



Austin Energy Regional Science Festival 2022

Founded in 1956, the Science Festival celebrated its 66th anniversary this year. A total of 1,590 students from 146 schools entered 1,354 science projects in the Austin Energy Regional Science Festival, representing 16 Central Texas school districts in eight counties, as well as private, charter and home schools. First- through third-place category winners advance to the Texas Science and Engineering Fair in College Station in March. Six “Best of Fair” projects advance to the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair to be held in Atlanta, GA.

The Austin Peace Academy, a private middle school, and Vista Ridge High School, from the Leander Independent School District, won Sweepstakes Awards.

The Sweepstakes Award is presented to the school in the junior division (middle schools) and senior division (high schools) earning the most points in the 18 science categories at the festival. The Austin



Austin Energy Regional Science Fair virtual exhibit hall

Peace Academy won Sweepstakes for the second time in a row, outperforming 25 other middle schools. Vista Ridge outperformed 21 other high schools for their 14th Sweepstakes award since 2006.

The Regional Science Festival is Austin Energy’s largest sponsored annual community event, helping promote science, technology, engineering and math education.

The Austin Science Education Foundation gratefully acknowledges

the support from all the Science Festival underwriters, including the Anchor Sponsor, Dell Technologies, and Gold Sponsors 3M and Synopsys, Inc. Additionally, the foundation wants to thank the more than 250 judges and the dozens of volunteers who make this event possible.

Visit sciencefest.org for a complete listing of awards as well as a list of sponsors.



Let your voice be heard about the needs of Austin residents

The City of Austin is collecting input on community needs to set spending priorities for housing and public service programs in the Annual Action Plan. The City of Austin’s Annual Action Plan covers how we will use federal funds for housing and public service programs and sets goals to better assist under served communities.

The City of Austin provides programs and services to support affordable housing, low- and moderate-income households, persons with disabilities, seniors and youth. Your input will inform investment decisions to meet the needs of our community.

The City will collect feedback on the needs of the community from March 7 to April 15. This year’s draft Action Plan for FY 2022-2023 will be available for review and feedback from May 3 to June 10.

For questions or more information, call **512-974-1000** or visit austintexas.gov/HPD to tell us what you think. Your feedback by April 15 will help us shape the plan, and your feedback from May 3 to June 10 will help us better define community needs.

Keeping it green

From Walnut Creek to the rolling terrain of the Texas Hill Country, the Austin area has a lot to offer for green space. The City of Austin also works hard to keep our flora and fauna thriving all year long. With Earth Day falling in April, now is as good a time as any to think green. Here are a few ideas for you:

Make an impact on Austin creeks and your community

The Watershed Protection Department requests community input to update their strategic plan for protecting creeks and communities. Your input will help staff prioritize work and guide decision-making around urgent challenges, such as climate change and racial inequities.

During Earth Month, visit raintoriveratx.com. Share your experience and priorities related to water pollution, erosion and flooding!



Say no to batteries in the bin

Have you ever removed dead batteries from an electronic device, held them in your hand, and wondered, “What do I do with these?” Austin Resource Recovery has the answer! ARR customers can collect and drop off batteries and electronics for recycling and safe disposal at the Recycle & Reuse Drop-off Center — austintexas.gov/dropoff. Additional drop-off locations can be found at austintexas.gov/batteries. Please help us prevent battery fires by thinking before you toss.

Ditch the car this Earth Day

For Earth Day 2022, consider replacing a single-occupancy vehicle (SOV) trip with one of the many sustainable trip options available to Austinites. Head to commutesolutions.com to see all the ways you can get from A to B in one place – biking, walking, riding the bus or finding a shared ride. You could save time, money and stress by ditching SOV trips, and you will definitely be protecting our environment.

Lights out for the birds

Each spring, nearly two billion birds migrate through Texas in one of the planet’s great wildlife spectacles. Unfortunately, since migratory birds often travel at night, artificial lighting can cause them to be disoriented and collide with buildings and homes. These avoidable collisions are responsible for killing up to one billion birds annually in the United States.

The good news is that everyone can help. Simply turn off all nonessential indoor and outdoor lighting from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. beginning March 1 through June 15 — particularly during peak spring migration, April 22 through May 12. That means turning off your porch



and garage lights, closing your curtains and shades, and asking your office building management to shut off their lights at night, too. You’ll be protecting birds while also saving money! Learn more at bit.ly/LightsOutTexas.

NOW HIRING LIFEGUARDS!

LIFEGUARDAUSTIN.COM

The Austin Parks and Recreation Department is now hiring lifeguards for the summer swim season. Enjoy flexible hours, learn life-saving skills, work outside, and earn \$15/hour. Certification and training are available for qualified applicants ages 15 and up. New and returning lifeguards can start the process by completing the application online.

For more information about becoming a lifeguard, please visit lifeguardaustin.com.

Si gusta recibir este folleto en español, llame a los Servicios Públicos de la Ciudad de Austin al 512-972-9523.

Customer Service Phone: 512-494-9400

24-Hour Power Outage Reporting: 512-322-9100 | 24-Hour Emergency Water Service: 512-972-1000

North Austin Utility Customer Service Center (Walk-in Center): 8716 Research Blvd., Ste. 115

South Austin Utility Customer Service Center (Walk-in Center): 1901 W. William Cannon Drive, Ste. 100



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