Co-hosted by NPSOT and the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, this year’s spring symposium will focus on a critical concern for all of us – water conservation challenges and landscape use. The current and forecast weather conditions in Texas are dire – high temperature and low precipitation records are being made across the state, surface reservoirs and aquifer levels are reaching critically low levels, and with a return and forecasted strengthening of the La Niña climate phenomenon, the Texas drought is expected to persist through at least the summer of 2012. Come learn what you can do to prepare for water shortages now and in the future.

Saturday morning plenary session (8:00 AM – 12:00 PM):

- Global Water Challenges (Dr. Walter Rast, Director, Int’l Center for Watershed Studies, TSU-San Marcos)
- Texas Water Challenges (Dr. Andy Sansom, Executive Director, River Systems Institute, TSU-San Marcos)
- Riparian Restoration (Dr. Kevin Anderson, City of Austin)
- Invasive Aquatic Species (Robert Howells, TPWD, retired)

Registration fees for the morning plenary session:

By Friday, February 10, 2012 $60
After Friday, February 10, 2012 $75

Optional afternoon workshops on Saturday are in two sessions – space is limited to 30 participants each and will be filled on a first come, first served basis:

Session 1 (concurrent workshops – select one, 12:30 – 2:30 PM):
- Naturalistic Water Features and Native Plants in the Landscape (Kevin Wood and Sheryl McLaughlin, Kevin Woods Landscapes)
- Rainwater Harvesting (Dick Peterson, City of Austin, retired)

Session 2 (concurrent workshops – select one, 3:00 – 5:00 PM):
- Rain Gardens (John Gleason, City of Austin)
- Aquatic Plant Identification (Joe Snow, University of North Texas)

Registration fees for the afternoon workshops: $10 for each Session

And for the first time in the spring symposium’s history, optional, complimentary field trips will be offered on Sunday morning (9:00 AM – 12:00 PM):

- Yegua Knobs Preserve, Bastrop (Jason Singhurst, TPWD)
- Birding Hornsby Bend, Austin (Dr. Kevin Anderson, City of Austin)
- Domestic Rainwater Harvesting System, Dripping Springs (Keenan Smith, Architect)
- Wildflower Center Water Features, Austin (Dick Peterson, City of Austin, retired)

Additional information and registration details can be found [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org). Online registration will open during the first week of December 2011. Please contact Flo Oxley at oxley@wildflower.org or 512/232-0160 with any questions. Join us on Saturday morning, stay for the day, or make it a weekend in central Texas!