



January, February, March 2019

## NEWSLETTER

Serving the Residents of  
Culpeper, Orange, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Fredericksburg,  
Caroline, King George



# MEMO FROM THE CHAIR, LINDA C. MULLER

## "A Journey of a Thousand Miles Begins with One Step" Lo Lo Tzu

### The Importance of Perseverance & Community

It seemed like an impossible steep climb. So many obstacles, so many seemingly dead-end paths. But over time, with passion and perseverance and support from many, it finally happened in 2019. I am referring to the General Assembly's passage of legislation that will require the excavation and recycling of toxic coal ash. The legislation will require Dominion Energy to remove 28 million tons of coal ash currently stored at 4 of its power sites: Chesterfield Power Station, Chesapeake Energy Center, Possum Point Power Center, and Bremo Power Station. Coal ash at the locations must be recycled or be moved to permitted landfill sites. Additionally, Dominion Energy will be required to offer municipal water hook-ups or water testing to residents who live within a 1/2 mile from the coal ash sites.

Sierra Club members and concerned citizens recall attending the February 2017 Virginia Department of Environmental Quality's Possum Point public hearing in Dumfries, VA. Dominion's initial plan was to cap the coal ash ponds in place (on site). Potomac Riverkeepers Network did the yeoman's work of presenting data and research that demonstrated that toxic spills and contamination from the Possum Point site continued to flow from the ash piles into the Potomac River and of course...downstream. Nearby resident's ground water was contaminated. Capping in place was not the answer to the environmental disaster.

In 2019, it took the full support of the governor and bipartisan support from the Virginia General Assembly to pass a bill, though not perfect, to address the removal of coal ash from 4 of the Dominion sites. And while Virginia has taken needed first steps to address water contamination from coal ash sites, a March 2019 study from the Environmental Integrity Project concludes "that 91 percent of U.S. coal-fired power plants with monitoring data are contaminating groundwater with unsafe levels of toxic pollutants." Virginia's "first step" is a momentous step in the right direction.

### Another Year-Another Election

It's an election year every year in Virginia, and this year we have local and state elections. The Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club Political Committee will be carefully reviewing candidates for potential endorsements but it all starts at the local group level. If you are an RGSC member and would like to participate on the RGSC's political committee, please contact the Chair, Linda Muller: [lcsmuller\(at\)mindspring.com](mailto:lcsmuller(at)mindspring.com).

### Join Us!

Spring time- we lose an hour but gain lots of activities in March & April. RGSC will be tabling at Friends of the Rappahannock's Wild & Scenic Film Festival March 23. Sign up for our March 28th Outing to Madison's Montpelier Loop in Orange County. And this year's Earth Day Along the Rappahannock will take place April 27, 2019 at Old Mill Park. We post update information on our Face Book page, so be sure to "follow" us.

Yours in Exploring, Enjoying, and Protecting Our Planet,

Linda C. Muller, Chair

Links:

### Passage of Coal Ash Legislation

<http://wtvr.com/2019/02/15/coal-ash-cleanup-legislation-heads-to-governors-desk/>

### Coal Ash Groundwater Contamination (March 2019)

<http://www.environmentalintegrity.org/news/first-comprehensive-national-study-of-coal-ash-pollution-finds-widespread-groundwater-contamination/>

### Email Sign-up for RGSC Outing: March 28th Montpelier Loop (Orange County)

Contact Richard & Suzanne Eggeling: [rich.sue.sc@gmail.com](mailto:rich.sue.sc@gmail.com)

or sign up via Sierra Club Calendar: select date March 28

<http://www.sierraclub.org/virginia/calendar>

### RGSC's Facebook Page:

<http://www.facebook.com/Rappahannock-Group-Sierra-Club-178426316484/>

# CONSERVATION CHAIR, BILL JOHNSON

**Spotsylvania Solar Farm.** There has been a lot of publicity about this effort and it is coming to a head soon. On February 26th, what should be a final public hearing was held on whether to issue the permits for the 3 lots. It was held at a Spotsylvania High School because of the anticipated number of attendees. It started at 4:30 PM and ended at 1:20 AM. The Board of Supervisors (BOS) did not take a vote at this meeting, but they are supposed to respond to the permit application by March 31.

