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Footnotes Issue #49: November 29, 2011

Climate is Back on the Front Page

This week, the COP 17 talks on the Kyoto Protocol are opening in Durban, South Africa, and as a result there is much more ado about climate change in the media. Sierra Club's Polling and Research Strategist summarizes some of the most important developments in her [newsletter](#).



Earlier this month, the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) [released a special report](#) examining the link between extreme weather events and global climate change. The **IPPC says it is "likely" (a 66% to 100% probability) that the increased frequency of extreme weather events is a result of greenhouse gas emissions from human activity** – including coal-fired power plants, fuels burned for transportation, and deforestation.

Polling [data](#) by the Yale Project on Climate Change Communication and George Mason University indicate that **70% of Americans say that "global warming" should be a very high, high, or medium priority for the President and Congress** – including 44% of Republicans, 72% of Independents, and 85% of Democrats.

So why are the deniers getting so much traction? And why haven't progressives been able to harness the overwhelming consensus into a new paradigm? **Naomi Klein explores this in her must-read [article in The Nation](#) this week.**

In other carbon news, the [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) reports that a Electric Membership Coop's brand new coal-fired power plant is shutting down before it put its first kilowatt hour on the grid. Coal is simply too expensive.

Quick Links

The Georgia Chapter is sponsoring this year's Atlanta Green Drinks holiday party: A Year in Green! Please join us on Thursday, December 15, from 7-11 p.m. Click [here](#) for more information and to RSVP!



Sierra Club Meetings

Atlanta Inner City Outings (ICO), Tuesday, November 29, 7:30 p.m., Naomi Bock, atlantaico@gmail.com

Smart Energy Team Meeting, Monday, December 5, at Midtown Arts for "Revenge of the Electric Car," Mike Walls - Chair, mwalls@ellijay.com

Beyond Factory Farming, Monday, December 12 , 7:30 p.m., Leah Garces - Chair, Leah.Garces@ciwf.org

RAIL Committee Meeting, Monday, December 19, 7:00 p.m., David Emory - Chair, david.emory@gmail.com

Wildlands and Wildlife Committee Meeting, Tuesday, January 17, 7:00 p.m., Mike Murdock - Chair, murdock1@mindspring.com

Upcoming Events

Atlanta Inner City Outings Program Needs Giftwrappers!



Sierra Club's [Inner City Outings](#) program works to bring kids that otherwise wouldn't have a chance to Georgia's special places. To make it happen, they need to rent vans, buy lunches, conduct trainings, and carry insurance. Most of the funding to support this program comes from the annual

Giftwrapping at REI! By signing up for a shift, you will support bringing kids to the great outdoors. Shifts are available from December 16 through 24 at [Perimeter](#) and [Clairmont](#). Click the link to email the volunteer coordinator for each location!

Coosa River Basin Initiative Seeks Program Coordinator

Non-profit river protection group seeks energetic, self-motivated river advocate and educator to serve as Program Coordinator in North America's most biologically diverse river basin. Program Coordinator is responsible for CRBI's education, water monitoring and restoration programs and assists Executive Director with advocacy projects. Applicants must exhibit strong knowledge of state and federal clean water laws as well as excellent verbal and written communication skills. Click [here](#) for the details.



John Muir, Nature's Beloved Son - Through December 4

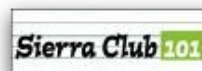


[Atlanta History Center](#) will host the traveling exhibition Nature's Beloved Son: Rediscovering John Muir's Botanical Legacy traces his travels to Canada, Indiana, the American southeast, California, and Alaska, presenting vivid images and specimens of the actual plants that Muir held in his hands, carried in his pockets, and preserved for

all time.

Sierra Club 101 - December 10

You got on our mailing list because you care about the environment and want help -- now what? Sierra Club 101! Come learn about the Sierra Club and how to get involved in our local efforts. Open to members and non-members alike -- bring a friend! Breakfast and coffee provided. December 10, 10:30 a.m.- 12 p.m. Register online by clicking [here](#).



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12

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