



dallas sierra club news

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Dallas Sierra Club Annual Holiday Party, Sunday December 12, 6:00 pm

All Sierra Club members, friends, and their guests are invited to our annual holiday party at Winfrey Point located on White Rock Lake. This year's party will feature a wine tasting contest, dinner, music, and prizes. Everyone is invited to bring either their favorite bottle of wine for the wine tasting. The dinner is pot luck, so bring a covered dish to share. Also help us save on paper plates and plastic cups by bringing your own plate, glass (and wine glass), silverware and napkin. Great prizes (well, maybe pretty good prizes) will be awarded to those bringing the best organic wine, the bottle with the most original holiday label, and other surprise categories. Tickets are \$10 per person at the door. Need directions? [Here](#) is a Google map.

Sierra Club Calendars

Get your new 2011 Sierra Club calendars at the December General Meeting. We'll also have them at the Holiday Party on December 12. Support the Dallas Sierra Club - buy your calendars from us (cash or check only please).

Sierra Club Gift Wrapping at REI

During this busy holiday season, who has time to wrap gifts? The Dallas Sierra Club does!

It's time for the Sierra Club's annual holiday gift wrap fundraiser at the Dallas REI store. REI is located on the north side of LBJ/I-635, between Midway Road and Welch Road in North Dallas. Easy and fun! With your help we can help a lot of

shoppers get their packages wrapped and make some money for the Dallas Sierra Club. You can sign up [online](#) or contact [Carol Nash](#) for more information.

2010-2011 Annual Fund Raising Campaign

Dear Sierra Club Supporter:

As many of you already know, the Dallas Sierra Club depends on direct donations for over 90% of its budget. With the mid-term elections behind us, the Club faces new challenges and the need to continue our fight against corporate polluters is greater than ever. The last two years have brought progress, but those gains can be lost. Frankly, your support now is more important than ever.

As your local group dealing with local issues, we only make this request one time per year and your generosity will be greatly appreciated by the people, places, and wildlife we all work so hard to preserve.

Thank you for your support. Please visit [this link](#) to make your donation. In these tough economic times, it is critical every member make some type of contribution.

Your Dallas Chair,
Wendel Withrow
972-416-2500

General Meeting Program - December 14, 7:00 pm - Refreshments at 6:30

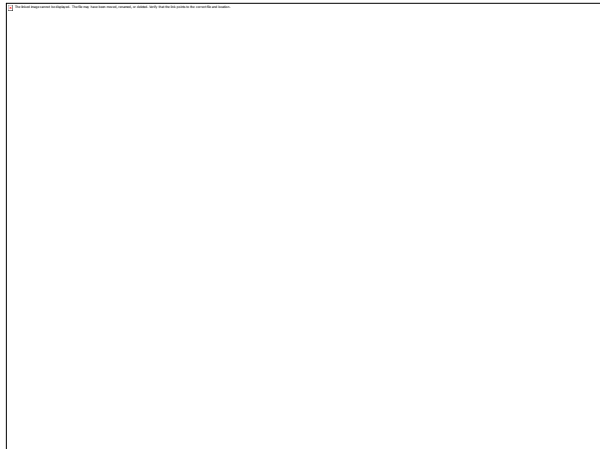
We have two great speakers lined up for our December program. Don't miss it!

Protecting Caddo Lake: A Wetland of International Importance

By Richard Lowerre: President of the Caddo Lake Institute

Caddo Lake is Texas' only naturally formed lake. It includes over 6,000 acres of flooded bald cypress forest, some 400 years old. You have to see it to believe it, so bring your canoe, kayak or fishing pole, but do not forget the GPS or you could spend days lost in this wonderland.

In the 1990, Caddo Lake became the thirteenth "Ramsar Wetland Site" in the United States. The Ramsar Convention was signed in 1971 to protect wetlands of international importance. Over 150 nations have signed the treaty and agreed to protect wetlands within their boundaries. There are now over 1,800 designated Ramsar sites around the world, 30 sites in the United States, and one in Texas. The Caddo Lake Ramsar Site includes approximately 20,000 acres on the Texas-Louisiana



Border. The site includes federal and state lands and a large amount of private lands. The Caddo Lake Institute (CLI) led the effort to obtain the designation, and now leads a cooperative effort to protect the wetlands so future generations can enjoy and benefit from this natural wonder.

CLI was founded by Don Henley of the Eagles in 1993 and remains chairman of the board of the organization. Rick Lowerre has been the president since 2006, and represented CLI as its attorney for many years before becoming president. Rick has a long history with Sierra Club, serving as one of its first "paid" lobbyists at the Texas Legislature in 1975. He is a partner in Lowerre, Frederick, Perales, Allmon and Rockwell, a law firm that represents environmental groups, landowners and local governments fighting pollution and risks to public health.