Before the meeting, the Planning Commission recommended that 2 of the three permits be denied, approving only the smallest parcel of land to build the solar farm. sPower has stated that they will not proceed unless all three lots are approved. There is a very vocal opposition, well-funded, and sometimes not very nice to those who support the project. The land where the solar farm would be built is currently logged for timber, but contains multiple perennial streams and wetlands, is hilly, and could result in panels being placed within 2 hundred feet of homes.

The Energy and Policy Institute, a progressive energy think tank, did an analysis of the project's foes and found something interesting. Here's a quote from the opening line of the article: "A 500 megawatt solar project in Spotsylvania County, Virginia has drawn attacks from climate skeptics, fossil fuel interests, and right-wing news outlets."

The story continues from there, pointing out how the local opposition website used talking points from multiple fossil fuel industry front groups opposed to solar. Many of the front groups receive funding from the Koch network and the coal industry, including the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT), Taxpayer Protection Alliance, the Heritage Foundation, climate skeptic groups like the Science and Environmental Policy Project (SEPP) and Virginia Scientists and Engineers for Energy and Environment (VA-SEEE). Even Fox and Sean Hannity got into the fray.

This story is well worth reading to see just how focused the fossil fuel industry is on preventing, whenever and wherever possible, anything that might replace fossil fuels with renewable energy. Here is the link to the story:

<https://www.energyandpolicy.org/spotsylvania-solar/>

**Fossil Free Fredericksburg.** This independent group of students and teachers from high school and college are working with citizen activists to try and convince the City of Fredericksburg to join the movement to go fossil-free by 2050. The Sierra Club Chapter and RGSC have been heavily involved in promoting this effort, including providing activist training, student mentoring to develop presentations and hold a youth conference, along with some financial support. This is a locally-inspired implementation of the Sierra Club's *Ready for 100* campaign. Our thanks to Alice Redhead and Zach Jarjoura for their support in helping make this a reality.

**Outings.** The RGSC Outings leaders have taken our group on multiple outings where we combine environmental activism with fun-filled activities. Some of the recent activities include:

- Combining walks through local parks and woodlands with garbage clean-up.
- A trip down to the County Waste recycling facility outside of Richmond, to provide a better understanding of what can be recycled, and how it is done on a large scale.

**Pass on Plastic (POP).** RGSC has been working on a project we call "Pass on Plastic" to try to reduce single use plastic bags at local farmer's markets. Some of our volunteers have been sewing tuille netting to create produce bags. We are working with 2 vendors at the Fredericksburg Farmers Market and hope to expand to all vendors at that market. Our goal is to eliminate the use of single use plastic bags and make the farmers market a VA certified Green Event. Thanks to Paula Chow for her leadership in this, and thanks to all the volunteers who have given their time to sew these produce bags.

# EARTH DAY ON THE RAPPAHANNOCK – SATURDAY, APRIL 27th, 11 – 4, OLD MILL PARK , PAULA CHOW

Climate Change is the theme of this year's RG booth display. There will be a "how to" on advocacy and activism to get legislation addressing climate change. New ideas and perspectives in making changes and making a difference will be on display. You'll learn about food issues and its relationship to greenhouse gases. And of course, there will be children's activities and giveaways. We will have ideas about Refuse, Resist, Rethink, Redesign, Repurpose, Reduce, Reuse and talk about how recycling is the last resort.

Since 2010, RG annually gives a Living Green Award to a business or organization for its environmental stewardship. The award is given at the Earth Day festival at the Awards Program in the late afternoon. Anyone can nominate a business or organization for the Living Green Award. The nomination form can be found on our website at [www.sierraclub.org/virginia/rappahannock](http://www.sierraclub.org/virginia/rappahannock).

RG participates in the Earth Day Committee. We are seeking gently used outdoor items (bird houses, garden décor, wind chimes for example), camping or hiking gear and other "outdoor activity" items that can be offered for the raffle. Please contact Paula Chow (540) 310-0135 for appropriateness of donated item which can then be dropped off at the Dorothy Hart Community Center. If the item is of value, a donation letter is available from Dept. of Parks and Recreation upon drop off.

There is no rain date this year. Music, activities, food trucks, animals, entire family fun, raffle – this is a **certified VA Green Event**. Don't forget to bring your own reusable water bottle! Check the website for more information on the 16th annual festival: [www.earthdayfred.com](http://www.earthdayfred.com).

## SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING (NO PLASTIC PLEASE), PAULA CHOW

This is a lesson in simple advocacy and willingness to write suggestions on a comment card.

