



dallas group
lone star chapter

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

dallas sierra club news

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General Meeting Program - September 11, 7:00 pm - Refreshments at 6:30

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

Fall Elections

David Griggs, chair of the Dallas Sierra Club Political Committee, will give a brief overview of the fall Sierra Club electoral plan for North Texas, including a handout of the list of the Sierra Club endorsements.

Solar Energy

Jim Duncan, solar PV design and installation specialist, will talk about the fast growing renewable energy field of solar Photovoltaics. His A Quick Look Into The Solar Electric Industry So Far presentation looks at a brief history of the global solar industry but quickly jumps into the technology, the industry and the future of this rapidly expanding global industry. Learn about the feasibility of obtaining solar power for your home.

Jim speaks regularly to a wide array of non-profit organizations, government agencies, home owner associations, and fraternal groups. He was invited to give a presentation at the State Capitol in 2009, and has worked as an instructor for NABCEP® solar PV entry-level certification training. With 17 years of continuous hands-on experience in the fast growing and changing PV industry, Jim Duncan is without question one of the pioneers in the solar PV industry in Texas.

Jim is the founder and President of North Texas Renewable Energy Inc., a Fort Worth based corporation established in 2003. NTREI is the oldest exclusive solar electric design and installation specialist in North Texas, and one of the oldest in the state. More information at www.ntrei.com.

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.

Fall Classes - Wilderness Navigation and Advanced Backpacking

Sep 19 (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 (Guadalupe Peak clinic room, 2nd floor), 4515 LBJ Freeway, north side, between Midway and Welch. This two-night class (second night Sept 20) 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). Handout included. Bring water bottle and writing utensil if you want to take notes. No reservations are necessary; just show up. Contact: Bill Greer [Send Email](#) 972-964-1781

Sep 20 (Thu) Wilderness Navigation Class - Part 2

This is the second night of our two part class. See the class listing above (Sept. 19) for details. Contact: Bill Greer [Send Email](#) 972-964-1781

Oct 2 (Tue) 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: Guadalupe Peak clinic room (2nd floor) 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). Handout provided. Please bring water bottle and writing utensil if you want to take notes. No reservations are necessary; just show up. Contact: Bill Greer [Send Email](#) 972-247-0446

Outings Highlighttrong

Sep 8 (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 [Send Email](#) 214-824-0244

Sep 15 (Sat) Trail Maintenance at Cedar Ridge Preserve

Its good fun to get out to the Cedar Ridge Preserve to help upgrade some of the beautiful walking trails just south of Dallas. The address is 7171 Mountain Creek Pkwy, Dallas, TX 75249. Its 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 earlier, and then walk around the preserve and admire the wildflowers and fauna! Bring some water for sure. Its on Saturday the 15th of September, and please see their website at www.audubondallas.org/cedarridge.html for directions and info. Their number is 972-709-7784 See you then! If you wish to carpool, then let me know, and we'll arrange a meeting spot. Come on out and be green! Contact: Ginger Bradley [Send Email](#) 469-223-7902

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

Fracking: How Will It Impact DFW's Air, Land, and Water?

Sierra Club will sponsor an educational panel presentation regarding natural gas fracking on Thursday, Sept. 13 from 7 to 9 pm at Northaven United Methodist Church at 11211 Preston Road in Dallas.

The panel discussion will include a member from the city of Dallas Drilling Taskforce along with air, water, and natural gas experts to discuss the problems the region has faced with fracking-related issues.

The Dallas City Council is considering several major changes to our local gas drilling ordinance as to where and how drilling may take place in relation to homes, businesses, schools and parks. Come learn about the fracking process and its possible effects on the region's air and water, the economy, impacts on human health and the environment.

The panel discussion is co-sponsored with the League of Women Voters (Dallas, Irving, Plano, Richardson) and the Memnosyne Foundation. The panel discussion will be moderated by BJ Austin, reporter for KERA 90.1 radio.

Topics include:

- Where will fracking be located - near home, schools, work or play?
- Will fracking be allowed in parks and the Trinity River floodplain?
- How will fracking affect our air and water quality?
- Who will provide local oversight and emergency response to fracking?
- Will the public know what is in fracking fluid or be kept a "trade secret?"

