

Climate by the Bayou

Armand Bayou Nature Center

8500 Bay Area Blvd. Pasadena, TX 77507

**Texas Sea Grant in partnership with Post Carbon Cities of Tomorrow & Southern Regional
Climate Center**

November 16-17th 2023

Texas Sea Grant would like to welcome you to two days of talks and discussions addressing climate issues important for coastal Texas. Bringing together a transatlantic exchange of knowledge by connecting researchers and practitioners from the US and Germany, the first day is hosted by Post Carbon Cities of Tomorrow and explores the resilience and biodiversity off Houston, Texas. The Climate Change and Biodiversity event includes sessions on the benefits of nature-based solutions for coastal resilience, the productivity of resilience in terms of biodiversity and carbon storage, and the community and social advantages of such solutions. Attendees can also delve into the emerging blue-green economy through interactive group sessions for collaborative insights. Toward the end of the first day, attendees will have the option of participating in one of two tours hosted by the Armand Bayou Nature Center, either a Pontoon trip or Safari trip on the bayou.

The second day, a climate services workshop hosted by the Southern Regional Climate Center (SRCC), convenes experts to explore critical aspects of coastal resilience. The day features discussions on SRCC tools, initiatives for enhancing resilience in coastal regions, and insights into climate change impacts and sea level rise effects. Learn about the local impacts of climate change on sea level rise, hurricanes, coastlines, and freshwater inflows, the influence of sea breezes, and tools and initiatives supporting resiliency for the Texas coastal region. In bringing together experts, professionals, and stakeholders, these two days promise to advance our collective understanding and response to climate challenges faced by coastal Texas. The event stands as a testament to our shared commitment towards building a resilient and sustainable future for our coastal communities.

Day 1
November 16th, 2023
Hosted by: Post Carbon Cities of Tomorrow (POCACITO)
Climate change and biodiversity in Houston, Texas

9:30am– 10:00am **Welcome by Harris County Commissioner (Representative) and German Consul General and Executive Director Armand Bayou Nature Center**

10:00am– 10:30am **Session 1: What makes a coast resilient? Coastal resilience benefits of nature-based-solutions**

Debalina Sengupta - Program Director, Coastal Resilience Texas Sea Grant College Program, Division of Research

Véronique Helfer - Senior Scientist, Working Group for Mangrove Ecology, Leibniz Centre for Tropical Research ZMT

10:30 am-10:45am **Break**

10:45am- 11:15am **Session 2: Mapping a new blue-green economy: new employment, research, and business opportunities at the coast.**

Jim Blackburn - Environmental Lawyer and Professor in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department at Rice University

Charriss York - Extension Program Director, Texas Community Watershed Partners

11:15am -12:00p m **Interactive groups, 4 groups, 4 questions, final feedback in plenary**

12:00pm - 12:30pm **Lunch**

12:30pm to 1:00pm **Session 3: Community, health and social benefits of nature based solution**

Vanessa Haines-Matos - Researcher, Center for Development Research (ZEF)

Tim Pylate - Executive director Armand Bayou Nature Center

1:00pm – 1:15pm **Break**

1:15pm -1:45pm **Session 4: Can resilience be productive? Biodiversity & carbon storage benefits of nature-based solutions**

Martin Zimmer- Department Head and Work Group Leader, Professor for Mangrove Ecology (University of Bremen), Leibniz Centre for Tropical Research ZMT

Ryan Bare - Research Scientist & Program Manager Nature-Based Solutions, Houston Advanced Research Center

1:45pm – 2:15pm **Interactive groups, 4 groups, 4 questions, final feedback in plenary**

2:15pm to 2:30pm **Closing remarks**

3:00pm to 4:45pm **Field Trip (pick 1): Safari Tour and Pontoon Trip**

Day 2
November 17th, 2023
Hosted by: Southern Regional Climate Center (SRCC)
Annual Meeting

9:15 am – 9:30am

Welcome

9:30am– 10:00am

SRCC tools useful for Coastal resiliency

Alison Tarter - SRCC Research Associate, Atmospheric Sciences, Texas A&M University

10:00am– 10:30am

Sea Grant initiatives for coastal resiliency

Madgellen Cleary - Coastal Resilience Specialist, Texas Sea Grant

10:30 am-11:00am

Climate Change impact on inflows to bay and estuaries.

Dr. John Nielsen-Gammon - SRCC Director, Regents Professor, Atmospheric Science, Texas A&M University Texas State Climatologist

11:00am- 11:15am

Break

11:15am -11:45am

Climate change and sea level rise

Dr. John Anderson - Maurice Ewing Professor of Oceanography, Emeritus, Rice University

11:45am -12:15pm

Coastal effects of sea level rise

Dr. James Gibeaut - Endowed Chair for Coastal and Marine Geospatial Sciences, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi Harte Research institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies.

12:15pm – 1:15pm

Lunch

1:15pm -1:45pm

Exploring Thermodynamic Variability and Storm Lifecycle Across Southeast Texas Sea Breeze Fronts

Dr. Milind Sharma - Postdoctoral Research Associate, Atmospheric Sciences, Texas A&M University

1:45pm - 2:15pm

Climate change and extreme weather

Dr. John Nielsen-Gammon - SRCC Director, Regents Professor, Atmospheric Science, Texas A&M University Texas State Climatologist

2:15pm – 2:30pm

Break

2:30pm – 3:00pm

Climate change and hurricanes

Dr. Robert Korty – Professor, Atmospheric Sciences, Texas A&M University

3:00pm-3:30pm

Seasonal wrap up and outlook

*Dr. William Baule - SRCC Regional Climatologist, Research Assistant Professor,
Atmospheric Sciences, Texas A&M University*

3:30pm

Closing

