



The Quinnehtukqut Connecticut Chapter

The Monthly Newsletter for Events, Information, and Action

June 2016

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HIKE for NATIONAL TRAILS DAY®

Event: Connecticut hosts the largest National Trails Day® celebration in the nation. The Connecticut Chapter of the Sierra Club will participate by offering a hike on Sunday, June 5th.

Location: Buttermilk Falls in Wolcott, CT

Date: Sunday, June 5th

Time: 9:30am

Trail: Out-and-back 5-mile roundtrip hike on the Mattatuck Trail, past mountain laurel groves and cliff caves, culminating at Buttermilk Falls, a beautiful 59 foot waterfall with numerous cascades.

Difficulty: Moderate hike at a fast pace with one challenging section along the falls, which we'll take plenty of time to explore.

Requirements: Sneakers or boots required. Bring water and snacks.

Meet: We will shuttle to the trailhead. Meet in the parking lot of Garlic & Herbs Trattoria & Pizza, 2 North Street, Wolcott, CT.

Info: Free. Non-members welcome. No dogs, please. Steady rain cancels.

Contact: amanda.kenyon@sierraclub.org

Trail Events 2016: For a full listing of all trail events offered for CT Trails Weekend, go to: <http://www.ctwoodlands.org/ct-trails-weekend/events-2016>



Buttermilk Falls

SPRING OUTINGS

Greater Hartford Sierra Club June Outing

Description: The Connecticut Chapter of The Sierra Club members and the public are invited to join the Greater Hartford Chapter for our potluck picnic day. We have a covered pavilion, many picnic tables and two barbecues set up to grill.

Date: Saturday, June 11th

Time: Noon to 4:00pm

Location: Northwest Park in Windsor, CT

Logistics: Drop off items at the pavilion, then park free in a large lot nearby. Bring your own place setting and a food item to share (appetizer, salad, dessert or food that can be grilled) serving 8-10.

Questions: Renee at mchawigirl@yahoo.com

Activities:

- Hiking/biking is available on several park trails.
- Kayaking at 4:00pm at nearby Rainbow Reservoir. If interested, join outing leader Renee (a road loop of five miles to the launch).
- Free on site nature center and tobacco museum are open 10am to 4pm Saturdays.

Safety: All paddlers are required to wear a safety vest. Hikers/paddlers are required to sign a liability waiver. You may review the waiver by clicking the attachment here: https://content.sierraclub.org/outings/sites/content.sierraclub.org/outings/files/forms/local-outings-sign-in_waiver.pdf

Dogs are permitted in the park if kept on a leash and messes are picked up.

Gift Pack of Seeds:

Hart Seed Co. has donated pollinator mix seed packets to be given as gifts to those attending our outing. Plant seeds to encourage bee and butterfly habitat in your yards with flowers that attract them.

Note: Rain cancels.

Website Northwest Park: northwestpark.org

Directions: From I-91 north, take Exit 38. From I-91 south, take Exit 38A. Turn right at the exit on to Poquonock Avenue (Route 75). Go about 1.5 miles and turn left on to Prospect Hill Rd. Turn right at the second traffic circle on to Lang Road and continue up the road to the Nature Center.

See: <http://Sierraclub.org/Connecticut/outings>.



Kayak at Mansfield Hollow

Date: Sunday, June 26th

Time: 10:00am

Location: Mansfield, CT

Meet: The state boat launch on Bassett Bridge Road, Mansfield, CT.



Mansfield Hollow Reservoir

Information:

- No fee to launch and free parking.
- All paddlers must wear a safety vest and are required to sign a liability waiver. You may review the waiver by clicking the attachment here.

https://content.sierraclub.org/outings/sites/content.sierraclub.org/outings/files/forms/local-outings-sign-in_waiver.pdf

- Bring water and snack to have on the water.
- Optional group lunch after outing available.

Kayak Rentals: Available at EMS stores in Manchester, Avon and Waterford

Map of trip available at: <http://www.bostonkayaker.com/cgi-bin/bkonekpage.cgi?pagekey=mansfieldhollow>

Activity: We'll paddle the 460 acre reservoir created by the damming of the Natchaug River. Expect to see a great diversity of scenery and birds.

