

# January 2015 Newsletter

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## FALLS OF THE JAMES GROUP

The print FOJG Sierra Club newsletter, *The Fall Line*, is being replaced with an emailed newsletter that can be sent more frequently. For the best readability, view the newsletter in your browser.

### Next Meeting--Wed. January 14, 2015, 7:00

- Environmental Ethics -- Prof. Samantha Emswiler
- Tribute to John Z and the retiring FOJG officers

Environmental ethics is the study of questions about human moral responsibility to the environment. Boring?? NO! Sam is a great teacher (raves at Mary Washington and John Tyler) and will have you filled with new ideas. Don't miss this provocative and engaging program.

And don't miss the chance to applaud John Zeugner and the ex-Executive Committee officers for their hard work. We will celebrate their ongoing dedication with refreshments at the end of the meeting.



Although retiring as officers, all remain committed & active members of FOJG.  
L.to R.: John Zeugner, co-chair; Mary Beth Mains, treasurer; Adele

### SPRING 2015 EVENTS IN BRIEF

**January 12:** [Fundraiser](#) at Baker's Crust in Carytown to support Environmental Film Festival 5:30-8:30 pm.

**January 14 Meeting:**  
Environmental Ethics --  
Speaker: Prof. Samantha Emswiler. Meeting ends with tribute to retiring FOJG officers.

**February 2-8:** [Environmental Film Festival](#).





## **Meeting--Wed. Feb. 11, 7:00** **Efforts to Minimize Use of** **Consumer Plastic Bags in VA**

State Senator Chap Petersen from the 34th District (Fairfax and Loudoun counties) will speak on the efforts to get Virginia's General Assembly to address the many problems associated with plastic bags, and strategies to move consumers beyond throw-away plastic bags.

Glen Besa, the State Chapter coordinator, will also brief us on the environmental issues before the legislature. This is a double-bill you won't want to miss.

Image from [www.corvallisadvocate.com](http://www.corvallisadvocate.com)



## **Meeting--Wed. March 11, 7:00** **Frogs and their Importance**

Brian Munford is a well-respected chef around Richmond, but he also has a driving fascination with frogs. He volunteers as a citizen scientist for the North American Amphibian Monitoring Program, which studies and evaluates frog populations. He will also bring a frog specialist from the VA Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to handle more technical questions.

## **Meeting--Wed. April 8, 7:00** **Mosquitoes - Life Cycle,** **Habitat, Threats and Benefits**

Wes Robertson, of Henrico County's Engineering & Environmental Services Department, works with the Standing Water Initiative, a program to reduce the possibility of mosquito-transmitted



disease such as West Nile virus. He will tell us of efforts to reduce human discomfort associated with mosquitoes--in particular, the Asian Tiger Mosquito.

Image from [www.flickr.com/photos/marcelloconsolo](http://www.flickr.com/photos/marcelloconsolo)



## UR Big Yard Sale--May 15 & 16 Kick-off--Monday May 11

Sierra Club and student group "Green UR" will sponsor the 18th Annual Big Yard Sale at the University of Richmond.

Volunteers are needed during the week preceding the sale and for the Friday/Saturday sale days, so mark your calendars now.

All FOJG general membership meetings are free and the public is invited to attend. Meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the second Wednesday of each month, September-November and January-April at the Jepson Alumni Center, University of Richmond.

Find us on [Facebook](#), [FOJG website](#), and [Meet-Up](#).



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