

MAY 2003

DALLAS SIERRA CLUB  
**THE COMPASS**

WWW.DALLASSIERRACLUB.ORG



# WHITE MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS



Enjoy one of five different 3-day backpack trips in the central New Mexico mountains just north of the Ruidoso ski area. Hikes range from moderate to strenuous. We recommend that participants have at least one prior backpacking trip. Sign up soon, this trip fills up fast. Our chartered sleeper bus will leave Dallas at 4:30 PM on Friday, May 23 and return at about 5:00 AM on Tuesday, May 27. Cost is \$170 for members and \$185 for non-members. To sign up, send a check payable to: Arthur Kuehne, 3363 Darbyshire Dr, Dallas, TX 75229-5912.



### Let's Padre!

The Dallas group's creation at the Padre Island Sand Castle Contest complete with an appearance by the President of the United States.

See page 7



## CLEAN AIR THREATENED



The Clean Air EPA meeting was faced with an evening crowd demanding no rollbacks of the Clean Air Act.

### Sierrans and Air Advocates Ask the EPA to Rescind Proposed Rule Threatening the Clean Air Act

On March 31, several hundred advocates called upon the EPA to rescind a proposed rule that would increase air pollution, make it more difficult for Dallas/Ft. Worth and other Texas cities to develop successful clean air plans, and let the nation's largest air polluters off the hook in following the Clean Air Act. In Dallas and only four other cities across the nation, the EPA solicited public comment on a proposed rule known as New Source Review (NSR).

Often described as the "heart and lungs" of the Clean Air Act, New Source Review requires that air polluting facilities which make operation changes creating a sizeable impact to their total emissions output are required to get a permit to do so from the state. It also requires that these plants must utilize the most modern available control technology to hold down increases in that plant's emissions.

The proposed EPA change to New Source Review would create a major loophole in current NSR law, allowing plants to escape permit review and obtaining new pollution controls by claiming an exemption calling any plant renovations or changes as "maintenance." This loophole would make NSR practically unenforceable.

Dallas / Ft. Worth is under EPA deadline to clean up its air, which is affected by nearby cement kilns such as Texas Industries (TXI) in Midlothian and steel plants in Ellis County and dirty power plants throughout East Texas. If these plants are allowed to increase their emissions without appropriate pollution controls, it will make it impossible for the metroplex to make its air safe due to added pollution transport from these neighboring areas.

In a 2001 memo found in an open records request, the EPA had conceded that the current new source review rule in its present form was working. The agency noted that NSR "has kept more than 300 million tons of pollution out of the air over the life of the program." The agency notes that "this calculation does NOT include many direct and indirect environmental benefits that the program provides that are

difficult to quantify," nor does it include the many millions of tons of pollution prevented in the dirtiest areas of the country that do not meet national health standards.

EPA officials were surprised to see an old colleague, former Region 6 Administrator and Dallas Mayor Adelaide Harrison at the hearing. Referring to the Bush Administration who is pushing for this EPA change, Harrison commented, "I believe this is the worst Administration this country has ever seen. Don't get involved in the politics of this, do what's right by the public."

Jackie Wayman of Republicans for Environmental Protection (REP) in Keene, Texas told the hearing panel, "We say no to Clean Air Act rollbacks, and that's from voting Republicans to a Republican President."

Even the State and Territorial Air Pollution Program Administrators (STAPPA) and the Association of Local Air Pollution Control Officials (ALAPCO) joined environmentalist and public health organizations in asking that the EPA rescind their proposal. The association noted "that the proposed rule will eviscerate the nation's NSR program and severely undermine the ability of states and localities to achieve and sustain clean air goals."

Many Sierrans signed up to attend the meeting and we thank you for everyone giving up their business day. Due to our efforts and those of many other groups, each hour of the hearing saw an average of 10 people against the rule change and perhaps only 2 lobbyists per hour for the new rule.

Citizens wishing to make public comment on this issue by May 2nd may send in a letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; c/o Christine Whitman, Administrator; Attention: Docket ID No. A-2002-04; EPA West (Air Docket); 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW; Room: B108, Mail Code 6102T; Washington DC, 20460. A sample letter may be emailed and downloaded at [www.BlueSkiesAlliance.org](http://www.BlueSkiesAlliance.org) or visit [sierraclub.org](http://sierraclub.org) and look at the "Take Action" section of the website.

Rita Beving  
Conservation Chair

## TRINITY RIVER LISTED AS ENDANGERED

On April 10, American Rivers named the Trinity River one of the nation's Most Endangered Rivers for 2003, citing the consequences of flood control projects and tollroads planned for the river's floodplain. Joining in the report's findings were the Dallas Sierra Club, National Wildlife Federation, Texas Committee on Natural Resources, Dallas Historic Tree Coalition, and Dallas Audubon.

The Trinity River is at the #10 spot on the list released by American Rivers. The annual America's Most Endangered Rivers report highlights acute crises rather than the river's chronic problems. The groups warned that the last opportunities to spare the Trinity River would come in the next 12 months.

"The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the City of Dallas are preparing to transform a surprisingly pristine portion of the Trinity River into a giant storm drain," said Rebecca R. Wodder, president of American Rivers. "Unless the public can persuade them to revise their vision for the city's riverfront, Dallas residents will lose a remarkable urban oasis."

