

ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS

GENERAL PURPOSE

Austin Sierra Club

P. O. Box 4581
 Austin, TX 78765-4581
 Contact: Chris Lehman 444-4495
 E-mail: lehmanck@aol.com
 Net: www.texas.sierraclub.org/austin



Purpose: The Austin Sierra Club is the local arm of one of America's oldest and largest environmental organizations. Our mission is to explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.

The Austin Group of the Sierra Club is well known for immensely popular group outings to enjoy wild places throughout the U.S. and for local environmental activism. Our current campaigns are for water and air quality as well as anti-sprawl efforts. We hope to convince citizens and public officials to support land-use planning policies that will protect Central Texas from the impacts of uncontrolled sprawl. These include traffic congestion, long commutes, deteriorating air and water quality, higher taxes, and loss of greenspace.

Projects/Activities: Hiking, campouts, bicycling, environmental conservation/service projects, social activities.

Meetings: 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM at the LCRA Hancock Building, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. (Visit our Web site to confirm.)

Volunteer Opportunities: There are active committees for everyone's interests: Outings, Conservation, Environmental Education, Singles, Fundraising, Membership, Population, Water Quality Monitoring, and the "Sprawl Costs Us All" campaign.

Newsletters/Publications: Monthly *Austin Sierran* newsletter; semi-annual Lone Star Chapter newsletter; quarterly *National Sierra Club* magazine.

Dues: \$39/year; \$24/Students, limited income & seniors.

Campus Environmental Center

c/o Environmental Health and Safety
 P. O. Box 7729
 Austin, TX 78713
 Contact: Nancy Shackelford 232-7840
 FAX: 471-3408
 E-Mail: director@utenvironment.org
 Net: www.UTenvironment.org



Purpose: The Campus Environmental Center (CEC) is an Agency of UT Student Government which seeks to improve campus sustainability through education and projects. The CEC works in key relationships with faculty and staff, as well as with the administration, to change campus policies. The CEC also works with other environmental groups on campus in collaborative efforts to host events or coordinate projects. By acting as a resource center, the CEC has the flexibility to pursue a wide range of projects, so long as there are students interested in leading them.

Projects/Activities: Projects include student run recycling, a biodiesel feasibility study, campus gardening, and lectures and films.

Meetings: Every Thursday at 6 PM (places change, see Web site).

Volunteer Opportunities: Committee positions are available in education, publicity, outdoors, events, sustainability, recycling, and Web site maintenance. The groups assist with access for intern positions.

Newsletters/Publications: *Environmental Events in Austin* – weekly e-newsletter of university and city-wide events

Major Events: Earth Summit (every fall); Earth Week (every spring).



Powerlines – Electricity to the City
 Stained-glass window above door of Dallas Power & Light Building

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Environmental Defense

44 East Avenue, Suite #304

Austin, TX 78701

Contact: Phyllis Burns 478-5161

FAX: 478-8140

Net: www.environmentaldefense.org

Purpose: Environmental Defense has earned a reputation for finding solutions to some of the most daunting and complex environmental problems. We were founded in 1967 by a small group of scientists who successfully worked to ban the toxic pesticide DDT. We have since grown to become one of America's largest and most effective environmental organizations, supported by more than 300,000 members nationwide.

Today, our staff of scientists, economists and lawyers work to demonstrate that humanity can preserve the environment without harming its economic goals. Our programs are organized to address 4 critical environmental needs: Biodiversity; Ocean pollution and overfishing; Toxic chemicals and pollution; and The Greenhouse Effect.

Projects/Activities: The staff of the Texas Office of Environmental Defense addresses these needs through 5 major regional projects: 1) Coastal fishery management; 2) Air pollution reductions; 3) U.S. / Mexico border air and water quality protection; 4) Energy conservation & renewable energy promotion; and 5) Private land stewardship to protect endangered species.

Newsletters/Publications: Bi-monthly newsletter.

Dues: Begins at \$24/Individual; \$35/Family.

Travis Audubon Society

P. O. Box 40787

Austin, TX 78704

Contact: 300-2473

E-Mail: info@travisaudubon.org

Net: www.travisaudubon.org



Purpose: Travis Audubon Society (TAS) is a local nonprofit chapter of National Audubon Society and is composed of over 2,000 volunteers dedicated to the conservation and preservation of our natural resources. Our general meetings host programs with topics related to wildlife, conservation issues, and travel. TAS owns and operates two sanctuaries in the Austin area that preserve habitat and endangered species.

Projects/Activities: TAS provides opportunities for group birdwatching activities, public environmental awareness education, and informed environmental action. TAS maintains a 24-hour alert system at its Web site with



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information about rare bird sightings, field trips, and meetings.

Meetings: Monthly meetings, open to public, are on the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June through August, and December) at 7 PM. Consult Web site for location.

Volunteer Opportunities: TAS's committees offer a variety of volunteer experiences. These include monitoring local environmental issues, promoting environmental education through group presentations, maintaining our sanctuaries, and assisting in counting of Austin-area birds.

Newsletters/Publications: *Signal Smoke* - monthly chapter newsletter; *Audubon* - bimonthly national magazine.

Dues: \$20/Year.

Major Events: Christmas Bird Count for the Austin region in late December.

BUILDING / DESIGN

Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems

8604 FM 969

Austin, TX 78724

Contact: Gail Vittori 928-4786

FAX: 926-4418

Net: www.cmpbs.org



Purpose: The Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems, established in 1975, is a nonprofit sustainable planning, design and appropriate technology firm. The group is recognized for its perspective of the built environment, and is a founding partner of the City of Austin's Green Builder Program. The Center undertakes private and public sector building projects that establish new performance benchmarks in the areas of energy, water, carbon dioxide reduction, and regional resources.

Projects/Activities: Activities include involvement in Austin Energy's Zero Energy Home project; convener of the Green Guide for Health Care (www.Gghc.org); and the Advanced Green Demonstration Building Project in Austin. The Center provides consultation services for integrated planning and design, LEED® certification, and lecture and workshop services.

An Open House tour of the Center occurs monthly, generally on the first Friday of the month. Call for dates and times.

Volunteer Opportunities: Construction site, landscaping, and office assistance. A limited number of internships are available, some qualify for college credit.

Newsletters/Publications: Office brochure, publication list, and research briefs available on request and through the Web site.

Sustainable Building Coalition

P. O. Box 49381

Austin, TX 78765-9381

Contact: Frieda Falk Rinehart 490-8797

E-mail: frinehart@hotmail.com

Net: www.greenbuilder.com/sbc

The Sustainable Building Coalition is an Austin-area organization dedicated to educating the building and design community and the general public about sustainable,

or “green” building. We promote and encourage healthful, ecologically sound lifestyles and built environments; wise and resourceful use of natural and material resources; and businesses dedicated to sustainable living and building. Monthly meetings, tours to construction projects, newsletters, and hands-on activities allow members a wide variety of learning opportunities.

Meetings: We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 PM in the Cielo Room at Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey Road. Dates and times are subject to change and are announced via the listserv. Visit our Web site to get involved!

Dues: \$15 (email newsletter); \$25 (paper newsletter); \$35/Business.

EDUCATION

Austin Youth River Watch

10611 Platt Lane
Austin, TX 78725
Contact: Elisabeth Welsh 708-9115
FAX: 708-1184
E-mail: crwf@ev1.net
Net: www.ayrw.org

Purpose: The Austin Youth River Watch serves the citizens of Austin by monitoring the quality of Austin’s drinking water source and protecting it from pollution. Our objectives are: 1) to improve water quality in the Colorado River and its tributaries through ecological understanding and systematic analysis; 2) to reduce the dropout rate of students in Austin-area secondary schools through positive role-model interaction and tutoring; and 3) to increase participation of minority students in environmental issues and in technical careers.

Projects/Activities: The Austin Youth River Watch administers citizen water quality monitoring and environmental education projects for youth and adults. In partnership with the Austin Water Utility and the City of Austin Watershed Protection and Development Review Dept., the Austin Youth River Watch (AYRW) engages at-risk youth in real-world projects that facilitate learning about science, mathematics, and language skills.

Meetings: Board meets every 4th Thursday, 7 PM at office.

Volunteer Opportunities: Internships through UT Geography and Biology, tutoring, mentoring, fundraising, grant writing.

Newsletter: *Flying Fish Review*.

Environmental Corps

216 E. 4th Street
Austin, TX 78701
Contact: Parc Smith 744-1947
FAX: 448-9120
E-Mail: psmith@americanyouthworks.org
Net: www.americanyouthworks.org



Purpose: E-Corps is a program of American YouthWorks that trains members (ages 17-28) in “hands on” skills related restoration and preservation of our parks and public lands. The AmeriCorps component provides par-

ticipants an opportunity to improve the environment while earning scholarship money for college and a (bimonthly) living stipend. While participating in E-Corps’ program, members are pursuing their individual educational goals such as attaining their GED or diploma through the American YouthWorks Charter School, or completing relative college course work at a nearby college or university.

Projects/Activities: Conservation-Habitat Restoration, Park Improvement, Trail Building, Community Building.

