southern Appalachia, to Maine, to California. "Rolling Out Care", the Texas' featured story, documents the collaborative effort required to run the St. Paul Health Care Outreach Van, a mobile clinic that provides medical care to poor and uninsured residents in an eight-county region in rural east Texas.

ORCA thanks Nick Sciarrini, Director of the Northeast Texas Public Health District for donating the book to the agency's rural library. For more information on the the book visit www.nrharural.org.

Redefining the Ranch

Brush Control and Other Strategies Reap Numerous Benefits for Wildlife, Springs and the City Folk Who Live Downstream

By Tom Harvey, News and Information Director, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

An excerpt from the following article is reprinted from the July 2005 issue of Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine with permission from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. For more stories about springs and groundwater, see the magazine Web site www.tpwmagazine.com.

As Texas leaders and planners try to figure out how to provide enough clean water for cities, industry, agriculture and the environment, they might do well to look down. In the earth itself, they may find part of the key.

When Texas soil is rich and dense with the fibrous roots of native grasses, it's like a giant sponge. The rain that falls on it soaks in and percolates slowly down, replenishing underground aquifers that bubble forth as springs. This is water conservation at the earliest possible point, using the land as a great catchment system to hold and filter water. In some soils, this can help sustain aquifers and springs during droughts, when water is needed most. In every case, it sends cleaner, higher-quality water into streams, rivers and coastal estuaries.

The reverse is also true. When the land is abused, when it's overgrazed, when unmanaged native or invasive exotic plants suck the life out of it, when it's bare and rocky, the water runs off quickly, carrying precious topsoil with it, silting up rivers and lakes, quickly flushing everything away, leaving little behind for the dry times.

This is a story about people who are doing things right. It's a story that shows why people in cities should care what happens in the country.

Ghosts of Ships in the Desert

A great length of anchor chain lies across the arid soil of the 33,000-acre Hammond Ranch southwest of Fort Stockton. A single link weighs 50 pounds and measures 18 inches. In years

“When I got control of this ranch, it had all these ranch roads over it, and they turned into canals when it rained. What I’ve been trying to do is get the water out of the road and spread it back out over the rangeland.”

past, it hoisted anchors for ocean-going vessels. Similar chains stretch across the earth on other ranches nearby.

Although long divorced from the sea, these chains retain a connection with water. Ranchers pull them between bulldozers to scrape away water-sucking creosotebush, tarbush and mesquite.

Sherman Hammond has cleared brush on some 12,000 acres this way. For Hammond, in a region that averages 12 inches of rainfall per year, it's all about water.

“The problem you have in this part of Texas is when it rains all your water runs off,” Hammond

says. “It’s been so abused by overgrazing for the past 100 years.”

Hammond’s wife’s great-grandfather homesteaded the ranch close to a century ago. His wife inherited one-eighth of the property in 1963. Sherman proceeded to buy out the other heirs, and they had the ranch back together by 1980.

“When I got control of this ranch, it had all these ranch roads over it, and they turned into canals when it rained,” Hammond says. “What I’ve been trying to do is get the water out of the road and spread it back out over the rangeland.”

Hammond began digging “potholes” the size of pickups all over the ranch, producing aerial photos that one observer said “look like a bombing range.” The earth from these shallow pits is piled next to them to stop and hold rainwater. He also built long berms or levees off the ranch roads to catch water.

The result is a patchwork of green across the land. Water stays in the soil longer here, and native grasses are coming back.

“We’re seeing bluestem, buffalo grass and sideoats grama,” says Hammond. “Those are the ones we call the “ice cream grasses,” the ones your cattle, deer and wildlife will eat first. We also have more tobosa grass, a native that’s great nesting habitat for quail.”

The complete article, published in the July 2005 issue of *Texas Parks and Wildlife* magazine, is available online at www.tpwmagazine.com/archive/2005/jul/.

