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Dallas Sierra Club
Lone Star Chapter

Dallas Sierra Club News - June 2018

General Meeting - June 8, 7:00 pm - Refreshments at 6:30 - Everyone Welcome

Wildflowers of Texas

Michael Eason will talk about Texas wildflowers and will explain the diversity of our flora and reasons behind this diversity. His presentation will include numerous photographs of Texas flora and their habitats. There will be images of plants that have rarely, if ever, been photographed, and the associated tales tracking down some of these plants. Michael will talk about new species in Texas and the rediscovery of a South Texas water lily (*Nymphaea ampla*), and will include examples of pollination biology, seed dispersal, and errors in collections.



Michael's book, *Wildflowers of Texas*, is a field guide covering 1170 taxa of both native and naturalized species, and primarily covers herbaceous flowering plants. The book contains common, uncommon, and rare plants found within the borders of Texas. While the book contains species found in other field guides, many of the plants within have never been included in other Texas field guides and some of the plants never properly, if ever, photographed.

Michael Eason is a freelance botanist who performs plant surveys and inventories on both private and public lands throughout Texas. Additionally, he is on staff at San Antonio Botanical Gardens, where he heads their Rare Plant Research and Conservation Program. Previously he worked for the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center as their Conservation Program Manager, a position he held from 2003-2012. During this time he managed such projects as the Millennium Seed Bank, Ferns of the Trans-Pecos, and Vegetation Survey of Big Bend National Park.

Good Faith Impact

Tracy Wallace will tell us about Good Faith Impact, a non-profit organization focused on workforce development and training in the community for renewable energy jobs and clean technology business practices. Such training will promote environmentally conscious careers that improve the conditions in local communities. Empowerment programming will address the root causes of poverty through sustainable solutions that have a lasting impact.



GOOD FAITH IMPACT

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. The meeting takes place at Brookhaven College. Click over to our [General Meeting page](#) for more information and a map.

From the Chair's Desk

Last week, I joined almost three dozen Dallas Sierra Club people to return from a fantastic four-day backpacking trip in the Savage Gulf Wilderness Area in Tennessee. It was a terrific experience for all. How did this happen? Well before the trip, each of the trails to be traversed, was well planned by our expert trail leaders. This club, your club, is so very fortunate to have the depth and expertise in a cadre of trained volunteer outdoor trail leaders, who are committed to providing you with the best possible outdoors experience.

One afternoon on this trip, as I stood on a high bluff watching a hawk glide over the forest below, I thought about how incredibly lucky our club is to have such people, who made this experience possible. Until I became chair, I hadn't a clue about the depth of knowledge, experience, training and expertise it takes... what it takes to make this club function so well. We members of the Dallas Sierra Club are truly blessed because of the commitment of these devoted men and women.

As I sat thinking about that, I also thought about how lucky we are to live in Texas; to have so much; yet how precarious the situation is for Texas' environment. Unlike our club, with its cadre of selfless, expert volunteer leaders, Texas' political leadership is severely lacking in such skillsets. Bigotry; a fawning deference to monied interests; and a lack of knowledge or care for the Texas environment, seems to be the "coin of the realm" for them.

I don't know about you, but I have made a commitment to see that the shortsighted ones in the Texas Legislature, who work against keeping Texas great, are thrown out this November. I truly love this state and fear its rich environmental resources are and will be squandered by shortsighted fools. These representatives, who represent only greed, must be replaced with people who have skills to lead and who recognize what it takes to make Texas great. But there are only five months remaining.

How does one step up to do this? For me, I committed to work and am working on the campaign of one individual running for the state legislature. This incredibly qualified person is challenging one of the incompetents.

Next, I support the Sierra Club Lone Star Chapter's PAC, "Turn Texas Green". This PAC gathers contributions from Sierra Club members to fund candidates who support pro-environment initiatives.

If you love Texas; have a passion for the outdoors; and are for our environment, I'm asking you to carry on the example set by leaders of your Dallas Sierra Club – set a clear focus on the goal and plan for success. Pick a pro-environment candidate to the state legislature and focus for the next five months to support this candidate with your time. Go to the TurnTexasGreen.org website to make a generous contribution. Each of the candidates endorsed by the Sierra Club Political Committee of Texas, is vetted and you can be sure your contribution is used for the best.

There is only five months left for us to work to turn Texas green. Join with me and your Dallas Sierra Club to invest time and money to see it through. Our reward will be as satisfying as standing on a bluff watching a beautiful hawk, soar over a forest below, knowing we did our part.

John Lingenfelder, Chair

Labor Day Bus Trip to the Weminuche Wilderness in Colorado, August 30 - September 4

Escape the Texas heat this Labor Day weekend and join us for our trip to the cool Colorado mountains of the Weminuche Wilderness. This trip has mountains, lakes, streams, and valleys. Trips will range from moderate backpacking to strenuous long hikes. The Weminuche Wilderness offers great diversity and all the miles you want to hike. It is a hidden jewel and one of our most popular trips. Complete trip information and sign-up details is available [here](#). We have not been to the Weminuche in 6 years, so sign up soon. This trip will fill up fast.



