



dallas group  
lone star chapter

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

## dallas sierra club news

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

- [Sierra Club General Meeting](#) - Tuesday, June 12
- [Outings Highlights](#) - Fourth of July Bus Trip to the Pecos Wilderness
- [Recycling Roundup](#) - by Rita Raccoon
- [Calendar](#) - Find out what's going on in the Dallas Sierra Club

### General Meeting Program - June 12, 7:00 pm - Refreshments at 6:30

We have two great programs lined up for our June General Meeting. Don't miss them!

#### **Urban Wilderness: The Surprising Link Between Nature and Prosperity**

Gary Olp, environmental architect, will discuss how the built environment has an effect on ourselves and all living organisms and systems, and will show examples of architecture that integrates buildings into the natural environment.

We are becoming more removed from a sense of reverence for the wild places. Every square inch of soil under our feet is a wild place, home to living organisms and a teeming unseen wilderness!

Human progress adversely impacts the natural world. While Green Building and Sustainable Building are focused on mitigating the adversity, they rarely succeed in harmonizing urban elements with the wilderness. There is a growing body of research that displays positive results for building environments that are integrated with the natural world that surrounds us. The sense of wonder and invigorating physical and emotional impact wild places have on each of us should guide our actions for growth and prosperity to preserve, restore, and embrace the life giving power of the wilderness.

Being aware that the entire surface of the earth is intrinsically linked to living natural systems that sustain all forms of life can produce human communities with reduced impact that are restorative rather than destructive.

#### **Cedar Ridge Preserve**

Cedar Ridge Preserve is a 600 acre natural area in southwest Dallas County on the Austin Chalk formation. This beloved preserve has 10 miles of hiking trails, ranging from easy to difficult. Audubon Dallas has been managing the Preserve for 10 years. With the help of many dedicated volunteers, the preserve has seen many improvements in the last few years. Come hear about what's new and exciting at Cedar Ridge Preserve. The speaker is Robert Rinker, current volunteer manager of the preserve.

**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. Our meeting takes place at REI, 4515 Lyndon B Johnson Freeway, Dallas, TX 75244. Click over to our [General Meeting page](#) of our website for more information and a map.

## Outings Highlight

### June 9 (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

### Jul 3-9 (Tue-Mon) Fourth of July Bus Trip to the Pecos Wilderness in New Mexico

SIGN UP NOW for a truly memorable Fourth of July experience backpacking in the high, cool Sangre de Cristo Mountains of northern New Mexico. Leave Dallas at 7 PM on July 3 on our overnight sleeper bus and return by 6 AM on July 9. Choose an adventure from five trail options, including opportunities to walk up Santa Fe Baldy after adjusting to altitude, exploring the Skyline Trail, La Vega, Holy Ghost Creek or Horsethief Meadow. Our most gentle trip ends with a night in Santa Fe. Two epic hikes for agile backpackers traverse the magnificent Santa Barbara Divide from Carson National Forest into Santa Fe National Forest. Escape the summer heat into the aspens, firs and tundra wildflowers of this wilderness treasure. Experience sights you cannot possibly see from your automobile! All hike options require at least one previous overnight backpacking experience. Full details, including sign-up instructions, are in [this PDF file](#). You'll love the Pecos Wilderness! Bus trip leader: [Mark Stein](#) 2 214-526-3733

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

## Recycling Roundup - by Rita Raccoon

### Recent Recycling News - June 2012

#### Construction and Demolition (C&D) Recycling

A big shout-out to Waste Management for their Bagster® Bag! Designed for demolition and construction waste:

- You buy a bag at your local home improvement retailer
- You fill it up (it holds 3,300 lbs of materials!)
- You schedule your pick-up by phone or online
- They pick it up!

#### Recycling – Don't Forget Clothing Resale Stores!

Tired of your old wardrobe? Can't afford a \$60 blouse or \$120 skirt (as if any even wears one of those today!) Go resale shopping! You can get designer clothes at a fraction of the original cost. One estimate by America's Research Group, figures 12-15% of American consumers will shop in resale stores this year. And about 5% of annual resale growth wasn't just due to the sluggish economy, it was motivated by **environmental awareness**.

