

Chesapeake

Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club

Autumn 2009

Transmission Line Campaign—A High Priority for the Sierra Club

By Alana Wase—Transmission lines are not the sexy attention-grabbers like global warming, renewable energy, or energy efficiency. Nonetheless, the issue of transmission lines—to build or not to build—is at the forefront of Maryland environmental issues these days.

My education about transmission lines began about five months ago thanks to a day-long workshop organized by the Sierra Club's legal department. More than 50 citizens from Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania attended. I was shocked to realize how something as banal as transmission-line construction could be at the crux of global warming.

Currently, there are two proposals for transmission lines through Maryland: the Mid-Atlantic Power Pathway (MAPP) (see page 4) and the Potomac-Appalachian Transmission Highline (PATH) (see page 3). The bad news is that the points of origin for these lines are two of the largest coal-fired power plants in the nation. Unfortunately, that is just the beginning of the negative repercussions these transmission lines would create. As we all know, increased coal-fired power means increased global warming. Increased coal-fired power leads to increased demand for mountaintop removal. Increased coal-fired power in Maryland outcompetes and takes away incentives for energy efficiency and renewable energy development. You guessed it, all terrible.

The answer is certainly not for us to go without electricity but, rather, to take a comprehensive look at the bigger issue, which is the need to use electricity that pollutes less. Let's look for a comprehensive solution



like ratcheting up energy efficiency or developing new renewable electricity sources like offshore wind. Given that the transmission lines would not carry power until 2014, we have time to look at the whole system and get it right, rather than rushing into a "solution" that would provide more energy in the short term but would exacerbate our long-term problem of a rapidly warming planet.

The Sierra Club is working to make this a priority campaign and to fight against these two transmission lines. The national Sierra Club has filed to intervene with the Public Service Commission case on one of the transmission lines. The Maryland Chapter is working on a broad campaign to educate the public on this issue and motivate people to put pressure on the Maryland Public Service Commission, which will ultimately make the decision on whether or not to build the lines.

This issue is of grave importance, and we believe it is quite winnable, but we need your help! Here are the top three things that you can do to help us win on this campaign:

Volunteer: Do you have a few hours you could give to this campaign a week? To be successful in influencing the Maryland Public Service Commission, we need people to help spread the word: table, hit the streets, collect signatures and write letters to the editor. To get involved email: Alana.wase@mdsierra.org

Donate: We estimate that the cost of this campaign to the Maryland Chapter will be just over \$10,000. Please write a check; every bit

helps. This campaign is tax-deductible, a bonus! Please make your check payable to the Sierra Club Foundation and note in the memo line "MD transmission campaign."

Write a letter: After reading up on this topic in this issue of the *Chesapeake*, write a letter to Douglas Nazarian, Chairman, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 Paul Street, Baltimore MD 21201. Be sure to reference the following case numbers:

- ♦ For the MAPP transmission line, reference #9179; and
- ♦ For the PATH transmission line, reference #9198.

This issue of the *Chesapeake* strives to educate the

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The opinions expressed in this newsletter are in general aligned with those of the environmental community in Maryland, but are strictly those of the authors and not necessarily official policy of local, state or national Sierra Club entities. The Sierra Club prides itself on being a grassroots volunteer organization. The concerns and opinions of all its members are welcome in these pages.

Letter From the Chair



Ron Henry, Chapter Chair

Hello All,
What a summer we are having weather-wise—so far, one of the coolest in my memory. It is so nice not to need the AC and to be able to save energy. Thank you Mother Nature!

During May 2009, the Maryland Chapter was chosen by the national Sierra Club as one of four chapters to participate in a pilot training program focused on building an efficient, effective, well-functioning, and congenial Executive Committee team. The team members were Alana Wase, Baird Straughan, Chris Yoder, Dave O'Leary, Don Grace, Laurel Imlay, and Ron Henry.

This training was conducted via six teleconference calls over three months. The conference calls allowed all participants to be involved for the instruction portions, then to break into several smaller groups to work on assignments, and then reconvene as a whole for sharing summaries and discussion.

The initial call focused on the core chapter functions: advance the Sierra Club's mission; provide service to members, supporters, and the public; build local resources; and exercise effective governance and fiduciary oversight. These core functions were the basis for a series of assignments that the team worked on between calls, with facilitator guidance from National.

The initial assignment enabled us to focus on the core chapter functions and conduct a State of the Chapter Assessment, identifying our strengths and the areas needing improvement. A subsequent assignment focused on improving our team performance. Ranking ourselves on characteristics of high-performance teams, we agreed that our ExCom had developed trust, mastered discussion, and achieved commitment, while needing improvement in accountability and focusing on results.

Our final assignment focused on our State of the Chapter Assessment, specifically on the four core chapter functions. From this, the Maryland Chapter leadership team established task forces during our July ExCom meeting as follows: Smart Energy Solutions and Global Warming, led by Dave O'Leary; Reducing Waste and Toxics, led by Dan Andrews and Ken Eidel; People, led by Baird Straughan and Ron Henry; Transportation and Land Use, led by Erin Barnes and Patrick McMahon; and Resilient Habitats, led by Marc Imlay and Chris Yoder.

Each task force leader has formed committees, and during August and September will develop plans for 2010. The task force leaders will meet to collate their plans for discussion at the September 19 Ex Com meeting, during which the Maryland Chapter's 2010 campaigns will be established. This strategy will keep us in consonance with National, Chapter, and local issues.

All members are invited to participate in the process. If you note an area of interest, please contact the task force leaders and offer your comments and ideas. These will be taken into consideration.

Remember the upcoming Maryland Chapter Jamboree that will be held October 2–4 at Camp Barrett, Crownsville, MD. Please note the date on your calendars and attend. It will be a wonderful weekend of learning, getting to know other Sierrans, and FUN!

Finally, I want to lift up the coming 2010 political year! It promises to be even more important than the successful 2008 political year in terms of real environmental change. Even with a changed administration at the federal level, even with the legislative changes that many are valiantly trying to attain, and even at the state level where we have been able to affect some changes, we find that we have taken only a few baby steps towards attaining meaningful, measurable, and stringent legislation.

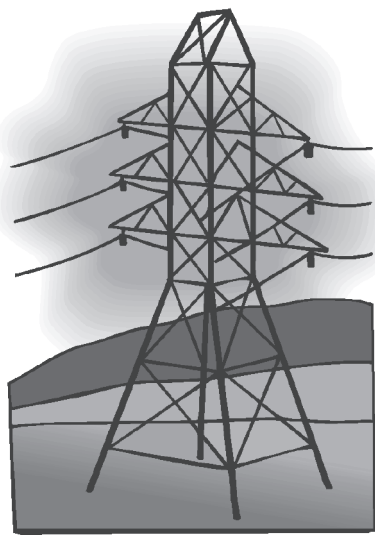
Real change is sorely needed to affect true environmental protection and to promote a reduction in greenhouse gases and global warming, and mitigate climate change effects. The lobbyists from industries of every kind are well-heeled and are spending millions to maintain their privileged status quo. Their vision of the future is always based entirely on economics as the first priority, regardless of any environmental considerations and without any acknowledgment of their responsibility or acceptance of accountability for the environmental damage they inflict.

So, this means that we have to dig in deeper in terms of our time, money, and personal efforts in order to effectively thwart the opposition's "status quo." Otherwise, true change cannot take place!

The responsibility is ours, each one of us, to do those things to make the difference. I challenge you to do so. Any change starts with us as individuals! Let's start! Contact our Chapter and your Group political committees and offer your time and services. We can make the difference! And we must! ■

Transmission Lines Campaign

The Potomac Valley Region of Maryland: Under the Gun from the Proposed PATH Power Line Project



By Matthew Lindberg-Work—Residents of Frederick County have cause for alarm. A proposed new project, PATH (Potomac Appalachian Transmission Highline), would dominate many acres of land along a swath running through the southern part of the county.

However, all of us, not just Frederick County residents, have a reason to be concerned about the larger impacts of the proposed PATH project.

The agricultural area of central Maryland around the city of Frederick has taken on a new look over the past couple of decades. Gradually, since the 1960s, the reach of the Washington, D.C. metropolis has extended into the rural areas around Frederick. Despite this activity, many farms and forests remain. The same farms and forests that make this area wonderful would be disrupted and damaged if the PATH is built.

Just outside of Maryland, many of West Virginia's biggest mountain ranges have coal underneath them. Most of the coal used by Maryland comes from this area of West Virginia but some of it is from farther west—around Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania, and parts of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois—as well as special, low-sulfur coal from Wyoming and Montana.

A lot of this coal is dug up in various ways and sent eastward, both by railroads and by power lines, after it is burned in an electricity-generating facility. The grand tragedy of mountaintop removal is well known to many of our readers, and is one of the many disadvantages of coal power (visit www.sierraclub.org/coal/).

In early 2005, a group of power company officials and electric industry regulators came up with an action plan called “Project Mountaineer.” This was a plan to organize the construction of new power lines across the Appalachian Mountains in order to bring cheap coal power from the coal-mining areas to the high-priced electricity markets in the D.C.-Baltimore-New Jersey area.

The PATH corridor begins at Amos, West Virginia, next to one of the largest coal-fired power plants in the nation, and continues through an extensive swath of privately-owned hill country before entering the Monongahela National Forest. It passes close to some of the biggest mountains in West Virginia. The PATH corridor then crosses the ridge-and-valley area of the Potomac River headwaters and continues into Virginia, crossing the Shenandoah Valley near Winchester.

From just north of Winchester in Virginia, the PATH corridor continues through the historic Shenandoah Valley into West Virginia, crosses the Shenandoah River, climbs the Blue Ridge mountains, and passes over the Appalachian Trail right before entering Virginia. The transmission line corridor would

then continue either through or around the Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship, before crossing another mountain and passing Lovettsville, Virginia. The PATH corridor then crosses the main stem of the Potomac River, leaving Virginia and entering Frederick County in Maryland, near Sugarloaf Mountain and Point of Rocks.

