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are seeking a few more community-leader-type activist individuals to join our board.

If interested in joining the TGN Board, please email Reed at [reed@TexasGreenNetwork.org](mailto:reed@TexasGreenNetwork.org). That will ensure you are invited to an upcoming board luncheon for interested parties. If you have already talked to a board member about your interest or if you have been to one of our previous board discussions, we still want to continue open discussions and we want you in the dialog.

### Texas Green Network May Meeting at Austin Farmers Market

Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 4-7pm

Triangle Park Farmers Market at 46<sup>th</sup> & Lamar

Please RSVP at [rsvp@TexasGreenNetwork.org](mailto:rsvp@TexasGreenNetwork.org)

TGN joins forces with the **Sustainable Food Center** this month at their Triangle Park location (market at 46<sup>th</sup> & Lamar). *Suzanne Santos* and *Andrew Smiley* of the Sustainable Food Center will speak, filling us in on all they are doing with SFC and the Farmers Market.

Join us for a great array of locally grown foods and beverages and check out the market in full swing. Step up to our open mike with your announcements (we will be amplified for the meeting so you can be heard at the market), learn more about the developing TGN and our networking forums plus network with some of Austin's finest business leaders and all around good people pushing for sustainability in our business community.

### Texas Green Network Board of Directors Looks to Expand

The Texas Green Network Board of Directors is expanding again! Currently a four-person board made up of Reed Sternberg, Paul Severin, Andee Chamberlain-Hill and Jan Triplett, they are enjoying what they are doing and have a great working team. But there is so much opportunity for growth and so much more to be done. We

### ABOUT the TEXAS GREEN NETWORK:

*The Texas Green Network is a business-to-business chamber of commerce centered around environmental initiatives and responsibility rather than geography. Our goal is to accelerate the spread of environmental responsibility in mainstream business practices and thought processes. We recognize that part of bringing "green" business practices to the mainstream is the melding of the concepts of environmental impact and business profitability.*

*The network brings together Texas-based businesses, providing a forum for sharing best eco-business practices. We seek to reward participation and leadership in a grassroots way, fostering a community of businesses and networking opportunities for our members and associates.*

#### User of LinkedIn?

Join the Texas Green Network LinkedIn group at:

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=71190>

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## CALENDAR

### Upcoming Workshop Through Sustainable Food Center

*Composting Information Session*  
Wednesday, May 20, 5-6 pm  
Sustainable Food Center  
1106 Clayton Lane, Ste. 480 West

Everyone can compost (even if you do not have a vegetable garden). There are several methods including using an earth-worm box, trenches, piles and bins we will go over them all.

### Robyn O'Brien Shedding Light On The Food Industry

See Robyn O'Brien At:

May 21st: W3LL People, Bridges on the Park,  
215 S. Lamar Blvd. from 5-7 pm  
[W3LL People website](#)

May 22nd: The Lance Armstrong Foundation, 2201 E.  
Sixth Street from 11:30 am-1:30 pm  
[LAF website](#)

May 22nd: Book People, N. Lamar Blvd  
from 6-8 pm [Book People website](#)

May 23rd: The Austin Farmers' Market,  
4th & Guadalupe from 10 am-1 pm  
[Austin Farmers' Market website](#)

Hear O'Brien explain why her message about the food industry's "Unhealthy Truth" is important not just for parents but for everyone.

Here is a bit more about her story:  
Hailed by Erin Brockovich for her "courageous pursuit of the unhealthy truth," Robyn O'Brien has become a fearless firebrand in the crusade to expose the hidden dangers in the food we eat and to revolutionize the food industry at all levels. She's an unlikely crusader for regulation: a Houston

native from a conservative family, she holds an MBA and worked her way through the ranks of corporate America. And that's exactly why she's the food industry's worst nightmare. When her youngest child nearly died after eating seemingly ordinary eggs, O'Brien used her skills as a former equity analyst to become a corporate super-sleuth. What she uncovered about "farm fresh" ingredients will shock you. What she proposes we do about it will change your life. In a meticulously researched first-person examination of the U.S. food industry, O'Brien reveals a shocking relationship between the toxic manipulation of our food and the increase in chronic conditions and diseases, particularly among children. Eye-opening and inspiring, her findings and action plans are now fully revealed in *THE UNHEALTHY TRUTH: How Our Food Is Making Us Sick and What We Can Do About It*.

### Austin Butterfly Forum Meeting

Monday, May 25, 7pm  
Zilker Botanical Garden Center  
2220 Barton Springs Rd.

