

# Conservation & Climate Change



October 14-15 | Glen Rose



[Fall Symposium](#) [Schedule](#) [Welcome the Monarchs! Field Day](#) [Registration](#) [On the Side](#) [Sponsorship & Sponsors](#)

**Native Plant Society of Texas Fall Symposium**  
**Somervell County Exposition Center**  
**202 Bo Gibbs Boulevard**  
**Glen Rose, TX 76043**

It seems most every day there is another news story telling of an imperiled wildlife or plant species, or impacts on human health or food security, which is related to changing climatic conditions on our planet. There is a strong consensus among scientists that climate change is happening, and that the time to act on this public issue is now. Links to some articles below will help to convey this news far more eloquently but we share their sense of urgency.

Members of the Native Plant Society of Texas, acting individually and collectively, are in a position to make significant impacts for the better on the future of Texas in this century and beyond. Come to our fall symposium to learn how you can be part of conservation to fight climate change and ensure a brighter future for the plants, animals and humans that call Texas home.

Cynthia Maguire & Ricky Linex,  
Planning Committee Co-Chairs



## What do other environmental organizations have to say?

### ***Landmark Audubon Citizen Science Study Released***

Audubon scientists have used hundreds of thousands of citizen-science observations and sophisticated climate models to predict how birds in the U.S. and Canada will react to climate change. Their work defines the climate conditions birds need to survive, then maps where those conditions will be found in the future as the Earth's climate responds to increased greenhouse gases.

It's the broadest and most detailed study of its kind, and it's the closest thing we have to a field guide to the future of North American birds. [Watch a short video](#) on how one hummingbird species is affected or [view their entire report](#).

### ***Butterflies Are Vanishing Around the World***

Researchers find that species are disappearing because of pollution, pesticides, and habitat loss. The butterflies are vanishing, according to a July 15, 2016 article the journal Science, and it's happening even in protected areas. [Scientists acknowledge] that the decline in butterflies is not exceptional. Bumblebees, dragonflies, moths, and ladybirds (or ladybugs, in this country) may be even worse off because of environmental damage inflicted by humans. Those insect groups really matter in the sense that they have ecological value for pollination and predator control. Butterflies, on the other hand, are mostly just pretty to look at. [Read the full article](#) including links to the original journal article.

### ***'Hotter, wetter, drier' – Scientists say temp records a view of the future***

***Amid worrisome Zika news, longer mosquito season found across the U.S.***

both published in Texas Climate News.

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Fall Symposium [Schedule](#) [Welcome the Monarchs! Field Day](#) [Registration](#) [On the Side](#) [Sponsorship & Sponsors](#)

[Conservation & Climate Change](#)→[Schedule](#)