We paddle through a small culvert on the right that leads to the other half of the reservoir. This section of the reservoir is bigger than it looks from the launch and includes a wide dam and a back river to investigate.

After we paddle the first side, we'll come back through the culvert and may head out to the other side of the lake with two inlet rivers at the far end.

RSVP: by 6/24 to Renee at mchawigirl@yahoo.com. Provide cell phone number in case weather requires changing site (too windy) or rescheduling.

Restrictions: No smoking or cell phone use on the water.

Kayak Weekday Evenings

Weekday evening kayaking is available. If you are interested, send an email to mchawigirl@yahoo.com. State which of the following sites or any others you know and would like to paddle and Renee will set up dates, usually at 6:00pm, Monday through Wednesday evenings. The sites are:

Coventry Lake, a 373 acre lake

Meets at DEEP boat launch, 30 Cross Street, Coventry. Directions: Rte. 31 in Coventry, south on Lake Street, launch is ahead on right.

Bolton Lower Lake, a 175 acre lake

Meets at DEEP boat launch, 1075 Boston Turnpike, Bolton, off Rte. 44.

Lake Beseck, a 116 acre lake

Meets at DEEP boat launch, 212 Baileyville Road, Middlefield, CT. Travel Rte.147, 1.75 miles south of junction Rtes 66 and 147.

Rainbow Reservoir, 243 acre reservoir

Meets at boat launch at 118 Merriman Road, Windsor, CT. No fee to launch and free parking. We'll paddle the tree lined reservoir with only a few houses set back from the water. Then head up the Farmington River towards North Bloomfield and even Simsbury before returning to the launch site.

RSVP: Renee at mchawigirl@yahoo.com. Provide cell phone number in case weather requires changing site (too windy) or rescheduling

Safety: All paddlers must wear a safety vest.

All paddlers are required to sign a liability waiver. You may review the waiver by clicking the attachment here:

https://content.sierraclub.org/outings/sites/content.sierraclub.org.outings/files/forms/local-outings-sign-in_waiver.pdf

Bring water and snack to have on the water.

Kayak Rentals: Available at EMS stores in Manchester, Avon and Waterford

Restrictions: No smoking or cell phone use on the water.

ANNUAL SIERRA CLUB HIKE and POTLUCK PICNIC

Hike: Join the Connecticut Chapter of The Sierra Club before the Annual Chapter Picnic for a forest hike past two scenic, wooded reservoirs on a loop trail. We'll go four miles over the Mattabesett and Reservoir Loop trails.

Date: Saturday, July 16th

Time: 10:00am to hike



Mattabesett Reservoir

Potluck Picnic: Crystal Lake, Ron McCutcheon Park, Middletown, CT

We'll be lakeside under a covered pavilion for our annual potluck picnic. Grills available. Nature walks, lake swimming and a beach are also on site.

Date: Saturday, July 16th

Time: 1:00pm to picnic

Contact: amanda.kenyon@sierraclub.org

Leaders: Kenneth Selling and Amanda Kenyon

Online now at <http://www.sierraclub.org/connecticut/outings>.

Directions: Follow online directions as GPS often gets it wrong. Tell guard at gate entrance you are with the group picnic site of the Sierra Club.



Crystal Lake, Ron McCutcheon Park, Middletown, CT

VOLUNTEER FOR ENERGY COMMITTEE

Help CT Plan a 100% Renewable Energy System

by John Dixon

The Connecticut Sierra Club is in the process of setting up its new Energy Committee. It is proposed that this effort be closely coordinated with the National Sierra Club's new "Ready for 100" Campaign, a movement of people working to inspire our leaders to embrace a vision of healthier communities powered by 100% clean energy. The goal is to get people on board to commit to creating an energy system powered by 100% renewable sources, specifically wind, solar and tidal.

The challenge in implementing this doable possibility is that it will take credible planning for implementing such an electrical system. It does no good to demand 100% if it is just a campaign slogan and there is no workable plan behind it.

