ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS

Paul Robbins

Youth Climate Strike, Texas Capitol Steps, September 20, 2019

GENERAL PURPOSE

Austin Sierra Club

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Purpose: The Austin Sierra Club is the local arm of one of America's oldest and largest environmental organizations. Our mission is to explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives; and to provide cultural and natural systems equity and justice in the development of this mission.

The Austin Group of the Sierra Club is well known for immensely popular group outings to enjoy wild places, and for local environmental activism. Our current campaigns are for climate change, surface water, the Edwards Aquifer, open spaces/parks, energy, public transportation and transportation infrastucture, air quality, and anti-sprawl efforts.

Projects/Activities: Hiking, campouts, cycling, environmental conservation/service projects, social activities.

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 PM at Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto, in downtown Austin. Every month we have a unique presentation, except for the Annual Picnic on 2nd Tuesday of May at Zilker Rock Garden (details on Web site).

Volunteer Opportunities: There are active committees for everyone's interests, fun, or service: Climate Change; Outings; Conservation; Environmental Education; Singles; Fundraising; Membership.

Newsletters/Publications: *Austin Sierran* e-newsletter; monthly Lone Star Chapter newsletter; quarterly National

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Sierra Club magazine.

Dues: No dues for local group. National dues: $39/year; $15/First Time; $24 Students/limited income & seniors.

Environmental Defense Fund Austin Office

301 Congress Avenue, Suite 1300
Austin, TX 78701
Mercy Kalu-James (512) 478-5161
E-mail: mkalu@edf.org
Net: edf.org
Facebook: facebook.com/EnvDefenseFund

Purpose: Environmental Defense Fund is a leading international nonprofit organization representing more than two million members that creates transformational solutions to the most serious environmental problems. EDF links science, economics, law, and innovative private-sector partnerships.

Environmental Defense Fund's mission is to preserve the natural systems on which all life depends. Guided by science and economics, we find practical and lasting solutions to the most serious environmental problems.

We help Texans use cleaner energy, breathe cleaner air, combat global warming, protect endangered wildlife, and work to restore healthy fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico.

Newsletters/Publications: *Solutions*, quarterly.

Travis Audubon Society

3710 Cedar Street, Box 5
Austin, TX 78705
Nicole Netherton (512) 300-2473
E-Mail: info@travisaudubon.org
Net: travisaudubon.org

Purpose: Travis Audubon Society has hundreds of walks, classes, and programs annually. We also protect native habitat for birds and other wildlife. In 1952, our founders recognized the vital connection between conserving wildlife habitat and the ecological balance necessary for healthy and sustainable communities. Members enjoy many benefits and privileges, including exclusive access to our three sanctuaries, and discounts on exciting programs and classes. Join us, get involved, and find inspiration in nature. Our members also enjoy access to 10+ miles of trails on our 715-acre Baker Sanctuary.

Projects/Activities: Travis Audubon provides opportunities for group birdwatching activities, public environmental awareness education, and informed environmental action. We maintain an alert system at our Web site with information about rare bird sightings, field trips, and meetings.

Meetings: Monthly meetings, open to public, are on the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June through August, and December) at 7 PM. Consult Web site for location.

Volunteer Opportunities: Travis Audubon offers a variety of volunteer experiences. These include promoting education through group presentations, maintaining our sanctuaries, and assisting in counting of Austin-area birds.

Newsletters/Publications: Online *Signal Smoke* blog and Annual Report.

Dues: $35-$500/year.

AIR QUALITY

CLEAN AIR Force of Central Texas

P.O. Box 29295
Austin, TX 78755
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Net: cleanairforce.org
Facebook: facebook.com/CLEAN-AIR-Force-of-Central-Texas-60700478852
Twitter: twitter.com/cleanairforcetx?lang=en

Purpose: We help manage air quality improvement programs in Central Texas. We are focused on motivating citizens, businesses and governments of this region to take actions to reduce air pollution to protect public health and the health of our economy. This includes: (1) being a liaison among stakeholders; (2) coordinating air quality planning of the private sector; (3) providing a forum for public discussion; and (4) educating the public on air quality issues.

Projects/Activities:

"Clean Air Partners Program" – secures commitments from businesses and governments to voluntarily reduce their emissions by 10% or more;

"Clean School Bus Program" – secures funding to retrofit or replace older school buses with new, cleaner technologies and encourages anti-idling policies;

"Ozone Alert Program" – informs the public via e-mail, Facebook, Twitter and 512-343-SMOG on days when air pollution is unhealthy so citizens can take actions to protect themselves and reduce emissions;

"High School Public Service Announcement Contest" – encourages local students to create air quality PSAs and the winning entry runs on local TV stations.

Volunteer Opportunities: E-mail for details.

BUILDING/DESIGN

Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems

8604 FM 969
Austin, TX 78724
Gail Vittori (512) 928-4786
E-mail: center@cmpbs.org
Net: cmpbs.org

Purpose: The Center, established in 1975, is a nonprofit education, research and demonstration organization. Our mission is to enhance community resilience, health and economic vitality by integrating air, water, food, energy, and material balanced systems through protocols, prototypes and policies.

Projects/Activities: Current initiatives include: innovations and inventions addressing integrated water and energy systems, community-scale, low-carbon and healthy building systems and materials; ecoBalance planning and design; advancing policies to promote transparency, disclosure, and reporting for construction materials.

We are the fiscal sponsor of the Austin Green Awards (twitter.com/atxgreenawards) and Biomimicry Texas (facebook.com/BiomimicryTX).

The Center's free monthly Open House/tour is held on the 1st Friday of the month. Call to confirm dates and times.

Volunteer and Intern Opportunities: Architecture, planning, construction, research, landscaping, social media, office assistance. The Center offers a limited number of full-time internships.

Newsletters/Publications: Office brochure, publication list, research briefs available on request and on Web site.

U.S. Green Building Council Central Texas Region

3100 Alvin DeVane Blvd., Suite 200-B
Austin, TX 78741
Jonathan Kraatz (512) 470-9923
E-mail: CentralTexas@USGBCTexas.org
Net: usgbctexas.org/Central-Region

Purpose: The Central Texas Regional Council is the local voice of the U.S. Green Building Council, a national nonprofit organization working to promote the use of green building and sustainable land development practices. The Region represents 34 counties and promotes the adoption of LEED® building standards by producing programs and educational events, as well as serving as a key informational resource for local, regional, and state government.

Projects/Activities: We offer regular lunch n'learns, green building tours, and other programs throughout the year. We have strong alliances with related businesses and professional organizations in Central Texas and advocate with industry and governmental bodies on an ongoing basis.

Meetings: Regular regional meetings; building tours/mixers; lectures; symposiums; special events.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteer committees include: Communications; Education and Events; Advocacy; Development; Green Schools; Emerging Professionals; and Membership. Apply at usgbctexas.org/VolunteerWithUs. Internships are also available year round.

Newsletters/Publications: Regular newsletter; e-blasts promoting upcoming educational programs; special events.

Dues: For organizations, membership of USGBC National (new.usgbc.org/membership). For individuals, membership of the Texas Chapter, which includes participation at the regional level (usgbctexas.org).

EDUCATION

EcoRise Youth Innovations

1023 Springdale Rd., Bldg. 1, Ste J
Austin, TX 78721
Gina LaMotte (512) 651-3563
E-mail: info@ecorise.org
Net: ecorise.org
Facebook: facebook.com/EcoRiseYouth

Purpose: EcoRise Youth Innovations inspires a new generation of leaders to design a sustainable future for all. Our school-based program empowers youth to tackle real-world challenges in their schools and communities by teaching sustainability, design innovation, and social entrepreneurship.

Projects/Activities: In our program, K-12 students in public, private and charter schools across Texas and beyond learn eco-literacy and design skills to green their own school or invent solutions for sustainability. We emphasize the 21st century skills and technology literacy needed to be successful in college and the workforce. EcoRise also provides project funding, professional development for teachers, and green design professional contacts to act as classroom mentors – offering exposure and experience in promising career options in the fields of design and sustainable technology.

We sponsor an annual "Citywide Eco-Audit Showcase" at Austin City Hall in May.

Volunteer Opportunities: We rely on volunteer architects, green builders, scientists, and green business leaders to inspire and direct our students at special points in our program. Volunteers serve as judges for our student competition. We also welcome those who'd like to help dig, build, construct, paint, and more for school-based projects.

Austin Youthworks' Texas Conservation Corps trains young adults ages 17 to 28 through environmental service

Texas Conservation Corps

1901 E. Ben White Blvd.
Austin, TX 78741
Jody Karr: (512) 983-9946
FAX: (512) 692-0769
E-mail: jkarr@americanyouthworks.org
Net: americanyouthworks.org

Purpose: The Texas Conservation Corps (TxCC) is a green jobs training and service program at American YouthWorks that provides youth and young adults (ages 17-28) with opportunities to complete environmental service projects in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana. As an AmeriCorps program, TxCC engages local and national program participants in a crew-based structure to foster a transformative learning experience. AmeriCorps members learn conservation job skills and earn industry standard certifications while receiving a living allowance, college scholarship award, and student loan forbearance.

Projects/Activities: Conservation, Habitat Restoration, Invasives Removal, Park Improvement, Trail Building/Maintenance, Hazardous Tree Removal, Disaster Response.

Crew orientations generally occur each January and June and terms last for 6-month or 11-month sessions.

