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Dallas Sierra Club
Lone Star Chapter

Dallas Sierra Club News - January 2017

In This Issue. . .

- [Sierra Club General Meeting](#) - Tuesday, January 10 - The Dirt Doctor
- [Chair's Letter](#) - Notes from our chair
- [Backpacking 101 Class](#) - Learn to backpack, you know you want to
- [Our New Membership Co-chair](#) - Hello from Ginger
- [Upcoming Programs](#) - Mark your Sierra Club calendar
- [Calendar](#) - Find out what's going on in the Dallas Sierra Club

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

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.

Howard Garrett, The Dirt Doctor, provides advice on natural organic gardening, landscaping, pet health, pest control, and natural living. He has an online course that explains the natural-organic program and why it works better. This gardening and landscaping course teaches how to use natural-organic techniques to save water and money, and how to enjoy a more effective and healthy approach to gardening and landscaping. Click [here](#) for information about the course. Get a 10% discount by using the promo code TORCCERT10 when you sign up.



Some of Howard's books can be purchased *at discount prices* at the meeting, and Howard will sign any of his books that you have.

Howard received his Bachelor of Science degree in Park Administration and Landscape Architecture from Texas Tech University. In 1985, the birth of Howard's daughter Logan was the turning point in his education into organic gardening, landscaping, farming, and ranching. By 1988 he had committed his entire career to the research, education, and promotion of organic products and practices. In addition to teaching organics to homeowners, he began the conversion of numerous commercial projects such as the Frito-Lay National Headquarters in Plano. His work also includes research on natural organic

planting techniques, use of native and well adapted introductions, and water saving solutions. Organic projects in the studies have realized 40-50% cost savings in water use.

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.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT BROOKHAVEN COLLEGE

Valley View Entrance Closed For Construction: All incoming traffic to the college MUST use the Alpha Rd. entrance during construction. Exit lanes at Valley View will remain open. The entrance lanes at Valley View are being widened to accommodate incoming traffic during peak times.

From the Chair

2017 will be an exciting time for the Dallas Sierra Club and its members. The monthly programs will be the greatest (thanks to our Programs Chair, Kirk Miller); outings will be terrific (thanks to the outings committee, ably led by Mark Stein); addressing regional and local environmental issues (thanks to our terrific conservation committee, led by Dick & Chris Guldi) and much more this coming year.

Be in the know about the Dallas Sierra Club. Check the calendar on the webpage to see what's up (Howard Garrett at our meeting this Tuesday and Backpacking 101 on the 21st). Then keep abreast of what's current with Dallas Sierra Club members and friends on our Facebook page.

In short, your Dallas Sierra Club is perfect, right? It could be better? Says Who? What About You? What do you think the Dallas Sierra Club could do better? Email your idea to John@DallasSierraClub.com. This is a very good time to do so. Next week the executive committee will have a daylong retreat to plan for the coming year. Let me know your thoughts. Pass along your ideas of what is possible. Do you have a project in mind that the Dallas Sierra Club could be involved in? Won't know unless you tell me. So get on that keyboard and sound off.

As your Dallas Sierra Club is made up of volunteers, have you considered adding yourself as one? There are so many things that could be done, but which lack a particular expertise. Perhaps you have what is needed for the club to achieve a certain goal. You may have the spark to add a new dimension to your Dallas Sierra Club. Light up my inbox and let me know.

Don't allow the mundane and mendacity of life prevent you from grabbing your share. Be an active part of the Dallas Sierra Club and expand your sense of wonderment.

John Lingenfelder

Backpacking 101 Class - January 21



Give yourself a gift that you can use for the rest of your life!

