



SIERRA CLUB
VIRGINIA CHAPTER

Falls of the James Group

FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

2020 Spring Programs Below

Free. All are welcome.

Tuesday, February 11, 7:00 p.m.
Science Museum of Virginia

Presenters:
Andrea Butler & Bill Carlson

Taking a Look Inside Goodwill of Central and Coastal Virginia

(Plan to arrive before the 7:00 program for a 6:00 Environmental Film Festival film, *Wild Africa* in the Dome of the Science Museum.)



Andrea Butler, Vice President, Mission Advancement



Bill Carlson, Chief Operating Officer

Do you ever wonder about the final resting place of the suitcase that you donated to

Goodwill? Goodwill of Central and Coastal Virginia's Andrea Butler and Bill Carlson will explain how Goodwill recycles and repurposes over 50 million pounds of goods annually. Information about Goodwill's workforce development mission and the current local recycling situation will also be presented. On February 19, our speakers will conduct a tour of the large Goodwill Support Center on Midlothian Turnpike (details below).

Goodwill has been a vitally important partner in the annual UR/FOJG Sierra Club's Big Yard Sale at University of Richmond.

Followup: Behind-the-Scenes Goodwill Tour

**Wed., February 19
9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Place: Goodwill Support Center
6301 Midlothian Turnpike
Richmond, VA 23225**

Click to R.S.V.P.
[For 9:00 am tour](#)
[For 6:00 pm tour](#)

Two behind the scenes tours of the Goodwill Support Center (6301 Midlothian Turnpike, Richmond, VA 23225) will be held on Wednesday, February 19. Come either at 9:00 a.m. or 6:00 p.m.

The tour of the Goodwill Support Center is the most tangible way to witness how Goodwill refurbishes, recycles or resells everything from electronics to clothing and medical equipment, an effort that supports its workforce development mission. Witness a fast-paced public auction, featuring large items, useful merchandise and collectibles. Also included is Goodwill's renovated employment center that provides free services for job seekers.

After the 6:00 p.m. tour on Wed, Feb. 19

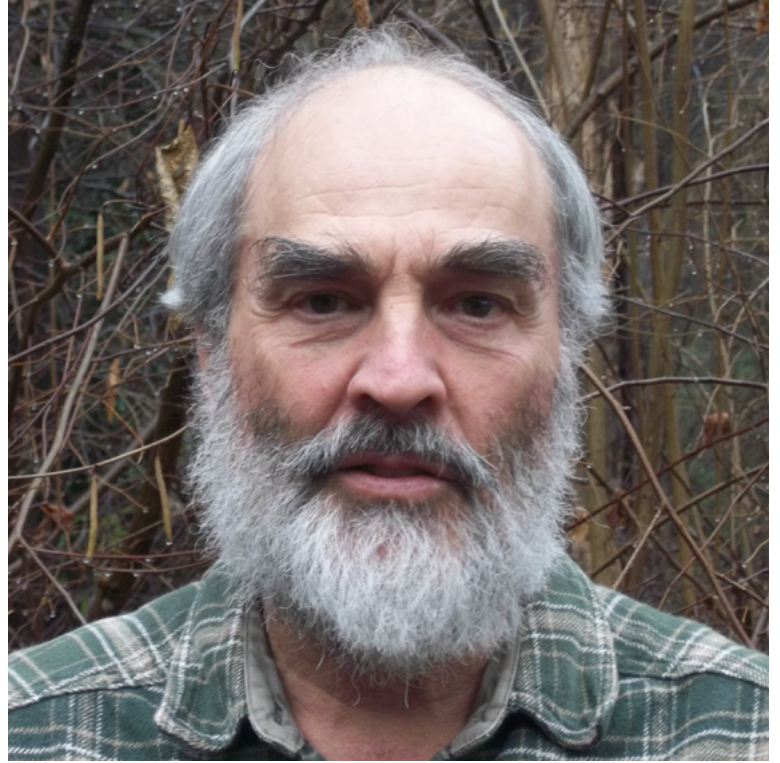
Tour participants are invited to meet after the evening Goodwill tour at Abuelita's Homemade Mexican Food. This low-key, family-owned restaurant is located .3 mile west of Goodwill, at 6400 Midlothian Turnpike 23225.