*Dung Beetles: Nature's Ultimate Recyclers.* Peg Wallace will present information on dung beetle evolution, life cycles and ecology. She will also talk about her research on dung beetles in the Austin area, and give information on how to find and recognize dung beetles.

Peg studied dung beetles in Travis County for a Master's project at the University of Texas. She will try to have some live dung beetles, as well as specimens collected as part of her study. Come learn about these amazing (and necessary!) creatures.

Other upcoming meetings:

Mon Jun 22, 7pm - Club Meeting: *Butterfly ID*. Dan Hardy. In preparation for the 2009 Butterfly Count on June 27, Dan will teach us how to identify some of the species we are likely to encounter. [Zilker Botanical Garden Center](#)

Mon July 27, 7pm - Club Meeting: *Beetles*. Mike Quinn, [Zilker Botanical Garden Center](#)

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## Corporate Sustainability Conference

<http://www.centerforcorporatesustainability.org/>

May 28-29

TWO WAYS to Attend!

Hilton Austin (Discounted Attendance)

500 E 4th St Austin, TX 78701

or Online (Webcast)

Register Now!

*A few of the sessions available:*

Metrics: How to Measure Sustainability Programs Effectively

Calculating Carbon Offsets: Where to Start, Where to Stop, Who to Believe

Climate Science & Economics: Why Skepticism Matters

*Check out some of the Session Leaders:*

Rob Rolfson

*Director of Sustainable Development,  
Cisco Systems*

Ron Herbst

*Head of Energy Management and  
Sustainability in Global Sourcing &  
Corporate Real Estate, Deutsche Bank,  
London*

Rob Harmon

*Chief Innovation Officer of Bonneville  
Environmental Foundation*

Dr. Michelle Michot Foss

*Chief Economist, Center for Energy  
Economics at University of Texas*

\$995 - Full Attendance

The Premiere Package includes:

- \* Opening Evening Reception at the Austin Hilton Hotel on Wednesday, May 27
- \* Two full days of General and Breakout Sessions
- \* 2 Continental Breakfasts and 2 Lunch Buffets, plus 1 Evening Dinner
- \* Town Hall Meeting
- \* Entry to Network Lounge
- \* Annual Passport to our Austin Summit Internet Viewing Portal and private Social Network (a \$395 value - good for one full year)

\$395 - Virtual Attendance Plus + The Annual Passport Package includes:

- \* A Site License for unlimited viewers
- \* Full Internet Summit Viewing on May 28-29
- \* Unlimited Full Viewing Access for 12 Months following Summit (All presentations will be taped and then retrievable via an Internet Viewing Portal)
- \* Entry into Private Social Network restricted to Summit Premier Package attendees and Virtual Attendance Plus+ viewers.

After May 29, rate for the Annual Passport changes to \$495

\$295 - Virtual Attendance

The Virtual Viewing Package includes:

- \* Full Internet Summit Viewing on May 28-29

OR

Just attend the Town Hall Meeting, Media Panel and Luncheon on Friday, May 29 for \$75. (Space limited, no passport access)

Register to attend or get your Webcast Site License from Kat Grassell, 512-919-4512 or [kgrassell@centerforcorporatesustainability.org](mailto:kgrassell@centerforcorporatesustainability.org)

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## Windsor Park Community Garden FENCE-A-THON

*Saturday May 30 from 9:00 to 1:00*

Over the next three weeks, Windsor Park Community Garden will be collecting recycled materials to fill in the frames of our fence. We are seeking donations of materials (see list below).

Here is what the frames look like: They are about 5.5 feet wide by 3.5 feet tall.



Here is a frame that is partially filled in (with woven venetian blinds)



And here is one that is completed but has not yet been installed



Some ideas we have for "fill" are:

- Coat hangers
- CD's
- tin cans
- bottle caps
- curtain rods
- venetian blinds
- window shades
- bicycle wheels
- plywood
- fence pickets
- chicken wire
- welded wire
- burglar bars
- old gates
- metal window frames
- metal kitchen utensils and other small metal items that could be woven into chicken wire

If you are able to donate any of these materials (or others we haven't thought of), please bring them by the garden or contact us and we will arrange to pick them up. This is the excuse you've been waiting for to clean out your shed, your spare room, and your attic.

And on Saturday May 30 from 9:00 to 1:00, we will host a "FENCE-A-THON." Neighbors, artists, carpenters, architects, children -- EVERYBODY will be invited to

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bring your ideas and your creativity to fill in a panel of the fence. We will provide nails, screws, staples, glue, wire, saws, drills, paint and all the recycled materials we have gathered. (Oh yes, and refreshments.) You can bring other things you think you might need. If you have tools and/or hardware you are willing to bring, we can always use more (glues, clamps, staple guns, crews, screw-eyes, wire cutters, etc.) Label your tools.

