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Dallas Sierra Club
Lone Star Chapter

Dallas Sierra Club News - June 2015

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

Texas Nature and Environmental Centers

Dan Moulton will highlight the distribution of Texas Environmental Centers, the types of programs that are offered, and descriptions of some of the more unusual Centers. He will talk about outdoor programs for people of all ages -- guided hikes and activities, summer camps, handicapped-accessible trails, outreach programs, family programs, and many more. Dan's presentation will be based on his *Texas Nature and Environmental Centers Guide*, which is an excellent resource for fighting "nature-deficit disorder" by facilitating visits to nature and environmental centers throughout Texas.



Daniel W. Moulton is a wildlife ecologist with a B.A. in biology, a M.S. in wildlife ecology, and a Ph.D. in wildlife science. He has worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Maryland Wildlife Administration, and for over 20 years at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. After retirement from TPWD, he taught for over six years as an adjunct professor of environmental science and biology at several colleges in the Dallas area.

Municipal Water Recycling

Of all our needs, water is the most critical and happens to be something we can't manufacture. Thankfully, we have technological alternatives. Recycling used sources of water is a reliable and cost-effective strategy that we can implement quickly without risking damage to our environment or our economy. The 100,000 residents of Wichita Falls keep their way of life intact despite horribly oppressive drought conditions, thanks to the city's Cypress Water Treatment Plant. Bringing this technology to Dallas-Fort Worth is one of the best investments we could make to fortify ourselves against future water insecurity.



Jarratt Willis of Texas Conservation Alliance will tell us about municipal water recycling and its benefits. You may be surprised to learn where your drinking water comes from.

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 Brookhaven College, Building H, 3939 Valley View Ln in Farmers Branch. Click over to our [General Meeting page](#) of our website for more information and a map.

ALERT - PARKING for TUESDAY'S GENERAL MEETING:

Our usual parking area at Brookhaven is under construction. Not to worry, instead of parking in front of building H where our meeting is you'll park a little farther east in front of building S. Enter from Valley View Lane. Where you used to come to a 4 way stop you can now only turn right. Turn left into "P3" parking as soon as you can. You'll be in front of building S and our building H will be to your left. You can shorten the walk by cutting through building S, then turn left/west and follow the sidewalk to building H which is next door. See you there! It's not as bad as it sounds. Check out the campus map on our [General Meeting page](#).

Upcoming Meeting

Mark your calendar for our July meeting. It is one you will not want to miss.

Have you tracked your digital screen-to-natural world ratio lately?

You may have childhood memories of exploring woods and creeks, building tree houses or sleeping outside under the stars -- experiences enriched with smells, tastes, sounds and textures. Our disconnect from nature was dubbed nature deficit disorder by Last Child in the Woods author Richard Louv, founder of the New Nature Movement. Many global efforts are underway to reconnect children and adults with nature. This meeting will connect you to resources that pull adventurers into the natural world.

Dark Skies Awareness

Learn to use the free International Dark Skies Association (IDA) GLOBE at Night program as a reminder to simply look up at the night sky! In most cities, inefficient public lighting wastes energy and hides the stars with light pollution. IDA mounts global efforts to preserve our view of the Milky Way, and fights impacts of light pollution on human and wildlife communities. Support IDA by uploading your nighttime observations.

Geocaching

You'll receive simple instructions from geocache.com to facilitate nature based play stops on road trips, and a guide to earthcache.org to prepare for the Dallas Sierra Club's summer trip to the San Juan Mountains of Colorado. The Perot Museum supported Nature Rocks website can help you plan your next DFW adventure.

Presenter Heather Foote is founder of Prairie Keepers.org. A professional science educator, she designs stealth learning games and hikes. She is a board member of the Friends of Tandy Hills Natural Area and the Keller Farmers Market, and a founding member of the Fort Worth Native Prairies Association of Texas. Heather is Speakers Bureau Chair for Children in Nature Network - North Texas.

Mark Your Calendar for Chapter Awards Banquet on July 18

Dallas will mark the site for the 2015 Lone Star Chapter Awards Banquet Saturday evening, July 18 from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. These awards recognize and applaud folks in the Sierra Club and other organizations statewide who are doing extraordinary work for the environment. This is also an

opportunity for those of us in N. Texas to show our hospitality and meet fellow Sierrans around the state.

The banquet will be held at Blue Mesa in Addison on Montfort Dr. just south of Beltline. Tickets are \$45 per person for a wonderful buffet complete with your choice of a margarita, sangria, wine or beer. Your ticket also helps underwrite the honoring of the awardee. We are looking for sponsorships and donations for this event. For more information, contact Dallas Sierra Club member Rita Beving at <http://texas2.sierraclub.org/> or call her at 214-557-2271.

Summer Outings

We have put together three special outings for this summer. The first one was over Memorial Day, and, though a bit wet, everyone had a great time. Check out the remainint two and sign up for a fantastic trip.

July Backpacking Adventures in Colorado's San Juan Mountain Range

Details of the Dallas Sierra Club July 19-24 backpacking outing in the San Juan Mountains of Colorado are online now. See a description and photos by clicking [this link](#).

The San Juans are the range of the Rocky Mountains that form the Continental Divide from Chama, New Mexico to Telluride, Colorado and beyond. The outing has five itinerary options -- some in the South San Juan Wilderness Area, others in the Weminuche Wilderness Area. Unlike past trips to these areas, we're relying on private cars and car pools this July to reach trailheads.