Urban Patchworks creates landscapes and playscapes that extend classrooms outdoors

Urban Patchwork – Outdoor Learning Environments

Paige Oliverio (512) 662-1854
P.O. Box 300525
Austin, TX 78703
E-mail: paige@urbanpatchwork.com
Net: urbanpatchwork.com

Purpose: Urban Patchwork's Outdoor Learning Environments and Nature Play settings connect children with nature in ways that support age appropriate child development, inspired learning, and unstructured play. We work with school leaders, teachers, parent groups, and children to reinvent school campuses and develop support materials for educators, families, and students.

Projects/Activities: In pre-schools we work with directors to develop school yard master plans and phased implementation plans for including Outdoor Learning Environments and Nature Play in the everyday activities of the children – extending the classroom outside and bringing natural settings back to the school yard.

We help with fundraising and implementation of the plans by working with parent committees and nonprofit partners.

And we offer staff and parent training to help connect educators and parents with the inspiring outdoor spaces their children experience every day.

Volunteer Opportunities: We help schools and parent committees organize volunteer events and education activities that can reduce the cost of bringing inspiring Outdoor Learning Environments to life.

ENERGY

350 Austin

510 Harris Drive
Austin, TX 78737
Martha Carleton (845) 750-3093
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Net: 350-austin.org
Facebook: 350 Austin

Purpose: 350 Austin is the local affiliate of 350.org, a grassroots, global climate movement. We are leading the way to a fossil-free Austin. Our purpose is to "act locally in the global climate movement." Our goals are: (1) keep carbon in the ground; (2) help build a new, more equitable low-carbon economy; (3) pressure governments into reducing emissions. Our fundamental principles are Climate Justice, Collaboration, and Mass Mobilization.

Projects/Activities: Three campaigns: (1) Pressuring the City of Austin to go fossil-free faster -- no gas or coal; (2) Shutting down the nearby Fayette coal plant; (3) Helping the City and other institutions divest their pension and endowment investments from fossil fuel companies

Meetings: Monthly Open Meeting every 3rd Tuesday at the First UU Church (4700 Grover), 6:50 PM. Check Web site or Facebook for changes.

Volunteer Opportunities: Divestment and fossil-fuel research; fundraising; attending public meetings to speak truth to power; social media; tablesmithing at events; Web site development; data analysis; graphics design; monitoring government and regulatory agencies; event planning; building relationships with collaborators; and outreach.

Public Citizen

309 E. 11th Street, Suite 2
Austin, TX 78701
Adrian Shelley (512) 477-1155
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Net: citizen.org/texas
Facebook: facebook.com/publiccitizentx
Twitter/Instagram: @PublicCitizenTX

Purpose: Public Citizen is a nonprofit consumer advocacy organization that champions the public interest in the halls of power. Our Texas office works for clean energy, clean environment, and clean government. Our staff advocates for progressive policies including climate action, fossil fuel retirement, clean energy adoption, public health and air pollution, chemical safety, nuclear waste policy, government ethics and reform, and voting rights. We work at the state and local levels, and on national policy in conjunction

TEXAS SOLAR ENERGY SOCIETY

www.txses.org

Promoting the wise use of sustainable and non-polluting resources

CLEAN TX FORUM

Networking for professionals interested in renewable energy and clean technology. To join our educational forums, or to be added to our e-mail list, visit:

http://cleantx.org

with our headquarters in Washington D.C.

Volunteer Opportunities: Public Citizen runs an internship program year round. Advocacy opportunities are shared with our members, our e-mail recipients, and our social media followers.

Dues: $20; see https://publiccitizen.salsalabs.org/donate/index.html.

Solar Austin

309 E. 11th Street, Suite 2
Austin, TX 78701
Kaiba White (607) 339-9854
E-Mail: info@solaraustin.org
Net: solaraustin.org
Facebook: facebook.com/solaraustin

Purpose: Solar Austin works to accelerate the transition to clean renewable energy in Central Texas to build a healthy community and a strong local economy.

Projects/Activities: We advocate for renewable energy and energy efficiency. Solar Austin was instrumental in getting aggressive solar programs and goals into Austin Energy's Strategic Plan and continues to be a bridge between citizens, the solar industry, community nonprofits, Austin Energy, Austin's City Council, and the City's Electric Utility and Resource Management Commissions to help craft a future that works for everyone.

Meetings: Solar Austin Happy Hour is the 4th Tuesday of most months from 5:30 to 8:00 PM at Scholz Garten. Happy hour starts with networking and speakers address topics that relate to solar and other clean energy solutions, including policies, programs, technologies, and the energy market.

Volunteer Opportunities: Various advocacy campaigns, happy hours, and other events.

Newsletters/Publications: The Solar Austin Listserv: e-mail solar.austin.info@gmail.com to be added.

Dues: Contributions welcomed – Solar Austin relies on your donations to run successful advocacy campaigns.

Texas Solar Energy Society

P.O. Box 1447
Austin, TX 78767-1447
Patrice 'Pete' Parsons (210) 722-7270
E-Mail: info@txses.org
Net: txses.org

Purpose: Texas Solar Energy Society (TXSES) promotes the adoption of clean, safe, locally harvested solar energy for every Texan. Local chapters are in Austin, North Texas, San Antonio, and Houston.

Projects/Activities: The TXSES Web site is often the first stop people make when considering adopting solar energy.

In June, TXSES partners with Austin Energy Green Building for the Austin Cool House Tour, showcasing the latest in sustainable residential design and construction. Solar is a component of the tour, but the first emphasis is the importance of creating structures that use less energy. The architects, designers, building professionals, and often the owners, are on hand at each project to answer questions. Austin Energy Green Building staff are also available.

In the fall, TXSES and Solar Austin partner with Bluebonnet Electric Coop for a solar home tour and installer fair. As with the Cool House Tour, we believe that people who have made a commitment to adopt solar are the best promoters of efficiency and renewable power.

Meetings: Annual meeting in January. Chapters throughout the state meet monthly or quarterly.

Volunteer Opportunities: The Austin Cool House Tour in June. You need not be a solar/energy efficiency expert, just have a ready smile.

Newsletters/Publications: *The Solar Reflector*, 3 times/year; and *Solar News of Note*, 3 times/year. Join mailing list on Web site.

Dues: Start at $25/Individual; $150-$1,000/Business.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

PODER (People Organized in Defense of Earth and Her Resources)

P.O. Box 6237
Austin, TX 78762
Susana Almanza (512) 770-7896
E-mail: poder.austin@gmail.com
Net: poder-texas.org

Purpose: To promote community empowerment and community involvement (recruitment), PODER has undertaken programs, projects, annual celebrations and workshops and/or trainings. These include the following:

1) "Transportation & Quality of Life," which advances the understanding & involvement of transportation planning & the decision-making process.

2) "Land Use & Community Health Action" (LUCHA), which addresses environmental, economic, health & cultural impacts of land use and community development.

3) "Nahui-Ollin Healthy Communities Project" works with parents & youth to address air, energy, water quality, land use, and impacts of chemicals.

4) Protection of our natural resources through the Roy Guerrero Colorado River Park, Oak Springs Preserve, & Montopolis Greenbelt Sacred Trail projects.

5) "The Young Scholars for Justice Leadership Development Program," integrating youth and young adults into all of PODER's work.

6) Annual celebrations, which include Festival de las Plantas, Cesar E. Chavez March, International Women's Month, and Earth Day.

Meetings: Call for information.

AUDIO systems
High Value Home Audio
1102 West Koenig
Austin, TX 78756
512-451-5736
www.audiosystems.com

FOOD

The Sustainable Food Center connects local farmers to local schools and school cafeterias to supply fresh produce

Austin Organic Gardeners

Mary Kraemer (512) 944-0200
E-Mail: AustinOrganicGardeners@gmail.com
Net: austinorganicgardeners.org

Purpose: 2020 will mark the 75th anniversary of Austin Organic Gardeners! Since 1945, our members have shared information about successfully raising vegetables and ornamentals without using harsh fertilizers that harm the soil and toxic pesticides that disturb the ecological balance. The club's philosophy is that human and animal health depends on the health of the soil that produces their food. Healthy soil, which is rich in organic matter, abounds with organisms that convert minerals in the soil into forms plants can use. The well-nourished plants growing in these soils are better able to defend themselves against attacks from insects, diseases, and other pests.

Projects/Activities: Monthly meetings, with guest speakers; exchange of gardening experiences and plants.

Meetings: 2nd Monday of the month, 6:30–9 PM, Zilker Garden Center, Austin. (No meeting December.)

Volunteer Opportunities: Staff organic gardening information booths at Zilker Garden Festival, the annual organic vegetable and herb transplant sale, and selected other community events. Opportunities to serve on the club board are also available.

Dues: $10/year.

Green Corn Project

P.O. Box 49468
Austin, TX 78765
Renee Studebaker (512) 769-6957
E-Mail: greencornproject@usa.net
Net: greencornproject.org

Purpose: Healthy eating can be an ongoing challenge for people who have limited income, health conditions, or physical limitations due to aging or disability. Green Corn Project (GCP) feeds Austin – one garden at a time. GCP builds organic food gardens for individuals and families across Central Texas, as well as schools and community centers. Our vision is that Central Texans have nutritious, affordable food grown in ways that conserve natural resources, promote self-reliance, and strengthen communities.

Projects/Activities: Spring and Fall Dig-Ins (garden building), seed starting workshops and Dig-in Leader Training; "Cook Globally, Grow Locally" Fall Festival at Boggy Creek Farm.