Alternatively, if you would prefer to work at your own home or workshop, you can take a frame home and bring it back to be installed on May 30.

We will award prizes for the most original and the most beautiful fence panels as well as the most creative use of recycled materials.

The Windsor Park Community Garden is about a mile north of the Mueller development, behind the Austin Mennonite Church at 5801 Westminster. Please park in the parking lot across the street from the church. For more information, contact Elizabeth at [eak@grandecom.net](mailto:eak@grandecom.net) or 636-4493.

## Understanding Sustainability Within The Event Industry

10.00am – 12.00pm, Wednesday 17th June 2009  
Habitat Suites, 500 East Highland Mall Boulevard,  
Austin, Texas 78752

Positive Impact is a not for profit project providing education to the event industry on sustainability. This is a free, interactive event suitable for event organizers, venues or suppliers to the event industry.

To register for this free event please see 'Education Projects' at <http://www.positiveimpacetevents.co.uk/>

Attendees to this event will:

1. Understand how sustainability can benefit your business by giving you a competitive advantage and a greater economic return.
2. Learn about international best practice with sustainability in the event industry
3. Learn about tools to support the implementation of sustainability within your events including

carbon footprint measurement

For questions on the event please email [julie@positiveimpacetevents.co.uk](mailto:julie@positiveimpacetevents.co.uk) or call Michele Hallahan on (512) 731-4851

## June PV System Design & Installation Workshop

8:00am - 6:00pm Monday, June 22nd through Thursday, June 25th; 8:00am - 3:00pm on Friday, June 26th followed by the optional NABCEP exam.

Cost: \$1295.00 per person

Location: Electrical Training Center  
4000 Caven Road, Austin, Texas, 78744

This is an intensive NABCEP-APPROVED 40-hour hands-on workshop on photovoltaic system design & installation. This workshop is available to all.

Attendees who complete our workshop will be eligible to take the NABCEP Entry Level Certificate of Knowledge exam. ImagineSolar will proctor the 2-hour exam at the end of the workshop. This exam is optional - there is a fee of \$95 (check or credit card) to take the exam. Bring your calculator. For more information, please see [www.nabcep.org](http://www.nabcep.org)

The Oncor Solar Rebate Program Manager will detail the new PV incentive program for their Texas-wide service area.

We will cover the task analysis as defined by NABCEP - the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners ([www.nabcep.org](http://www.nabcep.org)).

Training modules include the following:

The Photovoltaic Industry  
The Qualified Solar Pro  
Basics of Electricity  
The Solar Resource  
Site Assessments  
Tools for the Solar Professional  
System Components and Configurations  
Cells, Modules, and Arrays: Specifications, Technologies

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Batteries and Charge Controllers  
Inverters: Types and Specifications  
System Sizing and Design  
Mechanical Integration  
Electrical Integration: National Electric Code  
Utility Interconnection  
System Installation and Commissioning  
Performance and Troubleshooting

Class will conduct various equipment training as well as a grid-tied installation outside. Hats, sun block, and appropriate clothing for the weather are recommended.

Prerequisites: None - this workshop is open to all.

Price includes the following: Textbook titled "Photovoltaic Systems" from American Technical Publishers, Copyright 2007 by National Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee for the Electrical Industry (NJATC), workbook, CD-ROM of solar resource material, and lunch daily.

Link to registration: [http://imagesolar.com/?page\\_id=8](http://imagesolar.com/?page_id=8)

If you have questions, contact Noralinda Ureste, 512.443.5725, [nora.ureste@imagesolar.com](mailto:nora.ureste@imagesolar.com)

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Make art. Make gardens. Make money!!

A recent grant awarded to Workforce Solutions - Capital Area will make it possible for Goodwill's WIA Youth Services Program to partner with AGA and "hire" 80 young people this summer. (ages 14 through 24) Earn \$ \$7.25/hr to help yourself, your community and the environment. ([click for more info on Viva Verde program](#))

Must contact Goodwill to sign up for an eligibility session by calling 512.637.7139 or 512.796.4982 or just email [vivaverdeintake@austingoodwill.org](mailto:vivaverdeintake@austingoodwill.org).

