

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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HEADWATERS  
AT THE COMAL

WHERE IT BEGINS.



## **New Braunfels Utilities and the Headwaters at the Comal to Kick-off the Big Dig**

*A Rare and Unique Archaeology Excavation to be Made Public*

New Braunfels Utilities (NBU) and the Headwaters at the Comal are excited to kick-off a very rare and unique educational archaeology excavation opportunity. During the recent Phase I of restoration of the Headwaters at the Comal, a number of significant cultural resources and artifacts were discovered, including; a number of rock middens and hearths, indicating habitation of the site. Most features contained organic materials, lithic tools, and debris, which suggests good preservation and excellent research opportunities. Samples researched to date indicate resources range from the Early Archaic and Middle Archaic through Paleo-Indian periods.

The Headwaters at the Comal is a conservation legacy by NBU, and we are proud to introduce and share this rare, educational opportunity to individuals and organizations who are committed to preserving these historic artifacts. The potential for unique discoveries are abundant. This is a real opportunity to discover what and who came before us - and their way of life. This site could be "the site" in all of Texas and perhaps even the United States.

**What: News Conference to kick-off the Big Dig at the Headwaters at the Comal**

**When: Wednesday, October 17, 2018, 10:00 a.m.**

**Where: The Headwaters at the Comal, 333 Klingemann Street, New Braunfels, TX 78130**

**Who:** Ian Taylor, CEO, NBU and NBU Board of Directors  
Nancy Pappas, Managing Director, Headwaters at the Comal and the Headwaters at the Comal Board of Directors  
Mason Miller, MA, Media Director/Archaeology Principal Investigator and Tim Griffith, Archaeology Principal Investigator, AmaTerra, Environmental, Inc.  
Todd Ahlman, Ph.D., Director, Center of Archaeological Studies, Texas State University  
Tiffany Osburn, Central and West Texas Regional Archeologist and Project Reviewer, Texas Historical Commission, Archeology Division.

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**About New Braunfels Utilities:** Dedicated to excellence in service, New Braunfels Utilities is one of 2,000 community-owned, not-for-profit public power electric utilities in the nation. The mission of New Braunfels Utilities is to enhance the quality of our community by providing innovative, essential services. Governed by a Board of Trustees comprised of local residents appointed by the New Braunfels City Council, New Braunfels Utilities is committed to being a recognized and trusted community partner, providing electric, water, and waste water services. Utility revenues are continually invested back into the systems of the customers, which benefits the community. New Braunfels Utilities makes an annual transfer to the City of New Braunfels, which in turn helps to pay for services such as fire, police, and parks. Follow NBU on Facebook at [newbraunfelsutilities](https://www.facebook.com/newbraunfelsutilities), on Twitter at [nbutexas](https://twitter.com/nbutexas), and to learn more visit [nbutexas.com](http://nbutexas.com).

**About the Headwaters at the Comal:** The Headwaters at the Comal, where everything begins - is the intersection of water and history. Upon completion, the Headwaters at the Comal will be an environmental showcase for all ages - a place for research, learning, and enjoyment that highlights the hydrological environmental, and cultural history of the region. To learn more about the Headwaters at the Comal, visit [headwatersatthecomal.com](http://headwatersatthecomal.com).

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**About AmaTerra:** AmaTerra Environmental, Inc. is an Austin, Texas-based environmental consulting company that is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> year. AmaTerra specializes in helping public- and private-sector construction project teams successfully navigate through environmental permitting processes and local, state, and federal agencies appropriately manage those precious environmental, biological, and cultural resources that they oversee. AmaTerra's staff includes professional ecologists, wildlife biologists, architectural historians, archaeologists, public outreach specialists working in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and throughout the United States on projects ranging from small city sidewalks to massive multi-county water pipelines and more – not to mention the occasional spacecraft landing facility! AmaTerra's archaeologists and architectural historians have been working with the design team on the Headwaters at the Comal since 2013 and are thrilled with the opportunity to continue working on such an important site.

**About the Texas Historical Commission:** The Texas Historical Commission (THC) is the state agency for historic preservation. The Texas Historical Commission works to save the real places that tell the real stories of Texas. The THC also assists sponsors of development projects like the Headwaters at the Comal in complying with state and federal laws that protect and consider historic and archeological sites.