**Tuesday., March 10, 7:00
Science Museum of VA**

Presenter: Bill Shanabruch

***Using Native Plants
& Conservation
Landscaping
to Enhance Water Quality***

Come meet our speaker, Bill Shanabruch, a knowledgeable cheerleader for the use of native plants to promote healthy ecosystems – both terrestrial and aquatic. He will share examples of successful conservation landscapes that address different goals: education, diversity, water quality, carbon dioxide storage, food production, and aesthetics. For the do-it-yourselfer, he will offer practical advice on site selection, plant selection, and maintenance, as well as hints on avoiding common pitfalls.



Bill Shanabruch, is owner of Reedy Creek Environmental, LLC and was a former biologist with Virginia's Department of Environmental Quality.

Tuesday, April 14, 7:00
Science Museum of Virginia

Presenter: Jay Epstein

The Zero Energy-Ready Home

As a developer of communities of energy-efficient homes, Jay Epstein will walk you through a history of energy efficient design from the early 90's to the present—and end with descriptions of some of the projects that were, and continue-to-be built, around the state of VA. (Daryl Downing, the Chair of our VA Sierra Club Executive Committee, lives in one of these communities that is located in Fulton Bottom.)



Jay Epstein is President and founder of Health-E-Community Enterprises of Virginia, Inc

IT'S COMING THIS MONTH!
THE 10th ANNUAL
RVA ENVIRONMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL



free and open to the public!

ENVIRONMENTAL
FILM FESTIVAL

www.rvaeff.org

Save the Date!
February 7-13, 2020

FILMS BELOW.

For details, trailers, accompanying programs, see

For <https://rvaeff.org/>

Fri., Feb. 7 at Richmond Public Library Main Branch.

-Singapore: Biophilic City 6:00 pm

Sat., Feb.8 at Byrd Theatre

-Lorax 10:05 am

-Wings of Life 10:30 am

-Bird of Prey 11:50 am

-Untamed--Season 2 Premier 1:25 pm

-Add One Back 2:10 pm

-The Human Element 2:45 pm

-Ay Mariposa 3:55 pm

-The Biggest Little Farm 4:55 pm

Sun., Feb.9 Byrd Theatre

12:30 Electric Car Show -- cars in front of theatre

-Five Seasons: The Gardens of Piet Oudolf 1:30 pm

-Virginia Film Contest Entries 2:50 pm
-The Farmer's Footprint 4:40 pm
-The Butterfly Trees 5:05 pm

Mon., Feb. 10 UR Robins School of Business

-Drowning in Plastic 6:00 pm

Tues., Feb. 11 VCU Student Commons Theatre

-Sustainable 4:30-6:15 pm

Tues., Feb. 11 Science Museum of VA Dome

-Wild Africa 6:00 pm

Wed., Feb. 12 Virginia Union University, Wall Auditorium, Ellison Hall, Rm. 101

-Silent Forests 6:00 pm

Thurs., Feb. 13 VCU Grace St. Theatre

-The Story of Plastic 5:55 pm

February Events In Brief

Fri., Feb. 7 - Th., Feb.13. *RVA Environmental Film Festival.*

Tu., Feb.11 - Film, *Wild Africa*, at Science Museum's Dome Theater. (Part of the EFF) Free. 6:00 pm. Followed by FOJG Program at 7:00: *Taking a Look Inside Goodwill of Central and Coastal Virginia.* Science Museum. (see above)

Wed., Feb.19 - *Behind-the-Scenes Tour of Goodwill Support Center.* 9:00 am and 6:00 pm. (RSVP above) After the Goodwill tour, meet at *Abuelita's* for chow and chat.