Many families and communities are now facing the imminent threat of having at least some of their land taken away from them, to be industrialized and quite possibly permanently damaged. This would render it unfit for use as a habitat

area for native plants and animals or as productive agricultural and forest land. In Frederick County, for instance, the proposed PATH route passes over the regionally-famous Lilypons water gardens, which is a commercial pro-

duction facility and showcase for flowers, plants, and fish. If the PATH were built, the new warehouse that was just built at Lilypons would be destroyed. There are many more stories like this, all along the entire route. In every case, the real question is, “Does this project need to be built?” (See page 6 for more information about whether more transmission lines are needed.)

The problems are, first, the idea that the mountain areas west of the East Coast cities are the best place to build new power plants, and second, that these new power plants need to be coal-fired. Both ideas are flawed. The challenge for us as citizens is to find ways to keep the power companies from getting government ap-

proval for building new electric transmission lines in the wrong places, and for the wrong reasons.

The power company designers, planners, and engineers need to look for solutions that do not involve new coal. If PATH gets built, new coal mines will get opened, more coal will be burned, increasing global warming, and many acres of valuable scenic and agricultural land just west of the big cities will be taken over for power line construction.

For more information on the PATH project, please check out the Chapter website: www.Maryland.sierraclub.org.■

Matthew Lindberg-Work has been paying attention to the health and safety hazards of power lines for many years. He believes that we need an electric power system that is safer and less damaging to the environment. This past year, Matthew has been keeping track of the PATH proposals on behalf of the Catoctin Group of the Maryland Chapter. Matthew just moved to Iowa, and can be reached by going to www.linkedin.com/in/matthew

Transmission Line Campaign

(continued from page 1)
reader on different aspects of the transmission line issue. We have articles on the history of the issue (page 5); the effect building these lines will have on the development of off-shore wind capability (page 6); and the environmental problems with the lines themselves (MAPP page 4 and PATH page 3). While complicated, it is far too important an issue to ignore.

Ultimately, we have a choice: continue with business as usual or step up to the challenge. So please, read on and step up! ■

Transmission Lines Campaign

Maryland MAPP Would Harm Southern Maryland and the Eastern Shore

by Kristin Ricigliano—The Mid-Atlantic Power Pathway (MAPP) is a proposed 150-mile, high-voltage transmission line that would start at Dominion Virginia Power's coal-powered Possum Point substation in Virginia, traverse the Potomac River into the Calvert Cliffs nuclear plant, cross the Chesapeake Bay, and, finally, go through Maryland's Eastern Shore to Delaware— affecting Charles, Prince George's, Calvert, Dorchester, and Wicomico counties.

MAPP proponents claim that the fact that a major portion of the line would be built on existing rights of way would mean it would have little environmental impact. This is false. If MAPP were approved, the existing rights of way would

- ♦ the largest tracts of commercial forestlands in the state.

The MAPP corridor would also affect some of Maryland's greatest cultural resources, including:

- ♦ the Captain John Smith Water Trail
- ♦ the Blackwater Wildlife Refuge, and,
- ♦ the proposed site for the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historic Park, and the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway (nominated for All-American Road/National Scenic Byways designation).

Imagine all of these treasures jeopardized environmentally and aesthetically by large transmission towers.

MAPP would create a way to pump up the amount of electricity exported from dirty coal power plants in the Ohio Valley and in Appalachia to the higher-priced markets in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast regions.

have to be expanded significantly. MAPP would be a large, extremely high-voltage infrastructure that would require cutting down an additional 200-foot-wide swath of land wherever it would be built.

In addition, the proposed MAPP corridor would bisect an area of the Eastern Shore known for its pristine environmental resources, including:

- ♦ lands with the highest "preserved-to-developed" ratios in the state
- ♦ forests with extremely high carbon-sequestration rates
- ♦ habitat with the highest concentration of threatened-endangered species on the Eastern Shore
- ♦ aquatic habitats critical to the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge ecosystem
- ♦ some of the most productive agricultural soil in Maryland, and

MAPP would create a way to pump up the amount of electricity exported from dirty coal power plants in the Ohio Valley and in Appalachia to the higher priced markets in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast regions. MAPP would generate enormous profits for the utility companies with zero risks, since the cost of constructing MAPP would fall solely on ratepayers.

The true price of MAPP and of dirty energy sources is hidden by the gluttonous utility companies' promises of cheap electricity, but the truth is not hard to find. MAPP would not only endanger some of Maryland's greatest ecosystems, as noted above, but it would also add highly visible industrial structures to the rural landscapes of the Eastern Shore and Southern Maryland, lowering property values of nearby Maryland farms and

homes. And, from a global perspective, MAPP would increase greenhouse gas emissions, mountaintop removal, sea level rise, and dependence on fossil fuels.

The Dorchester County Commissioners unanimously opposed MAPP. Currently, the MAPP project has been put on hold. Originally, the line was to go north through Delaware and into New Jersey, but a few months ago PJM, the grid operator, stopped actively pursuing permission to construct the section of the MAPP project running from Indian Head, DE to Salem, NJ. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources asked the Maryland Public Service Commission hearing examiner to suspend review of the MAPP plan until PJM made clear why it

put this portion of the line on hold, and the examiner did so. The examiner made a step in the right direction, but it is likely that the project will soon resurface.

If the Maryland Public Service Commission approves MAPP, our state would be investing in yesterday's energy solutions for tomorrow's energy demands at a very high cost to Maryland's Eastern Shore. ■

Kristin Ricigliano, the Cool Cities intern with the Sierra Club Maryland Chapter, worked on energy issues this summer.



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



Sky's the limit?

Even today in 2009 over *half* of America's electricity is generated from coal-fired power plants. Consequentially, we are being exposed to soot, smog, acid rain, and dangerous toxins such as mercury, which threaten people and wildlife alike. Bush's "Clear Skies" plan will allow 520% *more* mercury pollution by 2010, not to mention delaying the enforcement of public health standards for smog and soot until the *end* of 2015. The sky isn't getting any higher, and the air we breathe isn't getting any cleaner. The sky *IS* the limit.

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Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
Student/Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

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Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club,
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Transmission Lines Campaign

Sierra Club Files Petition to Stop Expanded Coal Use

Before 2005

Most of the electricity used in Maryland is created from coal and sent through transmission lines. Coal is, of course, not renewable. Further, using coal to generate electricity creates emissions of carbon dioxide, a “greenhouse gas.”

Transmission lines “transmit high-voltage electricity from the generation source or substation to another substation or electric distribution system.” (www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/electric_power/glossary.html#t) Prior to 2005, every state had full authority to deny, approve, or place conditions on permits for transmission line projects within its borders.

August 8, 2005

President George W. Bush signed into law the Energy Policy Act. §1221 of the Act empowered the Department of Energy to designate regions as National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors. States would have only limited control over requests to construct transmission lines in these corridors. If a state denied a transmission lines permit, placed certain conditions on a permit, or did not act on a permit within one year for any reason, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) could override the state’s authority and issue a transmission lines permit.

April 20, 2007

Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley signed the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), the first mandatory, market-based program in the U.S. to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. RGGI’s goal for its ten Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic states signatories was to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide from the power sector 10% by 2018. But one RGGI problem was “leakage,” where electricity generation shifted from power plants within a

RGGI state to power plants in states, such as West Virginia, without caps or reduction efforts against carbon dioxide emissions.

June 22, 2007

PJM Interconnection is a regional transmission organization coordinating the movement of wholesale electricity in 13 states (including Maryland) east of the Mississippi River, and in the District of Columbia. It approved the Potomac

way (MAPP). MAPP was proposed as a 230-mile, high-voltage project that would start at Dominion Virginia Power’s coal-powered Possum Point substation, cross the Potomac River to the Calvert Cliffs nuclear plant, go under Chesapeake Bay, cross through Maryland’s Eastern Shore, and, finally, go up the Delmarva Peninsula.

November 5, 2007

Maryland Attorney General Doug

for the PATH project, including a *guaranteed* 14.3% rate of return on its investment and a guaranteed reimbursement for all of the project’s start-up costs.

April 24, 2008

Governor O’Malley signed into law “EmPOWER Maryland,” an initiative for Maryland to reduce energy consumption by 15% by 2015, thus reducing Maryland’s forecasted electricity demand.

February 18, 2009

The U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, in *Piedmont Environmental Council v. FERC*, ruled in favor of the Piedmont Environmental Council. Under this decision, states regained the right to reject transmission line projects without fear that the federal government would overrule their rejections.

February 25, 2009

Pepco Holdings Inc., an energy holding company engaged in operating utilities and selling electricity and other “energy products” to residential and commercial customers, filed a motion with the Maryland Public Service Commission, case #9179, alleging a need to construct the MAPP project, and to have the commission rule on this and other matters.