## Schedule

Day	Start Time	End Time	Activity	Location
Thurs., Oct. 13	1:00PM	5:00PM	<i>Welcome the Monarchs!</i> - Field Day/Service/Education Activity	Interstate 35 rest stop in Hill County
Fri., Oct. 14	8:00AM	10:00AM	Exhibits and Vendors set up	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	8:00AM	1:00PM	Deliver Silent Auction items to auction receiving areas	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	8:30AM	1:30PM	Registration/Check-In	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	8:45AM	9:45AM	State Board Meeting	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	9:00AM	4:30PM	Exhibits and Vendor Area Open	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	10:00AM		Welcome & Introductions: Linda Knowles, Society President. Announcements: Suzanne Tuttle	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	10:10AM	11:00AM	Climate Change: Perspectives from the Global to Texas - Dr. George Diggs, Professor of Biology, Austin College	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	11:00AM	11:05AM	Award Presentation: Carroll Abbott Memorial Award	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	11:05AM	11:15AM	Kate Hillhouse Undergraduate Scholarship Awardee presentation - Chisholm Tessem, Horticulture major at Stephen F. Austin State University	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	11:15AM	11:30AM	Break	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	11:30AM	12:20PM	Birds and Climate Change: Audubon's Climate Initiative Dr. Tania Homayoun, Urban Conservation Program Manager, Audubon Texas	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	12:20PM	12:30PM	Award Presentation: Donovan Stewart Correll Memorial Award Award Presentation: Digital Media Award	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	12:30PM	1:00PM	Pick up box lunches and gather in carpools to leave for field trips	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	1:00PM	5:00PM	<a href="#">Group A Field Trips</a>	Varies
	5:00PM	9:00PM	Evening Field Trip & Dinner @ Chalk Mountain Ranch; Dinner @ 6:30PM	<a href="#">Chalk Mountain Ranch map</a>
Sat., Oct. 15	6:30AM	8:45AM	<a href="#">Group B Field Trips</a>	Varies
	8:30AM	4:30PM	Silent Auction	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	8:30AM	11:00AM	Registration/Check-In	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	8:30AM	5:00PM	Vendors & Exhibitors	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	8:45AM	9:45AM	<i>NPSOT and You</i> - Meeting for chapter leaders and others who want to get involved. Everyone invited.	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	10:00AM		Saturday Plenary Session Begins Announcements: Suzanne Tuttle	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	10:05AM	10:10AM	Award Presentation: Nancy Benedict Memorial Award	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	10:10AM	11:00AM	Vegetative Response Five Years after the 2011 Palo Pinto County Wildfires Ricky Linex, Wildlife Biologist, Natural Resources Conservation Service	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	11:00AM	11:05AM	Award Presentation: Native Star Award	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	11:05AM	11:15AM	Ann Miller Gonzales Graduate Research Grant Awardee presentation Sasha Soto, Wildlife, Wildlands, and Aquatics major at Texas Tech University	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	11:15AM	11:30AM	Break	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	11:30AM	12:20PM	Natural Resource Conservation and Real Estate Development Rian Maguire, P.E., Principal at CHC Development	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	12:20PM	12:25PM	Award Presentation: Charles Leonard Weddle Memorial Award	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	12:30PM	1:15PM	Lunch Annual Members Meeting	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	1:30PM	4:00PM	<a href="#">Group C Workshops</a>	Varies
	4:30PM		Silent Auction closes	Somervell Co. Expo Center

	5:00PM		Exhibits and Vendor Area Closes	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	5:00PM	6:30PM	Silent Award Winner Pick Up	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	5:30PM	7:00PM	Social Hour - Cash Bar	Somervell Co. Expo Center
	7:00PM	9:00PM	Awards Banquet Climate Change: Traps, Conservation, and Hope for the Future Dr. George Diggs, Professor of Biology, Austin College President's Awards: Linda Knowles	Somervell Co. Expo Center
Sun., Oct. 16	9:00AM	12:00PM	Welcome the Monarchs! - Field Day/Service/Education Activity	Interstate 35 rest stop in Hill County

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October 14-15 | Glen Rose



[Fall Symposium](#) [Schedule](#) [Welcome the Monarchs! Field Day](#) [Registration](#) [On the Side](#) [Sponsorship & Sponsors](#)

[Conservation & Climate Change](#)→[Schedule](#)→[Field Trips](#)

## Field Trips

For all field trips we advise to wear long pants, closed toed shoes, sunblock and/or a hat, bug spray, and carry refillable water bottles. Be safe and enjoy your hike!!!

### Friday, October 14th

*All Friday field trips will begin at 1:30 pm and end at 5:00 pm*

#### FTA-1 "Buck Creek Hike" on White Ranch

White Ranch is a private space, not a public one. The White family settled the land in 1850, while Native Americans were still camping along Buck Creek. The original log cabin, blacksmith shop, etc. are still there. Mr. White is close to 100 years old and is confined to a wheelchair. He remembers when there were no cedars. In fact he had to travel a great distance to get cedar fence posts. He remembers the first fence built in Somervell County, which dramatically changed the landscape. The ranch has virgin hardwood forest along Buck Creek, along with virgin prairies.

While the land has never been plowed it has been overgrazed. The Buck Creek area on this ranch is the best hike there. It is quite lovely with lots of plant life to offer. Carpooling a must. Limited to 25 hikers.

#### FTA-2. Black-capped Vireo Trail Hike @ Dinosaur Valley State Park

The hike will take us into the northern part of the park in to the hilly and rock limestone hills where we will find Live Oaks and Ash Juniper. The hike will start with us crossing the river, stopping to view dinosaur tracks along the way.

No strollers please. Rough terrain.

Wear good walking/hiking shoes. Bring shoes that can get wet.

Bring plenty of water and protein snacks.

Sunscreen and insecticide recommended.