Volunteer Opportunities: Dig-in volunteers: No experience necessary. During Dig-In events held each spring and fall, volunteers work with a trained Dig-In Leader and garden recipients to build gardens. GCP provides free training for volunteers wanting to learn more about organic gardening and lead garden installations.

Newsletters/Publications: Quarterly.

Donations: Accepted by mail or on Web site.

Sustainable Food Center

2921 E. 17th Street, Building C
Austin, TX 78702
Ronda Rutledge (512) 236-0074
E-mail: info@sustainablefoodcenter.org
Net: sustainablefoodcenter.org
Facebook: facebook.com/SustainableFoodCenter

Purpose: Sustainable Food Center cultivates a healthy community by strengthening the local food system and improving access to nutritious, affordable food.

Projects/Activities: Sustainable Food Center is involved in every step of our local food system. SFC's mission is to cultivate a just and regenerative food system so people and the environment can thrive.

1) Grow – SFC's "Grow Local" program empowers children and adults to grow their own food by offering the education and resources they need to start and sustain gardens at schools, homes, and areas accessible to neighborhood residents.

2) Share – SFC's "Farm Direct" program connects local growers with schools, urban residents and worksites in demand of fresh produce through projects such as farm-to-cafeteria, farm-to-school, and farm-to-work. SFC hosts weekly farmers' markets with more local farmers than anywhere else in Austin. Our farmers' markets include SFC Farmers' Market Downtown and SFC Farmers' Market at Sunset Valley.

3) Prepare – SFC's "The Happy Kitchen/*La Cocina Alegre*®" program is a nationally recognized cooking and nutrition education program that nurtures skills in food selection and preparation.

Newsletters/Publications: Weekly SFC e-newsletter. Sign up at: food.convio.net/site/PageNavigator/ENews_Archive.htmlW

Texas Center for Local Food

408 East 8th Street
Elgin, TX 78621.
Sue Beckwith (512) 496-1244
E-Mail: AskMe@texaslocalfood.org
Net: TexasLocalFood.org
Facebook: facebook.com/texaslocalfood
Twitter: @texaslocalfood
Instagram: texaslocalfood

Purpose: Food touches everything! We believe Texans

want to eat food grown in Texas and that's healthy for our planet. We provide consultation and technical assistance to schools, communities, and organizations to help them incorporate food systems into their work, create markets for Texas-grown food and develop infrastructure to support access to it.

We are a small and scrappy organization focused on action that creates durable systems change. We'd love to have you or your organization as a member. Please contact us for rates and specific technical assistance services.

Projects/Activities: Farm-to-Kids After School Program for K-5; Local Food Resource Directory.

Volunteer Opportunities: To volunteer: (1) review our projects on our Web site; and (2) e-mail your letter of interest to AskMe@TexasLocalFood.org. We work with professors and instructors to support student credit for work on our projects.

Newsletters/Publications: Join on Web site to get our Member Newsletter.

Dues: $20 year/Supporter; $100 year/Organizations.

Texas Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (TOFGA)

P.O. Box 48
Elgin, TX 78621
(512) 656-2456
E-mail: info@tofga.org
Net: tofga.org

Purpose: TOFGA is a statewide nonprofit educational and support organization for producers, manufacturers, consumers and organic supporters.

Projects/Activities: Workshops, talks, and farm tours, as well as an annual winter conference providing organic producers (large and small) education on production, marketing, alternative crops, and production methods.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are the backbone of this organization. They staff booths, help organize and facilitate workshops and conferences, give local talks, help develop publications, and assist with fundraising.

Newsletters/Publications: *Tofga Today* (quarterly, available to members) provides information on events, activities, products, services, and general news about TOFGA happenings and the organic farming industry.

Dues: $35/Individual; $150/Business; $250/Community; $500/Star.

FUNDRAISING

EarthShare of Texas

P.O. Box 144842
Austin, TX 78714
Emma Cravey (512) 472-5518
FAX: (512) 472-4930
E-mail: estx@earthshare-texas.org
Net: earthshare-texas.org

Purpose: An umbrella fundraising organization that raises money for environmental and conservation organizations that protect public health and our air, land, water and wildlife. EarthShare of Texas represents more than 70 local, state, national, and international environmental organizations in payroll contribution plans and other corporate partnerships across Texas.

Contact us to learn how you can help start a giving program in your workplace.

Partial List of Groups: Audubon Foundation of Texas, Austin Parks Foundation, BikeTexas Education Fund, Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems, Clean Water Fund of Texas, Colorado River Alliance, Ecology Action of Texas, Hill Country Conservancy, National Wildlife Federation, Public Citizen of Texas, Save Barton Creek Association, Sierra Club Foundation, State of Texas Alliance for Recycling, Sustainable Food Center, Texas Solar Energy Society, TreeFolks, Wildflower Donor, Inc.

Volunteer Opportunities: Office assistance.

GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING

Clean Water Action

600 West 28th Street, Suite 202
Austin, TX 78705
David Foster (512) 474-2046
E-mail: dfoster@cleanwater.org
Net: cleanwateraction.org
Facebook: facebook.com/CleanWaterActionTexas

Purpose: Clean Water Action is a national organization of diverse people and groups working together for clean, safe, and affordable water, the prevention of health-threatening pollution at its source, creation of environmentally safe jobs and businesses, and empowerment of people to make democracy work.

We also work to elect pro-environment candidates at all levels of government and pass ballot initiatives that promote a more sustainable future.

Projects/Activities: At the national level, Clean Water Action is working to restore full protections to waterways under the Clean Water Act and enact strong climate protection legislation. In Texas, we are working to strengthen and enforce environmental laws, promote water conservation, curtail our dependence on polluting fossil fuels, and increase investments in energy efficiency and wind and solar power.

Clean Water Fund, a 501(c)3 whose programs complement those of Clean Water Action, holds an annual "Spring for Water" celebration with silent auction each April or May.

Volunteer Opportunities: Work on elections, participate at public hearings, and assist with office projects. Paid and unpaid internships, with college credit, are available.

Newsletters: *Clean Water Currents* newsletter, state and national versions.

Dues: Various membership levels.

Environment Texas

200 E. 30th Street
Austin, TX 78705
Luke Metzger (512) 479-0388
E-mail: luke@environmenttexas.org
Net: environmenttexas.org
Facebook: facebook.com/environmenttexas

Purpose: We all want clean air, clean water, and open spaces. But it takes independent research and tough-minded advocacy to win concrete results, especially when

powerful interests stand in the way of progress. That's the idea behind Environment Texas. We focus exclusively on protecting Texas' air, water, and open spaces. We take action at the local, state, and national levels.

Projects/Activities: Environment Texas is working to protect Texas natural areas from development, to improve enforcement of our clean air laws, and to bring more wind and solar energy to Texas.

Volunteer Opportunities: Internships and volunteer opportunities are both available.

Newsletters/Publications: *Environment Texas Report*, sent to members 3 times a year.

Dues: $25/year ($15 for first-time members).

Meetings: Meets irregularly; announced via newsletter.

Texas Campaign for the Environment

P.O. Box 42278
Austin, TX 78704
Jeffrey Jacoby (512) 326-5655
E-Mail: jeffrey@texasenvironment.org
Net: TexasEnvironment.org
Facebook: facebook.com/texasenvironment

Purpose: TCE works to empower Texans to fight pollution through sustained grassroots organizing campaigns that shift corporate and governmental policy. Our grassroots organizers speak to hundreds of thousands of Texans every year and help us move closer to our ultimate vision: a Texas free from pollution.

Projects/Activities: TCE has a full-time, year-round, door-to-door canvass that builds power and engages the public in our campaigns. Our main focus in recent years has been Zero Waste, including Austin's curbside composting program and soon-to-be implemented parks recycling initiative. We also work on campaigns to clean up polluted sites and transform the materials economy.

Each September, we host a fashion show fundraising event called the "Trash Makeover Challenge" featuring original looks made from recycled materials.

Volunteer Opportunities: We welcome student interns and are always eager for skilled volunteers that can help us in creative ways as we pressure policy-makers into doing right by our environment.

Newsletters/Publications: Annual newsletter; research reports and articles available on our Web site; regularly updated Facebook.

Dues: $15+ annually.

HEALTH

Environmental Health League of Central Texas

P.O. Box 1207
Wimberley, TX 78676
Robbie E. Lea (512) 842-1133
E-mail: rel787@outlook.com
Net: txeh.org

Purpose: 1) To provide information and support to individuals who have had chemical injuries and to those who have chemical sensitivity/intolerance; 2) To help educate the community about the impact of toxins on human health and the environment; 3) To suggest safer alternatives to toxic products.

Texans for Environmental Health

(512) 842-1133 • www.txeh.org

Offering support and information to those with chemical sensitivities.

Projects/Activities: Monthly meetings in or near Austin that provide an opportunity to share information and experiences with one another; occasional speakers on related topics. We give counseling and networking via telephone. We conduct public outreach and education at schools and community events.

Newsletters/Publications: We offer handouts and suggest books and DVDs on such topics as less toxic living guidelines, safer laundry products, environmental pest control, toxic chemicals in fragrances, and understanding and accommodating people with chemical sensitivities.

Texas Physicians for Social Responsibility

P.O. Box 163924
Austin, TX 78716
Steve McKee (512) 643-2060
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Net: texaspsr.org

Purpose: Texas PSR aims to reduce the public health risks associated with climate change, air and water pollution, environmental toxic chemicals and unhealthy food systems. We have been effective in providing expertise in support of environmental initiatives through community outreach, lectures and special events, editorials, and government agency testimony.

