



**SIERRA CLUB**  
FOUNDED 1892

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

## Dallas Sierra Club News - October 2016

### In This Issue. . .

- [Register to Vote](#) - The deadline is October 11
- [Sierra Club General Meeting](#) - Tuesday, October 11
- [Beavers Bend Campout](#) - Dallas Sierra Club group campout October 14-16
- [Earth, Wind & Fire](#) - Energy Summit II - October 22-23
- [Sierra Club Calendars](#) - Get Sierra Club calendars at the General Meeting
- [Buffalo River Bus Trip](#) - Don't miss our last bus trip of 2016
- [Upcoming Programs](#) - Mark your Sierra Club calendar
- [Calendar](#) - Find out what's going on in the Dallas Sierra Club

### Register to Vote - Do it NOW! The Deadline is October 11 - And Vote GREEN

You only have a few days left to register so you can vote in the upcoming election. The General Election will take place on Tuesday, November 8, 2016. The last day to register for this election is October 11. Early voting takes place from October 24 through November 4. Head over to [www.VoteTexas.gov](http://www.VoteTexas.gov) to find out how to register, to check on your registration status, or to change your address.



After you have registered, **Vote Green** by supporting Sierra Club endorsed candidates. Sierra Club endorsed candidates for national office are at the [Sierra Club Voter Guide](#). Candidates endorsed for Texas House and Senate races are at [TurnTexasGreen.org](http://TurnTexasGreen.org).

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

#### Fall Elections

Hear about the Sierra Club's 2016 Electoral Campaign to help elect political leaders friendly to the environment and learn how you can make a difference. Competitive races will be analyzed, our endorsed candidates will be introduced, and volunteer political opportunities will be discussed. David Griggs, Dallas Group Political Chair and Chair, Sierra Club Political Committee of Texas, will make the presentation.

#### Carbon Tax?

Why put a price on carbon and other greenhouse gases? Carbon-emitting fuels are the main source of energy in the human economy of the world; when we produce energy -- heat or electricity -- we tend to use fuels that are burned and which then emit carbon-based the atmosphere. We pay the retail price for access to this energy, but for the underlying chemistry, the distortionary impact of pollution destabilization of our climate system -- at least not at retail. Those costs are incurred indirectly; in



molecules into we don't pay costs, or the

other words, they are paid for outside of the producer's business model, not priced into the retail product or service, and remain generally "hidden" from view.

The idea of "putting a price on carbon" is simple: we add to the cost of doing business in those resources because we want to reveal the hidden costs that no one is taking responsibility for. Getting that price right means making the market tell the truth, and that means ordinary people -- consumers, small businesses, taxpayers -- will recover the market leverage they are supposed to have to determine whether we do something that is too costly or not.

Ricky Bradley will explain a carbon tax; he is the Dallas chapter leader of Citizens' Climate Lobby, an organization laser focused on passing federal legislation to price carbon in a revenue neutral way.

**Everyone is welcome. FREE!** 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. Click over to our [General Meeting page](#) for more information and a map.

### Fall Outing at Beavers Bend State Park October 14 - 16

Celebrate fall and join us for this relaxing event in the beautiful mountainous region of southeast Oklahoma. The weekend is perfect for outdoor enthusiasts of all ages and stages. Families, couples, singles, all are welcome. We have the group compound all to ourselves, complete with your choice of rustic cabin or tent camping, dining hall with kitchen, optional catered dinner and (drum roll please)... yes, even a bathhouse with hot showers and flush toilets! On Saturday we'll offer various levels of hikes or you can be on your own to enjoy many fun activities offered by the park. Plan an active weekend or hang out on the porch, whichever you would enjoy. Cabin requests are on a first come basis so make your plans now! [Click here](#) for more information and required registration forms. Don't wait to sign up. This camp out sells out fast.



### Earth, Wind, & Fire Energy Summit II Focuses on Energy - October 22-23

#### Sign UP NOW for the Earth, Wind, & Fire Summit II Event to Focus on All Forms of Energy

The Earth, Wind & Fire Energy Summit II will be held on October 22-23 at the Addison Conference Centre. Back by popular demand, this 2-day event will focus on all forms of energy, including both traditional and renewable forms of energy as well as the environmental and human impacts these energy sources have on communities and the environment.

The logo features the text "Earth, Wind, & Fire" in a large, white, serif font, with "ENERGY SUMMIT II" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it. The text is set against a dark blue rectangular background.

Registration is now open for this exciting event at [earthwindfiresummit.org](http://earthwindfiresummit.org).

Discussion and speaker highlights include:

- Energy/Climate Change by Katherine Hayhoe – International climate scientist, one of Time Magazine's 100 most influential people
- Earthquakes and Deep Injection Wells by SMU's Dr. Bryan Stump – Studied the earthquakes in the DFW area
- First Texas City to Become 100% Renewable by Chris Foster – City of Georgetown
- Battery Storage for Renewable Energy by Jack Farley of APEX

There are more than 12 others speakers to talk wind, geothermal, nuclear, coal, and other sources of energy. Check out the fabulous credentials of the speakers who are coming.

