

Past Meetings: 2015 [2016](#) [2017](#) [2018](#) [2019](#)
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2015 Past Meetings

1/20/15 Meeting - Speaker: Dan Scheiman, bird conservation director with Audubon

- - - - He works on the Fouche Creek Project and will speak on cleaning up urban environments. December - No meeting in December

2/17/15 Meeting - Cancelled due to icy roads

3/17/15 Meeting - Speaker: Eric Sundell, who recently completed work on the new color edition of the Forestry Commission's book Trees of Arkansas, will be discussing the book, showing previous editions, and emphasizing novelties in the new edition. A limited number of copies of the book should be available for sale for \$5.

4/21/15 Meeting - Speaker: Anna Weeks, the Environmental Policy Coordinator at the Arkansas Public Policy Panel, will provide a rundown on the state's legislative initiatives and legislative trends as she sees them for the next session.

5/19/15 Meeting - **Fracking in the Fayetteville Shale** - A Focus on Air Quality & Regulatory Responsiveness - This presentation will cover some of the basics of Fracking in Arkansas, and will focus on the results of recent air sampling by community members in the Fayetteville Shale; it will also cover the response by Federal and State regulators who have been presented this air quality data. **Speaker:** Emily Lane, Director of ArkansasFracking.org, PhD Candidate - Leadership Studies.

6/16/15 Meeting - Speaker: Chuck Bidding - on National Forest Service Nutrient Testing in Big Creek and Buffalo River (related to the C&G Hog Farm)

7/21/15 Meeting - Speaker: Becky Williams on Sierra Club activism and the Wolf Project.

August - No meeting in August

9/15/15 Meeting - Note PROGRAM CHANGE - At this month's meeting, our own battle-scarred Sierra Club Arkansas Director [Glen Hooks](#) is fresh out of the trenches to give us an update on the White Bluff Power Plant, Regional Haze, and the Turk Plant settlement. Come grab a cold one, listen to war stories, and learn how you can aid in the fight against dirty coal. There have been some major battles fought lately in our war on people who would rather make money by burning dirty coal than, you know, be able to breathe clean air.

10/20/15 Meeting - Speaker: Bruce McMath (CAAS President) - Presentation on need to work towards a dark skies objective for the Little Rock area.

10/20/15 Meeting - Speaker: Ross Nolan to talk about the Buffalo River Foundation. [presentation postponed until 2016]

11/17/15 Meeting - Speaker: Walter Collins, Director of Operations and Facilities for the Little Rock Wastewater

Utility. Walter is very knowledgeable and a good communicator. He has cutting edge of knowledge on wastewater treatment

2016 - Past Meetings

1/19/16 Tu - CAG meeting - Panel discussion on I-30 expansion issue. Panel includes Kathy Wells.

2/16/16 Tu - CAG meeting - Zac McCannon on seed swap - Title: How do Seed Swaps put Power Back in the Hands of the People? - Blurb: Zack McCannon, documentary filmmaker, Seed Swap in the Ozarks - How do Seed Swaps put power back in the hands of the people? How can Seed Swaps increase food security for your family and region? How do you start a Seed Swap and begin sharing open-pollinated varieties with your community? Zack will answer these questions and facilitate further group discussion on the Seed Swap documentary, local food production, local food purchasing, and the social and economic power that food yields. Watch Seed Swap before the meeting @ <https://youtu.be/az7L6d7bhn0> Attend a Seed Swap before the meeting @ the Faulkner County Library on February 14, 2016 from 1-4pm. - Short Bio: Zack McCannon has worked at AETN since 2012 and is currently producing the feature length documentary History of Music In Arkansas: Origins 200 BCE - 1941 CE. Zack is also an active member in Conway's local food movement and is helping to build Bell Urban Farm across from the Faulkner County Library.

3/15/16 Tu - CAG meeting - Ross Nolan - Buffalo River Foundation

4/19/16 Tu - CAG meeting - Chris Hiryak - Little Rock Urban farms

5/17/16 Tu - CAG meeting - Dana F Steward, author of "A Rough Sort of Beauty" - Reflections on the Natural Heritage of Arkansas

6/21/16 Tu - CAG meeting - Bob Allen and Alice Andrews from the Buffalo River Alliance will provide an update on the latest testing done at the hog factory on Big Creek which is polluting the Buffalo River watershed. Come learn more about what you can do to help Save the Buffalo.

