



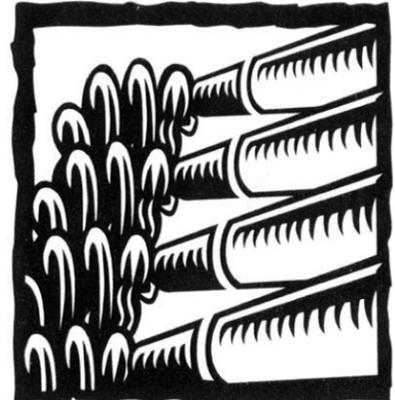
DALLAS SIERRA CLUB
THE COMPASS

WWW.DALLASSIERRACLUB.ORG



APRIL 20 & 21
Find Out What
You Can Do
To Help
Page 1

JAMBOREE 2002



**CLEAN
AIR**

Page 6



Dallas Executive Committee

John Rath, Chair	H: 817-488-3489	john@dallassierraclub.org
Becky Fisher	H: 972-488-0529	becky@dallassierraclub.org
Carol Nash	H: 214-824-0244	carol@dallassierraclub.org
Calvin Nichols	H: 972-240-4141	calvin@dallassierraclub.org
Joenie Mein	H: 214-320-3275	joenie@dallassierraclub.org
Terry Sullivan	H: 972-492-3038	terry@dallassierraclub.org
Tom Toland	H: 214-871-7116	thomas@dallassierraclub.org
Liz Wheelan	H: 214-739-2269	liz@dallassierraclub.org

Political Coordinator

David Griggs	H: 972-406-9667	david@dallassierraclub.org
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Webmaster

Jay Davison	H: 972-238-7847	jay@dallassierraclub.org
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Photography

Wendell Withrow	H: 972-416-2500	
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Sierra Club HQ / Austin

Toll Free Numbers for Congress	512-477-1729	
	800-962-3524	
	800-972-3524	

Website

www.dallassierraclub.org

Dallas Sierra Club
PO Box 800365
Dallas, Texas 75380

(214) 369-5543

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage
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Adopt a Shoreline

Carol Nash	H: 214-824-0244	carol@dallassierraclub.org
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**Conservation Committee
Co-Chairs**

Rita Beving Griggs	W: 214-373-3808	rita@dallassierraclub.org
John Rath	H: 817-488-3489	john@dallassierraclub.org

**Conservation Issues
Leaders**

Clean Air / Media	Rita Beving Griggs	W: 214-373-3808	rita@dallassierraclub.org
Endangered Species	Tom Green	H: 972-684-5423	tomgreen8@juno.com
Forests	Cliff Rushing	W: 972-701-6484	cliff.rushing@verizon.net
Multimodal Transportation	Bud Melton	H: 214-826-2144	melbow@swbell.net
Population	Gayle Loeffler	H: 817-430-3035	gloffler@twu.edu
Sustainability	Margie Haley	H: 214-823-1537	mjhaley@ix.netcom.com
Recycling	Tom Toland	H: 214-651-5606	thomas@dallassierraclub.org
Rivers / Wetlands Protection	David Gray	H: 214-342-2019	dgray@dallassierraclub.org
Solid Waste	Shirley Holland	H: 972-294-8078	
Trinity River	Joe Wells	H: 214-948-3406	Jwells@non-profits.org
Urban Sprawl	Charles Townsend	H: 214-363-0924	cnt6667@aol.com
Water	Coordinator Needed		
Energy	Lisa Silguero	H: 972-307-6791	lisa@dallassierraclub.org

Inner City Outings Chair

Liz Wheelan	H: 214-739-2269	liz@dallassierraclub.org
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Media

Rita Beving Griggs	W: 214-373-3808	rita@dallassierraclub.org
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Membership Chair

George Zimmerman	H: 972-315-2049	george@dallassierraclub.org
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Sierra Singles

Jennifer Lehman	H: 817-263-1357	lehje30@hotmail.com
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Outings Committee Chair

Mick Nolen	H: 972-991-9351	mick@dallassierraclub.org	
Volunteer needed			
Bicycling	Volunteer needed		
Canoeing / Kayaking	Lige Balceszak	H: 972-416-0630	lige@gte.net
Car Camping	Jay Davison	H: 972-418-8519	jay@dallassierraclub.org
Dayhikes	Steve Longley	H: 214-826-3993	steven.longley@worldnet.att.net
Family Outings	Jay Davison	H: 972-418-8519	jaydavison@aol.com

Program Chair

Kevin Yeats	H: 214-368-1346	Walkonsun@aol.com
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Program Sales Coordinator

Patsy Huston	H: 972-732-6566	
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**Special Events Coordinator
Video**

Volunteer needed		
Lisa Silguero	H: 972-307-6791	lisa@dallassierraclub.org

Volunteer Coordinator

Volunteer needed		
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THE COMPASS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE DALLAS SIERRA CLUB



ICO JAMBOREE 2002

If people in general could be got out into the woods, even for once, to hear the trees speak for themselves, all difficulties in the way of forest preservation would vanish." -John Muir

We in Sierra Club recognize humanity's shared responsibility to preserve our wilderness for future generations. It is a task that will be handed down to our children. Will they shirk, or shoulder it? If they too are to become loving and responsible stewards of this land, they too must learn to hear the trees speak.

This is the commitment of the Dallas Inner City Outings Program. Inner City Outings (ICO) is a community outreach program of the Sierra Club that introduces low-income, inner city youth to the joys and responsibilities of the wilderness. With the guidance of ICO volunteer leaders, participating youth discover the beauty of wild lands and how to enjoy these places without harming them.

ICO NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Inner City Outings' Annual JAMBOREE draws children from all over the Dallas, involving youth of differing races and cultures in a celebration of nature.

This year, Jamboree takes place the weekend of April 20 and 21 at the Environmental Center in Lancaster, Texas. Volunteers will guide participating children, aged 8-14, through hands-on, fun activities including day and night hikes, a pond study, and canoeing. Drawn from community centers and schools in underprivileged areas of Dallas, participating children also will learn to pitch a tent, toast s'mores, and prepare wilderness "feasts".