This minimizes your trip expenses, allows you flexibility to extend travel on either end of the Sierra Club outing dates and enables us to access more trailheads.

Early registration is advised, particularly if you want space in our block of reserved cabins near Santa Fe on Saturday night, July 18.



Red, Gold and Wheeler, Labor Day Weekend Backpacking in Northern New Mexico -September 4-8

Information and the registration forms have been posted for the Labor Day backpacking trip to the Wheeler Peak Wilderness and Wild Rivers Recreation Area near Taos and Red River, NM. Choose from five trips in the beautiful Rio Grande Gorge in the Wild Rivers Recreation Area or the Queste Ranger district of Carson National Forest in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of Northern New Mexico. This is a bus trip with three days of backpacking and hiking in some of the most scenic areas of Northern New Mexico. The bus will depart Dallas at 6:30pm Friday evening, Sep. 4 and return about 6:30AM Tuesday morning, Sep. 8, and since this being Labor Day weekend, for most of us it will not use vacation time. For a description of the trip with photographs and the registration forms follow this [link](#).



Calendar

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



Jun 9 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting

Texas Nature and Environmental Centers Learn about Texas' vast array of Environmental Centers, types of programs offered for people of all ages, and descriptions of the unusual Centers. Also learn about **Municipal Water Recycling** and its benefits; you may be surprised to learn where your drinking water comes from. Everyone is invited to the Dallas Sierra Club's General Meeting. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



Jun 13 (Sat) White Rock Lake Clean-up

Walk and talk while picking up trash and recyclables at the Sierra Club's adopted section of White Rock Lake Park. Meet at 8:15 AM this second Saturday of the month at the Love of the Lake office, northeast corner of Garland Road and Buckner Boulevard. Look for the crowd drinking free juice and coffee. Gloves, trash bags, etc. will be provided. Our area includes one of the wonderful prairie restoration areas, so there are always birds and wildflowers to enjoy. Brunch afterwards. Leader: Carol Nash [Send Email](#) 214-824-0244



Jun 20 (Sat) Trail Maintenance at Cedar Ridge Preserve

Hello everyone. We look forward to seeing new smiling faces and hard workers to help out on the trails and flora and fauna. We meet at 9 AM at the Preserve and will work and walk until about noon. It's fun and beautiful and we have ordered excellent weather to help upgrade some of the beautiful walking trails just south of Dallas. 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. Bring some water, for sure. Please see the [Cedar Ridge Preserve website](#) for directions and info. If you want to carpool down there, just text me or email me. Coordinator: Ginger Bradley [Send Email](#) 469-223-7902



Jun 21-26 (Sun-Fri) Beginner Long Backpack Trip In Columbine-Hondo Wilderness, New Mexico

A backpack trip several days in length is a very different experience from a weekend trip. But entirely too many people restrict themselves to just weekend trips. Besides taking a leisurely trip to enjoy a newly designated Wilderness area we will try to introduce some new people to the pleasures of a longer trip. Our first day we will hike a short distance and spend the night to give ourselves time to adjust to altitude at 8,400 feet. The second day we'll travel another 3 1/2 miles or so (with a climb of about 1,600 feet) to our base camp in a nice meadow at 10,000 feet. From there we will have 3 days to dayhike, explore one of my favorite areas, and just enjoy being there. There are two small lakes (one off-trail) that we can reach and, weather permitting, we might hike to the top of 12,115 foot Lobo Peak. We'll spend a total of 6 days and 5 nights in the Wilderness. If you want to see what a longer trip is like or just want to enjoy a leisurely trip in a pretty area, come along! If you want to see how many miles you can cover in 6 days this isn't the trip for you. Leaders: Bill Greer [Send Email](#) 972-247-0446 and Sue Greer [Send Email](#)



Jul 1 (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 Brookhaven College, Building H at 6:30 pm. Contact the [Dallas Group Chair](#) for more information.



Jul 14 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting

Many global efforts are underway to reconnect children and adults with nature. This meeting will connect you to resources that pull adventurers into the natural world. Everyone is invited to the Dallas Sierra Club's General Meeting. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



Jul 15 (Wed) Outings Committee Meeting

The Outings committee meets tonight for a review of lessons learned on recent trips, planning for upcoming trips and other business as warranted. Time is 6:30. Place is yet to be determined.

Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733

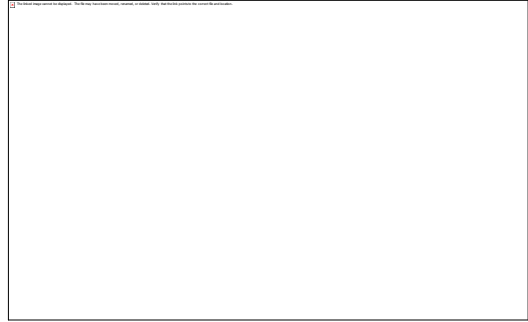


Jul 19-24 (Sun-Fri) Backpacking in the San Juan Mountains, Colorado

Plan now for five days of backpacking in the breathtaking San Juan Mountains, on or below the Continental Divide in the Weminuche and South San Juan Wilderness Areas. Allow time on both ends of the outing for travel.

We'll use private cars and car pools to reach multiple trailheads in Colorado, north of Chama, New Mexico. Backpackers will gather in Chama for lunch on Sunday, July 19. There's **no fee** for this trip. Five backpacking itineraries are offered, rated moderately strenuous or strenuous due to elevations from 8,400 to 13,122 feet.

See details and registration forms by clicking [here](#). 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.
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