



## February TGN Meeting at Texas State Capitol

5:30 – 8:00 p.m. February 19  
Conference Room E2.002  
(RSVP at [rsvp@texasgreennetwork.org](mailto:rsvp@texasgreennetwork.org))

In the February meeting of Texas Green Network we'll be enjoying barbecue from the County Line and learning about legislation affecting green businesses. Robert Howden, a former State Director of the National Federation of Independent Business, will lead a discussion of green initiatives under consideration in the legislature.

We will have our traditional open mic and there will be table space for information. Please email [Reed@TexasGreenNetwork.org](mailto:Reed@TexasGreenNetwork.org) to request a table.

A 4 p.m. tour of the Texas State Capitol is available to those who arrive at 3:50 p.m. at the tour guide office near the south entrance.

The E2 Level is almost directly under the Auditorium; Parking is available at the Visitor Center at 12th and San Jacinto.

For more information and a map go to [www.texasgreennetwork.org/meetings.html](http://www.texasgreennetwork.org/meetings.html)

## ABOUT the TEXAS GREEN NETWORK

*Texas Green Network encourages environmental responsibility in mainstream business practices and thought processes. We recognize that bringing green practices to the mainstream requires melding environmental impact with business profitability. We reward participation and leadership in a grassroots way, fostering a community of businesses and networking opportunities for members and associates.*

User of LinkedIn? Join our LinkedIn group at:  
<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=71190>

# NEWSLETTER

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## January Meeting Featured Tour of LCRA's Redbud Center

In January, TGN met at the LCRA Redbud Center for a tour and description of this energy- and water-efficient building. Redbud Center received a gold rating from the LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System™. The building also received a Four-Star rating from the Austin Energy Green Building™ program.



Larry Walker of the Lower Colorado River Association addressed the January meeting of the Texas Green Network.



## Calendar

### Bamboo Logic Monthly Seminar

10 a.m. – noon Saturday February 14  
Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey Rd

This seminar and tour of the bamboo specimen garden at Casa de Luz will cover basic bamboo horticulture and important practical topics such as containing invasive bamboo and techniques for effective landscaping with clumping (non-invasive) bamboo.

\$20 covers the seminar, tour and handouts. For more information contact Jinji Willingham at [bamboologic@mac.com](mailto:bamboologic@mac.com) or [www.bamboo-logic.com](http://www.bamboo-logic.com).

### Biodiesel 101

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Saturday, February 14  
4704 East Cesar Chavez

This detailed introductory class is taught by Christopher Continanza, the logistics manager at DieselGreen Fuels in Austin.

It will cover:

- Detailed biodiesel chemistry
- Making your own test batch
- What to do with side-streams
- Quality testing you can do at the shop
- Scaling production for personal use
- Insight into the current industry
- Discussion of upcoming technologies

For more info and to register go to [www.hubbertspeak.org/February14.html](http://www.hubbertspeak.org/February14.html)

## NEWSLETTER

### Seminar: Saving Money on Utility Bills

1 - 2:30 p.m. Saturday February 14  
Sunset Valley City Hall, 3205 Jones Road

Join Barton Springs Conservation District award-winner Dr. Jody Grenga as she discusses her latest book, *Extreme Low Urban Utility Usage = XLU3: 10 Year Monthly Running Average \$72.94*.

Jody has averaged \$72 for utility bills (elec-gas-water-trash/sewage) monthly for 10 years running in a typical 2,103 sq.ft. home built in 1991 (no solar).

For \$20, an autographed copy of the book is included. The seminar without the book is \$12.

For advance tickets call 423-1050. Go to [www.docjody.com](http://www.docjody.com) for more information.

### Seminar: Living for a Healthy Planet

February 17 – May 2  
Various locations

The *Living for a Healthy Planet* seminar offers extensive information on the home and lifestyle changes that can make the biggest impact on our ecological footprint.

Past participants report saving an average of \$1,600 per year and up to \$9,800 per year. The average participant reduced their CO2 footprint by 2 tons.

The cost is \$120. For more information, dates, times, locations and to register go to [www.livingforahealthyplanet.eventbrite.com/](http://www.livingforahealthyplanet.eventbrite.com/).

For questions please contact Lauren Maples at [Lauren@greenlifeaustin.com](mailto:Lauren@greenlifeaustin.com) or Katie Sternberg at [greenedgeconsulting@me.com](mailto:greenedgeconsulting@me.com)



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## Calendar

### Presentation: Toolbox for Sustainable City Living

7 p.m. Wednesday February 18  
Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen Street

Join Scott Kellogg and Stacy Pettigrew, co-founders of Austin's Rhizome Collective, to celebrate the release of their book "Toolbox for Sustainable City

Living: A Do-It-Ourselfes Guide." "Toolbox" was voted "Best Resource for Surviving the Future" in the *Austin Chronicle's* Best of Austin 2008.

