



Dr. Loni Lucherk partners with iCEV for "How To: Meat Judging" videos.





Dr. Loni Lucherk, Assistant Professor of Animal Science, recently teamed up with CEV Multimedia and colleagues from several universities from across the country to help re-shoot the "How to: Meat Judging" series for iCEV. Dr. Lucherk, who works as a committee member for the series, served as the official on-screen expert for the Lamb Judging and Retail Cut Class Videos. In filming her sections, Dr. Lucherk brought in lamb carcasses and used retail cuts that represent what students might see and evaluate in a judging contest. Dr. Lucherk was also interviewed about meat judging and the meat sciences program at WTAMU. Dr. Lucherk says, "I was excited to work with CEV to help spread knowledge about meat judging and WTAMU to students all over the nation."



Lucas Castro gains experience with wildlife





Lucas Castro, M.S. Biology, discusses his internship experience with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Where are you completing your internship?

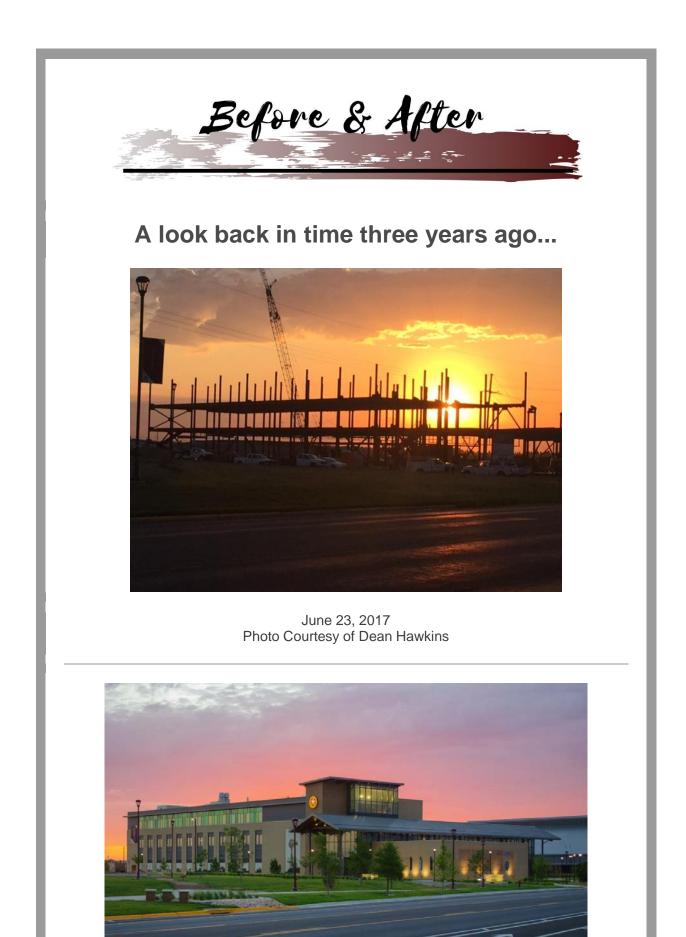
My internship is with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at the Matador Wildlife Management Area, in Paducah, TX.

How did your internship help prepare you for postgraduation?

This internship will allow me to learn many different wildlife techniques that are used by professional wildlife biologists in my field. There are three main areas that make wildlife students stand out in the job world: GIS (Geographic Information System), plant identification, and statistical methods. I will be using all three of these during my summer position to better prepare me for postgraduation plans. I plan on graduating with my Master's in Biology and work towards getting employed by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department as a Wildlife Management Area Biologist. By participating in this internship, I am getting my name out there in this agency and will gain valuable experience.

Describe what you are doing during your internship.

During this internship, I will gain experience with animal trapping, exotic animal control, habitat management, plant identification, and prescribed burning to get my Wildland Firefighting Red Card Certification. My start date was June 1st of this year and already I have trapped and banded songbirds and doves to gather demographic information, conducted a Texas Quail Index survey, and gained valuable hands-on experience with identifying vegetation in this area.



June 17, 2020 Photo Courtesy of Ellis Linke

LIGHTNING SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK June 21 - 27, 2020

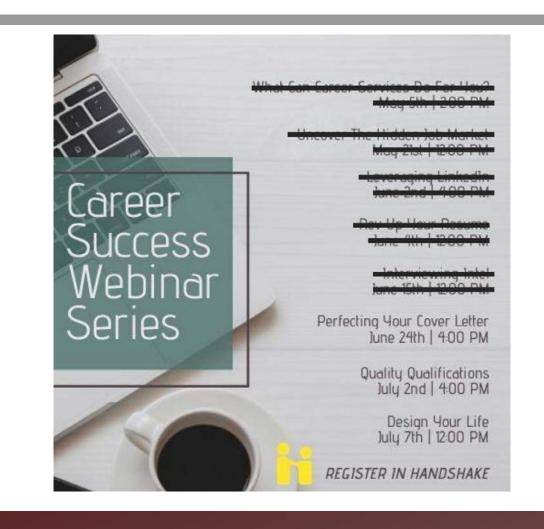
Dr. Erik Crosman speaks about lightning awareness

- The safest place to be is inside a building or vehicle. Hence the phrase "when thunder roars, go indoors!" Once indoors, don't touch corded phones (cell phones are OK), electrical equipment such as computers, and avoid plumbing and washing hands or showering. Stay away from open garages, porches, and exterior metal windows since electrical surges from lightning could still injure you in these areas.
- If you cannot get inside to safety and are forced to remain outside, the following can reduce (but not eliminate) your risk. Note that tents offer zero protection from lightning.
- 1. Avoid open fields, isolated trees and tall objects.
- 2. If you can verify that the flash flood risk is low, try to stay in lower elevation areas.
- 3. Spread out if you are in a group.
- 4. Stay away from water, wet items, ropes, and metal objects.

West Texas A&M recently obtained an educational grant for environmental instrumentation that includes a weather station with a lightning detection sensor that records the number and location of lightning strikes within 25 miles from the WTAMU campus. This equipment will provide hands on learning experiences to students in classes in the Department of Life, Earth and Environmental Sciences.

With frequent thunderstorms and severe weather, Texas has a lot of lightning. In 2019, Texas had more lightning strikes recorded than any other state in the USA – over 47 million!

More on Lightning Safety



DATES TO REMEMBER



6/22

Summer 1 Last Day to drop or withdraw with an X *Speak with an advisor



Summer 2 Full payment due if

registered before 6/28

✓ 7/7

Summer 1 Finals



7/8 Summer 2

Classes Begin

For the most up to date information from West Texas A&M University and the Texas A&M University System about COVID-19, visit the University's <u>COVID-19 Information Page</u>.

