

# 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 January 2014

- Jan 4**      **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 or rent one from Cook's Canoes in Webberville <http://www.cookscanoes.com/>
  - Contact Claude Morris at [cgmorris@flash.net](mailto:cgmorris@flash.net) to participate
- Jan 7**      **Tuesday – NOON to 1pm** at Waller Center 625 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street [Between Red River and I-35]
- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
  - **January Presentation - Wilderness: The Myth of Pristine Nature**
  - The Classical myth of Nature tells us that nature is the primordial, pristine given that human touch transforms through our proclivity to farm and to build. This distinction between the given and the modified is the most persistent sense of the word “nature”. America was seen as a pristine wilderness by Europeans arriving in this New World – intent on subduing the wilderness and cultivating the land. However, over the last decades, this “myth of pristine nature” has been debunked by scholars and scientists, who have shown that large areas of North, Central, and South America were shaped by human activity for thousands of years. And so, I will begin this year of lectures on *Nature and the American Mind* by attempting to sort out the natural and unnatural history of the Americas.
- Jan 8**      **Wednesday – NOON to 1pm** at Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Road
- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
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Jan 11

**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 hard 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)

Jan 14

**Tuesday - NOON to 1pm** at Austin City Hall

- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
- **January Presentation - Wilderness: The Myth of Pristine Nature**
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Jan 18

**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](http://www.travisaudubon.org) and [www.hornsbybend.org](http://www.hornsbybend.org)

Jan 25

**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.
- **January Presentation – A Journey to South Africa and Namibia**
- **Andy and Julia Balinsky**
- Andy and Julia will tell the story of their six-week trip to Africa with photos of birds and other wildlife including the cheeky baboon which broke into their cabin and ravaged their English Breakfast Tea. Tea will be served for this talk.

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