An article in the May/June Sierra Magazine entitled 'Tomorrowland, Today: The Clean Energy Future Is Here', describes the efforts being made in several cities across the country for reaching this goal. Connecticut needs to follow this lead. We need to have our own credible plan.

I believe creating such a plan can be the goal of our Energy Committee. Fortunately many other organizations in Connecticut are taking up similar efforts to increase our production of renewable energy. The Sierra Club can help provide the political will for pushing this through from possibility to actuality. We are now in the process of forming our committee. We need members who are ready to grapple with the challenge of planning how an actual 100% renewable system could work in our state.

The best way to eliminate nuclear plants, fracking gas and coal mining is to take away their markets. 100% clean renewable energy will do that.

If you see yourself participating in this effort, please contact me.

John Dixon
Temporary Chair
Energy Committee
Connecticut Sierra Club
475-212-3163
johndixonct@yahoo.com

EDUCATIONAL SPEAKER

TOPIC: METHANE POLLUTION

Speaker: Robert K. Howarth, Ph.D, an Earth systems scientist, biogeochemist and ecosystem biologist at Cornell University



Robert K. Howarth

Issue: *“We have to control methane immediately, and natural gas is the largest methane pollution source in the United States, If we hit a climate-system tipping point because of methane, our carbon dioxide problem is immaterial. We have to get a handle on methane, or increasingly risk global catastrophe.”*

Date: Sunday, June 12th

Time: 3:00pm

Location: Connecticut Forest & Park Association, 16 Meriden Road, Rockfall, CT

Background: In 2011, Howarth together with colleagues Tony Ingraffea and Renee Santoro published the first comprehensive analysis of the greenhouse gas footprint of shale gas in *Climatic Change Letters* and an invited commentary on shale gas in *Nature*. This work was cited in over 1,500 newspapers globally, winning Howarth an honorable mention as one of “50 People Who Matter” in the annual *Time* Magazine Person of the Year issue for 2011.

Sponsors: CT Sierra Club, 350CT and Food & Water Watch

Contact: 203.350.3508

EDUCATIONAL FORUMS: GAS PIPELINE ISSUES

Date 1: Wednesday, June 8th

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Bridgeport Public Library, 925 Broad Street, Bridgeport, CT
3rd floor Community Room

Presenters: The Connecticut Chapter of The Sierra Club

Date 2: Thursday, June 23rd

Time: 6:45pm

Location: Kent Memorial Library, Suffield
61 Fyler Place, Suffield, CT

Library Registration: 860.668.3896 or
www.suffield-library.com

Information: Free and open to the public.

Contact: 860.236.4405 or email connecticut.chapter@sierraclub.org

Issue: Multiple construction sites to build natural gas pipelines in Connecticut are underway to bring more of this gas into the state, although we hear we need to keep fossil fuels in the ground. The U.S. Surgeon General released a study in April 2016 which concludes that “climate change is a significant threat to the health of the American people.”

ARTICLES

Methane and Natural Gas

by Martha Klein and Deborah Roe

Natural gas, which is 97% methane, was supposed to be a “bridge fuel” to a better future, but those claims now sound like marketing hype. Why?

- The majority of gas coming through the lines today is fracked in Pennsylvania and states to our west, so increased use of gas equals more fracking and more fracking waste.
- Methane is approximately 100 times stronger than carbon dioxide at trapping heat in the atmosphere in its first ten years of release which means that although methane is only the second most common greenhouse gas, with carbon dioxide being the most common, it is much more injurious to the climate in the short term.
- According to Cornell University Professor of Ecology and Environmental Biology Robert Howarth, Ph.D., “We have to control methane immediately.”

Note: Dr. Howarth's educational presentation is Sunday, June 12th at 3:00pm at Connecticut Forest & Park Association, 16 Meriden Road, Rockfall, CT. See details in article above.

New Evidence: Greater Atmospheric Methane

Until recently, there was no evidence that methane emissions were increasing in the atmosphere, and the EPA underestimated both the amount of methane being released as well as its global warming potential. But in March, a study was published entitled, “A large increase in U.S. methane emissions over past decade inferred from satellite data and surface observations.” In this latest study, Harvard researchers concluded that “U.S. methane emissions have increased by more than 30% over the 2002-2014 period... This large increase in U.S. methane emissions could account for 30-60% of the global growth of atmospheric methane seen in the last decade.” Subsequent to the release of this study, EPA Administrator, Gina McCarthy said, “Methane emissions are substantially higher than we've understood.”