Projects/Activities: In addition to educating policy makers about the environmental threats and solutions to public health, the organization runs two distinct programs: 1) A course in environmental health for medical students at UT Dell Medical School; 2) Classes for low-income pregnant and parenting women that teach practical methods for reducing and eliminating children's harmful exposure to toxic chemicals in household products.

Meetings: See Web site.

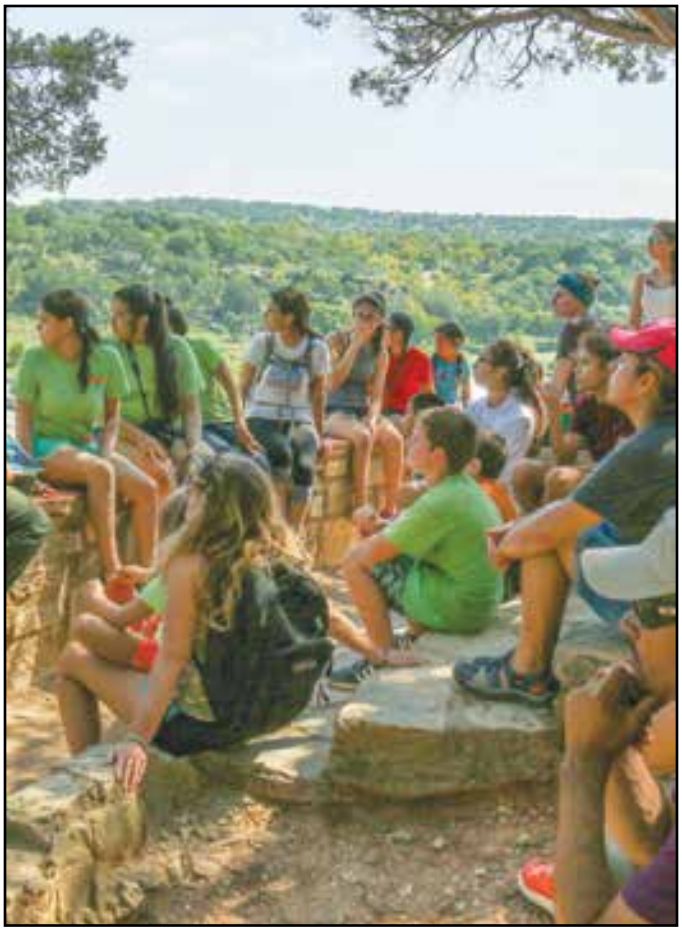
Volunteer Opportunities: Send an e-mail with your specific interests to txpsrdirector@gmail.com. Opportunities may also be posted on the Web site and Facebook page.

PARKS

Austin Parks Foundation

1023 Springdale Rd., Ste. 4B
Austin, TX 78721
(512) 477-1566
FAX: (512) 477-1586
E-mail: apf@austinparks.org
Net: austinparks.org
Facebook: facebook.com/austinparksfoundation

Purpose: Austin Parks Foundation partners with our community to enhance people's lives by making our public parks, trails and green spaces better through volunteerism, innovative programming, advocacy and financial support.



© Kuhlken Photography

Families in Nature plans activities for children of mixed ages (see p. 78)

Projects/Activities: Since 1992, Austin Parks Foundation has been committed to ensuring the future of Austin's public parks, trails and green spaces. We provide resources, programming and funding to ensure access to parks for every Austinite. We create volunteer opportunities (both large and small), activation programming and fund large capital improvement projects. APF has been at the center of promoting park development, maintenance, accessibility and improvements all over Austin for nearly 30 years

It's My Park Day – 1st Saturday of March and November; city-wide.

Party for the Parks – Wednesday before the 1st weekend of Austin City Limits Music Festival.

Volunteer Opportunities: See Web site.

Newsletters/Publications: Monthly e-newsletter; regular blog posts.

Dues: Donate on Web site.

Hill Country Conservancy

5524 Bee Caves Road, Suite G4
Austin, TX 78746
Fleetwood Jacobs (512) 328-2481
E-Mail: info@hillcountryconservancy.org
Net: hillcountryconservancy.org
Facebook: facebook.com/hillcountryconservancy

Purpose: Hill Country Conservancy (HCC) is a nonprofit land trust that works to ensure a healthy environment and economy in the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer and the Central Texas Hill Country by permanently preserving natural areas and rural Texas heritage. The Board of Directors is composed of members of the area's business, real estate, and conservation communities.

Projects/Activities: The Conservancy's goal is to permanently conserve open space in a six-county region to protect our natural resources. Since incorporation in 2000, HCC has conserved over 12,000 acres of land.

In addition, HCC created a vision in 1999 for the first regional trail system in Central Texas, now called the "Violet Crown Trail" (VCT). The trail currently stretches from Zilker Park to the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center and will eventually extend into Hays County making it the longest trail system of its kind. The VCT offers much needed access to the outdoors allowing users to experience wildlife, clean streams, and breathtaking views of land preserved by HCC and its partners.

Volunteer Opportunities: National Public Lands Day, National Trails Day, and It's my Park Day, plus regular cleanups on the Violet Crown Trail. Visit our Web site to sign up and to find out about upcoming opportunities.

Newsletters/Publications: See our Blog under "About Us" section of Web site.

PARKS AND PRESERVES

Ecology Action of Texas

Eric Paulus (512) 322-0000
E-mail: eric@ecology-action.org
Net: ecology-action.org

Purpose: Founded in 1969, Ecology Action (EA) is one of the oldest environmental groups in Austin. EA's mission is to protect, reclaim, and connect communities to neglected or damaged remnants of the urban wilderness.

Projects/Activities: EA accelerates ecosystem recovery through bioremediation, biodiversity enhancement, water quality improvements, and regenerative land stewardship. We own a 10-acre nature preserve in East Austin that we've transformed from a city landfill and illegal dump into a thriving, biodiverse sanctuary for urban wildlife.

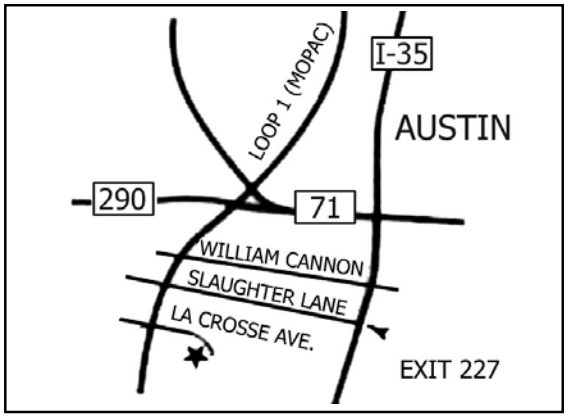
Newsletters/Publications: Ecology Action Membership E-Bulletin, annual.

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

4801 La Crosse Avenue
Austin, TX 78739
Contact (512) 232-0100
E-mail: info@wildflower.org
Net: wildflower.org

Purpose: The mission of the Wildflower Center at UT Austin is to inspire the conservation of native plants and landscapes.

Projects/Activities: The Center's gardens display the native plants of the Central Texas Hill Country, as well as South and West Texas, while the Plant Conservation Program protects the ecological heritage of Texas by conserving its rare and endangered flora. Our online *Native Plant Information Network* is a database of more than 8,000 native species visited by millions annually about native plants and vendors across North America.



The Center regularly hosts walks and talks and holds annual family nights, native plant sales (spring and fall), and other inspiring and educational activities.

Volunteer Opportunities: Numerous! Call or e-mail for more information.

Newsletters/Publications: *Wildflower*, members' magazine; brochures; online educational materials for all ages; online database (*Native Plant Information Network*).

Dues: Starting at $50/Individual; $40/Senior.

Visiting Arrangements: Open daily 9 AM – 5 PM. Free for members, children under 4, and UT faculty, staff, and students with ID. Adults are $12; youth ages 5 –17 are $6.

Paul Robbins

POLITICS

Austin Environmental Democrats (AED)

4801 Placid Place
Austin, TX 78731
Timothy Bray (512) 744-3167
E-Mail: austinenvironmentaldems@gmail.com
Net: austinenvironmentaldems.org
Facebook: facebook.com/ATXenvirodems

Purpose: Austin Environmental Democrats is committed to (1) being a leading voice for Austin Democrats on how environment, conservation, sustainability, and related issues should be addressed in Austin and Travis County; (2) working for the development of programs to improve the quality of life for all residents of Travis County; (3) providing grassroots support for the Travis County Democratic Party (TCDP) with emphasis on environmental issues and good city government; (4) endorsing candidates, amendments, and propositions that promote AED objectives; and (5) informing the membership about current issues.

Projects/Activities: Electing Democrats with strong environmental credentials and platforms.

Meetings: Generally 1st Friday of month at El Mercado-South, 1302 S. 1st Street, Austin, 78704 from Noon to 1 PM. Check AED Facebook page or TCDP Web site to confirm.

Volunteer Opportunities: Work on endorsed candidate campaigns, as available.

Dues: $20/year. Join thru ActBlue: https://secure.actblue.com/donate/austin-environmental-democrats-1

RECYCLING

Austin Zero Waste Alliance

PO Box 42278
Austin, TX 78704
Jeffrey Jacoby (512) 326-5655
E-Mail: jeffrey@texasenvironment.org
Facebook: facebook.com/AustinZeroWaste

Purpose: AZWA works to support the City of Austin's Zero Waste plan and to hold our decision-makers accountable to its vision. We work hard to connect Austin's Zero Waste community to one another and translate our unity into power for our movement. We'll stop at nothing!