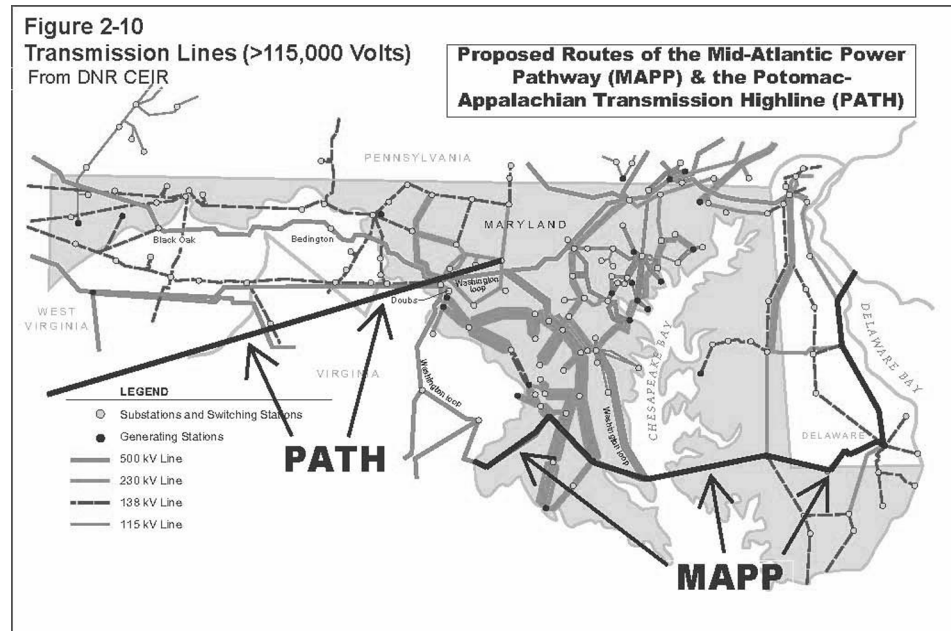
March 19, 2009

President Barack Obama appointed a new chairman of FERC: Jon Wellinghoff, a supporter of energy efficiency and renewable energy. The previous chairman, Joseph T. Kelliher, appointed by Bush, had stepped down earlier in March.

May 19, 2009

Allegheny Energy, Inc. and American Electric Power, Inc. filed a plan for the huge PATH transmission project with the Maryland Public Service Commission, case #9198.

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Appalachian Transmission Highline (PATH). The PATH was proposed as a 275-mile, 765 kV project that would start from western West Virginia at the Amos coal-fired power plant and deliver power to a newly proposed substation in Kemptown, MD.

October 2, 2007

The Department of Energy designated the Mid-Atlantic area a National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor.

October 17, 2007

PJM Interconnection, the grid operator, approved the Mid-Atlantic Power Path-

Gansler filed a petition, in the name of Governor O’Malley, requesting that the Department of Energy grant a rehearing of its order designating the Mid-Atlantic region as a National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor. O’Malley expressed concern about the large size of the corridor, as well as the fact that there was no consideration of non-transmission solutions for problems occurring when the existing transmission lines become “congested” (overloaded).

February 28, 2008

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) granted four rate incentives

Transmission Lines Campaign

Does Maryland Face A Looming Electricity Shortage?

By John Howley—Blackouts! Brownouts! Collapse of the grid! The big coal utilities put on their scariest Halloween masks when telling us why we should pay for more high-voltage transmission projects like MAPP and PATH. They use in-house studies and industry-paid experts to show that the ever-growing “peak demand” for electricity means we have no choice.

It's really no surprise that the same companies who profit from building and operating interstate transmission lines would conclude that we need more of them. Maryland voters and public officials have good reason to be skeptical of their claims.

“Peak Demand” Drives the Debate

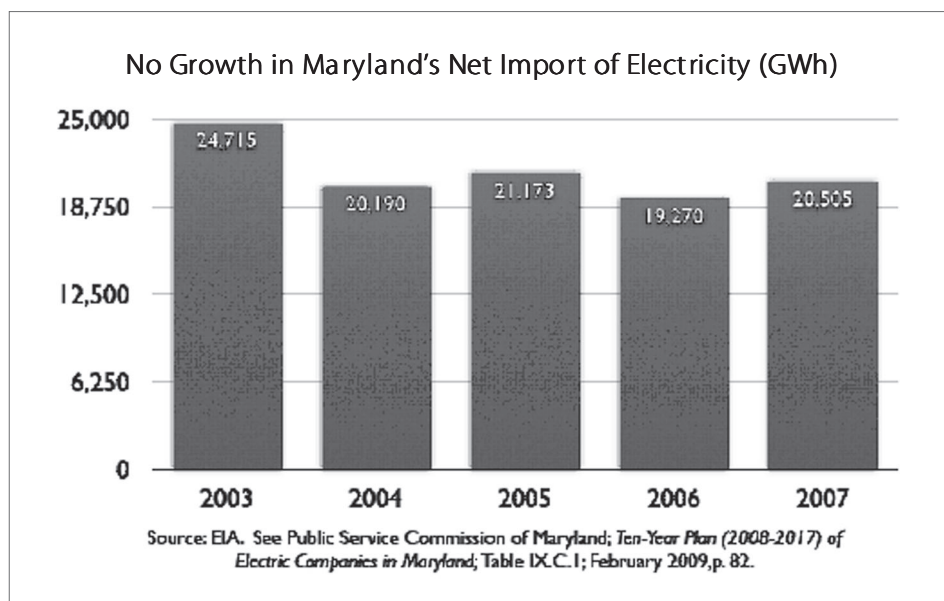
Highways get congested during “peak demand”—rush hour. The power transmission system gets congested during peak demand—the hottest days of the summer, when everybody turns on their air conditioners. The utilities fire up local natural gas plants and import more power from coal-fired generators in the Ohio Valley. More power from dirty sources means more global-warming pollution.

Change has come to Maryland. In 2008, the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) ordered the state's major utilities to develop plans to manage the future growth of peak demand. There are different names for it—“demand response” or “demand-side management”—but it all amounts to the same thing, reducing demand on the hottest days. These approaches are quicker, cheaper AND cleaner than new “coal-by-wire” transmission lines.

Falling Power Imports Mean New Transmission Isn't Needed

Maryland relies on neighbors for almost one third of its electricity needs. Only three other states—New Jersey, Virginia and California—import more juice than the Old Line State. These imports are vital during periods of peak demand.

The falling trend of Maryland's net imports of electricity provides little support for the nightmare vision of impending blackouts and brownouts. Maryland's power imports fell from 24,715 GWh in 2003 to 20,505 in 2007. The severe economic recession of the past year has likely reduced imports further.



While past trends suggest Maryland doesn't need more import capacity, it is projections of future “peak demand” that will decide the outcome.

Low-hanging Fruit

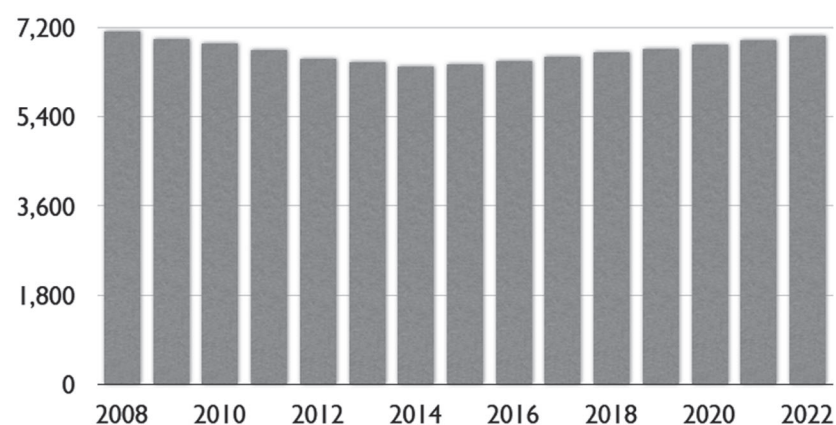
Maryland neglected demand-side management during the past decade. In the 1990s, these programs were common. Many people still have the old “gizmo” on their central air conditioner that let their utility to cycle off their system for a few minutes every hour in exchange for a monthly discount. These popular and effective programs mostly died with deregulation.

Because it has been so neglected, demand-side management is “low-hanging fruit.” According to the Maryland PSC, the utilities have promised to cut peak demand by an amount equal to the projected shortfall in supply.

BGE is Maryland's biggest utility, accounting for about half of the electricity used in the state. According to what BGE reported to the PSC, this graph shows what could be achieved through demand-side management. The forecasts are based on variables like economic growth, population and weather. It is worth noting that these projections were made last fall, before the depth and length of the economic downturn were clear.

BGE—Maryland's Biggest Utility—Forecasts Falling Peak Demand

Maryland Peak Demand Forecast (Net of DSM Programs; MW)



Source: Public Service Commission of Maryland; Ten-Year Plan (2008-2017) of Electric Companies in Maryland; Table A-5(b); February 2009.

BGE seems confident that its demand response programs can lower the growth of peak demand. Indeed, under this forecast, **BGE's peak demand will be lower in 2022 than in 2008.** This should be no surprise because demand-side management focuses directly on lowering usage in peak periods.

Feds Highlight Maryland's Huge Demand-side Potential

A recent report from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) underscores the potential for Maryland to meet its future needs through demand-side management. According to FERC, Maryland can cut its projected peak demand by

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Transmission Lines Campaign

Transmission Lines Reduce Regional Wind Energy Development

By Steven Bruckner—Proponents of MAPP and PATH, the two proposed power transmission lines in Maryland, often justify the need for the lines with scary what-if scenarios. What if it's a hot summer day in July and a piece of the grid goes down? Blackouts. Well, while we're considering what-if scenarios, what if we built wind farms offshore in the Atlantic Ocean instead of transmission lines that imported coal-fired power to reinforce the region's energy demand?

Did you know that:

- ♦ The best wind resources in the entire country are available just off the Atlantic Coast?
- ♦ Many of the East Coast states could meet their *entire* energy demand with offshore wind energy?
- ♦ The water from Cape Cod to Cape Hatteras is so shallow for miles out from the shoreline that turbines could be built with inexpensive, proven, existing technology. And they would be barely visible from shore.
- ♦ The cost of Atlantic Coast offshore wind electricity is not only cheaper than

new coal-fired power plants but also guaranteed to remain price stable over the lifetime of the wind farm?

♦ A number of East Coast states have already established task forces to initiate offshore wind generation projects. Delaware has already passed legislation to give a company the go-ahead to get started.

Eleven East Coast governors, in a joint letter (http://files.eesi.org/governors_051109.pdf) to Congressional leadership on May 11, 2009, expressed their strong interest in using offshore wind for electricity generation in their states. The governors also expressed their concern that the building of long distance transmission lines that would bring cheap energy from outside the region would undermine their ability to develop these offshore wind resources. Their chief concern was that the designation of national electricity transmission corridors for cross country transmission lines would have the effect of subsidizing electricity imported from wind farms in the Great Plains. These transmission lines would give remote *onshore* wind resources an unfair

competitive advantage over *offshore* wind resources because the cost of the transmission lines wouldn't be added to the cost of their electricity.



