



dallas group  
lone star chapter

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

## dallas sierra club news

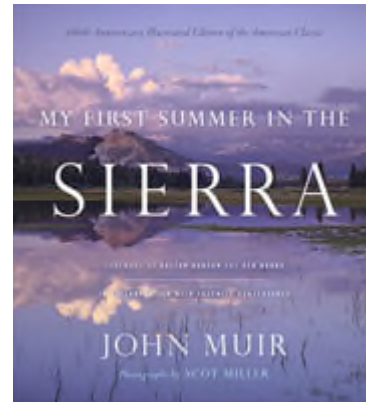
### March, 2012: In This Issue. . .

- [Sierra Club General Meeting](#) - Tuesday, March 13
- [St. Patrick's Day Parade](#) - Help With Our Recycling Effort
- [Earth Day](#) - Volunteers Needed
- [Keystone XL Pipeline](#) - Get the Information You Need to Know
- [Outings Highlights](#) - Memorial Day Bus Trip
- [Spring Outings Classes](#) - It's Time for More Spring Classes
- [Recycling Roundup](#) - by Rita Raccoon
- [Calendar](#) - Find out what's going on in the Dallas Sierra Club

### General Meeting Program - March 13, 7:00 pm - Refreshments at 6:30

#### Experiencing John Muir's Sierra: A Photographer's Story

Photographer/videographer Scot Miller talks about his experiences creating and selecting the photographs for *My First Summer in the Sierra: 100th Anniversary Illustrated Edition*, a new edition of John Muir's classic, published in collaboration with Yosemite Conservancy. He will also screen a short documentary "Experiencing John Muir's Sierra: A Photographer's Story," present additional video clips (including one on the proposed Maine Woods National Park) and slides, and take questions from the audience. After the presentation, Miller will sign copies of *My First Summer in the Sierra: 100th Anniversary Illustrated Edition*.



#### Biking in North Texas

We'll also have a short program about bicycling in North Texas.

BikeDFW is the bicycle advocacy organization for North Texas whose goals are to improve air quality and public health, decrease traffic congestion, and reduce reliance on fossil fuels by promoting increased use of bicycles for transportation and recreation. Marc Mumby will discuss the current state of bicycling in North Texas and provide tips on bike commuting and riding safely on city streets.

Marc Mumby is the President of BikeDFW who is also a faculty member at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, an avid cyclist and hiker, occasional bike commuter, and cycling instructor certified by the League of American Bicyclists.

**Everyone is welcome.** You don't have to be a Sierra Club member. Just show up. We'd love to meet you.

Our General Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. but come at 6:30 for snacks, information and fellowship. We'll also have a quick Sierra Club orientation (Sierra Club 101) for new members and visitors. Click over to our [General Meeting page](#) of our website for more information and a map.

### St. Patrick's Day Parade - Help Recycle

The annual Greenville Ave. St. Patrick's Day Parade is one of the largest St. Patrick's Day parades in the country (~100K people, 100+ floats). This iconic Dallas event creates lots of recyclable waste AND opportunity for fun!

This will be our 5th year (!! ) to help make St Patrick's Day in Dallas even greener! We've collected over one ton of materials in that time and are seeking volunteers to join the 2012 Parade Recycling Team to help divert as many recyclables as possible from the landfill!



Volunteers can collect recycling from parade viewers, stroll along with our entry to promote conservation and witness the craziness of this iconic parade from inside the barricades.

Volunteers will receive nifty green t-shirts, day of event sponsor gifts (drink vouchers, working on concert tix, etc.) and a memory of a lifetime.

