

March 2016 Newsletter Falls of the James Group, Sierra Club



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UPCOMING MEETINGS

Sierra Club's Falls of the James Group general meetings are free and open to the public. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, at the [Jepson Alumni Center, University of Richmond](#)

JOIN US!



Wednesday, March 9

ANNE WRIGHT's talk is titled "Urban Wildlife with a Side of Salamanders." She will be discussing the game camera project in James River Park that documents the urban wildlife found there, so expect to hear tales of critters that appear when nobody's around! Also vernal pools are a pet project of hers, so she will talk about the pools within the Park and beyond. Anne Wright is Director of VCU Rice Rivers Center Outreach Education and an Assistant Professor in the VCU Biology Department.

Wednesday, April 13

DAMIAN PITT, Associate Professor at VCU will speak on "The Future Potential for Solar Energy in Virginia." He has completed studies with VCU students on expanding the use of solar energy to reduce the reliance on fossil fuels to generate electricity.



Easter Parade on Monument Avenue: March 27

Now is the time for signing up to help out at the Sierra Club booth on Monument Avenue's traditional Easter Sunday festival. Hands are needed for each shift to staff the booth, to set up and clean up. Please join the FOJG's Virginia State Chapter of Sierra Club at the Easter Parade. Sign-up [here](#).

Earth Day at Shiplock Park: Saturday, April 23

Join FOJG workers at the Sierra Club booth on Earth Day at the Shockoe riverfront. Before or after your shift, join the crowd and enjoy other eco-friendly activities including a craft market, art activities, and family-friendly fun. Sign up [here](#).

Great *Big* Yard Sale at University of Richmond: May 14



Volunteers Needed Before the Sale

Save dates, especially Monday, May 9, 2016, for helping prepare for the FOJG / UR Big Yard Sale. Reserve this day, and others, to help save tons of items from the local landfill and recycle good stuff back into the community. All able members and friends are needed to help gather, sort, display, and sell gently used items left behind by the UR students after exams and graduation are over.

Sign up [here](#):

Also upcoming. . .

Tour of Maggie Walker House: Saturday Feb. 27, 11:00-12:00 am

Join the Sierra Club as we celebrate the National Park Service centennial and Black History Month with a tour of the Maggie L. Walker National Historic Site at 200 N 2nd St. in downtown Richmond. See map [here](#). Maggie Walker was an African-American teacher, businesswoman, and active civil rights leader from Richmond who played an important role in our city's history.

[Click Here to RSVP](#)

Blackwater River Kayak Trip: Saturday April 9

It is time for the spring Falls of the James Group-Sierra Club kayak trip! Tim McCormick from Blackwater Outfitters will again be our guide as we paddle from Route 621 to Route 620 – 9 miles and 5 ½ hours of downriver paddling. For costs and more detailed itinerary info contact Shavon Peacock, shavonandrew@verizon.net

The 2016 Virginia General Assembly is scheduled for recess on March 13. Keep up with environmental issues during the session and afterwards at <https://www.facebook.com/VASierraClub/>

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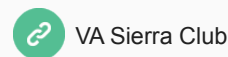
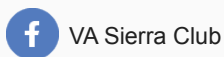
Past activities at FOJG



Ana Edwards gives talk at Feb. meeting.



Sponsors were honored at 2016 RVA Environmental Film Festival.



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