



dallas sierra club news

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General Meeting Program - September 10, 7:00 pm - Refreshments at 6:30

At our September General Meeting, learn about Tree Planting, as well as the City of Dallas' sustainability efforts

Trees and Health

September is the start of the tree planting season. Understanding the importance of proper tree selection and placement can make the difference between if your tree thrives or dies. We will be discussing the key points that will ensure the next tree you plant is a success. Presented by Matt Grubisich and Tyler Wright of the Texas Trees Foundation.



City of Dallas' Sustainability

The City of Dallas' cogeneration project uses a previously unused renewable resource (biogas) to generate electricity at cheaper costs than the City was paying, while reducing area-wide emissions and the City's carbon footprint. Hear about this and other sustainability efforts.

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 pm 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

Join us and be ready for those adventures you've been dreaming about.

Sep 11 (Wed) Advanced Backpacking Class - Explore farther, hike longer!

Great - you have a few weekend backpacks under your belt; now you want to do more challenging backpacking to explore even more special places: 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, 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. Handout provided. Please bring water bottle and writing utensil if you want to take notes. No reservations are necessary; just show up.

Oct 1 (Tue) and Oct 3 (Thur) - Two Evening Wilderness Navigation Class

Learn the fundamentals of finding your way in the wilderness in this comprehensive 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, different kinds of compasses and how to use your compass. Some discussion about GPSs but our main focus is for you to learn how to use a map and compass so you're not trusting your navigation (and life) on something that takes batteries. If you have a compass, bring it to the class. If you don't have one, we will have an extra you can use and will show you what to look for when you purchase your own. 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 Thur., Oct. 3) 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 (cost covers both nights). Handout included. Bring water bottle and writing utensil for taking notes and writing navigation practice exercises. No reservations are necessary; just show up. Subsequent day hike with class instructor will be offered to class participants who want to practice their new skills.

Victory! Dallas Drilling Permits Denied and City Plan Commission Hearing Scheduled

Dallas Sierra Club volunteers, along with a large and growing number of concerned residents, were able to defeat three permits for Trinity East to drill, frack and produce unconventional shale gas in Dallas. The permits would have allowed risky and heavily polluting drilling activities on Dallas parkland, in the floodplain of the Elm Fork of the Trinity River, near a school and soccer complex. Thanks to all who helped over the years to make this long fought and hard won victory possible, against all odds. See a story at <http://greensourcedfw.org/articles/environmental-activists-vow-keep-momentum-going-after-drilling-denied-parks>.

But the fight to protect Dallas from future gas drilling isn't over. There is still a need to get a strong gas drilling ordinance passed at the Dallas City Plan Commission, and then by the Dallas City Council. So we still need for large numbers of people to show up at hearings, send e-mails, letters and faxes, make calls, etc. over the next month or so. To get action alerts on this, contact MollyRooke@sbcglobal.net.

Please attend, if possible, the following hearings:

Thursday, Sept 12th - Dallas City Hall, 1500 Marilla Street
<http://www.ci.dallas.tx.us/cso/directions.html> 1:30 pm until probably 5 or 6 pm - Dallas City Plan Commission PUBLIC HEARING on gas drilling ordinance - covering Water Quality, Air Quality, Compressor Stations, and Pipelines. This will be preceded, at 8:30 am, by a Dallas City Plan

Commission workshop on the gas drilling ordinance (we can't speak at this, but can watch their discussions and deliberations with city staff, who are are pushing for a weak drilling ordinance)

Thursday, September 26th - Dallas City Hall, 1500 Marilla Street

<http://www.ci.dallas.tx.us/cso/directions.html> 1:30 pm until probably 5 or 6 pm - Dallas City Plan Commission PUBLIC HEARING FOLLOWED BY VOTE on final draft of gas drilling ordinance which will then be sent to the Dallas City Council. This will be preceded at 8:30 am, by a Dallas City Plan Commission workshop on the gas drilling ordinance (we can't speak at this, but can watch their discussions and deliberations with city staff, who are are pushing for a weak drilling ordinance)

Get more background and Dallas City Plan Commission contact info at:

<http://dallascityhall.com/pdf/DevSvcs/CityPlanCommissionMembers.pdf>

<http://dallasresidentsatrisk.com/drilling-in-dallas/>

<http://www.downwindersatrisk.org/2013/08/what-yesterdays-vote-means-for-dallas-the-shale-and-the-rest-of-the-universe/>