- Session 1: June 8th-July 10th
- Session 2: July 13th-August 14th

Here are the broad areas that we expect to engage participants:

- construction of infrastructure at AGA Central - our studio, office and urban farm
- build inventory and install raised gardens at residences
- canvas neighborhoods and conduct community outreach for Resolution Gardens
- assist design and fabrication and installation of nature-based playground projects at Open Door, Wooten Elementary and Zilker Elementary schools
- launch campaign to reduce junkmail and save forests through [www.41pounds.org](http://www.41pounds.org)

The general skill set of these green-job activities includes: carpentry, organic gardening and urban farming, landscaping, design, art-making, sales canvassing, event planning, marketing, non-profit fundraising

We'll outfit you with work shoes and uniforms, which you'll help design and create!

Please forward this info to young people who you think might enjoy working with Austin Green Art. Call Randy for more info - 512-743-4245.



### Support Viva Verde

Organizationally, AGA's partnership with Goodwill brings \$80,000 in materials, staff and labor support to our efforts.

At the end of the summer we'll have a training urban farm at AGA, a greenhouse, raised-bed box inventory, a chicken coop and a strong push-marketing effort to build upon.

We need materials and funding support to accomplish our goals: soil, plants, decomposed granite, lumber, irrigation

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supplies, etc. We can also use volunteers who are willing to work on projects alongside the trainees and manage their efforts.

Please make an in-kind or [financial contribution](#) to help us match the support from Goodwill. Select "Austin Green Art Fund" from the pull-down menu.

### Make Every Day Earth Day!

H-E-B has again selected Earth Share of Texas to be the beneficiary of its in-store coupon promotion for April, in recognition of Earth Day. This means that customers can tear off and add check-out coupons worth \$1, \$3, or \$5 to their total bill to support environmental work in the Central Texas, Houston/Galveston, Gulf Coast, Rio Grande Valley and Border, plus North Texas Central Markets.

H-E-B has supported many Earth Share of Texas organizations with corporate grants or in-kind contributions. The April tear-pad promotion enables H-E-B customers to support the program work of Earth Share of Texas organizations. CMPBS will benefit, because the contributions will be divided among Earth Share of Texas organizations with program work in Texas.

In November, H-E-B's San Antonio region stores will feature Earth Share of Texas -- giving H-E-B's San Antonio customers the opportunity to support environmental work in the San Antonio area.

Look for the Earth Share of Texas display and tear-off coupons at the check-out stands in H-E-B stores and the Central Market stores through the end of April. With the month ending soon, we hope you'll take the time in the next few days to help support Earth Share of Texas and the Texas environment!

**Make every day Earth Day!**

Please join H-E-B and Earth Share of Texas in supporting dozens of environmental and conservation projects protecting Texas.

Helping. Here. **H-E-B** Earth Share of Texas One environment. One simple way to care for it. [www.earthshare-texas.org](http://www.earthshare-texas.org) EarthShare Texas

Protect air and water quality — the most basic of human needs	Preserve and protect park land and open spaces	A clean environment means healthier people
<b>\$1</b>	<b>\$3</b>	<b>\$5</b>
The amount shown will be added to your purchase.	The amount shown will be added to your purchase.	The amount shown will be added to your purchase.

### One Million Acts of Green Program Going Global

The CBC/One Million Acts of Green program is expiring on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

This isn't the end though. On the contrary, we see it as just the beginning. Due to the overwhelming success of the website mainly from users like yourself, Cisco and GreenNexus are now bringing you the Global One Million Acts of Green Site.

You already participated and helped Canada achieve its goal of One Million Acts. Now you have the opportunity to have your acts count as part of a global initiative. Don't let the momentum stall; let's show the rest of the world that Canada was only the beginning.

With 1.5 million acts recorded and almost 400 million pounds of green house gases saved, we are well on our way to making a global difference. To avoid any interruption in your profile and have your Acts of Green count towards the new site, please transfer your account to the Global One Million Acts of Green site brought to you by Cisco powered by GreenNexus.

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The global site has great new content and a great new feel. The front page gives you the opportunity to instantly view videos from Al Gore and NBA star Steve Nash. Transferring your account also gives you access to our weekly newsletter, featuring articles and blogs from authors such as David Suzuki, Peter Corbyn and Adam Kreek.

This is a onetime transfer; you will not need to transfer your account again.

Cisco has extended its supported for One Million Acts of Green to reach into the United States then beyond. GreenNexus is the eco-conscious site that will be powering this endeavor.

To transfer your account, simply click on the link and follow the instructions.

<http://www.greennexus.com/omaog/us/evergreen.aspx?7573657249443D333532373326%3d436F756E74727949443D30>

After you transfer your account, you will still be able to use your Canadian account on <http://green.cbc.ca/> until July 1st, 2009.

### **Texas Green Network Contact Information**

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[trip@TexasGreenNetwork.org](mailto:trip@TexasGreenNetwork.org)

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