Scott will give a presentation on the sustainable skills, tools, and technologies tested at Rhizome Collective and featured in the book, including

- Soil building and asphalt removal
- Urban chickens and micro-livestock
- Rainwater harvesting and aquaculture
- Constructed wetlands for cleaning waste water
- Humanure and worm composting
- Passive solar and bicycle windmills
- Bio-gas and veggie oil bio-fuels
- Natural construction in the city
- Brownfields and remediation of contaminated soils

For more information, email [skotty@radicalsustainability.org](mailto:skotty@radicalsustainability.org), visit [www.radicalsustainability.org](http://www.radicalsustainability.org) or [www.rhizomecollective.org](http://www.rhizomecollective.org), or call 512-294-9580

### Open House at DieselGreen Fuels

7 – 10 p.m. every first Tuesday of the month  
5217 East Cesar Chavez St.  
(512) 247-3835

DieselGreen Fuel collects used fryer oil to create biodiesel and vegetable oil.

## NEWSLETTER

### MetroRail Open House at Green Living & Home Products Expo

2 – 7 p.m. Friday February 27  
Downtown Station, 201 E. 4th St.

On the Expo's opening day, Capital Metro will hold the last of five open houses to demonstrate Austin's first passenger rail service, Capital MetroRail. A MetroRail train will be on display at the Downtown Station next to the Austin Convention Center.

MetroRail Red Line service from Leander downtown begins March 30. Go to <http://allsystemsgo.capmetro.org/capital-metrorail.shtml> for more information

In addition to information on green building, transportation, gardening, food and fuels, the Expo features workshops, local live music, an eco-fashion show, and local and fair trade products.

### Transforming the Metropolis: Creating Sustainable and Humane Cities

March 2-4  
Rice University, Houston

This conference offers the opportunity to learn from a number of the top thinkers and doers in the sustainability arena. Speakers include:

- Ray Anderson, founder/chairman of Interface, Inc.
- Peter Calthorpe, leading New Urbanist master planner
- Majora Carter, founder of Sustainable South Bronx
- William Rees, originator of the "ecological footprint"
- Cameron Sinclair, of Architecture for Humanity
- Ken Yeang, designer of bio-climatic skyscrapers

For a full speakers list, see [www.delange.rice.edu/VII/speakers.cfm](http://www.delange.rice.edu/VII/speakers.cfm). Register at [www.delange.rice.edu/VII/registration.cfm](http://www.delange.rice.edu/VII/registration.cfm)



## News and Announcements

### Sustainable City Center Infozone

Austin Green Art has created a Sustainable City Center Infozone at 5th and Nueces in downtown Austin. Designed as a high-traffic display to advertise green events or businesses, the space is also appropriate for exhibits, workshops or events.

**Austin Green Art** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness about important environmental issues via hands-on, creative, community-based programming and events.

Call 743 4245 or visit [www.austingreenart.org](http://www.austingreenart.org) for more information

### Austin Clean Sweep Call for Sponsors and Volunteers

Every year thousands of volunteers come together for Clean Sweep, Austin's annual city-wide cleanup. Last year more than 7,000 volunteers signed up to participate and 30 tons of trash was removed in just two hours.

Project registration is now open and organizers are looking for leaders and sponsors. Project leaders select an area to cleanup and lead the cleanup on April 4th.

Keep Austin Beautiful will provide cleanup supplies, trash collection, and help recruit and register all the extra volunteers needed.

Clean Sweep Event Sponsorships are available starting at \$500. Sponsors enjoy wide and positive exposure throughout the community.

Contact Brian Block at [brian@keepaustinbeautiful.org](mailto:brian@keepaustinbeautiful.org) or call 391-0621 for more information.

## NEWSLETTER

### EcoSpace 2.0 Website Launched

EcoSpace Conscious Community has launched a new website, EcoSpace 2.0. The new site offers new features, toys and navigational improvements, and overall hotness.

EcoSpace provides a space to connect, express, debate, exchange information, learn from and coordinate action with like-minded people. It's a place to pick up tips and advice on earth friendly products and living.

For more information and to see EcoSpace 2.0 go to [www.ecospace.cc](http://www.ecospace.cc)

### Membership in the Texas Green Network

Membership in the Texas Green Network is about leadership in the business community and being a part of the future of an emerging business culture in America. Our dues are minimal, ranging from \$50 and \$250 per year.

<http://texasgreennetwork.org/membership.html>

#### Texas Green Network Contact Information

Reed Sternberg, *Board Chair, Marketing*

[reed@texasgreennetwork.org](mailto:reed@texasgreennetwork.org)

Paul Severin, *Director of Operations*

[paul@texasgreennetwork.org](mailto:paul@texasgreennetwork.org)

Andee Chamberlain-Hill, *Director of Membership*

[andee@texasgreennetwork.org](mailto:andee@texasgreennetwork.org)

Ken Chambers, *Newsletter Editor*

[ken@texasgreennetwork.org](mailto:ken@texasgreennetwork.org)

#### Texas Green Network

PO Box 302526

Austin, Texas 78703

Telephone number: 512 - 917 - 7749

Fax number: 512 - 692 - 6182

[www.TexasGreenNetwork.org](http://www.TexasGreenNetwork.org)