Projects/Activities: We have a monthly meeting featur-

Paul Robbins

Plastic waste protest at Youth Climate Strike – Texas Capitol September 20, 2019

ing great local speakers most months. We lobby our elected officials, and members interact with (and serve on) local commissions important to our work. We also arrange occasional special events for educating the public, fundraising, or otherwise building the Zero Waste movement in Austin.

Meetings: Last Wednesday of the month, 7 PM, locations vary. Check Web site for updates.

Keep Austin Beautiful

55 N. I-35, #215
Austin, TX 78702
Keith Sears (512) 391-0617
Net: keepaustinbeautiful.org

Purpose: Keep Austin Beautiful inspires and educates all Austinites to volunteer together, beautify green spaces, clean waterways, and reduce waste every day. In one giant effort to fulfill the organization's vision – for Austin to be the cleanest, most beautiful community it can be – the organization mobilizes 30,000 volunteers and educates 12,000 youth annually.

Projects/Activities: Keep Austin Beautiful is your one-stop shop for completing service projects, greening your event, and environmental education. Volunteers can join one of Keep Austin Beautiful's listed events or create their own. Educational opportunities are also available.

Our major events include: Keep Austin Beautiful coordinates large-scale cleanups of Lady Bird Lake (bimonthly) and an annual citywide cleanup – "Keep Austin Beautiful Day" (April). Events are packed with supplies, guidance, prizes, and socials. "Beautify Bash," Keep Austin Beautiful's annual award ceremony and fundraiser, is in November.

State of Texas Alliance for Recycling (STAR)

P.O. Box 142274
Austin, TX 78714
Jordan Fengel (512) 828-6409
FAX: (866) 593-5871
E-Mail: info@recyclingSTAR.org
Net: recyclingSTAR.org
Facebook: facebook.com/recyclingSTAR

Purpose: The mission of STAR is to advance recycling through partnerships, education, and advocacy for the benefit of Texas.

Meetings: STAR hosts two annual education and networking events: the "Texas Recycling Summit" and the "Texas Compost Summit." There are many STAR affiliated councils that meet monthly.

Volunteer Opportunities: Internship program where students can receive credit.

Publications: Monthly e-newsletter; interactive Web site; and social media presence.

Dues: $150/year. Check Web site.

THE AUSTIN COMMON

The Austin Common: Make a Difference on Austin's Sustainability

Free weekly newsletter subscription at TheAustinCommon.com

SPECIAL PURPOSE

Austin Neighborhoods Council

P.O. Box 301975
Austin, TX 78703
Justin Irving (512) 510-3199
E-Mail: president@ancweb.org
Net: atxanc.org

Purpose: The Austin Neighborhoods Council (ANC) is Austin's only comprehensive representative of the City's neighborhood associations. More than 40 years old, ANC consists of nearly 100 member neighborhood associations representing hundreds of thousands individual residents all across Austin. ANC leads and promotes a culture of civic engagement by connecting, supporting and protecting Austin neighborhoods through education and advocacy.

Projects/Activities: Monthly meetings with presentations from elected officials, city government, and other speakers of neighborhood interest. Assesses existing and proposed policy and acts as a clearinghouse, providing information to members, and promoting neighborhood interests to city officials. Holds a forum for vetting City Council candidates, and hosts educational sessions for its members.

Meetings: 4th Wednesday of the month at 7 PM (except November and December) at Town Lake Center (Austin Energy headquarters), 721 Barton Springs Road, 1st Floor Assembly Room.

Newsletters/Publications: E-mail updates and discussions on the ANC listserv - ANCTalk.

Dues: $50/year. Membership is open to all neighborhood groups in the Austin area.

Austin Permaculture Guild

Taelor Monroe (214) 448-6428
E-Mail: taelor@austinperm.com
Net: austinperm.com
Facebook: facebook.com/AustinPermacultureGuild

Purpose: The Austin Permaculture Guild is an organization that serves the greater Central Texas community by connecting people to courses, events, resources and professionals. We strive to facilitate a space where marginalized communities, people of color, all genders, & orientations feel empowered to regenerate ecosystems, restructure existing societal frameworks, and create cultural abundance.

Projects/Activities: 6 Weekends' Permaculture Design Course: September – February, Monthly Potlucks: Sunday, 10AM – 12PM.

Volunteer Opportunities: Every Friday at the Whole Life Learning Center (10801 Old San Antonio Road, 78748). Check our MeetUp calendar for up-to-date information.

Newsletters/Publications: Register for our newsletter on our Web site. We also have the forum: Austinperm@yahoogroups.com.

The Austin Common: Make a Difference on Austin's Sustainability

Free weekly newsletter subscription at TheAustinCommon.com

Earth Day Austin

4804 Grover Avenue, Suite B
Austin, TX 78756
Janis Bookout (512) 535-7558
E-Mail: info@earthdayaustin.com
Net: earthdayaustin.com
Facebook: facebook.com/EarthDayATX

Purpose: Our purpose is to educate the public on environmental issues and create opportunities for environmentally focused organizations and businesses to expand their presence in the Austin area.

Projects/Activities: Annually, we host the Earth Day Festival on or around April 22. Throughout the year, we have smaller events at our Green Room offices (address listed), including panels and workshops.

Meetings: Monthly.

Volunteer Opportunities: Students can receive intern credit. Internships available throughout the year, as well as 200 volunteer positions for the Earth Day Festival in April.

Hill Country Alliance

P.O. Box 151675
Austin, TX 78715-1675
Katherine Romans (512) 894-2214
E-mail: info@hillcountryalliance.org
Net: hillcountryalliance.org

Purpose: The Hill Country is irreplaceable. There is not an endless supply of clean water in our springs, creeks and lakes, nor endless hill country vistas, wide open spaces, rural landscapes, or scenic roadways. Population of our region is expected to double in the next 30 years, creating intense development pressure outside Austin and San Antonio.

HCA is a conservation and social movement that crosses boundaries and traditional barriers. We believe a strong economic future depends on the long-term protection of our natural resources and the promotion of sustainable development and economic enterprises.

Projects/Activities: Advocacy; relationship building with opinion leaders and policy makers; a public awareness/marketing campaign; educational programs; sessions for local elected officials to embrace solutions together; diverse stakeholder focus groups; mapping; research projects; newsletter; radio segments; film; photography; and an ever expanding Web site. We work on land, water, sky, and community issues from the rural ranches to the bustling cities of the I-35 corridor.

Volunteer Opportunities: Events such as the "Rainwater Revival," "Water Symposium," and "Night Sky" educational programs. HCA also seeks help with social media outreach and welcomes university interns.

Newsletters: Electronic, published 2 – 4 times/month.

Texas Interfaith Center for Public Policy

200 E. 30th Street
Austin, TX 78705
Bee Moorhead (512) 472-3903
E-Mail: bee@texasinterfaith.org
Net: texasimpact.org

Purpose: The Texas Interfaith Center for Public Policy is

a faith-based, nonprofit organization, providing theologically grounded public policy analysis to people of faith and other Texans. "Texas Interfaith Power & Light" (TXIPL) is the environmental program of the Center, and is the Texas affiliate of the national Interfaith Power & Light movement. TXIPL helps congregations take action to reduce global warming and air pollution through energy conservation and renewable energy strategies.

Projects/Activities: Environmental stewardship resources for congregations, legislative information, teaching, preaching, and grassroots advocacy—including local IPL chapters around the state. In Austin, the Interfaith Environmental Network is our local IPL chapter.

Volunteer Opportunities: Events, research, legislative contacts, and organizing. Paid and non-paid internships available, and student interns can receive credit.

Newsletters/Publications: E-newsletter; Justice Frameworks on environmental stewardship and faith & food; blog; "Faith in Texas" citizenship how-to series.

Dues: Donations of all sizes are gratefully accepted.

TRANSPORTATION

Yellow Bike donates bicycles to school and after school programs

BIKEAUSTIN

Chris Riley (512) 658-2350
E-Mail: chrisriley1310@gmail.com
Facebook: facebook.com/bikeaustin
Twitter: @bikeaustin
Net: bikeaustin.org

Purpose: Bike Austin improves quality of life for all of Austin and Central Texas by growing bicycling as a form of transportation, exercise, and recreation.

Projects/Activities: Bike Austin's efforts fall into three categories: Education, Advocacy, and Rides. Our advocacy programs include engaging in the Austin Council elections, supporting the City's Bicycle Master Plan, and actively engaging in meetings in support of bike facilities. For the latest rides and education activities, see our Web site, or follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

Meetings: Schedule varies.

Newsletters/Publications: E-newsletter under "Get Involved" section of Web site.

Volunteer Opportunities: Varies. See Web site.

Dues: $35 year/Advocate; $52 year/Buck-a-Week; $10 month/Supporter.

BikeTexas

301 E. 5th Street
Austin, TX 78702
Robin Stallings (512) 476-7433
E-mail: mail@biketexas.org
Net: BikeTexas.org
Facebook: facebook.com/biketexas

Purpose: BikeTexas is the statewide nonprofit organization that advances bicycle access, safety, and education at the local, state and federal level. We encourage and promote bicycling, increased safety, and improved conditions. We unite and inspire people and provide a cohesive voice for those who ride bikes in Texas. We celebrated our 25th anniversary in 2016!

Projects/Activities: "Safe Routes to School" Educational Materials – Distribute tens of thousands of educational booklets and bicycle lights per year to schools, police departments, and other community leaders.