Distance: 4 miles

Time: 3 hours

Difficulty: Moderate

Meeting Spot: [Track Site 2](#)

<http://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/dinosaur-valley/nature>

#### FTA-3 Comanche Peak Nature Trail

This trail runs through a 12 acre forest remnant located within the perimeter of the Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant, located just north of Glen Rose, Texas in Somervell County. Enter from Texas Farm to Market Road 56. The plant entry drive to the trail head is not restricted. The trail head is on the east side of the area marked on [the map](#). You may use the parking lot behind the Training Center.

The forest and trail sit on a stabilized sand dune with clay and sandy clay beneath. Most of the trail surface is fine "pack sand." This contrasts with most of the surrounding area, which has surface soils directly derived from limestone. As a result the mix of plants on the trail differs from surrounding areas.

The most common tall trees are Post Oak and Blackjack Oak. Also Netleaf Hackberry, a few fairly large Ashe Juniper, and many small ones, but no Live Oak or Texas Oak and no Elms. Large woody shrubs include Rusty Blackhaw and American Beautyberry, Prickly Ash, and Elbow Bush. Chittamwood (Gum Bumelia) are mostly shrub-sized.

Other flora and fauna observed around the trail are mapped in this project.

This is a rustic trail with uneven, non-paved surfaces and low hanging branches. Not recommended for wheelchairs or strollers. The trail does not have a restroom or running water. Moderate difficulty.

The trail is maintained by the Rio Brazos Chapter <http://www.riobrazosmn.org/> of Texas Master Naturalists <http://txmn.org/>.

#### FTA-4 High Hope Ranch

High Hope Ranch has over 20 miles of trails on 900 acres of private, holistically managed, Hill Country terrain. Hikers may choose to hike our prairies (easy) or venture into the ravines for more challenging (moderate) up and down trails. The ranch uses rotational grazing, prescribed burns and other methods to promote plant diversity. Limestone soils include several fossil beds. Brush up on your Ashe skills, they have three species, and a lot more interesting native plants including at least 2 species of native milkweed. There is also a yucca on another tract with sandy soil that is confounding botanists who can't decide if it is a rare endemic that hasn't been seen in 70 years, or is an odd hybrid!

As High Hope adjoins Fossil Rim, one loop can include a break at Fossil Rim's Overlook Area, where you can dine or snack overlooking their African-like Savannah with free-roaming giraffe and zebra. Release forms are required. Our day fee (\$20) will be waived for guests willing to share their species list, and post a photo or comment on social media for us. For photos and more information, visit [www.highhoperanch.com](http://www.highhoperanch.com).

#### FTA-5 Acton Nature Center

Located in nearby Granbury, the main objective to the design of Acton Nature Center has been to maximize the natural history and natural science of the area. Volunteers identified native plants and animals on the property and re-created the natural habitat to this overgrazed prairie. We now can enjoy over 5 miles of trails that have been hand cleared of non-native vegetation. The Travis Hiking Trail has approximately 1.3 miles of mulch covered trails leading to a wildlife overlook and viewing area built by local Scouts. Due to its seasonal dryness, this area is used to teach visitors of the importance and preservation of our wetlands. If you continue on the Travis trail, you will come upon the Sam Houston Bridge; this project was more difficult to build than first thought because it stretched over a deep shady ravine, which becomes a stream during heavy rains, and required extra structural support.

<http://actonnaturecenter.org/trail-map-info/>

### Saturday, October 14th

*All Saturday field trips will begin at 6:30 am and end at 8:45 am*

#### FTB-1 Comanche Peak Trail

(close to Glen Rose and very special) is a repeat of A-3, with better bird/wildlife viewing opportunities in the early morning hours.

#### FTB-2 Limestone Ledge Trail Hike @ Dinosaur Valley State Park (DVSP)

The hike will follow the river, stopping to view dinosaur tracks along the way. We will explore the riparian zone of the Paluxy River and the higher plateau area with grasses and Live Oaks.

No strollers please. Rough terrain.

Wear good walking/hiking shoes.

Bring plenty of water and protein snacks.

Sunscreen and insecticide recommended.

Distance: 1 mile

Time: 2 hours

Difficulty: Easy

Meeting Spot: [Park Store](#)

[Click here for more information about the Limestone Ledge Trail Hike](#)



See <http://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/dinosaur-valley/nature>.