7/19/16 Tu - CAG meeting - Program: Emily Bemis (Bemis Tree Farm) on bee keeping

8/16/16 Tu - No CAG meeting in August

9/20/16 Tu - CAG meeting - Forum on the I-30 Crossing project: Tom Fennell, Patrick Stair, Barry Haas, and Kathy Wells will be discussing status.

10/18/16 Tu - CAG meeting - Please join us next Tuesday to hear from representatives of the West Pulaski Committee as they talk about their efforts to protect Fletcher Creek and Nowlin Creek. Two high density subdivisions have been proposed in Western Pulaski County. The developers of these subdivisions want to use residential sewer treatment plants and discharge tens of thousands of "treated" sewage directly

into Fletcher Creek and Nowlin Creek. Fletcher Creek runs down stream into four recreational use areas: Okatoma Camp, Pfeifer Camp, Walnut Grove Church, and Pinnacle Mountain State Park. Any serious contamination of the stream could shut these areas down and/or cause health problems. The proposed subdivision on Nowlin Creek will be 134 homes on 36 acres and requires a sewage treatment plant that will discharge 40,000 gallons of treated sewage daily into Nowlin Creek, a tributary of the Little Maumelle River. This means the Little Maumelle will be stressed with treated sewage from two high density subdivisions. Come learn how we can help protect these two West Pulaski County creeks. For more information a letter Arkansas Sierra Club wrote to the Little Rock Planning Commission in opposition to these proposed subdivisions can be found at (to be supplied).

11/15/16 Tu - CAG meeting - Please join us Tuesday, November 15th at 7:00pm at the Oyster Bar on Markham for an important film "Company Town" by the director/producer Natalie Kottke-Masocco which is about a minority community in Crossett AR and their struggles with the Georgia-Pacific (Koch Industries) factory there and the air pollution, illegal dumping, water contamination, cancer clusters in their neighborhood, discriminatory remediation practices, and the lackluster support from the EPA and ADEQ. This will be a 1 ½ hour program but well worth the extra time!!!!!!

12/20/16 Tu - No CAG meeting in December

2017 - Past Meetings

1/17/17 Tu - Amanda Kennedy to talk about the Diamond Pipeline that is planned to come through Arkansas and what her organization is doing about it.

2/21/17 Tu - An update on the Arkansas Legislative Session and what we expect from upcoming bills. Jesse Gibson from the Arkansas Trial Lawyers Association will join Glen Hooks to discuss SJR8.

3/21/17 Tu - Presentation: /ew South Produce Cooperative

4/18/17 Tu - Talk by Melinda Glasgow the Sustainability Officer for the City of Little Rock. Come early and socialize with other members!!!

5/16/17 Tu - Outdoor program by Trey Reid

6/20/17 Tu - Emily Kearns - Audubon - will talk about her work on climate change and how it affects birds

7/18/17 Tu - Bruce McMath - will discuss the Dark Sky Initiative and other environmental issues

August - No meeting in August

9/19/17 Tu

10/17/17 Tu - Edward Swaim of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission will educate us on the status of the extremely important **Arkansas State Water Plan**. We will also hear updates on state and national environmental issues and get information on upcoming Sierra Club outings around the state. Social hour begins

at 6:30 p.m., and the program begins promptly at 7:00 p.m.

10/17/17 Tu - The October program will be from Edward Swaim of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, who will educate us on the status of the extremely important **Arkansas State Water Plan**. We will also hear updates on state and national environmental issues and get information on upcoming Sierra Club outings around the state. Social hour begins at 6:30 p.m., and the program begins promptly at 7:00 p.m. For more information, please contact George Wise at bgcdwise@swbell.net

11/21/17 Tu - Paul Byrd and Jesse Gibson will discuss **Dicamba** and other corporate Agricultural issues as well as Issue One which will be on the ballot in November 2018.

December - No meeting in December

2018 - Past Meetings

1/16/18 Tu - Meeting cancelled due to weather

2/20/18 Tu - Program: The Arkansas premier of the 96-minute documentary **Before the Flood**.