So, why is Connecticut building many miles of new gas pipeline, new gas power plants, gas infusion stations and gas powered fuel cells? The state Comprehensive Energy Strategy, drafted in 2013, calls for an increase in the use of natural gas as a way to save money. But after the price of oil dropped, for the same reason that natural gas prices dropped (fracking), there was no economic benefit to the customer in making the conversion. Of significant concern is Eversource and UI energy companies converting hundreds of thousands of new customers to gas and using ratepayer funded subsidies to do it. Thus, CT residents are helping to pay for a switch to an equally, if not more, climate damaging fuel that is not cheaper.

Environmental Common Sense

What would make sense for Connecticut? We could power all our electricity with solar and wind, and heat and cool our homes with high efficiency electric ductless pumps. This is real technology, available today at a cost that is competitive with fossil fuels. Cities in the U.S. are already powered by 100% renewable energy, including here in New England. As Bill McKibben, the writer and environmentalist said, “Fossil fuels are the problem in global warming and fossil fuels don't come in good and bad flavors. Coal and oil and natural gas have to be left in the ground. All of them.”

Martha Klein is Communications Chair at CT Chapter Sierra Club. Deborah Roe is the Pipeline Forum Coordinator for the CT Chapter Sierra Club.



Laying Pipe

Legislation 2016 Results, EVs

by Gina Coplon-Newfield

Good news. The Connecticut Electric Vehicle (EV) coalition, of which The Sierra Club is an active member, was successful in getting the Connecticut state legislature to pass HB-5510, an Act Concerning Electric and Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles. The bill will now go to the governor for his signature.

The EV bill passed defines different types of electric vehicles and EV charging stations, requires DMV to record the number of EVs registered in the state and to make that information publicly available, exempts EV charging stations from regulation as utilities, requires time of day electric rates to be established for residential and commercial charging of EVs, requires the utilities and the state to plan for increased EV charging, establishes consumer protections for public EV charging stations, requires public EV charging stations to pay a \$50 annual registration fee (we opposed this piece) and removes unnecessary restrictions on hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.



BMW Electric vehicle charging at New Milford, CT village green

EVs and Climate Change Activity

Regarding climate change, we turned out dozens of Connecticut residents to the Governor's Council on climate change listening sessions in six CT cities, and we organized more than 400 people to submit written comments to let Governor Malloy and the CT administration know they should play a role in helping support the charging infrastructure needed to do this. As electric vehicles are an essential part of hitting the state's overall climate goals, the administration needs to dedicate long term funding for electrifying transportation, and utilities should also be involved.

And for background-the Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3) is convened by Governor Malloy and led by his administration to map out how to hit their long term climate protection goals (80% by 2050) and set a medium term target for reducing climate-disrupting pollution i.e. by 2030.

Thanks to Jameelah Muhammad, EV organizer and Marty Mador, volunteer legislative leader, for their active participation in the coalition, Mark Kresowik for his work on both the bill and shaping the ask for the GC3 process, DS organizer Ben Cushing for some action alerts on these, Josh Berman for his legal advice and Communications efforts from Lauren Lantry.

Gina Coplon-Newfield is Director of Electric Vehicles Initiative for The Sierra Club

State Legislation 2016 Results, Shared Solar

by Martin Mador

Homeowners with shaded roofs, apartment and condo residents and businesses which rent office space most often cannot install solar. Estimates are this affects 80% of Connecticut's population. A shared solar program, also called community solar, has the potential to dramatically increase solar power generation, allowing electrical customers to save significantly on their bills and move away from fossil fuels or nuclear for their energy needs to renewable energy. Subscribers to a solar array, which can be located anywhere in a location well-suited for solar, would allow them to profit from solar just as though it was installed on their own roof.