Teaching Responsible Action for Care of the Environment (TRACE)



3411 North IH 35
Austin, TX 78722
Contact: John Van Ness 473-2644
FAX: 473-2628
E-mail: teachingresponsibleaction@yahoo.com
Net: www.teachingresponsibleaction.org

Purpose: We are committed to promoting healthier waterways as part of the urban ecosystem. To carry out our mission, we have implemented the Town Lake Adopt-a-Shoreline program and community-based watershed education, combining instruction with environmental service projects.

Projects/Activities: Town Lake Adopt-a-Shoreline, 52 Weeks, Community/School-based Watershed Education.

Volunteer Opportunities: We are always looking for people to volunteer their time and talents to program efforts, project development, and outreach.

Newsletters/Publications: T.R.A.C.E. e-newsletter.

Texas Center for Policy Studies

44 East Avenue, Suite 306
Austin, TX 78701
Contact: Cyrus Reed 740-4086
FAX: 474-7846
E-mail: tcps@texascenter.org
Net: www.texascenter.org

Purpose: TCPS is an environmental policy and research organization working on numerous projects of state, national and even international significance. It is not a membership organization, but offers good research reports and policy analysis that can assist people and organizations in environmental causes and issues.

Projects/Activities: Projects include work on binational issues along the U.S.-Mexico border, and state issues including proper enforcement of environmental laws. It also sponsors the Texas Environmental Profiles Web site (www.texasep.org), which provides data on a county level and analyzes legal and regulatory issues of the Texas environment.

Volunteer Opportunities: Library cataloging and document organization.

Newsletters/Publications: A few are listed below. Contact Center for a complete list.

Making Polluters Pay: Environmentally Responsible Ways the Texas Legislature Can Raise New State Funds.

The Generation and Management of Hazardous Waste and Transboundary Hazardous Waste Shipments between Mexico, Canada and the United States since NAFTA: A 2004 Update.

ENERGY

Neighbors for Neighbors

P. O. Box 661
Elgin, TX 78621
Travis Brown (512) 273-2983
E-mail: travisbrown@totalaccess.net
Net: www.neighborsforneighbors.com



Purpose: We are an all-volunteer citizens organization trying to protect the quality of the land, water, air, and rural ways of life in Central Texas, particularly in Bastrop, Lee, and surrounding counties. Since 1999 we have worked to stop Alcoa and its cronies' water-grabbing, strip-mining, air-polluting plans and practices. We are also working to assure that the Central Carrizo-Wilcox aquifer, the subject of numerous water marketing schemes, remains a clean and sustainable source of water.

Projects/Activities: We are active with the legislature and local groundwater districts to assure water protection and stop the gutting of regulations for power plant wastes. We are pressing for stronger regulation of heavy metals and other toxic wastes, particularly mercury. We are gathering information about health effects of pollution from Alcoa, TXU, and related industries. Having sued Alcoa over illegal air pollution at its Rockdale facility, we are monitoring the company's compliance with the terms of the lawsuit's settlement.

Meetings: See Web site.

Volunteer Opportunities: Information gathering, organizing and speaking at meetings, meeting with legislators, fundraising.

Newsletters/Publications: Electronic newsletter, testimony and reports (see Web site).

Dues: \$10 per year per person.

KENT C. ANSCHUTZ

Attorney and Counselor at Law

Board Certified - Criminal Law
Texas Board of Legal Specialization

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Austin, Texas 78701 Fax (512) 472-4102

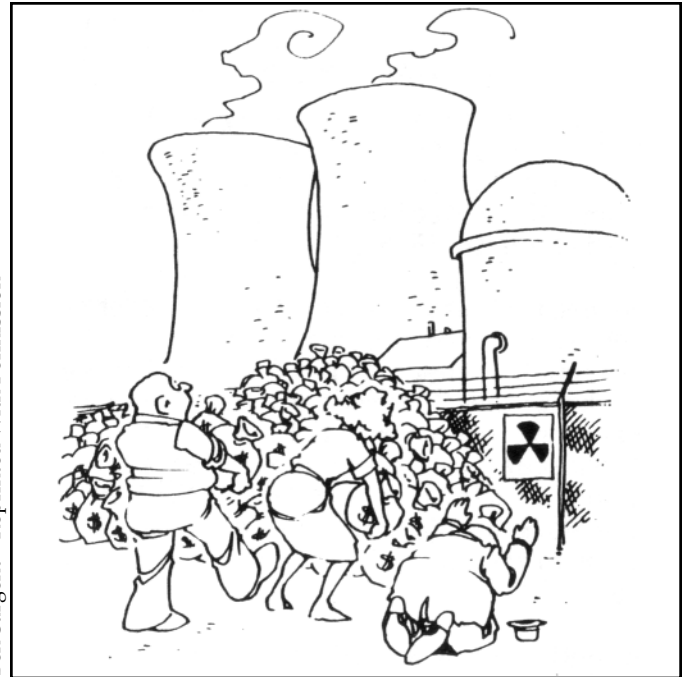
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Public Citizen-Texas

1002 West Avenue, Suite 300
Austin, TX 78701
Contact: Tom Smith
477-1155
FAX: 479-8302
E-mail: smitty@citizen.org
Net: www.citizen.org/texas



Purpose: Public Citizen advocates for consumer rights, environmental protection and workplace safety, and demands corporate and government accountability.

Projects: Environmental reforms, Energy-efficient building codes, Renewable Energy, Mercury emissions, Trade issues, Transportation and new technologies, Implementation of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Global Warming Plan.

Volunteer Opportunities: Student internships are available. Some students receive course credit. Interns usually carry out research as well as computer and clerical work.

Newsletters/Publications: National bimonthly newsletter and health research letter.

Dues: \$40 annually (includes both newsletters). Public Citizen does not accept funding from corporations, governmental bodies or trade associations.

Sustainable Energy and Economic Development (SEED) Coalition

1801 Westlake Dr., #209
Austin, TX 78746
Contact: Karen Hadden 797-8481
Email: karen@seedcoalition.org
Net: www.seedcoalition.org



Purpose: The SEED Coalition is a network of Texans advocating for clean air and clean energy, increased renewable energy and energy efficiency, pollution reductions, and creating clean energy jobs.

Projects/Activities: Protecting health by reducing toxic

mercury and global warming gases from coal-burning power plants, fighting for renewables and efficiency instead of proposed new coal plants. We organize rallies and hearings, testify, provide speakers, table at events, and offer free faxes on our Web sites. SEED Coalition is a founding member of Solar Austin, a group that has successfully organized for clean energy programs in utilities. SEED is involved in coalition work protecting West Texas and New Mexico from nuclear dumps and a planned uranium enrichment facility.

Volunteers: We often need help with administrative work, mailouts, volunteer coordination, GIS mapping, Web sites, and graphics work. Some public speaking opportunities. Internships include research, computer and clerical work.

Publications: SEED maintains 2 other Web sites: www.HealthyFish.net and www.RenewableTexas.org

Texas Solar Energy Society

P. O. Box 1447
Austin, TX 78767-1447
Contact: Stephanie Hunter 326-3391
FAX: 444-0333
E-Mail: info@txses.org
Net: www.txses.org

Purpose: To increase the awareness of the potential of solar and other renewable energy applications and to promote the wise use of these sustainable and non-polluting resources.

Projects/Activities: Annual Texas Renewable Energy Roundup, Green Living & Sustainability Fair, held the last weekend of September in Fredericksburg, TX.

Volunteer Opportunities: Over 100 volunteers are needed to put on the annual Roundup.

Newsletters/Publications: Quarterly newspaper, *Solar Reflector*.

Dues: \$25/Individual, with premium options encouraged.

Major Events: High school solar-powered car race each July. It starts in Austin and travels cross-country.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

PODER (People Organized in Defense of Earth and Her Resources)

P. O. Box 6237
Austin, TX 78762
Contact: Susana Almanza 472-9921
FAX: 472-9922
E-mail: poder@austin.rr.com
Net: www.poder-texas.org



Purpose: To empower our communities through education, advocacy and action; redefining environmental issues as social and economic justice; and collectively setting our own agenda to address these concerns as basic human rights.

Projects/Activities: 1) Land Use and Sustainability and 2) Transportation and Quality of Life. PODER works to increase participation in its newly created projects and programs: *Young Scholars for Justice* provides an opportunity

for young people to address their particular issues through action research and public participation with decision-makers; *Nahui Ollin* - Healthy Communities works with parents and community residents on environmental issues related to children's health; *Keepers of the Roy Guerrero Colorado River Park* works to keep a balance between nature and humanity; and *Technology, Education, Advocacy and Mobilization* will assist neighborhood leaders to utilize technology to advance their efforts to create a healthy community. PODER produces an Environmental Justice Radio program on Radio KOOP 91.

Meetings: Call for Information.

Volunteer Opportunities: Every issue offers opportunities to help out.

FOOD

Austin Organic Gardeners

11104 Jockey Bluff Drive
Austin, TX 78748
Contact: Venkappa Gani 291-5712
E-mail: vl.venkappa@gmail.com
Net: www.main.org/aog/



Purpose: To preserve and share knowledge and methods for growing beautiful, healthy landscapes and nutritious food plants. The group provides information on organic home, lawn, and garden maintenance.