Volunteers will be asked to assist also in setup April 19, and all must attend an orientation the evening of Monday, April 15.

If interested (and we sure hope so!), please contact volunteer coordinators Martha Germann at 972/503-5244; or Paul Zoltan at 214/941-4816(w) or 214/324-4249(h). And if you would like to make any type of donation towards the event or ICO in general, it would also be appreciated.



DAVID CRABB HONORED BY ICO

Long time Dallas Sierran David Crabb was recently honored for 10 years of volunteer service and leadership with the Dallas ICO group. Volunteers with Inner City Outings, Sierra Club's outreach program, are a group of special adults who take time out of their busy lives to share the great outdoors. They bring the wilderness to those who, without ICO, would probably otherwise not have the opportunity to experience the adventure, fun and value of nature.

David started with Dallas ICO in 1992 and first volunteered to help with our annual Earth Day Jamboree. He soon worked toward becoming a Certified Trip Leader and helped coordinate outings with a group of boys from Beckley Saner Recreation Center. With David's guidance over several years these at risk youth learned how to prepare for and enjoy camp outs and backpack trips, including trips on trails through Caney Creek and Wichita Wildlife Refuge. David also was chosen to lead a national ICO outing taking three boys on a five-day backpack trip through the Wind River Range in Wyoming.

David's dedication to ICO has not been limited to leading outings. He has been a Coordinator for ICO's Annual Earth Day Jamboree, Chairperson of the Dallas group, Regional Representative, and currently chairs the National ICO Steering Committee. David also continues to lend his wisdom while serving on the Dallas ICO Steering Committee.

SEE "DAVID CRABB" PAGE 7

SAVING THE WILD FORESTS

An Untrustworthy Service?

Since President Bush took office there have been repeated attempts by the Bush Administration to weaken the protections established for our public lands. President Clinton signed an executive order protecting the Roadless Areas on our public lands. The Bush Administration has attacked this executive order on several fronts, and continues those efforts today. The Bush Administration wants to open up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for oil drilling. This administration is trying to re-write the rules for the oversight of our public lands to remove the public's right to comment, to appeal and to affect changes. They have established a process called Categorical Exclusions to bypass existing environmental safeguards. It's time for this to stop. We need to create laws that will safeguard our forests and wild lands from environmental destruction. We need to stop these roadblocks to our democratic freedoms.

Over the years the informed public has learned that it can not trust the Forest Service. Our national forests were established to create watersheds to cleanse our drinking water and to protect public forested areas for future generations. The Reagan Administration decided that our public lands should pay for themselves. That administration established harvest quotas in our forests. Trees on Forest Service lands have been cut even if there is no demand for the lumber or wood products. Cutting continued even with low lumber prices resulting in very little revenue to the Forest Service. When the Forest Service timber hits already low market, wood prices fall even lower. Low lumber prices and high harvesting costs result in large and continuing losses from these efforts. The costs include building roads and payments to counties and school districts in lieu of taxes.

SEE "WILD FORESTS" PAGE 7



"CLEARCUTTING"

April's Program

Cliff Rushing will be speaking at April's General Meeting. The General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13, at the E.D. Walker Vanguard School.

	Galleria	Valley View	
		LBJ Freeway	
		Harvest Hill	
		E.D. Walker Vanguard School	
	Monfort / Nuestra	Wozencraft	Preston Road
Tollway		Forest Lane	

The Dallas Sierra Club's general meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month. Meetings are open to all interested persons. The meetings begin at 7pm at the E.D. Walker School on the corner of Montfort and Wozencraft, MAPSCO 15S.

THE COMPASS

April 2002
Volume 100, Issue 0402

The Compass is the monthly publication of the Dallas Group of the Sierra Club's Lone Star Chapter. Members of the Dallas Group support The Compass and receive the publication as a part of their membership.

Subscriptions. For information concerning your subscription, call Arthur Kuehne at (214) 353-2927. Non-member subscriptions are available: one year, \$10 (includes postage). To subscribe, send a check made payable to "Dallas Sierra Club".

Sierra Club
Dallas Regional Group
P.O. Box 800365
Dallas, Texas 75380

Address Changes. If you have questions or comments regarding your membership, change of address, or mailing problems and delays, please mail or e-mail Sierra Club headquarters at:

Sierra Club Member Services
PO Box 52968
Boulder, Colorado 80322-2968

address.changes@sierraclub.org

Submissions. Article and photograph submissions are always welcome. Please send submissions by the deadlines given in the General Calendar. Send submissions to the newsletter editors at the e-mail address and phone numbers listed on the back fold.

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**SIERRA
CLUB**

*"Explore, enjoy,
and protect the
wild places of
the earth..."*

Wendel A. Withrow

Attorney at Law

Board Certified
Civil Trial Law

&

Personal Injury Trial Law

Texas Board of Specialization

Withrow, Ficus
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Fax 972•417•0685

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Carrollton, TX 75006



**SIERRA
CLUB**

LETTER FROM CHAIR

"It Only Takes A Passion To Make Things Happen"

Dear Fellow Sierrans:

"Never underestimate the ability of a few sincere, committed individuals to change the world. Indeed, that's all that ever has". Margaret Mead.

For this month's message I can think of no better quote. A little over 3 years ago a small group of Dallas Sierra Club leaders said "no more" to the dangerous and disgusting toxic waste filling the air and lungs of our club members and millions of citizens downwind of the TXI cement plant in Midlothian, TX. The Dallas Sierra Club joined a few other committed concerned groups and sued TXI to stop the pollution by making the company stop burning toxic wastes. You, our club members, supported that stance with your encouragement, time and financial contributions.

This February, after 3 years of court testimony and an appeal to the Supreme court of the United States, the underdog (that's us) is not only still in the game, but gaining momentum. The Supreme courts ruling (see the conservation section of this publication) is much more than turning back a malicious challenge by TX.