The East Coast governors would prefer to grow their own regional renewable generation capabilities, because their

states would get not only cost competitive power but also the business development benefits of tax and royalty revenues and good paying manufacturing, planning, deployment and maintenance jobs for an offshore wind industry.

The governors did not specifically call out the MAPP, PATH and TRAIL transmission lines in their letter even though those lines would have a more severe and immediate deleterious effect than the hypothetical cross country transmission lines they did cite. Because MAPP, PATH and TRAIL would lead to the importation of cheap electricity without also paying for transmission costs, they too would undermine the development of the Atlantic Coast region's offshore wind energy resources.

However, unlike the clean wind energy resources from the Great Plains, the MAPP, PATH and TRAIL lines would import coal-fired energy resources from plants in West Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky, among the dirtiest coal plants in the nation. The consequence would be a large increase in pollution and GHG emissions because PJM, the regional transmission organization, would be required to select the cheapest resource available—which in this case is also the dirtiest resource available.

In summary, the development of offshore wind energy resources off the Atlantic Coast would provide a superior alternative solution for potential blackout problems. This solution would be cost competitive, cleaner, and better for the economies of coastal states. ■

Steven Bruckner is the Conservation Chair of the VA Chapter of the Sierra Club.

Electricity Shortage?

(continued from page 6)

32 percent in 2019 through demand-side management alone. New techniques target commercial and industrial users as well as residential customers and exploit recent advances in information technology.

Sources: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, A National Assessment of Demand Response Potential, June 2009. Maryland Public Service Commission, Ten-Year Plan (2008-20017) of Electric Companies in Maryland, March 2009. ■

John Howley is an energy economist and editor of MarylandEnergyReport.org.

Sierra Club Files Petition to Stop Expanded Coal Use

(continued from page 5)

June 7, 2009

Governor O'Malley signed the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act of 2009 (GGERA) into law. GGERA requires the state to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions 25% from 2006 levels by 2020 and to adopt a final plan to achieve this goal by 2012.

June, 2009

According to a new FERC study, Maryland could, by 2019, reduce its energy consumption at peak demand by one-third; further, if electricity were better managed within Maryland, the peak demand (on the hottest days) could reach below 2009 levels by 2019. www.ferc.gov/

legal/staff-reports/06-09-demand-response.pdf

July 10, 2009

The national Sierra Club intervened in the May 19, 2009 Allegheny Energy, Inc. and American Electric Power, Inc. case before the Maryland Public Service Commission. #9198, petitioning to stop the PATH plan for transmission line construction. The Sierra Club alleged that this PATH plan would increase Maryland's reliance on coal-fired power and would impede Maryland's renewable energy development. ■

Kristin Ricigliano, Cool Cities Intern with the Maryland Chapter, was principal contributor to this timeline.

Global Warming

MD Legislators Help Pass Historic Global Warming Act



By Matt Dernoga—On June 26th 2009, a vote of historical proportions was cast by the U.S. House of Representatives on the Renewable Energy Investment and Security Act. The final tally was 219-212, just barely clearing the 218 threshold needed to pass legislation. This bill mandates a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of 17% below 2005 levels by 2020, 42% by 2030, and 83% by 2050. The bill also has a 20% renewable electricity standard (with 5% energy efficiency), sets strong new building codes, invests over 10 billion dollars a year in clean energy R&D, and commits billions for international adaptation and preventing international deforestation.

The independent Congressional Budget Office analyzed the fiscal impact of the bill and found it would cost the average American household \$175 in 2020, about a postage stamp a day. This analysis didn't even include the effects of the energy efficiency provisions of the bill, which are estimated to save the average household \$750 by 2020, and \$3900 by 2030. These same provisions will create 250,000 new jobs by 2020, and 650,000 by 2030.

What was especially pleasing about the passage of this bill is that seven out of eight Maryland Congressmen voted for the bill. This is a testament to how well Maryland environmental activists have done at electing the right people and making clean-energy champions out of

them. The Sierra Club wants to extend a thank you to representatives Frank Kratovil (D-1), Dutch Ruppersberger (D-2), John Sarbanes (D-3), Donna Edwards (D-4), Steny Hoyer (D-5), Elijah Cummings (D-7), and Chris Van Hollen (D-8) for their yes votes. Unfortunately, Congressman Roscoe Bartlett (R-6) voted no and prevented Maryland from having a perfect score.

Special thanks are owed to Donna Edwards, Steny Hoyer, and Frank Kratovil. Although this bill does many good things, it should be stronger in areas such as the renewable electricity standard and the 2020 emission target. The Sierra Club worked to elect Edwards in 2008, and she didn't let us down during the floor debate over this bill, pushing for the bill to be stronger in every way possible. House Majority Leader Hoyer and his office were very impressive in holding elbows while Nancy Pelosi twisted them in order to get the votes needed for passage. Hoyer was the best I'd ever seen him in his floor speech for why we needed to act. The Sierra Club worked very hard to elect Congressman Kratovil in 2008, and he validated all of our efforts with his yes vote. For Kratovil, a freshman Democrat holding a vulnerable seat he won by 1,000 votes, voting no would've been the politically safe move. Instead, Kratovil took the tough vote, which was one of the deciding factors in the bill passing. He deserves our outstanding support.

We aren't in the clear yet though. Not even close. The battle now moves to the Senate, which will be much tougher than the House since you need 60 votes to overcome a filibuster. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has a deadline for a bill to be marked up and out of committees by the end of September. There are many important actions Sierrans can take. Our Maryland Senators Ben Cardin and Barbara Mikulski need to hear from their constituents that we support strong cli-

mate legislation. It's especially important to contact Senator Cardin's office since he sits on the Environment and Public Works Committee, which has a big role in drafting the bill. You can bet the other side is making noise, so take five minutes and write an e-mail or make a phone call. Consider writing a letter to the editor to your local newspaper supporting taking action. Last, if you have friends in other states, contact them and ask them to call their Senators.

The stakes couldn't be higher. We need to pass a climate bill out of the Sen-

ate by the time international negotiations in Copenhagen commence this December. The United States showing leadership for the first time on this issue will make a global treaty possible. Now is the time to step up. If we all go the extra mile, we'll cross the finish line. ■

Matt Dernoga is a senior at the University of Maryland, campaign director of the student group "UMD for Clean Energy", and worked as the Sierra Club's political intern on the election of Congressman Frank Kratovil in 2008.

Join Climate Crossroads!



Climate Crossroads is the Sierra Club's new online community-building and organizing tool for everyone interested in energy and climate related topics.

Once you sign up, you can find old friends and make new ones, join groups that share similar interests, and easily find or post action items and events.

Registering is easy—visit <http://climatecrossroads.sierraclub.org/> and get started today! If you have any questions, please contact community.manager@sierraclub.org.

Save the date!

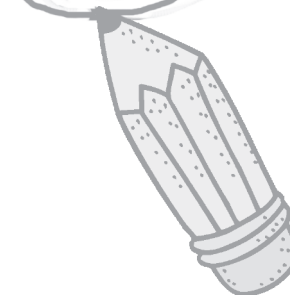
Maryland Chapter

JAMBOREE

Camp Barrett,
Crownsville, MD

See page 27 for details.

October 2-4



Ideas, Enthusiasm, and Camaraderie Emanate from Cool Cities Workshop

By Janis K. Oppelt—More than 50 Sierra Club members from eight different chapters came together on June 27 for the Maryland Sierra Club's 4th Annual Cool Cities Workshop. Highland Beach, Maryland's green town hall (a high-performance facility that boasts LEED™ platinum certification) in Anne Arundel County served as the perfect setting for six information-filled sessions and 10 enthusiastic speakers.

Highland Beach Mayor William Sanders launched the workshop with his inspiring presentation about how plans for a "Green Roof Became a Green Building." He explained that the initial goal of the project—to eliminate all runoff from the site—led to the installation of rain barrels and rain gardens filled with native species, and now all of the "rain that falls on this site stays on this site."

Sanders also discussed the high-efficiency features of the town hall, like (but not limited to) the weather station on the

roof and Energy-Star™ roof shingles; bamboo floors; geothermal ground-source heating, cooling and air conditioning; solar panels; and ultra low-flow toilets.

The workshop moved quickly along into the other morning sessions. First came "Renewable Energy and Your City"—one presentation about wind energy from Tim Fluharty (Fluharty's Electric, Inc.) and another from Rich Reis (Montgomery County Group) about solar water heaters and "More Low-Hanging Fruit for Municipalities." A session on climate action plans and emission inventories came next from Eric Coffman, Montgomery County's senior energy planner.

After a break for lunch—featuring completely delicious sustainable pizza, salad and too-good-to-be-true cookies and other goodies, Lou Rimbach (Eastern Shore Group Salisbury Cool Cities Committee) and Betsy Johnson (Maryland Chapter Executive Committee and

Chevy Chase Climate Protection Committee), took the stage. Each told the story of their groups' grassroots efforts to "Get the Public Involved in Cool Cities."

"Reducing Consumption and Waste" featured a summary of the WasteNOT Expo held on a March Saturday in Frederick. Leading experts discussed waste reduction, recycling, and composting as steps toward zero waste. Ken Eidel's (Catocin Group) presentation was followed by Heeral Bhalala, the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, who shared details about how numerous cities are reducing their emissions by adopting innovative strategies to support environmentally sound practices.

Last but not least was the workshop about the biggest challenge for all cities—financing energy-efficient projects. Focus areas included stimulus dollars and other funding opportunities, energy performance contracts, and the Annapolis EZ Clean Energy Municipal Financing Program. Alana Wase, the Maryland Chapter Sierra Club; Chip Barnes, energy performance contract expert; and Peter Mellon from Edison Wright, respectively, gave these presentations.

