

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 December 2015

- Dec 1** **Tuesday NOON to 1pm at Waller Center, 625 East 10th Street [Between Red River and I-35] Room 104**
- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
 - 2015 Lunchtime Lectures – The Geography of Rivers: The Nature and Culture of Flowing Water
 - **December Lunchtime Lecture: Goodbye to The River: A Summary**
 - Goodbye to a River is a book by John Graves, published in 1960. It is a semi-historical account of a canoe trip made by Graves during the fall of 1957 down a stretch of the Brazos River in North Central Texas. Through this year of talks about the geography of rivers, I read a bit of his book each month to remind me of the immediacy of a river to balance my more abstract accounts of cultural and scientific aspects of rivers. I will end the year with a return to the immediacy of rivers with a talk about encounters with rivers both literary and personal. The literary encounters range from Texas to the Congo, and the personal from America, to Costa Rica and Europe. Join me for a summary of the 2015 Lunchtime Lectures on the Geography of Rivers.
- Dec 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.
 - 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
 - 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
- Dec 9** **Wednesday – NOON to 1pm at Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Road**
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 - 2015 Lunchtime Lectures – The Geography of Rivers: The Nature and Culture of Flowing Water
 - **December Lunchtime Lecture: Goodbye to The River: A Summary**
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Dec 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

Dec 17

Thursday 10am – Noon at the Center for Environmental Research

- **Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership Bimonthly Meeting (Holiday version!)** – 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 – An Environmental History of the Colorado River**, Kevin M. Anderson, Austin Water Center for Environmental Research
- 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

Dec 19

Saturday All Day

- **Austin Christmas Bird Count - More information at <http://www.austincbc.com/>**
 - **CANCELLED - HBBO/Travis Audubon Society - Hornsby Bend Monthly Birding Fieldtrip**
 - The 2015 Austin CBC is scheduled for **December 19th**. If you know you'll be there, be sure to send an email to austincbc@gmail.com to confirm your participation.

Dec 19

Saturday 10am – 4pm at the CER

- **MONARCH CONSERVATION AND HABITAT RESTORATION** - Hosted by Native Prairies Association of Texas and Monarch Gateway
- Registration fee: **\$15** due at the door (includes lunch)
- **RSVP to:** Kirsti Harms at kirsti_harms@texasprairie.org, [512-296-9160](tel:512-296-9160)
- Topics include:
 - **Monarch Host Cities Partnership Project:** How grow and establish healthy milkweed colonies for monarchs - Barbara Willy, Director of Monarch Gateway
 - **Our Native Bee Pollinators:** How to protect and support our native bees, including providing bee boxes - Michael Warriner, Texas Parks & Wildlife, Wildlife Diversity Program
 - **Monarch & Pollinator Conservation:** How to include as part of a 1-d-1 Wildlife Management Exemption Plan
 - **Conservation Easements:** A panel discussion on what they are and how they can preserve pollinator habitat –
 - Melanie Pavlas: Pines & Prairies Land Trust, Executive Director
 - David Bezanson: The Nature Conservancy of Texas, Land Protection and Easement Manager
 - Pat Merkord: Native Prairies Association of Texas, Executive Director

Cancelled for the Holidays - Ecological Literacy Volunteer Day

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