Eventbrite [RSVP](#) (select the Volunteer ticket):  
<http://2012stpatparaderecyclingteam.eventbrite.com/>

#### General Info:

- Date: Saturday - March 17th, 2012!
- Approx. Volunteer Time: 9:30a-1:30p (4 hrs) - Rain or Shine!
- You must RSVP to receive a parade access badge. Meet in old Sam's Club parking lot by 10am (in front of Vickery Heath Center in strip shopping mall - 8224 Park Ln #130, 75231). Police begin closing surrounding roads by 9:30a, so please allow ample travel time.
- Use DART to avoid parking hassles (Saturday schedule) - NO parking in old Sam's Club lot.
- Past Parade Recycling Effort: Photos or Detailed Info (which is similar to this year)
- What to do between now and then? RSVP to Volunteer on Eventbrite! Share with your friends and social networks (Recycling Team Facebook Page)!

More details will be provided to RSVPs as the event nears. All are welcome to participate.

### Earth Day - Volunteers Needed

Earth Day gives us a time to stop and think about what we can do - EVERY day - to make our world a better place. The Dallas Sierra Club is seeking volunteers to help advocate Earth Day Resolutions at any of a variety of events taking place in the Dallas area on the weekend of April 14th and 21st. If interested in participating, please [email](#) or call (214.454.6879) Peter. Volunteers will be asked to work two to three hours shifts (depending on the event), with at least two people per shift, per event. We are currently targeting a few major annual events (Plano, Dallas & Oak Cliff), and will possibly expand to other opportunities (i.e., smaller events) depending on the volume of volunteer participation. If you've never "tabled" at an Earth Day event, it's a fun and interesting way to meet and converse on a range of conservation topics with regular people trying to make a difference just like you and me. We hope you'll join us to celebrate and share your love for the planet at Earth Day 2012!

### Keystone XL Pipeline - What You Need to Know

Want to learn more about the Keystone XL pipeline and tar sand oil from Canada? The Sierra Club produced an important report detailing the true environmental costs of this flawed energy source. Read the report (PDF document) [here](#). We also have a [map](#) showing the proposed route of the Keystone XL pipeline across Texas.

And we have more information on the current status of the Keystone XL pipeline and the Seaway pipeline reversal project on our [conservation page](#).

### Outings Highlight

#### May 25-29 (Fri-Tue) Memorial Day Weekend in the WHITE MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS Wa-hoo!

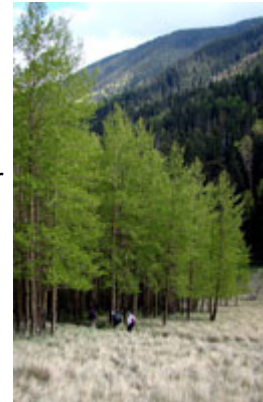
Got cabin fever? BREAK OUT!! Gear up for hike-a-palooza with new friends in the White Mountain Wilderness of New Mexico, May 25-29!

This Memorial Day weekend, you can get on a sleeper bus at 8 PM Friday night, hike three days and camp two nights on a sky island near Ruidoso, New Mexico and arrive home in Dallas by 6 AM Tuesday morning, rested for the day, all for the low price of \$215.

Sierra Blanca (White Mountain), on Apache tribal land immediately south of the White Mountain Wilderness, is the highest peak in southern New Mexico, but most of our hikes range from 7,000 to 10,000 feet elevation. This trip is a great one for beginner backpackers with at least one recent overnight backpacking experience who'd like to try hiking at more altitude.

Experienced backpackers will find this trip an adventure in its own right and a perfect warm-up for summer adventures. We offer five hike options to suit most tastes and skill levels. [Click here](#) for complete details and registration forms for the White Mountain Wilderness trip. We feature more backpacking trips on [our Outings List](#) to help you get ready for this Memorial Day excursion.

