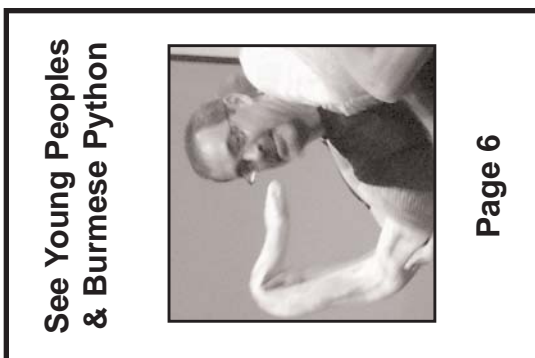


Sierra Club needs your vote!  
See articles in this issue for endorsements

Sierra Club Endorses Kerry for President  
Sierra Club Singles  
Failures at Ground Zero  
Profile: John Kerry

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See Young Peoples & Burmese Python

Page 6

**Dallas Executive Committee**

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|                              |                    |                 |                            |
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| Media / Water                | Rita Beving Griggs | W: 214-373-3808 | rita@dallassierraclub.org  |
| Clean Air                    | Katy Hubener       | W: 972-296-9100 | Katy@BlueSkiesAlliance.org |
| Endangered Species           | Tom Green          | H: 972-578-1929 | katzen5@aaahawk.com        |
| Forests                      | Cliff Rushing      | W: 469-201-6484 | cactus.cliff@verizon.net   |
| Population                   | Gayle Loeffler     | H: 817-430-3035 | gloeffler@twu.edu          |
| Sustainability               | Margie Haley       | H: 214-823-1537 | margie13@swbell.net        |
| Recycling                    | Volunteer needed   |                 |                            |
| 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     |
| Sprawl                       | Bud Melton         | H: 214-828-2144 | melbow@swbell.net          |
| Water                        | Coordinator Needed |                 |                            |
| Energy                       | Lisa Silguero      | C: 214-893-7990 | lisa@dallassierraclub.org  |
| Responsible Trade            | Molly Rooke        | H: 214-369-6667 | Molly@Larosa-Ranch.com     |

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**Sierra Singles**

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**Outings Committee Chair**

|                      |                  |                 |                                  |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Training Coordinator | Mick Nolen       | H: 972-991-9351 | mick@dallassierraclub.org        |
| Backpacking          | Arthur Kuehne    | H: 214-902-9260 | arthur@dallassierraclub.org      |
| Bicycling            | David Van Winkle | H: 972-562-7174 | backpack@dallassierraclub.org    |
| Canoeing / Kayaking  | Volunteer needed |                 |                                  |
| Car Camping          | Terry Sullivan   | H: 972-492-3038 | terry@dallassierraclub.org       |
| Dayhikes             | Volunteer needed |                 |                                  |
| Family Outings       | Steve Longley    | H: 214-826-3993 | slongley@presidioinvestments.com |
|                      | Volunteer needed |                 |                                  |

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Patsy Huston H: 972-732-6566

**Special Events Coordinator**

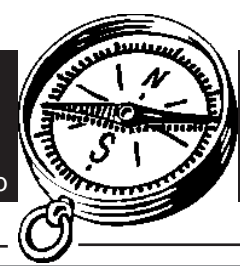
Volunteer needed

**Video Coordinator**

Lisa Silguero C: 214-893-7990 lisa@dallassierraclub.org

**Volunteer Coordinator**

Volunteer needed



## OCTOBER PROGRAM - David Griggs

Dallas Sierra Club's Political Chair David Griggs will educate us on the various candidates being endorsed by the Sierra Club during this critical upcoming election.

Come hear about the candidates positions on various environmental issues, and then don't forget to **VOTE** on November 2, 2004!"

DALLAS SIERRA CLUB

## SIERRA CLUB ENDORSES KERRY FOR PRESIDENT

Says Kerry Will Protect America's Health and Heritage

### LOCAL SIERRA CLUB ENDORSEMENTS

Please note the following local Texas and U.S. House of Representatives races in which the Sierra Club has made endorsements. The outcomes of these contests could decide whose agenda controls the Texas Legislature and the U.S. Congress.

This year more than ever, the Sierra Club and other environmental groups have the opportunity to make a difference in the outcome of some of these potentially close contests by getting involved in the campaigns of these candidates who support a strong environmental agenda. Early voting starts on Monday, October 18 and runs through Friday, October 29. For a list of early voting locations, go to [www.dalcoalctions.org](http://www.dalcoalctions.org). Election day is November 2. Do not forget to **VOTE!**

### UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Martin Frost - District 32 (Oak Cliff, North Dallas, Richardson, Addison)

For more information or to volunteer, contact Arthur Kuehne at 214-353-292 ([aarthur@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:aarthur@dallassierraclub.org)) or David Griggs at 972-406-9667 ([david@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:david@dallassierraclub.org)). Volunteer opportunities for precinct walking on Saturdays and phone banking on Thursday nights at the headquarters located in the shopping center on the southwest corner of Preston and 635 LBJ.

Eddie Bernice Johnson - District 30 (West, Central and South Dallas)

For more information or to volunteer, contact David Griggs at 972-406-9667 ([david@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:david@dallassierraclub.org)). Congresswoman Johnson is unopposed for re-election.

### TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

District 106 -Katy Hubener (Grand Prairie, South Irving)

For more information or to volunteer, contact Melissa J. McIntosh at 214-403-4651 ([melissajmcintosh@yahoo.com](mailto:melissajmcintosh@yahoo.com)) or David Griggs at 972-406-9667 ([david@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:david@dallassierraclub.org)). Katy's campaign office is located at 217 W. Main St. in Grand Prairie. Her office phone is 972-282-9301. Volunteer opportunities for precinct walking on Saturdays (10 am - 3:30 p.m.) and Sundays (3 p.m. to 7 p.m.) The campaign especially needs help the weekends of October 2nd and 3rd and October 16th and 17th.