The \$140 million Dallas Floodway Extension (DFE) would reroute a portion of the riverbed into channels and extend the downtown levees. More than 34,000 trees

would be cut down along the riverbank to clear flood drainage swales. Realigning the river channel would damage much of the instream habitat, and water exiting this floodway at high velocities would increase erosion and siltation. The groups warned that new levees could create a false sense of flood security and lure more residents and businesses into flood-prone areas.

Once the Dallas Floodway Extension is complete, the City of Dallas and the North Texas Tollway Authority intend to construct eight lanes of toll road within the Trinity River's floodplain. The floodway toll roads would further increase polluted stormwater runoff and transform a large portion of a remarkable urban refuge of peace and quiet into just another congested transportation artery.

"The Sierra Club does not oppose every planned new highway but we do oppose highways being built in floodways and parks," said Joe Wells of the Dallas Sierra Club. "However the proposed construction of toll roads inside the Trinity River Floodway will ruin planned park access and increase noise, air, and water pollution."

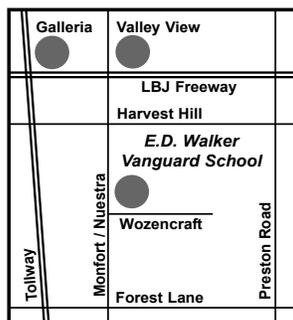
Dallas Sierra Club and other groups noted that the Corps and the City still have to clear several hurdles before they can

SEE "TRINITY RIVER" PAGE 3

## MAY'S PROGRAM

Our short program will be a conversation with Bill Meadows, a member of the Texas Water Development Board, about water issues and hot spots around Texas. We'll talk about the Marvin Nichols project, a subject of intense interest to the Sierra Club; hear about water issues along the Rio Grande; discuss water privatization and marketing; and learn about desalination, conservation and other strategies for satisfying the water needs of future Texas generations.

Our main program will be a stunning slide show by photographer Eleanore Avery. Eleanore's work has appeared in Photographic Magazine and Popular Photography, and she was a first place winner in our recent Sierra Club Photography Contest. Her subject for this month's presentation will be the wild polar bears of Svalbard, Norway.



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

May 2003  
Volume 100, Issue 0503

The Compass is the monthly publication of the Dallas Regional Group of the Sierra Club. Members of the Dallas Group support The Compass and receive the publication as part of their membership benefits.

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

or email the information to:

[address.changes@sierraclub.org](mailto: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 editor at the e-mail address and phone number listed on the back fold.

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## PLACES TO GO

John Muir National Historic Site  
Located in Martinez, CA



The Site preserves the 14 room mansion where the naturalist John Muir lived from 1890 to his death in 1914. While living in Martinez, Muir accomplished many things: he battled to prevent Yosemite National Park's Hetch Hetchy Valley from being dammed, served as the first president and one of the founders of the Sierra Club, played a prominent role in the creation of several national parks, and hundreds of newspaper and magazine articles and several books expounding on the virtues of conservation and the natural world. Muir's work laid the foundations for the creation of the National Park Service in 1916. The Muir house and historic Martinez adobe became part of the National Park Service in 1964. In 1992, Mt. Wanda was added to the Site. The 325 acre tract of oak woodland and grassland was historically owned by the Muir family.



## LETTER FROM CHAIR

Is environmentalism the enemy of capitalism?

Policies designed to foster environmental protection are often resisted on the grounds that the economy will suffer, that we just can't afford to make the required changes. There is a common perception that a choice must be made between environmental protection and economic growth. But is this true? Must the environment be sacrificed if we are to enjoy a healthy economy?

Actually, the opposite is true. In the long run, a healthy economy is dependent on a healthy environment. That is the premise of sustainability, and it is our challenge to help communicate this truth.

The book that I talk about to anyone who will listen is *Eco-Economy: Building an Economy for the Earth*, by Lester Brown, founder of Worldwatch Institute and Earth Policy Institute. He makes a persuasive case that the economy, as currently structured, is unsustainable because it is destroying its natural support systems. He argues that we have no alternative but to structure an "eco-economy", an environmentally sustainable economy that satisfies our needs without jeopardizing the prospects of future generations to meet their needs, and he identifies policies necessary to get us there.

Brown believes our most pressing challenge is making the transition from a fossil-fuel dependent economy to one driven by renewable energy. He says that fossil fuel firms can take one of two approaches: "They can try to defend the status quo or they can see climate stabilization as the greatest investment opportunity in history."

Ross Gelbspan is one of several commentators who have called for a "Manhattan Project" crash investment program in alternative energy. In his book "The Heat is On: The Climate Crisis, The Cover-Up and The Prescription", he describes various approaches to a ten-year program to realize the coming energy revolution. "One exciting thing about this Manhattan Project idea", he writes, "is that a ten-year project to rewire the world would create millions and millions of jobs in every country on earth."

In *The Hydrogen Economy: The Creation of the Worldwide Energy Web and the Redistribution of Power on Earth*, Jeremy Rifkin argues that hydrogen presents the potential for "democratizing energy": localizing the generation and distribution of energy and creating "distributed-generation energy webs that can connect communities all over the world [and] lift billions of people out of poverty....Only by freeing themselves from dependence on foreign oil and gas imports can Third World countries get out from under and improve the economic conditions of their populations."

Even the *Wall Street Journal* now takes global warming seriously and regularly publishes articles on the subject. It's encouraging evidence that there are enlightened corporate managers, who, according to Lester Brown, "understand that the economy depends entirely on the earth's natural support systems. If these deteriorate, the deterioration of the economy cannot be far behind. In the end, their interest is not altruism, it is self-interest."