Projects/Activities: Monthly meetings, with guest speakers; exchange of gardening experiences and plants.

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month (except Dec.), 7:30 PM at the Austin Area Garden Center, Zilker Botanical Gardens. Meetings are free and open to the public.

Volunteer Opportunities: Staff organic gardening information booths at Zilker Garden Festival, the annual organic vegetable and herb transplant sale, the Herb Fair, and selected other community events.

Newsletters/Publications: Bimonthly newsletter; guides on organic pest control, gardening, and planting.

Dues: \$8/Family.

Say No To GMOs!

P. O. Box 382
Cedar Creek, TX 78612
Contact: Candace Boheme 303-1400
Net: www.saynotogmos.org



Purpose: GMOs are genetically modified organisms. Genetic engineering is a radical new technology that allows genetic information to be moved across species barriers in a way that could never be accomplished in the natural world. Much of the corn and soybean crops in the U.S. are GMOs. These laboratory-created mutations are unlabeled, virtually untested and on grocery shelves everywhere. We support mandatory labeling, long-term independent safety testing, more stringent regulation and full corporate liability for damages resulting from the irresponsible introduction of GMOs to the environment and food supply.

Projects/Activities: Consumer education, Web site, local direct action, educational forums.

SAY NO TO GMOS!

www.saynotogmos.org

*Grassroots education, activities and resources
for consumer choice and a genetically viable future*

What's a GMO? Genetically Modified Organism is the most common usage (though 'manipulated' or even 'mutated' might also be appropriate!) Genetic engineering is a radical new technology that forces genetic information across the protective species barrier in an unnatural way. These laboratory-created mutations are unlabeled, virtually untested and on grocery shelves everywhere.

Say No To GMOs! supports:

- mandatory labeling
- long-term independent safety testing
 - more stringent regulation
- full corporate liability for damages resulting from the irresponsible introduction of GMOs to the environment and food supply.

Visit www.saynotogmos.org for FREE bumperstickers!

Other recommended resources:
"The Future of Food" by Lily Films
(www.thefutureoffood.com)

"Seeds of Deception" by Jeffrey Smith
(www.seedsofdeception.com)

Volunteer Opportunities: Networking, distributing educational information, participating in local activities.

Newsletters/Publications: Video "Heartbreak in the Heartland;" farmers speak out about the true cost of genetically engineered crops.

Sustainable Food Center

1106 Clayton Lane, Suite 480W

Austin, TX 78723

Contact: Ronda Rutledge 236-0074

FAX: 236-0098

E-mail: info@sustainablefoodcenter.org

Net: www.sustainablefoodcenter.org

Purpose: Developing local food systems that build healthy communities from farm to garden to table.

Projects/Activities: We respond comprehensively to hunger and diet-related health problems with prevention-oriented programs that include 4 cornerstone services:

1) Growing food – community and youth gardens located throughout Austin, Spread the Harvest program and gardening education workshops/programs;

2) Cooking food – The Happy Kitchen/ La Cocina Alegre program, which offers cooking classes to help low-income and health at-risk individuals and families learn how to prepare healthful meals on a budget;

3) Distributing and marketing food – through farm stands (accepting WIC FMNP vouchers) and farmers market programs; and

4) Building sustainable food systems – policies and



community education to build a healthier, more vibrant local food system.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed for hands-on gardening and community projects, leading cooking clubs, office work, computer assistance and English to Spanish translation. We welcome college internships.

Newsletters/Publications: Newsletter published quarterly; also *Successful Youth Gardens* (\$7), *GrowingTogether* (\$7), and *Growing Smart* (\$3) are available by mail. *Access Denied* is available on the Center's Web site.

Dues: Community garden plots available for rent. Prices vary depending upon size, locale and ability to pay.

Major Events: Austin Farmers' Market every Saturday, 9 AM-1 PM, Year round; Teachers-Only Workshops in early spring, and Basic Gardening Workshops in fall; Garden Walk tour of East Austin gardens; Volunteer Appreciation Night every December.

Texas Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association (TOFGA)

962 State Highway 71E

Bastrop, TX 78602

Contact: Steve Bridges (877) 326-5175

Email: steve@tofga.org

Net: www.tofga.org

Purpose: TOFGA is a statewide non-profit organization. It provides: 1) information about the benefits of buying, eating, or growing your own organic food; 2) a statewide/national network of organic producers, supporters, researchers, services and projects supporting the organic industry.

Projects/Activities: Workshops, talks, and local/regional fairs, as well as an annual conference providing organic producers (large and small) education on production, marketing and alternative crops.

American YouthWorks

Building 5-Star Homes, 5-Star Trails, and 5-Star People

For a Starlit Austin Community

*Great educational and environmental
programs for people 16-25 years of age*

744-1900
216 E. 4th Street
1901 E. Ben White Blvd.
Austin, TX



Austin orientation

Introductions to living well in Austin

Learn to live, shop, eat & play in ways that celebrate and support Austin's local economy, culture & environment.

* Geography * History * Outdoor Activities * Civics
* Local & Green Business * Music * Arts * City Services
* Transportation * Publications * and much more!

512-477-3311 • brandi@austinorientation.com

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are the backbone of this organization. Our volunteers attend booths, help organize and facilitate workshops and conferences, do local talks, help develop publications, and assist with fundraising activities.

Newsletters/Publications: *The Texas Organic News* (quarterly) provides information on events, activities, products, services, and general news about the organic farming industry. *The Texas Organic eNews* is available to members and non-members.

Dues: \$20 Retired/student; \$35/Individual; varying levels for farms, ranches and commercial businesses.

Vegetarian Network of Austin

P. O. Box 49333
Austin, TX 78765-9333
Contact: Crescent Lynn 769-7823
E-mail: contact@vegnettaustin.org
Net: www.vegnettaustin.org

Purpose: The 4 goals of the VNA are: 1) to foster social contact for area vegetarians; 2) to support vegetarian eating establishments and businesses/organizations; 3) social activism for vegetarianism, including animal rights, human health, world hunger, and the environment; and 4) to offer public education and awareness of vegetarian issues.

Projects/Activities: Lone Star Vegetarian Cook-off; Earth Day; Great American Meat-Out.

Meetings: Monthly pot-luck dinner at 7 PM, 2nd Saturday of the month. Check Web site for location.

Newsletters/Publications: bimonthly newsletter.

Dues: \$15 Students/srs.; \$25/Individual; \$30/Family.

FUNDRAISING



The Green Charity Plate by Wendy Hale Davis

Two umbrella fundraising organizations represent and raise money for environmental organizations in the workplace. You can be a key to opening the door of your workplace by helping to start a giving program there.

Another Way Texas Shares

701 Tillery Street, Suite 8
Austin, TX 78702
Contact: Janet Sharkis 782-8188
FAX: 385-1430
E-mail: janet@anotherway.org
Net: www.anotherway.org



Purpose: Another Way organizes giving to 41 social, economic justice, and environmental organizations primarily through payroll deduction in the workplace. Our members work to eliminate the root causes of community problems through essential services and advocacy.

Partial List of Groups: ACLU Foundation of Texas, American Friends Service Committee, Austin Free-Net, Austin Tenants' Council, the Breast Cancer Resource Center, Casa Marianella, Disability Assistance of Central Texas, Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project, Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas Calkin Fund, PODER (People Organized in Defense of the Earth and her Resources), Sustainable Food Center, the Texas Abortion & Reproductive Rights Action League, Texas AIDS Network, Texas Civil Rights Project, Texas Folklife Resources, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, Writers' League of Texas.

Volunteer Opportunities: Both one-time and ongoing opportunities are available through AWTs and our member organizations. Visit our Web site for more information.

Earth Share of Texas

707 West Avenue, Suite 203
Austin, TX 78701
Contact: Edie Muehlberger 472-5518
E-mail: estx@earthshare-texas.org
Net: www.earthshare-texas.org

Purpose: Earth Share of Texas represents more than 70 local, state, national, and international environmental and conservation organizations in payroll contribution plans at employee workplaces across Texas.

Partial List of Groups: Audubon Foundation of Texas, Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems, Clean Water Fund of Texas, Ecology Action of Texas, Hill Country Conservancy, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, The Nature Conservancy, Protect Lake Travis Association, Public Citizen, Recycling Alliance of Texas, San Marcos River Foundation, Save Barton Creek Association, Save Our Springs Alliance, Sierra Club Foundation, Texas Bicycle Coalition Education Fund, Texas Solar Energy Society, TreeFolks, Trust for Public Land, Westcave Preserve.

North American Premiere
Aunt Thrash
A novel of love and war in Texas
By Ray Reece

April 2007 Austin
Published in Hungary as *Szórakozz a Nénikéddel!*
La Ventana Press, Budapest
www.laventanabudapest.hu



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GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING



C. David Seidlitz

Clean Water Action

715 W. 23rd Street, Suite R
 Austin, TX 78705
 Contact: David Foster 474-0605
 FAX: 474-7024
 E-mail: txcwa@cleanwater.org
 Net: www.cleanwateraction.org



Purpose: Clean Water Action is a national citizens' organization working for clean, safe and affordable water, prevention of health-threatening pollution, creation of environmentally-safe jobs and businesses, and empowerment of people to make democracy work. CWA helps citizens demand clean water by lobbying at all levels of government and by working with citizens groups to achieve strong laws and their enforcement.