Future Programs You Won't Want to Miss

July 10 - Bees and Liveable Arlington

Learn all about our native bees and honey bees. Bee-lieve us, this program will be everything you want it to be. We will also learn about Liveable Arlington. The citizens group Liveable Arlington advocates for and organizes toward a healthy, environmentally conscious, sustainable city.

August 14 - Animals - Live!

The wide variety of live animals in this family friendly presentation will be engaging, educational entertainment for children and adults alike. See and learn about unusual structural and behavioral adaptations that make it possible for some of our more interesting critters to survive.

September 11 - Fall Elections

Hear about the Sierra Club's campaign to help elect political leaders friendly to the environment.

Limerick of the Month

Two friends pondered where to hike,
Or possibly where to bike,
They went to the Forest,
Of all choices, the best,
Nature is what they like...

Eli Baron, Dallas Sierra Club member

If you would like to submit an environmental limerick for our Limerick of the Month feature, send it to editors@dallassierraclub.org.

Calendar



Jun 9 (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 For 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. This event is conducted by For the Love of the Lake. Contact: Carol Nash [Send Email](#) 214-455-2115



Jun 12 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting

Tracy Wallace will tell us about **Good Faith Impact**, a non-profit organization focused on workforce development and training in the community for renewable energy jobs and clean technology business practices. - Everyone is invited. Full details will be on our [home page](#) soon.



Jun 16 (Sat) Sandbranch Clean Up Days Service Opportunity

Have time to volunteer? Join in lot clean up every third Saturday, 9 a.m. - 12 noon on these dates: May 19, June 16, July 21, and August 18. **Complete the volunteer release form [here](#) BEFORE you come.** Volunteers meet at the Sandbranch Community Center; come dressed to work in long pants, long sleeved shirts, gloves, closed toe shoes, and hats. Call Chris Guldi 972 239-5878 or email caguldi03@gmail.com if you wish to take part.



Jun 16 (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. In June, July and August, we'll start at 8:00 AM, working until about 11:00. 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 Ginger. Trail maintenance events are conducted by Audubon Dallas. Contact: Ginger Bradley [Send Email](#) 469-223-7902



Jun 20 (Wed) No Outings Committee Meeting tonight

The Outings Committee won't meet on this regular third Wednesday meeting date. The next meeting is Wednesday, July 18. Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



Jul 10 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting

Larry Legg will talk about **bees**, and Ranjana Bhandari will talk about **Liveable Arlington**. Everyone is invited. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



Jul 10 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee (or Excom) is the elected governing body of the Dallas Sierra Club. **THIS MONTH ONLY**, we will meet at 5:30 p.m. (just prior to our general meeting) at Brookhaven College at 3939 Valley View Lane, just north of LBJ Freeway (IH-635) in the city of Farmers Branch, between Marsh and Midway roads, in Building H, the Brookhaven College Geotechnology Institute building. Contact the [Dallas Group Chair](#) for more information.



Jul 18 (Wed) Outings Committee Meeting

This third Wednesday of a month at 6:30 is time for our monthly gathering to plan outings. Come upstairs at Whole Foods Market, SE quadrant of Preston Road and Forest Lane, Dallas. Anyone interested in outings is welcome to attend and participate. 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



Jul 21 (Sat) Sandbranch Clean Up Days Service Opportunity

Have time to volunteer? Join in lot clean up every third Saturday, 9 a.m. - 12 noon on these dates: May 19, June 16, July 21, and August 18. **Complete the volunteer release form [here](#) BEFORE you come.** Volunteers meet at the Sandbranch Community Center; come dressed to work in long pants, long sleeved shirts, gloves, closed toe shoes, and hats. Call Chris Guldi 972 239-5878 or email caguldi03@gmail.com if you wish to take part.



Jul 23-27 (Mon-Fri) Holy Cross Wilderness Area, Central Colorado

Arrange to carpool or drive to a group campsite reserved for us near Leadville on Sunday night, July 22. (You may also camp there on July 21). One group will hike 28 miles in five days on the Fall Creek Trail to the ghost town of Holy Cross City, over Fancy Pass and then down via the Cross Creek Trail. Another group, starting at another trailhead, will hike a similar distance to Holy Cross City, Fancy Pass, the Missouri Lakes and Lonesome Lake. Trailheads are west of U.S Highway 24 between Leadville and Minturn. PARTICIPATION IN THIS OUTING HAS REACHED CAPACITY. Coordinator: Mark Stein [Send Email](mailto:mark.stein@sierraclub.org) 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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