Rural AED Grant Application Now Available

Additional \$27,200 Set Aside for Border Communities

For the federal 2005-06 funding cycle, ORCA has received \$197,027 from the Department of Health and Human Services Administration, Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA) for use in the agency’s Rural Access to Emergency Devices Grant Program. This includes \$27,200 set aside to identify and coordinate placement of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in border communities along the Texas-Mexico border.

The Rural AED Program works to create or increase collaboration with rural emergency care providers and rural healthcare systems by extending the “chain of survival” for cardiac emergencies in remote rural Texas communities with early cardiac defibrillation and CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation).

Through ORCA’s Rural AED Program, grant awards support the purchase and placement of AEDs and provide funds for supplemental CPR and AED training for awardees who need extra support to learn to use the devices.

Eligible applicants include rural first responders (e.g., EMS, law

enforcement and fire departments) and local for and non-profit entities that may include, but are not limited to, long-term care facilities, rural health clinics, community health centers, post offices, libraries and other civic centers, athletic facilities, senior citizen and day care facilities, faith-based organizations and schools without AEDs.

In 2004-2005, ORCA awarded \$198,381 to rural Texas first responders for the acquisition of AEDs and related CPR and AED training. The funds provided for the distribution of AED units, which are portable devices that provided an electrical shock capable of restoring the normal heart rhythm of cardiac arrest victims. A total of 91 organizations received funding for the AED devices and for CPR and AED training.

For additional information and applications, visit ORCA online at www.orca.state.tx.us. Applications are due by December 15, 2005.

Source: ORCA Rural Health Division staff

Unusual and Forgotten Sources Offer Prime Funding Opportunities for Rural Texas

By David Nobles, ORCA

Overlooked and off-the-beaten-path funding sources can yield big gains for those who take the time to look and apply. The following opportunities may be of interest to rural communities:

Potential \$12 Million Available for Rural Homeless Services

Each year, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Affairs (HUD) earmarks grant funds for human services agencies to provide housing and other services to the homeless. Rural communities

Texas left more than \$12 million unclaimed last year.

are eligible for the vast majority of these dollars. Unfortunately, Texas left more than \$12 million unclaimed last year.

The Texas Homeless Network, an Austin based nonprofit that provides consulting and technical assistance services for HUD, is in the process of forming coalitions of rural communities in order to draw down these unclaimed federal dollars.

If you are a nonprofit agency, faith community, mental health agency, substance abuse agency, or domestic violence agency, or entity of local government that serves rural Texas you may be eligible to access a portion of the \$12 million in unclaimed HUD dollars.

For more information, please contact Ken Martin, Executive Director of the Texas Homeless Network at 800-531-0828 or email balanceofstate@thn.org. Visit the Texas Homeless Network online at www.thn.org.

Ben & Jerry's Foundation Funds Social Change Efforts

Support to nonprofit, grassroots organizations throughout the United States that facilitate progressive social change by addressing the underlying conditions of societal and environmental problems. Grant applicants need to demonstrate that their projects will: lead to societal, institutional, and/or environmental change; address the root causes of social or environmental problems; and lead to new ways of thinking and acting.

Specifically, the Foundation seeks groups that are working to help themselves, help their own communities, and help others like themselves through self-empowering, community organizing efforts. Applications accepted throughout the year. Visit Ben & Jerry's Foundation online at www.benjerry.com/foundation/.

TechSoup Helps Nonprofits Go High Tech for Less

TechSoup offers nonprofits a one-stop resource for technology needs by providing free information, resources, and support. In addition to online information and resources, TechSoup offers a product philanthropy service called TechSoup Stock. Here, nonprofits can access donated and discounted technology products, generously provided by corporate and nonprofit technology partners. For example, through TechSoup, nonprofit organizations can purchase Microsoft Office 2003 for a \$20 administration fee. For more information visit www.techsoup.org.