A year ago, I was in for my annual mammogram and was given a hospital gown wrapped in a plastic bag. Oh, good, I didn't have to worry about the pain I would endure with the mammogram. Rather, I was focused on this unnecessary piece of plastic and how much of it was used daily and discarded to the landfill. There wasn't even a separate bin for the discarded plastic bags. This is not an operating room where an ultra-sterile environment is needed.

Before leaving the facility, I filled out a comment card. It was rather detailed about how their next contract could be eco-friendly without the use of the plastic bag wrapped gowns. Or perhaps they could offer recycling bins for the "clean" plastic bags that were immediately discarded upon unwrapping the gown. I mentioned the fact that plastic does not biodegrade. I even offered to meet to discuss the matter with them. I left with my empty plastic bag to bring home to reuse.

So, it's a year later. Whoa! I was handed a gown without a plastic bag wrap. The technician said that it had just been several days with the new contractor. She apologized for the oversized gown. I sang praises for the use of no plastic bags as with the previous contractor and didn't mind the oversized gown.

Was it a coincidence or was it my comment that got them to reconsider the issue? It doesn't matter. But, if, in fact, my comment cued the facility to change the contract in doing away with the plastic bag wrap for the hospital gown, the four minutes of my inconvenience to fill out the comment card went a long way and made a big difference and keeps hundreds of plastic bags out of the landfill.

"Thought for the Year":

Refusing, Reducing, Reusing, Recycling, and Rotting efforts are all necessary. BUT the greatest impact and most meaningful efforts that will get results is to get legislators elected to the local, state, and federal offices who will pass legislation to mandate change for our climate crisis.

## PASS ON PLASTIC CAMPAIGN, PAULA CHOW

RG will be sponsoring initial funds for the Pass On Plastic campaign targeting the Fredericksburg Farmers Market. The funds help with the purchase of the tuille netting used to make net bags to replace single-use plastic produce bags. Paula Chow, spearheading this campaign, will be working with two vendors, Valdez Produce and C&T Produce, as the trial vendors for the campaign. Volunteers will be on hand to assist the customers with using a colander for weighing their produce without the use of plastic bags. The produce is then placed in the reusable bag. Net bags can be used, but only one per customer will be given away. The net bags cue customers to stop using plastic produce bags. Net bags can be found at some grocers and online. The goal of this campaign is to develop the Farmers Market as a VA certified Green Event, thereby eliminating all plastic bags. This may take up to two years for a transition.

Volunteers have been helping with the cutting and sewing of these net bags, and more are needed. Volunteers are also needed to help at the Farmers Market at the vendors booth as described above. Contact Paula Chow to sign up for as many hours or times you can help: paulachow132@gmail.com, subject line: POP Volunteer.

## TIPS COLUMN, PAULA CHOW

The straw-free movement has taken hold. Although straw-free advocacy needs to continue, let's talk about plastic forks, plastic knives, plastic spoons. How about a plastic-cutlery-free movement? Plastic cutlery is everywhere, perhaps even more than straws. If you are at a casual restaurant where you order at the counter, at a cafeteria, at any fast food restaurant or at organization/club gatherings where food is served, plastic cutlery is used. Especially at parties with friends and family, plastic cutlery seems to be the norm. Rarely will you see biodegradable cutlery as it is expensive as is bamboo or wooden cutlery.

Found online on multiple sites, one can search for "camping cutlery set" or "chow kit utensils." They can be found for under \$2.00 or a Vintage Girl Scout kit (see photo) sets you back just \$16.00. They all have a case so it is handy to keep in one's purse, car or backpack. Dirty? Just wash it in the restaurant restroom or wrap a cloth napkin around it until you get home to wash it. Inconvenient? Well, how committed are you to walk the talk? These make great gifts. One word of caution is that wherever security is an issue, your knife may not be allowed into the building.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2019

March 23: FOR Wild & Scenic Film Festival UMW University Center, 6 – 8pm

April 6: Solutions to Climate Change youth conference, UMW Hurley Convergence Center, 1 – 5:30pm Sponsored by Fossil Free Fredericksburg & Rappahannock Group Sierra Club

April 27: Earth Day on the Rappahannock, 11 – 4pm, Old Mill Park

June 9: RG 25th Anniversary Pot Luck Picnic, 1 – 4pm, Alum Springs Park, Fredericksburg, Litter Clean Up, Interactive Drum Circle, Door Prizes

June 11: D.A.R.E. Day Graduation Celebration Stafford County, 9 – 1pm, Pratt Park – **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

June 15: Juneteenth Event, 12 – 7pm, City Fellowship Church, Fredericksburg **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

August 6: National Night Out tabling, 3 – 7pm, Spotsylvania Towne Centre & South Stafford Target parking lot – **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** to help with children's activities at the display booth.

