Can you believe this record drought? It is ridiculous. Almost the entire state is under extreme or serious drought.

The line of weeping bald cypress are holding up in this drought amazingly well. Four gallons of water per day via drip system.

Building the trails! Thank you to Ryan Cupit and Ray Mize for helping us get ‘er done with this tractor and scraper. Eight acres are now tied together with .5 miles of red iron ore rock trail. Bridges and boardwalks will follow to make everything connect! Trail network design by Dave Creech, Barb Stump and Ryan Cupit.
Here’s an image of Ben, Brock and Charles when they learn they aren’t going to have to build the trail with shovels and wheelbarrows! All smiles!

We’re done! This red iron base will make a hard, firm trail. Many thanks to Ryan Cupit and Ray Mize for taking a difficult job and turning it into hours of work!

We are now officially a Firewise Community! Brian Oswald, Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture brings fire awareness to our University and our community, and it couldn’t be more timely! We’re a tinderbox as it now stands.
Our new SFA Recreational Trails and Gardens signs are up! Three locations on the 68-acre property. There are lots of rules here . . . however, there’s one main rule: enjoy!

New picnic tables are in place! Thanks to Howard Packard, Eagle Scout, for building picnic tables meant to last . . . and Tim Tindell, Scoutmaster, and Jim Lemon for supervising the construction. They’re meant to last and we like them so much we chained them to a mobile home anchor. No graffiti and carving, please!

We are having a major problem with drip lines being gnawed on by some critter - and I suspect this guy is guilty. It’s all about running out of water. Burrows creek is dry and our drip system is tempting.
My first idea? Well, we bought cheap plastic pans and have scattered them into the garden and we’ve got an emitter there to keep a refreshing pool of water for our furry friends. Is it working? Kind of. No, Brock, you can’t pull out your M-16.

I’m off to China Aug 29th and return September 14th . . . The Gayla Mize Garden is in fine shape in spite of an amazing drought and more heat than one can imagine. While no one wants a hurricane - maybe we can get a rain with a name? Let’s keep planting,

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