

Say what?—

Burning tires is a step toward emission reductions? We don't think so

Late last month, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, formerly the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, proposed a rule change that will impact the Fort Worth/Dallas clean air plan.

As you may recall, the cement industry and more specifically Texas Industries (TXI) and Cemex, sued the state environmental agency challenging the 30 percent emission reduction mandated by the D/FW SIP.

The proposed settlement issued from the TECQ indicates that tire fires in cement kilns will help the region reach clean air goals. Skeptical. So are we.

When the settlement is reached, TXI's Midlothian plant will most likely be the first cement kiln in the nation to burn both hazardous waste and tires simultaneously. The health impacts are yet to be determined, but it should be noted that TXI is currently the largest industrial smog contributor in North Texas as well as the largest emitter of toxic releases.

GFWSC ExCom ballot on Page 5

It's election time again and, unfortunately, most of the green candidates were not on the Nov. 4 ballot.

Those are the only kinds of candidates you'll find on the ballot of the Greater Fort Worth Group of the Sierra Club, however.

Running for four spots on the Executive Committee are Jeneanne Carson, Jim Nelson, Susan Robinson, and Dan Smith.

Smith is a holdover from the current ExCom Committee. The other three will all be new members to the group's governing body, though all are pres-

Please see ExCOM Page 2

The technology that TXI plans to utilize is similar to a cannon that will hurl four to five tires per minute 230 feet into the kin. A company memo attached to the settlement likens the device to a "Gunnax pneumatic gun developed by F.L. Smith and Co." Guns and tires make an unlikely connections.

The cannons will shoot tires into the residues of the hazardous wastes it uses as "fuel." Although not officially classified as a hazardous waste, tires have zinc, butadiene, and other hazardous components.

Other concerns with the settlement agreement include:

—Switching to an annual rolling average of NOx emissions instead of 30

days. This allows for pollution spikes and is generally used as a switch and bait technique to increase emissions.

—Rewriting the definition of "low NOx burner" and "mid-kiln firing" to allow TXI to use the one-of-a-kind, untested, mid-kiln process.

—Giving Cemex and TXI up to \$2 million from the state to subsidize the startup of tire burning at their plants.

—Making no promises for reductions or performance for TXI's new tire burning process.

—And, possibly, allowing for the trading of emissions from one plant to another. This would allow for the plant to buy NOx "credits" from another business without actually making the reductions themselves.



This month's program

In November, Troy Hibbits will present a program on reptiles and amphibians of the Texas Trans-Pecos NEXT MONTH: So you won't forget, mark it on your calendar to attend our annual Christmas Party in December.

Greater Fort Worth Sierra Club

P.O. Box 1925, Fort Worth, TX 76101
817/588-1167

All the following numbers are Area Code 817 unless otherwise noted

Executive Committee

Chair	Tolbert Greenwood	346-3140
Vice-chair	Jenny Lehman	263-1357
Treasurer	Wendy Lambert	251-0016
Secretary	Russell Andrew	561-7628
	Claudia Blalock	924-6242
	James Moody	295-1623
	Dan Smith	410-2955

Campaign Coordinators

Conservation	Don Callaway	214-674-5636
Clean Air	Earl Burnam	244-2328
Clean Water	Bob Scott	282-1372

Outings Contacts

Chair	Claudia Blalock	924-6242
Canoeing	Gary Kriedeman	429-3346
Bicycle	Don Bowles	571-9778
Backpacking	Claudia Blalock	924-6242

Administrative Contacts

Membership	Marsha Malinsky	292-3998
Assistant	Gary Kriedeman	429-3346
Programs	Dan Smith	410-2955

Newsletter Staff

Editor	James Moody	295-1623
Ad director	Wendy Lambert	251-0016
Circulation dir.	Steve Turner	457-7131



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Web Pages

Fort Worth Group <http://sierraclub.org/chapters/tx/fortworth/index.html>

National, Lone Star www.sierraclub.org

Lone Star Chapter www.texas.sierraclub.org

The Planet www.sierraclub.org/planet

Political page www.sierraclub.org/politics

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ExCom Election

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ently active in various club activities.

Jeneanne Carson, a paralegal at Alcon Labs, issued the following candidate statement:

"I have been a Sierra Club member for eight years and active in the local Club for the last 2 years. Initially in 2000, I participated in a few hikes and occasional meetings.