**FT B-3 Soccer park behind the Expo Center** has lots of native plants growing along the edges of the 1-mile sidewalk loop. Easy access for mature hikers.

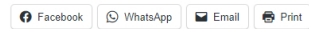
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### ***Self Guided Field Trips***

***Self-guided field trips may be taken at any time during the weekend***

Those wishing for additional field trip opportunities on their own may want to visit <http://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wildlife/wildlife-trails/ppww/cedar-loop>. The Cedar Loop includes several destinations near Glen Rose that provide abundant opportunities to interact with both plants and wildlife.

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## Friday Evening Dinner

### Friday evening will feature a dinner and walk at Chalk Mountain Ranch Preserve

This privately owned property is not generally open to the public, making this a special treat for all attendees. Chuck and Dorothy Snakard, the property owners, purchased the property in 1994, restoring it to native grasslands that serve as endangered species habitat. They worked with the *Texas Land Conservancy* to make it an officially protected conservation easement in 2002. The 351 acre preserve's spectacular views and proliferation of native plants promises to be a treat for participants. [Click here](#) for more information about this protected conservation preserve.



All participants can wander the property on guided or unguided tours prior to dinner, to experience the natural beauty of the area. This catered event will feature a Mexican taco buffet, with cash bar or you can bring your own bottle.

This dinner is included with all full-conference registrations. Tickets may be purchased for \$30 for guests or one-day symposium participants.

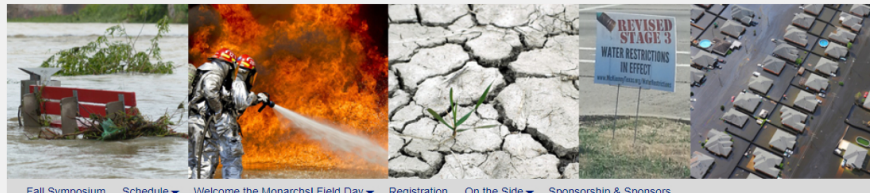
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# Conservation & Climate Change



October 14-15 | Glen Rose



[Fall Symposium](#) [Schedule](#) [Welcome the Monarchst Field Day](#) [Registration](#) [On the Side](#) [Sponsorship & Sponsors](#)

[Conservation & Climate Change](#)→[Schedule](#)→[Speakers](#)

## Speakers

All speakers will be in plenary sessions—no breakouts that force you to choose between two or more speakers you want to hear. All will focus on some aspect of how native plants and habitats are impacted by the recent cycles of drought and flood, even fire—and how we can help conserve them.

### **Climate Change: Perspectives from the Global to Texas – Friday morning**

Dr. George Diggs; Professor of Biology, Austin College

The evidence for climate change will be briefly summarized and the speaker will discuss his personal observations from Antarctica to the Arctic. It is now clear that climate change is having effects on plants and animals both around the globe and here in Texas. Many species are now becoming mismatched to their rapidly changing environments. A variety of specific examples will be discussed that demonstrate the impacts of climate change, both large and small, and from those that affect whole regions to our own backyards. Examples in Texas span the state from the Gulf Coast and Pineywoods to central Texas and the Trans-Pecos.

### **Climate Change: Traps, Conservation, and Hope for the Future – Saturday night**

Dr. George Diggs; Professor of Biology, Austin College

Climate change is having serious effects on a variety of species. Some of these effects may even be considered to be evolutionary traps. That concept will be discussed using examples from a number of species and from the human standpoint. The speaker will also discuss ways to adapt to climate change and in particular strategies that may benefit the conservation of plants and animals. The session will end with a focus on reasons to be optimistic and why there is hope for the future.

*Dr. George Diggs is a botanist and evolutionary biologist who has taught for 35 years at Austin College in Sherman, and is a Research Associate at the Botanical Research Institute of Texas. His research interests include the plants of Texas, evolution as it relates to human health, and evolution in extreme environments. He has co-authored four books and more than 30 scientific articles. In his research he has traveled to all seven continents and in the past two years he has observed and studied climate change in a variety of locations in the extreme northern Arctic (including a polar plunge into the frigid waters of the Arctic Ocean).*

### **Birds and Climate Change: Audubon's Climate Initiative – Friday morning**

Dr. Tania Homayoun; Urban Conservation Program Manager, Audubon Texas

Birds are excellent indicators of ecosystem health, and new research using decades of data from Audubon's Christmas Bird Count and the Breeding Bird Survey suggest that more than half of US birds are at risk from climate change. This talk will introduce Audubon's Birds and Climate Change Report, the vital role of citizen science in this study, and the tools and models helping guide bird conservation into an uncertain climate future. The presentation will also provide information on how to get involved and take action on this issue.