September 8: Fall Open House, 2 – 4pm American Legion Hall Post 55, Woodford Street, Fredericksburg. Speaker TBA

September 20 – 22 (Fri. eve – Sun. morn): VA Chapter Sierra Club Annual Gathering, Westmoreland State Park

December 1: Holiday Open House, 2 – 4pm American Legion Hall Post 55, Woodford Street, Fredericksburg. Speaker TBA

# WHY CAN'T PLASTIC BAGS BE BANNED?, PAULA CHOW

In Virginia, local choice is held hostage by the state legislature using the Dillon Rule to retain power and control.

The Dillon Rule is derived from the two court decisions issued by Judge John F. Dillon of Iowa in 1868. It affirms the previously held, narrow interpretation of a local government's authority, in which a substate government may engage in an activity only if it is specifically sanctioned by the state government.

In other words, unless legislators in Richmond pass laws on banning plastic bags or polystyrene, local governments cannot mandate it.

This year in the 2019 VA Legislative Session, five plastic bag resolutions were introduced from different districts in VA. As usual, resolutions are sent to committees. All of these resolutions died in committee. This can only change when legislators who are friendly to banning plastic bags, are the majority in office.

In the U.S., of the 39 states that have the Dillon Rule, only 9 follow the Dillon Rule, Virginia being one of them.

## EVERY KID OUTDOORS PROGRAM EXTENDED FOR MANY YEARS

Late in February, the House of Representatives passed the Natural Resources Management Act, a bipartisan public lands package that includes the single largest wilderness bill in a decade. Beyond protecting lands, waters, and historic sites, this landmark bill authorizes the "Every Kid Outdoors" program, which provides fourth graders and their families with free national parks passes. Since it first passed in the Senate two weeks ago, Sierra Club has sent more than 23,000 messages to Congress and made nearly 1,500 calls to help push it over the finish line. It now heads to Trump's desk for signature. Our coalition work played an instrumental role in establishing the original program under the Obama administration and ensuring its success in the face of opposition from the Trump administration. Additionally, SC worked closely with congressional sponsors to get the "Every Kid Outdoors Act" included in the public lands package. We hosted events across the country, organized congressional testimonies and lobby days, and activated our grassroots supporters to generate nearly 50,000 public comments.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Earth Day** – RGSC is one of the several organizations (or individuals) volunteering with the City of Fredericksburg Dept. of Parks & Recreation to plan the annual Earth Day on the Rappahannock every April. The planning meetings are chaired by Linda Bailey who coordinates the ever growing Earth Day event. Meetings are held once a month on a Friday at 9:00am beginning in October through April at Eileen's Cafe and Bakery on Caroline Street in Fredericksburg. Volunteers need not commit to major amounts of time, rather, whatever capacity a volunteer can serve will be helpful. If you are interested in helping out for even a few hours, contact Paula Chow at [paulachow132@gmail.com](mailto:paulachow132@gmail.com) and enter "Earth Day" on the subject line.

**Fracking** - Anyone interested in helping to educate residents of Caroline County about FRACKING, contact Paula Chow - [paulachow132@gmail.com](mailto:paulachow132@gmail.com).

## RGSC MAILING ADDRESS

RGSC  
PO Box 7972  
Fredericksburg, VA 22404

## EMAIL NEWS GROUP SIGN UP

[rappsierragroup@gmail.com](mailto:rappsierragroup@gmail.com)

# RGSC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXCOM)

Chair: Linda C. Muller, [lcmuller@mindspring.com](mailto:lcmuller@mindspring.com)

Vice Chair, Bill Johnson, [billatthelake@comcast.net](mailto:billatthelake@comcast.net)

Program Chair: Paula Chow, [paulachow132@gmail.com](mailto:paulachow132@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Diana Johnson, [dianaatthelake@comcast.net](mailto:dianaatthelake@comcast.net)

Membership & ExCom Member: Michael Johnson, [johnson2000m@aol.com](mailto:johnson2000m@aol.com)

Webmaster & ExCom Member: Doug Ferguson, [dougferg@verizon.net](mailto:dougferg@verizon.net)