The choice Dallas City Council will make with their vote in the near future will affect all of us for decades to come. Join us for this discussion, become informed, and take the opportunity to participate in the decision-making process.

Visit dallassierraclub.org for a printable flyer.

Calendar

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



Sep 8 (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 [Send Email](#) 214-824-0244



Sep 11 (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.



Sep 12 (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. **This meeting has been moved back one week from our usual third weekend.** Contact: Bill Greer [Send Email](#) 972-247-0446



Sep 15 (Sat) Trail Maintenance at Cedar Ridge Preserve

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Sep 20 (Thu) Wilderness Navigation Class - Part 2

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Sep 29 (Sat) Knob Hill Trail Dayhike Flower Mound, TX.

Come join us as we day hike 6 miles on the northern reaches of Denton Creek. This is a packed dirt trail used by mountain bikers and hikers heading to Grapevine Lake. No pets, please. Bring water and a snack as we will be walking all morning. We will leave the trail head promptly at **9 AM**. To reach the trailhead from the intersection of HWY 377 & FM 1171, go south on 377 about 1/3 mile and the trailhead will be on your left just before the road crosses the creek. From Dallas go north on 114 West past DFW Airport and thru Grapevine to Roanoke. Turn north on HWY 377 and go approximately 2.5 miles. The trailhead will be on your right after crossing the second bridge. I will be near the trailhead sign in a red GMC. Optional lunch afterwards. Leader: Mark Adams [Send Email](#) 972-658-1281



Sep 29-30 (Sat-Sun) Renewable Energy Roundup & Green Living Fair - Fredericksburg, TX

Great News! The annual Renewable Energy Roundup and Green Living Fair will be taking place again this year! We welcome our new partner Texas Center for Policy Studies (TCPS). The event planning committee is working hard on making this years show the best ever. Make your plans now to visit us in Fredericksburg the 4th weekend in September, Sept. 29 & 30, 2012. The Renewable Energy Roundup and Green Living Fair is produced by Texas Renewable Energy Industries Assn. (TREIA) and Texas Center for Policy Studies (TCPS) with the cooperation of the Sierra Club, Lone Star Chapter. Full details [here](#).



Oct 2 (Tue) 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: Guadalupe Peak clinic room (2nd floor) 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). Handout provided. Please bring water bottle and writing utensil if you want to take notes. No reservations are necessary; just show up. Contact: Bill Greer [Send Email](#) 972-247-0446



Oct 3 (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.



Oct 6 (Sat) DFW Solar Home Tour

The ASES National Solar Tour is the world's largest grassroots solar event. This event offers you the opportunity to tour innovative green homes and buildings to see how you can use solar energy, energy efficiency, and other sustainable technologies to reduce monthly utility bills and help tackle climate change. More than 165,000 participants will visit some 5,500 buildings in 3,200 communities across the U.S. More information about the tour in the DFW area is at <http://www.dfw-solarhometour.org/>



Oct 13 (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 [Send Email](#) 214-824-0244



Oct 13-14 (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 [Send Email](#) 972-247-0446



Oct 19-21 (Fri-Sun) Beavers Bend State Park Fall Campout - Save the date!

Our fall 2011 campout here was such a success we've already reserved the site to return same time in 2012! Save the date so you can plan to join us to enjoy the scenic beauty and fall colors of Beavers Bend State Park in southeast Oklahoma. Our group camp area offers your

choice of shared rustic cabins or tent camping. The site also includes a dining hall with fire place so we can have s'mores rain or shine and yes, even a bath house with hot showers. Activity options will include various hikes with our group or you can be on your own to enjoy a number of options including horseback riding, renting a canoe, tossing some horseshoes or just relaxing by the river. Complete trip information will be posted here mid summer. To receive notification when the trip details are available and reservations open, send an email with your name to the trip leader. Leader: Liz Wheelan [Send Email](#) 214-368-2306



Oct 19-21 (Fri-Sun) Blanco State Park, Government Canyon and Canyon Lake Gorge Hikes

This three-day trip in the Texas Hill Country sets a two-night base camp at Blanco State Park. Two day hikes on consecutive days rate Moderate difficulty due to miles at Government Canyon and some rough terrain at Canyon Lake Gorge. Trip capacity is limited; leader permission is required before arrival. Leader: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733

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.
[Join the Sierra Club](#)