Projects/Activities: Currently CWA is focused on preventing legislative rollback of the Clean Water Act, demanding better enforcement of water protection laws in Texas, and making sure polluters pay for their damage to the environment.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers needed to help during elections, participate at public hearings, and assist with office projects that help our programs. Paid and unpaid internships, with college credit, are available.

Newsletters: *Clean Water Action News*, national newsletter; *Sustainer Bulletin*, state newsletter.

Dues: \$25/year with national newsletter; \$60/year with state and national newsletters.

Texas Campaign for the Environment

611 South Congress, Suite 200
 Austin, TX 78704
 Contact: Robin Schneider 326-5655
 FAX: 326-5922
 E-mail: robin@texasenvironment.org
 Net: www.texasenvironment.org



Purpose: TCE is a statewide citizens' campaign that works to involve residents in the decision-making process and hold our elected and appointed officials accountable on public health and environmental issues.

Projects/Activities: In the spring of 2002, TCE began working with the National Computer TakeBack Campaign to advocate responsible computer recycling and disposal programs by manufacturers. The campaign re-

sulted in Dell Inc. and Hewlett Packard supporting the "Statement of Principles on Producer Responsibility for Electronic Waste." TCE has also worked to close the grandfather loophole for landfills that allow dumps to heap garbage on top of unlined areas.

Volunteer Opportunities: Help is needed with administrative, research, and campaign activities. Student internships and paid organizing positions often available.

Dues: \$15/year basic membership & \$25/year newsletter membership.

Environment Texas

1009 W. 6th Street, Suite 208
 Austin, TX 78703
 Contact: Luke Metzger 479-0388
 FAX: 479-0400
 E-mail: luke@environmenttexas.org
 Net: www.environmenttexas.org



Purpose: We all want clean air, clean water and open spaces. But it takes independent research and tough-minded advocacy to win concrete results, especially when powerful interests stand in the way of progress. That's the idea behind Environment Texas. We focus exclusively on protecting Texas' air, water and open spaces. We take action at the local, state and national levels to improve the quality of our environment and our lives.

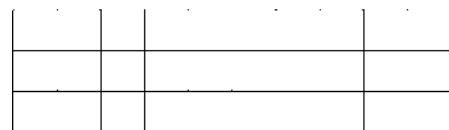
Projects/Activities: Environment Texas, the new home of TexPIRG's environmental work, is working to protect Texas natural areas from development, to improve enforcement of our clean air laws, and to bring more wind and solar energy to Texas.

Volunteer Opportunities: Students can receive credit and small stipends as interns.

Newsletters/Publications: Environment Texas *Report* sent to members 3 times a year.

Dues: \$25/year (\$15 for first time members).

Rindy Miller Media



Public Affairs/ Media/ Communications

2401 E. 6th Street/ Suite 1003/ Austin, TX 78702
 512-472-5715/ Fax 512-472-8145

P. O. Box 1961 Office (512) 326-9944
 Austin, Texas 78767-1961 FAX: (512) 447-3566

TIM MAHONEY
 Attorney-At-Law, P. C.

Website: <http://webpace4me.net/~mahoney/>
 E-mail address: mahoneylaw@infohiwy.net

PARKS & OPEN SPACE

Austin Metro Trails & Greenways

P. O. Box 685106
Austin, TX 78768
Contact: Jeb Boyt 467-0753
E-Mail: jeboyt@hotmail.com
Net: www.austrinails.org



Purpose: AMTG works to promote and develop a regional network of greenways and trails for recreation, transportation, health, and environmental benefits. Our goal is that everyone in the Austin area should have a trail within a 10-minute walk from their front door.

Projects/Activities: 1) Rails with Trails – working with Capital Metro to develop trails along the right-of-way of rail lines; 2) Slaughter Creek Trail – working with the City of Austin to develop a recreational trail on Slaughter Creek; 3) Bikeways Vision Map – developing an interactive map for an Austin bike plan (www.austinbikeways.org); 4) Trail Funding – working with governments and private partners to gain more funding for greenways and trails.

Meetings: Once a month except for December and July. Call or e-mail for date, place, and time.

Volunteer Opportunities: Trail workdays, database development, message development, grant writing, and serving on project committees.

Dues: \$25/Individual; \$40/Family; \$50/Business.

Austin Parks Foundation

701 Brazos Street, Suite 170
Austin, TX 78701
Contact: Charlie McCabe 477-1566
FAX: 477-1586
E-mail: cmccabe@austinparks.org
Net: www.austinparks.org



Purpose: The mission of the Austin Parks Foundation (APF) is to ensure vibrant parks and pristine public open space in Austin for generations to come. It is founded on the belief that these community resources are components of the economic, social and cultural well being of Austin.

Projects/Activities: Through its Partners for Parks program, APF provides small grants for neighborhood groups interested in enhancing their parks. APF also co-produces the annual "Adopt-A-Park Awards" lunch. APF, in partnership with the Downtown Austin Alliance, is revitalizing Austin's historic downtown squares. APF also continues to play a leading role in the development of the 363-acre Colorado River Park in central east Austin.

Volunteer Opportunities: These include park and trail improvements, "Movie in the Park" concessions, community outreach, event planning, and office administration, and are listed at www.austinparks.org.

Newsletters/Publications: Monthly e-newsletter.

Dues: \$35/year.

Major Events: *It's My Park! Day* in April – a volunteer improvement day at parks throughout Austin.

Hill Country Conservancy

P. O. Box 163125
Austin, TX 78716
Contact: Fred Ellis 328-2481
FAX: 732-0268
E-mail: fred@hillcountryconservancy.org
Net: www.hillcountryconservancy.org

Purpose: Hill Country Conservancy (HCC) is a non-profit land trust that works to ensure a healthy environment and economy in the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer region by permanently preserving natural areas and the rural heritage of the Texas Hill Country. The Board of Directors is comprised of members of the area's business, real estate and conservation communities.

Projects/Activities: The Conservancy's goal is to permanently conserve 50,000 acres of land in the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer. Since incorporation in 2000, HCC has worked with the City of Austin and other partners to conserve nearly 8,000 acres of land in the Texas Hill Country, valued at over \$56 million. Strategies include: 1) accepting donations of land; 2) fee simple acquisitions; 3) crafting land preservation agreements and 4) matching conservation buyers with properties. HCC seeks to partner whenever possible to maximize shared resources by leveraging private dollars with public funding and leveraging mitigation lands and public/private mitigation funds.

Dues: From \$25 to \$1,000.

Meetings: Board of Directors meets 3rd Tuesday every other month.

The Nature Conservancy of Texas

816 Congress Avenue, Suite 920
Austin, TX 78701
Contact: Bob Benson 494-9559
FAX: 494-9585
E-mail: bob_benson@tnc.org
Net: www.tnc.org



Purpose: With a commitment that began in 1964 to conserve Texas, native animals, plants and landscapes, The Nature Conservancy now owns 34 Texas nature preserves and manages an additional 34 conservation projects. Working with an array of public and private partners, we have conserved more than 900,000 acres in Texas.

Projects/Activities: Projects include acquiring and managing preserves and conservation easements in Austin and the surrounding Hill Country region and conducting scientific research on ecological systems.

Meetings: Annual fundraising luncheon in the fall and

P. O. Box 1961
Austin, Texas 78767-1961

Office (512) 326-9944

FAX: (512) 447-3566

TIM MAHONEY
Attorney-At-Law, P. C.

Website: <http://webpace4me.net/~mahoney/>
E-mail address: mahoneylaw@infohiwy.net

two landowner workshops in the spring and fall at the Barton Creek Habitat Preserve.

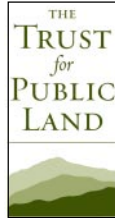
Volunteer Opportunities: Restoring habitat on preserves, conducting scientific surveys, and assisting in administrative operations.

Newsletters/Publications: Members receive a national color magazine 6 times a year.

Dues: \$25/year.

Trust for Public Land

816 Congress, Suite 1550
Austin, TX 78701
Contact: Anjali Kaul 478-4644
FAX: 478-4522
E-mail: anjali.kaul@tpl.org
Net: www.tpl.org



Purpose: The Trust for Public Land (TPL) is a private, nonprofit land conservation organization working nationwide to conserve land for people. Founded in 1972, the Trust specializes in conservation real estate, applying its expertise in negotiation, public finance, and law to protect land for public use. Working with private landowners, community groups, and government agencies, TPL has helped protect thousands of special places nationwide for people to enjoy as parks, playgrounds, community gardens, historic landmarks, and wilderness lands. TPL has helped protect 28,000 acres in Texas since 1979.

Projects/Activities: TPL's Texas State Office is currently working on park land acquisition projects in Austin, Dallas, San Antonio and Houston.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers needed for specific/seasonal projects.