Until March 7: Virginia General Assembly in session.

A New FOJG Group: "Skip the Plastics RVA"

by Steve Carter-Lovejoy

"Skip the Plastics RVA" is the new name of an FOJG workgroup that has been developing plans to address the problem of single use plastics in the Richmond metro area.

One of our goals is to work with consumers to help them understand the problems with single use plastics and learn to practice good behaviors that minimize plastic use. We'll start our public outreach at two terrific movies about plastic in the Richmond Environmental Film Festival: "Drowning in Plastic" on Monday, 2/10, 6:00

pm, at the University of Richmond, and "The Story of Plastic" on Thursday, 2/13, 5:55 pm, at VCU's Grace Street Theater. We'll be staffing a table outside the theaters at both events and will have thought-provoking handouts for those who drop by. Stop and say hello before you go into the movie!

Latest Information on the Chickahominy Power Plant

by Joe Brancoli

A final hurdle to the proposed huge power plant in neighboring Charles City County is coming before Virginia's State Water Control Board. This proposed power plant by Chickahominy Power LLC has gotten little publicity and therefore little opposition -- until a recent January 28 hearing when many Charles City citizens spoke for over two hours in opposition at a DEQ-hosted meeting. When people learn about this plant, they do NOT want it. Charles City residents were eloquent and heartfelt in their opposition and we can help them stop this unnecessary behemoth of blight and bad planning!

Now the project is facing the last, and a most important, roadblock. At this point, the best way to oppose the plant is to submit an official comment to the DEQ—before the February 14 deadline—opposing the granting of a special exception which would allow Chickahominy Power LLC to use groundwater from below currently allowable levels—thus threatening the availability of the water to residents of the area. (Specific information available [HERE](#))

Suggested wording for a comment to DEQ: "I oppose the Groundwater Special Exception for the Chickahominy Power Plant – Gw0078700. I am concerned that DEQ may not have resources to monitor other closed industrial well sites to ensure adequate water supply to residents and the Chickahominy plant".

Give your name, address and phone number, as well as the name, address and special exception number below:

Chickahominy Power LLC.

13800 Coppermine Road, Charles City Virginia, 20171.

Gw0078700.

Send by email to withdrawal.permitting@deq.virginia.gov

Or fax to 804-698-4032

Or mail to Office of Water Supply c/o Joseph Grist,

PO Box 1105, Richmond VA

Opportunity for Volunteers

A letter from Joe Brancoli,
Chair of FOJG Executive Committee

Hello Falls of James Group members,

As the weather warms up there will be numerous public events at which your engaging presence and eloquent dialogue may help recruit new members for the Virginia Sierra Club. Events include Easter on Parade, Earth Day, Veg Fest, Pride Fest, RVA Latino Festival and others.

We seek a few folks who are willing to be contacted when we need friendly faces at such events. By joining the Tabling Corps, you are appreciated but not obligated to attend all, or any specific event. Just participate when it suits, along with other Sierran volunteers and staff! You'll find it's fun!

Please contact me at (804) 502-9502 or omethid@hotmail.com.

Joe

Get involved! [Visit here to learn more](#) about the Sierra Club's Falls of the James Group.

2020 FOJG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Daryl Downing, Chair of Sierra Club's
Virginia Chapter Ex Comm:
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FOJG Committee Structure

- **Communications Committee** comprises e-news, website, publicity and social media.
- **Conservation & Advocacy Committee** comprises conservation, legislative/political, pollinators, bike/pedestrian issues. Meets on the fourth Wednesday each month.
- **Membership Engagement Committee** comprises membership, programs, outings and fundraising. Meets on the last Thursday of each month.

**New members are welcome.
Interested?**

Contact Shavon Peacock:
shavonandrew@verizon.net



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Websites: [Virginia Chapter](#) | [Falls of the James Group](#)

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This email was sent by the [Sierra Club Virginia Chapter](#)
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