District 102 - Harriett Miller (Far North Dallas, Garland)

For more information or to volunteer, contact David Griggs at 972-406-9667 ([david@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:david@dallassierraclub.org)). Harriett's campaign office is located at 16633 N. Dallas Tollway at the corner of Westgrove and the Tollway in the EnTrust building. Volunteer opportunities for precinct walking on Sunday afternoons. Call Meg at Harriett's headquarters at 972-588-3366.

District 105 - Mike Moore (Irving and Las Colinas)

For more information or to volunteer, contact John Rath at 817-488-3489 ([john@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:john@dallassierraclub.org)). Volunteer opportunities for precinct walking on weekends and evenings.

District 70 - Martin Woodward (Frisco and McKinney)

For more information or to volunteer, contact Mike Rollins at 972-783-0462 ([dqez@comcast.net](mailto:dqez@comcast.net)) or David Griggs at 972-406-9667 ([david@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:david@dallassierraclub.org)). Call for volunteer opportunities.

*By David Griggs, Political Chair*

Wendell A.  
**Withrow**  
attorney at law

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**CALL TODAY**

# The Compass

October 2004  
Volume 100, Issue 1004

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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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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## General Calendar

### 10/6 • 11/3 First Wednesday.

Executive Committee meeting 6:30 p.m. 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 Drumm at 214-350-6108.

### 10/13 • 11/10 Second Wednesday.

Sierra Club General Meeting 7:00 8:30 p.m. Come to the General Meeting at the Greenhills School located at the corner of Midway and Spring Valley. Check our website at [www.dallassierraclub.org](http://www.dallassierraclub.org) for directions. Come early to pick up outings and conservation materials. Everyone is invited to join us for food, drink and socializing after the meeting.

### 10/11 • 11/8 Second Monday.

Deadline for electronic materials to be submitted to the Compass. Email [editor@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:editor@dallassierraclub.org) or deliver diskettes to editors during the General Meeting.

### 10/20 • 11/17 Third Wednesday.

Outings Committee Meeting 7:00 pm 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.

### 10/27 • 11/24 Fourth Wednesday.

Newsletter Party 7:00 pm at the Churchill Recreation Center at Hillcrest & Churchill Way (**MAPSCO 15V**). Help sort, bundle and label the newsletter. Socializing afterward. Contact Arthur Kuehne at: 214-902-9260.



SIERRA  
CLUB

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

The Worldwatch Institute's  
**"State of the World 2004: The Consumer Society"**  
argues that to meet basic human needs and support a natural world that can sustain us as we  
**"RETHINK GLOBAL CONSUMPTION"**  
WORLDWATCH INSTITUTE SPEAKER  
**THURSDAY, OCT. 14**

Not only will hundreds of millions of people in the developing world enter the consumer society in the near future, but the per capita consumption levels of those who are already in it continue to surge. China's economy is growing at almost 10% per annum, and world population is projected to reach 9 billion by 2050. What is required to reach "sustainability" under those circumstances? reach unprecedented levels in population will require us to control consumption rather than allow consumption to control us. How does that translate into practice?

Gary Gardner, Director of Research at the Worldwatch Institute ([www.worldwatch.org](http://www.worldwatch.org)), will be in Dallas to talk about choices we can make that will improve our health, create jobs, and reduce pressures on the world's natural ecosystems. This is a rare opportunity for Sierrans to hear from a representative of one of the world's premier environmental organizations. His October 14 appearance is sponsored by the Dallas Museum of Natural History ([www.dallasdino.org](http://www.dallasdino.org)). He will speak in the KERA community room, 3000 Harry Hines Blvd., at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free to museum members; a \$5 donation is requested of non-members.

This event, originally scheduled for the same night as our October general meeting, was re-scheduled for Oct. 14 specifically so that Sierrans could attend. RSVP to the museum to reserve your spot, 214-421-3466 ext. 364.

\*\*\*

There are some very important local races taking place in the Dallas area, and those candidates need your help. The Sierra Club has endorsed several of these candidates, and we are recruiting volunteers to help them.

Congressman Martin Frost is running one of the most high-profile races in the nation in the 32nd Congressional district. I've lived in North Dallas for 15 years, and this is the first time I've had a viable pro-environment candidate to work for and vote for. I've been going door-to-door, stuffing envelopes and working the phone bank. It's a lot of fun and a great way to learn about the opportunities as well as the limitations of politics.

Long-time Sierran Katy Hubener needs help in her race for the Texas Legislature, as do Sierra Club-endorsed candidates Harriet Miller, Mike Moore and Martin Woodward. Consult your September Compass for biographies of each of these candidates. The following members are coordinating volunteers for each campaign. Contact them and help out!

Frost campaign: contact Arthur Kuehne at 214-353-2927 or [arthur@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:arthur@dallassierraclub.org)

Hubener campaign: contact Melissa J. McIntosh at 214-403-4651 or [melissajmcintosh@yahoo.com](mailto:melissajmcintosh@yahoo.com)

Miller campaign: contact David Griggs at 972-406-9667 or [david@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:david@dallassierraclub.org)

Moore campaign: contact John Rath at 817-488-3489 or [john@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:john@dallassierraclub.org)

Woodward campaign: contact Mike Rawlins at 972-783-0462 or [dqez@comcast.net](mailto:dqez@comcast.net)

Finally, **MAKE SURE YOU VOTE!** You must register to vote by October 4. Early voting starts Oct. 18 and ends Oct. 29. **Vote** early so you can help us get out the vote on Election Day, Nov. 2. For more information see the Dallas County Elections website, [www.dalcoelections.org](http://www.dalcoelections.org).

