



**SIERRA
CLUB**
FOUNDED 1892

EXPLORE, ENJOY AND PROTECT THE PLANET
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Dallas Sierra Club
Lone Star Chapter

Dallas Sierra Club News - July 2015

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Three Reasons You Should Attend and Support the Chapter Awards Banquet on July 18

The 2015 Lone Star Chapter Awards Banquet will be held in Dallas, Saturday evening, July 18 from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. The banquet will be held at Blue Mesa in Addison on Montfort Dr. just south of Beltline. These awards recognize and applaud folks in our respective Sierra Clubs and other organizations statewide who are doing extraordinary work for the environment. This is also an opportunity for those of us in North Texas to show our hospitality and meet fellow Sierrans from around the state.

There are 3 reasons why you should attend this event:

- 1) There are Dallas Sierrans and other favorite group leaders within the Metroplex getting awards.
- 2) This is your chance to meet your newly hired Chapter Director, Reggie James in person. It's also your chance to meet your Chapter Executive Committee, with leaders from groups all across the state.
- 3) You have an opportunity to support this event and the Chapter's ongoing work with your donation or your sponsorship - even if you can't attend - by calling Rita Beving at 214.557.2271

Tickets are \$45 per person (Deadline: July 14 via Chapter website) for a wonderful buffet complete with your choice of a margarita, sangria, wine or beer. Your ticket purchase also helps underwrite the honoring of the awardees. We are looking for sponsorships and donations for this event. Access <http://texas2.sierraclub.org/> to get your dinner tickets. To sponsor the awards event, call Rita Beving at 214.557.2271 or email her at rita.beving@gmail.com.

General Meeting Program - July 14, 7:00 pm - Refreshments at 6:30

Reconnect With Nature

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.

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 August meeting.

Pollinators and Natives: An Ancient Marriage

Randy Johnson will discuss the co-evolution of pollinators and native plants and the vital role each

plays in ecosystems. The critical importance of diversity is explained and exceptional genera are emphasized. He offers a common-sense template for plant selection and landscape design that is easy to understand and implement.

Randy Johnson is from Mesquite, Texas, and earned a degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences from Texas A&M University. He is the past Director of Horticulture at Texas Discovery Gardens and currently serves as the Horticulture Manager at The Dallas Zoo. His personal business is Randy Johnson Organics; through this entity he offers consultations on organic horticulture, native plants, ecological restoration and pollinator gardens. Randy also propagates and sells native plants from seed he hand-collects from various ecotypes throughout north Texas. He is the current president of the Dallas Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas, serves as a lifetime appointee on the Board of Directors of Peckerwood Garden, and is a member of the Board of Directors at Lake Highlands community garden in Dallas.

Summer Outings

The last of our special summer outings is coming up in early September. Sign up soon.

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.



Jul 11 (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



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

Come upstairs to the meeting room at Whole Foods Market, southwest quadrant of Preston and Forest, Dallas for a review of lessons learned on recent trips, planning for upcoming trips and other business as warranted. Meeting time is 6:30 PM. Anyone interested in outings is welcome. Contact Mark to be added to the list for an agenda by email. Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



Jul 18 (Sat) Trail Enhancement at Cedar Ridge Preserve

Hello everyone. We look forward to seeing new smiling faces and hard workers to help out on the trails and enhance the flora and fauna. We meet at 8 AM at the Preserve and will work and walk until about 11 AM. It's fun and beautiful and we have ordered excellent weather. The address is 7171 Mountain Creek Pkwy, Dallas, TX 75249. The Cedar Ridge phone is 972-709-7784. It's a great morning workout, and the scenery is exceptional. No tools are required, and we have gloves, so 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. It's near Duncanville in southwest Dallas. If you want to carpool there, just text me or email me. Organizer: Ginger Bradley [Send Email](#) 469-223-7902



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

Hike five days in the 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. Multiple itineraries are offered, rated moderately strenuous or strenuous due to elevations from 8,400 to 13,122 feet. For details and registration forms click [here](#). Coordinator: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



Aug 5 (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.



Aug 8 (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



Aug 11 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting

Randy Johnson will discuss pollinators and native plants, and offer a common-sense template for plant selection and landscape design that is easy to understand and implement. Everyone is invited to the Dallas Sierra Club's General Meeting. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



Aug 15 (Sat) Backpacking 101

Circle this date for Dallas Sierra Club's popular class geared to novice and intermediate backpackers. Trip leaders with decades of backpacking experiences will present a comprehensive and unbiased overview of what to bring and leave at home for a backpacking trip (packs, boots, tents, sleeping gear, food, clothes, etc.) and offer personal tips for making your backpacking experience comfortable and fun. The class is from 1:00 to 5:00 at Whole Foods Market, southeast quadrant of

Preston Road at Forest Lane. Class price is \$40, \$35 for Sierra Club members. Eat lunch in the store if you wish, then come upstairs to the class. Coordinator: Liz Wheelan [Send Email](#) 214-368-2306



Aug 15 (Sat) Trail Upgrading at Cedar Ridge Preserve

Hello everyone. We look forward to seeing new smiling faces and hard workers to help out on the trails and enhance the flora and fauna. We meet at 8 AM at the Preserve and will work and walk until about 11 AM. It's fun and beautiful and we have ordered excellent weather to help upgrade these beautiful walking trails just south of Dallas. The address is 7171 Mountain Creek Pkwy, Dallas, TX 75249. The Cedar Ridge phone is 972-709-7784. Search "Cedar Ridge Preserve Dallas" for directions and more info. If you want to carpool, call or email me. Contact: Ginger Bradley [Send Email](#) 469-223-7902



Aug 19 (Wed) Outings Committee Meeting

The Outings Committee meets tonight at 6:30, upstairs at Whole Foods Market, SW quadrant of Preston Road and Forest Lane, Dallas Anyone interested in outings is invited. Contact Mark to be added to the advance agenda email list. Organizer: 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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