Attorney General John Cornyn and the companies in litigation; it is a Dallas Sierra Club triumph for the entire citizenry of the Lone Star State. Although the effort is still not over and there are still some stiff challenges to achieve our original objective, there is cause for celebration; AND RECOGNITION.

Thanks to the courageous 1999 Dallas Sierra Club Executive Committee for their leadership, the Lone Star Sierra Chapter staff for their encouragement and expertise, Stuart Henry for being our strategist and front line soldier, Rita Beving, our inspirational crusader/ media expert/protest organizer/fundraiser and finally you the member for saying yes to the ideals of John Muir. It won't be the last time we seek your psychological, physical and financial support/involvement as long as there's a need to change the world through protection of our environment.

I hope you enjoy this Compass edition and find a way you can "make a change". Our great outings, communications and conservation programs are here to help you do just that.

John Rath
Honored Chair of the
Dallas Sierra Club

TRINITY RIVERFEST



McCOMMAS BLUFF NATURE PRESERVE

Saturday April 13, 2002 9:00am to 4:00pm

Enjoy the Season on the McCommas Bluff overlooking the Trinity River

Explore the upland woods and fields and the riparian bottomland hardwood forest

Identify wildflowers, native flora and fauna

Interpretive Nature hikes and information booths

Learn about the history of Dallas' locks and dam

Bring a picnic and enjoy the Great Trinity River Forest

Come and go at anytime

Jim Flood 972 557-1144 • jdflood@airmail.net

Location: Mapsco 68B

Directions: From I-45 exit East Loop 12 and drive east to Longbranch. I-635 take US-175 (CF Hawn Fwy) to Loop 12 (Buckner) and exit West/South. Go about one block (to the West) and turn left (South) on Longbranch at the Fina Station. Follow the signs. Longbranch changes into Riverwood and ends at the Preserve entrance.

Or

From I-20 east of I-45 exit at Dowdy Ferry Road and turn North. Go about a mile-and-a-half and turn left (West) on Fairport. Turn left (South) at the first intersection at Riverwood and follow the signs to the parking area.

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

BETH HARTY

Beth Harty has been a member for 16 years. She served on the Executive Committee (Excom) for 2 years. This past fall she co-chaired the REI Gift wrap (our annual fundraiser). When she couldn't find a volunteer for a gift-wrap time slot she worked the shift herself. Beth has helped out at garage sales and holiday parties. She always jumps in where needed. She has led backpack trips, car-camps, dayhikes and bike rides. She is an inspiration for us all. The club needs more people like her. Please join us in congratulating Beth as volunteer of the month.

GENERAL CALENDAR

4/3 • 5/1 First Wednesday. Executive Committee Meeting 6:30PM at REI 2nd floor meeting room (I-635 between Welch Road & Midway Road, MAPSCO 14Q), to discuss Club projects, policy and finances. All members are welcome to attend and participate. Call Terry Sullivan at (972) 492-3038.

4/10 • 5/8 Second Wednesday. Sierra Club General Meeting 7:00-8:30pm in the auditorium at ED Walker School (Corner of Montfort & Wozencraft, MAPSCO 15S), come early to pick up activity materials and afterwards join the socializing at Juan's Cantina.

4/12 • 5/10 Second Friday. Deadline for electronic materials to be submitted to The Compass. E-mail to sierraeditors@egroups.com or deliver diskettes to editors during the General Meeting.

4/17 • 5/15 Third Wednesday. Outings Committee Meeting 7:00PM REI (Mapsco 14Q), to discuss outings schedules and issues. All outings leaders, future outings leaders, and interested Sierrans are welcome. Call Arthur Kuehne at (214) 739-2927 for more information.

4/22 • 5/20 ICO Meeting. Fourth Monday. 7PM at REI. Contact Liz Wheelan at (214) 739-2269.

4/24 • 5/22 Fourth Wednesday. Newsletter Party 7:00PM at the Churchill Recreation Center at Hillcrest & Churchill Way (MAPSCO 15V). Help sort, bundle and label the newsletter. Socializing afterward. Contact Joe DeVito at (972) 562-0082.

HAVE YOU ALWAYS DREAMED OF BEING AN EXECUTIVE?

Looking for that next lucrative multi-million dollar insider trading deal or a discrete off-shore hideaway? One place to start might be the Sierra Club Executive Committee. They must all be Executives, right? Well, not exactly. But the good news is that you don't need to wear a tie or panty hose and you don't need to check your ethics at the door. The main requirement is dedication to the goals of the Sierra Club and a willingness to commit your time and energy to your local club.

Leslie March has moved to Louisiana, and since her new home and job are just a bit too far away for easy commuting, she has resigned her position on the Executive Committee. We know Leslie will be having fun and working hard for the environment down on the bayou. However, her departure leaves a vacancy on the Executive Committee and we need someone to take her place. This person could be YOU! If you are interested in joining the Dallas Sierra Club leadership team, please contact John Rath or any of the other members of the Executive Committee. Their names and numbers are listed on the back of this newsletter. (Recently unemployed Enron Executives need not apply.)



MEMBERSHIP POTLUCK M•I•X•E•R

Sunday, April 14, All members and prospective members are invited to attend the monthly Membership Potluck. Melvin and Linda Sharp are hosting our get together this month. They live at 12126 Vendome Place in Dallas. We'll meet from 6:30 till 8:00 P.M. Bring a dish to share and your eating utensils. This is a great opportunity for new members to meet other members and for some good clean fun.

For more information please call Mick Nolen at (H) 972-991-9351. E-mail: mickn@dallassierraclub.org



National Forest Protection

When: Saturday, April 6, 9AM-7:30PM

Where: Davy Crockett National Forest in East Texas

Registration only \$20, including meals

Registration: Please reserve your spot by April 3 by contacting Ayelet Hines at the national Sierra Club office, (512) 472-9094 or ayelet.hines@sierraclub.org. Cost if you're spending Saturday night, which includes meals and snacks, is \$30. If you're not spending the night Saturday, cost with meals and snacks is \$20. There will be fun activities for those staying over Saturday.



