

2024 Ashe Juniper Symposium



May 8-9, 2024
Commons Conference Center

*JJ Pickle Research Campus
2901 Read Granbury Trail
Austin, TX*

Wednesday, May 8th

8:00 AM	Check-in, Coffee, and Light Refreshments (8 AM – 9 AM) – <i>Commons Conference Center Atrium</i>
9:00 AM	Symposium Welcome - David Wolfe (Defenders of Wildlife)
9:05 AM	Thinking About Cedar - Steve Nelle (Private Natural Resource Consultant)
9:25 AM	Edwards Plateau Vegetation Patterns - David Diamond (Missouri Resource Assessment Partnership) and Duane German (Texas Parks and Wildlife Department)
9:55 AM	Historical Ecology of the Texas Hill Country - Lisa O'Donnell (Austin Water, Wildland Conservation Division, Balcones Canyonlands Preserve)
10:25 AM	Break (30 minutes)
10:55 AM	Rare and Endemic Plants Associated to Ashe's Juniper Plant Communities in Central Texas - Jason Singhurst (Texas Parks and Wildlife Department)
11:15 AM	Ashe Juniper – It isn't Just for Warblers - Rich Kostecke (Hill Country Conservancy)
11:35 AM	Ecological Benefits of Pioneer Thickets and Old-Growth Ashe Juniper Cover - Elizabeth McGreevy (Project Bedrock)
12:05 PM	Lunch (12:05 PM – 1:15 PM) – <i>Commons Conference Center Atrium</i>
1:15 PM	Soils, Roots, and Symbioses: A Belowground Perspective on Juniper-oak Woodlands - Brian Pickles (University of Reading)
1:35 PM	Mutualist Matters: Effects of Inoculum Source on Mycorrhization and Drought Resilience in <i>Quercus buckleyi</i> Seedlings - Silas Jenkins (Texas State University)
1:55 PM	Juniper's Effects on Soil and Weathered Bedrock Water Dynamics in Sonora, TX - Pedro Leite (Texas A&M University)
2:15 PM	Understanding Water Use by <i>Juniperus ashei</i> at the Individual Tree Level in Response to the Climate Gradient Across the Edwards Plateau and Forest Scale Response to Property-specific Clearing - Ashley Matheny (Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, University of Texas at Austin)
2:35 PM	Break (30 minutes)
3:05 PM	Long-term Effects of Crown-fires on Oak-juniper Woodlands: Loss of Ashe Juniper and Successful Oak Recruitment - Charlotte Reemts (The Nature Conservancy in Texas)
3:25 PM	Long-term Effects of Prescribed Thinning + Fire and White-tailed Deer Exclusion on Woody Species Composition in a Central Texas Woodland - Rebecca Carden (Department of Integrated Biology, University of Texas at Austin)
3:45 PM	Woody Cover Response to Thinning and Prescribed Burning in a Subtropical Savanna - Devin Grobert (Austin Water, Wildland Conservation Division, Water Quality Protection Lands)
4:05 PM	Cultivating Clarity: Decoding Wildfire Narratives and Debunking Juniper Myths - Justice Jones (Austin Fire Department Wildfire Division)
4:30 PM	Happy Hour Mixer (4:30 PM – 6 PM) – <i>Commons Conference Center Atrium</i>

Thursday, May 9th

8:00 AM	Check-in, Coffee, and Light Refreshments (8 AM – 9 AM) – <i>Commons Conference Center Atrium</i>
9:00 AM	Symposium Welcome
9:05 AM	Private Land Stewardship for a Sustainable and Resilient Hill Country - Rachael Lindsey (Hill Country Conservancy)
9:35 AM	Informing Collaborative Endangered Species Conservation in Texas: A Human Dimensions of Wildlife Case Study from the Post-Oak Savannah - Jared Messick and Chris Serenari (Texas State University)
9:55 AM	Connecting the Dots – Working at a Landscape Scale, One Ranch at a Time - Rebecca Neill (The Nature Conservancy in Texas)
10:15 AM	Break (30 Minutes)
10:45 AM	A Conservation Conversation – Ashe Juniper and NRCS - Charles Kneuper (USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service)
11:05 AM	Documenting Texas’ Landscapes, The Ecological Mapping Systems and Engaging the Public with the TEAM Tool - Amie Treuer-Kuehn (Texas Parks and Wildlife Department)
11:25 AM	Ecological Site Descriptions: What Are They and How They Are Used - Bryan Christensen (USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Soil and Plant Sciences Division)
11:45 AM	Working with Ashe Juniper – Wildlife Tax Valuations and Habitat Management - Shane Kiefer (Plateau Land & Wildlife Management)
12:05 PM	Lunch (12:05 PM – 1:15 PM) – <i>Commons Conference Center Atrium</i>
1:15 PM	Promoting Diversity in Juniper-Oak Woodlands - Jim O'Donnell (Austin Water, Wildland Conservation Division, Balcones Canyonlands Preserve)
1:35 PM	A Practitioner's Perspective - Bandera Corridor Conservation Bank - Jesse McLean (Bandera Corridor Conservation Bank)
1:55 PM	Multifactor Management of Mountain Cedar: Lessons Learned from the Frio River Canyon - Kevin Wessels (H. E. Butt Foundation)
2:15 PM	Stewarding the Steward: Shaping Wise Woodland Management Decisions in the Edward’s Plateau - Karl Flocke (Texas A&M Forest Service)
2:35 PM	Break (15 Minutes)
2:50 PM	Panel Discussion (60 Minutes) – Elizabeth McGreevy (Project Bedrock), Jared Messick (Texas State University), Blake Murden (Shield Ranch), and Daniel Oppenheimer (Hill Country Alliance)

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