

# From the Director...

On Saturday, May 12th we hosted the Texan by Nature Ranch Gala with President George W. and Laura Bush in attendance. [Texan by Nature](#), a Texas-led conservation non-profit founded by former First Lady Laura Bush, brings business and conservation together to amplify projects and activate new investment in conservation which returns real benefits for people, prosperity, and natural resources. Goals are achieved through TxN's [Texan by Nature Certification program](#), Conservation Wrangler program, and Symposia series.



Mrs. Laura Bush addressing the Ranch Gala Attendees

The John Bunker Sands Wetland Center has been a proud partner of Texan by Nature since 2011 and is one of six 2018 Texan by Nature Conservation Wranglers. The Conservation Wrangler program recognizes innovative and transformative conservation projects across the state of Texas that positively impact people, prosperity, and natural resources.

Texan by Nature will recognize the 2018 Conservation Wrangler honorees on Oct. 17, 2018, at the George W. Bush Presidential Center in Dallas, Texas. The Wetland Center was recognized as part of a dynamic partnership through constructed wetlands along the Trinity River.

*Tarrant Regional Water District (George W. Shannon Wetlands Project, in partnership with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department) and the North Texas Municipal Water District (East Fork Water Supply Project and the John Bunker Sands Wetland Center, in partnership with the Rosewood Corporation) work together with Alan Plummer Associates to showcase an innovative, efficient, and sustainable approach for natural filtration of water through the development of constructed wetlands. The projects create over 3,800 acres of wetland, provide significant natural habitat, and supply water for 3.8 Million people in North Texas. These projects provide recreational opportunities, public education, and research opportunities pertaining to water conservation, wetland systems, and wildlife management.*



This acknowledgment of environmental stewardship demonstrates the impact of public private partnership for the benefit of the community. We would like to thank Texan by Nature for this recognition.

John DeFillipo, Mrs. Laura Bush, President George W. Bush, Carol Garrison, Linda Dunn L to R