

Audubon Dallas



Park and Recreation Board
November 5, 2015

Cedar Ridge Preserve Background

- Management
 - 2002: Established as Cedar Ridge Preserve, half owned by city, half leased from county
 - 2003: Dallas Park Board contracted with Dallas County Audubon Society, Inc. (“Audubon Dallas”) for management
 - 2012: Latest 5-year contract signed
- Physical Characteristics
 - 600 Acres (0.94 sq mi)
 - Topology is an escarpment, with 180 foot elevation change
 - Mostly forest, some prairie
 - 10 miles of hiking trails
 - Roughly half of the area is untouched
 - Education building, rest rooms, flower gardens, amphitheater

Good Words For CRP

D Magazine

"Above all the others, I like Cedar Ridge Preserve, an area near Joe Pool Lake that is managed by Audubon Dallas. The first time I hiked there, I carried my 2-year-old son Will in a backpack. I wouldn't try that now. He's 26. Both my boys eventually walked trails here. Cedar Ridge is hilly and provides several spots with great vistas. The intermittent creeks are places to wade and explore. Perhaps my favorite spot is on the Cattail Pond Trail, where a bench sits in the shade of a juniper. After a rain, the creek comes alive with the gentle sound of falling water. Cedar Ridge is a habitat for our most colorful bird, the painted bunting. I love walking down the hill to the pond and listening for its intricate song."

– Bill Holston, "The 6 Best Hikes in Dallas, **D Magazine, April 2015**

Dallas Observer



Visitor Summary



- Visitors match county diversity
- 2.0 visitors per car
- 36% City of Dallas
- 73% Dallas County
- 96% Dallas & adjoining counties



Volunteer Activities

- Conservation in Action: Workday 3rd Saturday of each month
- North Texas Master Naturalist Fall Big Chapter Project
- Scout Projects
 - Three Eagle Scout projects
 - Multiple workdays with troops of all levels
- Educational Community Service
 - High school
 - College
- Court-Supervised Community Service
- Over 200 volunteers giving 1,250 hours



Educational Offerings

- Master Birder Program
- Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center Camping Program
- Education is Freedom
- Public School field trips
- REI Map & Compass classes
- Plant/bird Walks
- Research
 - 11 year ongoing Orchid study
 - Brookhaven Community College Geological Department
 - iNaturalist Biodiversity of CRP Project Page
 - Monarch watch



Finances 2014-2015

| Income | | Expenses | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| CRP Contributions | \$419 | Conservation | \$156 |
| Donation Box | \$13,198 | CRP Education Expense | \$19,875 |
| Education Revenue | \$4,025 | Friends Program | \$86 |
| Field Trips/Races Income | \$3,535 | Grant Expenditures | \$16,341 |
| Friends of CRP | \$3,649 | Habitat Management | \$32,774 |
| Grants Received | \$22,296 | Improvements | \$3,150 |
| Hike-a-thon Income | \$535 | Insurance | \$3,356 |
| Management Contract | \$33,949 | Maintenance & Repairs | \$2,691 |
| Total Income | \$81,607 | Merchandise Costs | \$662 |
| | | Security | \$9,100 |
| | | Supplies | \$2,778 |
| | | Telephone | \$1,623 |
| | | Total Expenses | \$92,592 |
| | | | |
| | | Net Income | (\$10,985) |

Looking to the Future



Projects

- Protecting trails from over-use in inclement weather
- Connector Trail
- DART stop
- Publish Scientific Research on website
- Scientific Signage
- Water Fountain installation (matching grant by REI)
- Weather Station
- Wildlife Cameras