Newsletters/Publications: Texas Newsletter; *Land and People* (quarterly magazine); *Protecting the Source*; *Groundswell: Stories of Saving Places, Finding Community*; *Conservation Finance Handbook*.

POLITICS

Texas Environmental Democrats of Austin (TED)

3807 Prairie Lane
Austin, TX 78728
Contact: Marguerite Jones 389-2164
E-mail: mommyactivist@aol.com
Net: www.texasenvironmentaldemocrats.org/

Purpose: We are organized as a caucus within the Democratic Party, in dialogue with all citizens, to transform the destructive elements of our society into systems which restore and preserve the soil, air, water and life spirit of our planet. We seek to make protection of the environment an issue that can no longer be ignored. Join us in protecting the environment through grassroots politics.

Projects/Activities: Every 2 years, when the Texas legislature meets, we lobby to support environmental legislation.

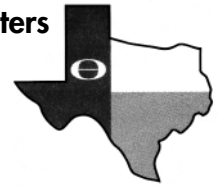
Meetings: The last Tuesday of the month at 5:30 PM at Twin Oaks Library.

Volunteer Opportunities: Park clean-ups, and doing volunteer work for environmentally friendly candidates.

Dues: \$10/yr.

Texas League of Conservation Voters

44 East Avenue, Suite 202
Austin, TX 78701
Contact: Colin Leyden 477-4424
FAX: 477-6555
E-mail: tlcv@tlcv.org
Net: www.tlcv.org



Purpose: Texas League of Conservation Voters is the political arm of the Texas environmental community. The TLCV PAC raises funds to support candidates who are pro-conservation and promote environmental legislation or policies. TLCV also tracks the voting records of members of the Texas Legislature and publishes a biennial scorecard.

The efforts of TLCV have resulted in successful campaigns for several new members to the Texas legislature and city governments. Our goal is to build on these successes and elect a majority of candidates who believe in a healthy environment.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteer opportunities during the election cycle. Please contact the organization if you are interesting in working on electoral campaigns.

Travis County Green Party

P. O. Box 1508
Austin, TX 78767
Contact: Michael Grant
(888) 496-8239
E-mail: info@traviscountygreens.org
Net: www.traviscountygreens.org



Purpose: The Travis County Green Party is affiliated with the Green Party of Texas whose purpose is to work for peace, grassroots democracy, social and economic justice, and an ecologically sustainable society. It promotes Green-oriented community building activities. The Green Party of Texas nominates and endorses candidates for public office and engages in other political and educational activities in the state of Texas.

Projects/Activities: Instant Runoff Voting within the City of Austin; building precincts and coalitions to support candidates; running candidates for office to retain state-wide ballot access.

Meetings: 2nd Sunday of the month at the Carver Library (1161 Angelina) starting at 3 PM; Orientation sessions at 2:30 PM on the same day at the same place.

Volunteer Opportunities: Collecting signatures for petitions, lobbying, testifying at the City Council and state legislature on Green Party issues, building a viable political party, fundraising, media and public relations, outreach and recruitment, writing/editing/designing/distributing newspaper, staffing the office, general political activity.

Republicans for Environmental Protection

3200 Carlisle Blvd., #228
Albuquerque, NM 87110
Contact: Martha Marks (505) 690-9601
Net: www.rep.org

A Texas chapter of this national organization is forming. Contact the national office for details.

RECYCLING

Ecology Action of Texas

707 E. 9th Street
Austin, TX 78701
Contact: John Clement 322-0000
FAX: 322-0625
E-mail: recycle@ecology-action.org
Net: www.ecology-action.org



Purpose: Founded in 1970, Ecology Action (EA) is one of the oldest environmental groups in Austin. EA is dedicated to educating and empowering people to create a healthier environment by reducing waste, reusing materials, and recycling.

Projects/Activities: EA operates 3 recycling centers in central Texas, recovering approximately 4 million pounds of material annually. Our programs include a telephone referral service, speaking engagements and school presentations, tours of the center for children's groups, and a recycling consultation service for business members.

Board Meetings: EA's board of directors has quarterly meetings, which are open to the public. Call the main office for times and locations.

Volunteer Opportunities: Varied and fun positions. Call for details.

Newsletters/Publications: *The Recycler* newsletter, quarterly.

Dues: \$40/yr., with other levels available.

Keep Austin Beautiful

105 West Riverside, Suite 230
Austin, TX 78704
Contact: Brian Block 391-0617
FAX: 391-0624
E-mail: Brian.Block@ci.austin.tx.us
Net: www.KeepAustinBeautiful.org



Purpose: Keep Austin Beautiful (KAB) promotes a clean, healthy, beautiful environment through cleanup and beautification projects and events, education, and community outreach.

Projects/Activities:

- Annual Awards Luncheon, February. Held to honor individuals and organizations whose hard work helps keep the Greater Austin area one of the most beautiful and livable regions in the country.
- Clean Sweep Across Austin, April. Mobilizes more than 1,000 volunteers to remove trash and litter from the shores of Town Lake and several other public areas.
- Travis County Parks Cleanup, June. Cleans up 9 Travis County Parks surrounding Lake Travis.
- Lake Travis Underwater Cleanup, September. The BIGGEST scuba diving and shoreline cleanup in Texas!

Volunteer Opportunities: Event volunteers; Student interns; Office volunteers; Board of Directors; Committees.

Newsletters/Publications: Monthly e-newsletter. Sign up on Web site.

Recycling Alliance of Texas

3701 Lake Austin Blvd., MS 211
Austin, TX 78703
Contact: Cis Myers 473-3217
FAX: 327-7273
E-mail: cister@sbcglobal.net
Net: www.recycletx.com



Purpose: The Recycling Alliance of Texas promotes waste reduction through public advocacy, professional networking and public education in order to conserve finite natural resources and protect and enhance our natural environment.

Projects/Activities: These include an annual meeting, statewide and regional conferences, public education activities, and policy initiatives on the state level.

Meetings: Notice given in newsletter.

Volunteer Opportunities: Call for more information.

Newsletters/Publications: *The Alliance Voice*, quarterly.

Dues: \$25/Student; \$80/Nonprofit; \$80/Associate; \$105/Individual; \$135/Government; \$210/Small business; \$300/Large business.

SPECIAL PURPOSE

Austin Neighborhoods Council

P. O. Box 176
Austin, TX 78767
Contact: Laura Morrison 494-8702
E-Mail: lcmorrison@prodigy.net
Net: www.ancweb.org



Purpose: Citywide umbrella organization of neighborhood groups promoting neighborhood preservation and improvement.

Projects/Activities: Monthly meetings with presentations from elected officials, city government, and other speakers of neighborhood interest. Active in assessing and promoting neighborhood interests in city activities, including planning, transportation, and zoning. Holds annual candidate forums for City Council. Assistance available with organizing new neighborhood associations.

Meetings: 4th Wednesday of the month at 7 PM (except November and December) at Town Lake Center (Austin Energy Headquarters), 721 Barton Springs Road, First Floor Assembly Room.

Newsletters/Publications: E-mail updates and discussions on the ANC listserve – ANCTalk.

Dues: Membership open to any neighborhood or homeowner association, \$35 year.

Austin Sustainable Business Council

Contact: Brandi Clark 736-8567
E-mail: info@sustainableaustin.org
Net: www.sustainableaustin.org



Purpose: ASBC promotes businesses and business practices that not only produce profits but provide quality workplaces and contribute to a thriving community and a healthy environment. This is also referred to as measuring

the triple bottom line of people, the planet, and profits.

Projects/Activities: The Austin Sustainable Business Council (ASBC) hosts regular programs to share best practices, provide networking forums, help entrepreneurs identify emerging business opportunities, and connect existing businesses with resources to improve their operations.

Volunteer Opportunities: Assistance is sought for the following committees: Membership, Communications, and Programs. Members are also encouraged to serve on the ASBC Board of Directors.

Dues: \$10/Student; \$80/Non-profits; \$105/Individual; \$210 and up/Business.

Environmental Health League

6200 Cannon League
Austin, TX 78745

Contact: Rowena Caldwell 419-9547

E-mail: kwb7771@aol.com

Net: www.txeh.org



Purpose: To provide information and support to the chemically injured/sensitive; and to educate our community about the impact of toxins on human health and offer safer alternatives.

Projects/Activities: Monthly meetings in or near Austin to share info and experiences with one another. Occasional speakers on related topics. Working on medical accommodations for those with Multiple Chemical Sensitivity. We also do public outreach and education on how chemicals impact human health and offer safer alternatives.

Newsletters/Publications: *Understanding Chemically Sensitive People in your Community; Guidelines for Less Toxic Living; Environmentally Sound Pest Control Offered by Texas Pest Control Companies; Safe Pest Control for Schools; and Indoor Air Pollution at School.*

CLEAN AIR Force of Central Texas

2512 S. IH 35, Suite 200

Austin, TX 78704

Contact: Deanna Altenhoff

(866) 916-4247

FAX: 916-6038

E-mail: info@cleanairforce.org

Net: www.cleanairforce.org



Purpose: To coordinate and conduct air quality planning and education activities in Central Texas. The CLEAN AIR Force (CAF) focuses both on motivating the citizens of this region to take actions to reduce air pollution and maintain healthy air, and on advising responsible government entities on air quality issues.

