

Austin Water – Center for Environmental Research



Austin Water – The University of Texas – Texas A&M University
A Partnership for Urban Ecology and Sustainability: Community, Ecology, Research
located at the Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Plant
2210 South FM 973, Austin, Texas 78725
Website: <http://www.austintexas.gov/cer>



CER Events February 2014

Feb 1

Saturday 8am meet at the CER

- **Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership - River Monitoring Trip**
- Join Claude Morris and the Travis County Colorado River Monitoring trip for a day on the river monitoring birds and more, and help the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership learn more about the ecology of the Colorado River. More about the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership at the CER website Research, Programs, Partnerships page <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/research-projects-partnerships-and-programs>
- Meet at the CER parking lot at 8:00AM
- A river trip to monitor birds and vegetation along the river and you MUST provide your own boat or rent one from Cook's Canoes in Webberville <http://www.cookscanoes.com/>
- Contact Claude Morris at cgmorris@flash.net to participate

Feb 8

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

- **Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory Program Monthly Bird Survey**
- The HBBO Bird Survey is open to all levels of birder interested in intensive monitoring, although this is not a field trip. In the morning, we have teams covering different areas of the Hornsby Bend facility, and they count numbers of all birds seen. It is 4 hours of 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

Feb 11

Tuesday – NOON to 1pm at Waller Center, 625 East 10th Street [Between Red River and I-35]

- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
- **February Lecture - Pastoral Nature: the Agrarian Myth of the Yeoman Farmer**
- In Virgil's Classical agrarian myth, the creation of pastoral nature is viewed as an improved pastoral arcadia emerging from wild [and dangerous] pristine nature through the beneficial cultivation of the earth for humans. Jefferson drew upon this myth in urging Americans to become yeoman farmers and transform America into a democratic pastoral arcadia, and in doing so, he set up a competing myth of American nature focused on farmland and pastoral nature in contrast to pristine wilderness. Today, the American small family farm is still an idealized place of encounter and engagement with nature, best championed by Wendell Berry, who, like Jefferson, sees small farms as a cure for social problems and modern society's mismanagement of nature. However, there is great tension between wilderness and pastoral nature, and a divide in the geography of the American mind between these two ideals of nature. Join me as I explore the geography of pastoral nature in America.

Feb 12

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

- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
- **February Lecture - Pastoral Nature: the Agrarian Myth of the Yeoman Farmer**
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Feb 15 **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

Feb 19 **Tuesday - NOON to 1pm** at Austin City Hall, Boards and Commissions Room 1st Floor

- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
- **February Lecture - Pastoral Nature: the Agrarian Myth of the Yeoman Farmer**
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Feb 22 **Saturday 9am – 1pm** at the CER

- **Ecological Literacy Volunteer Day and Potluck Learning** – Help maintain Hornsby Bend! Did you know that all the Hornsby Bend trails, habitat gardens, and kiosks were built and are maintained by volunteers? If you enjoy birding or walking along the Colorado River here, please join us in maintaining these amenities and supporting public access at Hornsby Bend.
- Wear work clothes [long pants], hat for shade, and sturdy shoes; bring water and binoculars if interested in birds.
- **NOON POTLUCK LUNCH AND More ECOLOGICAL LEARNING** - Bring food for our potluck lunch at NOON and learn more at a presentation on ecology during lunch.
- **February Presentation – A Journey to South Africa and Namibia**
- **Andy and Julia Balinsky**
- Andy and Julia will tell the story of their six-week trip to Africa with photos of birds and other wildlife including the cheeky baboon which broke into their cabin and ravaged their English Breakfast Tea. Tea will be served for this talk.

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

Join our CER Facebook Page for updates on Human Events and Activities: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Austin-Water-Center-for-Environmental-Research-at-Hornsby-Bend/353742361321079>

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