*Dr. Tania Homayoun is the Urban Conservation Program Manager with Audubon Texas and director of its Urban Conservation Program. She holds bachelor's degrees in Ecology/Evolution/Conservation Biology and Anthropology from the University of Texas at Austin and a PhD in Conservation Biology from the University of Minnesota, where she studied the impacts of urbanization on landbird communities. She joined Audubon Texas in July 2011 at the Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center and joined Audubon Texas's Conservation Science Team in February 2013. The goal of her work is to develop and deliver conservation plans and solutions, educational programs/trainings, and activities that support Texas' unique biodiversity and contribute to sustainable communities. She is an avid birder and always has room for one more plant in her garden.*

### **Vegetative Response Five Years after the 2011 Palo Pinto County Wildfires – Saturday morning**

Ricky Linex; Wildlife Biologist, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Wildfires dominated 2011 with 4,000,000 acres becoming scorched amounting to 47% of the land burned in the United States occurring in Texas. With changing climatic conditions, we are expecting more extremes such as the drought and fires in Texas during 2011. It is important to understand these events. This presentation will inform us of what has happened since.

The sites in Palo Pinto County were part of the fire known as the Possum Kingdom Complex which burned 170,000 acres across all terrain types in Stephens, Young and Palo Pinto Counties. Photos were taken in Palo Pinto County during, immediately after and again four months after the wildfire. These photo sites were revisited in 2016 to document changes in grass, forb and woody vegetation and to determine extent of soil erosion resulting from the wildfire. Two endangered bird species, the golden cheeked warbler and the black-capped vireo can be found in Palo Pinto County. The devastating nature of this wildfire destroyed many thousands of acres of potential golden cheek habitat but the resulting regrowth of shrubs and small trees has created habitat for the black-capped vireo. Future expected changes to the landscape, to humans and the effects on wildlife will also be discussed.

*Ricky Linex is a wildlife biologist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) headquartered in Weatherford, Texas. Linex is responsible for 51 counties in north central Texas covering the Rolling Plains, Cross Timbers, Blackland Prairie and Post Oak Savannah vegetational regions. Linex has spent his career with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. After graduating from Texas Tech University in 1982, he joined what was then the USDA's Soil Conservation Service, which traced its origins to 1935 and the Dust Bowl. The agency's focus changed over the decades, and it was renamed the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in 1994; Ricky's focus changed as well—from range specialist to wildlife biologist. He has worked for 34 years with NRCS in Goldthwaite, Snyder, Abilene, for and the past 13 years in Weatherford. Linex is also the author of Range Plants of North Central Texas, a Carroll Abbott Memorial Award winner in 2015.*

### **Natural Resource Conservation and Real Estate Development – Saturday morning**

Rian Maguire, P.E.; Principal at CHC Development

Few people who are not professionally involved in urban development understand the rules—and implications of them—that govern this process. This presentation will inform attendees about natural resource issues related to urban real estate development projects, both commercial and residential. Among the impacts of climate change will be increasing water scarcity—even as Texas' population doubles in the first 35 years or so of this century. The implications for future water use require a significant change in our water policies. Topics included will be water wells and commercial development: who is using them and why; landscaping ordinances: tree ordinances (including why many of them are not working to actually save trees), and lack of native plant requirements in landscape ordinances; residential development layout and how to (or failure to) conserve natural resources, grading and irrigation requirements, and why saving trees is no longer a goal of most developers. Last, but certainly not least, some ideas about how citizens can help make development more sustainable will be offered. This talk will be especially helpful for those who plan to attend the conservation policy workshop on Saturday afternoon.



