

# 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 October 2016

- Oct 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.
  - 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](mailto:cgmorris@flash.net) to participate
  - 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](http://www.facebook.com/austinbastroprivercorridor)
- Oct 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](http://www.hornsbybend.org)
- Oct 15**      **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](http://www.travisaudubon.org) and [www.hornsbybend.org](http://www.hornsbybend.org)
- Oct 18**      **Tuesday NOON to 1pm at the Center for Environmental Research – Hornsby Bend**
- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
  - 2016 Lunchtime Lectures – The Unity of Nature: The Creation, Discovery, and End of Nature
  - **October Lunchtime Lecture – The Great Disruptors: Environmentalism and the Idea of American Nature**
  - Inspired by Humboldt, George Perkins Marsh published *Man and Nature* in 1864. The book documents human impacts on the environment and describes humans as “everywhere a disturbing agent” for the scale and rapidity of changes to the Earth’s ecology caused by deforestation, agriculture, and industry. Although he is acknowledged by scholars as the first American “prophet of conservation” Marsh, like Humboldt, has been mostly forgotten in the story of American environmentalism where he has been long eclipsed by his contemporary, the American prophet of

preservation, John Muir. Muir, too, was deeply inspired by Humboldt and aspired to be a Humboldtian scientist, but later in his life Muir broke with Humboldt and Marsh by equating the idea of American nature with “pristine nature” and by abandoning Humboldtian science for an intoxication with wilderness. Today Humboldt and Marsh are being rediscovered and a new idea of American nature is being shaped which leans more towards Humboldtian science than Muir’s natural theology of wilderness. Join us this month as we continue to explore Humboldt’s legacy.

**Oct 19**      **Wednesday NOON to 1pm at One Texas Center (OTC) 505 Barton Springs Road and South First Street, Room 325**

- **Center for Environmental Research Luncheon Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
- 2016 Luncheon Lectures – The Unity of Nature: The Creation, Discovery, and End of Nature
- **October Luncheon Lecture – The Great Disruptors: Environmentalism and the Idea of American Nature**

**Oct 20**      **Thursday 10am – Noon at the Center for Environmental Research**

- **Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership Bimonthly Meeting** – Open to anyone interested in the Colorado River – a stakeholder partnership about the future of the river corridor in Travis County and Bastrop County.
- **Presentation – American Eels and the Colorado River** - Dr. Dean Hendrickson Curator of Ichthyology, Biodiversity Collections (Texas Natural History Collections), <https://sites.cns.utexas.edu/hendricksonlab/american-eel>
- More about the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership at the CER website Projects and Partnerships page <http://www.austintexas.gov/cer> and on Facebook [www.facebook.com/austinbastroprivercorridor](http://www.facebook.com/austinbastroprivercorridor)

**Oct 29**      **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.

**For more information about these events contact - Kevin M. Anderson [kevin.anderson@austintexas.gov](mailto:kevin.anderson@austintexas.gov)**