Want something fun to start 2017? This is it! Sign up now. The class is for never-ever backpackers and people who want to update backpacking knowledge, skills or gear. Sierra Club trip leaders with decades of experience will present a comprehensive overview of backpacking topics--packs, tents, food, clothing, sleeping bags, water treatment and much more, plus "ah-ha" tips we wish someone had told us sooner for the sake of comfort and affordability. Location: Whole Foods Market, Preston Road at Forest Lane, Dallas ([map](#)) Time: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Cost: \$35 for Sierra Club members, \$40 for non-members. You can register and [pay on-line here](#) or you can just show up and pay at the door. Trips especially for class participants will be scheduled for spring.

Meet our New Membership Co-chair

Hello everyone, I'd like to introduce myself as the new Membership Chair of the Dallas Sierra Club and I'm happy to be here and am looking forward to an exciting and interesting new year full of outdoor adventures. We will together endeavor to get new people involved in the Dallas Sierra Club and its wide range of activities, including hiking, biking, and activism, to name a few. As your Membership Chair, I have pledged to have at least one get together every quarter of 2017, in various parts of Dallas, and will be looking for suggestions and feedback as to who would like to meet and where would be a good place. The options are many, and the timing is wide open, so I'm shooting for the end of March 2017 for our first get together, which will be a picnic, a hike, a walk, and anything else you would like it to be. The cost for new members will be nothing, all you need is your interest and a good attitude, and to suit up and show up. Looking forward to meeting new people, seeing people that I already know, and motivating environmentally friendly individuals and families. Feel free to contact me at any time with questions or suggestions, and I'm looking forward to a great new year. My email and phone number are available on the website, as I already have a regular 'outing' that I conduct for people that want to get involved in service work or hiking activities. Thank you for participating, and I look forward to working with you all.

Ginger Bradley
469-223-7902
gingercanyon@usa.net

Future Programs You Won't Want to Miss

February 14 - Antarctica and the 2017 Texas Legislative Session

Visit Antarctica with Geoff Skews in our short program. Our long program will take a look at the challenges and opportunities ahead of us during the 2017 Texas Legislative Session. The speaker will be Rita Beving.

March 14 - Woodpeckers

Learn all about woodpeckers from Ben Jones and Jenna Hanson with the Dallas Zoo Wild Earth Academy.

Calendar

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



Jan 10 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting
Howard Garrett, The Dirt Doctor, will talk about Non-Toxic Pest Control and Related Water Savings. Everyone is invited. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



Jan 18 (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. This will be our first meeting since October, so we'll review status of outings scheduled through Labor Day, plus other items. 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



Jan 21 (Sat) Backpacking 101 Class
Want something fun to start 2017? This is it! Save the date. The class is for never-ever backpackers and people who want to update backpacking knowledge, skills or gear. Sierra Club trip leaders with decades of experience will present a comprehensive overview of backpacking topics-- packs, tents, food, clothing, sleeping bags, water treatment and much more, plus "ah-ha" tips we wish someone had told us sooner for the sake of comfort and affordability. Location: Whole Foods Market, Preston Road at Forest Lane, Dallas ([map](#)) Time: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Cost: \$35 for Sierra Club members, \$40 for non-members. You can register and [pay on-line here](#) or you can just show up and pay at the door. Interested or have questions? Please contact the class coordinator. Trips especially for class participants will be scheduled for spring. Come on out! Coordinator: Liz Wheelan [Send Email](#) 214-368-2306



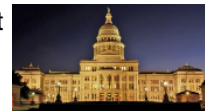
Jan 26 (Thu) Flint Comes to Dallas, or Is It Already Here?
[Free Forum on the Flint MI water crisis and North Texas water issues](#)



Feb 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 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.



Feb 14 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting
2017 Texas Legislative Session - also - Antarctica Adventures - See what bills may affect our daily lives and what we can do; also hear what it's like to work in Antarctica. Everyone is invited. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



Feb 15 (Wed) Outings Committee Meeting
This third Wednesday falls on the night the Big Bend National Park bus trip departs. We'll decide at the January 18 meeting whether we need to move the date or whether we can cover timely business during the Big Bend outing. 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.
[Join the Sierra Club](#)