Texas Bicycle Coalition Advocacy – Member-funded. Work with elected and other public officials on local, state, and federal levels (especially during Texas Legislative Sessions) on legislation and policy promoting bicycle safety.

Consultation with community leaders across Texas on advocacy and implementation of safe cycling and active transportation infrastructure, policies, and programming throughout the state.

"SafeCyclist Teacher Training Program" – Certified over 4,000 elementary school PE teachers and reached more than two million school children in Texas since 1998 to use 15-unit curriculum to teach children bike safety.

Volunteer Opportunities: A variety of opportunities are available, from fleet maintenance to public outreach to advocacy and education efforts.

Newsletters/Publications: Monthly e-newsletters available for members; updates posted on Web site and social media channels.

Dues: Levels vary. Donate on Web site.

Institute for Community MicroMobility

P.O. Box 5122
Austin, TX 78763
Susan Engelking (512) 413-7750
E-Mail: susan@micromobilityinstitute.org
Net: micromobilityinstitute.org
Facebook: Micromobility Institute

Purpose: The Institute is a mobility disruptor on a national scale. We advance a Vision Zero protected infrastructure for Neighborhood Electric Vehicles (NEVs) and other small, low speed (<25 mph), low-emission modes like scooters and e-bicycles in coordination with active modes. Cities can shift 20+% of conventional car trips to safer, cheaper, healthier, and cleaner mobility. The infrastructure can be built with the crumbs of major transportation projects.

By 2026, Austin can cut carbon emissions by >500,000 metric tons/year. Austin can develop a $1 billion micromobility infrastructure without raising taxes.

Newsletters/Publications: Contact us for a free pdf download of *Tiny Transit: Cut Carbon Emissions In Your City Before It's Too Late* (Morgan James Publishing, 2020) or to preorder *Resilience: The New Livability Playbook for Mayors*.

Projects/Activities: Register for our free live webinar. If you like it, apply for our new accelerator for city leaders. It's a live, online course where you will learn alongside other innovation-minded cities. In weeks, you can develop a micromobility implementation start-up plan.

Volunteer Opportunities: Working social media; creating videos; writing and research.

Yellow Bike Project

1216 Webberville Rd.
Austin, TX 78721
Contact: (512) 524-5299
E-mail: austinyellowbike@gmail.com
Net: austinyellowbike.org
Facebook: facebook.com/pages/Austins-Yellow-Bike-Project/194137973930427

Purpose: Yellow Bike Project is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that has been working since 1997 to get more bikes on the streets of Austin by operating community bike shops, teaching bike mechanics and maintenance, and acting as a local bike advocacy group.

Projects/Activities: YBP hosts volunteer-run Community Workshops where visitors can fix up their own bike with our tools and help or learn bicycle mechanics while volunteering. During Retail Hours, we operate as a thrift store with a selection of refurbished bikes for sale and a warehouse full of inexpensive used parts. We donate fixed-up bikes to a variety of community organizations, school and after-school programs, and individuals in need. Along with our workshops, we offer formal classes periodically, and strive to reuse or recycle bikes and parts that are no longer serviceable.

Regular Meeting Dates: The YBP Volunteer Collective meets at the shop on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 PM, with time for public input at 8 PM.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are always welcome at our Community Workshops, and may participate in our Earn-A-Bike program or fulfill community service requirements, all while helping to keep the shop running and fixing up more bikes!

LightRailNow!

Sine qua non to Austin's Future

Visit us at www.lightrailnow.org
www.austinrailnow.com
Learn why Austin's environment, neighborhoods, and economy will decline without light rail soon.

"Delay is the deadliest form of denial."
C. Northcote Parkinson

People United for Mobility Action (PUMA)

puma-atx.org

Dedicated to transforming Austin so every person has access to safe, affordable, and convenient choices for transportation.

TREES & PLANTS

American Botanical Council

6200 Manor Road
Austin, TX 78723
Caroline Caswell (512) 926-4900
E-Mail: abc@herbalgram.org
Net: herbalgram.org
Facebook: facebook.com/HerbalGram/

Purpose: The American Botanical Council (ABC) uses science-based and traditional information to promote the responsible use of herbal medicine by educating consumers, healthcare professionals, researchers, educators, industry, and the media.

Projects/Activities: In addition to its Web site with 10 searchable databases and multiple publications, ABC runs the following programs:

1) The Sustainable Herbs Program (sustainableherbsprogram.org) focused on addressing climate change and other challenges to the herb supply chain;

2) ABC-AHP-NCNPR Botanical Adulterants Prevention Program (botanicaladulterants.org), which provides educational resources to detect and prevent adulteration in the herbal supply chain;

3) HerbDay in spring at ABC, with lectures, herb walks, a plant sale, activities for kids, and more.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteering in ABC's 2.5-acre herbal demonstration garden, and internship programs for pharmacy and dietetic students.

Courtesy Earth Native Wilderness School

Newsletters/Publications: *HerbalGram*, a peer-reviewed quarterly journal; *HerbClip*, summaries and reviews of recently published herbal literature; *HerbalEGram*, monthly newsletter; *Herbal News & Events*, weekly update; and the *Botanical Monitor*, a quarterly newsletter addressing botanical adulteration issues.

Dues: Individuals – $50-$150/year; Discounts available for seniors/students. Companies can also become members.

Native Plant Society of Texas Austin Chapter

P.O. Box 3017
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
E-Mail: Austin.NPSOT@gmail.com
Net: npsot.org/wp/austin

Purpose: The Native Plant Society of Texas exists to promote the conservation, research, and utilization of native plants and plant habitats of Texas through education, outreach, and example. The Austin Chapter is part of a network of native plant groups located throughout Texas.

Projects/Activities: Monthly meetings feature guest speakers and presentations. Members collect and exchange seeds, sell native plants, conduct plant surveys on private and public lands, rescue plants from development areas, work with nurseries to encourage native plant use, and sponsors NPSOT Native Landscape Certificate Program classes.

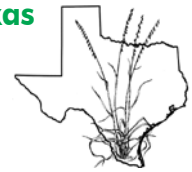
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month except April, July, and October at 7 PM in the administration building of Tarrytown United Methodist Church, 2531 Exposition Blvd., 2nd floor, at the SE corner of Greenlee and Exposition in Tarrytown. Arrive at 6:30 for snacks and seed exchange.

Volunteer Opportunities: Public education and outreach, plant sales at the LBJ Wildflower Center, nursery and garden center consultations, assistance with creating native gardens on schoolyards and other public grounds, educational talks and walks with people of all ages.

Newsletters/Publications: State newsletter, bimonthly with membership. Check the Chapter Web site to subscribe to the mailing list for announcements.

Dues: $35/Individuals; $25/Student/Limited Income; $50/Families.

Native Prairies Association of Texas



415 N. Guadalupe St., PMB 385
San Marcos, TX 78666
Kirsti Harms (512) 392-2288
E-Mail: info@TexasPrairie.org
Net: TexasPrairie.org
Facebook: facebook.com/NativePrairiesAssocTX

Purpose: The Native Prairies Association of Texas (NPAT) is a nonprofit membership organization and accredited land trust dedicated to the conservation, restoration, and appreciation of native prairies, savannas, and other grasslands in Texas. NPAT protects more than 4,000 acres of native Texas prairie, including over 100 acres of endangered/threatened tallgrass prairie.

Projects/Activities: Maddin Prairie Preserve (1,114 acres; Mitchell County); Lawther – Deer Park Prairie (51 acres; Harris County).

Meetings: Central Texas chapter has regular meetings, field trips, monthly workdays, and volunteer opportunities; see Web site for more information.

Newsletters/Publications: Print newsletter published 2 times/year; included with membership, monthly e-mail newsletter.

Dues: Vary from $35-$1,500 depending on level; visit Web site to join or donate.

RAINFOREST PARTNERSHIP

P.O. Box 49268
Austin, TX 78765
Marshall Huggins (512) 420-0101
E-mail: info@rainforestpartnership.org
Net: rainforestpartnership.org
Facebook: facebook.com/rainforestpartnership

Purpose: Rainforest Partnership conserves and restores tropical rainforests by working with communities to develop sustainable livelihoods that empower and respect both people and nature.

Projects/Activities: We partner with local and indigenous communities in the Amazon, creating sustainable economies and conservation areas that enable them to protect their rainforest. Together, we develop products and services that are unique to their rainforest and tailored to their needs and culture. Artisanal products and ecotourism, butterflies and bees, coffee and cacao, natural medicine, protected areas — whatever the project, we deliver the same result: self-sufficient communities with an incentive to keep trees standing. In addition to our projects in Peru and Ecuador, we deploy creative initiatives that educate and inspire the world to take action for rainforests, including: 1) our "Films for the Forest" film competition, with a community screening at SXSW; 2) "World Rainforest Day" on June 22nd; 3) augmented reality project "Rainforest Listening;" and 4) educational initiatives in Texas and South America.

Volunteer Opportunities: Opportunities are posted on our Web site and at volunteermatch.org. They include marketing, graphic design, video editing, events, fundraising, data management, project support, office management, and more. Students can receive internship credits.

Newsletters/Publications: Newsletter, blogs, annual reports, project reports.

TreeFolks

P.O. Box 1395
Del Valle, TX 78617
(512) 443-5323
E-Mail: admin@treefolks.org
Net: treefolks.org
Facebook: facebook.com/treefolks

Purpose: Our purpose is to build community through planting trees. Since 1989, TreeFolks volunteers and staff have planted over 2.8 million trees in Central Texas at schools, parks, in medians, right of ways,

community gardens, and greenbelts. We've developed a program that is the first of its kind in the nation that focuses on reforesting the Blackland Prairies while combating climate change through creating Carbon Credits.