I look forward to hearing from some of these enlightened business people, writers and policy makers at the upcoming Sustainable Dallas conference, May 9th & 10th. Featured speakers will be Amory Lovins of the Rocky Mountain Institute, co-author of *Natural Capitalism*, and Dr. Joseph Romm, author of *Cool Companies*. For more information, see the website: [www.sustainabledallas.org](http://www.sustainabledallas.org).

Ann Drumm  
Dallas Sierra Club Chair

## SUSTAINABLE DALLAS' 5TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Energy and Air Quality: Practical & Profitable Solutions

The 5th annual Sustainable Dallas conference, co-produced by the Sierra Club's Sustainability Chair Margie Haley, is bringing noted authors and other speakers to Dallas to talk about practical solutions to air, energy and water challenges. Featured speakers will be Amory Lovins, co-author of *Natural Capitalism* and founder of the Rocky Mountain Institute, and Joseph Romm, author of *Cool Companies*. Topics include Green Architecture; DFW Air Quality; Sustainable Water Strategies; Industrial Energy Solutions; Transportation; the Future of Energy; Improving Performance; and Better Planning and Dematerialization. The conference will be held on Friday and Saturday, May 9-10, 2003, at Richland College. There is a fee for the conference, but the public is invited to the free exhibits sponsored by the Texas Renewable Energy Industries Association (TREIA). Sustainable Dallas is a Dallas-area grass roots environmental organization whose mission is to equip indi-

viduals and organizations for responsible stewardship of our environment and natural resources and to enhance the health and well-being of our community through education and collaboration.

For more information see the website, [www.sustainabledallas.org](http://www.sustainabledallas.org) or call Georgeann Elliott Moss, Sustainable Dallas Marketing. Day: 214.860.2191 Evening: 972.613.1870



# GENERAL CALENDAR

**5/7 • 6/4** 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 Ann Drum at 214-350-6108.

**5/14 • 6/11** 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.

**5/16 • 6/13** Second Friday. Deadline for electronic materials to be submitted to The Compass. E-mail [matt@dallasierraclub.org](mailto:matt@dallasierraclub.org) or deliver diskettes to editors during the General Meeting.

**5/21 • 6/18** 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 Mick Nolen at 972-991-9351 for more information.

**5/19 • 6/23** Inner City Outings Meeting. Monday. 7PM at REI. Contact David McCallib at 972-438-1269.

**5/28 • 6/25** 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 Donna Evans at 972-222-6134.

# URGENT!

Airline Miles & Contributions  
Needed to Attend ICO  
Leadership Training



A few of our dedicated outreach program volunteers have been invited to our national conference, but need your help to attend.

Please consider donating airline miles or funds toward their \$250 per person registration fee (includes five days of training, workshops, lodging, and meals).

Help these special Sierrans better their leadership skills w/ kids and environmental knowledge to bring back to the Dallas ICO program.

Donations can be tax deductible.

Contact Liz Wheelan at 214.739.2269 or [LizwICO@aol.com](mailto:LizwICO@aol.com) for more details by May 9 if possible.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Help Wanted – Compass Ad Sales

We're looking for a person to sell advertising in The Compass. We prefer a volunteer but are willing to consider paying a commission. For more information call Ann Drumm at 214-350-6108.

## Raffle Donations Wanted

Can you donate an item that our members would just love to have? We'd love to offer it at our monthly raffle. Contact Calvin Nichols at 972-240-4141.

## Help Us by Renewing Your Membership Through the Website

Did you know that if you join, renew your membership or purchase merchandise online that part of the proceeds come back to the Dallas group? Check out the links to the right or the yellow box on our home page and use the easy on-line method of supporting the club.

## Build Your Advocacy Skills: Volunteers Needed for Community Outreach

Are you interested in being trained to make presentations to the community on conservation issues? We're looking for energetic volunteers to help us build a long-term public education program. Contact Ann Drumm at 214-350-6108 or ann@dallassierraclub.org.

## Garage Sale - Oct 18th: We need YOU! Your STUFF! And BOXES!

We have acquired storage space for our garage sale and are ready to take your stuff! We need clothing, furniture, linens, toys, TVs and computers in working order, bicycles and other usable discards. We also need moving boxes and tape for storage. If you absolutely can't drop it off at our storage facility, we'll find someone to come pick it up. Ask family and friends for stuff, too! We also need volunteers to sort and price goods, and we need drivers with trucks, vans or SUVs who can pick up large items. Contact Joenie Mein at 214-320-3275 (joenie@dallassierraclub.org) or Carol Nash at 214-824-0244 (carol@dallassierraclub.org). We also need people with day or nighttime availability with trucks or vans to help bring things to the storage space. Thanks for your help!

## Volunteer Announcements On-line

Want to volunteer but don't have lots of time? Check out our new Volunteer Board and take home the card that describes a job that suits you. The approximate time commitment is indicated on the card. New opportunities posted each month! There's also an online version at www.dallassierraclub.org.

## New Members Bar-B-Que: Sunday, May 18

There will be an event for new members and prospective members on Sunday May 18 at 7:00. Bar-B-Que by one of the worlds great masters of the art, beer, and home made ice cream will be provided. Tofu hot dogs and lemonade will be available for the hopelessly PC and the faint of heart. Literature and other information on a variety of Sierra Club activities will be available. 217 Teakwood Lane in Lewisville. Exit Corporate Drive from I35. Go about 2 miles west and cross 121. Turn right on Teakwood Lane. 972-315- 2049

## Know a Good Speaker?

We're looking for good speakers and programs for our general meetings, and we want your suggestions. Call Ann Drumm 214-350-6108 (ann@dallassierraclub.org).