Projects/Activities: Programs of the CAF include:

- Clean Air Partners Program, which asks for commitments from businesses, agencies, and non-profits to voluntarily cut air pollution by 10% in 3 years;
- Adopt-A-School Bus Program, using contributions from area businesses to retrofit or replace old, dirty engines in school buses;
- Electric Lawnmower Discount Program, which promotes discounts for electric mowers that do not emit pollutants onsite;
- Ozone Action Day Alert Program, which informs the

public about days when air pollution is beyond federal standards so people can take actions to reduce emissions.

The staff is also available year-round to make presentations on the health and economic impacts of air quality in our region to schools, businesses, community organizations, and other interested groups.

Meetings: CAF Board Meetings are held quarterly at the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce. Public Involvement Committee meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10:30 AM at the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce. Check Web site for updated dates and times.

Volunteer Opportunities: Many of our events have opportunities for volunteers. Call for details.



611 South Congress, Suite 200A

Austin, TX 78704

Contact: Wendi White 326-3331

E-mail: info@liveablecity.org

Net: www.liveablecity.org

Purpose: LiveableCity is an inclusive network of individuals working together to create a community consensus to promote policies that address the long-term social, environmental and economic needs of the people of Austin. The group helps create new community models that focus on the interconnected relationships among growth issues such transportation, housing, environment, affordability, neighborhoods, culture and the economy in an equitable and sustainable manner.

LiveableCity will collect and disseminate information and questions to educate, inform, and empower citizen advocacy to improve our quality of life.

Projects /Activities: LiveableCity has active committees working on renewable energy, affordable housing, transportation alternatives, local independent retail vs. big box stores, healthy economy policies, and long-range planning for our region.

We often have town hall meetings and gatherings such as the recent Affordable Housing Summit and an awards ceremony for local leadership in renewable energy.

Newsletters/Publications: Periodic e-Newsletter.

www.AustinEcoNetwork.org

* Events * Actions * Jobs * Education * Volunteer Opportunities
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TRANSPORTATION

Austin Cycling Association

P. O. Box 5993
Austin, TX 78763
Contact: Fred Meredith 282-1987
FAX: 282-7413
E-mail: bikin-fred@macconnect.com
Net: www.austincycling.org



Purpose: The purposes of ACA are to promote bicycle safety, education and access; to support and celebrate bicycling as healthy recreation and environmentally sound transportation; and to encourage and nurture within the non-cycling public an attitude of cooperation and mutual respect resulting in safer cycling for the Austin area.

Projects/Activities: ACA schedules weekly bicycle rides on Saturdays and Sundays. They are free and open to the public, generally consisting of 25- and 50-mile options on country roads. Ride descriptions, start times, and directions to the rides are published in *Southwest Cycling News* (a tabloid newspaper available in all area bike shops) each month. *Cycling News* also publishes a calendar of rides and events around the state and country, as available. The Armadillo Hill Country Classic is a one-day event held just north of Austin in May. Routes of 18 to 100 miles are marked and rest stops provided. The ride is a fundraiser dedicated to providing bicycle helmets to area children at no charge.

Meetings: 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at LCRA Hancock Building (boardroom), 3701 Lake Austin Blvd.

Volunteer Opportunities: In addition to serving as a club officer and being a ride starter for Saturday or Sunday rides, ACA members volunteer for activities during Bicycle Austin Month (May) and serve as planners, organizers, and/or staffers at the Armadillo Hill Country Classic.

Newsletters/Publications: *Southwest Cycling News*, monthly.

Dues: \$20/year; \$30+/Contributing member.

Texas Bicycle Coalition

P. O. Box 1121
Austin, TX 78767
Contact: Casey Seeboth 476-7433
FAX: 476-7458
E-mail: mail@biketexas.org
Net: www.biketexas.org



Purpose: The Texas Bicycle Coalition advocates the advancement of bicycling access, safety, and education.

Projects/Activities: The Austin-based TBC is involved with planning for bike access at all levels of government. Bike advocates are active in influencing the Austin City Council and City staff, state officials, and Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization officials for access to streets and parks throughout Travis County. Advocates work with police to enforce laws pertaining to bicyclists. Some of TBC's successes include getting the City Council to fund a position for a bicycle/pedestrian coordinator, and obtaining federal grant money for bike-related projects. TBC has successfully lobbied against bike bans at the State and local level. TBC is training PE teachers in all 3,600

elementary schools in Texas to teach the state bicycle safety curriculum.

Volunteer Opportunities: All projects discussed above need volunteers for advocacy, education, planning, and park inventories of bike access. Newsletter volunteers are also needed.

Newsletters/Publications: *The Advocate*, every 2 months.

Dues: Begin at \$25.

Yellow Bike Project

2013 E. 51st Street
Austin, TX 78723
Contact: 457-9880
Email: info@austinyellowbike.org
Net: www.austinyellowbike.org



Purpose: The Yellow Bike Project was formed by a group of dedicated bicyclists in response to the degenerating traffic situation in Austin. It gets its name from the yellow-colored bicycles that are provided free around Austin for citizens to use.

Our goal is to promote sustainable human-powered transportation through community participation. We accept tax-deductible donations of bikes and bike parts at our facility located at 2013 E. 51st St., and then teach volunteers how to build working bicycles from them. This free hands-on education turns bikes destined for the landfill into reliable non-polluting transportation, and empowers community members to maintain bicycles themselves.

Yellow Bike is an all-volunteer organization. Decisions of any import are made by consensus among collective members (volunteers who commit 24 hours of service per season to the project).

Projects/Activities: The group has provided hundreds of free bikes, releasing yellow bikes every month or two. We also periodically run "Kids' Shops;" kids come weekly and learn to work on bikes while building a bike of their own. We have also worked with Blue Santa and Blanton Elementary to provide free bikes to kids.

Volunteer Opportunities: The group maintains workshops open to the public. Call for details or see Web site.

Meetings: The decision-making body meets at 2013 E. 51st Street at 7 PM on the 1st Tuesday of each month. It is open to the public.

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www.waterloocycles.com

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lonestar.chapter@sierraclub.org



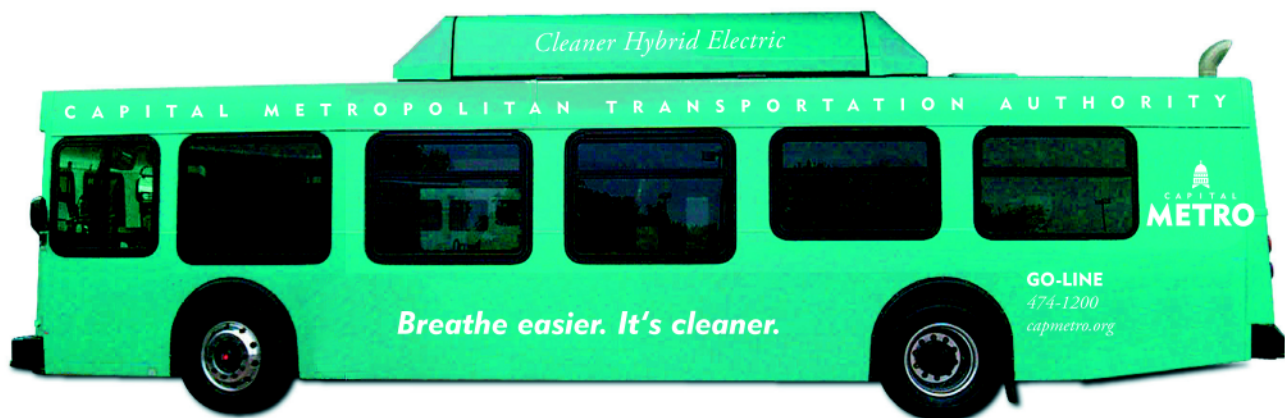
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TREES AND PLANTS

Native Plant Society of Texas, Austin Chapter

P. O. 3017
 Fredericksburg, TX 78624
 Contact: Matt Turner 472-1062
 E-Mail: austin@npsot.org
 Net: www.npsot.org/austin



Purpose: The Native Plant Society of Texas exists to promote the conservation, research, and utilization of native plants and plant habitats of Texas through education, outreach, and example. The Austin Chapter is part of a network of native plant groups located throughout Texas.

Projects/Activities: Monthly meetings feature guest speakers and slide shows. Members conduct plant surveys of private and public lands, rescue plants from development areas, collect and exchange seeds, maintain demonstration gardens, sell native plants, and propagate hard-to-find species.

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 PM at Wild Basin Preserve, Loop 360, 1 mile north of Bee Caves Rd.

Volunteer Opportunities: Plant rescue, restoration work in parks and preserves, research, and habitat preservation.

Newsletters/Publications: State newsletter, bi-monthly; local newsletter, monthly.

Dues: \$20/Individuals; \$15/Students; \$25/Families.