"My involvement has progressed to being a "regular" at the General Meetings and a participant in volunteer and outing activities.

"Besides the environmental principles, one of the main reasons I enjoy the Sierra Club is that it affords so many different opportunities and levels for Members to seek their own form of involvement in the Club. I was pleased

when approached to run for a position on the Executive Committee, as the opportunity seems a wonderful way of giving more to the organization and representing your interests."

Incumbent Dan Smith had the following statement:

"Dan Smith is running for re-election to the excom. He has been a member of the Sierra Club since about 1975. He is currently program chairman for the Fort Worth chapter, and is also an outings leader. He is active in camping, hiking, backpacking, bicycling and canoe trips. Dan supports all aspects of environmental protection, but is particularly interested in resource conservation, and in popu-

Please see BALLOT, Page 4

Don't just rest on trail laurels

By EARL BURNAM

A hiking trail along the Elm Fork of the Trinity River was a mitigation consideration when Lake Ray Roberts was being planned 20 plus years ago.

The Greater Fort Worth Sierra Club group played an important role in lobbying for a hiking trail along the river between Ray Roberts and Lewisville Lake. The Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, held several hearings in Aubrey, northeast of Denton, to let the public comment on their proposed trail. There was strong opposition by land owners along the river. Members of the GFWSC, as well as other conservationists, attended these meetings and voiced their support of the trail. As you are aware, we won. These successes are few and far between, so let us pat ourselves on the back.

Let us not fail to give credit where credit is due. The District Corps headquartered in Fort Worth was the original proposer of the trail, and had gained backing up its channels to the Army Corps of Engineers' headquarters in Washington. We should not forget that the trend of the districts of the Corps is greatly influenced by the political leaders in Washington.

I believe that the District in Fort Worth has always been as environmental friendly as they were allowed to be. I have known many individuals in the Corps over the years that I believe are very concerned about our environment. Approximately 20 years ago during some "good years", the Fort Worth District Corps established an Environmental and Recreation Assistance Committee (ENRAC). The

Please see MEETING, Page 4

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Greater Fort Worth Group Sierra Club Outings

Fort Worth Sierra Club outings are open to members and nonmembers. Trip leaders serve in a volunteer capacity and assume no responsibility above that of organizing the trip. If you have special needs or medical requirements, notify the leader prior to the trip. All outings officially begin at the trailhead. Leaders cannot assign carpools, but may help coordinate ride sharing. Many outings require advance reservations at the trip designation as well as from the participant. Notify the trip leader promptly if you must cancel. Donations of \$3 per person and \$5/family are requested for overnight trips to be used for conservation efforts of the club. Any park and/or camping fees are the responsibility of the participant. In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms> or call 415-977-5630.

November 9-10 (Saturday-Sunday)

Easy beginner backpack on the Cross Timbers Trail. Drive up to this easy trail on the south shore of Lake Texoma on Saturday morning. This is about a 1.5 hour drive north from Fort Worth. We'll hike about 3 miles to a camp overlooking the lake. We will hike out on Sunday morning and stop on the way home for lunch. Preference given to participants of the Beginner Backpacking Class. Leader: Claudia Blalock and Marcos Jorge (972) 394-2546; email: mjorge@ustgolfshaft.com

Nov. 27-Dec. 2 (Wednesday-Monday)

Annual Big Bend Thanksgiving Bus Trip. A sleeper bus departs Wed. night before Thanksgiving from Fort Worth and arrives in Big Bend National Park by 6 a.m. After 4 days of adventure, we'll take a hot shower, get a big Sunday supper enroute home and be back in town Monday morning before 5 a.m. Four trips will be offered, varying in experience level from first time campers to veteran backpackers. Trip cost is \$160 payable in advance by Nov. 1. Please make checks payable to the Fort Worth Sierra Club. A minimum of 27 participants is required to have trip so please commit early. Trips include High Chisos Basin Backpack, Chisos Basin Day Hikes, Rio Grande Village Dayhikes and various day hikes in the Park via SUV. Trip coordinator is Todd Nichols, 200 Hibiscus Dr. Arlington, TX 76018-1420. Phone 817-472-0710 Individual trips and leaders include Trip 1 – James Moody, 817-295-1623, various day hikes throughout the park, including Banta Shut-in, Top of Burro Mesa Pouroff, and Dog Canyon; Trip 2 – Chisos Backpack: Set up camp in the heart of the Chisos mountains.