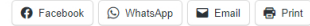
*Rian Maguire and his brother Rory founded CHC Development in Fort Worth in 2011. As a Professional Engineer, Rian is responsible for the feasibility analysis and development of commercial projects selected by the company. His specific activities include acquisition and entitlement, financial analysis, development planning and management, and coordinating with contractors and consultants from procurement to completion of each project. He works closely with city officials involved in planning, zoning, and construction document approvals.*

*Mr. Maguire graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington with a BS in Civil and Environmental Engineering and an MBA. Upon graduation Rian worked as a civil engineer in Fort Worth. His position included all aspects of governmental coordination and construction management of commercial, hospital, and school district development projects throughout Dallas and Fort Worth. Prior to starting CHC, he also worked for six years in residential and commercial real estate development in Dallas.*

*Rian is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Texas, and resides in Fort Worth with his wife, Kerin, and their two sons. He is also the son of a very proud mother and member of the Society, Cynthia Maguire.*

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# Conservation & Climate Change



October 14-15 | Glen Rose



[Fall Symposium](#) [Schedule](#) [Welcome the Monarchs! Field Day](#) [Registration](#) [On the Side](#) [Sponsorship & Sponsors](#)

[Conservation & Climate Change](#)→[Schedule](#)→[Workshops](#)

## Workshops

### Saturday Afternoon Workshops:

(Group C, choose one when you register) *All workshops begin at 1:30 pm and end at 4:00 p.m.*

#### C-1. Conserving pollinators: Cathy Downs and Gracie Waggoner, Bring Back the Monarchs

This popular workshop will teach how to identify life cycle stages of Monarch larvae with hands-on live critter examination, Milkweed ecology and, most importantly, ways we can all help them survive by providing habitat support in our landscapes.

#### C-2. Conserving water: Dr. Dottie Woodson, Texas Agrilife

Irrigation Efficiency for Water Conservation – Yes, Irrigation Systems can be Water Conserving! This workshop will cover how an irrigation system works by each component, how to identify and fix common irrigation problems, upgrading an existing system for efficiency with new technologies, converting existing system to drip irrigation and setting irrigation controller, cycle and soak schedules.

#### C-3. Conservation policy: Kathy Trizna, VP Advocacy

How to work with policymakers. This workshop will help members have something tangible to take home that they feel confident they can DO. Attendees will get hands-on practice at using template letters to government officials, ideas for landscaping ordinances, sample policies for HOAs or similar activities.



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## Welcome the Monarchs! Field Day

**Thursday, October 13 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm and  
Sunday, October 16 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm**

The **Native Plant Society of Texas**, the **US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)** and **Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT)** are cooperating to build Monarch Waystations at rest areas on the I-35 corridor through Texas. The **Native Plant Society** is providing the volunteers, **TXDOT** is providing workers/equipment to ready the beds for planting and the **USFWS** is providing funding. One of these gardens, at the Hillsboro rest area, will be used for a volunteer work project for the **Conservation & Climate Change** symposium.

Please join us on Thursday, October 13 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm and Sunday, October 16 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm to build this garden as an educational tool to teach travelers in Texas about the need for Monarch and pollinator conservation. The dirty work of clearing the beds has already been done and volunteers will only be asked to do the fun work – plant natives!

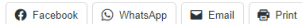
The specially designed restroom buildings bring to mind grain silos, with the beds resembling rows of plants in a field. The landscape design was produced by Kay Jenkins who is also serving as our lead person on this project.



Several organizations will have exhibits about Monarch butterflies and the native plants that support them. Exhibits will be open from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. You do not have to be registered for the symposium to participate in the Welcome the Monarchs! Field Day.

[Click here](#) for complete information about the I-35 Rest Area Monarch Waystations Project and how you can volunteer to help build these rest area gardens.

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## I-35 Rest Area Monarch Waystations

The **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)** and the **Native Plant Society of Texas** entered into a cooperative agreement in August 2015. The agreement provides funding and technical assistance to the Society for the planning, establishment, and maintenance of Monarch butterfly waystations and interpretive signage on **Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)** safety rest areas between Austin and Dallas. Waystations are places that provide resources necessary for monarchs to produce successive generations and sustain their migration (MonarchWatch.org).

Monarch waystations feature native milkweed plants to feed the successive generations of butterflies during the spring and summer migration to the north U.S. and Canada and fall nectar-producing plants to feed the adult Monarch butterflies as they migrate to their overwintering grounds in Mexico. To offset the loss of milkweeds and nectar sources from development and changes in agricultural practices within the migration corridor, we need to create, conserve, and protect milkweed/monarch habitats. We can help reverse habitat loss by creating Monarch waystations in home gardens, at schools, businesses, parks, zoos, nature centers, along roadsides, and on other unused plots of land. A garden as small as 100 sq. ft. in area can qualify as a Monarch waystation if the right native plants are used. You can help the Native Plant Society, USFWS, and TxDOT create Monarch butterfly waystations in rest areas along I-35 in the migration corridor.