The Texas Legacy Project: Stories of Courage and Conservation

David Todd, Coordinator of the Conservation History Association of Texas, will speak about the book, "The Texas Legacy Project: Stories of Courage and Conservation", released in September from Texas A&M Press. The book draws from a large archive of oral history interviews with environmentalists in the state, including visits with ranchers, farmers, politicians, scientists, and many citizen advocates. It is illustrated with photos, maps, timelines and other materials to give context to the excerpts. The goal is to describe individual environmentalists' efforts and insights, outline the conservation movement's progress in the state, and help recruit a new generation to the effort. Background and comments about the book are posted at www.texaslegacy.org/bb/book.html

David Todd is the founder, coordinator, and interviewer for the Conservation History Association of Texas. He has worked as a hydrologist, environmental attorney, conservation donor, and cattle rancher, and has served on the boards of Audubon Texas, the Texas Conservation Alliance, Texas League of Conservation Voters, and the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club.

Click on over to our [General Meeting page](#) of our website for full details about our program. We also have directions to the meeting, including a map.

Outings Highlights

White Rock Lake Cleanup - December 11

Walk and talk while helping to pick up trash and recyclables at the Sierra Club's adopted section of White Rock Lake Park. Meet at 8:15 AM at the Love of the Lake office on the Northeast corner of Garland Rd. and Buckner Blvd. Look for a crowd of people drinking free juice and coffee. Gloves, trash bags, etc. provided. Our area includes one of the wonderful prairie restoration areas, so there are always birds and wildflowers to enjoy. The lake and your karma will thank you. Brunch afterwards. Leader: [Carol Nash](#) 214-824-0244(H)

Taos Bus Trip - February 17-21

NEW DATE! Have a memorable President's Day weekend and come play in the snow! Mark your calendars now so you can join us for this very popular annual trip to enjoy the winter beauty of northern New Mexico. We'll leave Dallas on our sleeper bus around dinner time on Thur. Feb. 17 and return early morning on Mon. Feb. 21. The trip is very economical and offers choice of great hotel in Taos with hot tub or backpacking/yurt accommodations. Tentative activity options include alpine snowshoeing, downhill skiing, snowboarding, snowtubing, a visit to a local area of interest (such as a cultural attraction) or you can just relax and enjoy the galleries, museums, shops, food and beauty of this scenic and historical town. Activity ratings range from easy to moderately strenuous. Trip includes transportation to/from Taos, Taos Ski Valley, trailheads and destinations

to activities included in the trip. Complete details, cost and reservation information will be posted on our website soon. To be sure to get a seat, send an email message to the trip leader or sign up for our Outings News email list so you'll receive notification when the trip write up is online and reservations open. Bus trip leader: [Liz Wheelan](#) 214-368-2306(H)

For a complete list of our outings, [visit our outings page](#).

Recycling Round-Up

by Rita Raccoon

Recent Recycling News - December 2010

Texas Rangers Go Green for World Series

Rangers Ballpark in Arlington has been spotted with the team's red, white and blue colors for the World Series. But behind the scenes, there has also been plenty of green.

The most notable effort made by the organization to highlight its ongoing environmentally friendly initiatives was to invite 150 local volunteers to assist with recycling efforts. During each of the three World Series games hosted by Texas, 50 youth from the Volunteer Center of North Texas canvassed the stadium collecting recyclable products.

Though the Rangers don't enjoy this type of volunteer corps during the regular season, the hope is that this three-day effort will encourage other local groups to consider volunteering for this type of project throughout the year.

Local Site for Recycling Information

<http://www.timetorecycle.com/>

This is the regional recycling site noteworthy for featuring residential recycling, recycling locations, where to buy recycled, composting corner, and games.

Close the Loop...Buy Recycled!

Buy Recycled at Home

Recycled materials are not truly recycled until we reuse them. The materials that we recycle do not truly benefit the environment until a demand is created for them. You can increase the demand by using your purchase power. Be an environmental shopper!

Most importantly, buying recycled turns waste into a useful resource for making other products and diverts waste from our landfills. So close the loop and buy recycled!

What Consumers Should Look For:

Check for the recycle symbol on the following products:

- Cereal, cookie, and cracker packages
- Canned foods and beverages
- Detergent and cleaning supply containers
- Glass containers
- Shampoo and beauty products
- Paper towels and bathroom tissue
- Writing paper, notepads, greeting cards, and stationary

- Carpeting
- Tools
- Plastic flower pots, trash cans, bins, and fencing
- Packing boxes
- Re-refined motor oil
- Retread tires
- Automotive batteries
- Insulation in ski jackets, gloves, and sleeping bags made from recycled PET bottles.