SIERRA CLUB TV

The Dallas Sierra Club has a television program that airs on the Dallas, Carrollton, Plano, Richardson, Garland and Rowlett Community Access channels. If you do not have cable, you can pick up a VHS copy at the Dallas Sierra Club meeting. The Dallas Sierra Club program needs your support! Watch it and let us know what you think.

If you have some video production experience, give us a call. Please call (214) 369-5543 or video committee chair at (972) 307-6791.

Project I : EARTH - PROGRAM AIR TIMES

Dallas-DCTV	AT&T Cable Services	
WED	10pm	13B
SAT	2pm	13B
SUN	9am	13B
Carrollton	AT&T Cable Services	
TUE	9am	74
THU	8pm	74
Plano/Richardson	AT&T Cable Services	
TUE	7pm	10A
Garland/Rowlett	AT&T Cable Services	
TUE	10pm	74



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All proceeds go to purchase video projector and sound equipment for the Sierra Club.



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Dallas
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SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS



WWW.DALLASSIERRACLUB.ORG

-  **BACKPACKING**
-  **CANOEING**
-  **CAR CAMPING**
-  **CYCLING**
-  **DAY HIKING**
-  **EDUCATION**
-  **SERVICE PROJECT**

Notice: To receive this outings list monthly via e-mail, send message to: outings.list@dallassierraclub.org
Type **SUBSCRIBE OUTINGS LIST** on the subject line.

HOW THE OUTING PROGRAM WORKS

Dallas Sierra Club Outings are open to members and non-members. Some trips may require special qualifications and capabilities. The leaders of each outing / trip are serving in a volunteer capacity and assume no responsibility above that of trip organizer. If you have a medical problem, it is your responsibility to inform the leader before the outing / trip. Outing / Trip leaders are encouraged to participate in training and classes to increase their skills, but they are not paid professionals. They will assist you within their limitations. It is the responsibility of the participant to be aware of any personal limitations before going on an outing.

Radios and firearms are prohibited from all outings. Pets are not allowed unless specifically stated. All outings officially begin at the trail head or outing start point. Leaders cannot assign carpools, but may help coordinate ride sharing for energy conservation and to promote fellowship. All non-commercial transportation is the responsibility of the individual. Car-pooling is SOLELY voluntary, but the costs are shared. The usual method of sharing transportation cost is for all riders in the car, including the driver, to divide the cost of transportation equally. The recommended method of computing cost is to multiply round trip mileage by \$0.13 a mile for small cars, \$0.16 for large cars and \$0.19 for vans. Before leaving, be sure this or some other method is agreed upon.

Most outings require reservations. To participate in an outing contact the leader, who will decide if the trip you are interested in is suitable for you based on your capabilities and the demands of the trip. There is usually a limit to the number of people allowed on a given outing / trip. Reservations are necessary for outings unless otherwise noted. If you must cancel, inform the leader as soon as possible so that someone else can go in your place.

Please respect the wishes of your leader who has volunteered his / her free time to allow you to go on the trip of your choice. If you have any questions, or if you are interested in becoming a leader, contact either the Outings Chair or the appropriate Outings Committee Coordinator on the newsletter back page.



APR 6 (SAT) FOURTH ANNUAL WORLD'S LONGEST DAYHIKE. If you're tough enough, come and join your fellow Sierrans for a 23-mile dayhike on the White Rock Creek and White Rock Lake trails. Meet at 8:00 AM at the north end of the White Rock Creek trail in Valley View Park, on Valley View, just east of the intersection of Hillcrest and Valley View (just north of 635, Mapsco 15-R). We'll hike down to White Rock Lake, around it, and back. Bring your most comfortable walking shoes, Mole Skin, extra socks, water (water and bathrooms are available along the trail), lunch, and rain gear (if rain is in the forecast). Optional dinner / funeral / foot replacement after the hike.

Leader: Arthur Kuehne
214-902-9260(H)
arthur@akuehne.com



APR 6-7 (SAT-SUN) BEGINNER BACKPACK on the 4-Cs TRAIL. Beginner backpack trip on the north half of the 4-Cs trail in Davy Crockett National Forest (East Texas near Rusk). Total of 10 relatively flat hiking miles in pine forest, 6 miles on Saturday and 4 miles on Sunday morning. Dogwood and redbuds should be in bloom.

Leader: Kent Trulsson
214-704-4253.



APR 6-7 (SAT- SUN) BEGINNER BACKPACK in BEECH CREEK, OK. An easy 4-mile hike through the beech trees to camp, then dayhike Saturday afternoon. If it's warm there's a good swimming hole!

Leader: Bill Greer
972-964-1781
wbgreer@worldnet.att.net



APR 12-14 (FRI-SUN) TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL TEXAS WILDERNESS POW-WOW. This year's POW-WOW will be held at Ratcliff Lake Recreation Area in Davy Crockett National Forrest. Plan now to join us for a wonderful weekend of guided nature walks, interesting speakers, and entertainment by the Environmental Troubadour, Bill Oliver. The proposed Upper Neches Scenic River will be featured. Learn why this designation is needed to protect this beautiful river from unneeded dams. Sponsored by TCONR, the Sierra Club, and many other organizations, this is an annual

East Texas event you won't want to miss.

Contact: Arthur Kuehne
214-902-9260 or
arthur@akuehne.com



APR 13 (SAT) WHITE ROCK LAKE CLEANUP. Help clean up the Dallas Sierra Club's Adopted Shoreline. Meet at the For the Love of the Lake office parking lot on level below Eckerd's in Casa Linda Plaza (on Buckner facing Doctors Hospital, just north of Garland Road, Mapsco 38-J) at 8:00 AM for registration and refreshments.

Leader: Carol Nash
214-824-0244(H)
cnash@dallasisd.org



APR 13-14 (SAT-SUN) HIGH ISLAND BIRDING. No camping, stay in motel two nights. Best birding experience in Texas to see return of migrants.