The 2014 events sold out 10 days ahead of time. The event is hosted by the Dallas Sierra Club, DCCCD, and a number of other groups. For more information or to learn about exhibitor opportunities, contact Rita Beving at [rita.beving@gmail.com](mailto:rita.beving@gmail.com).

### **New 2017 Sierra Club Calendars Available for Sale at the General Meeting**

Sierra Club Wilderness Wall Calendars and Engagement Calendars will be available for purchase at the October, November and December General Meetings (or until we run out). The Sierra Club Wilderness Calendar is the best selling nature calendar in the United States. Don't miss your chance to get one (or several - they make great gifts). The Wall Calendar sells for \$13 and the Engagement Calendar sells for \$14. We take check, cash or credit cards.



### **Hike the Buffalo River on Our Last Bus Trip of 2016**

Have you ever hiked a river? The Buffalo River in the Ozark Mountains of northern Arkansas, protected and managed by the National Park Service since 1974, is a magnet for canoes, kayaks and tubes in the spring. By late summer and fall, the river level falls, exposing more than twenty fords where the shallow, rock-bottomed river can be crossed, usually without removing boots. Parallel trails that crisscross the river or ascend its soaring bluffs make this a great destination for extensive hiking.



Choose from four trip itinerary options, with average daily distances of four to ten miles. There are three options for backpacking and an option to base camp at Steel Creek Campground and day hike to multiple destinations. This is a sleeper bus trip, leaving Dallas on a Thursday night, October 27, hiking Friday, Saturday and until late afternoon Sunday, arriving home before sunrise on Monday, Oct. 31, Halloween. Late October is usually an ideal weekend for fall color in the Buffalo valley. For trip details and information on how to register, click [this PDF link](#).

### **Future Programs You Won't Want to Miss**

### **November 8 - Hilites from Iceland, Patagonia, and Storm Chasing**

Dan Leffel, photographer extraordinaire and one of our favorite speakers, will cover three of his latest photography trips: to Iceland in winter, Patagonia in their fall, and storm chasing on the high plains this past spring. From the Iceland trip Dan will share unique images of the northern lights, which he photographed on 6 different occasions during 11 days in the country. His Patagonia images will include treks made in both Fitz Roy and Torres del Paine. His storm chasing images will include stories of the 12 tornadoes he photographed over a span of just 4 days - a very active weather period this past May. He was able to capture an image with 3 tornadoes on the ground at the same time, a rare occurrence. There will be ample time to ask questions regarding any of the other places Dan has travelled, or about his presentation.

### **December 13 - Transition to a clean energy economy**

John Hall will speak about Texas' rapid transition to a clean energy economy and the significant economic benefits and water savings that would flow from this shift. John is the Environmental Defense Fund's Texas State Director for Clean Energy.

### **January 10 - Howard Garrett on Non-Toxic Pest Control and Related Water Savings**

The first step of natural pest control is the basic organic program and resulting healthy soil and plants. Healthy, non-stressed plants don't attract pests nearly as much as do plants that are under stress from the use of high-nitrogen, salt fertilizers and toxic chemical pesticides. Understanding the protection and use of beneficial insects and other living organisms is also a major part of successful pest control. When direct pest control is needed, there are "soft" choices that work well. Howard will explain all this with his thorough and fascinating slide show.

## **Calendar**

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



#### **Oct 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](mailto:Carol.Nash@sierraclub.org) 214-455-2115



#### **Oct 11 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting**

**Learn about (1) a Carbon Tax (2) candidates and issues in the upcoming election.**

Everyone is invited. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



#### **Oct 14-16 (Fri-Sun) Dallas Sierra Club Group Campout at Beavers Bend State Park, Oklahoma**

Join us for this relaxing weekend of fall beauty in scenic southeastern Oklahoma. We have an entire group compound reserved, complete with **your choice of rustic cabin or tent camping**, bathhouse and dining hall with kitchen. We offer Saturday hike options ranging from a one-mile nature trail to a 7-mile roller-coaster trail up and down and over the skyline ridges. The park offers many family-friendly activities you can enjoy. We even offer a Saturday night catered dinner option. **Space is still available but act now. Reservation deadline is Oct 11.** Full details and sign-up information is in [this PDF](#). Coordinator: Liz Wheelan [Send Email](mailto:Liz.Wheelan@sierraclub.org) 214-368-2306



