



Connecting Communities to Nature
Austin, TX
May 17-19, 2017

Innovation Lab Hotel Accommodations
Hilton Austin Hotel
500 E 4th St, Austin, TX 78701

Wednesday, May 17

5:30pm – 7:00pm Welcome Reception
Moonshine Patio Bar & Grill
303 Red River St, Austin, TX 78701
** 3 minute walk from the Hilton Hotel, transportation not provided*

Thursday, May 18

Zilker Botanical Garden (2220 Barton Springs Rd, Austin, TX 78746)

8:00am Bus departs from the Hilton, the 5th Street Entrance

8:30am-9:00am Breakfast and Welcome

- Barbara Tulipane, CEO and President, NRPA
- Kimberly McNeeley, Acting Director, Austin Parks and Recreation Department

9:00am-9:15am Icebreaker Activity

- Ryan Spencer, Children in Nature Collaborative of Austin Director, Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center
- Paul Vickery, Education Director, Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center

9:15am-10:15am Youth Panel Discussion and Q&A

- Roland Richardson, Conservation Development Officer, NRPA
- Sandy Heath, Education & Outreach Park Ranger Supervisor, Austin Parks and Recreation Department

10:15am-11:45am Strategies for Children's Equitable Access to Nature: Facilitated Roundtable Discussions

- Lori Robertson, Director of Conservation, NRPA

Roundtable Discussion Topics will include:

- Out-of-School-Time Partners and Networks
- Early Childhood Nature Experiences
- Policies Across City Departments
- Green Schoolyards for Healthy Communities

- Health Partnerships to Support Policies and Programs
- Community and Youth Engagement

11:45am-12:30pm Lunch

12:30am-3:30pm Site Tours

- Perez Elementary School: Green Schoolyard Tour
7500 S. Pleasant Valley Rd. Austin, TX 78744
- Camacho Activity Center : Teen Adventure Programming
34 Robert T Martinez Jr St, Austin, TX 78702

3:30pm -4:30 pm Optional activities: paddling on Lady Bird Lake, bike riding, archery, trail walking

6:00pm-8:00pm Evening Reception
Waller Creek Boathouse
74 Trinity St, Austin, TX 78701
** 8 minute walk to the Hilton Hotel, transportation not provided*

7:30pm Optional Bat Viewing

Friday, May 19

Zilker Botanical Garden (2220 Barton Springs Rd, Austin, TX 78746)

8:00am Bus departs the Hilton the 5th Street Entrance

8:30am-9:15am Breakfast

9:15am-10:30am Impact Stories: Data, Metrics and Tools for Measuring Children’s Connection to Nature

- Margaret Lamar, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Children & Nature Network
- Priya Cook, Principal Associate Connecting Children to Nature, National League of Cities

10:30am-12:00pm Site Tours

- Nature’s Way Preschool: Early Childhood Programming
Austin Nature & Science Center: Out-of-School Time
2389 Stratford Dr, Austin, TX 78746

12:00pm-1:00pm Lunch and Closing Remarks

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