Leader: Don Purinton
972-985-1774
dpurinton@attbi.com



APR 13-14 (SAT-SUN) LITTLE MISSOURI RIVER BEGINNER BACKPACKING TRIP. We will do a leisurely backpack of approximately 6½-miles over 2 days along one of the most scenic backpacking trails in Southwest Arkansas. Because the trail follows the upper reaches of the Little Missouri River there is minimal elevation change, but do be prepared for stream crossings. There will opportunities for optional exploratory dayhikes also. Drive up Friday night and return Sunday. Preference will be given to graduates of the Beginner Backpacking Class.

Leaders: Steve Longley
Marcos Jorge

214-824-1128 (Steve)
steven.longley@att.net



APR 13-14 (SAT-SUN) BUFFALO NATIONAL RIVER TRAIL BACKPACK. Explore the beginnings of the Buffalo National River Trail in northern Arkansas. We'll hike fifteen miles of beautiful trail winding through the hollows and bluffs of this protected area. Hike begins Saturday morning at the Steel Creek Campground on the banks of the Buffalo River. Saturday's travel will be about 9 miles. We will camp Saturday night in one of the many valley hollows that mark this area. Sunday, we will complete the journey by about 2:00 PM. Moderate difficulty due to the ups and downs. Waterfalls, wildlife and great views.

Leader: Bill Beach
214-662-3224
214-824-4584

APR 17 (WED) OUTINGS COMMITTEE MEETING. Meet in the upstairs program room at REI (on north side of LBJ between Midway and Welch), at 7:00 PM. Bring your ideas for the Dallas Sierra Club Outings program. We will be planning summer outings and bus trips. All outings leaders, future outings leaders, and interested Sierrans welcome.

Contact: Arthur Kuehne
214-902-9260(H) for details.



APR 20-21 (SAT-SUN) LAKE MINERAL WELLS STATE PARK HIKE and BIKE CARCAMP. Camp at Lake Mineral Wells State Park, a beautiful nearby park featuring steep hills, deep ravines, open savannah and a lake surrounded by timber-covered hills. Saturday we will bike the Lake Mineral Wells State Trailway to Weatherford, about 30 miles round trip. Sunday we will hike one of the park's scenic trails.

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Plan to camp Friday night as well or arrive Saturday by 10 AM for the bike ride. Bring your bike, helmet (required), repair kit and water bottle. Call park at 512-389-8900 or visit the Texas State Park website for campsite reservations. Sign up is required. Leaders: Mark and Jeanni Capell
214-821-7557
capells@earthlink.net



APR 26 (FRI) ILLINOIS RIVER CANOE TRIP in OKLAHOMA. Stay in cabin or camp out on Thursday night, canoe Friday, return Fri night. Canoe rental available. Moderate river. Leader: Don Purinton
972-985-1774
dpurinton@attbi.com



MAY 4 (SAT) LAKE MINERAL WELLS STATE TRAILWAY BIKE RIDE. We will ride this easy bike trail from Weatherford to Lake Mineral Wells State Park. Total round trip distance is about 30 miles. Bring your bike, helmet (required), repair kit, lunch and water. Signup required. Leader: Arthur Kuehne
214-902-9260
arthur@akuehne.com



MAY 11 (SAT) WALKING TOUR of CLYMER MEADOW. Tour this 1,000-acre virgin Blackland Prairie on the rolling hills of northwestern Hunt County, near Greenville. Join our Nature Conservancy guide as we explore one of the largest and most diverse remnants of the Blackland Prairie and one of the most scenic areas in North Central Texas. On this easy dayhike we will learn about the meadow's plants, history and efforts to preserve it. A \$5 per person donation to the Nature Conservancy will be collected to help further their conservation efforts. Sign up required. Leaders: Mark and Jeanni Capell
capells@earthlink.net
214-821-7557



MAY 11 (SAT) WHITE ROCK LAKE CLEANUP. Help clean up the Dallas Sierra Club's Adopted Shoreline. Meet at the For the Love of the Lake office parking lot on level below Eckerd's in Casa Linda Plaza (on Buckner facing Doctors Hospital, just north of Garland Road, Mapsco 38-J) at 8:00 AM for registration and refreshments. Leader: Carol Nash
214-824-0244(H)
cnash@dallasisd.org



MAY 11-12 (SAT-SUN) DAYHIKING on the ATHENS-BIGFORK TRAIL, AR.

We won't carry a heavy pack, but since the trail runs north-south and the mountains go east to west we'll earn our supper! We'll do two different sections of the trail; about 6 to 8 miles each day. This trail is a few miles east of Caney Creek Wilderness. We'll car camp Friday and Saturday nights. Leader: Bill Greer 972-964-1781(H)
wbgreer@worldnet.att.net.



MAY 11-12 (SAT-SUN) BEGINNER BACKPACK TRIP at BEAVERS BEND STATE PARK, OK. We'll hike a section of the David L. Boren Trail. We'll hike about 5 miles on Saturday and about 3 miles on Sunday. This trail is hilly so it is rated as a moderate beginner hike. Leader: Arthur Kuehne
214-902-9260
arthur@akuehne.com

MAY 15 (WED) OUTINGS COMMITTEE MEETING. Meet in the upstairs program room at REI (on north side of LBJ between Midway and Welch), at 7:00 PM. Bring your ideas for the Dallas Sierra Club Outings program. We will be planning summer outings and bus trips. All outings leaders, future outings leaders, and interested Sierrans welcome. Contact: Arthur Kuehne
214-902-9260(H)



MAY 24-28 (FRI-TUE) MEMORIAL DAY BUS TRIP to the GILA WILDERNESS. Join our first bus trip to the Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument in southwest New Mexico. If you want a leisurely Memorial Day, you can camp right where the bus drops you and enjoy short hikes to cliff dwellings and hot springs, or you might choose easy to moderate backpack trips to camp in meadows or mesas. Serious hikers will be able to traverse rivers, forests, and mesas seeing glorious scenery and back country hot springs. Our chartered sleeper bus will leave Dallas at 4:30 PM on Friday, May 24 and return at about 5:00 AM on Tuesday, May 28. The cost is only \$160 for Sierra Club members and \$175 for non-members. A \$10 fee is charged for cancellations and no refunds will be made after May 11 unless a replacement is found. To sign up, send a check made payable to Dallas Sierra Club to Jay Davison, 2521 Lake Bend Terrace, Carrollton, 75006. Bus trip leader: Jay Davison
972-418-8519
jaydavison@aol.com



