

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>



CER Events July 2014

July 5

Saturday 8am meet at the CER

- **Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership - River Monitoring Trip**
- Join Claude Morris and the Travis County Colorado River Monitoring trip for a day on the river monitoring birds and more, and help the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership learn more about the ecology of the Colorado River. 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>
- Meet at the CER parking lot at 8:00AM
- A river trip to monitor birds and vegetation along the river and you MUST provide your own boat
- Contact Claude Morris at cgmorris@flash.net to participate

July 8

Tuesday NOON to 1pm at Waller Center, 625 East 10th Street [Between Red River and I-35]

- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
- 2014 Lunchtime Lecture theme – Nature and the American Mind
- June Lunchtime Lecture: **Ecology, Ecosystem Services, and the Balance of Nature**
- Charles Elton asserted in his book *Animal Ecology* (1927) that ‘the balance of nature does not exist, and perhaps has never existed’. In contrast, American ecologist Eugene Odum saw a balance of nature as the true dynamic of ecology where stability and equilibrium are the norm but for the meddling of the lumbering oafs – humans. Odum’s belief has been thoroughly debunked in scientific ecology but persists in American environmentalism, conservation, and popular culture where humans are viewed as the great disruptors and degraders of nature. An alternative perspective that has emerged from contemporary ecology is that humans are dependent on the Earth’s ecology for the ecosystem services it provides. Join me this month as I try to sort out this tangled story of American ecology and the Balance of Nature.

July 9

Wednesday – NOON to 1pm at Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Road

- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
- 2014 Lunchtime Lecture theme – Nature and the American Mind
- June Lunchtime Lecture: **Ecology, Ecosystem Services, and the Balance of Nature**

July 12

Saturday 7am-11am and 4pm to dark meet at the CER

- **Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory Program Monthly Bird Survey**
- The HBBO Bird Survey is open to all levels of birder interested in intensive monitoring, although this is not a field trip. In the morning, we have teams covering different areas of the Hornsby Bend facility, and they count numbers of all birds seen. It is 4 hours of hiking and counting, but lots of fun along the way. We meet again around 11am to tally up the species. The afternoon involves looking around for species missed that morning, and we go until sundown. More information about the CER HBBO program at www.hornsbybend.org

July 16

Wednesday - NOON to 1pm at Austin City Hall, Boards and Commissions Room 1st Floor

- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
- 2014 Lunchtime Lecture theme – Nature and the American Mind
- June Lunchtime Lecture: **Ecology, Ecosystem Services, and the Balance of Nature**
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July 19

Saturday – 730am – 11am at the CER

- **HBBO/Travis Audubon Society - Hornsby Bend Monthly Birding 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

July 26

Saturday 9am – 1pm at the CER

- **Ecological Literacy Volunteer Day and Potluck Learning** – 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.
 - **NOON POTLUCK LUNCH AND More ECOLOGICAL LEARNING** - Bring food for our potluck lunch at NOON and learn more at a presentation on ecology during lunch.

For more information about these events contact Kevin M. Anderson [kevin.anderson@austintexas.gov]

Join our CER Facebook Page for updates on Human Events and Activities: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Austin-Water-Center-for-Environmental-Research-at-Hornsby-Bend/353742361321079>

Join our Hornsby Bend Facebook Page for updates on Hornsby Bend Nonhuman Ecology: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Hornsby-Bend/232381543511162>