Ann Drumm Dallas Sierra Club Chair

## Announcements

### INNER CITY OUTINGS (ICO)

Sierra Club outreach program provides hikes and camping to disadvantaged youth. Special fall volunteer orientation meeting/dinner being planned. For details, watch web-site ([www.dallassierraclub.org](http://www.dallassierraclub.org)) or contact Liz Wheelan at [Lizwico@aol.com](mailto:Lizwico@aol.com) or 214.739.2269.

### NEWSLETTER PARTY

Help prepare The Compass for mailing and meet other Sierrans. Held on the 4th Wednesday each month. Contact Arthur Kuehne 214-902-9260 or just show up! 7 p.m., Churchill Rec. Center. Time: 2 hours / month.

### COMPASS AD SALES

Volunteer needed to sell advertising in The Compass. Contact Ann Drumm at 214-350-6108.

### ARCHIVIST WANTED

Help us preserve the Dallas group's history by consolidating our historical records into one location. Call Ann Drumm, 214-350-6108.

### CONSERVATION HELP

Help our Conservation Chair with administrative work at home – phone calls, emails, logistical details to support conservation activities. Call Rita Beving, 214-373-3808.

### Our Next President

He fights global warming, foils offshore drillers, and protects the Arctic! His recycling knows no bounds! And if enough environmentalists vote on November 2, John Kerry could be our next president. *by Jennifer Hattam*

When George W. Bush first ran for president in 2000, he proclaimed, "Protecting our natural lands and watersheds...is our calling as stewards of the earth." This time around, his team has stopped trying to appease environmentalists and started attacking them. With the November elections on the horizon, Bush campaign chair Marc Racicot fired an early shot at his boss's presumptive rival, telling a Michigan crowd that Senator John Kerry's "environmental extremism" would not go over well with voters in the State. It was obviously a jab, but Kerry would probably be proud that Racicot also described him as "incredibly environmentally green." The Democratic candidate has kept environmental issues at the center of his agenda throughout his political career. (The Sierra Club endorsed Kerry's presidential bid in May.) "Being responsible about the environment is not some do-gooder, silly notion that you embrace once a year," he commented at an Earth Day event this spring. Since 1970, when he spoke at the first Earth Day in his home state of Massachusetts, Kerry has fought for action against acid rain, participated in international climate-change negotiations, and co-sponsored successful legislation to protect coral reefs, strengthen limits on offshore oil drilling, and restore estuary habitat as a member of the Senate Subcommittee on Oceans and Fisheries (which he renamed the Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, and Fisheries during his tenure as Chair). With two-thirds of Americans saying in a recent poll that the United States government does not do enough about the environment, Kerry the "extremist" is looking pretty mainstream. He is also: *...optimistic.*

On the stump, Kerry exudes optimism about cleaning up the environment while boosting the economy: "Americans can unite behind policies that will protect our natural resources and create jobs inventing, designing, manufacturing, and constructing the clean technologies of tomorrow."

As a senator, Kerry has supported tax incentives to encourage the production and purchase of alternative-fuel vehicles. As president, he would invest \$1 billion a year to help the auto industry begin building more fuel efficient vehicles, part of a shift in U.S. energy policy that would eventually create 500,000 new jobs. To achieve his goal of generating 20 percent of U.S. electricity from renewable sources by 2020, Kerry favors creating joint ventures, grants, and tax credits for businesses. "You [have to] make it profitable for people," he says.

*...concerned about national security.*

Kerry is also concerned about national security. "Domestic, renewable sources [of energy] are urgently needed now because they are entirely under our control," Kerry says. "No foreign government can embargo them, no terrorist can seize control of them, no cartel can play games with them, and no American soldier will have to risk his or her life to protect them."

To wean us off of our oil addiction, Kerry has continually pushed for increased fuel efficiency of cars and trucks. In 2002, he

introduced a bill, along with Senator John McCain (R-AZ), to boost automotive fuel economy by as much as 50 percent over the next decade. This would have been by far the largest increase since standards were first established in the 1970s. *...a man of faith.*

A committed Catholic, Kerry finds moral grounds for his environmental stances based upon his religious beliefs. (But like the majority of his fellow U.S. Catholics, he opposes the Vatican's proscription of contraceptive use in family planning.) He's repeatedly fought efforts to eviscerate the Endangered Species Act, which he says embodies "the goal of protecting all of God's creatures."

In the 1990s, he also authored successful legislation to strengthen safeguards for marine mammals, including a ban on the use of drift nets that threaten dolphins. His wife, environmental philanthropist Teresa Heinz Kerry, has equally strong beliefs. In a recent speech, she called President Bush's environmental policies "a sin against humankind, period."

*...a proponent of family values.*

Kerry's mother started a recycling program in their hometown back in the 1970s and volunteered to help build a community nature trail. When her son was young, she took him walking in the woods to listen to birds singing, and later introduced him to the works of Emerson and Thoreau--experiences that Kerry credits with awakening his environmental consciousness. In 1992, Kerry got acquainted with his future wife, Teresa, at the Earth Summit in Rio, where they were both delegates with a passion for the environment.

*...in good company.*

Kerry's running mate, Senator John Edwards (D-N.C.), garners high marks from environmentalists in his home state for protecting Pisgah National Forest and fending off threats to Cape Hatteras National Seashore and the Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge. On the global stage, Edwards supports international right-to-know standards that would keep companies from hiding their abusive environmental or labor practices by moving jobs overseas.