Projects/Activities: Public tree plantings and riparian plantings; NeighborWoods tree adoptions; Travis County Reforestation, education opportunities (Urban Forest Stewards Course, sapling giveaway events, tree mapping, tree identification walks).

Volunteer Opportunities: Tree planting (planting season is from October through March), tree maintenance, education, marketing, and fundraising. Opportunities for student interns. See more at Web site.

Newsletters/Publications: E-mail newsletter – *Looking Up!*

Useful Wild Plants of Texas

4700 Loyola Lane, #104
Austin, TX 78723
Lynn Marshall (512) 928-4441
E-mail: info@usefulwildplants.org
Net: usefulwildplants.org

Purpose: Plants are the basis of civilization (not to mention life on earth). UWP is dedicated to exploring and documenting the native plants of Texas and surrounding regions as the foods, medicines, and resources of the past, present, and future.

Projects/Activities: UWP is putting together a database and encyclopedic publication of uses of 4,000 native plants (foods, pharmaceuticals, fibers, glues, dyes, oils, etc.). Call for information about classes and other activities.

Meetings: Get-togethers and events throughout the year for members and volunteers.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed to keep research files updated, staff event booths, help produce the newsletter, publicity, fundraising, membership database, and work on the encyclopedia. Student interns welcome; college credit available for some Independent Studies positions.

Newsletters/Publications: The quarterly Useful Wild Plants newsletter covers project news, uses of plants, people who make their living working with plants, and volunteer and member activities. The first four volumes (covering the genera from Abronia through Convolvulus) of encyclopedic *Useful Wild Plants of Texas, the Southeastern and Southwestern United States, the Southern Plains, and Northern Mexico* are available.

Dues: $25/Individual; $50/Family; $100/Sustaining.

WATER

Barton Springs Conservancy

603 W. 13th Street, Suite 2-F
Austin, TX 78701
Emma Lindrose-Siegel (512) 934-7079
E-Mail: info@bartonspringsconservancy.org
Net: bartonspringsconservancy.org
Facebook: facebook.com/bartonspringsconservancy
Instagram: instagram.com/bartonspringsconservancy

© Kuhlken Photography

Purpose: Barton Springs Conservancy (BSC) is guided by the mission to honor, preserve, and enhance the experience of Barton Springs through education and facility improvements. BSC was formed in 2014 to work with key Barton Springs stakeholders to identify and support projects to benefit Barton Springs. Initial efforts focused on establishing fundraising capacity and providing community input to complete the Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation project called for in the 2008 Barton Springs Master Plan and partially funded by the 2012 Bond Package. Through the community input process, a number of facility improvement and education projects have been identified.

Projects/Activities: Currently funded and completed projects include the Zilker Park Gatepost Restoration project to restore the historic entrance gateposts at the north entrance to Barton Springs Pool. Currently funded and ongoing projects include the historic Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation project. BSC plans to rehabilitate the Bathhouse to its original splendor, restore the rotunda and dressing areas, and make the facilities usable for modern needs. BSC also provides educational programming which serves children, youth, and underserved members of the community.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed to help with monthly pool cleanings, special events, and educational programming. E-mail us for more information.

Newsletters/Publications: Monthly e-newsletter, sign up through our Web site.

Bull Creek Foundation

6701 Lakewood Drive
Austin, TX 78731
Rachel McGill (717) 439-7762
E-Mail: info@bullcreekfoundation.org
Net: www.bullcreekfoundation.org

Purpose: The purpose of the Bull Creek Foundation is to promote the harmonious balance between nature, recreation, and sustainable economic development in the Bull Creek watershed, bounded roughly by Highways 2222, 620, 183, and Mesa Drive. This volunteer group believes that all who have a stake in this region can work together to achieve and maintain its delicate ecological balance, and since 1994 we have demonstrated this actually works.

Volunteer Opportunities: Varied. Please contact us.

Newsletters/Publications: See Web site.

CENTRAL TEXAS WATER COALITION

P.O. Box 328
Spicewood, Texas 78669
Jo Karr Tedder (512) 553-5827
E-Mail: JoKarrTedder.ctwc@gmail.com
Net: CentralTexasWaterCoalition.org
Facebook: facebook.com/CentralTexasWaterCoalition

Purpose: To assure that water in the Colorado River Basin should be managed in a way that maintains the biological and ecological soundness of its rivers, lakes, bays, and estuaries.

CTWC's primary mission is to advocate for the preservation and conservation of the Highland Lakes' water supply and water levels for the benefit of human health, safety, and recreation, and to preserve the Highland Lakes' role as an irreplaceable economic engine for the State of Texas. Central Texas Water Coalition will bring together concerned individuals and groups to constructively address water issues of the Lower Colorado River Basin. Partners include lake residents, business owners, municipal officials, homeowner associations, environmentalists, and stakeholder organizations.

Investments in water conservation and efficiency, including but not limited to reducing water losses in water distribution systems, should be a top priority before major investments in increasing supplies.

Friends of Barton Springs Pool

FRIENDS OF BARTON SPRINGS POOL

P.O. Box 685286
Austin, TX 78768-5286
E-Mail: info@friendsofbartonspringspool.org
Net: friendsofbartonspringspool.org

Purpose: We are dedicated to returning the Barton Springs Pool to its rightful glory. Since 2006, we have organized 7 pool cleaning events and 1,500 volunteer hours/year to make the pool a better place for the salamanders, springs and swimmers.

We worked with the City Council and Aquatics staff to develop a resolution to create and fund a Barton Springs Master Plan to repair the decaying pool facilities and infrastructure, which was adopted in 2009. Since then we have been advocating for improvements in the Master Plan including testing of dams, bypass tunnel repair, sediment removal, general grounds improvements, and rehabilitation of the historic Barton Springs Bathhouse.

Projects/Activities: Support Volunteer Pool cleanings, restoring aquatic plants in the pool, planting trees, and pursuing infrastructure improvements defined in the Master Plan. Advocate safety improvements in Barton Creek, as well as protection of the aquifer and springs. Major events include Council Cleans the Pool Day, New Year's Day Polar Plunge, Membership Picnic.

Meetings: Monthly Board Meeting, Feb. – Oct.

Volunteer Opportunities: See Web site

Dues: $25/year, or volunteer for a 2-hour pool cleaning session.

Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance

GEAA

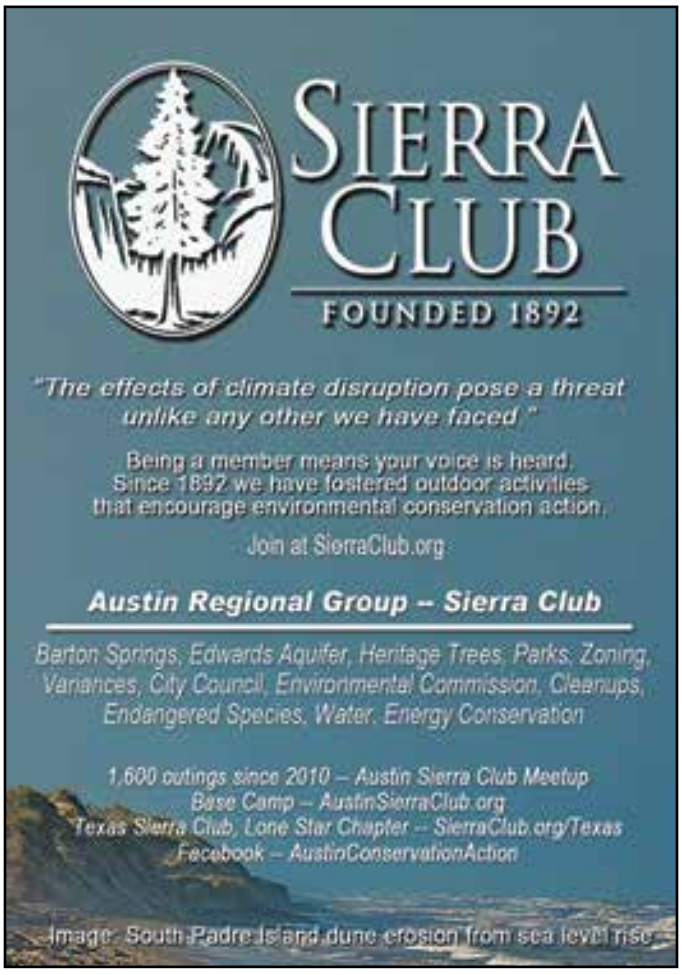
P.O. Box 15618
San Antonio, Texas 78212
Annalisa Peace (210) 320-6294
FAX: (210) 320-1457
E-Mail: Annalisa@AquiferAlliance.org
Net: AquiferAlliance.org
Facebook: facebook.com/Greater-Edwards-Aquifer-Alliance-GEAA-74467896453/?epa=SEARCH_BOX

Purpose: Founded in 2005, GEAA counts among our many successes the awful projects that you *don't see* despoiling or polluting central Texas. We unite 52 diverse member organizations and thousands of Texans to advocate protection of the Edwards and Trinity aquifers and watersheds, flora and fauna, and the history and culture of the Texas Hill Country.

Projects/Activities: Member groups, citizens, news media, elected officials and public agencies rely on GEAA for technical expertise regarding management and protection of the Edwards and Trinity karst aquifers. We assist citizens in contesting permits, fundraising, development and advocacy of policy and best management practices.