Alana Wase, who organized the Cool Cities Workshop, spoke for many when she wrote to participants after the workshop, saying, "It was a wonderful day filled with educational speakers, engaging questions, and great people." What more could we have asked for on a beautiful Saturday in June? ■

Resources

- Many of the presentations mentioned above are available now at <http://maryland.sierraclub.org/action/p0184.asp>.
- You can find more information about Highland Beach's platinum LEED-certified town hall at <http://highlandbeachmd.org/>.

Want to make a difference?

Enjoy politics?



The Political Committee needs your help!

This past year, the Chapter's Political Committee was successful in propelling Frank Kratovil into Congress. He in turn helped pass the recent American Clean Energy and Security Act in the House. The narrow passage of the bill illustrates the importance of making sure environmentally-friendly candidates get elected to office.

In 2010 we will be working on local, state, and national elections. Volunteers join together to interview candidates, recommend endorsements, and help our priority candidates win their elections.

We could use your help. Prior experience is desirable but not required. If you would like to find out about how you can join or help, please contact Betsy Johnson at 301 656-4948.

Thanks2U

Thank you to everyone who has so generously dug deep and donated to the Maryland Chapter this spring and last year, despite the economic downturn and financial uncertainties.

The Club's dedicated activist volunteer leadership and staff greatly appreciates the commitment all of you have to take action to preserve our forests and clean water and air for our children and all the creatures that live on our planet.

Your support is crucial to our efforts to save Maryland's environment.

Thank you!

Group News Roundup

Edited by Mary C. Corddry—Following is a roundup of what's happening with the nine Sierra Club groups in Maryland: Anne Arundel County, Catocin, Eastern Shore, Greater Baltimore, Howard County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Southern Maryland, and Western Maryland. If you have information to contribute to future "Roundups" for the *Chesapeake* newsletter, please contact Mary Corddry at XxDiTz4LyFxX@aol.com or at 410-239-4590.

Sierra Club groups are planning for the 2010 legislative session, identifying local priorities. Groups are active in the Sierra Club's "Cool Cities" initiative, encouraging local governments and citizens to take action for addressing global warming. They are involved with local land use and environmental issues, following local government activities and participating on advisory committees and at hearings. They volunteer to eradicate invasive plants, plant native species, maintain trails, and clean up streams. They enjoy the environment by hiking, biking, paddling, stargazing, camping, and backpacking. They discuss environmental issues and socialize at dinners, picnics, slide shows, movies, and speaker series.

There is something for everyone. Contact your group to get linked with your favorite issue or activity. The Maryland Chapter's home page has a link to each group's website at www.maryland.sierraclub.org.

Anne Arundel Group

Chair: David Prosten, 410-263-6341 or 410-703-0847, dprosten@yahoo.com

By David Prosten—About 25 people, including a few new faces, attended a late June picnic held to thank volunteers and encourage not-yet-volunteers to get more active in the club. The group chair testified against a proposal before the County

Council that would have required citizens who spot potentially damaging zoning violations to identify themselves on the public record, by name and address. We and others were concerned this would frighten some people from bringing possible problems to the attention of authorities. The Council ultimately rejected the proposal. As the election for the Annapolis Mayor and City Council approaches this November, we are actively participating in our regular process of asking all announced candidates to complete our environmental questionnaire. Return of the questionnaire is routinely followed by interviews of some candidates. We often endorse—or not—based on those interviews, then work for the election of our favored candidate(s).

Catocin Group (Carroll, Frederick, and Washington Counties)

Chair: Dan Andrews, 410-857-4129, dooze@qis.net

By Gregor Becker—Busy times in Central Maryland. We are looking for you! An incinerator, new master plan proposals, a megachurch, a super electrical transmission line from West Virginia to Urbana. Even though there are over 900 members in the Catocin Group, a heavy workload fell to the five volunteers that make up the Executive Committee. There's still much to be done, especially with the Climate Security Act coming up for a vote in the Senate in September, and now Matthew Lindberg is moving out of state. Thanks for your work on the transmission line and your voice on the Executive Committee. Best wishes, Matthew!

Preliminary approval for a joint solid waste incinerator was passed 3-2 in Frederick County and 2-0 (Commissioner Gouge voted "no" earlier) in Carroll County. Preliminary approval lets

the project move forward for more exact costs and specifications. There is still some question as to the site, currently planned near the Monacacy Civil War battle site. Local citizens in both counties vow to continue the struggle. For details, contact Catocin Group Chair Dan Andrews at dooze@qis.net.

This would be the first new waste incinerator in the nation in 14 years. Montgomery County's Dickerson site was the last. The goal of 50 percent recycling in Montgomery County, set when the incinerator was planned, has never been reached. Plastics and paper are prime incinerator fuel and, thus, compete with recycling efforts. Rhode Island and Massachusetts banned waste incineration statewide 15 years ago. Massachusetts recently reviewed the decision, considering incineration improvements, but upheld the ban, citing emissions of mercury, a neurological toxin.

This will also be a political issue in future elections. Some candidates will seek reelection or try to springboard to higher offices citing this issue. If you are concerned about political positions in upcoming election, contact Catocin Group Political Chair Gregor Becker at lorax4@carr.org. Various environmental groups are beginning to coordinate efforts for the next election.

Both Carroll and Frederick Counties have preliminary new master plans in process. As this goes to press, I don't have details on the Frederick plan. However, the Carroll Plan has some great verbiage about preserving rural villages, traditional walkable towns, and preserving forests and agricultural areas.

Here are some highlights and some contradictions:

—On page 25 it is estimated that 207,000 people will live in Carroll County by 2030. This is an invitation to grow faster, based on questionable assumptions. This would be a boon to the building industry, but needs a control mechanism to pace growth. Also, it pre-

sents serious challenges to infrastructure. There is a smart-growth type proposal to make community-centered growth denser in municipal areas, which could mean less growth in rural areas.

—There is a proposal to cluster growth in the conservation zone, reducing lot size from three acres to one acre, while effectively up-zoning conservation zoning to 1 house per 20 acres overall. This, in effect, means conservation zoning, similar to agricultural zoning, would conserve more land. This is a huge and most welcome change! Builders would lose many potential lots and are protesting loudly. If citizen comment opens again, add your voice in support of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!

Business parks have attracted loud and solid citizen outcry.

Route 26 west of Taylorsville? A farming and residential area without infrastructure—NO rezoning!

The highest concentration of springs in Maryland at the headwaters of the South Patapsco River lacking support from the town of Mt. Airy? A largely wooded conservation zone with some residences—NO rezoning!

Rural land adjoining Gerstell Academy along Route 140 east of Westminster. At first glance, this makes some sense, but inviting more traffic along congested Route 140 and along Roaring Run, a Tier II stream feeding into Liberty water supply—NO rezoning!

There are other potential sites, such as one proposed in the Mt. Airy town limits or perhaps in the Warfield Complex in Sykesville or around the airport in Westminster.

We are working on proposed electric transmission lines crossing the Potomac. The Sierra Club and the Maryland Chapter have taken up this challenge; read about the impact of transmission lines in this issue of *Chesapeake*.

A citizens group in Brunswick con-

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Local News

Group News Roundup

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tinues their strong efforts after their city adopted a “Cool Cities” resolution. Citizens in Boonsboro have expressed an interest in pursuing Cool Cities there. Letters are needed to Senators Mikulski and Cardin, who are writing some of the Senate’s climate bill.

Finally, the Frederick County Planning Commission has delayed a decision on a proposed megachurch complex near the Montgomery County line, citing questions about the project’s size and scope. The proposed 138,000 square-foot Global Mission Church would be built just west of I-270.

On the 2nd Tuesday of each month, the group has a social at Café Nola on East Patrick Street in downtown Frederick, 6:30 – 9 p.m. Come meet and have good conversation with fellow outdoors-lovers and environmentalists.

The group runs a number of hikes in and around the three-county area yearly. We are looking for new outings leaders who are interested in leading hikes, boat trips, or other activities.

The Catocin Group communicates with our members electronically for the most part. Our website is <http://maryland.sierraclub.org/catoctin/>, OR just go to sierraclub.org, and select Maryland Chapter and Catocin Group, OR email us at mdhiker2@yahoo.com to receive alerts on actions, hikes, or meetings.

Eastern Shore (Cecil County and Eastern Shore counties)

Chair: Don Grace, 410-352-3722, Don.Grace@mdsierra.org

By Barb and Lou Rimbach—Since October 2008, we have been working to bring Salisbury into the “Cool Cities” column. Imagine our joy when then Mayor Barry Tilghman finally responded to our letters and phone calls by signing onto the “Mayors Climate Protection Agreement,” making

Salisbury Maryland’s newest “Cool City.” With the stroke of a pen, Salisbury’s green transformation was launched!

We conducted a very well received “Cool Cities Symposium” in February at Salisbury University. Mayor Tilghman’s subsequent retirement, however, took the wind out of our sails. Progress slowed to a snail’s pace, as we awaited the takeover of new Mayor Jim Ireton and his administration. As soon as Jim took office in June, we called to schedule a meeting to bring him up to date on the “Mayors Climate Protection Agreement” and the Sierra Club’s “Cool Cities” Program.

This initial meeting on June 18 with Mayor Ireton was very promising. Mayor Ireton is pro-environment and is eager to implement many of the recommendations made by the previous administration’s Environmental Policy Task Force. These recommendations are echoed in the goals of the Cool Cities Program, which provides a systematic guide for local municipalities to achieve money-saving and climate-protecting results at their own pace. The primary goal is the reduction of green house gas emissions.

Mayor Ireton was very receptive to the idea of working with us, and agreed to appoint a contact person from his administration to act as liaison. Soon we will meet with this representative, and hopefully other members of the task force to map out an action plan, prioritizing their recommendations for implementation.

