

# 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 April 2013

April 6

**Saturday 8am** meet at the 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](mailto: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/cer> and the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership Facebook page.

April 6

**Saturday 9am-11am** at the CER for the PARD Habitat Stewards Class

- **Urban Ecology: From the Ground Up (or When Will Non-Natives Stop Blaming the Non-Natives?)**
- I will be doing a lecture on the basics of urban ecology for the PARD Habitat Stewards class being held at the CER. This long talk examines the basis of urban ecology from the perspective of soil rather than “charismatic mega flora and fauna” and focuses on the environmental history of Austin. And, yes, I will debunk the Myth of Invasive Species.

April 10

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

- **CER Monthly Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
- **Strong Brown God: the Poetry of Rivers**
- T.S. Elliot famously wrote, “I do not know much about gods; but I think that the river is a strong brown god” and cataloged the attributes of his hometown river, the Mississippi, in his poem, “The Dry Salvages” where the river waits to remind city dwellers of its power. It was also the Mississippi that inspired Langston Hughes to write “My soul has grown deep like rivers” in his first published poem. Join me for poetry in April as I trace the course of rivers through the work of American poets, even those like Eliot who pretended to be English. Bring your favorite river poem to share.

April 13

**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](http://www.hornsbybend.org)

**April 17**

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

- **CER Monthly Lunchtime Lecture by Kevin M. Anderson**
- **Strong Brown God: the Poetry of Rivers**
- T.S. Elliot famously wrote, “I do not know much about gods; but I think that the river is a strong brown god” and cataloged the attributes of his hometown river, the Mississippi, in his poem, “The Dry Salvages” where the river waits to remind city dwellers of its power. It was also the Mississippi that inspired Langston Hughes to write “My soul has grown deep like rivers” in his first published poem. Join me for poetry in April as I trace the course of rivers through the work of American poets, even those like Eliot who pretended to be English. Bring your favorite river poem to share.
- Parking is available in the underground garage. Bring your garage ticket to the talk and the City Clerk’s office will validate it for free parking.

**April 20**

**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](http://www.travisaudubon.org) and [www.hornsbybend.org](http://www.hornsbybend.org)

**April 24**

**Wednesday 10am – Noon at the CER**

- **Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership Quarterly Meeting – Open to anyone interested in the Colorado River – a stakeholder partnership about the future of the river corridor in Travis County and Bastrop County.**
- More about the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership at the CER website Projects and Partnerships page <http://www.austintexas.gov/cer>

**April 27**

**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.**
- We do three hours work and one hour of learning about the ecology of the Colorado River and Hornsby Bend - Wear work-clothes and work-shoes; bring water and binoculars if interested in birds.
- **New! POTLUCK LUNCH AND More ECOLOGICAL LEARNING** - Bring food for our potluck lunch afterwards and learn more at a presentation on ecology during lunch.
- April Presentation – **Native Bees of Texas** - Michael D. Warriner, Invertebrate Biologist, Wildlife Diversity Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

**For more information about these events, contact Kevin M. Anderson at  
[Kevin.Anderson@austintexas.gov](mailto:Kevin.Anderson@austintexas.gov) or 972-1960**