## Sierra Singles Co-chair

We need someone to help lead outings and social events. Time commitment: 3 hours a month (more if willing). Contact Jenny Lehman, 817-263-1357 or mail to: Sierra\_Singles@dallassierraclub.org.

## Computer Volunteers Needed

Do you know MS Word or Access? Willing to learn? Design flyers and maintain databases at home. Contact Ann Drumm, 214-350-6108.

# IMPORTANT CHAPTER EVENTS

OK, fellow Sierrans, mark your calendars for these important dates where Sierrans from all over the state from our 18 groups can get together to meet and have fun on different events throughout the year. Details will be finalized as the dates approach. For info on these events, call the chapter office at 512-477-1729 or access the lone star chapter website.

**JULY 19 -20 (SATURDAY-SUNDAY) CONSERVATION CONFERENCE AND AWARDS BANQUET** Learn about chapter conservation priorities and join us that evening for a banquet which honors Sierrans, legislators, and media who have done great service for the club. Location to be announced.

**OCTOBER 17-19 (FRIDAY - SUNDAY ) SIERRA CELEBRATION** at Lake Bastrop State Park near Austin at Bastrop. Outdoor fun with Sierrans at this neat location. More details forthcoming.

# Sierra Club Wine Tasting



**Friday, July 18th  
Tony's Wine Warehouse  
at 8:30 pm**

Come taste at least 12-15 wonderful red and white wines.  
Learn about wine in a fun class for up to 30 fun Sierrans and your friends.

Cost: \$20 / Single • \$35 / Couple -- Limited Seating

### RESERVATIONS WITH CHECK ONLY

Ask your friends to join us - they don't have to be Sierra Club members.

Make check out to the Dallas Sierra Club and sent to:  
Attn: Jenny Lehman at 7504 Meadow Creek Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76123  
or Attn: Rita Beving at 14605 Dartmouth Ct., Addison, TX 75001

For info call Jennifer at 817-263-1357 or Rita at 972-406-9667.

Tony's is located near the Melrose Hotel at 2904 Oak Lawn Ave. in Dallas.  
Please be there at 8:30pm as Tony's starts promptly at 8:45pm.  
All monies benefit the Sierra Club. Thank you.

## Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag

My Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City / State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club  
Please charge my  Mastercard  Visa Exp. Date \_\_\_ / \_\_\_  
Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number \_\_\_\_\_



due to the Sierra Club are not tax deductibles, they support our effective citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
<b>INTRODUCTORY</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$47
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32



**SIERRA CLUB**  
FOUNDED 1892

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Enclose check and mail to:  
**Sierra Club**  
P.O. Box 52968  
Boulder, CO 80322-2968

# SIERRA CLUB'S MISSION

To explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the earth;

To practice and promote the responsible use  
of the earth's ecosystems and resources;

To educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore  
the quality of the natural and human environment;

And to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.

# SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS

[WWW.DALLASSIERRACLUB.ORG](http://WWW.DALLASSIERRACLUB.ORG)


## BACKPACKING



## CANOEOING



## 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](mailto: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 26 (SAT). POST OAK PRESERVE CLEANUP** Discover one of the secret gems of Dallas County and improve your Karma for Earth Month. We will hike through beautiful forests and meadows of the Preserve and then back along a country road picking up trash. Approximately 4 miles with lots of wildflowers and lots of trash! Meet at 9 AM at the Preserve parking lot across from the DISD Environmental Education Center, 1600 Bowers Rd., Seagoville, Dallas County Mapsco 80G. Bring water and gloves, we will supply trash and recycling bags.

Leader: Carol Nash  
214-824-0244  
[cnash@dallasisd.org](mailto:cnash@dallasisd.org)



**MAY 3-4 (SAT-SUN) BEGINNER BACKPACKING TRIP IN THE CANEY CREEK WILDERNESS** We'll hike about 9 miles total in one of the most beautiful areas of central Arkansas. We will hike along a ridge on the Buckeye Mountain Trail on Saturday, camp near a small waterfall Saturday night and hike out Sunday on the Caney Creek Trail.

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



**MAY 3 (SAT) DAYHIKE AT THE DALLAS NATURE CENTER** We'll hike 5-miles on dirt trails over hilly terrain. Meet at the DNC visitor center at 10:00AM or meet for car pooling at NorthPark Shopping Center behind Foley's at 9:15AM. This is the N.E. corner of the property near US-75 & Park Ln under the trees. The Nature Center is located 2.5 miles south of I-20 at 7171 Mountain Creek Parkway. Take the Mountain Creek Parkway exit off I-20 (between exits for Spur 408 and FM 1382, in Southwest Dallas County) and continue south. The entrance is on the right just south of where Wheatland Road intersects Mountain Creek Parkway. Bring hiking boots, water, and a change of shoes, if weather warrants. Optional TexMex restaurant lunch afterwards. No reservations necessary, just show up.