From Academy Award®-winning filmmaker Fisher Stevens and Academy Award®-winning actor, environmental activist and U.N. Messenger of Peace Leonardo DiCaprio, *Before the Flood* presents a riveting account of the dramatic changes now occurring around the world due to climate change, as well as the actions we as individuals and as a society can take to prevent the disruption of life on our planet. Beyond the steps we can take as individuals, the film urges viewers to push their elected officials in supporting the use of alternative energy sources such as solar and wind power. "We need everyone to demand bold action from their political leaders and to elect representatives who have their best interests at heart, not the interests of corporations to perpetuate a cycle of greed and destruction," says DiCaprio. "This documentary shows how interconnected the fate of all humanity is — but also the power we all possess as individuals to build a better future for our planet."

3/20/18 Tu - Please join us on Tuesday, March 20th, for an update on the C & H hog farm. Brian Thompson of the Buffalo River Watershed Alliance will bring us up to date on the status of the fight to protect the Buffalo.

4/17/18 Tu - Join us at the Oyster Bar for our candidates forum featuring candidates for the 2nd Congressional District and candidates for District 33 in the Arkansas House. Candidates to discuss environmental issues. - Arrive before 6:30 pm to eat and visit with other members. Starts at 7 pm.

5/15/18 Tu - Janine Stephens from Cromwell and Associates discuss green building techniques for the park in Helena as well as other projects she has worked on. Jeannine Stephens, senior architect at Cromwell Architects Engineers, will present a program on some of her green Architecture projects. Ms. Stephens is a LEED professional and a member of the US Green Building

Council (USGBC). Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is a rating system devised by the USGBC to evaluate the environmental performance of a building and encourage market transformation towards sustainable design.

6/19/18 Tu - Don Castleberry from the National Wildlife Federation Arkansas Chapter and a retired National Park Ranger

7/17/18 Tu - Robin Gabe an interpreter from Arkansas Parks and Recreation

No meeting in August

9/18/18 Tu - scheduled Robert Houston from the Arkansas Wildlife Federation to speak

10/16/18 Tu - candidate forum to include mayoral candidates Baker Kurrus, Warwick Sabin, and maybe Frank Scott

11/20/18 Tu - panel to speak on 2019 legislative priorities

No meeting in December

2019 - Past Meetings

1/15/19 Tu - Program: Taylor Bridges with Arkansans for a Container Deposit Law discussed the bottle bill she and others are working to pass in the current session of the Arkansas Legislature.

2/19/19 Tu - Program: Faith Mullins of Plastic Free Little Rock discussed her group's efforts to encourage businesses and individuals to reduce plastic waste.

3/19/19 Tu - Program: Audrey Beedle from Arkansas Audubon updated us on SB 145, the solar expansion bill, and explained amendments to the bill.

4/16/19 Tu - Program: Chapter Director Glen Hooks provided recap on recent Legislative session.

5/21/19 Tu - Program: Scott Simon from The Nature Conservancy will talk about a recent survey of Arkansans' attitudes on the environment.

6/18/19 Tu - Program: Justin Zachary and Joe Denton, re I-30 and I-630 lawsuits

7/16/19 Tu - Program: Mark Mulkerin, Little Rock Chapter leader for the Citizens' Climate Lobby

8/xx/19 - CAG does not schedule a meeting in August.

9/17/19 Tu - Program/Speaker: Richard Mason. Environmentalist. His environmental column is in The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette each Sunday. The topic will be Rewilding Arkansas.

10/15/19 Tu - Program/Speaker: Josh Davenport, a well-known figure in the Arkansas Solar Energy realm - October 10 update: The Oyster Bar location has been confirmed for the remainder of the year.

11/19/19 Tu - Program/Speaker: Ross Noland - Navigability of Arkansas rivers and streams

12/xx/19 - CAG does not schedule a meeting in December.

2020 Past Meetings

Note: CAG normally meets in the party room of the Oyster Bar at 3003 West Markham. However, the Jan/Feb 2020 meetings were at the **Hibernia Irish Tavern**, 9700 N Rodney Parham Rd # K, Little Rock, AR 72227, (501) 246-4340, <https://www.hiberniairishtavern.com>

1/21/20 - Tu - Program: Trey Reid - Bottom Land Green Forest Restoration and Preservation – He is a public spokesman for AGFC and hosts the TV show "Arkansas Wildlife" on channel 4 at 11:00 PM on Sun. evenings.

Change of location for January: The January meeting will be at the **Hibernia Irish Tavern**, 9700 N Rodney Parham Rd # K, Little Rock, AR 72227, (501) 246-4340, <https://www.hiberniairishtavern.com> - The meeting starts at 7 pm. Member commonly start arriving around 6 pm to socialize.

