



Green Holiday Kickoff December TGN Event to Include Six Green Organizations

5:30 - 9:30 p.m. Wednesday Dec. 17
Barr Mansion, 10463 Sprinkle Road
\$16 advance/\$20 door
(RSVP at rsvp@texasgreennetwork.org)

Five distinctly different organizations will join TGN at the Artisan Ballroom at Barr Mansion for a green educational and networking extravaganza. The meeting will include all of the hallmarks of TGN gatherings – brief announcements, an open mike, networking, and organic food, coffee, tea and beer – but the five co-hosts will add new emphasis and a variety of expertise into the mix. The five organizations are:

- **Austin Eco-Network** delivers green information for the Austin community. A new website will add a community calendar, blog, forums, job site and green Austin map to this busy listserv. www.austineconetwork.org
- **Bootstrap Sustainability** reminds entrepreneurs of low-capital options, articulates the unique rules of bootstrapping and provides a supportive community. www.bootstrapaustin.org/
- **Green Technology Alliance** accelerates the adoption of sustainable practices and solutions and combines the best elements of industry alliances and professional organizations. www.greentechnologyalliance.org
- **Physicians for Social Responsibility** led the campaign to end atmospheric nuclear tests by documenting the presence of Strontium 90 in children's teeth. The Austin chapter formed in 2003. www.austinpsr.org/site/
- **Net Impact Austin** is the Austin chapter of Net Impact, an international nonprofit. Its mission is to nurture a community of leaders who use business to improve the world. www.netimpact.org/cde.cfm?event=208544

Join us as we celebrate the holidays, bring our groups closer together, and prepare for a productive 2009.

NEWSLETTER

In This Issue...

TGN Meeting and News	1
Calendar	2
News and Announcements	3
Jobs and Opportunities	4
Membership and Contact Info	5

Texas Green Network Welcomes Two New Board Members

The Texas Green Network has added two new members to our board of directors. Jan Triplett and Andee Chamberlain-Hill will join current board members Reed Sternberg, Paul Severin and Johnny Barnett.

Jan is COO of the Business Success Center, which was named one of Austin's top management consulting firms by the *Austin Business Journal*. She is author of *A Networker's Guide to Success* and co-author of *Think Big, Stay Small*, a study on best practices for small organizations.

Andee works for the City of Austin Water Conservation Division. She has experience working in several environmental sectors including energy efficiency, recycling, green building, and water conservation.

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.

Join our LinkedIn group at:

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



Vol. I Issue 8 Nov/Dec 2008

Calendar

Bioregional Campout in East Austin

Dec. 5-7

The Rhizome Collective, 420 Kemp St.

For the first time in its 21-year history, the Colorado River Bioregional Congress will have its seasonal campout within city limits. There is no electricity and cooking will be by campfire.

For more information go to

<http://colorivbioreg.wordpress.com>

Rob Rylander at Brave New Books

3 - 5 p.m. Saturday Dec. 6

Brave New Books, 1904 Guadalupe St. #B

Rob Rylander, who built the Hobbit House at Earthhaven Ecovillage in North Carolina, will give a presentation on sustainability at Brave New Books.

He has degrees in biology and social ecology but says much of his knowledge came from growing organic vegetables, raising farm animals, and working as an agricultural agent in the Philippines and Belize.

Go to www.rylander.com for more information.



Rod Rylander's Hobbit House in North Carolina.

NEWSLETTER

Sony Take Back Recycling Program

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday Dec. 6

Travis County Expo Center

Residential recyclers are invited to bring old or broken electronics for free recycling at this community e-waste recycling event sponsored by Sony Electronics and Waste Management.

For more information or to volunteer email

elise.worthy.2009@radu.ucsd.edu

Sunset Valley Green Shoppers Gala

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday Dec. 13

3200 Jones Road, Sunset Valley

The gala will feature a holiday theme and earth-friendly gifts from local small businesses and artists/artisans.