Leader: Steve Longley  
214- 824-1128

**MAY 8 (THU) LEADING SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS** Is this you? You want to go backpacking in the Upper Wildplace Wilderness and you've been watching the outings list for two years and haven't seen a trip going there. Or, you want to go on easy dayhikes on Thursday evenings during the summer, but there aren't any listed. Or, you want on a car camping outing with your kids last year, but you haven't seen another outings like that listed this year. If this is you, you can take matters into your own hands and go on the outings you want to go on. All you have to do is become an outings leader for the Dallas Sierra Club. Come to this introductory seminar and we'll tell you how to get started. We'll explain leader qualifications, training programs, leader resources, insurance provided, and everything else you need to know to become a Sierra Club outings leader. We'll also show

you some great slides from our favorite trips. The seminar will be held at REI, 4515 LBJ Freeway, Farmers Branch (north side of LBJ between Midway Rd and Welch Rd from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM. The seminar is free and no advance registration is required.

Contact: Arthur Kuehne  
214-902-9260 (H)  
[arthur@akuehne.com](mailto:arthur@akuehne.com)



**MAY 9 -11 (FRI-SAT) FAMILY CAR CAMP AT COLORADO BEND STATE PARK, KIDS WELCOMED!** Join this family outing as we explore this 5328.3-acre facility, located west of Lampasas in San Saba and Lampasas counties. The park site was purchased partly in 1984, with the balance acquired in 1987 and currently offers the outdoor enthusiast access to primitive camping, hiking, fishing, which at certain times is terrific, swimming, mountain biking, birding, and nature watching, and guided tours. We will definitely take part in a guided tour to Gorman Falls. The only way to view the falls is on the guided tour or by canoe or kayak from the river. The park also offers guided, wild cave tours, both walking and crawling. (Adults without kids welcomed as well.)

Leader: David Crabb  
214-343-1828  
[dcrabb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dcrabb@sbcglobal.net)

**MAY 9 (FRI) DEADLINE** to submit outings for publication in the May Outings List and the June newsletter.

Send to: Mick Nolen  
972-991-9351  
[mick@1000monkeys.org](mailto:mick@1000monkeys.org)



**MAY 10 (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](mailto:cnash@dallasisd.org)



**MAY 15 (THU) A KNOTTY PROBLEM SOLVED** If you never had the opportunity to be a Boy Scout or if you are linear-attachment-device challenged, this special evening is for you. Graduates will learn all the knots required to be a certified outdoors person. You, too, will be able to belay a bear bag with the copious clove hitch, tighten a tent with the tenacious taut line hitch, and capture a canoe with the terrible trucker's hitch. So, put a hitch in your gitalong and join us in the upstairs meeting room at REI, 7:00-8:30 PM. REI is on the north side of LBJ between Midway and Welch. The fee is \$10 for Sierra Club members, \$15 for others. Participants will each receive wilderness-proven practice rope. Pay at the door; but because we are providing rope, pre-registration is required by providing your name to Arthur Kuehne.

Contact: Arthur Kuehne  
214-902-9260 (H)  
[arthur@akuehne.com](mailto:arthur@akuehne.com)

**May 21 (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: Mick Nolen  
972-991-9351  
[mick@1000monkeys.org](mailto:mick@1000monkeys.org)



**MAY 23-27 (FRI-TUE) MEMORIAL DAY BUS TRIP TO THE WHITE MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS** Enjoy one of five different 3-day backpack trips in the central New Mexico mountains just north of the Ruidoso ski area. Hikes range from moderate to strenuous. We recommend that participants have at least one prior backpacking trip. Sign up soon, this trip fills up fast. Our chartered sleeper bus will leave Dallas at 4:30 PM on Friday, May 23 and return at about 5:00 AM on Tuesday, May 27. Cost is \$170 for members and \$185 for nonmembers. To sign up, send a check payable to: Arthur Kuehne, 3363 Darbyshire Dr, Dallas, TX 75229-5912.

Contact: Arthur Kuehne  
214-902-9260 (H)  
[arthur@akuehne.com](mailto:arthur@akuehne.com)



**JUN 8 (SUN) BLUFFVIEW DAYHIKE** Enjoy an early morning hike and brunch. We'll hike about 6 miles through the rolling hills of the Bluffview residential area and Bachman Lake greenbelt. After the hike we'll have brunch (optional) at La Madeleine. Meet at 9:00 AM at the northeast corner of Midway Road and Northwest Highway (Loop 12) in the La Madeleine parking lot (Mapsco 24X). No reservations necessary.

Leader: Steve Longley  
214-824-1128 (H)



**JUL 12-13 (SAT-SUN) 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.

Contact: Mick Nolen  
972-991-9351  
[mick@1000monkeys.org](mailto:mick@1000monkeys.org)



**SEP 7-12 (SUN - FRI) HIGH SIERRA FLY-FISHING** The search of the elusive California golden trout requires a strenuous backpack trip of about 35 miles in the Ansel Adams Wilderness. Brookies, rainbows and browns will also be sought. This fly-fishing trip is from Devil Post Pile to Tuolumne Meadows on the JMT. The trip is rated as strenuous and is only for those who have had extended backpack trips in bear country. Bear resistant canisters are required for food storage. A California non-

resident fishing license and trout stamp is required for angling. There is a nonrefundable fee of \$5.00 for the wilderness permit. The check must be received by Feb 21, 2003 to meet the permit deadline. The trip is limited to 6 experienced backpackers. Contact the leaders who will determine if you qualify for the trip.