Definitions of Terms on Product Packaging

Here are a few terms you may encounter on product packaging:

Pre-consumer waste: This includes the paper scraps, overruns, and misprints from the manufacturer. These fibers are reused to produce new paper. It does not include any material from household or commercial recycling programs.

Post-consumer waste: These materials have all been produced, sold consumed, and collected. Anything you recycle at home or at work is included in this category. Using these materials helps promote recycling programs by creating a market for our recyclables. In order for recycling programs to continue, we as consumers must purchase products with at least some post-consumer waste.

Recyclable: The word "recyclable" simply means that the product can be recycled. If you see this on packaging, it does not mean that the product is made of recycled materials.

Calendar

Here is our calendar for the next two months. For complete listings, visit us at www.dallassierraclub.org.



DEC 6 (MON) SIERRA SINGLES DINNER ON DEC 6TH AT BANANA LEAF

DECEMBER 6TH (MON) SIERRA SINGLES DINNER AT BANANA LEAF at 6:30 PM We are having our next montly dinner at the Thai Restaurant called Banana Leaf Restaurant located at 17370 Preston Rd. Suite 500, in Dallas TX 75252. Please google or mapquest directions. Lots of vegetarian choices. Brian Shade is sponsoring the get-together, and will be there to introduce folks and mingle. It will start at about 6:30PM, so come out with the kindred souls that love the environment and love Dallas. Their number is 972 713-0123 in case you cant find it, and Brian Shade's number is 972-467-7049, and my number (Ginger) is still 469-223-7902. See you there, and have a great November. AND Dont forget the most excellent Sierra Club of Dallas Holiday Party on December 12th, at White Rock Lake, its on a Sunday nite, 6 to 9. It will be wonderful, there will be a potluck and free wine and door prizes and bandannas and of course great people to meet. See the website of Dallas Sierra Club for details soon. Coordinators: Ginger Bradley 469-223-7902(C) and [Paul Heller](mailto:Paul.Heller@dallassierraclub.org) 972-620-1703(H)



DEC 11 (SAT) WHITE ROCK LAKE CLEANUP.

Walk and talk while helping to pick up trash and recyclables at the Sierra Club's adopted section of White Rock Lake Park. Meet at 8:15 AM at the Love of the Lake office on the Northeast corner of Garland Rd. and Buckner Blvd. Look for a crowd of people drinking free juice and coffee. Gloves, trash bags, etc. provided. Our area includes one of the wonderful prairie restoration areas, so there are always

birds and wildflowers to enjoy. The lake and your karma will thank you. Brunch afterwards. Leader: [Carol Nash](#) 214-824-0244(H)



DEC 14 (TUE) DALLAS SIERRA CLUB GENERAL MEETING Everyone is invited to the General Meeting of the Dallas Sierra Club. See [above](#) for details.



DEC 15-16 (WED-THU) SUNSET TESTIMONY ON TCEQ AND RAILROAD COMMISSION IN AUSTIN The state environmental agency is up for review. If you've had enough of the lax enforcement, the permitting, the lack of public support by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, then you will want to testify down at the state capital in Austin. To learn more, go to www.actexas.org for times. Testimony continues on December 16th.



JAN 19 (WED) OUTINGS COMMITTEE MEETING. Meet in the upstairs program room at REI (on north side of LBJ between Midway and Welch), at 6:30 PM. Bring your ideas for the Dallas Sierra Club Outings program. We will be planning local outings and bus trips. All outings leaders, future outings leaders, and interested Sierrans welcome. Ask Bill to be placed on the email list for an agenda. Contact: [Bill Greer](#) 972-247-0446(H)



FEB 17-21 (THU-MON) 2011 BUS TRIP TO TAOS, NM NEW DATE! Have a memorable President's Day weekend and come play in the snow! Mark your calendars now so you can join us for this very popular annual trip to enjoy the winter beauty of northern New Mexico. We'll leave Dallas on our sleeper bus around dinner time on Thur. Feb. 17 and return early morning on Mon. Feb. 21. The trip is very economical and offers choice of great hotel in Taos with hot tub or backpacking/yurt accommodations. Tentative activity options include alpine snowshoeing, downhill skiing, snowboarding, snowtubing, a visit to a local area of interest (such as a cultural attraction) or you can just relax and enjoy the galleries, museums, shops, food and beauty of this scenic and historical town. Activity ratings range from easy to moderately strenuous. Trip includes transportation to/from Taos, Taos Ski Valley, trailheads and destinations to activities included in the trip. Complete details, cost and reservation information will be on our website soon. To be sure to get a seat, send an email message to the trip leader or sign up for our Outings News email list so you'll receive notification when the trip write up is online and reservations open. Bus trip leader: [Liz Wheelan](#) 214-368-2306(H)

The Dallas Sierra Club News e-newsletter, sent monthly (and occasional for late-breaking news or events), keeps you up-to-date on meetings, activities, issues and special events.
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