JUN 15-23 (SAT-SUN) WEEK LONG CANOE CAMPING TRIP on the GASCONADE RIVER. This canoe trip will be on the Gasconade River, in the northern Ozark region of Missouri. The trip will involve 5-7 days on the river and cover a distance of approximately

90 miles in the area of Richland to Vienna. The exact river dates and locations are to be determined (dates listed include driving time from Dallas). Camping will be at primitive sites along the river. There will be some small rapids on this river, so some canoe camping experience and intermediate canoeing skills are required. For more information on this river, see <http://members.aol.com/mmcbs2/gasconade.html>. Leader: Mark McClain
mmcbs@aol.com
972-253-4449



JUL 13-14 (SAT-SUN) 13TH ANNUAL BASTILLE DAY CANOE TRIP on the Red River. Come celebrate this famous French holiday with a 20-mile trip down the Red River above Lake Texoma. We will camp Saturday night on a large sand bar and enjoy French food and wine. Participants must have some canoeing experience and they must bring something French or they will be guillotined at dawn. Leader: Arthur Kuehn
214-902-9260(H)
arthur@akuehne.com



AUG 30-SEP 2 (FRI-MON) HIGH UNITAS UTAH BACKPACK TRIP. Backpack in the High Unitas (60 miles from Salt City). Most highly rated place in Utah Mountains. Suggested fly/ drive leaving Thursday night and return Tuesday mMorning. If you want to fly, you need to purchase air tickets now to get low prices over popular weekend. Leader: Don Purinton
972-985-1774
dpurinton@attbi.com



SIERRA SINGLES OUTINGS

Saturday, March 16 at 10:00 a.m. join us for a day hike at the Dallas Nature Center, located at 7171 Mountain Creek Pkwy. Plan to hike at a brisk pace for about 6-7 miles. No reservations necessary. Rain or severe weather will cancel. Leaders: Jenny Lehman
Jeff Schmidt
sierra_outdoors@hotmail.com
(972) 228-1908.

Saturday, March 16 is VSOD's (Vegetarian Society of Dallas) celebration of Great American Meat-Out. Come and go from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Join VSOD and other non-profit groups, for a vegetarian picnic, sharing of general information, and a day of

outdoor fun. River Legacy Park, Arlington. Bring your own picnic lunch or your own veggie grillers. We have four large grills. A little cold or drizzle and this event is still on. This is an unofficial Sierra Club activity.

Monday, March 18 at 7:00, join us for dinner at Marco Polo Italian restaurant, located at 1001 NE Green Oaks in north Arlington. Contact: Jenny Lehman.

Saturday, April 13 join us for a 2 - 3 hour hike at Tandy Hills Park in east Fort Worth. Meet in the Tandy Hills parking lot at 10:00 a.m. BRING: Water - Snacks or sack lunch. Wear sturdy hiking shoes because, we will not always be hiking on the trail. After the hike, if you want, we may adjourn someplace close for eats. (Forth Worth Mapsco 87C) Leader: Rebecca Mehrer
(214) 904-8184
capnbec@netscape.net
Co-leader: Jenny Lehman

Monday, April 15 join us for dinner at China Terrace restaurant, located at 5435 N. Macarthur Blvd in Irving. Contact: Jenny Lehman.

Friday, April 26 7:45-10:15 p.m., Ice skating at Polar Ice rink (972) 874-1930...Come join us for an evening of skating and fun, with an optional restaurant stop afterwards to recount our great moves and spills! Meet by the skate rental counter at 7:30 p.m. or at the open end of the rink at 7:45 p.m. when the session begins. If you can't find the group, look for Tammy or Jeneanne who will be wearing Unity and American flag pins - please feel free to wear yours to more easily identify our group. No reservations--just show up. \$7.50 admission + \$3.25 skate rental; coin-operated lockers (75 cents) available. Grapevine Mills Mall. This skating event is an unofficial Sierra Club activity. Contact: Tammy Monasco
tmonasco@swbell.net
(972) 291-8221
or Jeneanne Carson
jcars@flash.net
(817) 860-1870.

Friday - Sunday, May 10-12, join us at Caddo Lake for a canoe / trip. We will camp in shelters at Caddo Lake State Park and canoe rentals are available there for \$30 per canoe. Maximum 24 people, including leaders, allowed on this trip so sign up early! Please RSVP to DeAnn by March 29 and pay a deposit of \$15. After you officially sign up you will receive a more detailed trip description. Leader: DeAnn McDaniel
(469) 467-7007
ouraybelle@yahoo.com
Co-leaders: Jenny Lehman, Larry Shindel and Beth Burgeson.

Just a reminder that all events officialy begin at the event site / trailhead.

Contact for Sierra Singles information: Jenny Lehman, (817) 263-1357 or lehje30@hotmail.com.

FOCUS ON

CLEAN AIR

CONSERVATION NEWS

DARKER SKIES & DIRTY LIES

The Undermining of the Clean Air Act

For those still doubting the President's intent on undermining clean air, the letter of resignation by Senior EPA Official Eric Schaeffer is a must read (The letter can be found at www.BlueSkiesAlliance.org). Schaeffer, an attorney and Director of Regulatory Enforcement with the EPA, left the agency saying that "We are ... fighting a White House that seems determined to weaken the rules we are trying to enforce."