Leaders: Marcos Jorge and Steve Longley  
972-394-2546 (H)  
mjorge@ustgolfshaft.com



**SEP 26-28 (FRI-SUN) GRAND CANYON**

Leave after work Thursday return Sunday. Horseback riding into Havasupai Canyon or backpacking into the canyon. Stay at campground near renowned Emerald Falls and Pools. Hike to the Colorado River. Fly to Las Vegas, rent cars, stay Thurs in Casino. Come back out Sunday morning and fly back to DFW that evening.

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



**OCT 10-19 (FRI-SUN) KAYAK THE LOWER CANYON OF THE RIO GRANDE**

Spend eight days exploring this remote stretch of the Rio Grande, put in at La Linda and take out at Dryden. We will hike side canyons, explore caves, view petroglyphs, soak in hot springs and maybe run some rapids (class II-III). This is an isolated area. The only way out is down the river. The trip distance is approximately 84 beautiful miles. Multi-day kayak experience is required. The group size will be small. Sign up early.

Leader: Bill Beach  
b.beach@worldnet.att.net

**SIERRA SINGLES OUTINGS**

**MONDAY, MAY 19** at 7:30 p.m. [note new time!!] join us for dinner at Italianni's restaurant, located at 1601 Precinct Line Road in Hurst (north of 183 aka Airport Freeway). Gather in the bar at 7:15 to mingle before being seated.  
Contact: Jenny Lehman.

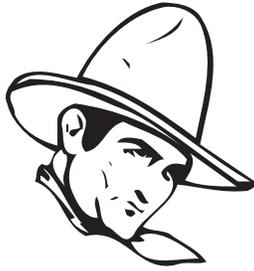
**FRIDAY, JULY 18** learn about wines at a wine tasting at Tony's Wine Warehouse in Dallas at 2904 Oak Lawn (214-520-9463) at 8:45 p.m. This is a fund raiser for the Sierra Club. You will taste approximately 15 different wines and champagne and learn about their characteristics. You must sign-up and pay in advance for the wine tasting by July 10. Please make checks for \$20 per person to the DALLAS SIERRA CLUB and contact Jenny for her mailing address; phone (817) 263-1357 or email avidhiker@killerfrogs.com for information.

Just a reminder that all events officially begin at the event site / trail head.

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

See the Dallas Sierra Club home page for instructions on how to subscribe to the Sierra Singles listserv.

**BE A LEADER! HERE'S HOW!**  
**MAY 8 (THU) LEADING SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS**



Is this you? You want to go backpacking in the Upper Wildplace Wilderness and you've been watching the outings list for two years and haven't seen a trip going there. Or, you want to go on easy dayhikes on Thursday evenings during the summer, but there aren't any listed. Or, you want on a car camping outing with your kids last year, but you haven't seen another outings like that listed this year. If this is you, you can take matters into your own hands and go on the outings you want to go on. All you have to do is become an outings leader for the Dallas Sierra Club. Come to this introductory seminar and we'll tell you how to get started. We'll explain leader qualifications, training programs, leader resources, insurance provided, and everything else you need to know to become a Sierra Club outings leader. We'll also show you some great slides from our favorite trips. The seminar will be held at REI, 4515 LBJ Freeway, Farmers Branch (north side of LBJ between Midway Rd and Welch Rd from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM. The seminar is free and no advance registration is required.

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

**Wendel A. Withrow**  
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**CONGRATULATIONS WFA GRADUATES!**

Did you know that Christopher Reeves stood up and walked after his horseback riding accident. Moving after his fall, rather than staying still and having his spine immobilized, complicated his injuries resulting in confinement to a wheelchair.

Spinal injury assessment is just one of many valuable things area Sierra Club and ICO Outings Leaders and Assistant Leaders learned during a recent Wilderness First Aid class. Congratulations and thanks to these dedicated Sierrans who recently gave up a weekend of their busy schedules to complete the intense WFA class. The class included 16 hours of instruction, real life scenarios complete with theatrical makeup and blood, and a written examination. Participants also had the opportunity to share first aid challenges from past experiences and learn ideas to enhance safety during future outings.

We are also grateful to our national Outdoor Activities Training Program ("OATP") which subsidized this usually very expensive class. OATP also obtained Bobbie Fisher, a well know instructor from northern California, who made her first trip to Dallas to teach the class.

Following are the wonderful people who successfully completed the class to be better leaders for us all.

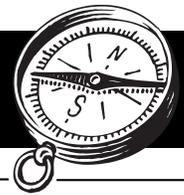
- Bill Beach
- Rita Beving
- Claudia Blalock (Ft.W)
- David Crabb
- Victor Davis (Austin)
- Jay Davison
- Karen Davison
- Tolbert Greenwood (Ft.W)
- Bill Greer
- Laura Kimberly
- Arthur Kuehne
- Wendy Lambert
- Steven Longley
- David McCalib
- Gerald Nehman
- Kay Newsom
- Calvin Nichols
- Mick Nolen
- Mike Rawlins
- Anne Rowe
- Ze'ev Saggi
- Kent Trullson
- Marilyn Turnage
- Liz Wheelan

**VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH**

**Patsy & Paul Huston**

Congratulations to our Volunteers of the Month - Patsy and Paul Huston. This dynamic duo accepted the responsibility of managing our merchandise inventory and they have been faithful in their duties. You will always find them at our month meetings and special events such as the holiday party. This is not an easy task - all items must be packed and transported to each event AND they store everything in their home between events. Whenever their busy work schedules permit, Patsy and Paul enjoy weekend camping and fishing trips and often compete in angling contests. Stop by the sales table and say "Thank You" for all their hard work. And ask them about some of those fishing trophies.