Recently we heard good news from the town of Berlin. They have been working on a program to “Green” Berlin. Steve Farr, Development Director of the Assateague Coastal Trust, called to invite us to meet with the three environmental groups spearheading this project and to make a presentation on Sierra Club’s “Cool Cities Program.” The presentation was made on July 17, and

now they are seriously considering using the “Cool Cities” model to guide them through their program.

Greater Baltimore (Baltimore City and County, Harford County)

Chair: Chris Yoder, 410-466-2462, cncyoder@comcast.net

By Mary Corddry—Ever wonder what kind of rock that is? Well, come find out at the Oregon Ridge Nature Center on September 16 for the GB Sierra Club Potluck Dinner and Geology Slide Show. Members and non-members alike are welcome. We have a naturalist from the Maryland Geological Survey to do a slide-illustrated talk on the geology of Maryland. Prior to the talk there will be a potluck and social hour. Bring a sweet or savory dish to share, along with serving utensils. We will provide paper products, utensils, drinks, coffee, and tea. The potluck and social hour starts at 6:30 PM with the talk commencing around 7:30 PM. So turn off the TV, PC, VCR, DVD, TiVo, iPod, MP3, Xbox, Wii, Bluetooth, Blackberry and anything else with a battery or wire and meet at Oregon Ridge Nature Center, 13555 Beaver Dam Road, from 6:30 to 9 PM. Meet new people, try different foods and maybe even learn something. Call Joyce at 410-254-7240 if you need further details.

The group’s outings program offers hikes of varied lengths and difficulty, including outings that are child- and dog-friendly. There are also happy hours, kayaking, bike rides, stargazing, camping, hayrides, stream cleanups, trail maintenance, and invasive plant removals. Check the group’s web site for a schedule of outings and other events.

The group publishes a quarterly newsletter, *The Baltimore Sierran*, which is mailed to members and is available on its web site. And you can join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=76458501970. Facebook will be updated with information about

hikes, meetings, and public meetings relevant to the Sierra Club.

The Young Sierrans have a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=51601732426

Howard County

Chair: Ken Clark, 301-725-3306, kenclark7@comcast.net

By Ken Clark—Join us for a screening of *Paradise Faded: The Fight for Louisiana* on Friday Aug. 28, 7:00 pm, at the Howard County Recreation and Parks Headquarters, 7120 Oakland Mills Rd., Columbia.

On August 29, 2005, the world watched in horror as New Orleans and her citizens were threatened by the storm waters of Hurricane Katrina. In the wake of the storms of 2005 and 2008, it is now clear that New Orleans and coastal Louisiana will not be secure unless the wetlands of the Mississippi River Delta are restored. This year, to mark the 4th anniversary of Katrina, Gulf Restoration Network volunteers and other supporters of a sustainable New Orleans will be screening DVDs of this documentary about the crisis threatening our coast. *Paradise Faded: The Fight for Louisiana*, is directed by Louisiana native Jared Arsement, and serves to bolster awareness regarding the danger we face from our rapidly diminishing coastline.

Check our web page at <http://maryland.sierraclub.org/hc> for more information about this film from Gulf Restoration Network, an environmental advocacy organization focused on the health of the Gulf of Mexico, co-founded by the five Gulf Coast chapters of the Sierra Club.

On Thursday Oct. 1, 7:00 pm, at the Howard County Recreation and Parks Headquarters, 7120 Oakland Mills Rd., Columbia, local author Ned Tillman will be giving a presentation on the Chesapeake

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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



VOLUNTEER with US!

Sierra Club offers many different types of volunteer opportunities for anyone looking to become more involved in helping to protect the planet. By volunteering, you will be given the exciting opportunity to contribute to the betterment of our world and our future. So get active, meet new people, and have some fun!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Country _____

Home Phone (____) _____

Work Phone (____) _____

Fax (____) _____

Email _____

Please select the activities that interest you.

- ☐ Attend and/or Testify at a Hearing
- ☐ Door Hanger/Literature Delivery
- ☐ Fundraising
- ☐ Ground Truthing/Forest or Timber Sale Monitoring
- ☐ Host Club Leaders Visiting My Area
- ☐ Lead an Outdoor Activity or Inner City Outing
- ☐ Perform Legal Services
- ☐ Phone Calling
- ☐ Media Relations
- ☐ Signature Gathering
- ☐ Work at Club Booths at Fairs and Events
- ☐ Use My Vehicle to Transport People and Supplies
- ☐ Work in the Club office
- ☐ Work at a Mailing Party
- ☐ Trail Maintenance, Tree Planting or Other Outdoor Activity
- ☐ Volunteer Coordination
- ☐ Work on the Web Site
- ☐ Write Letters

Please list your top three conservation issues:

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

Please send form to:

Sierra Club, Maryland Chapter
7338 Baltimore Avenue, #101A
College Park, MD 20740

Group News Roundup

← continued

peake watershed, giving us a greater sense of the place where we are setting down our roots. Ned's new book, *The Chesapeake Watershed*, blends natural history and personal narrative with a "call to action" to help save the Bay and our planet from a range of human impacts, including global warming. The author takes us into the murky shallows of the Bay to chase crabs, onto the Eastern Shore to hunt quail, and into the Piedmont to paddle through whitewater. For more on *The Chesapeake Watershed—Our Own Backyard*, check our web page at <http://maryland.sierraclub.org/hc>.

Removal of two dams on the Patapsco River is being accelerated with the help of Federal stimulus funds. Dam removal restores the natural flow of rivers and allows unrestricted fish migration. Fish ladders were installed in the 1990s, but have proven rather ineffective for a variety of reasons, particularly as the impact of low pass-through percentages of fish is multiplied by the four dams on the Patapsco River. Union Dam was breached by a storm in 1990, but still is somewhat of a barrier to fish passage. Because it was already breached, and the silt that had built up behind it is long gone, this dam's removal is relatively straightforward and is scheduled to occur this fall. Removal of Simpkins Dam is undergoing final engineering planning. Initial studies suggest that the fill built up behind the dam does not contain serious levels of toxics and is relatively coarse material. Therefore, much of this material may be allowed to wash downstream, causing initial disruption, but the coarse material is expected to provide a long-term benefit to stream health and fish-spawning habitat.

Check the group's web site for a schedule of our many outings, including backpacking, and other events, or contact Ken Clark about getting a schedule of events through e-mail.

Montgomery County

Chair: David Hauck, 301-270-5826,
David.Hauck@maryland.sierraclub.org

By David Hauck—Want to work with Steve, Dave, and Ethan to make Montgomery County a more sustainable and environmentally-friendly place to live? I would love to hear from you—email me at Hauck_D@msn.com or call me at 301-270-5826.

The Montgomery County Sierra Club newsletter is available on the web. Go to maryland.sierraclub.org/Montgomery and click on "Newsletter" in the left hand column when our web page opens.

Prince George's County

Chair: Chip Reilly, 301-218-3920,
chip.reilly@mdsierra.org
Group's office: 301-277-0600 or 301-277-7111

By Chip Reilly and Alex Hirtle—The Prince George's Group of the Sierra Club had a successful County Green Picnic on June 7th at the Kentlands Park in Landover. Over 100 people attended, including co-sponsoring county council members Tom Dernoga, Eric Olson, Andrea Harrison, and Will Campos. We enjoyed grilled foods and potluck dishes, as the group leaders presented the 2009 Mike Maloney Environmental Service Award to Senator Paul Pinsky for his heroic efforts in getting the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act passed through the General Assembly and signed by the Governor.

Speaking of the Governor, several members joined the Governor on a hot humid morning in early August at the New Carrollton Metro Station to support his announcement of moving forward with the Purple Line, a light rail public transportation system that will run from Bethesda to New Carrollton and will pro-

mote transit-oriented development, as well as take vehicles off the already over-filled east-west corridors of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

On a lighter note, the group partnered with the Patuxent Riverkeepers and had a weekend of fun tubing, kayaking, and camping along the Potomac River at Little Orleans in Western Maryland. Over a dozen people attended, and a good time was had by all!

In an effort to collaborate more with young environmentalists, we have given support to Ishmael Buckner of Oxon Hill to attend the Student Sierra Coalition shindig.

ALERT: The Prince George's Group is holding its election for Executive Committee members. Ballots will arrive in your mailbox in September. Please be sure and vote for candidates of your choice. After the election, there will be an organizing meeting to set goals for 2010.

Southern Maryland (Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties)

Chair: Frank Fox, 301-884-8027,
ff725@yahoo.com

Political Action for Charles County is a new group formed by Sierra Club members and other county residents with the goal of providing the citizens of Charles County with viable political candidates. We have not been satisfied with many of the decisions of our elected officials. Because Charles County is the state's fastest growing area and is leading the tri-county area in inappropriate growth, our initial focus will be on the 2010 elections for county offices. We will address a wide variety of key issues: inappropriate development, school policies, sprawl growth, aquifers, water quality, waterways, forests and wetlands, and traffic. For more information about how to support and participate in this effort, contact Donna Cave at DonnaCave@aol.com or 301-932-7249.

continued →

Local News

Group News

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About 150 people attended the 16th Annual Potomac River Swim for the Environment on May 30. Swimmers, accompanied by escort kayakers, crossed the 7.5 miles of the Potomac River between Hull Neck, Virginia and Point Lookout State Park, Maryland. Pledges of more than \$12,000 were collected to help river restoration projects of Potomac River environmental groups, including the Southern Maryland Group of the Sierra Club, the Potomac River Association. A picnic provided an informal forum for discussion of local natural resource issues.

The group publishes a quarterly newsletter, *News from Southern Maryland*. Check the group's web site for a schedule of outings and other events. Monthly invasive plant removals are scheduled for the 800-acre Chapman Forest and 200-acre Ruth Swann Park in Charles County.