In 2015, the legislature did pass a bill (Senate Bill 928) creating a Shared Solar Program. However, it was only a two year pilot, with a small 6 megawatt (MW) cap on the total size of all the projects. This small cap was despite an excellent study by the CT Academy of Science and Engineering, written for the legislature explaining how to structure the program. The study included a summary of experience from a dozen states already running a program. None had first used a pilot program. In the eight months since passage of SB 928, DEEP failed to get the pilot program underway. Our consistent advice has been that a pilot program has no greater added value, and that we should authorize a full program immediately. The mantra of the opponents held that there would be "cost shifting" to all electric ratepayers, even though shared solar customers still have to pay to connect to the grid. Value of solar studies in a number of states have also shown that the PV systems consistently provide more value to all ratepayers than they cost. And that's before we include our obligation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In the 2016 legislative session, just finished, the pilot program was tweaked by House Bill 5427. The startup date was moved from January 1st to July 1st, the financing period was extended to 20 years (necessary to make the project financing work) and the electric companies were again reassured they could recover their costs. Sometimes it seems to us that the financial interests of Eversource and UI are priority one.

But the pilot program remains, and we are still a few years out from the program we need. We are very disappointed. We will be working with our colleagues and soon will be enlisting your help to move to a full scale program in the next session.

Martin Mador is Legislative Chair, CT Chapter Sierra Club

Help Save The Oswegatchie Hills Nature Preserve

by Walter Grant

The Oswegatchie Hills Nature Preserve in East Lyme, Connecticut, overlooks the environmentally fragile Niantic River to the east, and was officially opened in 2007. The 457 acre preserve was created through a public/private partnership. The ultimate goal is to expand to 700 acres, through additional acquisitions.

The preserve is a pristine habitat for a multitude of flora and fauna, and serves to protect the fragile ecosystem of the Niantic River, as well as the rich archaeological history in place since the days of the Nehantic Tribe. This rugged forest, teeming with wildlife, vibrant wetlands and spectacular rock formations, will remain a place of quiet beauty forever. Friends of The Oswegatchie Hills Nature Preserve (FOHNP) is a non-profit volunteer organization, funded by private contributions, whose mission is to create, manage and improve The Oswegatchie Hills Nature Preserve. It is a 501(c)3 corporation and donations are tax deductible.

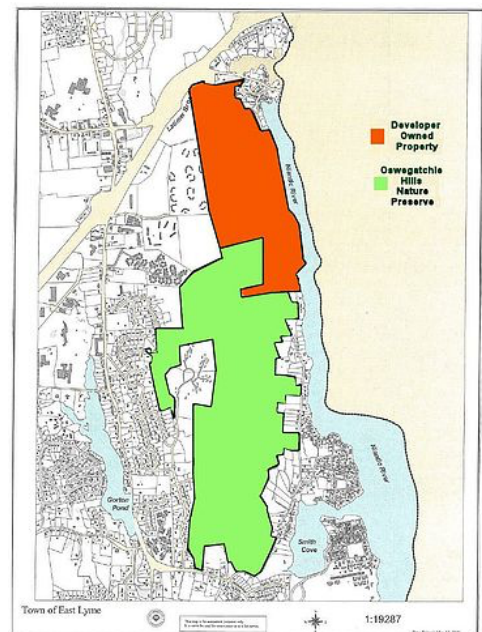
Landmark Development LLC continues its efforts to obtain approval to build what many characterize as a highly inappropriate development for the Hills. The developer's current plan calls for 840 housing units and 1,767 parking spaces on 36 acres of impervious surface. This proposal leaves much remaining land--116 acres--available for future applications for additional development. The map shows how Landmark's property (in red) directly abuts The Oswegatchie Hills Nature Preserve. The entire area has been targeted by East Lyme for decades as open space, so the goal is to acquire the land at fair market value and preserve it in its natural state for future generations.

Recent rulings by the East Lyme Water and Sewer Commission and the East Lyme Zoning Commission are currently being appealed through the State court system. The Friends and its partner organizations continue to advocate on behalf of the Hills.

Landmark Development LLC has posted "No Trespassing" signs and refused the East Lyme Zoning Commission the right to walk the property to determine what the environmental impact would be. They have refused to give the FOHNP a quote on what they would accept if the FOHNP were to try to buy their land in order to conserve it. The Landmark Development has not submitted to the East Lyme Zoning Commission exact plans for their proposed development (including potential environmental impact.)