### **Oct 15 (Sat) Trail Maintenance at Cedar Ridge Preserve**

Come to the hilly terrain of Cedar Ridge Preserve to help maintain one of the better trail networks in Dallas. The Sierra Club is responsible for the Possum Haw Trail. We work here on third Saturdays of almost every month, starting at 9 AM, working until approximately noon. The Preserve's address is 7171 Mountain Creek Parkway, Dallas. For directions and general information about Cedar Ridge Preserve, click [this link](#). If you need more information or want to carpool, call or email me. Contact: Ginger Bradley [Send Email](#) 469-223-7902



### **Oct 19 (Wed) Outings Committee Meeting**

The Outings Committee meets tonight at 6:30 at Whole Foods Market, SE quadrant of Preston Road and Forest Lane, Dallas, upstairs. We'll review recent outings and plan future ones. An objective for tonight will be to set remaining dates and destinations for major trips of 2017. Bring your research and recommendations. Anyone interested in outings is invited. Reply to Mark to be added to the advance agenda email list or to suggest an agenda item. Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



### **Oct 22-23 (Sat-Sun) Beginner Backpacking Trip to the Caney Creek Wilderness**

This is one of the Dallas Sierra Club's favorite local backpacking trips. Come and join us to practice what you've learned in the backpacking class. We'll hike about 4 1/2 miles one way and camp near a waterfall. We will be hiking along a shallow stream, and go across it a couple of times. There will also be a few small hills to climb. After setting up camp and resting, we'll do a short day hike as time permits. This is a relatively easy backpack outing, suitable for beginners. Priority sign-ups will be given to those who have taken the August 13, 2016 backpacking class. Please contact the leader to sign up. Leader: Marcos Jorge [Send Email](#) 214-682-6555



### **Oct 22-23 (Sat-Sun) Earth, Wind, & Fire Energy Summit II**

Conference Saturday and Sunday, October 22-23, with lectures and workshops about the ways we get and use electrical energy, and what its relationship is to conservation and health. For complete information and registration go to [EarthWindFireSummit.org](http://EarthWindFireSummit.org) Contact: Rita Beving [Send Email](#)



### **Oct 27-31 (Thu-Mon) Backpack or Camp and Hike at Buffalo National River, Arkansas**

on a sleeper bus Thursday night, eat in Huntsville, Arkansas and arrive at your trailhead Friday morning. That gives three full days for hiking before late Sunday afternoon pick-ups and dinner in Jasper, Arkansas. We'll bring you home before sunrise Monday, Oct. 31. BNR is a great destination for hiking in the Ozark Mountains. Four itinerary options offer average daily distances of four to ten miles. Late October is ideal for fall color in the Buffalo Valley. The rock-bottomed river is also low, exposing numerous shallow fords where we can cross to trails on both banks, typically without removing boots. For trip details and registration, click [this PDF link](#). Get the discounted trip price through Oct. 10. Coordinator: Bill Beach [Send Email](#) 214-662-3224



### **Nov 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 upstairs at Whole Foods Market, southeast corner of Preston Road and Forest Lane, in Dallas at 6:30 pm. Contact the [Dallas Group Chair](#) for more information.



### **Nov 5 (Sat) Urban Bike Trails Triangle**

Meet at Rusty Taco, NE corner of Greenville Ave. and University Blvd., Dallas. Park there if you arrive in time for breakfast. Let's leave Rusty Taco at 9 AM. We'll bike to White Rock Lake, mostly via trails by the DART tracks, then head south along the lake to the Santa Fe Trail. Riding the SF Trail, we'll emerge in Deep Ellum, where it'll be time for a caffeine break (Café Brazil?). Then we'll continue through Downtown Dallas (ultra-light traffic on weekends) to the Katy Trail and ride the Katy north to



our starting point. The whole triangular trip is 18 miles. Plan on two hours plus the stop in Deep Ellum. Bring your own bicycle. You must wear a helmet. This is an opportunity to experience three very popular urban bike trails. You may show up unannounced at Rusty Taco, but I'd appreciate a reply to tell me you'll be there. Only people who reply with an email address will be alerted of cancelation or other changes. Leader: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



**Nov 8 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting**

**Photographs from Iceland, Patagonia, and Storm Chasing** by Dan Leffel, whose presentations always are superb. Everyone is invited. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



**Nov 11-13 (Fri-Sun) Tread amongst the Texas State Bison Herd**

Hike with us on Veterans Day weekend at **Caprock Canyons State Park**. We will meet early on Friday, November 11th, departing for the park near Quitaque, Texas. After backpacking about two miles, we will make camp and explore before turning in for the night. On Saturday, we will backpack four miles with some stretches of extremely steep and rugged terrain, make camp and then day hike another five miles. On Sunday, we day hike a six-mile loop through lower ground before breaking camp, then backpack a mile and return to Dallas Sunday evening. Previous backpacking experience is required. This outing will accommodate a maximum of twelve participants. Please contact Jake Trousdale for trip information. Leader: Jake Trousdale [Send Email](#) 214-244-4887



**Nov 12 (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](#) 214-455-2115



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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).  
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