### Project Sites

#### Hill County

Two matching safety rest areas in Hill County, just south of Hillsboro, were selected to kick off the I-35 Rest Areas Monarch Waystations Project.



These Monarch Waystations will be established in 2,000 sq. ft. of existing landscaping beds near the Visitor's Center. Volunteers have already begun removing existing plants and landscape fabric in the east side rest area (northbound side of I-35). This site was chosen for the Welcome the Monarchs! Field Day, October 13, 2016, which is the day we will start planting the waystation. To access the northbound rest area in Hill County from the north, travel south on I-35 and take exit 356, cross over the freeway and get back on I-35 going north and take exit 362A to the northbound rest area. You can only access the rest areas from the freeway and the entrance ramp at exit 358 is closed for construction, which is why you need to exit at 356 and come back around. Coming from the south, just take exit 362A to access the northbound rest area.

The southbound rest area in Hill County will also be prepared for establishment of a Monarch Waystation. You can reach the southbound rest area from north of the rest area by taking exit 362A. From south of the rest area, go north on I-35, take exit 364A, cross over the freeway and get back on I-35 south and take exit 362A. Planting of the southbound rest area (west side of the freeway) will kick off on October 16, 2016.

#### Bell County

Two matching rest areas in Bell County, in Salado, just north of Jarrell, Texas will also be the sites of Monarch Waystations. These Monarch Waystations will be established in 1,000 sq. ft. of existing landscaping beds near the Visitor's Center. Work on these rest areas will begin when the Hill County Rest Areas Monarch Waystations are completed.

#### Hill County Safety Rest Area Monarch Waystation Planting Plan



### Volunteer Workdays

Hill County Master Gardeners and Heart of Texas Master Naturalists will be joining us on the October 13th Welcome the Monarchs! Field Day as well as workdays scheduled prior to and after the event. You do not need to be a symposium participant to volunteer.

More volunteer workdays will be scheduled in the spring to plant plants that we were not able to acquire in fall. This project has been approved for Texas Master Naturalist volunteer hours by the East Texas chapter. Other chapters may also be willing to approve it for volunteer hours.

The following days have been scheduled prior to the October 13th Welcome the Monarchs! Field Day and you are invited to join us to contribute to this beneficial project. Please RSVP if you'd like to come to one of the workdays, so that we can be sure to tell you at which location in Hill County we will be working that day.

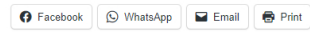
**Sunday, September 18, 2016**  
**Wednesday, September 21, 2016**  
**Saturday, September 24, 2016**  
**Wednesday, September 28, 2016**

Saturday, October 1, 2016  
Wednesday, October 5, 2016  
Saturday, October 8, 2016  
Wednesday, October 12, 2016  
Thursday, October 13, 2016  
Sunday, October 16, 2016

**Project Contact:**

Kay Jenkins  
I-35 Rest Areas Monarch Waystations Chair  
903-566-1624  
[kay.jenkins@npsot.org](mailto:kay.jenkins@npsot.org)

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## Registration

### Symposium Packages

Package Type	Member Fee	Non-Member Fee
Complete Conference Package - Registration includes all meals, field trips, speakers and workshops	\$120	\$140
Friday Only Package - Includes lunch, speakers and field trips	\$60	\$75
Saturday Only Package - Includes lunch, speakers and workshops	\$70	\$76
Friday Night Dinner - for guests or single day options	\$30	\$30
Saturday Night Dinner - for guests or single day options	\$30	\$30

[Click here to register](#)

**Changed your mind about a field trip or workshop?** You can go back in and make changes to your own agenda right up until we close online registration.

Just click on the online registration link above, enter the email address you used when you initially registered and click OK. When your original registration displays, click on "Change" at the bottom of the page, then make your changes.

If you want to make a change after online registration closes, please come see us at the on-site registration desk and we will make it for you.

We are pleased to offer special discounted rates for Educators and Students. If you want to make a donation to help underwrite these grants for Educators and Students, click [here](#). Please note in the comments that your donation is for the 2016 symposium.