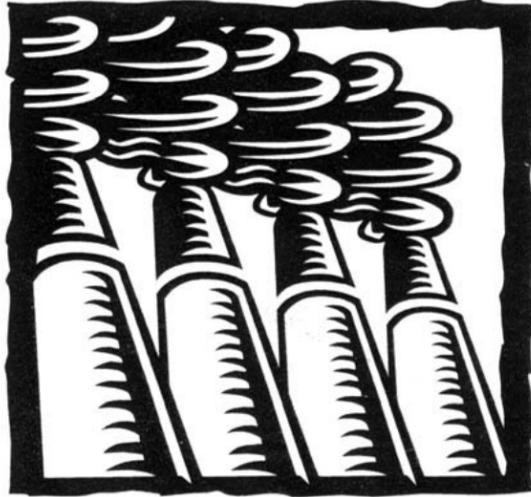
Although this isn't the first time the Administration's EPA has distorted the truth to seek dirtier environmental policies, this is the first blatant and unabashed attempt to gut the Clean Air Act. For even the most informed of readers it is difficult to discern the difference between facts and political propaganda so provided below are a few facts to help readers wade through the political rhetoric.

• **Fact Number 1:** The Clean Air Act has worked to improve air quality while the economy has grown and energy supplies have increased. According to the EPA's own analysis the Clean Air Act hasn't hampered the economy or energy supplies. Since 1970 the gross domestic product increased by 158%, vehicle miles travel increased by 143%, and energy consumption increased by 45%. At the same time the total emission of the six primary pollutants decreased 29%. Clean air is not taking a toll on the economy or energy supply.

• **Fact Number 2:** The Clean Air Act, if it's enforced, will continue to make dramatic improvements in air quality. Numerous electric power companies, refineries, and other industrial sources have violated a key provision of the Clean Air Act named New Source Review. New Source Review requires facilities to get cleaner as they undergo major modifications. The U.S. Department of Justice has brought lawsuits against these lawbreakers but court cases are in limbo due to a halt on enforcement by the Administration.

• **Fact Number 3:** Big polluters have gone to the Vice-President Dick Cheney and the Department of Energy in an effort to evade complying with New Source Review. In turn, Cheney, the Department of Energy, and other White House figures have strong armed the EPA into weaken enforcement actions and they've been

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SIERRA CLUB KO's TXI

Sierra Club Wins Over Attorney General At Texas Supreme Court In TXI Case

Well, the verdict is in and the Supreme Court Justices of Texas rendered a unanimous decision giving the Sierra Club a victory over the Attorney General John Cornyn and the TNRCC. The verdict marks a 3-year journey of the Dallas Sierra Club and its allies in the Texas Industries (TXI) permit case in their efforts to appeal the initial permit decision by the TNRCC commissioners to allow the cement kiln to almost double its burning of hazardous waste without sufficient pollution controls.

If the Attorney General would have won the case, it would have set a precedent to possibly deny all Texas citizens the right to a permit appeal to a court higher than the State Office of Administrative Hearings. In other words, if a citizen had a permit for a polluting permit dealing with air, water, solid waste, or hazardous waste, etc. a

citizen may have been denied the right to appeal to a higher court such as the District Court and upwards, where permit cases are more apt to win.

This case will be in the law books and will be talked about in law schools in Texas.

And now we can move forward with our long-awaited appeal. Already 4 of our 35 litigants near and around Midlothian whom we were trying to help have died. It is time to help clear the air and stop this cement plant from continuing to burn without the modern technology it should have on its aging 4 kilns. Please look for a letter to come from the club in your mailbox regarding funds needed for the appeal. Now we need your help. Let's get the job finished that this club set out to do 5 years ago.

Thank you, Rita Beving, Conservation Co-chair

In memory of Cecil Booth of Midlothian who passed away in March 2001.

Friends of Clean Air Fund

Yes, I want to help Sierra help clean the air from TXI's emissions.

\$10
 \$25

\$50
 \$100

Other \$ _____

Please mail your donation to:
Sierra Club Foundation
PO Box 800365
Dallas, Texas 75380

This donation is tax deductible. You will receive an acknowledgement from the national office for your gift.

NEW EPA PLAN IS WORTHLESS

Citizens predicted it, and now EPA has confirmed it: the latest government ozone clean-up plan for Dallas-Ft. Worth fails to bring the area into "attainment" with the Clean Air Act. Based on the computer modeling that drives these things, the plan only had a margin of error of less than one part per million to begin with. That is sure to be exceeded many times over with the recent news that auto emissions were underestimated in the adopted proposal by up to 90%.

As many of you might remember, several environmental and public interest organizations including the Dallas Sierra Club, SEED Coalition, Downwinders At Risk, and Public Citizen predicted the plan's failure when the plan was adopted by the TNRCC in 2000.

Now, EPA has not unexpectedly confirmed that their improved computer modeling of auto emissions, called MOBILE6, reveals larger volumes of pollution coming from vehicles than its older one, MOBILE5. A lot more.

In an EPA test run of the MOBILE6 modeling on DFW's smog problem, it found 90% more Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) and 21% more Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) coming from cars in 2003 than the previous model (MOBILE5) had predicted. Even after new cleaner car technology is factored in by 2007, these pollutants are underestimated by 44 and 2%, NOx and VOCs respectively.

NOx and VOCs, when cooked under sunlight, are the ingredients that cause ozone. Ozone exposure has been linked to long term health problems including respiratory illness.

Furthermore, air quality is not only exasperated by pollution levels coming from vehicles, but it's also exasperated by a county that's out of compliance with federal law and an industry which is working to sabotage attempts to clear the air.

In North Texas there is one persistent Clean Air Act violator which has gone unpunished for its violations: Ellis County. Ellis County has broken the federal clean air law but yet the state has failed to force Ellis County into writing a clean-up plan. In addition, sitting less than one mile south of Dallas County are the largest industrial

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THE COMPASS

EPA PLAN

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emitters in North Texas. According to the most recent TNRCC Emissions Data (1999) four facilities in Ellis County contribute almost half of all the industrial emissions. That's four facilities compared to 395 facilities (pollution graphs can be found on the web at www.BlueSkiesAlliance.org).

Citizen's have done their part. Even power plants in East Texas and the metroplex have done their part by cutting their emissions by as much as 80%. So isn't it time that someone do something about Ellis County?

DIRTY LIES

FROM PAGE 6

successful as Schaeffer's resignation indicates.