Native Prairies Assn. of Texas

2002-A Guadalupe, PMB 290
 Austin, TX 78705
 Contact: Jason Spangler 249-7868
 Net: www.texasprairie.org



Purpose: The Native Prairies Association is organized to promote an awareness of native prairies and support the conservation, management and study of prairie remnants.

Projects/Activities: The Association conducts field trips and workshops, reprints research articles, assists with regional living plant "banks," and has a teaching curriculum and blueprints for a school prairie garden.

The Association owns and manages the 1,100-acre Mad-den Prairie Preserve on the southern Texas Rolling Plains and the Riesel Prairie, a 5-acre high quality remnant Black-land Prairie southeast of Waco. Members have established a new fund to purchase prairie conservation easements.

Meetings: Quarterly board meetings.

Volunteer Opportunities: These include plant ID, monitoring, and management activities, such as seed gathering, planting, and brush control.

Newsletters/Publications: *Prairie Dog*, quarterly.

Dues: \$20/Individual; \$30/Family; \$10/Student.

TreeFolks

P. O. Box 704
 Austin, Texas 78767
 Contact: Scott Harris 443-5323
 FAX: 443-3360
 E-mail: admin@treefolks.org
 Net: www.treefolks.org



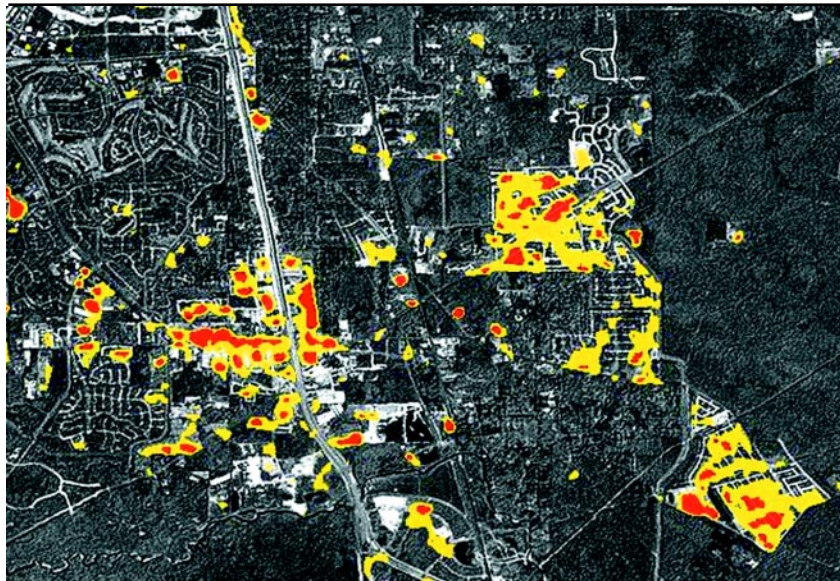
Purpose: Our purpose is to enhance the urban environment through public tree planting, education and partnerships. Keeping our urban trees in good shape and keeping our urban areas green helps with such issues as cleaning the air, slowing water runoff/erosion, keeping the water clean, beautifying the city, improving health (i.e. reducing stress and violence), and reducing the summer heat, which lessens ozone action days and reduces electricity usage.

Projects/Activities: TreeFolks organizes volunteer tree plantings from October through March.

- ReLeaf Week/Saplings Days - Every year in October, our group conducts a month-long series of tree events, including native tree seedling give-aways.

- CommuniTrees - This is a tree grant/education program for schools. TreeFolks supplies trees and expertise. Schools supply volunteers (students & parents) and maintenance.

- Citizen Forester - This is a 12-hour class which in-



Cities can be 3 to 8° hotter than the surrounding countryside because the sun's heat is retained by streets and buildings with little tree shade. This phenomenon is called the "heat island effect." This picture of The Woodlands near Houston shows hot roofs (red) and dark-colored pavement (yellow). Strategies to mitigate this include tree planting on a massive scale.

Courtesy of Houston Advanced Research Center



Don Gardner
 Consulting Arborist
Certified Arborist TX-0228

P. O. Box 340268
 Austin, TX 78734
 (512) 263-2586

cludes landscape design, tree ID, soil info, pruning, and planting. Combination of classroom and "hands on" learning.

• Urban Orchard Project - TreeFolks offers fruit and nut trees for planting in community orchards. A minimum of

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3105 French Place
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(512) 322-9640
waynekamin@ev1.net

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Between Bastrop and Smithville
512-303-GROW (4769)
www.texasgrown.com

8 participants is required for the orchard to be planted. Participants attend 4 quarterly classes offered by TreeFolks on fruit and nut tree care, planting, pruning and marketing produce.

• Other projects include tree ID walks, speakers bureau, and our tree nursery.

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month, 6 PM at O'Henry Room at the Austin History Center; 9th & Guadalupe

Volunteer Opportunities: Tree planting, tree maintenance, nursery help, education, publicity and fundraising. Opportunities for student interns with our education programs.

Newsletters/Publications: *Bark*, quarterly; *Tree Growing Guide for Austin and the Hill Country*; and *Fruit and Nut Tree Growing Guide for Central Texas*.

Dues: \$15/Students & seniors; \$25/Individual; \$35/Family.

Useful Wild Plants of Texas

2612 Sweeney Lane

Austin, TX 78723

Contact: Lynn Marshall 928-4441

E-mail: info@usefulwildplants.org

Net: www.usefulwildplants.org



Purpose: Plants are the basis of civilization. We are dedicated to the exploration and documentation of the native plants of Texas and surrounding regions as the foods, medicines, and resources of the past, present, and future.

Projects/Activities: UWP is putting together a database and encyclopedia of uses of 4,000 native plants (foods, pharmaceuticals, fibers, glues, dyes, oils, etc.). Call for information about classes and other activities.

Meetings: No set dates. We have get-togethers and events throughout the year for members and volunteers.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed to keep research files, staff booths at events, help produce the newsletter, accounting, publicity, fundraising, and general office/organization. Volunteers are also needed to help with the database and encyclopedia. Student interns welcome. Credit is available for some Independent Studies positions.

Newsletters/Publications: *Useful Wild Plants* newsletter, quarterly. It covers project news, past uses of plants,

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people who make their living working with plants, and volunteer and member activities. *The Encyclopedia of the Useful Wild Plants of Texas, the Southeastern and Southwestern United States, and Northern Mexico, Volume 1*, was released in Spring, 1995. *Volume 2* was released in early 2001.

Dues: \$25/Individual; \$50/Family; \$100/Sustaining.

WATER

Bull Creek Foundation

8711 Bluegrass Drive
Austin, TX 78759-7801
Contact: Skip Cameron 794-0531
E-Mail: scameron@austin.rr.com
Net: www.bullcreek.net



Purpose: The purpose of the Bull Creek Foundation is to promote the harmonious balance between nature, recreation and sustainable economic development in the Bull Creek watershed, bounded roughly by Highways 2222, 620, 183 and Mesa Drive. This volunteer group believes that all who have a stake in this region can work together to achieve and maintain its delicate ecological balance.

Projects/Activities: Volunteer teams work on citizen education, parks and trail projects, water quality management, land use and development, transportation issues, scenic issues, watershed master plans, watershed history, and Spicewood Springs Road corridor preservation.

Meetings: As needed. Call for details or check Web site.

Volunteer Opportunities: There are many varied opportunities with the emphasis on having fun while accomplishing worthwhile projects.

Dues: Voluntary (tax deductible) contributions accepted, typically ranging from \$15-\$100.

Colorado River Foundation

P. O. Box 50029
Austin, TX 78763
Contact: Emily George 458-8844
E-mail: egeorge@coloradoriver.org
FAX: 458-8744
Net: www.coloradoriver.org

Purpose: The purpose of the Colorado River Foundation is to develop a group of individuals, land owners, corporations, community groups, and public entities that are well educated regarding the river, are willing to take ownership of the river, and provide stewardship while they use and enjoy the river. This group would be called upon for environmental advocacy, financial support, and volunteer efforts led by the foundation or other groups protecting the river.

Projects/Activities: The Foundation programs include river and land cleanups, environmental education and awareness through youth camps, household hazardous waste collections, and school-based environmental awareness programs.

Dues: \$40/year.

Craig Smith

Attorney and Counselor at Law

Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law
Texas Board of Legal Specialization

716 Congress Avenue, Suite 203
Austin, TX 78701

(512) 477-2777
FAX (512) 472-3059

E-mail: craigsmithatty@yahoo.com

S.O.S.
SAVE OUR SPRINGS
ALLIANCE

477-2320
www.sosalliance.org


Save Barton Creek
Association



The Save Barton Creek Association protects and conserves the flora, fauna, and water quality of Barton Creek and the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer, a sole-source drinking water aquifer, through research, public education, and land conservation.

www.SaveBartonCreek.org

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Know the Flow



Central Texas is the most flash-flood-prone area of North America. Managing development accordingly is one of the greatest missing arguments for watershed and habitat protection. Get the facts at www.floodsafety.com

Protect Lake Travis Association

12016 Carmel Park Lane
Austin, TX 78727
Contact: Ken Fossler 977-0009
Net: www.protectlaketravis.org



Purpose: Lake Travis provides Austin with 90% of its drinking water. Development of land surrounding the lake has caused considerable pollution from both erosion caused by construction, and from sewage discharges.