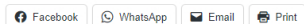
Package Type	Educator Fee	Student Fee
Discount Package - Includes all meals, field trips, speakers and workshops	\$75	\$50

**EDUCATORS:** We are offering a discounted rate for educators of all grade levels. After registering, please complete this form and email it to [state@npsot.org](mailto:state@npsot.org). *Failure to do so will invalidate your discounted Educator rate.*

**STUDENTS:** We are offering a discounted rate for students currently enrolled at a college or university. **After registering, please email an unofficial copy of your current transcript to [state@npsot.org](mailto:state@npsot.org). Failure to do so will invalidate your discounted Student rate.**

**SPEAKERS:** We will register for you. Please download and fill out one of the following forms and email it to [state@npsot.org](mailto:state@npsot.org).

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On the Side



Join us for some fun on the side. Click the images for more on the video contest, photography contest, silent auction, quilt raffle, and vendors.

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## Exhibitors & Vendors

We are now accepting applications for 2016 Symposium Exhibitors and Vendors. Participation in the field trips, seminars and workshops requires full registration. **Deadline for application is October 1, 2016.**

**Booth Spaces are 6' x 6'. Larger space is available – call Pam at 830.997.9272 for pricing.**

### Booth space rental rates are as follows:

No Fee – Unstaffed educational display

No Fee – Sponsor display

No Fee – Speaker display

\$60.00 – Staffed educational display with no sales (includes lunch Fri/Sat)

\$120.00 – Vendor with sales (includes lunch Fri/Sat)

### Tables and electricity are separate from booth space. Rates are as follows:

\$10.00 per day – Tables

\$20.00 per day – Electricity



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### Silent Auction & Quilt Raffle

A silent auction and quilt raffle during the symposium will benefit the [Kate Hillhouse Scholarship](#) and [Ann Miller Gonzales Research Grant](#) funds. This is *our only annual fundraiser for these programs* that offer educational scholarships to undergraduate students and research grants to graduate students involved in Texas native plant studies.



Photo by Bill Hopkins

This quilt with wildflower-themed fabrics was made specifically for this fundraiser by Tricia Hopkins, of the Cross Timbers Chapter. Tickets will be sold at various chapter meetings before the symposium and at the Silent Auction area during the symposium. The winner will be announced at the Saturday night closing banquet.

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## Video Contest

Get your entries in soon! This year the Society is sponsoring a contest for short videos organized around a choice of one of the following three themes.

- **Native Plants = Healthy Habitats** – The relationship and interdependence of native plants and wildlife.
- **Bring Back the Monarchs to Texas** – The Monarch butterfly migration in Texas and its dependence on native plants such as milkweed and nectar plants.
- **My Native Plant Project** – Show and tell about a project you or your chapter is doing to promote or conserve native plants or habitats.

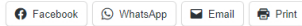
To enter the contest send an .mp4 or YouTube ready video file to [bill.hopkins@npsot.org](mailto:bill.hopkins@npsot.org) by September 15. A judging period will take place from September 16th through September 30th. The winning video in each category will be recognized during the Fall Symposium on October 14-15.

Videos should be at least 45 seconds in length and no more than 5 minutes maximum.

All videos will be posted on the [Native Plant Society of Texas Playlist](#) on YouTube. They may also be posted on the Society website and social media pages.



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## Sponsorship & Sponsors

The Native Plant Society of Texas invites you to help underwrite the costs of the symposium. **By becoming a sponsor, you will help us fulfill one of the basic tenets of our Society's mission – educating the general public about the need to conserve Texas native plants.** Your donation will also help us make the symposium fee affordable to anyone that wants to attend and learn about the importance of native plants, in addition to offering special low rates to students and educators.

### Donating online:

Online contributions are simple – click the link below, fill out the online form and make a note in the comment box that you want your donation to go to the symposium fund. No need to worry – all online donations and information are handled in a secure manner.

To donate online, click [here](#).

### Mail-in donations:

Please mark your check clearly as a "Symposium Fund Donation". Mail your check to:

2016 Symposium  
Native Plant Society of Texas  
PO Box 3017  
Fredericksburg, TX 78624

## Our Sponsors

We would like to thank the following sponsors for their support of our symposium:

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Felicia Dark

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