



## dallas sierra club news

### July, 2013: In This Issue. . .

- [Sierra Club General Meeting](#) - Tuesday, July 9
- [Beginner Backpacking Class](#) - Learn to backpack - you know you want to
- [Free Electronics Recycling](#) - Get rid of your old stuff responsibly
- [Labor Day Bus Trip](#) - Our much anticipated return to the South San Juan Wilderness
- [Calendar](#) - Find out what's going on in the Dallas Sierra Club

### General Meeting Program - July 9, 7:00 pm - Refreshments at 6:30

Our July General Meeting focuses on water and wildlife.

#### Future Water for North Texas

Learn about the benefits and the "how's" of water recycling. Carol Spruiell of the Texas Conservation Alliance will discuss new ideas in providing the water to support North Texas growth without building costly reservoirs. Recycling has become a significant factor for products that use up many of our natural resources, so what about water?



Carol has been representing the Texas Conservation Alliance since shortly after her retirement from Cummins Engine Company and from Sprint Nextel. She is a graduate of the University of Arkansas, and holds a Masters in Liberal Studies and a Masters in Business Administration from SMU. Her interest in water comes naturally, having been raised hunting and fishing in North and East Texas. She is a third generation North Texan.

#### Grand Canyon Adventure

Last April, five Sierrans set off on an 18 day trip down the Colorado River through Grand Canyon. They put in at Lee's Ferry and took out in the headwaters of Lake Mead at Pierce Ferry. For 18 days they enjoyed some of the grandest scenery and some of the biggest white water in the Lower 48 states. They took thousands of pictures and while none of them really do justice to what was seen, they would like to share some of them with you.



18 days seems to most people like a long trip, but if you've never done a trip like this you would be amazed at how fast it goes by. It seems like you've just started and suddenly

you're setting up your tent for the last night. It's possible to do shorter trips through Grand Canyon, but one of the guides (Regan Dale, with 43 years running the Colorado River) commented that doing that would be like buying a really good book and reading only the first three chapters.

They also saw some signs of what could have been. In two different places they saw the beginnings of dams in the Grand Canyon that would have turned much of it in to what John Muir called a water tank. The Sierra Club lost its tax exemption fighting these dams. The crystal clear water they floated on told another story: the silt and sand which once rendered the Colorado a deep red is now trapped behind Glen Canyon Dam just upstream of Lee's Ferry.

As with any long trip there are lots of stories and lots of scenery to share. Come to the July General Meeting and let the adventurers share some of the stories and pictures with you.

**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.

### Learn Backing the fun way!

Want to learn to backpack but don't know how to get started? Did you backpack several years ago and want to update your skills and gear? Save the date and plan to join us Saturday, Aug 17 for a day of fun instruction, lots of information and many helpful hints from experienced Sierra Club leaders. We'll have easy beginner trips this fall for those attending the class. For complete details see the calendar listing below or visit our [website](#).

### Free Electronics Recycling

Recycle ALL electronics: computers, monitors, TVs, phones, DVD players, large appliances such as refrigerators (if they don't have Freon in them). It is FREE. And recycling is done responsibly through 100 percent processing and reuse. [Click here](#) is a list of drop-off locations.

### Labor Day Bus Trip to the San Juan Wilderness in Colorado

Plan your Labor Day weekend for backpacking in southwest Colorado. After our first trip here in 2011, participants requested a return to the green, serene and relatively undiscovered South San Juan Wilderness, a part of Rio Grande National Forest, southwest of Alamosa, Colorado and north of Chama, New Mexico.



Featured destinations will include the Continental Divide Trail, Valle Victoria, Conejos Falls, Blue

Lake, Green Lake, Canon Verde, Conejos Peak, Glacier Lake, Ruybalid Lake, Rough Creek Falls and great campsites without names. A previous overnight backpacking trip will be required. Departure from Dallas will be at 7:00 pm on August 28. We'll return by 6:00 am on September 3. Full details about the trip, including costs and how to sign up are in [this PDF file](#).

## Calendar

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



### **Jul 9 (Tue) 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) at 5:30 pm before the General Meeting. Contact the [Dallas Group Chair](#) for more information.



### **Jul 9 (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 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



### **Jul 17 (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 [Send Email](#) 972-247-0446



### **Jul 20 (Sat) Upgrading Trails at Cedar Ridge Preserve**

Its fun and its helpful 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 8 AM to 11 or earlier, and then walk around the preserve and admire the wildflowers and fauna! Bring some water for sure. Its on Saturday the 20th of July, and please see their website at [www.audubondallas.org/cedarridge.html](http://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 stay green, people! Coordinator: Ginger Bradley [Send Email](#) 469-223-7902



### **Aug 7 (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) at 6:30 pm. Contact the [Dallas Group Chair](#) for more information.



### **Aug 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 [Send Email](#) 214-824-0244



### **Aug 13 (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.



### **Aug 17 (Sat) Beginner Backpacking Class - Join us one and all !**

This comprehensive class is ideal for those who want to learn all about backpacking and those wanting to refresh your backpacking knowledge and skills. Topics include: outdoor clothing, boots, backpacks, tents, sleeping bags, cookware, food, wilderness ethics, preparing for a trip and even a short, late afternoon breakout session to discuss men's and women's outdoor 'issues'. Instructors are experienced Dallas Sierra Club leaders. There will be time for questions and a hands-on look at outdoor gear. You will also have the opportunity to learn about, and sign up for, several beginner backpacking weekend trips designed specifically for those in the class. Lunch of backpacking food is included. (Feel free to bring anything else you prefer to eat.) Handouts will be provided. PLEASE BRING a writing utensil and your water bottle. The fee is \$20 for Sierra Club members and \$30 for non-members. No reservations are necessary, just show up. The class meets in the Guadalupe Peak clinic room, 2nd floor of Dallas REI store, 4515 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, TX 75244 (north side of LBJ between Welch and Midway). Please arrive by 10:15 AM to register and get settled. The class will begin promptly at 10:30 AM and end about 4:45 PM. Coordinator: Liz Wheelan [Send Email](#) 214-368-2306



### **Aug 28-Sep 3 (Wed-Tue) South San Juan Wilderness Area**

Plan your Labor Day weekend for backpacking in southwest Colorado. After our first trip here in 2011, participants requested a return to the green, serene and relatively undiscovered South San Juan Wilderness, a part of Rio Grande National Forest, southwest of Alamosa, Colorado and north of Chama, New Mexico. Featured destinations will include the Continental Divide Trail, Valle Victoria, Conejos Falls, Blue Lake, Green Lake, Canon Verde, Conejos Peak, Glacier Lake, Ruybalid Lake, Rough Creek Falls and great campsites without names. A previous overnight backpacking trip is advisable. Departure from Dallas will be at 7 PM on August 28. We'll return by 6 AM on September 3. Full details about the trip, including costs and how to sign up are in [this PDF file](#). Coordinator: 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](http://www.DallasSierraClub.org). [Join the Sierra Club](#)