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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Feral Hog Management Program Gets a Boost in Caldwell County

SAN MARCOS, TEXAS – July 24, 2018 – Caldwell County has received new funding to help reduce the feral hog population after receiving a grant from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Wildlife Services. The 2018 Caldwell County program will include a five-dollar feral hog bounty, a webinar, countywide damage assessment and assistance to selected landowners who wish to trap hogs.

The County has partnered with The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University, the Plum Creek Watershed Partnership, Hays County and Guadalupe County to assist with educational components of the program.

“The 2018 feral hog program in Caldwell County is part of a sustained effort first implemented by the Plum Creek Watershed Partnership and taken to the next level by the Caldwell County Feral Hog Task Force in 2013,” said Nick Dornak, Watershed Services Coordinator at The Meadows Center.

Feral hogs are a problem in Texas that impact water quality in our creeks and rivers, as well as cause financial loss to agricultural production. Texas is home to an estimated 3 million feral hogs. Lacking sweat glands, hogs seek out shelter along Texas creeks and rivers, which can result in contamination of those waterways, such as Plum Creek and the San Marcos River.

The 2018 feral hog program is unique in that three Central Texas counties have partnered together to coordinate efforts and launch a new Central Texas Feral Hog Task Force.

“We have been looking at opportunities to regionalize feral hog management efforts for a number of years and are excited for Caldwell County to partner in 2018 with both Hays and Guadalupe County,” Dornak added.

The Caldwell County bounty program will be held on Thursdays, beginning July 26 and run through August 23. During that period, individuals can bring in feral hog tails and/or certified buying station receipts to Smith Supply Co., 1830 Colorado Street, Lockhart, between the hours of 3:30pm-5:30pm (Thursdays only). Tails and/or receipts must be from feral hogs harvested in Caldwell County. Participants will be required to complete a W-9 and a participation form, which can be obtained at Smith Supply or from the [Central Texas Feral Hog Task Force Website](#). The property owner’s name and contact information where the hogs were harvested are required on the form.

Caldwell County residents who are interested in learning about feral hog management measures are invited to attend upcoming workshops in Seguin on August 10 or San Marcos on August 15. Workshop details will be posted online at <http://www.feralhogtaskforce.com/calendar>.

For more information, visit the project website, <http://www.feralhogtaskforce.com/caldwell>. For questions, email The Meadows Center at feralhog@txstate.edu or call 512.245.6697.

About The Meadows Center

The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University was named following a generous gift from The Meadows Foundation in August 2012. The Meadows Center inspires research, innovation and leadership that ensures clean, abundant water for the environment and all humanity, and is led by Executive Director Andrew Sansom, Ph.D.