In Congress, he's consistently voted for wilderness protection for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, higher fuel-economy standards for cars, and increased funding for toxic-waste cleanups. Last year, Edwards led the opposition to the Bush administration's assault on the Clean Air Act, introducing an amendment to prevent proposed changes to the act--a priority for Vice President Cheney's energy task force--from taking effect until their health and environmental impacts had been thoroughly studied.

*...not afraid to have a little fun.*

Kerry admits to being "a noodle about recycling," and his wife recently built an office out of sustainably harvested wood. But the avid outdoorsman doesn't think the environmental life should be all seriousness and sacrifice. When questioned by eco-friendly Grist magazine about his passion for Harley motorcycles, Kerry replied, "If it's a vice, it's one I don't think I can quit."

*...an urban visionary.*

"We must leverage a new urban strategy to build community and revive the urban center as one of the best places to live

and raise a family," Kerry says. In 2001, he cosponsored successful bipartisan legislation to provide financial assistance for cleanup and revitalization of toxic brownfields that primarily benefit inner-city areas. The Pittsburgh-based foundation run by his wife has directed nearly \$200 million into environmental causes over the past dozen years, including millions to help the Steel City become a leader in green building and re-development.

*...a fighter.*

In the mid-1990s, Kerry helped beat back Republican attacks on environmental safeguards that were part of their so-called "Contract With America." More recently, he has doggedly fought the Bush administration's plans to weaken the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts, drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and gut the Superfund.

"There is not one proactive, genuinely thoughtful, positive policy that you can point to that George Bush and his administration are advocating," Kerry told Grist magazine. "They have their Healthy Forests thing; it's a fraud. Clear Skies; it's a fraud. It's all very Orwellian--remember in 1984 where war is peace? That's the Bush environmental policy."

*...an embracer of innovation.*

In June, 48 Nobel Prize-winning scientists publicly endorsed Kerry, saying he will

bring science "back into the White House." Indeed, Kerry knows that his goal of decreasing reliance on fossil fuels will require a serious technological push. He points to California, which already gets 10.3 percent of its energy from non-hydroelectric alternative sources--including wind, solar, geothermal, and biomass--as an example of how the country could achieve his plan for 20 percent renewable energy by 2020. (The national average is a pathetic 1.8 percent.) Kerry has also praised California's "smart laws on clean water, clean air, energy-efficient appliances, [and] offshore drilling," saying that environmentally, the state has "shown the way to what America can and should become."

*...consistent.*

Between 1985 and 2002, Kerry's votes in the Senate earned him a 96 percent rating from the League of Conservation Voters, light-years ahead of the 20 percent averaged by Senate Republicans during the same period. It was also a higher lifetime score than that of any of his opponents in the primary (yes, even Dennis Kucinich's). In nine of those years, Kerry voted pro-environment 100 percent of the time.

**Jennifer Hattam**  
Sierra's Associate Editor

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# Sierra Club Outings

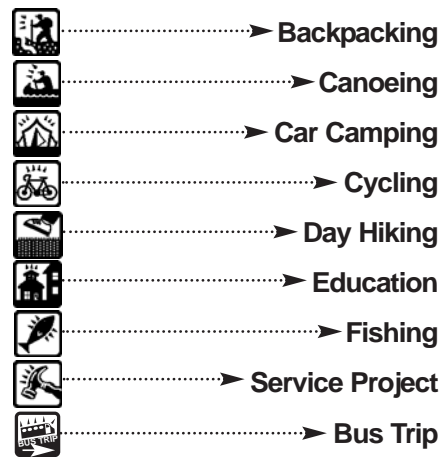
www.dallassierraclub.org



The Compass

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OCTOBER 2004



## HOW THE OUTING PROGRAM WORKS:

Dallas Sierra Club outings are open to members and non-members alike. Some trips may require special qualifications and capabilities. The leaders of each 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 trip. 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 on all outings. Pets are not allowed unless specifically stated. All outings officially begin at the trailhead. Leaders cannot assign car pools, but may help coordinate ride sharing for energy conservation and to promote fellowship. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. Carpooling is SOLELY voluntary, but the costs should be 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. 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 of 12 hikers or 12 canoes/kayaks. 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 there are any questions or problems, or you are interested in becoming a leader, contact either the Outings Chair or the appropriate Activity Coordinator listed in the newsletter. In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver.

**OCT 1 (FRI) DEADLINE** for submission of outings to be listed in the October Outings List and November Newsletter.

Contact **Mick Nolen**,  
972-991-9351,  
[mick@DallasSierraClub.org](mailto:mick@DallasSierraClub.org)



## OCT 2-3 (SAT-SUN) FAMILY CARCAMP WICHITA MOUNTAINS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.

Come and enjoy dayhiking and carcamping at this great destination in Southwestern Oklahoma. Located 25 miles North of Lawton, the refuge is home to wonderful trails as well as fantastic wildlife. For more info <http://southwest.fws.gov/refuges/oklahoma/Wichita> There will be a limit on group size so sign up soon.

**Leaders:**  
**Mick and Sarah Nolen**,  
972-991-9351,  
[mick@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:mick@dallassierraclub.org)



## OCT 2-3 (SAT-SUN) BEGINNER BACKPACKING TRIP on the FOUR C NATIONAL RECREATION TRAIL.

This easy trail in the Davy Crockett National Forest in East Texas is perfect for beginners. We hike about 10 miles total on an easy, level trail that is only about 170 miles from Dallas.