Directions: From I-430, head southeast on Rodney Parham about 3/4 mile, then turn left onto Satterfield. From Reservoir Rd, head northwest about 1/3 mile on Rodney Parham, then turn right onto Satterfield. **Hibernia** is located at the top of the hill on the right in the far end of The Galleria Shopping Center. Happy Hour 4 to 7 p.m.

2/18/20 - Tu - Program: We have invited all Circuit Court judge candidates in Pulaski County to attend and speak. Sierra Club is a justice organization and we invite you to come meet these judicial candidates. This is a chance to learn more about the many judicial races on the March ballot. Meet and greet at 6pm. Program at 7pm. Oyster Bar is still under renovation so our meeting is at Hibernia Irish Tavern. Hibernia Irish Tavern, 9700 N Rodney Parham Rd, Little Rock, Ar 72227, 501-246-4340.

3/17/20 - Tu - Out of concern for the health of our members and friends, our March meeting (planned to meet at the Oyster Bar) is cancelled. We hope to resume meeting in April.

4/21/20 - Tu - The April meeting has been cancelled.

5/19/20 - Tu - Unless directions change, the May meeting will be cancelled.

Posted 4/9/20 - Latest word from the Sierra Club: Sierra Club will continue to demonstrate our care for ourselves and our communities by canceling outings, training workshops, and social events through June 14th. And please consult your local government guidance, partner organization and community policies additionally. This extended timeline applies to all Sierra Club outings, training, social events, meetings, etc.

6/16/20 - Tu - CAG (in-person) meetings are on hold until further notice. Tuesday evening meetings will be on-line for now. Contact the CAG Chair GEORGE WISE at bgcdwise@swbell.net to be added to distribution list of future meeting notices.

7/21/20 - Tu - Program:
No CAG meeting in August

9/15/20 - Tu - Program: Emily Roberts, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission (virtual)

10/20/20 - Tu - Program: Dicamba: Drifting Toward Disaster - The increasing use of dicamba is putting birds at risk in our agricultural landscape. Dicamba is an herbicide, the use of which is skyrocketing because Monsanto/Bayer is pushing its soybean and cotton varieties that have been genetically modified to be resistant. Dicamba's volatility means it can do damage to non-GMO crops and native plants far beyond where applied. Dan will provide an update on Audubon Arkansas's advocacy and community science monitoring campaigns. Dr. Dan Scheiman is Bird Conservation Director for Audubon Arkansas. Dan has a B.S. from Cornell University, M.S. from Eastern Illinois University, and Ph.D. from Purdue University. He and his coworkers advocate for birds, restore wildlife habitat, and help Arkansans improve their local environments.

11/17/20 – Tu – 6:30 – 8 pm – **CAG (Central Arkansas Group) On-line Meeting** - We are excited to have a representative from the Little Rock hub of the Sunrise Movement join us to talk about the great work they are doing combating climate change. "Sunrise is a youth movement to stop climate change and create millions of good jobs in the process. We're building an army of young people to make climate change an urgent priority across America, end the corrupting influence of fossil fuel executives on our politics, and elect leaders who stand up for the health and well being of all people." To access the meeting, (if you have not already received an e-mail with access info) please send an e-mail message to the CAG Chair George Wise at bgcdwise@swbell.net

In-person Sierra Club events are currently on hold. In-person meetings will likely not be conducted until March 2021. (Local outings are cancelled through the end of the February 2021.) Contact the CAG Chair for info on future on-line meeting.

No CAG meeting in December

2021 Past Meetings

In-person Sierra Club events are currently on hold. In-person meetings will likely not be conducted until March 2021. (Local outings are cancelled through the end of the February 2021.) If you have not been receiving e-mail messages about on-line meetings, please send an e-mail message to the CAG Chair George Wise at bgcdwise@swbell.net for info on future meeting.

The Central Arkansas Group (CAG) normally meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month except August and December in Little Rock. Social time begins at 6:30 pm and the program starts at 7 pm. All are welcome to attend. You do not have to be a member of the Sierra Club to attend. The meeting schedule is shown below. For other events, select the Events tab, then **Club Events** from the drop-down menu.

Check the **Campfire Calendar** for more info ...and please check the Home Page a few days before each meeting to confirm location/program/speaker(s).