



# Krause Springs Burnet County

Compilation and layout by Robin Gary, Watershed Association, July 2022

## Water Source: Lower Trinity Aquifer

### Description



Located near Spicewood, Texas, Krause Springs is a series of 32 springs named after the family who established the private campground surrounding the springs. The unique waterfalls, rope swing, and spring-fed pool make the destination popular for locals and visitors. The springs feed into Little Cypress Creek, a small but important tributary to Lake Travis.

The Lower Trinity Aquifer is an important groundwater supply for area residents and the water source for Krause Springs. Krause Springs appears to be a gravity system derived primarily from the Sycamore Sand formation of the Lower Trinity.

### Challenges

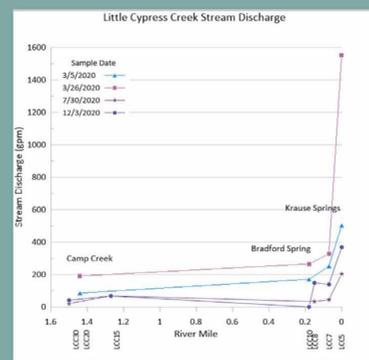
The Lower Trinity Aquifer in this part of Burnet County is thin, and therefore has limited groundwater storage. Spring and creekflow in this area are measured in gallons per minute rather than cubic feet per second. Development, drought, and increased water use could impact spring flow. Additionally, there are few conservation easements and protected lands in the area. Lack of continuous, long-term monitoring of spring flow and water levels in the area makes tracking changes difficult. Preliminary geologic and hydrologic studies of the spring system have begun; however, more research and monitoring through droughts and wet periods are needed for a full characterization of the system.



Staff taking a water level and spring flow measurement. Photo by the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District

### Protection

The 115-acre property is listed on the National Registry of Historical Sites and has been privately owned by the Krause Family for over 50 years. Several recent studies, such as the Hydrogeologic Atlas of Southwest Travis County and the Krause Springs Occurrence of Flowing Water, Burnet County, Texas report, have begun to document geology, water levels, water quality, aquifer dynamics, and groundwater and surface water interactions. The Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District (CTGCD) manages groundwater in the area and has logged and equipped several monitor wells to record continuous water level measurements. Additionally, the CTGCD, in collaboration with the Meadows Center for Water and the Environment, has begun a stakeholder process to increase groundwater protection and conservation easements in the Krause Springs springshed and contributing areas.



Stream flow measurements taken along Little Cypress Creek showing a gaining section near Bradford and Krause Springs from Krause Springs Occurrence of Flowing Water, 2021 report.

### Access and More Information

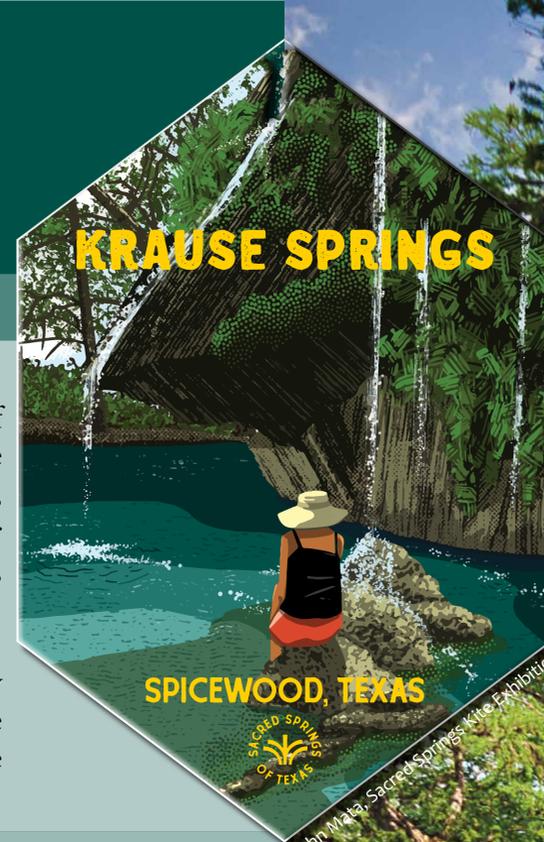


Krause Springs is open spring, summer and fall, and closed for restoration during the winter. Day passes and overnight camping/lodging can be purchased. Little Cypress Creek flows into the upper reaches of Lake Travis and the tributary outflow is visible by boat.

Photo of the spring-fed swimming pool at Krause Springs Ranch. Photo from KrauseSprings.net



Art4Water is a program of the Watershed Association, a 501(c)(3) non-profit



John Maba, Sacred Springs Kite Exhibition



Photo credit: Chuck Underwood