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



**OCT 9 (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) or  
[cnash@dallasisd.org](mailto:cnash@dallasisd.org)



## OCTOBER 9-10 (SAT-SUN) BEGINNER BACKPACK IN McGEE CREEK, OKLAHOMA.

This will be an easy hike into a nice area. Here is your chance to check out the legs and all that new gear. McGee is close enough that we can leave Saturday morning for the drive to the trailhead. We will hike in about 3 miles to camp, then do some day hiking. Sunday morning will feature another easy dayhike, then we will take a different trail back out to our cars.

**Leader: Bill Greer**  
972-964-1781 (h)  
[wbgreer@worldnet.att.net](mailto:wbgreer@worldnet.att.net)



## OCT 9-10 (SAT-SUN) WALK THE OUCHITA, SEGMENT 1

Get in on the beginning! This first section of the Ouachita National Recreation Trail, from Talimena State Park to Deadman's Gap, is an easy 8 miles through a rolling forested area in the Kiamichi Mountains of eastern Oklahoma. Drive up Friday night and camp in the state park; be home on Sunday in time for a late dinner. The short distance and lack of steep uphill make this a suitable trip for beginning backpackers, but even seasoned hikers will enjoy the views. We will learn about the history of the Ouachita and this region of eastern Oklahoma as we enjoy this first outing in the 20 part Walk the Ouachita series.  
**Trip leaders: Cari Henkin**,  
[chenkin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chenkin@sbcglobal.net),  
214 826-5461,  
and **Paul Huston**.



## OCT 16-17 (SAT-SUN) BEGINNER BACKPACK TRIP on the

## DAVID L. BOREN TRAIL.

We will hike about 6 miles total on this beautiful trail in Beavers Bend State Park in southeastern Oklahoma. This trail is hilly, so it is a bit harder than you might expect. This is a great trail to start with if you have never hiked in Oklahoma or Arkansas.

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



## OCT 17 (Sun) DAYHIKE AT ARBOR HILLS NATURE PRESERVE.

Meet at 9:00AM near the pavilions. Arbor Hills is located at 6701 W. Parker Rd. in Plano just west of Midway Rd. We will walk 4 to 6 miles mainly on a paved path and some on a dirt trail. No reservations, just show up. Optional Starbucks afterwards.

**Leaders: Laura Kimberly**  
972-307-8364 (H) and  
**Judy Cato**  
972-238-5738 (H)

## OCT 19 (TUE) and OCT 21 (THU) WILDERNESS NAVIGATION CLASS.

Learn the fundamentals of finding your way in the wilderness in this two evening class. Among the subjects covered are: purchasing maps, how to read maps, how not to get lost, what to do if you do get lost, GPS, different kinds of compasses, and how to use your compass. If you have a compass, bring it to the class. If you don't have one, we will show you what to look for when you purchase one. The class will be held at REI (second floor program room). REI is at 4515 LBJ Freeway, north side, between Midway and Welch. This two-night class will start promptly at 6:30 PM and will finish at about 8:45 PM. Also included is an optional weekend backpacking trip to the Caney Creek Wilderness in Arkansas. This trip will give you an opportunity

to practice your new navigation and map reading skills. The fee for the class is \$15 for Sierra Club members and \$20 for non-members. No reservations are necessary; just show up. For additional information, please contact:

**Arthur Kuehne at 214-902-9260, arthur@akuehne.com or Bill Greer 972-964-1781(H) or wbgreer@worldnet.att.net**

**OCT 20 (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 local outings and bus trips. All outings leaders, future outings leaders, and interested Sierrans welcome. **Contact Mick Nolen 972-991-9351(H) or mick@dallassierraclub.org for details.**



**OCT 23-24 (SAT-SUN) WALK THE OUACHITA, SEGMENTS 3, 4, & 5.** This trip includes 14.6 miles from Horsethief Springs Trailhead to Pashubbe Trailhead. Drive up Friday night (can stay at Winding Stair Campground on Scenic Hwy 1). Saturday's hike is 10.6 miles to Big Cedar Creek. Then 4 miles on Sunday before driving home. The first 4 miles on Saturday are almost flat; about 65% of remainder is downhill. Great views and plenty of water. One of the Ouachita Trail's "most outstanding" hikes. Rated: Moderate (for distance).

**Leader: Jerry Lewis, 972-542-5449, jc.lewis@comcast.net.**



**OCT 29-31 (FRI-SUN) Backpack in Lost Maples State Natural Area.** The park is an outstanding example of Edwards Plateau flora and fauna. It is a combination of

steep, rugged limestone canyons, springs, plateau grasslands, wooded slopes, and clear streams. We will backpack in 2 miles, set up camp and day hike Friday afternoon and Saturday. The Saturday hike is a 7-mile loop trail through the park. The park is located 250 miles from Ft. Worth - 5 miles north of Vanderpool, TX and takes about 4-5 hours each way.

**Contact Wendy Lambert at 817-251-0016 or wlambert@concrete-pipe.org to sign up.**



**OCT 30-31 (SAT-SUN) BEGINNER BACKPACK TRIP IN THE CANEY CREEK WILDERNESS IN WEST-CENTRAL ARKANSAS.** This trip covers about 5 relatively flat and easy miles each day, in a beautiful beech-oak-hickory forest along Caney Creek. The trip is timed for the beginning of fall colors. We will camp close to the creek, and dayhike up to a waterfall. Sign-up preference given to attendees of Sierra Club Beginner Backpack Class; others will be considered in order of sign-up date after the class.