Conservation Chair: Bill Johnson, [billatthelake@comcast.net](mailto:billatthelake@comcast.net)

Newsletter Editor: Bill Johnson, [billatthelake@comcast.net](mailto:billatthelake@comcast.net)

Hospitality Chair & ExCom Member: Jody Lochmiller, [jody\\_lochmiller@hotmail.com](mailto:jody_lochmiller@hotmail.com)

Outings Leaders: Suzanne and Richard Eggeling, [lizzigo@gmail.com](mailto:lizzigo@gmail.com)

Interns: Maddie Reid

## FIFTY YEARS AND COUNTING, ED SANDTNER

It was 1968. Having finished graduate school in New Orleans, I was heading west, a flat-lander going to his first real job in Northern California with visions of San Francisco, wine country and real mountains in his head. Leaving the moss draped trees and bayous of Louisiana I hit the brutal summer sun and endless space of Texas before crossing the painted deserts and mesas of the southwest. There was something wild, open and even exotic about this landscape that gripped me, someone who had spent his entire life in cities east of the Mississippi.

After settling into my job and a rented apartment, and exploring the coast and San Francisco, still reflecting the Summer of Love, I wanted to see the mountains, the Sierras. Quickly finding day trips too short and limiting, my first wife and I, along with a friend, decided to try an overnight among the trees and under the stars. Woefully under equipped with bulky sleeping bags strapped to cheap frame backpacks we left our car at a turnout at the side of the road and headed cross country towards a lake I had seen on a map. After a long trudge through pine forest we saw open sky and clear ground ahead. The fantasy of a cozy campsite at the edge of a sapphire lake drew us the last hundred yards. As we came up on a rock ledge above the water, we were stunned. It wasn't a lake at all, but a reservoir and across from us was a drive-in "camp ground" filled with RVs and trailers. A loud mix of calls, laughter and conversation drifted over to us. Then a young teenage boy came by with a 22 rifle, shooting at fish in the water. Totally dejected, we wandered back the way we came, finding an open space beneath the trees to spend the night.

We went to Yosemite and state parks which were much better protected, but the memory of that first venture into the mountains stayed with me and I recognized the fragility and vulnerability of all wilderness. I wanted to protect these lands and the next summer when I discovered the Sierra Club and saw that its mission was the same as mine, I became a member. That was fifty years ago. I went on to hike those mountains and climbed peaks from Mt. Shasta to Banner. My wooden shaft ice axe hangs from a rafter in the attic, a tangible memory. I couldn't let it go.

The Club has changed since then when the emphasis was on protecting and preserving wild places. Now we are fighting to preserve the whole damn planet. But I wonder if I would have joined the Club if I had not gone out into those mountains from which it takes its name.

## OTHER LINKS

Virginia Conservation Network

[www.vcnva.org](http://www.vcnva.org)

Center

[www.southernenvironment.org](http://www.southernenvironment.org)

Virginia League of Conservation  
Voters

[www.valcv.org](http://www.valcv.org)

Friends of the Rappahannock

[www.riverfriends.org](http://www.riverfriends.org)

Tree Fredericksburg

[www.treefredericksburg.org](http://www.treefredericksburg.org)

Southern Environmental Law

# JAN - MARCH OUTINGS REPORT

## Past tour - Waste Management Tour – Jan. 21, 2019

Do you think people would be interested in driving over an hour one way to look at trash and recycling? You betcha!

Despite the bitterly cold weather, 23 people came out to meet Mr. James Alpy, Operations Manager of the County Waste facility on Houser Dr. in Fredericksburg. After Mr Alpy explained the operation of this transfer center (where Spotsylvania and Fredericksburg recyclables are collected), we then drove to the state Materials Recycling Facility (MRF), in Chester, Virginia where we were met by Mr. Jay Zook (VP Operations for Virginia) and learned about the history and business of single stream recycling on a state and global level. We also learned how we, as individuals, can do a better job of recycling in order to eliminate filling up our landfills. We were able to view the conveyors and separating machines in the facility, and provided insight into the logistics involved in packaging and shipping plastics, aluminum, paper etc.