Dallas City Council Endorsements Produce Positive Result

Thanks to everyone who voted in the Dallas City Council elections this Spring and supported our Sierra Club-endorsed candidates. Thanks in part to your volunteer efforts and your monetary contributions to our Texas Sierra Club PAC, we were able to help most of our endorsed candidates win. Those efforts paid off big time this past week when we witnessed the City Council defeat three permits for Trinity East to drill, frack and produce unconventional shale gas in Dallas. The permits would have allowed risky and heavily-polluting drilling activities on Dallas city parkland in the floodplain of the Elm Fork of the Trinity River, near a school and soccer complex. To learn more about upcoming activities to support environmentally-friendly candidates or to learn how you can contribute to the work of the Sierra Club Political Committee of Texas, go to:

www.turntexasgreen.org

Let's Thank Our Friends on the Dallas City Council

Six members of the Dallas City Council, most of whom were endorsed and strongly supported by the Sierra Club, stood up against strong pressure from the drilling industry and voted to deny the Trinity East fracking permits at the August 28th Council meeting. We should thank these brave members of the Council for protecting our parks, health, neighborhoods, and our air and water. The six members are:

- District 1: Scott Griggs
- District 2: Adam Medrano
- District 6: Monica Alonzo
- District 7: Carolyn Davis
- District 12: Sandy Greyson
- District 14: Phillip Kingston

Their contact information can be seen by clicking on their names on the Dallas City Hall website at:

<http://www.dallascityhall.com/government/government.html>

Gasland II Screening

Friday, September 27th, you're invited to attend the free screening of "Gasland Part II" with Josh Fox, director of the 2011 Academy Award-nominated documentary "Gasland," at the historic Texas Theatre at 231 W Jefferson Blvd., Dallas. Please, arrive at 7 p.m. to visit with local activists and experts at information tables in the lobby of the theater to find out more about what can be done to protect our health and our local communities, including Dallas, from gas drilling activities. The screening starts at 7:30 p.m., is 120 minutes long, and will be followed with a Q&A with the director, etc. Go to <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/817382914333> to RSVP to ensure admission due to seating capacity.



You can see the Sierra Club review of the film, and a trailer at <http://sierraclub.typepad.com/greenlife/2013/07/movie-review-gasland-part-2.html> .

If the Friday, Sept. 27th Dallas screening doesn't work for your schedule, but you're available on the Saturday Sept. 28th, there's also going to be a screening in Fort Worth. For details of that screening, e-mail either mollyrooke@sbcglobal.net or quertermous@gmail.com.

A Night with Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune

Come join fellow Sierrans from around the state for a cocktail reception with Sierra Club's executive director Michael Brune and Lone Star Chapter Director Scheleen Walker.

The event entitled "Building the Next Environmental Movement in Texas" follows Brune's panel discussion at the popular South by Southwest Eco Conference event in Austin.

DATE: Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2013

PLACE: Malverde

ADDRESS: 400-B W 2nd Street in Austin, TX 78701 TIME: 6-8 pm

REFRESHMENTS: Hors d'ouvres and beverages provided

This event is a fundraiser for the Lone Star Chapter. Individual Tickets start at \$100.00. Sponsorships include: Champions (\$1000 - 8 Tickets), Guardians (\$500 - 4 tickets), and Protector, \$250 - 2 tickets.

Fall Campout at Scenic Beavers Bend State Park, Choctaw Program, Oct 18-20

Gather your friends and family for this special weekend relaxing under the tall pines and fall foliage of beautiful southeast Oklahoma! Your choice of a rustic cabin or pitching your tent on the grassy

lawn of our group compound. We'll offer a variety of activity options including hiking, birding, paddling, mini clinics on beginner car camping, backpacking and new this year - nature photography with Sierran and professional photographer James Wilson. Or you can relax and enjoy any of the activities offered by the State Park (including horseback riding, canoe rental, tennis). Sound too strenuous - just throw out a fishing line or sit by the river - it's up to you! There's something fun to do for outdoor enthusiasts of all ages and abilities. Our group camp includes a stone dining hall built in the 1940s by the CCC and a bathhouse with hot water and flush toilets - what more could you want (ok, yes there will be chocolate too)! Special Saturday evening program by Choctaw historian and flute maker Presley Byington who has enlightened and entertained audiences from Oklahoma to the Smithsonian's new National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC. Reservation deadline is October 15. For more details and reservation information, [click here](#).



Annual Bus Trip to Big Bend National Park

It's the perfect time of year to explore this unique and very special area of Texas. Our trip is a few weeks before Thanksgiving so you can join in the fun and still spend Thanksgiving with your family. There will be several hike options of various difficulty levels, through different parts of this very scenic National Park. If you've never been to Big Bend National Park, you owe it to yourself to explore this amazing part of Texas. If you have been there before, come hike a different area. Our chartered sleeper bus leaves Dallas at 7:00 pm Wednesday and returns early morning on Monday (Veteran's Day - a day off for some of you). Some backpacking experience is required. Complete information about the trip and sign up requirements are in [this PDF file](#).



Calendar

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



Sep 10 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting

Two topics for our September meeting: (1) September is the start of the tree planting season. Understanding the importance of proper tree selection and placement can make the difference between if your tree thrives or dies. The Texas Tree Foundation will discuss key points that will ensure the next tree you plant is a success. (2) The City of Dallas' cogeneration project uses a previously unused renewable resource (biogas) to generate electricity at cheaper costs than the City was paying, while reducing area-wide emissions and the City's carbon footprint. Hear about this and other sustainability efforts. Everyone is invited. Full details will be on our [home page](#) on August 14.



