

Austin Water – Center for Environmental Research



Austin Water – The University of Texas – Texas A&M University
A Partnership for Urban Ecology and Sustainability: Community,
Ecology, Research



located at the Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plant
2210 South FM 973, Austin, Texas 78725
Website: <http://www.austintexas.gov/cer>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/austinwatercer>

CER Events August 2024

Aug 3

Saturday 8am meet at the Center for Environmental Research

- **Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership Monthly River Monitoring Trip**
- The river trip is for monitoring birds, bugs, fish, and human impacts for the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership. Each trip covers a different stretch of the river between Austin and Bastrop ranging from 5 – 10 miles.
- Meet at the CER parking lot at 8:00AM. To participate you **MUST** provide your own boat.
- More about the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership at the CER website Research, Programs, Partnerships page <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/research-projects-partnerships-and-programs>
- Check out the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership Facebook Page for updates and photos from the river monitoring trips www.facebook.com/austinbastroprivercorridor

Aug 6

Tuesday 1230pm to 2pm at University of Texas

- **Location - Peter O'Donnell Building (POB) Room 2.302**
<https://utdirect.utexas.edu/apps/campus/buildings/nlogon/maps/UTM/POB/>
- 2024 Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lectures Series Topic – ***Nature and the American Mind: The Wild, The Pastoral, The Urban, The New***
- Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lectures by Kevin M. Anderson
- **August CER Lunchtime Lecture – *American Environmental Science: Carson and the Politics of Nature***
- In 1864, George Perkins Marsh published the great book, Man and Nature, or, Physical Geography as Modified by Human Action. Marsh put forward the idea that human activity could, and did, significantly alter the appearance and productivity of the landscape, and even the climate of our planet, mostly through the unintended consequences of our actions. Marsh declared, "Man is everywhere a disturbing agent. Wherever he plants his foot, the harmonies of nature are turned to discord." In doing so, he set the stage for the emergence of new science of nature, environmental science. Environmental science is a multidisciplinary academic field that integrates physical, biological and information sciences to the study of the environment and the solution of environmental problems. Its central questions are

“How does the environment work?” and “How do we mitigate human impacts?” rather than ecology’s question, “How does nature work?” This new integrated science emerged in the 1950s and 1960s spurred in part by the publication of Rachel Carson’s great book, *Silent Spring*. Carson was a respected oceanographer and author of award winning books about nature and sea, but she is most remembered for her “environmental” book. For with it, a scientist explained the unintended consequences of pesticide use and put science in the position of understanding and helping to reverse these consequences. This lecture will trace the development of environmental science from Marsh through Carson and to the present and examine the relationship between environmental science and the ideas of American nature

Aug 7

Wednesday 10am – Noon in Smithville

- **Location: Smithville City Hall in Council Chambers (317 Main St)**
- **Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership Bimonthly Meeting** – Open to anyone interested in the Colorado River – a stakeholder partnership about the past, present and future of the river corridor between Austin and Smithville.
- **Presentation: *Bald Eagle Reproduction in the River Corridor***
 - Charles Smith, Retired - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Other updates on birds along the river corridor and biological monitoring
- More about the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership at the CER website Research, Programs, Partnerships page <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/research-projects-partnerships-and-programs>
- Check out the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership Facebook Page for updates about the river corridor www.facebook.com/austinbastroprivercorridor

Aug 8

Thursday NOON to 1pm at PARD Senior Activity Center

- **Location: Lamar+29th St at 2874 Shoal Crest Ave**
- 2024 Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lectures Series Topic – ***Nature and the American Mind: The Wild, The Pastoral, The Urban, The New***
- Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lectures by Kevin M. Anderson
- **August CER Lunchtime Lecture – *American Environmental Science: Carson and the Politics of Nature***

Aug 10

Saturday 7am-1130am meet at the Center for Environmental Research

- **Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory Program Monthly Bird Survey**
- The HBBO Bird Survey is a citizen science effort to monitor bird species at the Hornsby Bend site. This is not a field trip. Advanced and intermediate birders are welcomed to participate. Beginning at 7am, we have teams covering different areas of the Hornsby Bend site, and they count numbers of all birds seen. It is a full morning of hiking and counting, but lots of fun along the way. We meet again at 1130am to tally up the species. More information about the CER HBBO program at www.hornsbybend.org and www.facebook.com/hornsbybend

Aug 13

Tuesday NOON to 1pm at the Center for Environmental Research – Hornsby Bend

- 2024 Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lectures Series Topic – ***Nature and the American Mind: The Wild, The Pastoral, The Urban, The New***
- Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lectures by Kevin M. Anderson

- **August CER Lunchtime Lecture – *American Environmental Science: Carson and the Politics of Nature***

Aug 17

Saturday 730am – 11am at the CER

- **HBBO/Travis Audubon Society - Hornsby Bend Monthly Birdwatching Fieldtrip – FREE!**
- Meet at the CER 730am, no registration needed – all levels of birder welcomed, an easy morning of walking and learning the birds of Hornsby Bend. Bring binoculars and some water if the weather is warm. More information at www.travisaudubon.org and www.hornsbybend.org

Aug 31

Saturday 9am – 1pm at the CER

- **Ecological Literacy Volunteer Day** – Help maintain Hornsby Bend! Did you know that all the Hornsby Bend trails, habitat gardens, and kiosks were built and are maintained by volunteers? If you enjoy birding or walking along the Colorado River here, please join us in maintaining these amenities and supporting public access at Hornsby Bend.
- Wear work clothes [long pants], hat for shade, and sturdy shoes; bring water and binoculars if interested in birds