

Austin Water – Center for Environmental Research



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



CER Events July 2018

- Jul 7** **Saturday 8am meet at the CER**
- **Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership - River Monitoring Trip**
 - Join Claude Morris and the Travis County Colorado River Monitoring trip for a day on the river monitoring birds and more, and help the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership learn more about the ecology of the Colorado River.
 - Meet at the CER parking lot at 8:00AM
 - A river trip to monitor birds and vegetation along the river and you MUST provide your own boat.
 - Contact Claude Morris at cgmorris70@gmail.com to participate
 - More about the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership at the CER website Research, Programs, Partnerships page <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/research-projects-partnerships-and-programs>
 - Check out the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership Facebook Page for updates and photos from the river monitoring trips www.facebook.com/austinbastroprivercorridor
- Jul 11** **Wednesday NOON to 1pm at PARD Senior Activity Center
Lamar+29th St at 2874 Shoal Crest Ave, South Room**
- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
 - 2018 Lunchtime Lectures – Nature and the American Mind
 - **July CER Lunchtime Lecture - American Ecology: Stability, Integrity, and Leopold's Legacy**
 - How does Nature work? How do the biotic and abiotic parts of Earth interact and develop as a system that supports life over time? The word "ecology" was coined in 1866 by the German scientist Ernst Haeckel to name the science that was to answer those questions. At the core of this new science was the puzzle of how do "ecosystems" persist amidst change over time – and was change or permanence, dynamics or stability, more fundamental? As the science of ecology developed, it was built on a belief in the stability and balance of undisturbed nature – with humans placed outside of "nature" as the disruptors of balance. In the 1940s the American ecologist Aldo Leopold grounded his "land ethic" in the idea of stability - "A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise." The belief in stability and balance continued to be emphasized by the American ecologist Eugene Odum, who's textbook would influence generations of students from the 1950s onward. However, by the 1970s, the mathematical models of ecology revealed that change and instability was more fundamental, and, today, the "new ecology" has replaced stability and balance with change and disequilibrium in its explanation of how Nature works and has explained persistence over time in terms of "resilience" of ecosystem functionality. Join us for an untangling of the history of American ecology and an assessment of how the idea of the balance of nature has shaped our American ideas of nature.
 - Now online as podcasts! Check them out here - <http://austineconetwork.com/nature-in-the-city/>

- Jul 12** **Thursday NOON to 1pm at One Texas Center
505 Barton Springs Road + South First Street, Room 325**
- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
 - 2018 Lunchtime Lectures – Nature and the American Mind
 - **July CER Lunchtime Lecture - American Ecology: Stability, Integrity, and Leopold's Legacy**
- Jul 14** **Saturday 7am-11am and 4pm to dark meet at the CER**
- **Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory Program Monthly Bird Survey**
 - The HBBO Bird Survey is open to all levels of birder interested in intensive monitoring, although this is not a field trip. In the morning, we have teams covering different areas of the Hornsby Bend facility, and they count numbers of all birds seen. It is 4 hours of hiking and counting, but lots of fun along the way. We meet again around 11am to tally up the species. The afternoon involves looking around for species missed that morning, and we go until sundown. More information about the CER HBBO program at www.hornsbybend.org
- Jul 17** **Tuesday NOON to 1pm at the Center for Environmental Research – Hornsby Bend**
- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
 - 2018 Lunchtime Lectures – Nature and the American Mind
 - **July CER Lunchtime Lecture - American Ecology: Stability, Integrity, and Leopold's Legacy**
- Jul 21** **Saturday 730am – 11am at the CER**
- **HBBO/Travis Audubon Society - Hornsby Bend Monthly Birdwatching 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
- Jul 25** **Wednesday NOON to 1pm at University of Texas
Norman Hackerman Building (NHB). 100 E 24th St, Austin TX, 78712 Room 1.720**
- **Center for Environmental Research Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
 - 2018 Lunchtime Lectures – Nature and the American Mind
 - **July CER Lunchtime Lecture - American Ecology: Stability, Integrity, and Leopold's Legacy**
- Jul 28** **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.

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