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



## Spring Classes

### **Mar 14 (Wed) Wilderness Navigation Class - Part 1**

Learn the fundamentals of finding your way in the wilderness in this two evening class. Among the subjects covered are: purchasing maps, how to read maps, how not to get lost, what to do if you do get lost, GPS, different kinds of compasses, and how to use your compass. If you have a compass, bring it to the class. If you don't have one, we will show you what to look for when you purchase one. The class will be held at the Dallas REI store (second floor program room). 4515 LBJ Freeway, north side, between Midway and Welch. This two-night class (second night March 15) will start promptly at 6:30 PM and will finish at about 8:45 PM. The fee for the class is \$15 for Sierra Club members and \$20 for non-members (CASH or CHECK ONLY). No reservations are necessary; just show up. Contact: [Bill Greer](mailto:Bill.Greer@sierraclub.org) 972-964-1781(h)

### **Mar 15 (Thu) Wilderness Navigation Class - Part 2**

This is the second night a two part class. See the class listing above (March 14) for details. Contact: [Bill Greer](mailto:Bill.Greer@sierraclub.org) 972-964-1781(h)

### **Mar 29 (Thu) Advanced Backpacking Class**

You've got a few local weekend backpacks under your belt; now you want to do more: a fly-drive or multi-night outing, or even try a cold weather trip. This class will cover advanced backpacking tips and skills including winter camping, fly-drive planning and equipment, bear barrel packing, and week-long trekking. Location: upstairs clinic room at Dallas REI, 4515 LBJ Freeway, Farmers Branch, TX 75244 (north side of LBJ between Midway and Welch). This class will start promptly at 6:30 PM and finish about 8:45 PM. The fee for the class is \$15 for Sierra Club members and \$20 for non-members (CASH or CHECK ONLY - NO CHARGES). No reservations are necessary; just show up. Contact: [Bill Greer](mailto:Bill.Greer@sierraclub.org) 972-247-0446

## Recycling Roundup - by Rita Raccoon

### **Recent Recycling News - March 2012**

#### **Dallas Eco-op Opens in Lake Highlands**

The Dallas Eco-op opened in northeast Dallas, and is the brainchild of Heather Rinaldi, founder of Texas Worm Ranch. Plans for the facility started brewing last summer when temperatures hovered above 100 degrees for weeks. Rinaldi knew she needed a new space for her composting worm business if she was going to keep it alive, literally. The place where she was corralling her critters wasn't climate controlled and the worms were wilting in the heat. However, she balked at leasing a new building by herself. That's when she came up with the idea of forming a green co-op.

Today the Eco-op, located in a shopping center in the Lake Highlands neighborhood, includes five businesses and three nonprofit organizations, which have partnered to lease the space. The 6,000-square-foot building, located at 10137A Shoreview, formerly housed a Piggly Wiggly. Despite its stark appearance, Rinaldi immediately saw the potential.

In addition to providing office space, the building will be used for meetings, events, and workshops.

Green Source DFW is setting up an office in the Eco-op and plans to host other Green Source DFW events there.

Other business owners involved in the partnership include Dallas attorney Bruce Bagelman, owner of Green Spot Market and Fuels. Bagelman will open a satellite law office in the building, where he'll focus on his agricultural, renewable energy, and sustainable business clients.

Recycle Revolution, plans to set up a community drop off station for recyclables. The facility will also provide a space to host groups interested in the recycling process who regularly visit his warehouse to learn about his operations.

Clean Air Lawn Care and Texas Honey Bee Guild will also have storefronts in the Eco-op, along with nonprofits Grow North Texas and White Rock Lake Local Market.

In the coming months, Rinaldi said they plan to open up the Eco-op to other groups or businesses. These associate partners will have access to the space for events or meetings at a reduced rate.

In addition to supporting green entrepreneurs and organizations, she envisions the green co-op as a place where people of all ages can attend classes, hold meet-ups, watch documentary film screenings, or learn about local green businesses.

"We hope to bring some vibrancy to the community," said Rinaldi.

For more information about the Eco-op, contact Rinaldi at [rancher@txwormranch.com](mailto:rancher@txwormranch.com).

## Calendar

Here is our calendar for the next two months. For complete listings, visit us at [www.dallassierraclub.org](http://www.dallassierraclub.org).