Western Maryland (Allegany and Garrett Counties)

Chair: Sam White, 301-264-4162, sam.white@maryland.sierraclub.org or cedarrocksa@yahoo.com

The Western Maryland Group hopes to combine a farm tour with a showing of the movie "Food, Inc.". Group activities are tied to volunteers; members willing to be more active should contact Group Chair Sam White at 410-303-3365.

The group publishes a newsletter, *Nature's Advocate of Western MD*.

The group has an email discussion group/Listserv for members to discuss conservation issues pertaining to Western Maryland. The Listserv, at MD-WMD-FORUM@lists.sierraclub.org, is also used to announce group meetings, outings, and other events. To join, go to the website and click the "Join the list" link. ■

Executive Committee Nominations

Make a Difference as a Member of the Chapter Excom!

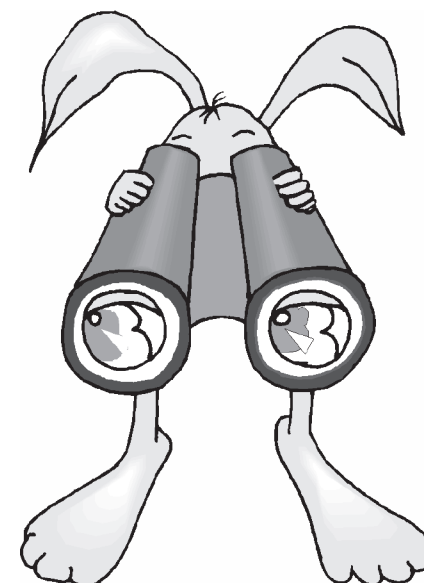
Nominations are due in chapter office by October 12.

Each year, the Maryland Chapter holds elections for "At Large" delegates to the chapter executive committee. This fall, the members of the chapter will elect three people to serve two-year terms on the committee. The chapter's nominating committee invites all interested members of the Maryland Chapter to enter the race for these positions. We are looking for at least six people who can bring management skills, a firm commitment to protecting the environment, and a willingness to invest their time and energy for the next two years to help manage the chapter. While experience on a group's executive committee would be helpful, it is not necessary. Your work and life experience, and your common sense, are equally important ingredients. If you would be willing to serve for a two-year term, please submit a brief biography, no longer than 400 words, which describes

your qualifications, your experience, and what you believe you can contribute. Send it to the nominating committee c/o Laurel Imlay, 7338 Baltimore Ave, College Park, MD 20740, by e-mail to laurel.imlay@sierraclub.org, or by fax at 301-277-6699. You may also send a letter to nominate another member in good standing.

Please respond by October 12, 2009. The nominating committee will review the qualifications described in the biographies, attempt to bring forward a slate of six candidates, and report the slate of candidates to the executive committee. The candidates' statements and a ballot will be published in the winter issue of *Chesapeake*.

For additional information and a sample biography, please contact Laurel Imlay at the above address, or call 301-277-7111. ■



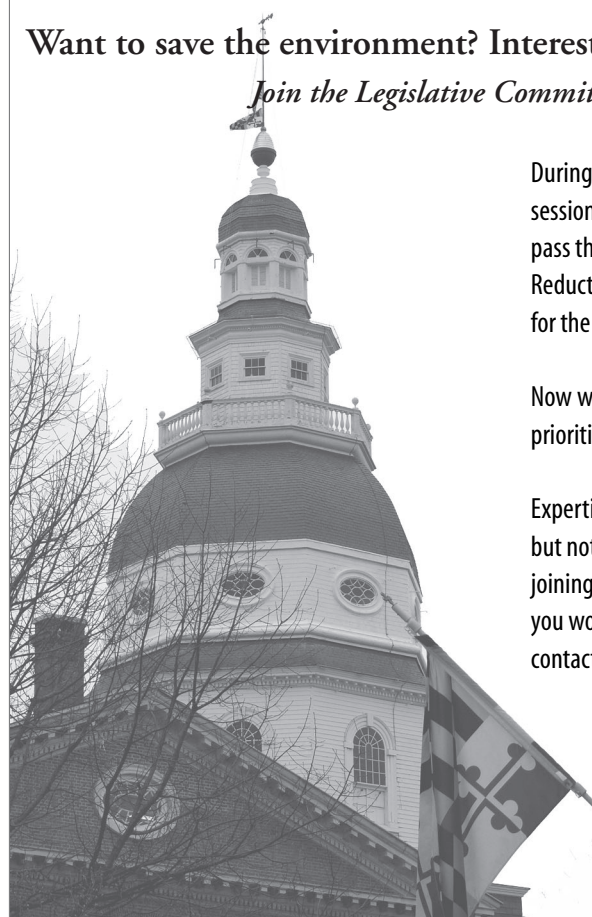
**We're looking for an
EDITOR**

If you are an experienced editor and a diplomatic wordsmith, with good organizational skills and a commitment to environmental advocacy, here's a volunteer opportunity that may be just what you're looking for: managing editor of this newsletter.

About four times a year, you'll lead our volunteer team of editors, and work with our chapter leaders and other members whose articles, essays, and notices fill our pages. You'll review and circulate articles that are submitted, develop story ideas, and assign the articles to our wonderful editors, who will work with the authors to get the articles ready for publication. Then you'll determine the content of each issue of the newsletter, and coordinate with the publication designer, who'll put the newsletter together for printing. You can do this work from home.

Interested? Have questions that might help you get interested? Email Darla at Darla2L@mdsierra.org. Thanks!

Want to save the environment? Interested in legislative issues? *Join the Legislative Committee today!*



During the 2009 Maryland legislative session, the committee was able to help pass the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act, which was a great success for the state of Maryland.

Now we must focus on legislative priorities for the 2010 General Assembly.

Expertise on particular issues is helpful, but not necessary. If you are interested in joining the Legislative Committee, or if you would like more information, please contact Alana Wase at 301-277-7111.

Maryland Chapter Leaders

Executive Committee

Ron Henry, Chapter Chair, At-Large Del. (2009)

443-474-7449

RonLHenry@msn.com

David O'Leary, Vice Chair, At-Large Del. (2008)

dave.oleary@mdsierra.org

Chris Yoder, At-Large Del. (2008)

410-466-2462

Chris.Yoder@mdsierra.org

Betsy Johnson, At-Large Del. (2008)

301-656-4948

betsy.johnson@maryland.sierraclub.org

Erin Barnes, At-Large Del. (2009)

202-236-0145

Legal.Chair@mdsierra.org

Baird Straughan, At-Large Del. (2009)

301-657-8121

baird@leadgreen.org

David Prosten, Anne Arundel Del.

dprosten@yahoo.com

Janet Schollenburger, Greater

Baltimore Del.

443-386-5054

Jscholle4@yahoo.com

Dan Andrews, Catocin Del.

410-857-4129

dooze@qis.net

Don Grace, Eastern Shore Del.

don.grace@mdsierra.org

Kathleen Sheedy, Howard Del.

410-505-4528

Kathleen.Sheedy@Maryland.Sierraclub.org

Charles Reilly, Prince George's Del.

301-218-3920

Chip.reilly@mdsierra.org

David Hauck, Montgomery Del.

301-270-5826

David.hauck@Maryland.sierraclub.org

Marc Imlay, Southern MD Del.

301-283-0808

marc.imlay@maryland.sierraclub.org

Sam White, Western MD Del.

301-264-4162

sam.white@Maryland.Sierraclub.org

Issues Contacts

David O'Leary

Conservation Chair

dave.oleary@mdsierra.org

Chris Yoder

Conservation Co-Chair,

410-466-2462

Chris.Yoder@mdsierra.org

Sam White, Agriculture, CAFO, True

Cost of Food (TCOF) Chair

301-264-4162,

sam.white@maryland.sierraclub.org

Charlie Garlow, Air Quality Chair

301-593-9823

charlie.garlow@juno.com

Marc Imlay, Biodiversity, ESA, Inva-

sive Species, and Habitat Stewardship

Chair

301-283-0808

marc.imlay@maryland.sierraclub.org

David O'Leary, Energy, Global

Warming, Cool Cities Chair

dave.oleary@mdsierra.org

Bonnie Bick, Environmental Justice

Chair, Mattawoman Campaign Chair

301-839-7403

bonnie.bick@maryland.sierraclub.org

Chris Yoder, National Wilderness/

Refuges/Mining Chair

410-466-2462

Chris.Yoder@mdsierra.org

Kim Birnbaum, Pesticides Chair

410-379-1075

Kim.Birnbaum@maryland.sierraclub.org

Cliff Terry, Population Chair

410-944-9477

cliff.terry@maryland.sierraclub.org

Sam B. Hopkins, Co-Population Chair

410-554-0006

sbh@hopkinsandassociates.com

Earl Bradley, Right Whale Chair

410-224-3236

Earl.Bradley@verizon.net

Mark Diehl, State Forests Chair

mad55@mindspring.com

301-724-6238

Fred Tutman, Stormwater Mgmt. Chair

301-249-8200 ext 7

fred@paxriverkeeper.org

Steve Caflisch, Transportation Chair

301-654-3288

steve.caflisch@maryland.sierraclub.org

Ed Merrifield, Water Quality Chair

202-222-0707

ed@potomacriverkeeper.org

Administrative Contacts

Betsy Johnson, Managing Editor,

Chesapeake

301-656-4948

newsletter.editor@mdsierra.org

Cliff Terry, Campaign Finance Reform

Chair,

410-944-9477

cliff.terry@maryland.sierraclub.org

Betsy Johnson, Fundraising Chair

301-656-4948

betsy.johnson@maryland.sierraclub.org

Erin Barnes, Legal Chair

202-236-0145

Legal.Chair@mdsierra.org

David O'Leary, Legislative Chair

dave.oleary@mdsierra.org

Ellen Pepin, Membership Chair

ellen.pepin@maryland.sierraclub.org

Jan Hoffmaster, Outings Committee

Chair

Outings@Maryland.Sierraclub.org

Mike Pretl, PAC Treasurer

mikepretl@aol.com

Betsy Johnson, Political Chair,

Fundraising Chair, Council Del.