November 2002

From there take easy day hikes to South Rim, Emory Peak, and Juniper Canyon. Moderate. Tolbert Greenwood, 817-346-3140. Trip 3 – Basin Day Hikes: Visit some of the most famous trails in the park. The Window, the Lost Mine Trail, Emory Peak. Moderate/Strenuous. Jim Walling 817-444-4416. Trip 4 – Rio Grande Village Day Hikes: Take day hikes from the group campsite to the Hot Springs, Old Ore Terminal, and Boquillas Canyon. Easy/Moderate. Todd Nichols 817-472-0710.

November 9-11 Saturday-Monday

Car camp in Guadalupe Mountains National Park. Spend the weekend in one of the most beautiful parks in Texas.

Is it Forest Park or Parking?

Fort Worth's \$150,000 consultant study seems mainly about how to pack concrete and cars into Forest Park. One of the consultant's most neglected promises is remote parking. Now it is getting late to do something about this.

Take action at a public forum Monday, Nov. 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Botanic Garden Center, 2300 University Dr. Attendance numbers will make a big difference. You can help the steadily dwindling environment of what remains of the large inner city parks. If you only just say "open space" you will help even more.

Camp will be at the Pine Springs campground. We will meet Saturday morning for a 10-mile day hike in McKittrick Canyon. On Sunday we will day hike 8.4 miles up to Guadalupe Peak, the highest point in Texas at 8,749 feet. Monday morning we will have a short hike before heading back to Texas. Leader: Wendy Lambert (817) 251-0016 (H) or [wlambert@concrete-pipe.org](mailto:w Lambert@concrete-pipe.org).

November 16 Saturday

Sierra Club work day at the Fort Worth Nature Center. Work hours and more about the project to be announced later. Contact: James Moody, 817-295-1623 (H) or 817-688-3656 (M). JMoody166@aol.com.

Successes this year:

Proposed new thoroughfare through Trinity Park: The Sierra Club helped with the route and with getting the project delayed. The Crier had two articles on this.

Forest Park Log Cabin Village Museum and parking: Sierra Club members helped get a plan that was satisfactory to all parties. The original proposal would have taken a major forested area on University Drive.

The new plan saves that entire block of woods. For another success, this time we'll need more people than before.

The 2003 Sierra Club Calendars Are Here!



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Coming Events

November 14, Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Fort Worth Sierra Club ExCom Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at LaMadeleine's Restaurant, 305 Main St. For more information, contact Tolbert Greenwood, 346-3140.

November 20, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Fort Worth Sierra Club General Meeting. See box at right for details.

Newsletter deadline. Submit articles, ads, letters, or other information in writing. Articles may be submitted by mail, email, or on Iomega Zip disks accompanied by hard copy. B&W or color nature photos and electronic images (150dpi or greater) will be accepted (prints returned if submitted with SASE). Photographs of outings or other club activities are particularly encouraged. Identify subject of photo and state photographer's name. Please do not write on the back of photos. Mail submissions to Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box 1925, Fort Worth 76101, bring to the ExCom meeting, the general meeting, or email jmoody166@aol.com.

Sierra Singles Events

On Saturday, Nov. 2 at 10 a.m. join us for a day hike at the Fort Worth Nature Center, 9601 Fossil Ridge Rd. in. Meet in front of the interpretive center to begin hiking promptly at 10:00. There will be two options: an aerobic hike of 6-7 miles over a 2-hour period, and a more leisurely hike for those who prefer to stop and smell the flowers. Afterwards enjoy an optional lunch at Harbor One, a seafood place on Boat Club Road with a view of Eagle Moun-

General Meeting Wednesday, November 20

Program: See Pg. 1 for information on November, December programs.

7:00 Main Auditorium, University of North Texas Health Science Center, Camp Bowie at Montgomery (exit Montgomery off I-30, go north about a mile to Camp Bowie).

tain Lake while eating. Leader: Jenny Lehman. Co-leader: Becky Mehrer, capnbec@netscape.net or (214) 904-8184.

