

Dallas Sierra Club Newsletter - May, 2023



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Vote Saturday, May 6

The election for members of the Dallas City Council is Saturday, May 6. The Sierra Club urges you to vote for the environment and vote for social justice by voting for our endorsed candidates. If you have not already voted, GET OUT AND VOTE Saturday, May 6.

[Click here for a map of voting locations.](#)

For a list of Sierra Club endorsed candidates, visit TurnTexasGreen.org.



Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting via Zoom - Tuesday, May 9

Get the Dirt on Dirt

Jeff Raska will talk about soil management and raised bed gardening which will include gardening in our native clay soils and different types of growing beds for our Urban landscapes.

Jeff is the Urban Horticulturist for Dallas County assigned to the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension. He has been in Horticulture for 35 years, the last 13 as an Extension Educator for A&M.



FREE. 7:00 pm, Tuesday, May 9 via Zoom

From 6:45 to 7:00 p.m. you can log in to the meeting, chat, and ask questions. The meeting will begin at 7:00 with announcements, followed by our speaker's presentation.

Register in advance for this meeting by [clicking on this link](#).

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Everybody is welcome. You don't have to be a Sierra Club member.

For more information, contact Victoria Howard, 214 855 1580 Victoria@DallasSierraClub.org

White Rock Lake Cleanup

Walk and talk while helping to pick up trash and recyclables at the Sierra Club's adopted section of White Rock Lake Park. Meet Saturday, May 13, at 8:30 a.m. at the Dallas Sierra Club's adopted section of the lake. Our area includes one of the wonderful prairie restoration areas, so there are always birds and wildflowers to enjoy. The lake and your karma will thank you. [Click HERE](#) for details and directions.



Musings from the Chair

by Victoria Howard

Spring has definitely sprung in North Texas! The days are longer, the flowers are in full bloom, and political signs have sprouted like mushrooms. Unless you've been living under a rock, I'm quite sure you've been bombarded by everything politics leading up to the May 6th election. If you, like me, need some help making sense of all the chatter and are wondering which candidates support the environmental and social issues that we care about, please visit our www.turntexasgreen.org website. Here you will find out everything you need to know about local voting, green politics, and which candidates the Dallas Sierra Club has endorsed! Still have more questions or want to become involved in supporting green policies and candidates? Reach out to our charming Political Chair, David Griggs, at david@dallassierraclub.org or me at victoria@dallassierraclub.org. We would love to chat with you and find out the green issues that matter to you most.

Cheers,
Victoria

Why the sea is rising faster in some areas of the USA

Sea levels along the nation's Southeast and Gulf coasts have been accelerating at about three times more than the average sea level rise in the rest of the world. [Click here](#) to find out why.



Hotter Temperatures Mean Dirtier Air, Especially for People of Color

The new "State of the Air" report shows that residents in the West suffer the most from air pollution. [Click here](#) to read this short article.



Recommended Reading

Click on a book's title (below) for a link to information about the book at goodreads.com

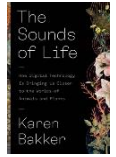
[The Sounds of Life: How Digital Technology Is Bringing Us Closer to the Worlds of Animals and Plants](#) by Karen Bakker, 2022

All sorts of creatures can hear and make sound along a wide range of the sonic spectrum, often well beyond human hearing. Since scientists could not hear sounds, they concluded that animals, creatures, and plants did not make sounds and could not hear sounds. Boy, were they wrong!

Advances in technology with digital bioacoustics shows that animals once believed to be silent can hear, make music, and exchange information.

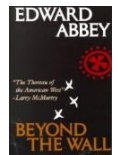
Just as the microscope revealed another world of animalcules, digital bioacoustics is acting like a sonic microscope to reveal a universe teeming with hitherto unknown sound, from teeny corals to gigantic whales in the ocean, from tiny bees to huge elephants on land -- enabling us to interpret their language and better understand the Tree of Life.