It's not just recession, it's the recycling revolution. The green thing. People buy things they put in their closet and wear them three or four times and then it's the fast fashion idea: We want to change out what we're wearing. And – let's face it – for some of us (you know who you are) it's **retail therapy**.

And drop your mental image of the Goodwill Store with hundreds of items packed on long racks. Today's retail store, like The Clothes Mentor, is more like a boutique. The store is lined with racks of fashionable clothes, rows of glamorous shoes, towers of costume jewelry and a wall covered floor to ceiling in purses. Stores like these are flourishing in the tight economy. The Clothes Mentor chain alone will open eight stores in north Texas this year.

Some resale stores have seen an 18% growth rate last year. That's not just recession. That's ladies looking for a bargain and putting together an outfit at a fair price.

Finally, don't put gently worn clothing into the trash! There are bins all over town for donations of clothing, shoes, and accessories. They can still be used and someone will appreciate it.

### **It's Time to DOO the Right Thing**

The weather is warm, the flowers are in bloom, and the grass is green in North Texas. For many pet owners, this means extended walks with their dog. While enjoying this time with your pet, it is extremely important that you clean up after them whether it's at home or on a walk. Pet waste can cause many problems. Not only is it unsightly, it can harm the environment, pollute water, and cause disease.

Pet waste that is left on the ground can be carried away by stormwater runoff and deposited into nearby creeks and lakes. The water we recreate in and use as a drinking source becomes contaminated with the bacteria and any waterborne diseases the feces may harbor. These can cause illness and even death in humans and in other animals. With approximately 1.2 million dogs in the North Central Texas area, waste can quickly become a water quality and health concern.

Leaving pet waste on the ground can also affect your dog. For example, Parvovirus is a serious, highly contagious disease that affects puppies and young dogs who are not vaccinated. Adult dogs can be carriers and not show signs of being infected. It can be transmitted through infected dog waste directly or indirectly through soiled shoes, car tires, and anything else it touches. The virus can remain infectious on the ground for six months or even longer! For these reasons, it is essential to not leave pet waste on the ground. Keep people and pets safe and healthy by picking up after your dog. Here are some simple tips:

- When walking your dog, always carry a plastic baggie to scoop up droppings
- Dispose of baggies in the trash
- Clean up droppings around your yard at least once a week, and either flush them down the toilet, or dispose of in a trash can

Pledge to **DOO the Right Thing** and pick up after your dog.

For any questions about Doo the Right Thing, please contact Tracy Michel, Environment & Development Planner at 817-695-9107 or [tmichel@nctcog.org](mailto:tmichel@nctcog.org).

## Calendar

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



### **Jun 9 (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



### **Jun 12 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting**

Everyone is invited to the Dallas Sierra Club's General Meeting. Full details will be on our [home page](#) about a month before the meeting.



### **Jun 20 (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



### **Jul 3-9 (Tue-Mon) Fourth of July Bus Trip to the Pecos Wilderness in New Mexico**

**SIGN UP NOW** for a truly memorable Fourth of July experience backpacking in the high, cool Sangre de Cristo Mountains of northern New Mexico. Leave Dallas at 7 PM on July 3 on our overnight sleeper bus and return by 6 AM on July 9. Choose an adventure from five trail options, including opportunities to walk up Santa Fe Baldy after adjusting to altitude, exploring the Skyline Trail, La Vega, Holy Ghost Creek or Horsethief Meadow. Our most gentle trip ends with a night in Santa Fe. Two epic hikes for agile backpackers traverse the magnificent Santa Barbara Divide from Carson National Forest into Santa Fe National Forest. Escape the summer heat into the aspens, firs and tundra wildflowers of this wilderness treasure. Experience sights you cannot possibly see from your automobile! All hike options require at least one previous overnight backpacking experience. Full details, including sign-up instructions, are in [this PDF file](#). You'll love the Pecos Wilderness! Bus trip leader: [Mark Stein](#) 214-526-3733



### **Jul 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.



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

Everyone is invited to the Dallas Sierra Club's General Meeting. Full details will be on our [home page](#) about a month before the meeting.



### **Jul 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



**Jul 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

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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