

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 November 2014

Nov 1

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

Nov 8

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

Nov 12

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
- November Lunchtime Lecture: **Design With Nature: Ecological Cities and the Myth of Sustainability**
- This month we examine the management of American Nature from the perspective of urban designers, planners, and architects. Inspired by Ian McHarg, these urban design professionals suggest that we can “design with nature” to transform cities into “granite gardens” or “ecological cities” where humans and non-humans can flourish in “sustainable cities”. Designed urban nature is given spaces in the city to inhabit. Terms like “open space” and “green space” delineate gardens, parks, and preserves, with lawns and landscaping further integrate “nature” into the urban and suburban landscape. However, beyond these sanctioned spaces, unsanctioned urban nature transgresses roles and boundaries becoming “pests” and “weeds” whose “invasion” must be suppressed to restore the “balance of nature”. The resulting warlike narrative sets good nature that obeys its role in this design against bad nature which has its own cosmopolitan plan for American cities. Join us for this penultimate lecture on a journey through a year of exploring the myths of Nature and the American Mind.

Nov 13 **THURSDAY 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
- November Lunchtime Lecture: **Design With Nature: Ecological Cities and the Myth of Sustainability**
- This month we examine the management of American Nature from the perspective of urban designers, planners, and architects. Inspired by Ian McHarg, these urban design professionals suggest that we can “design with nature” to transform cities into “granite gardens” or “ecological cities” where humans and non-humans can flourish in “sustainable cities”. Designed urban nature is given spaces in the city to inhabit. Terms like “open space” and “green space” delineate gardens, parks, and preserves, with lawns and landscaping further integrate “nature” into the urban and suburban landscape. However, beyond these sanctioned spaces, unsanctioned urban nature transgresses roles and boundaries becoming “pests” and “weeds” whose “invasion” must be suppressed to restore the “balance of nature”. The resulting warlike narrative sets good nature that obeys its role in this design against bad nature which has its own cosmopolitan plan for American cities. Join us for this penultimate lecture on a journey through a year of exploring the myths of Nature and the American Mind.

Nov 15 **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

Nov 19 **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
- November Lunchtime Lecture: **Design With Nature: Ecological Cities and the Myth of Sustainability**

CANCELLED FOR NOVEMBER Ecological Literacy Volunteer Day and Potluck Learning

For more information about these events contact - Kevin M. Anderson kevin.anderson@austintexas.gov 512-972-1960

Join our CER Facebook Page for updates on Human Events and Activities: <https://www.facebook.com/austinwatercer>

Join our Hornsby Bend Facebook Page for updates on Hornsby Bend Nonhuman Ecology: <https://www.facebook.com/hornsbybend>