# CONSERVATION NEWS



WWW.DALLASSIERRACLUB.ORG

## CONSERVATION CALENDAR

### MAY 2 (FRIDAY) DEADLINE FOR AIR COMMENTS TO EPA ON NEW SOURCE REVIEW

Help stave off the rollbacks proposed by the Bush Administration on a critical part of the Clean Air Act called New Source Review. SEND A FAX TO EPA NOW from <http://www.dfwdirtyair.com/act/epacommentletter.routinemaintenance.htm>. Articles from can be found at <http://www.blueskiesalliance.org> or call 972-296-9100 on recent hearings in Dallas.

### MAY 3 (SUNDAY) - ELECTION DAY

### MAY 9 -10 SUSTAINABLE DALLAS CONFERENCE

You won't want to miss the 5th Annual Sustainable Dallas Conference/Building and Energy Expo, which will be held at Richland College in north Dallas. Keynote speakers include Amory Lovins (<http://www.rmi.org/sitepages/pid166.php>), author of Natural Capitalism, and Dr. Joseph Romm, former U.S. Dept. of Energy Director and author of Cool Companies (visit <http://www.cool-companies.org/book/bio.cfm>). Renewable energy exhibits and live rainforest animals Exhibits free/open to the public. Visit [www.sustainabledallas.org](http://www.sustainabledallas.org).

### MAY 25 (SUNDAY) - NEW RESTAURANT!!! LA MADELEINE FOOD AND CONSERVATION

CONVERSATION - Join conservation member Zachary Hilbun in an informal chat over Awesome La Madeleine food and talk about conservation issues. No set agendas-let's discuss topic you are concerned about or a recent news clipping. It's starts at 6 pm at the La Madeleine location at Preston Rd / Forest Lane— that's the northeast corner by Tom Thumb. Call Zach at 214-350-4207.

## NEW DIRECTIONS FROM SIERRA POPULATION CONFERENCE

The effects of Bush Administration policies on worldwide family planning were major topics of discussion at a recent national workshop focusing on world population growth and its impact on environmental issues.

The conference, "2003 Capitol Hill Days", was held in Washington, D.C. the weekend of March 28 and was attended by almost 200 members of the Sierra Club, Population Connection (formerly ZPG, Zero Population Growth) and the National Wildlife Federation. Gayle Loeffler, our Population Chair, and Joenie Mein, a member of our Executive Committee, represented the Dallas Sierra Club.

Among the topics discussed were administration policy regarding the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the "Global Gag Rule", which was issued almost immediately after President Bush took office.

The UNFPA, co-founded by the United States and other nations in 1969, is the largest internationally funded source of population assistance. UNFPA supports family planning services, maternal and child health care, education and communication, and works to improve the status of women, promote better health among youth, and works to prevent the spread of HIV / AIDS. In 1998 the UNFPA had a resource income of \$300 million which supported projects in 150 countries. Priority is given to countries whose rapid population growth pose the greatest risk to economic, social and political stability. In December 2001, the U.S. House and Senate reached a bipartisan compromise on international family planning and agreed to provide \$34 million for UNFPA. However, only eleven months later on July 22, 2002, President Bush announced a permanent ban on U.S. aid to UNFPA. This action was taken despite the absence of evidence for its purported justification, that UNFPA was involved in controversial aspects of China's population policy.

The Global Gag Rule, imposed in January 2001, withholds U.S. aid to international family planning organizations that, with their own money, administer or counsel clients about abortions in their countries or discuss changes in their national policy on abortion. The negative ramifications of this policy have led the Sierra Club and other organizations to call for its repeal, citing the following reasons:

- This rule interferes with doctor / patient relationships. Doctors cannot provide information to patients about safe, legal abortions in their own countries. Although intended to reduce abortions, it will have the opposite effect of increasing the incidences of unsafe abortions.

- The rule undermines reproductive health care worldwide. Family planning providers face a cruel choice--(a) either give up necessary funding, or (b) forsake their respon-



sibility to patients and their rights to participate in the democratic process. Simply put, this means the poorest women in the world will be denied services that women in the United States and Europe have access to.

- The rule is undemocratic. In order to receive funds for family planning, overseas agencies must sign a contract giving up their right to use their own money to participate in discussions about possible changes to the abortion policy in their own countries. This restriction would be unconstitutional if imposed on Americans.

- The rule creates a double standard. Restrictions we dare not impose on Americans should not be imposed on those who live outside our borders. The same standards of medical ethics and freedom of speech must apply to health care providers both within the U.S. and overseas. Financial aid must never be used as a tool to force family planning organizations to sacrifice their rights and responsibilities.

Other important items addressed in the weekend were refresher sessions about the legislative process and ways to be effective when lobbying Senators and members of Congress. Built into each participant's schedule was a time to speak to his or her own elected officials or their staff members and leave a packet of information about these issues.

All in all, this was an informative and challenging weekend. It was also a weekend to meet like-minded people from across the U.S. and to exchange ideas, to become acquainted with those who have long been involved and to meet newcomers. Last, but not least, it was a chance to visit our beautiful nation's capital and become involved in the democratic process.