The FOHNP has a coalition of supporters that form the "Save Oswegatchie Hills Coalition." There are six members. Some of the ones you might recognize are Rivers Alliance, Connecticut fund for the Environment and Save the Sound. The FOHNP requested that CT Sierra Club join the coalition. The result is the CT Chapter of The Sierra Club has become a member of the "Save Oswegatchie Hills Coalition."

Go to oswhills.org for more information. I will be the contact person between The CT Chapter of The Sierra Club and the Save Oswegatchie Hills Coalition, so you may contact me with questions or suggestions or to volunteer. I am at waltergrantjr@hotmail.com.



Future development abuts nature preserve

The History of John Muir and The Sierra Club

A Serial in Seven Parts

by Helen R. Applebaum



John Muir as a young man

Part Two: Ralph Waldo Emerson Visits Yosemite

The *New York Tribune* and other influential papers picked up John Muir's tales of travel in the Yosemite Valley of the 1870s. Muir advocated that the Sierras should be explored by everyone "with the right manners of the wilderness" and permanently protected as a recreational resource accessible to all. The Yosemite Valley was the center of his experience and visitors were becoming aware of Yosemite, John Muir and his tales

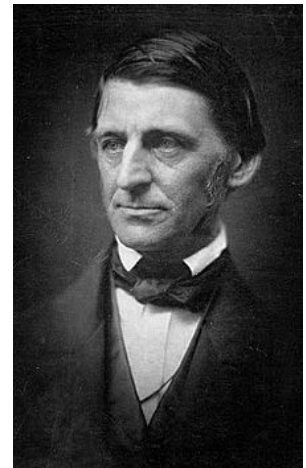
One of those early visitors was the philosopher and poet, Ralph Waldo Emerson whose writing Muir had read and been influenced by. In 1871, Emerson and Muir met and conversed while they walked that day. Muir invited Emerson to leave his literary companions for a night to camp beneath the sequoias. Emerson, then 68, demurred and Muir just 33 wrote, "the house habit was not to be overcome."

With great praise, Muir also wrote, "Emerson was the most serene, majestic, sequoia-like soul I ever met. His smile was as sweet and calm as morning light on mountains...he was as sincere as the trees, his eye sincere as the sun."

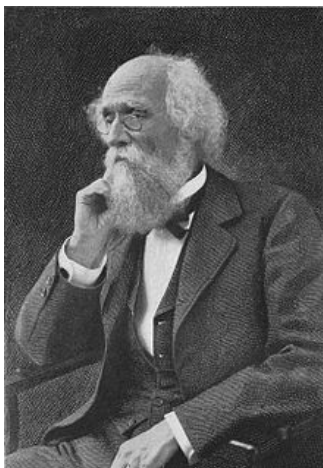
The feeling was mutual as Emerson told a friend, "He is more wonderful than Thoreau..."

Emerson later wrote to Muir, "I have everywhere testified to my friends my happiness in finding you,--the right man in the right place,--in your mountain tabernacle..." And he hoped Muir's "probation and sequestration in the solitudes and snows had reached their term," inviting Muir to visit him in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Muir was moved by Emerson's plea, but he did not leave Yosemite. It was Muir's desire to outline a regional heritage, defined and preserved among the mountains of California and a relationship between man and the outdoors. For Muir that relationship was frequently solitary. He wrote, "no mountaineer is truly free who is trampled with friend or servant, who has the care of more than two legs."



Ralph Waldo Emerson



Professor Joseph LeConte

The communal outing Muir suggested with Emerson, however, became a tradition Muir followed. Perhaps it started in 1870 when he joined students from the University of California including Professor Joseph LeConte, a geologist, whose students both admired and liked him. Together Muir and LeConte observed a Glacier Point rockslide from the view of Bridalveil Meadow. LeConte agreed with Muir that a river of ice had helped shape the Yosemite mountains. LeConte was quoted as saying, "Mr. Muir gazes and gazes and cannot get his fill...Plants and flowers and forests, and sky and clouds and mountains seem actually to haunt his imagination."