Meetings: Ad Hoc meetings held to address various issues. Notice posted on Facebook page.

Volunteer Opportunities: Experts in the fields of hydrology, geology, biology, civil engineering, and other related specialties. GEAA partners interns with various experts for research projects for course credit.



Newsletters/Publications: Sign up for action alerts on Web site, especially when the state legislature is in session.

Dues: Individuals $75/year ($25/Seniors/students).

Protect Lake Travis Association

13359 FM 2769
Austin, TX 78726
Lonnie Moore (512) 413-4306
E-Mail: info@protectlaketravis.org
Facebook: facebook.com/protectlaketravis

Purpose: The Protect Lake Travis Association guards Lake Travis and its watershed from any events and conditions that could affect the health and safety of area residents, recreational users of the lake, and area wildlife. It also protects the aesthetic natural beauty of the area.

Projects/Activities: The Association is working on eliminating and preventing direct discharge permits to the lake, instead encouraging land irrigation with the treated wastewater. The Association promotes education of the citizenry on preventing pollution of the lake from septic tanks, lawn chemicals, and improper boating practices, and it participates and supports lake cleanup efforts.

Dues: Voluntary, $20/year suggested.

Save Barton Creek Association

P. O. Box 5923
Austin, TX 78763
Clark Hancock (512) 480-0055
E-mail: SBCA@savebartoncreek.org
Net: savebartoncreek.org

Purpose: SBCA focuses on public education, land conservation, and public policy advocacy for the long-term protection of the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer. The aquifer is the source of the fourth-largest springs in Texas and has been determined to be the aquifer in Texas most susceptible to pollution. Its karst limestone composition does not filter pollution as some sand aquifers do, so essentially "What goes in, comes out." And sometimes comes out quickly - right into Barton Springs Pool in Zilker Park. The Barton Springs outflow of more than 30 million gallons per day soon flows into the Colorado River.

Projects/Activities: The Association performs and sponsors many projects that educate the public and especially children on the importance of water quality and protecting the aquifer, such as the Goat Cave Karst Preserve education restoration, stewardship of the Shudde Fath Tract, Splash! Exhibit at Barton Springs pool, Living Springs documentary, Texas River School programming, aquifer scientific research, and others.

Meetings: General Meetings are held 2nd Mondays at 6 PM (check our Web site for current location). Board Meetings are 4th Mondays from 7 to 9 PM at Casa Maria (4327 S. 1st). Anyone may attend general meetings. Please e-mail us if you'd like to attend a board meeting.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers may be needed for clean-ups, to help with events, and for canoe trips with the Colorado River School. E-mail us for information.

Dues: $10/Students; $30/Individuals; contributions in any amount are appreciated and go directly towards programming.

Save Our Springs Alliance

4701 West Gate Blvd., D-401
Austin, TX 78745
Pat Brodnax (512) 477-2320, Ext. 101
FAX: (512) 477-6410
E-mail: sosinfo@sosalliance.org
Net: sosalliance.org
Facebook: facebook.com/sosalliance

Purpose: Save Our Springs is a nonprofit alliance of activists, scientists, lawyers, and educators working to protect the springs of the Edwards Aquifer and the land, water, and wildlife of the Texas Hill Country. We accomplish this by steering development downstream and limiting pumping so our streams and springs keep flowing through droughts and a changing climate.

Volunteer Opportunities: Go to: SOSAlliance.org

Dues: $10/Students & seniors; $20/Basic; $50-200/Business partner.

Shoal Creek Conservancy

P.O. Box 11520
Austin, TX 78711
(512) 474-2412
E-Mail: info@shoalcreekconservancy.org
Net: shoalcreekconservancy.org
Facebook: facebook.com/shoalcreekconservancy

Purpose: Shoal Creek Conservancy mobilizes the community to champion Shoal Creek and its Trail. Our vision includes a fishable, swimmable creek and a trail that is part of an accessible, city-wide trail system. These make being active a fun, easy, and daily choice for people of all ages and abilities.

Projects/Activities: The Conservancy spearheads long-term improvement projects as well as free, public events to welcome the community to Shoal Creek. We're currently facilitating creation of the Shoal Creek Watershed Action Plan, a stakeholder-guided plan to define actionable, science-based solutions to the watershed's multiple interconnected water-related challenges.

Volunteer Opportunities: SCC hosts monthly volunteer service days, free and open to the public. View the schedule of events and sign up on our Web site.

WILDLIFE

Austin Bat Refuge

P.O. Box 49902
Austin, TX 78765
Lee Mackenzie (512) 695-4116
E-Mail: leemack@AustinBatRefuge.org
Net: austinbatrefuge.org
Facebook: facebook.com/austinbat

Purpose: Bat Rehabilitation, Educational Outreach, Conflict Resolution.

We are the only group that actively cares directly for individual bats. If you find a bat in trouble, call us to learn how to safely contain it for transport.

Our education table has been a weekend staple at Congress Avenue Bridge for the past 6 years. We also provide programs to organizations, agencies and groups, including master naturalists, health departments, animal control officers, schools (on a sliding scale), and neighborhood groups.

Our conflict resolution services assist with information about bats in your home or office. Our urban mist netting pilot program allows us to remove bats from tall ceilings.

Projects/Activities: Friday Night Flights! Weekend educational outreach at Congress Avenue Bridge, with a rehabilitated bat release many nights during the bat season from March to October.

Watch our Facebook page for other activities throughout the year, including bat walks and tabling at events.

Volunteer Opportunities: See our Web site "Get Involved" page.

Newsletters/Publications: Sign up here for our quarterly newsletter: austinbatrefuge.org/contact/

Dues: $40/year; or what you can afford.

Bat Conservation International

500 N Capital of TX Hwy., Bldg. 1
Austin, TX 78746
(512) 327-9721
E-mail: info@batcon.org
Net: batcon.org
Facebook: facebook.com/BatCon
Twitter: twitter.com/BatConIntl
Instagram: instagram.com/batconservationinternational

Purpose: Our mission is to end bat extinctions worldwide. Bats play a vitally important role in our world, as they consume insects, pollinate our plants and disperse seeds to regenerate our forests. However, they are under threat and require our concentrated international action.

With the help of partner organizations, we conserve caves, restore critical habitats in danger, and ensure the survival of these extraordinary mammals.

BCI is proud to have its headquarters in Austin, the "Bat Capital of America."

Newsletters/Publications: *BATS* magazine (3 editions a year), *Bat Chat*, e-newsletter.

Dues: From $35 –$1,000/year.

Horned Lizard Conservation Society

P.O. Box 122
Austin, TX 78767
E-mail: hornedlizardinfo@gmail.com
Net: hornedlizards.org

Purpose: We are an international organization dedicated to the conservation of all horned lizard species throughout their ranges.

Projects/Activities: Grant program for horned lizard conservation and research projects, status surveys, speaking/presentations to groups, booth sitting, field trips.

Meetings: We have a biennial meeting. Our next meeting is in 2020.

Volunteer Opportunities: Field surveys for horned lizard research, contributing to the newsletter, fundraising, booth sitting/education.

Newsletters/Publications: *Phrynosomatics*, published quarterly.

Dues: $25/Regular; $10/Students & Seniors; $50/Contributing members, $300/Lifetime members.

National Wildlife Federation South Central Regional Center

505 East Huntland Drive, Suite 485
Austin, TX 78752
Shell Rumohr (512) 476-9805
FAX: (512) 476-9810
E-Mail: scrc@nwf.org
Net: nwf.org/southcentral
Facebook: facebook.com/NWFSouthCentral

Purpose: The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) is America's largest conservation organization, with a mission to unite Americans to ensure wildlife thrive in a rapidly-changing world.

Projects/Activities: Our Austin-based work includes:

• Environmental Education – NWF helps connect Austin students to nature while providing teachers with tools to engage students in science and math learning experiences.

• Monarch Recovery – We work with the City of Austin to help reverse the decline of monarch butterfly populations.

• Protecting Texas Rivers – NWF works to ensure that Texas manages its limited fresh water resources for the benefit of both people and wildlife.

• Restoring the Gulf of Mexico – The Program works to ensure healthy waters and resilient coasts for the Gulf's people and wildlife.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteer interns (earning school credit) have assisted us with Outreach, Environmental Education, Marine Science, and Media & Communications. Office volunteers are also welcome.

Newsletters/Publications: Quarterly e-newsletter available by request to scrc@nwf.org. *National Wildlife*, national member's magazine. Children's publications: *Ranger Rick* and *Ranger Rick Jr.*

Dues: $15/year; includes membership magazine.

Austin Wildlife Rescue

P.O. Box 302695
Austin, TX 78703
Rescue Hotline: (512) 472-9453
E-mail: info@austinwildliferescue.org
Net: austinwildliferescue.org

Purpose: Austin Wildlife Rescue serves the citizens and wildlife of Central Texas by providing direct assistance to the public concerning questions, problems, and conflicts with native wild animals. AWR rescues and rehabilitates orphaned, injured and sick wild animals, and educates the public to coexist with wildlife.

Volunteer Opportunities: Answering rescue hotline; assisting animal care staff; transporting animals; fundraising. The volunteer application is posted on our Web site, and we train new volunteers three times/year.

Newsletters/Publications: *Critter Chronicle*, members.

Donations: $20/Individual; $25/Family; $50/Sponsor; $100/Patron; $250/Protector; $500/Conservator. AWR is a 501c3 nonprofit, and all donations are 100% tax-deductible.

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