(Read the Sierra Club's Statement on the Global Gag Rule at [http://www.sierraclub.org/population/global\\_gag\\_rule/statement.asp](http://www.sierraclub.org/population/global_gag_rule/statement.asp). All factual data was taken from fact sheets provided by Population Connection. For more information visit the website: [www.populationconnection.org](http://www.populationconnection.org).)

by Joenie Mein  
Dallas ExCom member

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# PADRE EVENT PACKED FUN IN PROTEST

At March end, Dallas had the largest sign up of 16 participants for the Sierra Chapter's Padre Camp In and Protest. The Dallas and Ft. Worth Groups elected to stay at Goose Island State Park near Rockport and drive to the chapter events on Malaquite Beach near Corpus Christi.

The Dallas crew spent a chilly Saturday morning on a boat to see endangered whooping cranes near the coast before joining a beach clean up later that afternoon. Sierrans helped clean up a four mile line of coast which sets the stage where 200 drilling trucks will drive weekly should Sierra Club's suit to stop British Petroleum's slant drilling off the national seashore not succeed. The beach is home to the nesting ground of the endangered Ridley turtle, the most threatened turtle in the entire world.

On Sunday morning, Sierrans Jay and Karen Davison jumpstarted the Dallas sandcastle team's efforts of building its political statement to save the turtles in the sand. Despite our team's heroic efforts complete with the President in tow (see picture) to secure a trophy, Dallas went home with its pride knowing it gave an awesome effort. Thanks to the team- the Davisons, Judy Cato, Hemang Sheth, Tom Green, Rita Beving, and the contributions of Carol Nash and Tom Hark for making Dallas' turtle the beautiful "object d'art" it truly proved to be.



Carol Nash and Mike Hart sitting on top of the beautiful dunes at Padre Island.



Closing up shop - A Sierran packs up after spending the night on the Buffalo River Trail in March 2003.

# TRINITY RIVER

from page 1

unleash their bulldozers. The public has several upcoming opportunities to speak out against these projects.

"This announcement comes at a crucial point in the Trinity River debate", said David Gray, chairman of the Texas Committee on Natural Resources. "The Army Corps is currently responding to a federal court's mandate to conduct a full and cumulative environmental impact statement (EIS) to analyze how the individual projects of the Dallas Floodway Extension affect the total flooding and elements within the Trinity River Corridor. Despite complaints against the Corps' woefully inadequate first draft of this supplemental environmental impact study, the Corps intends to release the final report within the next few months. Additionally the toll roads EIS is also expected to be released later on in the year and the Dallas City Council will vote on a preferred alternative."

"Meanwhile, a new privately-funded study has been proposed-- which suggests among other things--raising the existing levees which could sharply reduce the need for the DFE," added Gray. "While all these actions are awaiting final scrutiny, the costs for the toll roads has nearly doubled and funding opportunities have become even more scarce for the entire Trinity project. Taxpayers and concerned citizens need to weigh in on all these issues."

"The new private proposal includes a

low-speed parkway, a natural river channel, the redevelopment of Lamar St., and also the raising of the existing levees. These are steps in the right direction, but it has also kept many of the bad elements in the current plan--such as the DFE and toll-roads," Gray noted. "However, this proposal is still only a private proposal. It has not been officially considered nor adopted as an alternative for the Trinity River Corridor Project."

"We suggest that the best alternative would be to combine the best elements of the new proposal with the voluntary buyout in Cadillac Heights, and essentially eliminate the need for the DFE. Raising the existing levees will protect downtown and a voluntary buyout will allow residents to escape flood dangers and their polluted neighborhood," Gray concluded. "The DFE would then be rendered a redundant and unnecessary expense."

The press event got great coverage airing on all four TV networks, 2 radio stations, the Dallas Morning News, and the Ft. Worth Star Telegram. Other than the Trinity River in Texas, the Rio Grande was also named in the report as one of the nation's most endangered rivers. To review the full 34-page American Rivers report, go to [www.americanrivers.org](http://www.americanrivers.org)

Rita Beving  
Media / Water Coordinator



## CLEAN AIR WEDNESDAYS



Doug Toney, a manager with TXU Corp, says he and his wife sold their upscale 1 1/2 acre they were planning for their dream home when they realized how insane the commute would be from Ovilla to Central Dallas.

### 50-BEATS A MINUTE - THAT'S WHY I WALK TO WORK!

I promised my youngest daughter we wouldn't move from our suburban DeSoto home until after she had graduated from high school with her friends. This promise kept, we sold the house, and decided to temporarily move into an apartment until

our "dream home" was complete on some rural acreage.

We found an apartment near Baylor Hospital and decided to move there as an experiment. We signed a 13-month lease, knowing if we didn't like the concept, we could move back to the "burbs."

I asked the apartment manager if many tenants walked to work in the Central Business District. She said it was an awfully long way and she wasn't sure it would be safe. I decided to try anyway.

The mile-long walk was pleasant, and if weather was bad, any of several DART buses could whisk me to within a couple of blocks of my office in about the same time it would take to walk from one of the outlying parking lots.

Five years later, I still live in Downtown Dallas near the Farmers Market, and have a two-mile round trip walking commute each day. This is a totally non-stressful commute! It doesn't even seem like exercise, but I now have a resting heart rate of around 50 beats per minute. I walk to Deep Ellum restaurants, and it's nice to stop at the Farmers Market on the way home for fresh produce for the evening meal. Most of Dallas's attractions are a short walk or train ride from my home.



SIERRA CLUB



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If you shop at Kroger - pick up a Kroger card at the next General Meeting, or call George Zimmerman at (H) 972-315-2049 or email [george@dallasclub.org](mailto:george@dallasclub.org) to get a card mailed to you.

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