Go to <http://www.sunsetvalleyfarmersmarket.org/> for more information.

Citizen Gardener Graduation and Potluck

7 p.m. Saturday Dec. 6

801 E. 32nd St.

Come to congratulate those who have completed the instruction and volunteering needed to for Citizen Gardener Certificates. This is also a great opportunity to learn more about the next course in January.

For more information go to

http://www.edibleaustin.com/content/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=152&Itemid=1

Tree Planting Volunteers Needed

9 a.m. Saturday Dec. 6

Northstar Greenbelt, Parkfield Drive

TreeFolks is looking for volunteers to help plant trees for the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department at Northstar Greenbelt in North Austin. They hope to finish the project by noon Saturday.

For more information email scott@treefolks.org



Calendar (continued)

The Natural Epicurean

Hosts Dr. Will Tuttle

6:30 dinner, 7 – 9 p.m. lecture Friday Dec. 5
 Casa de Luz Auditorium, 1701 Toomey Road
 \$20/\$15 students

Dr. Will Tuttle, author of *The World Peace Diet*, will speak after a dinner prepared by the The Natural Epicurean Academy's Culinary Students. His book addresses the treatment of animals as part of the world's food supply and the implications of this treatment. Go to www.willtuttle.com/enter.htm for more information.

CATEE Conference

Dec. 16 - 17
 Plano, Texas

The Clean Air Through Energy Efficiency (CATEE) Conference brings local leaders and businesses together with energy and environmental advocates for presentations and forums. It's sponsored by The Energy Systems Lab of Texas A&M University.

For more information go to
<http://esl.eslwin.tamu.edu/catee-2008/home.html>

Design~Build~Live Holiday Party

7 p.m. – midnight Saturday Dec. 19
 Barr Mansion, 10463 Sprinkle Rd

Design~Build~Live has planned an evening of music, food and libations at Barr Mansion special event venue, the nation's first certified organic events facility. For more information go to designbuildlive.com

Design~Build~Live is the direct descendent of a grassroots group inspired by the Austin Green Building Program in 1992. First known as the Sustainable Building Coalition (SBC), it later evolved into DBL.

NEWSLETTER



Volunteers build an earthen (cob) bread oven at the Design~Build~Live booth at Maker Faire in October. DBL was awarded two Editor's Choice blue ribbons from Make Magazine.

Citizen Gardener Courses

9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Jan. 10 and 17
 Wednesday evening discussion Jan. 14
 (Location information sent with confirmation)

The Citizen Gardener program is designed to encourage more Austin area residents to grow food locally. The new courses in January coincide with Austin's spring garden planting schedule. Mid January through mid March is planting time for most vegetables in Austin's climate.

The fee is \$50 or free for those who pledge to perform ten hours of volunteer time. See <http://citizengardener.ning.com/> to enroll or www.permie.us for more information.

Free Permaculture Sessions

7 - 9 p.m. Wednesday Jan. 21 - April 8
[Habitat Suites](http://HabitatSuites.com), 500 E. Highland Mall Blvd.

The Austin Permaculture Guild offers a Winter Series of talks and presentations on permaculture and sustainability. They emphasize making changes as locally and as far upstream as possible. Go to www.permie.us to confirm individual topics and speakers.



News and Announcements

New advisory board to promote sustainable food

The Sustainable Food Policy Board will advise the Austin City Council and Travis County Commissioner's Court on ways to improve the availability of fresh, nutritious, locally and sustainably grown food at reasonable prices. The board will coordinate activities of local government, non-profit organizations and food and farming businesses and explore new opportunities to improve the local food economy.

The new board was sponsored by City Council Members Mike Martinez, Lee Leffingwell and Laura Morrison, and Travis County Commissioners Sarah Eckhardt and Ron Davis. The recommendation for the board came from *Edible Austin's* publisher, Marla Camp, and the Sustainable Food Center's food policy task force.

