

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/#!/pages/Austin-Water-Center-for-Environmental-Research-at-Hornsby-Bend/353742361321079>

CER Events August 2013

Aug 3

Saturday 8am meet at CER

- **Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership - Travis County 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 or rent one from Cook's Canoes in Webberville <http://www.cookscanoes.com/>
- Contact Claude Morris at cgmorris@flash.net to participate
- More about the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership at the CER website Projects and Partnerships page <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/research-projects-partnerships-and-programs> and the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Austin-Bastrop-River-Corridor-Partnership/275854452533507>

Aug 10

Saturday 7am-11am and 4pm to dark meet at 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

Aug 14

Wednesday – NOON to 1pm AT Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Road

- **CER Monthly Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
- **Bottomland: Floodplain Habitats**
- On maps, one sees a line drawn depicting a river, but this thin line depicts merely the river channel and not the river fully realized. When a river spreads out across its floodplains, we are reminded that the thin line is a poor representation of its fully realized self. The hydrological reality of a river is that it will fill its floodplain frequently, much more frequently than the terms “100-year” or “500-year” suggest. The ecological reality of a river, also, spreads out across these floodplains in the form of bottomland habitat that can range from forest to swamps to oxbow lakes. In this lecture, we will explore the ecology of rivers away from their banks and across the rich bottomland habitat that can fill their floodplains.

Aug 17

Saturday – 730am – 11am at the CER

- **HBBO/Travis Audubon Society - Hornsby Bend Monthly Birding Fieldtrip – FREE!**
Meet at the CER 730am, no registration needed – all levels of birder welcomed, an easy morning of walking and learning the birds of Hornsby Bend. Bring binoculars and some water if the weather is warm. More information at www.travisaudubon.org and www.hornsbybend.org

Aug 21

Wednesday – NOON to 1pm AT CITY HALL Boards and Commissions Room 1101

- **CER Monthly Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
- **Bottomland: Floodplain Habitats**
- On maps, one sees a line drawn depicting a river, but this thin line depicts merely the river channel and not the river fully realized. When a river spreads out across its floodplains, we are reminded that the thin line is a poor representation of its fully realized self. The hydrological reality of a river is that it will fill its floodplain frequently, much more frequently than the terms “100-year” or “500-year” suggest. The ecological reality of a river, also, spreads out across these floodplains in the form of bottomland habitat that can range from forest to swamps to oxbow lakes. In this lecture, we will explore the ecology of rivers away from their banks and across the rich bottomland habitat that can fill their floodplains.
- **Parking for City Hall** - Automobile parking is available in the underground garage. Bring your garage ticket to the talk and we will validate it for free parking.

Aug 31

Saturday 9am – 1pm at the CER

- **Ecological Literacy Volunteer Day** – 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.
- **POTLUCK LUNCH AND More ECOLOGICAL LEARNING** - Bring food for our potluck lunch afterwards at 1pm and learn more at a presentation on ecology during lunch.
 - **August Presentation - Ecosystem Agriculture: A History of Sustainable Approaches**
 - **Kevin M. Anderson, Austin Water – Center for Environmental Research**
 - Learn the history of organic and other sustainable farming and tour the varied landscape of “ecosystem” approaches to sustainable agriculture.

**For more information about these events, contact Kevin M. Anderson at
Kevin.Anderson@austintexas.gov or 512-972-1960**

**Join our Hornsby Bend Facebook Page for updates on Hornsby Bend Ecology:
<https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Hornsby-Bend/232381543511162>**