Saturday, Nov. 2 the Texas Astronomical Society will host a Star Party at its dark-sky observing site near Atoka, Okla. for members of the Sierra Singles group. Attendees should plan on arriving at the site one hour prior to sunset. Travel time from Dallas is about 1.5 hours and observing will begin 30 minutes following sunset. We will be using a Meade 16" SC telescope (observatory building) for group observing and smaller "loaner" scopes for anyone interested in a "hands-on" observing session. The site has 40+ acres of land and includes an observatory building, picnic pavilion, 32 concrete observing pads, world-class outhouse (linoleum floor, ceiling fan, sink w/running water, mirror, etc.), frig/microwave, phone/internet service, and hopefully clear, dark skies!

Observing will continue until conditions deteriorate or interest wanes. Overnight camping is available for anyone not wanting to make the late-night drive home.

The usual Sierra Club rules for overnight trips apply (trip officially begins/

ends at the TAS gate), however we can meet and caravan to the site from REI (Dallas). For more info contact: Phil Sanders (214) 557-0769 utcaver@yahoo.com

On Monday, Nov. 18 join us for dinner at BD's Mongolian, near the intersection of 114 and MacArthur in Irving. Meet in the bar at 6:45 to mix and mingle, then at 7:00 we will be seated for dinner. Contact: Jenny Lehman.

Just a reminder that all events officially begin at the event site/trailhead. You may just show up at an event unless specifically told to RSVP. The general rule is that you may show up for day hikes and dinners, and you need to RSVP for weekend camping trips. Contact for Sierra Singles information: Jenny Lehman, (817) 263-1357 or lehje30@hotmail.com.

November 26, Tuesday

Conservation Committee meeting, 7 p.m., at the University of North Texas Health Science Center, Library Building, Room 306. Contact: Earl Burnam, 244-2328 or Bob Scott, 282-1372.

December 2, Monday

Newsletter folding party, Smoky's Ribs, 6 p.m., 5300 E. Lancaster. Eat, or have the beverage of your choice, while working with other Sierrans to prepare the newsletter for mailing. Call Steve Turner, 457-7131.

December 6, Wednesday

Outings Committee Meeting, 7 p.m. at the Great Outdoors, one block west on Camp Bowie from, the Camp Bowie and University Drive intersection in the Cultural District. Contact Claudia Blacklock, 817-924-6242.

Meeting centers on water CONTINUED FROM PG. 2

Corps has held meetings in different areas of their district over the state as they saw the need, at least once a year. These meetings are very interesting and informative, as well as providing the opportunity to comment.

You'll have the opportunity to visit the trail (Greenbelt Corridor) that GFWSC worked hard for and hear of plans for the Water-Related Development Policy for Fort Worth District Lakes, Neches/ Sulphur Watershed Issues, Guadalupe, Blanco, San Antonio and Nueces River Watershed Studies, etc.

ENRAC MEETING (Environmental and Recreation Assistance Committee) – Saturday Nov. 23, 9 a.m. to 4:15

p.m. at the University of North Texas, in the Environmental Education, Science and Technology Building.

Subjects to be discussed will include "Water-Related Development Policy for Fort Worth District Lakes" and other watershed issues across Texas within the Fort Worth based Corps district.

A tour of the Greenbelt Corridor between Ray Roberts and Lewisville Lakes during the lunch break is planned. (they normally take up a collection of about \$5 or \$6 for a lunch which they order and bring in.

Call the Corps to let them know if you plan to go: Paul Hathorn at 817-886-1687 or Jeffry Tripe at 817-886-1716.

—Ballot on Pg. 5

CONTINUED FROM PG. 2
lution control and uncontrolled development which is threatening our limited wild spaces."

To vote show your support for these people who assume this decision-making responsibility for the Group, just clip out the ballot on Page 5, affix postage to it, and drop it into the mail by Dec. 18.

Or, better still, bring it to either the November or the December meeting. The December meeting will be the Group's annual Christmas party and promises a lot more fun than your typical polling place.

BALLOT

2002 Executive Committee
(Vote for up to 4)

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jeneanne Carson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jim Nelson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Susan Robinson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Dan Smith |

Individual members, check one set of boxes. For joint memberships, each member is entitled to vote for up to four candidates. Use both sets of boxes. Mail ballot on or before Dec. 18, or bring to the November general meeting or the December meeting/Christmas party on Wednesday, Dec. 18.

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Mission statement

The purposes of the Sierra Club are: 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.

... dedicated to the conservation and appreciation of our natural world.



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