On December 5, 1871, John Muir's first published work appeared in the *New York Tribune*. The title was "Yosemite Glaciers." Muir wrote about the ice stream of the great valley, their progress and present condition and included scenes among the glacier beds. Under the subhead 'A Glacier's Death,' Muir wrote:

How softly comes night to the mountains. shadows grow upon all the landscape; only the Hoffman Peaks are open to the sun. Down in this hollow it is twilight, and my two domes, more impressive, than in a broad day, seem to approach me...The darkness grows, and all of their finer sculpture dims. Now the great arches and deep curves sink also, and the whole structure is massed in black against the starry sky.

Sources: vault.sierraclub.org, Ralph Waldo Emerson; theamericanreader.com; nps.gov, John Muir's Influences; http://vault.sierraclub.org/john_muir_exhibit/writings/yosemite_glaciers.aspx;

Helen R. Applebaum is editor of The Quinnehtukqut.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATIONS

Bridgeport Earth Day Fest



Carolyn Stearns, renowned storyteller, told a new story about fossil fuels and a better future.

Hear her tale on the following link.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LUXA-vViTzI>

Carolyn's website is:
www.carolynstearnsstoryteller.com

Groton

UConn's Avery Point EcoHusky Club is a student environmental organization focused on improving the environment. The goal is to enhance sustainability on campus and in the surrounding communities. More than 115 students attended the Earth Day event.



Sierra Club member, Walter Grant showing Earth Day participants handouts on the dangers of fracking.

New Milford

On the 205 acre wildlife preserve and Pratt Nature Center, the Sierra Club table offered handouts and brochures with information about fracking, pipelines, solar energy and electric vehicles. Children and adults used chalk, crayons and markers to draw their representations of Earth Day.



Sheep behind The Sierra Club setting.



The mural produced by Earth Day attendees.

JUNE POEM

Iris Before Roses

My roses are full of buds right now,
Though only Don Juan is putting on a show.
Thankfully, my bearded iris, hanging low,
Amid the sluggish roses, are voluptuously aglow!

My iris, pastel pink, translucent and tissue sheer,
With flopsy, ruffled petals, are beguiling me, I fear!
They charm with easy care, serene elegance,
While pampered roses offer few blooms by chance.

But come first flush of many gaudy roses,
Slumbering lushly, cooling under rose canes, each iris knows,
I'm a foolish handmaiden to thorny neighbors.
The quiet joy we shared before sustaining my labors.

M. Renee Taylor



The Q is brought to you by:

Martha Klein, Communications Chair
Helen Applebaum, Editor
Heather Fronczek, Graphic Designer
Dennis Desmarais, IT
John Calandrelli, Website, Program Manager

Comments, letters to the editor and written and graphic contributions may be sent to ctsierraq3@gmail.com for future newsletter inclusion. All decisions regarding use are made by the communications committee.

SOLAR POWER

Have you ever considered going solar?

If so, **now is the time** because it's cheaper and easier than ever. Here's the proof: A new study just found that in 42 out of 50 of the largest U.S. cities, a typically-sized, \$0-down home solar system costs less than the energy purchased from a residential customer's local utility.*

Join more than 1,100 Sierra Club supporters in making the switch to clean energy.

With flexible financing through different Sungevity Energy Plans, you can get an efficient solar system without emptying your pockets. Plus you'll lock in your electricity rate for years to come! It sounds too good to be true, but it's not!

Now is the time to go solar.

Join the clean-energy movement today!

Check it out at: www.sierraclub.org/solarhomes



Solar energy lifts life on earth



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Create a Lasting Legacy

By creating a charitable bequest to benefit Sierra Club or your favorite Sierra Club Chapter, you remain in control of your assets during your lifetime and help protect the environment in years to come.

For confidential assistance, contact:

Sierra Club

Gift Planning Program

85 Second Street, Second Floor

San Francisco, CA 94105

gift_planning@sierraclub.org

(800) 932-4270



...Your lasting legacy...

CREATE YOUR LEGACY

To create your legacy go to:
sierraclubfoundation.org

or email: gift_planning@sierraclub.org