

Ways to Get Involved

Contribute to a healthier environment

[TreeFolks](#) operates by the simple tenet that having more trees in an urban setting is better for people and the environment. The organization provides year-round education opportunities, plants trees around the city, and works to reforest areas hit by tree-devastating disasters. TreeFolks partners with the City of Austin to give trees to qualifying Austinites in the urban core through tree giveaways and consulting.

[Sustainable Food Center](#) can help you learn to grow your own food with its classes, community garden trainings, and free materials, all using sustainable gardening practices. Take a class to start your own garden or sign up to help teach a class or contribute to someone else's garden.

[Hill Country Conservancy](#) works with local landowners to help them conserve their land and protect it from development. Right now, the call from developers is very strong in Central Texas. Hill Country Conservancy helps them work through land protection deals that don't just benefit them, but also benefit our local ecosystem that relies on untouched land. You can help by donating or becoming a member of its young professionals group, EPIC, or its Violet Crown Trail group. Members have access to educational and volunteer events.

[Keep Austin Beautiful](#) works to improve Austin's quality of life through environmental stewardship. They provide community resources, education, and volunteer opportunities. You can participate in their large-scale clean ups, help create and improve public green spaces, and request free recycling and composting supplies for events. They also provide youth programs and resources to inspire the next generation of sustainability leaders.

Advocate for a healthier environment

[Texas Campaign for the Environment](#) helped launch Austin's zero-waste initiative and helped create the curbside organics project, which currently offers a third bin for compostable waste to 90,000 Austin households. You can sign up for its newsletters to stay up to date with local environmental news, take action by using their talking points to write letters to your representatives, and donate to its sister organization, the TCE Fund.

[Clean Water Action](#) operates in many states, but in Texas they are currently campaigning for sustainable water practices, stronger regulations on the hydraulic fracturing industry, protecting trees, and incentivizing alternative energy use. The site helps you take action by connecting you to your representatives and the issues at hand. You can sign petitions, lobby elected officials, volunteer at events, conduct research, and more.

[Sierra Club](#) is about to celebrate its 127th anniversary in May, and there's a reason why it's lasted so long. The grassroots organization is always looking for volunteers who can help organize events, run information tables, lobby elected officials, and otherwise advocate for the environment and social justice. Check out the Sierra Club's Lone Star chapter for news, events, and upcoming opportunities.

[Environment Texas](#) is a citizen-based environmental advocacy project of Environment America. It researches environmental issues facing the state and educates the public about these challenges by reaching out to the media and to community groups. It's a great resource for understanding environmental issues and how national and local policies are or are not addressing them. Members support Environment Texas financially and through volunteering.

Keep up with news and opportunities about climate change, sustainability, and the environment by following [Austin EcoNetwork](#).