• **Fact Number 4:** The EPA offered a conciliatory plan to industry in an attempt to maneuver the White House, DOE, and industry's desire to shred the current Clean Air Act. The EPA and the DOE bickered privately over their versions of clean air plans and in the end the DOE won, the EPA lost. On Valentine's Day President Bush announced his "Clear Skies" plan with great fanfare, even though EPA career officials knew he was talking about a rollback of the Clean Air Act.

• **Fact Number 5:** Congressman Joe Barton, a representative from North Texas, will be carrying the legislation on behalf of the White House and big polluters. Over the course of the next few months Barton plans to "overhaul" the Clean Air Act which will entail the gutting key clean air safeguards.

Katy Hubener is the Director of the Blue Skies Alliance and Sierra Club member. More information on this issue and others can be found on the web at www.BlueSkiesAlliance.org, or contact Katy at Katy@BlueSkiesAlliance.org.

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Duncanville, TX 7116-3653
(972) 293-8300
Fax (972) 293-8400



THE COMPASS

BEYOND NUCLEAR ENERGY



TEXAS CONFERENCE & DAY OF ACTION

APRIL 27-28



Mark your calendars and plan to take a working vacation to Lake Whitney State Park (60 miles south of Forth Worth) for an exciting line-up of speakers and strategy sessions on Saturday, April 27. The Lone Star Sierra Club, League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund, Sustainable Energy and Economic Development Coalition, Public Citizen, Peace Action Texas, the Peace Farm, US PIRG, and Representative Lon Burnam invite you to participate in an invigorating day of nationally renowned speakers, serious planning and strategizing with activists from around the state, good food, and music around the campfire.

The goals of the "Beyond Nukes" conference are:

- To bring together a broad range of people who favor phasing out nuclear power and replacing it with clean, safe, renewable energy sources that do not produce long-lived waste.
- To educate ourselves on local, state, and national nuclear and energy issues
- To begin to formulate strategies for the 2003 state legislative session, specifically, to stop legislation creating a private radioactive waste dump in Texas
- To strengthen and structure the connections between us, forming a lasting network. Activists from Dallas/Ft Worth, Houston, San Antonio, Austin, and other urban areas need to meet those from West Texas.
- To have fun, share music and culture, and get to know each other Explore and discuss the role of the Texas-Maine-Vermont compact

Topics include:

Nukes 101 Basics National Overview: Nuclear Energy and Waste and Status of State Compacts Texas Overview: 1) The Nuclear Industry in Texas, from uranium mining to waste disposal to nuclear weapons, 2) Texas Renewable Energy Potential/What's Expected To Happen in the Texas Legislature in 2003 Results of the Sierra Club report on nuclear waste generation and storage in Texas.

Other sessions will address:

Organizing for action on nuclear waste disposal in Texas Developing a Pro-Active Plan to Phase out Nuclear Power and Replace it With Clean, Renewable Energy Forming a more structured statewide network and communications structure, and drafting a statement of principles on radioactive waste

Sunday April 28: Demonstration at nearby nuclear power plant at 11:00 AM. Details forthcoming.

Space is limited! RSVP by April 22 (call 512-477-1729). The conference is \$5 per person (to cover lunch), plus the \$2 park entry fee.

The conference will be held in an air-conditioned room seating 70 with a kitchen and bathrooms. People can sleep in the room on a cot or sleeping bag, or camp Saturday night. For those who don't wish to camp, there are hotels and B&Bs in the area.

Directions: To reach the park from Interstate 35, take the Hillsboro exit. In Hillsboro take State Highway 22 west to Whitney; then follow the signs to Lake Whitney State Park. The park is located 3 miles west of Whitney on FM 1244 on the shore of Lake Whitney.

Volunteers to help with food preparation, puppet-making, banner-making, and outreach are needed please contact the Lone Star Sierra Club (512-477-1729) if you're able to volunteer or e-mail erinrogers99@hotmail.com

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APRIL 2002

SAVING THE WILD FORESTS

FROM PAGE 1

300,000 miles of all weather roads are dedicated to logging. Funding to counties and school districts is so sporadic, that they are unable to establish budgets. The General Accounting Office calculates that Americans paid \$2 billion between 1992-1997 to turn our forests into stumps. This effort to make the forest pay for themselves has become a large boondoggle. We need to stop throwing away tax dollars to subsidize money losing timber sales that wreck environmental havoc. Even if we only consider financial reasons, we need to stop logging on our public lands.

The Forest Service and other government agencies use clearcutting to harvest our public lands. Clearcutting means cutting all the trees no matter what size, scraping the land clean so there is no underbrush, then burning the leftover limbs and brush. This cuts many trees before they are ready for harvest. It leaves the land exposed and unprotected, so the topsoil washes away. It takes hundreds of years for topsoil to develop. The wasted topsoil then flows into rivers and streams causing siltation. This kills fish and other aquatic wildlife and continues on up the food chain. Our rivers become murky and unappealing. Clearcutting and topsoil erosion also lead to the many mudslides reported in the Northwest in recent years.

Why Clearcut?

The Forest Service promotes clearcutting for financial reasons. Harvesting trees now rather than letting the trees mature brings revenue to the bottom line now. Re-planting in fast-growing tree species will produce revenue to the bottom line sooner in subsequent harvests. The money earned from timber sales today can earn more in interest than the future value of subsequent harvests. Selecting just the mature trees requires skilled labor. Someone has to evaluate the trees and decide which trees to harvest. Next, a skilled lumberman would have to cut the mature tree without harming the immature trees around it. Uneducated unskilled labor can cut everything a lot cheaper, with no regard of the damage to ecosystems.

We need to remove the Forest Service from the Business of harvesting timber.

Cliff Rushing the Sierra Club -Dallas Regional Group Forestry Issue Coordinator will present a slide show and stories about our National Forests - current and proposed policies and what we can do about these plans.

DAVID CRABB

FROM PAGE 1

Please join us in toasting David for all he has given to ICO, and for providing unforgettable experiences for the many ICO participants with whom he shares his love of nature. Thank you, David.

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