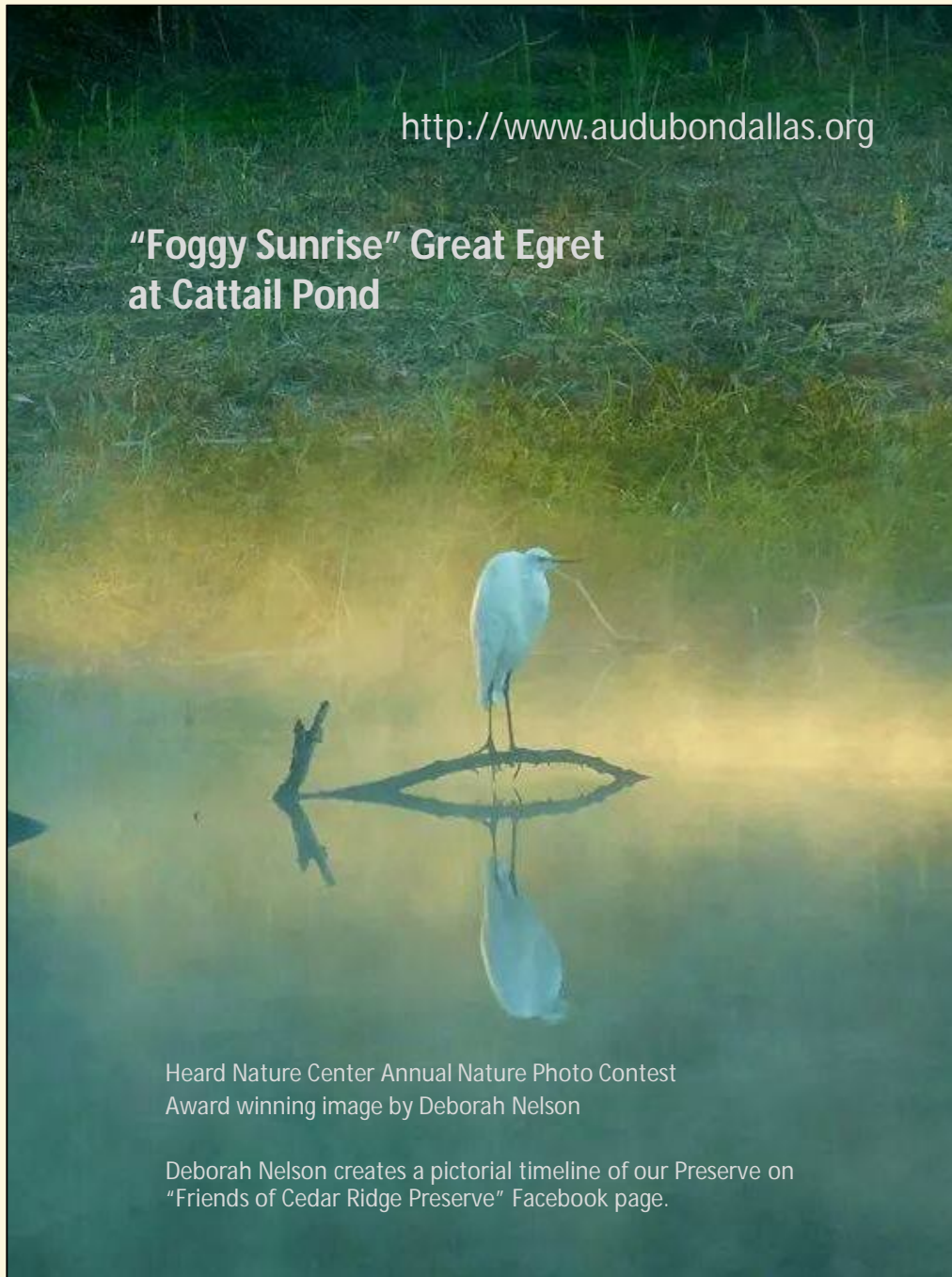
Increase income

- Parking Fees for prime hours
- Continued Partnership with Dogwood Canyon Audubon
- Increase Grant and Fundraising Opportunities including North Texas Giving Day
- Hosting a Fundraising Event for our Youth in Conservation Scholarship Program



<http://www.audubondallas.org>

**"Foggy Sunrise" Great Egret
at Cattail Pond**



Heard Nature Center Annual Nature Photo Contest
Award winning image by Deborah Nelson

Deborah Nelson creates a pictorial timeline of our Preserve on
"Friends of Cedar Ridge Preserve" Facebook page.

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