**Leaders: Laura Kimberly (sign-up contact) and Kent Trulsson (972-307-8364), email: lkimberly@comcast.net.**

**NOV 5 (FRI) DEADLINE** for submission of outings to be listed in the November Outings List and December Newsletter. **Contact Mick Nolen, 972-991-9351, mick@DallasSierraClub.org**



**NOV 6-7 (SAT-SUN) DAYHIKING ON THE ATHENS-BIG-FORK TRAIL, AR.** We won't carry a heavy pack but expect strenuous dayhiking since the trail runs north-south and the mountains go east to west! In addition to some steep climbs this trail features some of the nicest views you'll find in Arkansas. We'll do a different

section each day, probably about 6 to 8 miles each. This trail is a few miles east of Caney Creek Wilderness. We'll car camp at a public campground.

**Leader: Bill Greer 972-964-1781 (H), email: wbgreer@worldnet.att.net**



**NOV 13-14 (SAT-SUN) BEGINNERS EXPLORATORY BACKPACK AT MCGEE CREEK.** Come and check out this very nice natural scenic recreation area just two hours north of Dallas. It features thick woods with scenic bluffs, and interesting trails going down to the lake. We'll backpack over mostly familiar trails, then do day hikes to see if we can track down some others. Drive up Friday night and stay at the state park, or leave home early Saturday morning and meet us at the trail head.

**Mike Rawlins, 972-783-0962, mike@rawlinsecconsulting.com**



**NOV 13-14(SAT-SUN) BEGINNING BACKPACKING TRIP ON THE OUACHITA TRAIL IN ARKANSAS.** This easy-rated hike begins at the Arkansas State Line progressing to Queen Wilhelmina State Park and ends at Hwy 270. Total distance is 10 miles. The first day is flat with the opportunity to learn about Wizard trees and maybe spot a woodcock. The second day begins with a stop at Lover's Leap and is downhill about 1000 feet for the day. The trees should be beautiful this time of year. Since we will be close to Queen Wilhelmina Lodge, we will be able to stay there on Friday night prior to the trip and/or have a meal there on Saturday night or Sunday morning. This is section 7 and 8 of the Walk The Ouachita. **Leader: David Van Winkle, davidvw@dallassierraclub.org or 972-562-7174.**

## SIERRA CLUB

### SINGLES

**Oct. 2, (Sat) - RIVER LEGACY PARK HIKE - EAST.** Let's hike the newly-opened trail in N. Arlington. We'll walk 5 miles on a paved trail along the Trinity River bottom forest and open areas east of River Legacy Park. The river and wildlife (birds, turtles and more) are more visible on this section than along the west trails of River Legacy Park. Bring water and sunscreen. Optional restaurant lunch afterwards. **Directions:** From I-30 in Arlington, exit Collins and take Collins north to the northeast corner of Collins and Green Oaks. Meet at 10:00 a.m. on the sidewalk outside Al's Hamburgers, 1001 N.E. Green Oaks Blvd. From there, we'll walk the short distance to the trail. **Leader: Jeneanne Carson (817) 860-1870 or email jcars@flash.net** No reservations needed-just show up.

**OCT 14, (Thurs) - ALMOST FRIDAY HIKE.** Unwind with us after work and celebrate it's almost Friday! Join us for a 1 hour moderately-paced walk along the Trinity River and an optional restaurant stop afterwards. Bring water. Meet at 6:30 p.m. by the parking lot beside the Hoffbrau Steak House on University, less than a mile south of I-30 in Fort Worth. **Leader: Jeneanne Carson (817) 860-1870 or email jcars@flash.net.** No reservations needed-just show up.

**OCT 23, (Sat) - VETERAN'S PARK HIKE.** Enjoy a hidden treasure in W. Arlington at Veteran's Park. We'll walk on the paved trail, then hike along the dirt trails of the south natural area that has slight hills and a creek, finishing up on the trails in the xeriscape/wildscape area-about 4 miles. Bring water and sunscreen. Optional lunch at local restaurant afterwards. **Directions:** From I-20 in Arlington, exit Green Oaks. Take Green Oaks north to Arkansas, then turn right on Arkansas. (Park is located at Arkansas and Spanish Trail.) Turn right on Spanish Trail and park in the first lot on the right. Meet at 10:00 a.m. by the bench at the pond. **Leader: Jeneanne Carson (817) 860-1870 or email jcars@flash.net** No reservations needed-just show up.

See you next month!



## Failures at Ground Zero Put Nation at Risk

Sierra Club Urges Bush to Fix Emergency Plans As House Investigates Health Effects of 9/11

In September, just days before the anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy, the Sierra Club's Washington DC office released its findings regarding the Administration's reckless handling of toxic air exposures at Ground Zero to a U.S. House of Representatives hearing examining 9/11's health effects. The Sierra Club pointed to the risks the Bush administration has taken as it turns its failures at Ground Zero into policy for handling future emergencies nationwide.

A recently released Sierra Club report extensively documents how the Bush administration's reckless disregard of 9/11 toxic hazards at Ground Zero poses long-term threats to rescue and cleanup workers, as well as bystanders present in the possible event of another attack on the nation.

The Sierra Club's recent report, "Pollution and Deception at Ground Zero," was submitted into the official record during a House Government Reform Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations hearing. The hearing was held to examine the status of efforts to assess the health effects from the 9/11 attack and the programs in place for monitoring public health and providing assistance to victims.

"While the Bush administration has been invoking the heroes of 9/11, they continually fail to mention how they literally left many of those heroes in the dust -- to deal with toxic pollution and chronic health problems. And now the Bush administration wants to turn those mistakes into policy, putting future heroes at risk," said Carl Pope, Executive Director of the Sierra Club.