The Protect Lake Travis Association guards Lake Travis and its watershed from any events and conditions that could affect the health and safety of area residents, recreational users of the lake, and area wildlife. It also protects the aesthetic natural beauty.

Projects/Activities: The Association is working on eliminating direct discharge permits to the lake, instead encouraging land irrigation with the wastewater. It is part of the Clean Rivers Assessment of the Colorado River, which enlists citizens to help stop pollution.

Meetings: There is an annual meeting for general members, and a meeting every 2 months for board members and activists who do the general work of the Association.

Volunteer Opportunities: Call for information.

Newsletters/Publications: 2-4 times/year.

Dues: \$10/year.

Save Barton Creek Association



P. O. Box 5923
Austin, TX 78763
Contact: Harold Daniel 656-5686
FAX: 327-2434
E-mail: sbca@austin.rr.com
Net: www.savebartoncreek.org

Purpose: SBCA focuses on public education and land conservation for the long-term protection of the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer, the source of the fourth-largest springs in Texas. This aquifer has been determined to be the aquifer in Texas most susceptible to pollution. Its karstic limestone makeup does not filter pollution as some sand aquifers do. "What goes in, comes out." And sometimes comes out quickly – right into Barton Springs Pool in Zilker Park. The Barton Springs outflow of more than 30 million gallons per day soon flows into the Colorado River, a source of Austin's drinking water.

Projects/Activities: The Association offers free tours of the Barton Creek Greenbelt for school, church, scout, and other citizen groups.

Meetings: We meet every Monday (7-9 PM) at Vinny's Café at 1003 Barton Springs Road.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed to help with mailings and phone banks, for guiding tours, and for staging special events.

Newsletter/Publications: The newsletter is published twice a year.

Dues: There are no mandatory dues. Anyone may attend the meetings and receive the newsletter. Contributions in any amount are appreciated.

Save Our Springs Alliance

P. O. Box 684881
Austin, TX 78768
Contact: Pat Brodnax 477-2320
FAX: 477-6410
E-mail: sosinfo@sosalliance.org
Net: www.sosalliance.org



Purpose: The Save Our Springs Alliance is dedicated to protecting the Edwards Aquifer, its springs and contributing streams, and the natural and cultural heritage of its Hill Country watersheds, with special emphasis on the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer. We are a community based organization using law, science, and economics to achieve our goals.

Volunteer Opportunities: Call office for details.

Dues: \$25/Basic; \$60/Family; \$500/Business partner.

WILDLIFE

Bat Conservation International

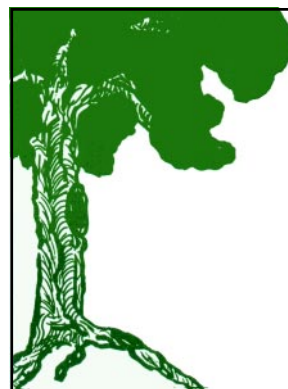
P. O. Box 162603
Austin, TX 78716
Contact: Jonathan Friedman 327-9721
FAX: 327-9724
E-mail: jfriedman@batcon.org
Net: www.batcon.org



Purpose: Bat Conservation International is dedicated to educating people around the world about bats' vital role in maintaining healthy environments and human economies; to protecting critical bat habitats worldwide; and to advancing scientific knowledge about bats through our support of research. We rely on nonconfrontational approaches to find solutions that help both bats and people. Founded in 1982, BCI is recognized as the international leader in conservation initiatives that protect bats and their habitats and as the primary international source of expertise for conservation planners, environmental educators, government agencies and many others.

Projects/Activities: BCI is involved in conservation, research and educational projects throughout the world. Our scholarships support graduate-student research into conservation issues. Our Global Grassroots Bat Conservation Fund provides small grants for local projects in many nations. BCI field workshops prepare professional biologists, wildlife managers, and others for bat research and conservation.

Volunteer Opportunities: Assisting bat biologists afield, special-event support, providing bat programs to groups,



Don Gardner
Consulting Arborist
Certified Arborist TX-0228

P. O. Box 340268
Austin, TX 78734
(512) 263-2586

and general office assistance.

Newsletters/Publications: *BATS* magazine, quarterly.

Dues: \$35-\$1,000/year; \$30/Students, seniors and educators.

Horned Lizard Conservation Society

P. O. Box 122

Austin, TX 78767

Contact: Lee Ann Linam (512) 847-9480

E-mail: lalinam@wimberley-tx.com

Net: www.hornedlizards.org



Purpose: To conserve and recover the diminishing populations of various species of horned lizards through education and research. We are a national organization with chapters in several states.

Projects/Activities: Elementary / secondary curriculum units, return transportation for illegally taken lizards, status surveys, research grants, research for reintroduction, speaking / presentations to groups, booths, field trips.

Meetings: Meetings are held in different cities; notices published in newsletter. There is also an annual meeting.

Volunteer Opportunities: Committees on education, research and recovery, board positions, fundraising, field survey coordination with private landowners and federal and state parks.

Newsletters/Publications: *Phrynosomatics*, quarterly.

Dues: \$25/Regular; \$10/Students & seniors; \$50/Contributing members.

National Wildlife Federation

Gulf States Natural Resource Center

44 East Avenue, Suite 200

Austin, TX 78701

Contact: Leslie Pool 476-9805

FAX: 476-9810

Net: www.nwf.org



Purpose: National Wildlife Federation (NWF), the nation's largest member-supported conservation organization, is a national network of like-minded state and territorial conservation groups working together to save and restore wildlife and wild places. NWF's Gulf States Natural Resource Center, one of 9 regional offices throughout the country, focuses on restoring and protecting natural river systems, estuaries, and wetlands; protecting wildlife populations; promoting sustainable land and water use; and educating children and adults about the natural world. The Gulf States office serves Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Volunteer Opportunities: Call or check our Web site.

Newsletters/Publications: *National Wildlife*, *Ranger Rick*, *Your Big Backyard*, *Wild Animal Baby*, *EnviroAction*, *Volunteer Spirit*, and *Wildlife Online* (a monthly e-newsletter). Report published October 2004: *Bays in Peril: A Forecast for Freshwater Flows to Texas Estuaries*. Report is available online at www.texaswatermatters.org or by request.

Dues: \$20 w / magazine subscription; \$15 / basic.

Texas Committee on Natural Resources

3532 Bee Caves Road, Suite 110

Austin, TX 78746

Contact: Janice Bezanson 441-1122

FAX: 328-7442

E-mail: tconr@texas.net

Net: <http://tconr.home.texas.net/>



Purpose: To recruit and educate volunteers for task forces regarding environmental issues, particularly protection of native habitats and management of public lands; to educate the public and decision-makers to minimize the impacts of natural resource use. In our group's 35-year history, our actions have led to designation of 5 wilderness areas in Texas, establishing the Big Thicket National Preserve, public acquisition of national wildlife refuges, and a host of other environmental successes.

Projects/Activities: To end clearcutting on national forests; oppose pork barrel reservoirs that destroy wetlands; support public acquisition of habitat; influence management of public lands; develop task forces to address many environmental issues.

Meetings: Annual meeting in October; task force meetings as needed; Texas Wilderness "Pow Wow," a weekend of guided nature walks in April; Buckeye Trail Walk along the Trinity River in Dallas in March.

Volunteer Opportunities: We train people to protect the environment. If you want to address an environmental issue, we teach you basic skills such as intervening in the permitting process, lobbying public officials, developing legal challenges, and doing outreach to media and the public.



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www.WholeEarthProvision.com

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Publications/Newsletter: *Conservation Progress* - 6 to 8 times/year.

Dues: \$25/year.

Wildlife Rescue, Inc.

P. O. Box 806
Austin, TX 78767-0806
Contact: Preston Doughty 913-9090
Rescue Hotline: 472-WILD (9453)
E-mail: wildliferescue@sbcglobal.net
Net: www.austinwildliferescue.org



Purpose: Wildlife Rescue, Inc. serves the citizens and wildlife of Central Texas by providing direct assistance to the public concerning questions, problems, and conflicts with native wild animals. Wildlife Rescue, Inc. accomplishes that mission by: 1) training volunteers to operate both a telephone hotline and e-mail service to coordinate wildlife calls from the public; 2) supporting qualified rehabilitators to provide care to orphaned and injured wild animals until they can be returned to their native environment; and 3) providing educational programs designed to eliminate or mitigate conflicts between humans and wild animals.

Projects/Activities: Wildlife rehabilitation classes are available for the public. We are currently raising funds to establish a permanent wildlife rehabilitation center for the Austin area.

Meetings: Monthly officer meetings; quarterly board meetings; annual December general membership meeting.

Volunteer Opportunities: Answering rescue hotline; assisting licensed rehabilitators; transporting animals; fundraising.

Newsletters/Publications: *Critter Chronicle*, members.

Dues: \$20/Individual; \$25/Family; \$50/Sponsor; \$100/Patron; \$250/Protector; \$500/Conservator.

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