# **Dawson Neighborhood News**

The Newsletter of the Dawson Neighborhood Association

# 2012 NEIGHBORHOOD HABITAT CHALLENGE

City of Austin and the National Wildlife Federation challenge our Neighborhood to create homes for wildlife by taking the HABITAT CHALLENGE! Dawson placed 3<sup>rd</sup> last year, so let's again make Dawson a Winner for Wildlife!

# Take the Challenge, it's easy ...

1. Provide these habitat basics:

<u>Food</u>: Native plants provide a buffet of nectar, pollen, seeds, berries and more

<u>Water</u>: A key element for a variety of wildlife

<u>Cover</u>: Evergreen shrubs and rock walls offer wildlife shelter from predators and bad weather

<u>Places to raise young</u>: Dense shrubs, a nesting box or pond are examples of places wildlife need to mate and raise their young

- 2. Neighborhood participates in a community habitat project such as removing invasive plants, planting trees, restoring a creek area, or planting a
- neighborhood butterfly garden. (Our April 9<sup>th</sup> Creek Cleanup counts.) 3. An article about the habitat challenge is published in neighborhood newsletter and/or website.
- 4. Neighbors certify their properties with the National Wildlife Federation at <u>www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife</u> or with a COA pre-paid application by November 14, 2012.
- 5. Celebrate! The top three neighborhoods that complete all the requirements and certify the most new habitats between April 15th and November 14th 2012 will be recognized by the City of Austin and eligible for prizes.
- 6. Share your habitat and/or your experience with the neighborhood! To share, please contact Sandy McMillan at <u>smandpd@earthlink.net</u> or 693-2532 or post a message on our Yahoo! site (instructions for non-members below).

To request a pre-paid habitat certification application or for contest details: <u>512-978-2606 or www.keepaustinwild.com</u>



## This newsletter is sponsored by:



# **Dawson Meeting**

## <u>Monday, April 9, 6:30 p.m.</u>

South Austin Multipurpose Center 2508 Durwood

#### I. Neighborhood Association

- 1. Approval of Minutes
- 2. Old Business
- a. Euclid-Wilson Drainage
- New Business
  a. Creek Cleanup
  - b. Habitat Challenge Prize
- 4. Issues in the Neighborhood

#### II. Plan Contact Team

- 1. Approval of Minutes
- 2. Membership Report
- 3. New Business
  - a. CIP Priorities (see p. 2) and Sidewalks
- 4. Old Business

We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct & Dec

# <u>Creek Cleanup Reminder</u>

# Part of KAB's Clean Sweep

Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 8:30AM – 11AM 2508 Durwood Light breakfast snacks provided

Volunteer Party: 11:30AM – 1:30PM Fiesta Gardens (wrist bands provided after cleanup)

We still need volunteers, so please contact Sandy at 693-2532 or smandpd@earthlink.net.

www.KeepAustinBeautiful.org

# Dawson's 2011 Habitat Challenge Prize

As 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winners of the Habitat Challenge, we won a guided canoe tour of Lady Bird Lake for up to 20 people on a weekday, and we need ideas about how to use it. We offered it to the Molly Dawson Elementary School since they were one of the two participants in the challenge, but the contact person seems to think parents may not be too keen on the idea. Please bring your ideas to the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, or, if you are unable to attend, send them to Sandy at 693-2532 or <u>smandpd@earthlink.net</u>. We will discuss options at the meeting.

## <u>Community — Stay in touch</u>

Join the DNA listserv and receive neighborhood news by email. Go to <u>http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DawsonNeighborhood</u> to subscribe, or send an email message to <u>DawsonNeighborhood-subscribe@yahoogroups.com</u>

**DNA Officers:** Myron Smith, Pres, 913-0957 or <u>myron@ecpi.com</u> & Sandy McMillan, VP, 693-2532 or <u>smandpd@earthlink.net</u>.