Texas Department of Agriculture Organic Certification Cost Share Program

The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) has a cooperative agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide cost share assistance to producers, processors, distributors or other handlers of organic agricultural products. Producers and other certified businesses whose initial certifications or annual updates are issued between October 1, 2002 and September 30, 2006 are eligible for partial reimbursement of their certification costs. Payments are limited to 75 percent of a business' certification costs up to a maximum payment of \$500.00. The cost share program will be conducted on a first come, first served basis.

To apply for a partial reimbursement of certification costs, the certified business must complete the Federal Organic Certification Cost Share Application, available from TDA. An application for a Texas Application for Payee Identification Number may also be needed if the applicant does not already have a Payee Identification Number. The deadline for submitting applications is October 31, 2006.

ORCA Frees \$1.9 Million for Non-Border Colonias

(Continued from page 1)

will be able to begin their projects during this funding cycle. ORCA's mission is to assist these communities in the most efficient, cost-effective means possible, and the agency's willingness to streamline the distribution of federal funds benefits our fellow Texans."

ORCA's de-obligated funds consist of monies that were obligated, but were not expended during the course of funded projects. The agency's program income funds consist of additional income generated from loan paybacks and lease payments associated with economic development projects.

As a result of the decision by the Executive Committee, the 2006 proposed Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) Action Plan will be revised to show zero funds allocated for the second year of the 2005-06 Non-Border Colonia fund competition, and the amount originally proposed for the 2006 Non-Border Colonia Fund be allocated to the 2006 Urgent Need Fund per program year.

In addition, the Executive Committee approved \$6.5 million to address disaster relief projects and \$1 million for ORCA's Urgent Need Fund.

The Executive Committee authorized staff to present the revised 2006 proposed TCDP action Plan at public hearings during October 2005. The hearings were held throughout Texas in Lubbock,

Abilene, Temple, Corpus Christi, Crockett and Houston.

The Non-Border Colonia Fund is a competitive fund created by ORCA's Executive Committee as a pilot project to address the needs of unincorporated areas that are not eligible for the TCDP Colonia fund. Eligible applicants are limited to non-entitlement counties with colonia areas located farther than 150 miles of the Texas-Mexico border and non-entitlement counties with colonia areas located within 150 miles of the Texas-Mexico border that are not eligible for the TCDP Colonia Fund. The maximum amount funded is \$250,000 per application.

The TCDP grants are intended to provide assistance to rural areas for public infrastructure improvements, housing, economic development, and planning activities. The Non-Border Colonia Fund provides funding for severely distressed unincorporated areas that are not eligible for the Colonia Fund.

Recipients of the Non-Border Colonias Fund are located in the following counties:

Recipients of ORCA's Non-Border Colonia Fund Grant	
Bastrop County	Marion County
Cochran County	Medina County
Colorado County	Newton County
Fayette County	Red River County
Hood County	Travis County



Funding Opportunities

Health Resources and Services Administration

HRSA Grants Application Center
Maternal and Child Health Pipeline Training Program Grant
www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/HHS/HRSA/GAC/HRSA-06-0771/listing.html
Due date: Dec 02, 2005

National Institutes of Health

Community-Based Grants for Treatment of Drug Abuse and Co-Occuring Drug Abuse
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/rfa/RFA-DA-06-001.html>
Letters of Intent Receipt Date: November 18, 2005

Intervention and Practice Research for Combat Related Mental Disorders and Stress Reactions (Modification1)
www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/HHS/NIH/NIH/RFA-MH-06-004/listing.html
Due date: Jan 25, 2006

US Department of Agriculture

Higher Education Challenge Grants Program Grant
www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/USDA/CSREES/OEP/USDA-GRANTS-092605-004/listing.html
Due date: Feb 02, 2006

Assistive Technology Program for Farmers with Disabilities: State and Regional Projects Grant
www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/USDA/CSREES/OEP/USDA-GRANTS-092605-003/listing.html
Due date: Dec 23, 2005

Fiscal Year 2006 Regional Integrated Pest Management Competitive Grants Program - Southern Region Grant
[www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/USDA/CSREES/OEP/USDA-GRANTS-](http://www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/USDA/CSREES/OEP/USDA-GRANTS-092605-004/listing.html)