### **Mar 10 (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



### **Mar 13 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting**

Don't miss our March General Meeting, Experiencing John Muir's Sierra: A Photographer's Story. Photographer/videographer Scot Miller talks about his experiences creating and selecting the photographs for *My First Summer in the Sierra: 100th Anniversary Illustrated Edition*, a new edition of John Muir's classic. We'll also have a short program about bicycling in the Metroplex. Full details are on our [Home Page](#).



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Learn the fundamentals of finding your way in the wilderness in this two evening class. Among the subjects covered are: purchasing maps, how to read maps, how not to get lost, what to do if you do get lost, GPS, different kinds of compasses, and how to use your compass. If you have a compass, bring it to the class. If you don't have one, we will show you what to look for when you purchase one. The class will be held at the Dallas REI store (second floor program room). 4515 LBJ Freeway, north side, between Midway and Welch. This two-night class (second night March 15) will start promptly at 6:30 PM and will finish at about 8:45 PM. The fee for the class is

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**Mar 17 (Sat) St. Patrick's Day Parade - Volunteer Recycling Team**

The annual Greenville Ave. St. Patrick's Day Parade is one of the largest St. Patrick's Day parades in the country (~100K people, 100+ floats). This iconic Dallas event creates lots of recyclable waste AND opportunity for fun! This will be our 5th year (!!) to help make St Patrick's Day in Dallas even greener! We've collected over one ton of materials in that time and are seeking volunteers to join the 2012 Parade Recycling Team to help divert as many recyclables as possible from the landfill! Full details are on our [home page](#).



**Mar 17-18 (Sat-Sun) Beginner Backpack trip Fairfield State Park**

Please join us for a leisurely backpack trip to Fairfield State Park primitive camping area. Fairfield SP is approximately 2 hours south east of Dallas. It is a pretty little man-made Texas Lake, flat trails and perfect for a beginner backpacker. We will meet at 10am in the parking lot near the park office on Saturday morning to begin an easy 2 mile hike to camp, and hike out Sunday morning about 9 am. There is a nominal fee (less than \$5 per person) for one night of camping in the state park. On Sunday if you'd like to hike more there is a 6 mile hiking trail that surrounds the area and the lake that you may explore on your own or with others in the group. Please email Faith for any further questions. Leaders: [Faith Casale-Mauk](#) 972-519-5420 and [Kay Gowdy](#) 214-732-6630



**Mar 21 (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



**Mar 22 (Thu) Clean Air Meeting**

The next DFW clean air meeting will be on March 22 at 6:30 pm at Picasso's Restaurant (12300 Inwood Road, just north of Forest Ln in north Dallas). Topics for the evening include:

- Update on Keystone's Cushing/Gulf Coast tar sand pipeline
- Enbridge's tar sand pipeline Seaway in Dallas' backyard
- What's new on coal/nuclear in Texas?
- Gas drilling/Exide battery plant
- Earth Day events and more

Tom "Smitty" Smith, Director of Public Citizen's Texas Office, will attend the meeting. For more information: Call 214-557-2271



**Mar 24-25 (Sat-Sun) Beginner Backpack at McGee Creek, Oklahoma**

RESCHEDULED! This will be an easy hike in a pleasant, little used forest. The area is designated as a natural scenic recreation area and has thick woods, scenic bluffs, and interesting trails going down to the lake. Saturday morning we'll hike about 1.5 flat miles to camp, then leave our big pack for an optional dayhike. Sunday will feature another dayhike to a nice overlook, then

we'll take a different route back to our cars. McGee is close enough to leave Dallas for the trailhead Saturday morning. Leaders: [Sue Greer](#) 972-247-0446 and Bill Greer