"We want to see more locally grown and produced products in our grocery stores, restaurants and schools and the Board is meant to bring together the community and figure out how the City and County can play an active role in making this happen. This benefits our community nutritionally, environmentally and economically. We can do so much more to promote local, sustainably grown food," said Council Member Mike Martinez.

Council Member Lee Leffingwell agreed, "We are looking forward to working with the Board to find creative ways to protect our natural resources and create infrastructure for sustaining our urban farms and local food producers."

Co-sponsoring Council Member Laura Morrison explains, "Creating this new Board allows us to bring together community experts to address the sustainability of foods, which is a critical component in Austin achieving a sustainable future."

To view or download a copy of the ordinance go to www.ci.austin.tx.us/council_meetings/wams_item_atta_ch.cfm?recordID=14666

Applications for board nominations will be accessible

NEWSLETTER

through the City Clerk's office.

Check back at www.edibleaustin.com for updates on board member approvals, upcoming meetings, subcommittees and agendas. For questions, please contact marla@edibleaustin.com

Best Farmer's Market 2008

Sunset Valley Farmers Market won the Best Farmers Market 2008 award from the Austin Chronicle Readers Poll. Greenling Organic Delivery, a vendor at Sunset Valley Farmers Market, won Best Local Food Company for the second year in a row.

Help Add ACC Environmental Classes

Austin Community College is considering a new course on sustainable business practices and careers. Complete the survey available at the link below to help ACC determine the demand for such a course and help get it added to the class schedule.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=nRbr8FwPSXI6dSdumruVyA_3d_3d

Jobs and Opportunities

Green Building Council Seeks Executive Director

U.S. Green Building Council Central Texas-Balcones Chapter will soon hire its first executive director. The chapter seeks a strong communicator and relationship builder with proven fundraising skills, a systems focus and a collaborative leadership approach.

To apply, send a letter of interest describing relevant experiences, a resume, three references, and a salary history to apply@usgbc-centraltexas.org by December 17. Interviews begin the week of January 4.

USGBC CT-B is a nonprofit organization focused on sustainable building and development practices.



News and Announcements

SBCA Honors Area Businesses and Individuals

The Save Barton Creek Association celebrated its 29th year with a holiday party and awards ceremony at the Zilker Clubhouse Nov. 24. Several area businesses and activists were honored during the party.

- The Public Education Award went to Karen Kocher for developing the Zilker Trek educational program and AT&T for funding it.
- HEB was given the Corporate Citizen Award for years of financial support, including the Earthshare program and funding for the Splash! Exhibit at Zilker Park.
- Katie Jensen won the Young Professional Award for establishing the Austin chapter of the US Green Building Council, Chicas Verdes, and for her work at Austin Energy.

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. It is about making a statement that sustainable business practices are a must, essential to the future of our community and planet.

By coming together as a business network, we unify and strengthen our influence and strengthen our ability to impact the business community, both as individuals and as an organization.

Please join us. Our dues are minimal, ranging between \$50 and \$250 per year.

We know that the above statements are important to our future but we also know that you, as a business person, need something tangible in return for your investment

NEWSLETTER

in the cause. The Texas Green Network endeavors to provide an growing set of value propositions that currently include:

- Listing in our Online Member Directory
- Extensive Networking Opportunities with Likeminded Businesses and People
- Leadership in an Important Emerging Business Movement
- Meeting/Trade Show Table and Newsletter Story Priority
- Vertical Market & Issue Related Committees to Deepen our Involvement and Reach
- Mutual Web Linking with TGN

Please find ways to reward our members for their efforts and participation. Do business with them if

you can. We are sure you will find them returning with the same passion for our common cause and for your business. Participation in this network is not a badge. It is all about what we do with the network for our future.

For information on how to sign up with the Texas Green Network, please visit us at <http://www.texasgreennetwork.org/membership.html>

We look forward to meeting you and your business and having you join our growing community.

Texas Green Network Contact Information

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