The subject matter is fascinating, and the author writes in language that is easily understood. Check it out! - Kirk Miller
Available at local libraries and at local and online bookstores



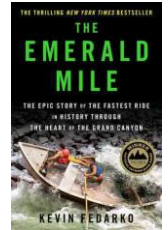
[Beyond The Wall](#) by Edward Abbey, 1971

In this wise and lyrical book about landscapes of the desert and the mind, Edward Abbey guides us beyond the wall of the city and asphalt belting of superhighways to special pockets of wilderness that stretch from the interior of Alaska to the dry lands of Mexico.
Available at local and online bookstores



[The Emerald Mile](#) by Kevin Fedarko, 2013

This is the thrilling true tale of the fastest boat ride ever, down the entire length of the Colorado River and through the Grand Canyon, during the legendary flood of 1983. I read this book at the urging of some friends, even though it didn't seem to appeal to me, and I'm glad that I did. Great book, easy read, difficult to put down. - Kirk Miller
Available at local libraries and at local and online bookstores



Previous book recommendations are here. <http://dallassierraclub.org/page.htm?buystuff>

Please give us YOUR reading recommendations via newsletter@dallassierraclub.org

Recommended Viewing

NEW - [Click here](#) for a 3 minute video about how one man cleaned up an entire lake

[Click here](#) and [here](#) for 1 minute and 3 minute videos about the Recovering America's Wildlife Act.

[Click here](#) for a 5 minute video on how trail designers build hikes.

Previous video recommendations are here. <http://www.dallassierraclub.org/page.htm?videos>

Please give us YOUR viewing recommendations via newsletter@dallassierraclub.org

Et Cetera

Is it proper that the wilderness and its creatures should suffer because we came? - Richard Proenneke

Bring a compass. It's awkward when you have to eat your friends.

I'm all a-boot hiking.

Limerick

When I start on a hike, I get wired.
Since I'm old, I get easily tired.
 Out in places like this,
 I am simply in bliss.
Mother Nature is great; I'm inspired.
- by Kirk Miller



Let Us Know

Please let us know **your opinion**. Give us **an article** for the newsletter. Give us **feedback** on articles. What would you like to see in the newsletter? Changes? Improvements? What **books** and **videos** do you recommend? Please let us know. This is YOUR newsletter. Feedback is welcome (comments, suggestions, letters to the Editor, etc.). Submit feedback to newsletter@dallassierraclub.org

Previous issues of our newsletter are available [here](#).

Videos of prior General Meetings are on YouTube

[Click here](#) for a list of meetings with varied topics such as national parks, Critterman, beautiful photos from around the world, wild animals, activism, and more.



Dallas Sierra Club Outreach Speakers Program - Speakers for Your Group

The Dallas Sierra Club provides outdoor/environmental education in the form of entertaining and informative presentations by Dallas Sierra Club members with expertise in the topics offered. These presentations range in length from 30 minutes to one hour and cover a variety of topics in the general categories of outdoor adventure, environmental education, and general ecology. These talks are appropriate for a wide range of audiences including youth groups, school classes, civic and social groups, nature and gardening clubs, church groups, etc. Any group interested in an available topic is welcome to contact us. To see available topics and to schedule your speaker, [click here](#).

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Here is our calendar for the next few months. For complete listings, click [here](#).

May 9, Tuesday - General Meeting

It's a dirty subject. [click here](#) for details.

May 13, Saturday - White Rock Lake Cleanup

Walk and talk while picking up trash and recyclables at the Sierra Club's adopted section of White Rock Lake Park. [click here](#) for details.

May 17-21, Wednesday - Sunday - New Mexico Hikeapalooza

Day hikes with base camping. [Click here](#) for details.

June 7, Wednesday - Dallas Sierra Club Executive Committee (Excom) Meeting

The Executive Committee (Excom) is the elected governing body of the Dallas Sierra Club and meets at 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM. For more information, contact the Dallas Group Chair.

June 10, Saturday - White Rock Lake Cleanup

Walk and talk while picking up trash and recyclables at the Sierra Club's adopted section of White Rock Lake Park. [click here](#) for details.

June 13, Tuesday - General Meeting

A honey of a program about bees. [click here](#) for details.

July 5, Wednesday - Dallas Sierra Club Executive Committee (Excom) Meeting

The Executive Committee (Excom) is the elected governing body of the Dallas Sierra Club and meets at 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM. For more information, contact the Dallas Group Chair.

July 8, Saturday - White Rock Lake Cleanup

Walk and talk while picking up trash and recyclables at the Sierra Club's adopted section of White Rock Lake Park. [click here](#) for details.

July 14-17, Friday - Monday, Sangre de Cristo Wilderness, Colorado

Three days of backpacking. [Click here](#) for details.

October 20-22, Friday - Sunday, Colorado Bend State Park

Camp and hike in the hill country. [Click here](#) for details.
