

2022 CAG Meetings

1/18/22 - T - Join us for a discussion on green jobs to replace jobs in towns and counties where jobs were lost to changes in the environment. We will watch a 30 minute film about a success story in Oregon and then talk about what we can do in Arkansas.

2/15/22 - T - Established in 1972, Buffalo National River flows freely for 135 miles and is one of the few remaining undammed rivers in the lower 48 states. The Buffalo National River turns 50 this year. Join us for our February virtual meeting to learn about the Buffalo River and ways the National Park Service is celebrating this 50th Anniversary. Our speaker is Mark Foust, Superintendent of the Buffalo National River.

3/15/22 - T - We will watch a short documentary on the dangers of coal ash. *Coal Ash Stories* is a compilation of four short films that illustrate the public health concerns, policy issues, and ways communities are responding to this toxic waste. The series informs residents and draws attention to the toxic impact of coal ash on communities.

4/19/22 - T - Join us at 6:30 pm on April 19th for our monthly meeting. Our Speaker will be Greg Ramon with Little Rock Water Reclamation Authority who will speak on efforts to improve our water reclamation system to ensure that we protect the environment as well as improve the system to meet the needs of the next generation.

5/17/22 - T - We are excited to have Theo Witsell as our May speaker. Please join us at 6:30. *Deserts in the Forest: Glade and Rock Outcrop Plant Communities of Arkansas*, presented by Theo Witsell, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission - While Arkansas receives enough rainfall to support forests and woodlands, the state is also home to a variety of open, dry grassland habitats generally referred to as glades and barrens. These naturally treeless, often rocky grasslands typically occur where bedrock outcrops or comes close to the surface of the ground, or where some other soil factor tips the ecological

scales in favor of grassland. Most often found on ridgetops or south- or west-facing aspects, glades are classified based on the type of bedrock over which they form, with different plant communities occurring on different substrates. Arkansas has glades on shale, sandstone, chert, novaculite, limestone, dolomite, chalk, and nepheline syenite (an igneous rock related to granite). Related habitats including saline barrens, sand barrens, sandbars, and riverscours barrens occur on unconsolidated substrates. Glades and barrens support a unique and diverse flora and fauna with species specially adapted to intense heat and drought. They are important habitats for rare plant and animal species including a many endemic species and a number of species disjunct from all points of the compass (but especially to the west). Glades and barrens are of high conservation value and are threatened by various factors including development, surface mining, impoundment of rivers and streams, and changes in ecosystem processes such as fire suppression and the resulting encroachment of woody vegetation. This talk will characterize each of the major types of glades and barrens in the state and briefly discuss their distribution, ecology, rare species, and conservation status.

6/21/22 - T - Please join us for our June meeting via Zoom at 6:30 pm. We are thrilled to show "First River: How Arkansas Saved a National Treasure". This Ozark Society film presents the history of the Buffalo National River from the 1960s to the present day. The film identifies the people and organizations that stopped the plans to dam the river and achieved the designation of the Buffalo River as America's first National River.

7/19/22 - Tu - 6:30 pm - Matt McNair, Division of Arkansas State Parks, will be our July speaker. Matt will focus on the potential conservation benefits of an extensive rails-to-trails system in Arkansas, with rail trails providing not only a space for human recreation, but serving as corridors for wildlife, birds, and pollinators. Matt McNair is director of the Outdoor Recreation Grants Program/State Trails Coordinator (Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism). Along with

providing grant assistance and project advice to municipalities and counties in Arkansas, he has served as the Arkansas State Trails Coordinator since 2020. He is a native of Bruno, Arkansas (Marion County), and currently lives in Little Rock, where his wife owns and operates Bella Vita Jewelry. When not serving the citizens of Arkansas in his official capacity, he enjoys gardening, hiking, canoeing, and pretty much anything else to be done in the Arkansas out-of-doors.

8/16/22 - T - No meeting in August

9/20/22 - Tu - 6:30 pm - **CAG Meeting** - Join us for our September meeting. We are finally meeting in person again. Will Flatley will speak on Tree Streets. Tree Streets is a group of volunteers who plant trees in Little Rock urban areas to enhance tree cover and shade among other benefits of living in a tree lined neighborhood. Join us at our new location: Hibernia Irish Tavern, 9700 N. Rodney Parham Rd., Little Rock, AR 72227. The meeting starts at 6:30. Arrive early to eat before the meeting.

10/19/22 - Wednesday (not Tuesday) - 6:30 pm - Planned agenda: Little Rock mayoral candidates. Where do the candidates for Little Rock Mayor stand on environmental issues? Join us October 19th to find out.
Mayor Frank Scott - confirmed
Greg Henderson - confirmed
Steve Landers - invited
Glen Schwarz - confirmed

11/8/2022 - LR - Ron Robinson Theatre - **Arlette Laan: Hiking the 11 National Scenic Trails** - Doors: 6 pm - Presentation: 7 pm - Arlette Laan is the first woman to have completed all 11 National Scenic Trails - totaling over 18,000 miles. Her talk will include brief descriptions of the trails she's hiked, her observations on the changes in long distance hiking over time, and tips on perseverance. In addition to hiking and backpacking, Arlette enjoys photography and doll making. Her dolls can be found on her Instagram page, which is located on her website:
<http://arlettelaan.com/>. [Click HERE](#) for a downloadable PDF flier of the presentation.

November CAG meeting - The above presentation is on the **2nd Tuesday** of November and replaces the normal CAG meeting normally held on the third Tuesday of November. Co-sponsors of the November 8 presentation include the **Sierra Club - Central Arkansas Group** as well as the following: **The Ozark Society, Friends of the Ouachita Trail (FooT), ArkansasOutside.com**, and the **Central Arkansas Library System (CALs)**.