

# Randy Mallory Writer-Photographer

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Mike,

Hope your boat ride was fun. Just the sight of sails catching wind always blows me away.

I meant to give this to you at the Austin Yacht Club. Here are my Urban Trails slides to date. I'm hoping to get by the Dallas and Ft. Worth Nature Centers and River Legacy again to add a few more before deadline later this month. But here are some suggestions for file shots to complete the coverage. I've also included my resources list so you can contact each location directly for possible photos. Sorry to be so late getting this in.

Generally, the story will speak on two levels: trails as a nice, relaxing outing, and trails as a way to learn about eco-systems. So I think a number of nature shots would speak to both areas and would work for several, if not all, trail areas, particularly the five central plains sites.

Common ground species such as: armadillo, white-tailed deer, opossum, raccoon, jackrabbit, cottontail rabbit, beaver, bobcat, coyote, skunk, etc..

Common aerial species include red-tailed hawk, screech-owl or barred owl, painted bunting, bluebird, flycatchers, orioles, osprey, kites, monarch butterflies, and woodpeckers like the yellow-bellied sapsucker. Photos of wildlife in action in their habitat would be nice, such as: yellow-bellied sapsucker pecking holes into inner bark of cedar elm; monarch feeding on goldenrod; golden-cheeked warbler peeling bark off ashe juniper (cedar); snake camouflaged in leaves; bird eating sumac berries; squirrel holding acorn to eat; rabbit hiding in protective cover of greenbriar; beaver gnawing on tree trunk...like that.

Non-common flora/fauna or other shot ideas include:

## 1. Forest Ridge, Austin

•Since this is primarily a habitat preservation area, we need a shot of an endangered species--particularly the black-capped vireo and the golden-cheeked warbler (these play into the story for several others, but not as much). Other rarities include the Jollyville Plateau salamander, the whitish canyon mock-orange flower, and a pinkish flower, the Bracted Twistflower.

--more--

T.H./Urban Trails shot list/2

Apparently, the Austin History Center also has some historic photos of locals enjoying the Bull Creek watershed which might tie in nicely.

2. River Legacy, Arlington

- We really need a good shot of the devil's cigar, a rare funky fungus which grows only in Texas and Japan and is a totem for this park. The park probably has access to some.

3. McKelligon Canyon, El Paso

- Typical desert mountain wildlife would be good: roadrunner, kangaroo mouse, snakes, blooming cactus, mule deer, golden eagle, etc.
- Climbers on rock faces in climbing area behind amphitheater.
- Picnickers at end of road loop with mountains in back.

4. Armand Bayou, Houston

- Bayou scenics
- Boat nature tours or canoeing on bayou
- People on guided hike or along trail
- Great blue heron, snowy white egret, alligator, wetland creatures...
- Maybe director George Redmund posed somewhere (by pond?)

And, obviously, more scenic nature studies and trail activities at any site would be great.

Call with any questions.