It has been documented that people at Ground Zero were exposed to asbestos, which was contained in at least thirty floors of one of the towers, as well as numerous other toxic elements. Despite recommendations from the region's EPA office to the Bush Administration to bring in state-of-the-art equipment and additional personnel to help measure possible toxic air exposure levels within 48 hours of the incident, government officials denied the help which could have more fully determined the potential health risks and offered preventative measures to protect those rendering aid at the site.

Picking up where the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Inspector General's report left off, "Pollution and Deception at Ground Zero" takes the most comprehensive look at well-known, and little-known, health impacts of the attacks of 9/11 and, most importantly, how the Bush administration's mistakes in the aftermath are in danger of being institutionalized as policy for the handling of any future attacks on Americans.

"The heroes who gave of themselves so willingly in the aftermath of 9/11 have been given so little in return from the federal government," said Rep. Carolyn Maloney (NY-14) at the report's release. "Many are suffering from severe health problems, but this report shows the lack of a coordinated federal response. They deserve more than limited health monitoring and no medical treatment - they deserve more than just token concern. The 'Remember 9/11 Health Act' I introduced will help remedy the shortcomings outlined in this report."

"The Bush administration has learned nothing from the illnesses and hardships suffered by the Ground Zero community. Rather, it

plans to perpetuate them in any future national disaster anywhere else in the United States," said Sierra Club New York City Executive Suzanne Mattei, author of the report. "The Bush Administration must restore trust in federal agencies charged with protecting health and safety, and take action to mitigate the consequences of its own failure to provide proper warning about the health hazards from Ground Zero."

The report finds that, most disturbingly, the Bush administration apparently plans to turn its missteps at Ground Zero into standard policy for any future national emergency with new emergency planning documents and weaker cleanup standards.

Among those missteps:

- \* The Bush administration knew the health risks and ignored its own long-standing body of knowledge about the harmful products of incineration and demolition. It should have issued a health warning immediately on that basis.
- \* EPA failed to find toxic hazards because it did not look for them, or did not look for them properly. And EPA failed at least a dozen times to change its safety assurances as new information arose -- even after it became clear that people were getting sick.
- \* Many workers at and near Ground Zero did not have proper health and safety protections. And the Bush administration refused to enforce worker safety requirements at Ground Zero.
- \* Both EPA and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assured families they could clean up contaminated

dust themselves with wet rags and discouraged them from wearing safety masks. The people affected by Ground Zero pollution include not only those who worked directly on "the pile", but also workers who restored cable and electricity, fixed windows in area buildings, cleaned up debris in the streets and buildings, as well as residents, employees, schoolchildren and business owners.

The Sierra Club report calls on President Bush to:

- \* Abandon plans to eliminate enforcement of federal safety standards for response workers and institutionalize political control of communications without providing strong policies to prevent false assurances of safety.
- \* Take action now to prevent more harm by properly cleaning up WTC dust in residences, businesses, firehouses and emergency vehicles and equipment.
- \* Fund long-term medical monitoring, treatment and assistance.
- \* Issue a retraction of false safety assurances and hold those responsible accountable.
- \* Work with Ground Zero-affected communities, labor unions, and environmental health advocacy groups to develop effective national policies and practices that promote truthfulness in the communication of health hazards and effective response actions.

The full report, as well as executive summary, is available online at: [www.sierraclub.org/groundzero](http://www.sierraclub.org/groundzero)

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**"Young Peoples Traveling Reptile Show"**

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**Profile:** John Kerry**Born:** December 11, 1943; Denver CO**Education:** Yale University, A.B. 1966; Boston College, LL.B 1976**Family:** Wife, Teresa Heinz; children from a previous marriage and 3 stepchildren**Website:** www.johnkerry.com**Political Experience:** Lieutenant Governor, 1982-84**Professional Experience:** Attorney, 1981-82; Assistant District Attorney, Middlesex County, 1976-81; Organizer, Vietnam Veterans Against the War**Military Experience:** Naval Reserve, 1972-78; Navy, 1966-70 (Vietnam)

Senator Kerry, currently serving his fourth term in office as Massachusetts junior Senator, was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 1984. Formerly a Massachusetts county prosecutor and Lt. Governor, Kerry is a decorated Vietnam War veteran, having received the Silver Star, a Bronze Star with Combat V medal and three awards of the Purple Heart. He touts an excellent environmental record and is outspoken on the issues of campaign finance reform and energy security.

**Environmental Record:**

Kerry's environmental record is excellent. In 1970, he worked to organize Massachusetts' first Earth Day. As Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts he was active in efforts to curb the threat of acid rain to the Northeast. Senator Kerry served as official U.S. delegate to the Earth Summit in 1992, the Kyoto climate talks in 1997 and the Hague climate talks in 2000. He advocated for the U.S. to take the lead in the international effort to cut global warming pollution, reverse ozone depletion, protect tropical forests, preserve biological diversity and press for sustainable development around the world.

**Clean Air and Water:**

Kerry advocates strict enforcement of the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and other environmental laws. In 2003, he voted to counter Administration attempts to weaken the Clean Air Act through increases in the level of pollution aging power plants are allowed to emit (S20030012). During debate of the 2003 energy bill, he opposed attempts to allow garbage incineration to be defined as a renewable energy source, a process that emits large quantities of lead, mercury, and other toxic air and groundwater pollutants (S20020084). He is a co-sponsor of the Clean Power Act, designed to require utilities to control multiple pollutants - carbon dioxide, mercury, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides. In 2002, Kerry opposed attempts to delay the regulation of hydraulic fracturing, a damaging new form of oil and gas drilling that poses a serious pollution threat to surrounding ground and surface water supplies (S20020043). Kerry also voted in 2003 to eliminate subsidies for large-scale factory farms that pollute ground and surface water and voted in support of a water conservation amendment to the farm bill (S20020015, S20020024).