#### **Mar 29 (Thu) Advanced Backpacking Class**

You've got a few local weekend backpacks under your belt; now you want to do more: a fly-drive or multi-night outing, or even try a cold weather trip. This class will cover advanced backpacking tips and skills including winter camping, fly-drive planning and equipment, bear barrel packing, and week-long trekking. Location: upstairs clinic room at Dallas REI, 4515 LBJ Freeway, Farmers Branch, TX 75244 (north side of LBJ between Midway and Welch). This class will start promptly at 6:30 PM and finish about 8:45 PM. The fee for the class is \$15 for Sierra Club members and \$20 for non-members (CASH or CHECK ONLY - NO CHARGES). No reservations are necessary; just show up. Contact: [Bill Greer](#) 972-247-0446



#### **Apr 1 (Sun) Annual Sierra Club Azalea Day Hike in Highland Park**

Join us for our annual, leisurely 1 1/2 or 2 hour walk through Turtle Creek and Flippen Park. Meet at 2 PM in the shopping strip on Oak Lawn (4200 block) just north of Wycliff. Take Oak Lawn Exit off I35 or Fitzhugh exit off Central Expressway. No reservations needed. Leader: Austin Brouns 214-528-3812



#### **Apr 4 (Wed) Dallas Sierra Club Executive Committee Meeting**

The Executive Committee (or Excom) is the elected governing body of the Dallas Sierra Club and meets at REI, 4515 LBJ Freeway, Farmers Branch, TX 75244 (north side of LBJ between Midway and Welch). Contact the [Dallas Group Chair](#) for more information.



#### **Apr 10 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting**

Don't miss our April General Meeting. Michael Overbay, the EPA Region 6 Ground Water Center Coordinator, and Ruben Casso, the EPA Region 6 Air Toxics Coordinator, will present information on how large scale development of the shale gas resources in the Fort Worth Basin have been perceived as impacting environmental issues, such as water quantity, water quality, air quality, wastewater disposal, and induced seismicity.



#### **Apr 14 (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



#### **Apr 14-15 (Sat-Sun) Beginner Backpack Trip to the Caney Creek Wilderness**

Join us for one of the Dallas Sierra Club's favorite local backpacking trips. We'll backpack in about 4 1/2 miles along Caney Creek, cross it a few times, and climb some small hills. After setting up camp near a waterfall, we'll do a short day hike as time and energy permits. For many of us this was our first Wilderness hike and it's still one of our favorites. Leader: [Bill Greer](#) 972-247-0446



#### **Apr 18 (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



### **Apr 21 (Sat) Trail Maintenance at Cedar Ridge Preserve in South Dallas**

It's fun and it's helpful to get out to the Cedar Ridge Preserve in Dallas to help upgrade some of the beautiful walking trails. The address is 7171 Mountain Creek Pkwy, Dallas, TX 75249. It's a great morning workout, and the scenery is exceptional. No tools are required, (maybe gloves) just show up and be ready to lend a hand or two. We'll work from 9 AM to 12 or so, and then walk around the preserve and admire the wildflowers and fauna! Bring some water for sure. It's on Saturday the 21st of April, please see their website [www.audubondallas.org/cedarridge.html](http://www.audubondallas.org/cedarridge.html) for directions and info. Their number is 972-709-7784. If you wish to carpool, then let me know, and we'll arrange a meeting spot. Come on out and stay green, people! Organizer: Ginger Bradley  
Contact: [Ginger Bradley](mailto:Ginger Bradley) 469-223-7902



### **Apr 28-29 (Sat-Sun) Car Camp and Rock Scrambling at Wichita Mountains in Sw Oklahoma.**

The Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge in SW Oklahoma is a treasure of interesting hikes, pioneer history, unusual rock formations, and wildlife in a natural habitat. You are likely to come around a corner and find yourself face to face with a bison bull! We will have moderate hikes on Saturday and Sunday. The neatest parts of Wichita Mountains are off trail so be prepared for some bushwhacking and rock scrambling. You can find out more about Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge [here](#). Leader: [Bill Greer](#) 972-247-0446

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. Visit us at [www.DallasSierraClub.org](http://www.DallasSierraClub.org).  
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