092305-002/listing.html
Due date: Dec 07, 2005

Children, Youth, and Families at-Risk, New Communities Project Program Grant
www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/USDA/CSREES/OEP/USDA-GRANTS-092605-005/listing.html
Due date: Dec 01, 2005

National fish and Wildlife Foundation

Matching Grants for Conservation Programs
www.nfwf.org/guidelines.cfm
Due date for pre-proposals: accepted throughout the year

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Nonpoint Source Grant Program
www.tceq.state.tx.us/nav/funding/funding_opps.html#waste
Due date: ongoing

Texas Yes! Hometown STARS Funding Biennium 2: 2006-2007

Hometown STARS (Supporting Tourism and Rural Success)
Open to Texas Yes! Community Members only.
www.texasyes.org/ty/channel/render/items/0,1186,827_846_0_0,00.html

Second Round: 11/30/2005

Deadline for Submission: 1/13/2006
Project Begin Date: 3/15/2005

*You should apply for funds during this round if your event is occurring between March 15, 2006 and March 2007.

Third Round: 3/31/2006

Deadline for Submission: 5/21/2006
Project Begin Date: 7/15/2006

*You should apply for funds during this round if your event is occurring between July 15, 2006 and July 2007.

ORCA's Calendar of Events

Visit ORCA's Calendar of Events at www.orca.state.tx.us for more events and details!

ORCA Program Application Due Dates

Rural Health Applications

- 11/30/05 CAH Rural Health Network Grants
- 12/15/05 CAH Rural Health Technology Grants
- 12/15/05 Rural Automated Electronic Defibrillators
- 01/20/06 Outstanding Rural Scholar Recognition Program
- 02/17/06 Outstanding Rural Scholar Recognition Program
- 05/19/06 Outstanding Rural Scholar Recognition Program
- 03/17/06 Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program
- 03/31/06 Capital Improvement Loan Fund

Community Development Applications

- 12/02/05 Small Towns Environment Program (STEP) (3rd cycle)
- 12/02/05 Texas Capital Fund (TCF) 4th Round*

* Administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture. For more information, contact Karl Young at 512-936-0281.

ORCA Executive Committee Meetings

December 1-2, 2005
Brady (McCulloch County)

Upcoming Events

ORCA will hold check presentation ceremonies this fall in the following counties: Dimmit, El Paso, Gregg, Harris, Hidalgo, Jasper, Jefferson, McLennan, Midland, Nueces, Potter, Tarrant, Taylor, Tom Green, Travis, Victoria, Webb and Wichita.

For more information, contact Julie V. Kelly at 800-544-2042.

Electronic Newsletter Subscription

Attention all readers of *The Rural Texan*!

ORCA's newsletter is also available as a monthly email.

Please let us know if you wish to receive *The Rural Texan* newsletter by filling out the form below and faxing this page to ORCA at 512-936-6776. You may also visit us online at www.orca.state.tx.us and fill out the "ORCA Information Sharing Service" form, or mail this form to: **The Rural Texan**, Office of Rural Community Affairs, PO Box 12877, Austin, TX 78711. You may choose to receive both the electronic monthly newsletter and the quarterly hard copy of the newsletter.

- Please **mail** a hard copy of *The Rural Texan* to me every quarter.
- Please **e-mail** the electronic edition of *The Rural Texan* to me every month.

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

County: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Fax number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Web Address: _____

The following best describes my role(s) in the rural Texas arena (check all that apply)*:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic/Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment/Water related | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit organization representative |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture related | <input type="checkbox"/> For Profit organization representative | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Service related |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community / Economic Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Government employee | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation related |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consultant | <input type="checkbox"/> Health care related | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities and Telecommunications |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education related | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing related | Other: _____ |

*For our e-mail users, this information will allow us to provide related grant opportunities and other information to you in a timely manner electronically.



OFFICE OF RURAL COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

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