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# North Texans in Paris to support climate summit (/articles/north-texans-paris-support-climate-summit)

By Julie Ryan 0 Comments (</articles/north-texans-paris-support-climate-summit/#comments>)



*Anna Clark was among North Texans who traveled to Paris to participate in environmental events surrounding COP 21.*

Dec. 16, 2015

As thousands converged on Paris for the 21st UN climate conference, that ended Saturday, North Texans were there for the historic gathering known as **COP 21** (<http://www.cop21.gouv.fr/en/>). They brought their interests and expertise to discussions in the official delegates' area, the "Blue Zone" of the conference, and to the nearby "Green Zone", where business, civic society and activist groups were also at work, hammering out plans to bring our global climate future back from the brink of "too hot to handle."

## **Sustainable Business Strategies**

Dallas sustainability consultant Anna Clark gravitated to the "Green Zone"'s COP 21 Solutions conference. Leaders in sustainable business shared strategies for emissions reductions from their companies' and clients' operations. Such benchmark knowledge sources as the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), used by "thousands of companies...to improve the management of environmental risk," sparked discussion, Clark wrote in Green Biz on returning.

"It was great to hear L'Oreal's sustainability officer, or Kellogg, tell how CDP helped them drive their supply chain (emission levels down)," says Clark. "I've used those tools to help a Walmart supplier... What we did as one company, now you can see as part of a grand plan... There's a feeling of continuity, with people devising a solution."

## Fractivists Unite

DFW fractivist Sharon Wilson came for a Green Zone conference. She works as a North Texas organizer for Earthworks – a national nonprofit for community/environmental protection and sustainable solutions for adverse effects of mineral and fossil fuel development. The **International Anti-Fracking Summit** (<http://www.stopthefrackattack.org>) brought together attendees from 40 countries, all from areas living with the effects of hydraulic fracture drilling.

"It was our first face-to-face meeting," says Wilson. "We talked about how to work better together, with better strategies... shared information, contacts and stories."

Stories of adverse effects as in Denton?

"Yes," says Wilson, "It's the same story everywhere."

*Sharon Wilson, second from left, joined other fractivists under the Eiffel Tower.*

"We heard about methane's role in climate change from Bob Howarth, the Ph.D. Cornell professor," whose team studied the greenhouse gas. "The study shows that natural gas is not a bridge fuel (from petroleum to renewables), because of all the methane leaks" during natural gas production, Wilson noted.



“Methane reacts with the climate so much faster than CO2... And it’s 86 times more potent. If we can stop putting so much methane in the atmosphere, that will have a really fast (positive) effect on our climate, and buy us a little more time to work on the rest.”

## #EarthToParis



Dallas philanthropist Trammell Crow, the founder and underwriter of Earth Day Texas “U.S.’ largest Earth Day celebration,” was involved in a virtual as well as public celebration for the Paris Climate Summit. **#EarthToParis** (<http://www.earthtoparis.org>), sponsored by scores of corporations and civil society groups, created a stunning video entwining music, voices and faces of the famous and not-so, in a plea to take strong action at COP 21.

“It was a visual call to all involved in the negotiations... by private activist groups, to promote discussions at all levels and show support and get people talking online,” says Jillian Mock, Earth Day Texas communications associate.

*Trammell Crow was part of a coalition behind #EarthToParis.*

The production ran on YouTube prior to the event and live-streamed “on the walls of the hall where world leaders, delegates and Secretary Kerry entered the conference” on Dec. 7.

“I was also impressed by the number of civil society and NGO groups that kept actions constantly happening alongside the negotiations, keeping up that drumbeat,” Mock comments.

"A big cause of Trammell's all the time that he emphasized over there is the role that business needs to play," she adds. "We all need to step up to the plate."

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** Author****Julie Ryan**

Julie Ryan writes on environment, ecology and land care, designs sustainable landscapes, and educates about the Earth through public and private programs. Her work has appeared regularly in the Dallas Morning News and D Magazine, and also in Texas Parks & Wildlife, Spirit and more. She's the author of two popular books on sustainable native landscaping in Texas, and lives in Dallas.

**EVENTS**

# January (<http://www.greensourcedfw.org/calendar-node-field-date-and-time/month/2016-01>)

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	24 25 <a href="http://www.greensourcedfw.org/calendar-node-field-date-and-time/day/2016-01-24">http://www.greensourcedfw.org/calendar-node-field-date-and-time/day/2016-01-24</a>		26
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**REI: Big Bend National Park - Dallas (/events/rei-big-bend-national-park-dallas)**

Jan 6 2016 - 7:00pm

**North Texas Farmers Markets - Complete Listings (/events/north-texas-farmers-markets-complete-listings-120)**

Jan 9 2016 - 8:00am

**Friends of O.S. Gray Natural Area: Community Day - Arlington (/events/friends-os-gray-natural-area-community-day-arlington-15)**

Jan 9 2016 - 9:00am

**Arlington Conservation Council: Annual Meeting & Potluck Brunch - Arlington (/events/arlington-conservation-council-annual-meeting-potluck-brunch-arlington)**

Jan 9 2016 - 10:00am

**Irving Arts Center: Polar Obsession: Photographs by Paul Nicklen - Irving (/events/irving-arts-center-polar-obsession-photographs-paul-nicklen-irving-1)**

Jan 9 2016 - 10:00am

**Marshall Grain: Growing Onions & Potatoes - Fort Worth & Grapevine (/events/marshall-grain-growing-onions-potatoes-fort-worth-grapevine)**

Jan 9 2016 - 11:00am

**City of Irving: Tons of Tomatoes - Irving (/events/city-irving-tons-tomatoes-irving)**

Jan 12 2016 - 6:00pm

**REI: Backpacking Basics for Women - Dallas (/events/rei-backpacking-basics-women-dallas)**

Jan 12 2016 - 7:00pm

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2 hrs · Fort Worth

Alton Bowman has been speaking up for trees for more than 30 years in Flower Mound. Watch the video below. Than read the [GreenSourceDFW.org](#) story.



A "Clear-Cut" Strategy: Alton  
Vimeo.com

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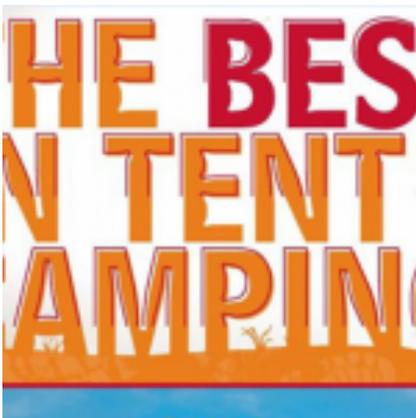
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[Green Living in the Great Outdoors. A Review of 'Best in Tent Camping: Texas' \(/articles/green-living-great-outdoors-review-best-tent-camping-texas\)](/articles/green-living-great-outdoors-review-best-tent-camping-texas)

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Hi John,  
We would love to talk to you...

Salena

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I help run the Green Team at Daggett...

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## CONTACT INFO

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## ABOUT GREENSOURCE DFW



Green Source DFW is an education project to bring together environmental groups, green businesses and the Dallas-Fort Worth community and provide them with tools to communicate with each other.

## MEMNOSYNE INSTITUTE

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The mission of the Memnosyne Institute is to help the diverse people of the world consciously encourage an evolution for themselves and for future generations by providing humanity with the means to encourage positive, peaceful global collaboration in seven main areas of knowledge.

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