

# Austin Water Center for Environmental Research



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



## The CER Lunchtime Lectures 2022

**Dr. Kevin M. Anderson, Austin Water Center for Environmental Research**

### ***Alexander von Humboldt: Culture, Science, and the Geography of Nature***

In 1798, Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859) was appointed by the King of Spain to make the first extensive scientific exploration of Spanish America. Humboldt announced, “I shall collect plants and fossils and make astronomic observations. But that’s not the main purpose of my expedition – I shall try to find out how the forces of nature interact upon one another and how the geographic environment influences plant and animal life. In other words, I must find out about the unity of nature.”

The 2022 CER Lunchtime Lectures will focus on Alexander von Humboldt – his life, legacy, and rediscovery. We will begin by examining our Western ideas of nature and the study of nature which laid the foundations for Humboldt’s ideas. From there, we will trace the influence of Humboldt on 19th century science, literature, and his disappearance from 20th century scientific education in the United States. The year will end by seeing how Humboldt’s legacy is reemerging in the 21<sup>st</sup> century within environmentalism, environmental science, and the idea of the Anthropocene. Join us for a year of “Humboldtian Science” and Alexander von Humboldt!

### **Western Culture and the Study of Nature**

January – **Natural Philosophy and the Study of Nature.** [Watch the recording here.](#)

February – **Natural History and the Taxonomy of Nature.** [Watch the recording here.](#)

March – **Ecological Imperialism and the Geography of Nature**

- March 1<sup>st</sup> **12:30-2pm** at *University of Texas, Norman Hackerman Building, 100 E 24th St Room 1.720*
- March 8<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at *AW Center for Environmental Research at Hornsby Bend, 2210 South FM973*
- March 10<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at *PARD Senior Activity Center-Lamar, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave, South Room*

April – **Physical Geography and the Science of Nature**

- April 5<sup>th</sup> **12:30-2pm** at *University of Texas, Norman Hackerman Building, 100 E 24th St Room 1.720*
- April 12<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at *AW Center for Environmental Research at Hornsby Bend, 2210 South FM973*
- April 14<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at *PARD Senior Activity Center-Lamar, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave, South Room*

### **Humboldt and the Science of Nature**

May – **The Science of Nature: Humboldt and the Empirical Earth**

- May 3<sup>rd</sup> **12:30-2pm** at *University of Texas, Norman Hackerman Building, 100 E 24th St Room 1.720*
- May 10<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at *AW Center for Environmental Research at Hornsby Bend, 2210 South FM973*
- May 12<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at *PARD Senior Activity Center-Lamar, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave, South Room*

June – **The Romance of Nature: Science, Imagination, and the Poets of Nature**

- June 7<sup>th</sup> **12:30-2pm** at *University of Texas, Norman Hackerman Building, 100 E 24th St Room 1.720*

- June 14<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at AW Center for Environmental Research at Hornsby Bend, 2210 South FM973
- June 9<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at *PARD Senior Activity Center-Lamar, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave, South Room*

July – **The Invention of Modern Nature: The Earth as a “Natural Whole”**

- July 5<sup>th</sup> **12:30-2pm** at *University of Texas, Norman Hackerman Building, 100 E 24th St Room 1.720*
- Jul 12<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at AW Center for Environmental Research at Hornsby Bend, 2210 South FM973
- Jul 14<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at *PARD Senior Activity Center-Lamar, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave, South Room*

August – **The Evolution of Nature: Humboldt, Darwin, and Biogeography**

- August 2<sup>nd</sup> **12:30-2pm** at *University of Texas, Norman Hackerman Building, 100 E 24th St Room 1.720*
- Aug 9<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at AW Center for Environmental Research at Hornsby Bend, 2210 South FM973
- Aug 11<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at *PARD Senior Activity Center-Lamar, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave, South Room*

September – **The Economy of Nature: Ecology, Culture, and Cosmos**

- September 6<sup>th</sup> **12:30-2pm** at *University of Texas, Norman Hackerman Building, 100 E 24th St Room 1.720*
- Sep 13<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at AW Center for Environmental Research at Hornsby Bend, 2210 South FM973
- Sep 8<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at *PARD Senior Activity Center-Lamar, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave, South Room*

## **Humboldt and the Geography of Nature**

October – **The Great Disruptors: Physical Geography as Modified by Human Action**

- October 4<sup>th</sup> **12:30-2pm** at *University of Texas, Norman Hackerman Building, 100 E 24th St Room 1.720*
- Oct 11<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at AW Center for Environmental Research at Hornsby Bend, 2210 South FM973
- Oct 13<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at *PARD Senior Activity Center-Lamar, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave, South Room*

November – **The Earth Managers: New Science and Environmental Change**

- November 1<sup>st</sup> **12:30-2pm** at *University of Texas, Norman Hackerman Building, 100 E 24th St Room 1.720*
- Nov 8<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at AW Center for Environmental Research at Hornsby Bend, 2210 South FM973
- Nov 10<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at *PARD Senior Activity Center-Lamar, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave, South Room*

December – **The Anthropocene: Gaia and the Geography of Nature**

- December 6<sup>th</sup> **12:30-2pm** at *University of Texas, Norman Hackerman Building, 100 E 24th St Room 1.720*
- Dec 13<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at AW Center for Environmental Research at Hornsby Bend, 2210 South FM973
- Dec 8<sup>th</sup> **12-1pm** at *PARD Senior Activity Center-Lamar, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave, South Room*

Free and Open to the Public

**Masks required at all locations**

For more information and to sign up for our email list, contact [Kevin.Anderson@austintexas.gov](mailto:Kevin.Anderson@austintexas.gov)