Plastic bags are a major problem in a recycling plant. Not knowing the consequences of their actions, people place plastic bags in their recyclables, or worse yet, place recyclables in plastic bags for curbside pickup. As soon as these bags enter the primary feed conveyor into the plant, they wrap around, accumulate, and eventually jam the head pulley. This occurs prior to product entering second stage separation and shredding machines so the result is a production nightmare: the entire plant has to be shut down (usually for two hours, twice each shift) while wrapped, stretched bags are manually removed from machinery. To minimize lost production MRF employees, who do not have the time to open and separate bagged items, remove the full plastic bag of recyclables and discard it in a land waste bin. Here's a little bit of what we learned.

### Best practices for recycling:

- Rinse out recyclable plastic, aluminum and steel containers (use your gray water – old dish water).
- Do not place recyclable material contaminated by food, such as the bottoms of pizza boxes and food trays in your recycle bin.
- Do not place different items inside each other such as a plastic food tray or a can inside of a cereal box (MRF does not have the time to separate those items)
- No broken glass, mirrors, cups, plates, light bulbs, or windows. No heavy gauge metal e.g. pot, pans metal – this material is handled by the scrap metal industry.
- No Styrofoam, grocery bags and dry cleaning bags.
- No shredded paper, keep paper and cardboard dry.

### What we can do to improve single stream efficiency, and reduce landfill waste:

- Recycle plastics with codes 1-7.
- Caps are OK on plastic milk jugs if they're clean, empty and crushed.
- Separate and clean as necessary and possible.
- Take plastic bags back to the grocery store – better yet, use your own cloth bag when shopping.
- Use reusable net bags in the produce department.
- Refuse straws in restaurants, plastic bags (bring your own to department stores too), and don't take home foods in Styrofoam containers (bring your own container from home).

We concluded the trip with a well-prepared lunch at Antonio's Italian Restaurant and Wine Bar where MRF management were able to join us and further enlighten us.

Our sincere thanks to James Alpy, Jay Zook and all Waste Management colleagues for being such gracious, informative hosts. All attendees learned a lot from this outing, we'll run it again in late fall, when the weather is much more pleasant!

# JAN - MARCH OUTINGS REPORT CONT.

## **Past tour - Heritage Trail walk – Feb. 9th, 2019**

Another cold day but that didn't stop about 25 people from joining in for a brisk hike on the Heritage/Canal Trail. We intended to pick up some trash along the way but fortunately (what pleasant surprise!) this trail was trash free! Fantastic!

The energetic group was treated to a great talk at the halfway mark by Brent Hunsinger from the Friends of the Rappahannock (FOR). Thanks to Bev for organizing this. Brent provided the background of FOR, offered their offices for snacks and restroom break, and then proceeded to walk us to the site of the original Embrey Dam. He provided colorful insight to the amphibious residents of the canal (especially intriguing are spring toad activities!) as well as the history and, ultimately, anti-climactic demolition of the damn dam! Brent was most informative, he is a great asset to FOR! This trip ended with a cold one at Red Dragon Brewery for some diehards, and coffee for the rest of us.

## Future Outings:

### **James Madison's Montpeiler Estate in Orange County, Va – 10:30 am; March 28, 2019 (Rain date March 31st)**

We'll be meeting near the Rubenstein Visitor Center to hike the 'Montpelier Loop Trail'. This exquisite, gentle 3.55 mile trail takes us through the full range of landscapes, from an old growth forest to horse pastures, wildflower meadows and the Landmark and Demonstration Forests. We'll see 150 year old white oak and tulip trees, as well as enjoy spectacular views of the Blue Ridge. Pack for a picnic lunch afterwards (or purchase from the café), there will be plenty of time for a tour of the mansion afterwards (on your own). This is sure to be a popular hike so please sign up early at [rich.sue.sc@gmail.com](mailto:rich.sue.sc@gmail.com)

### **Caledon State Park in King George County – 10:30am; April 20, 2019**

We all will feel good after a morning clean up of the beaches at Caledon. Start with a wagon ride down to the beach and for spring cleaning (gloves and bags provided). Walk back 2-3 miles and then enjoy a picnic lunch near the Visitors Center afterwards. So today you'll get your hike as well as help your community.

This is what Sierra Club is all about: enjoying local, natural attractions, then leaving them in better condition than we found them.

These trips fill pretty quickly so if you're interested, registering in advance is a must. Please send us an email with your name, a phone or text number, and your group size. Send to [rich.sue.sc@gmail.com](mailto:rich.sue.sc@gmail.com)

We love to see the regulars, and welcome newcomers.

Regards, Richard and Suzanne Eggeling

Outings Co-chairs

Rappahannock Group Sierra Club