In 1999, Kerry opposed an anti-environmental rider to the 2000 Omnibus Appropriations bill that exempted coal-mining operations from the Clean Water Act and the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act. He voted in 1995 to protect Environmental Protection Agency rules that safeguard drinking water rules from S. 343, an anti-

environmental bill that attempted to undermine a number of federal agency regulations. In 1987 Kerry voted against an anti-environmental amendment to reduce Clean Water Act enforcement funding. In 1990, Kerry co-authored an amendment to strengthen Clean Air Act enforcement and protect the right of citizens to sue when regulations are inadequately enforced. In 1994, he voted in support of an anti-environmental amendment to the Safe Drinking Water Act requiring cumbersome cost benefit analysis.

**Energy and Global Warming:**

Kerry advocates a national initiative to achieve American energy independence within 10 years through increases in fuel economy, improved efficiency standards, and the development of clean, renewable energy. In his Earth Day Speech presented on February 9, 2003, at the John F. Kennedy Library in Cambridge, Massachusetts he stated, "We can create a market for clean, domestic, reliable energy with a national standard for renewable power in the electricity sector. I believe we should set a national goal of having 20% of our electricity come from domestic alternative and renewable sources by the year 2020. I think it's a vision worthy of America; a goal I believe our citizens are ready to embrace. We can reform the tax code to end the federal largess given to polluting fuels and invest instead in the technologies that will make our homes and businesses and transportation more efficient and bring renewable energy to market. We can cut our dependence on foreign oil by building more efficient cars and SUVs and creating a national market for the bio-fuels grown on farms across the nation."

During debate of the energy bill in 2002, he co-authored a compromise to increase the fuel economy of cars and light-trucks to 36 miles per gallon by 2015, a move that would save 2 million barrels of oil per day by 2020 (S20020047). During that debate he also voted in support of an effort to reduce the oil consumption of cars and light-trucks without setting a specific fuel economy standard and against an anti-environmental measure to exempt light trucks from meeting future increases in fuel economy standards. Kerry voted in support of efforts to increase energy efficiency standards for electrical appliances as well as a measure to require 20% renewable energy production by 2020 (S20020089, S20020050). He also supported a later attempt to include a renewable energy standard of 10% and opposed a measure to undermine the development of clean, renewable energy by potentially allowing garbage incineration to be defined as a renewable energy source (S20020058, S20020084). He also supported attempts to remove from the energy bill an unnecessary liability exemption for untested and potentially harmful renewable fuels (S20020087). In 1994 and 1999 Kerry voted in support of efforts to increase funding for renewable energy programs in the respective year's Energy and Water appropriations bills. In 1990, Kerry voted in support of considering a bill to improve fuel economy standards and reduce carbon dioxide emissions that cause global warming.

**Public Lands Protection and Wildlife:**

Kerry is a leader in protecting America's public lands. He consistently voted to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from damaging oil and gas drilling and led important filibuster efforts to

keep drilling out of the 2002 energy bill (S20020071, S20000058). In 2002 he voted against an energy bill amendment to significantly weaken environmental requirements for endangered salmon, other fish species, and federal lands during damn re-licensing (S20020081). In 1995, 1996, and 2001, Kerry voted in support of Endangered Species Act protections and enforcement. He voted against efforts to open America's National Monuments and off-shore coastal areas to damaging oil and gas drilling in 1989, 1992, and 2001.

In 2000, Kerry supported an amendment to the Agriculture appropriations bill to increase protections for public lands from the toxic pollution that results from mining operations (S20000224). Kerry also voted to reduce harmful subsidies for commercial logging, to reduce overgrazing on public lands, and against weakening public lands protections in 1992, 1993, 1996, 1998, 2000, and 2001.

His anti-environmental votes include a 1986 vote in support of a 10-mile stretch of highway bordering a wilderness area in Hawaii.

**Nuclear Waste and Power Production:**

Kerry opposes the creation of a nuclear waste depository at Yucca Mountain in Nevada and voted in 2002 against site approval (S200020167). Kerry also voted in 2000 against a measure that would have allowed the shipment of some nuclear waste to the site prior to its completion for interim storage (S20000008). He voted in 1993, 1994, 1996 and 2002 against unfair and unnecessary taxpayer subsidies for the nuclear power industry that would have encouraged the construction of new nuclear plants and the production of more nuclear waste (S200020042). In 1992 Kerry supported efforts to improve nuclear safety programs by creating an independent Nuclear Safety Investigations Board.

**Administrative Nominations:**

Kerry has consistently opposed the nomination of anti-environmental candidates for judicial and federal agency appointments. He opposed the 2002 nomination of Miguel Estrada to the DC Circuit Court of Appeals, the 2001 nomination of John Graham to head the Information and Regulatory Affairs Office in the Office of Management and Budget, and the 2001 nomination of Gale Norton as Secretary of the Interior.

**International Trade:**

In 2002 Kerry offered an unsuccessful amendment to include environmental and worker safety protections in "fast track" trade legislation. Despite the fact that the amendment was defeated and not included in the fast-track bill, he then voted in support of the overall legislation. In 2003, he voted for trade agreements with Chile and Singapore that gave special rights to foreign corporations, potentially undermining environmental protections, and laying the groundwork for an expansion of such provisions in future trade agreements.

**Family Planning:**

He consistently supports international family planning, voting six times in favor of funding between 1991 and 2003.