Sep 11 (Wed) Advanced Backpacking Class - Explore farther, hike longer!

Great - you have a few weekend backpacks under your belt; now you want to do more challenging backpacking to explore even more special places: 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, 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. 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



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



Sep 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 [Send Email](#) 972-247-0446



Sep 21 (Sat) Trail Maintenance 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 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 21st 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 stay green, people! Contact: Ginger [Send Email](#) 469-223-7902



Oct 1 (Tue) Wilderness Navigation Class - Part 1 (aka Learn to Explore!)

Learn the fundamentals of finding your way in the wilderness in this comprehensive 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, different kinds of compasses and how to use your compass. Some discussion about GPSs but our main focus is for you to learn how to use a map and compass so you're not trusting your navigation (and life) on something that takes batteries. If you have a compass, bring it to the class. If you don't have one, we will have an extra you can use and will show you what to look for when you purchase your own. 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 Thur., Oct. 3) 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 (cost covers both nights). Handout included. Bring water bottle and writing utensil for taking notes and writing navigation practice exercises. No reservations are necessary; just show up. Subsequent day hike with class instructor will be offered to class participants who want to practice their new skills. Contact: Bill Greer [Send Email](#) 972-247-0446



Oct 2 (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.



Oct 3 (Thu) Wilderness Navigation Class - Part 2

This is the second night of our two part class. See the class listing above (Oct. 1) for details. Contact: Bill Greer [Send Email](#) 972-247-0446



Oct 5 (Sat) Dayhike White Rock Creek Trail-Moss Park

Meet at 9:00 am at Moss Park (SE corner of Greenville Ave and Royal Lane). Hike 5-6 miles along paved trail. Bring water and a snack as we will be hiking all morning. No reservations necessary. Just show up. No pets please. Optional lunch at local restaurant. Leader: Mark Adams [Send Email](#) 972-658-1281



**Oct 8 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting
Urban Resilience and Climate Change**

Ann Drumm will talk about urban resilience in the context of climate change. Now that 2 degrees C or more of warming appears to be built into the climate system, efforts to increase resilience to climate impacts are now considered as important as efforts to mitigate greenhouse gases. She will discuss the draft National Climate Assessment and other reports as they pertain to anticipated climate impacts in North Texas, give some highlights of a recent urban resilience conference sponsored by the Dallas Institute, and talk about the prospects for regional multi-stakeholder climate resilience planning in North Texas.



Oct 12 (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 12-13 (Sat-Sun) Weekend Backpack at Buckeye Mountain Trail, Arkansas

Hike one of the most scenic Wilderness trails in Arkansas in the Caney Creek Wilderness of west central Arkansas. Saturday we'll enjoy the views from the ridgetop Buckeye Mountain Trail. Sunday we'll hike out along the creek bottoms of the Caney Creek Trail. With any luck the wildflowers will be starting to emerge. This trip is rated moderate and would be suitable for beginners in good shape. Both days cover about 4 1/2 miles. Saturday includes an 800 foot uphill section. We'll camp Friday night near our cars, Saturday night near a nice little waterfall. E-mail the leader to be put on the list. Leader: Mark Adams [Send Email](#) 972-658-1281



Oct 18-20 (Fri-Sun) Beavers Bend State Park Fall Campout

This fall camp out has been such a success the last few years that we're making it an annual event! 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 rustic cabins or tent camping on the grassy lawn or by the river. 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 flush toilets and 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. Saturday night offers a good old fashion country dinner (optional) and guest speaker. Complete trip information is in [this PDF file](#). Coordinator: Liz Wheelan [Send Email](#) 214-368-2306



Oct 19 (Sat) Upgrading Trails at Cedar Ridge Preserve

It's so 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 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 19th of October, 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 stay green, people! Contact: Ginger Bradley [Send Email](#) 569-223-7902



Oct 19 (Sat) Day Hike the Trinity River Greenbelt

Hike 10K (6 miles) on the Lake Ray Roberts Greenbelt Corridor. This is an easy trail running alongside the Elm Fork of the Trinity River. No reservations required, just show up. Well behaved pets on a leash are allowed. Bring water and a snack as we will be hiking all morning. Meet at 9:00 AM at the Highway 380 Trailhead Park. Admission to the park is \$5.00 per person or free with a Texas State Parks Pass. There will be an optional lunch afterwards. The Park is on US Hwy 380 2.1 miles west of Hwy 377 or 2.8 miles east of Loop 288 in Denton. Highway 380 can be reached from Central Expwy, Preston Rd., or the Tollway. Bring extra shoes in case the trail is muddy. This hike will be canceled if it is raining at the trailhead. Leader: Mark Adams [Send Email](#) 972-658-1281

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.
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