301-656-4948

betsy.johnson@maryland.sierraclub.org

Charlie Garlow, Political Compliance

Officer,

charlie.garlow@juno.com

Clay Birkett and Steve Lonker, Post-

masters

postmaster@maryland.sierraclub.org

Baird Straughn, Trainings Chair

301-657-8121

baird@leadgreen.org

Lauren Burgess, Treasurer

Chapter.Treasurer@Maryland.Sierraclub.org

Rick Andrews, Webmaster

andrews4art@yahoo.com

Activity Sections Contacts

Kathy Harget, Baltimore Young

Sierrans

410-440-9896

youngsierrans@gmail.com

Bob Burchard & Nicole Veltre

BICO Chairs

baltimoreinnercityoutings@gmail.com

Chapter Staff

Laurel Imlay, Chapter Coordinator

laurel.imlay@sierraclub.org

301-277-7111

Alana Wase, Conservation Coordinator

Alana.Wase@sierraclub.org

301-277-7111

Office: 7338 Baltimore Avenue

#101A

College Park, MD 20740

Tel: 301-277-711, Fax: 301-277-6699

http://maryland.sierraclub.org

Membership

Stewardship

Leadership

Followership

Fellowship

Friendship

Citizenship

Volunteer with us.

And welcome aboard.



Stewardship Opportunities

Taking the “HI” Out of HIPPO

Ask biologist E. O. Wilson to name the principal threat to biodiversity, and he’s likely to answer in a word: HIPPO. But then he’ll explain that HIPPO is an acronym for an entire suite of threats: habitat loss, invasive species, population, pollution, and overconsumption.

Many natural areas in Maryland, which should be vibrant habitats for our native species, are being invaded by aggressive non-native plants. Lacking natural controls, these plants out-compete our native species, and thus deprive the in-

sect, bird, and other animal populations of the food and shelter that native plants would provide.

Some of these plants, such as garlic mustard, emit into the soil toxins that inhibit the growth of native plants. Others, such as honeysuckle vine and kudzu, overgrow trees, weighing them down and depriving them of light. Japanese



stiltgrass, which flourishes in bright sun or shade, dry or moist soil, creates a dense stand through which native plants cannot grow. The list of opportunistic invaders is extensive, and efforts to remove them from treasured natural areas are being made statewide.

Below is a list of natural areas that have ongoing programs in habitat resto-

ration through the removal of invasive non-native plants. The programs have several things in common: they’re fighting a familiar list of invasive plants; they’re looking for volunteers to participate in the work; and they’re eager to train “weed warriors” to identify and remove the invaders.

Want to help your favorite birds, butterflies, mammals or amphibians thrive in a natural area near you? Become a weed warrior volunteer! ■

Where to Find Habitat Restoration Projects in Natural Areas

Anne Arundel County

Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary

Contact: Lindsey 410-741-9330, rpholl27@aacounty.org
Directions: Call JBWS, 410-741-9330 or www.jugbay.org.

Baltimore City and Baltimore County

Contact: weeds@baltimorecity.gov
Urban Weed Warrior Coordinator
Baltimore City Recreation & Parks
2600 Madison Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21217
410-396-0359

Cromwell Valley Park

Contact: Bill Breakey
breakeys@comcast.net, or call 410-887-2503, Mon–Fri, 9-2.

Gunpowder Valley Conservancy

Contact: Peggy Perry, 410-668-0118, little-owl@msn.com.
www.gunpowderfalls.org

Herring Run Watershed Association

Contact: Darin Crew, 410-254-1577
Check website at volunteer@herringrun.org.

Irvine Nature Center

Contact: Karen Smith, 410-484-2413.
Check online calendar at www.explorenature.org.

Jones Falls Watershed Association

Contact: 410-366-3036,
www.jonesfalls.org or email
sgreene@jonesfalls.org.

Cylburn Arboretum

Contact: 410-396-0359 or email
weeds@baltimorecity.gov.

Baltimore and Howard Counties **Patapsco State Park, Avalon and Glen Artney Areas**

Contact: Betsy McMillion, Executive Director
Friends of Patapsco Valley & Heritage Greenway
6759 Athol Ave., Elkridge, MD 21075
patapscofriend@gmail.com
www.patapscoheritagegreenway.org

Calvert County

Hellen Creek Forest and Wildlife Preserve, Lusby, MD

Contact: Bob Boxwell, Executive Director, Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust, 11785 Clifton Drive, P.O. Box

336, Lusby, MD 20657, 410-394-1300, cpnht@comcast.net or bobboxwell@hotmail.com

Caroline County

Adkins Arboretum

Contact: Eleanor Altman, ealtman@adkinsarboretum.org, or check www.adkinsarboretum.org.

Charles County

Chapman Forest and Ruth Swann Park

Contact: Marc Imlay, 301-699-6204 or 301-283-0808. For map and information about the area and map, see www.chapmanforest.org and www.mattawomanwatershedsociety.org.

Garrett County

Savage River State Forest

Contact: Ron Boyer, 301-895-3686, or info@elkridgenatureworks.com

Harford County

Otter Point Creek

Contact: Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, 700 Otter Point Road, Abingdon, MD 21009
410-612-1688
www.otterpointcreek.org

Howard County

Middle Patuxent Environmental Area

Contact: Master Gardeners Aylene Gard at 410-992-9889, Carol Filipczak at cfilipczak@comcast.net, or Jeff Claffy, Assistant Natural Resources Manager, MPEA at 410-313-6209 or jclaffy@howardcountymd.gov

Howard / Anne Arundel / Prince George's Counties **Fort Meade**

Contact: Mick Butler, Installation Forester, at 301-677-9188.

Patuxent Research Refuge

Contact: 301-497-5763 or <http://patuxent.fws.gov>, or Christopher Wicker, Wildlife Biologist
USFWS, Patuxent Research Refuge, 12100 Beech Forest Road, Room 138, Laurel, MD 20708
E-mail: Christopher_Wicker@fws.gov

Riverfront Park, Laurel

Contact: Brigitte Fortin-Zaidan bfzaidan@Safe-mail.net or 240-506-8976

continued ➞

Stewardship Opportunities

← continued

Kent County

Eastern Neck Wildlife Refuge

Contact: 410-639-2108, or website at www.fws.gov/northeast/easternneck/volunteers.htm

Montgomery County

Brookside Gardens

Contact: Stacy Parsons 301-962-1417 or stacy.parsons@mncppc-mc.org. Websites: www.BrooksideGardens.org and/or www.MC-MNCPPC.org/environment/weed_warriors/intro.shtm

Montgomery County Parks

Contact: www.weedwarrior.org, or call Paul Carlson at 301-942-4709 or Lynette Scaffidi at 301-949-0223 (Special Projects).

The Potomac Gorge

Contact: Mary Travaglini, 301-897-8570 x210 or e-mail PotomacGorgeVol@tnc.org

Sligo Creek

Contact: www.fosc.org/RIPEventSched.htm

Woodend Nature Sanctuary, Chevy Chase

Contact: Liz Jones, Volunteer Coordinator at 301-652-9188 x30 or volunteer@audubonnaturalist.org Audubon Naturalist Society 8940 Jones Mill Road Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Northwest Branch of the Anacostia

Contact: Jane Osburn, 301-754-1564, or jgosburn@earthlink.net.

Prince George's County

Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center, Accokeek, MD

Contact: Karen Jensen Miles, Program Director, 301-292-5665 or e-mail at kmiles@fergusonfoundation.org

Belt Woods, Bowie

Contact: pamelakcooper@verizon.net or call (301) 390-0797

Lower Beaverdam Creek

Contact: Dan or Cathy Smith, 301-386-4394 or Elaine Friebele, 301-341-5722

Suitland Bog

Contact M-NCPPC Park Ranger Office, 301-627-7755

Indian Creek Trail at Lake Artemesia, Berwyn Heights

Contact: M-NCPPC Park Ranger Chris Garrett or John Dillon M-NCPPC Park Ranger Office 301-627-7755

Watkins Regional Park

Contact: M-NCPPC John Dillon or Chris Garrett, M-NCPPC Park Ranger Office; 301-627-7755

Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Housing Cooperative, Greenbelt

Contact: 301-474-4161 for information on GHI Woodlands Committee activities

Greenbelt National Park, Greenbelt

Contact: Tom Crone, 301-864-1959 or tomnjan@erols.com, or visit www.nps.gov/gree or call 301-344-3944 for information or directions.

Magruder Park, Hyattsville

Contact: Colleen Aistis, 301 779-0245, e-mail caistis@hyattsville.org

St. Mary's County

Hellen Creek Preserve (also in Calvert County)

Contact: Bob Boxwell, Executive Director, Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust, 11785 Clifton Drive, P.O. Box 336, Lusby, MD 20657, 410-394-1300, or bobboxwell@hotmail.com

Myrtle Point Park

Contact: Bob Boxwell, Executive Director, Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust, P.O. Box 336, Lusby, MD 20657, 410-394-1300, or bobboxwell@hotmail.com ■

For information about invasive plants and habitat restoration, visit the website of the Maryland Native Plant Society, www.mdflora.org, or <http://Maryland.sierraclub.org/action/p0196.asp>

Calling All Lawyers!



Interested in putting your legal knowledge to work for the Sierra Club? **The Legal Committee needs you.**

There are a number of ways you can help, including performing legal research, vetting potential cases, and developing pro-active legal plans. If you're interested, please contact Erin Barnes at legal.chair@mdsierra.org.



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SIERRA CLUB

We send out an appeal in March to each of our members, asking for contributions directly to our Chapter. These contributions really do make a difference to us, and are an important part of our Chapter's budget.

When you make a donation to the Chapter, you support the Sierra Club's work in your own backyard. You allow us to continue our work to protect wilderness and wildlife, to improve the quality of life in our cities, and to promote the enjoyment of nature.

Please be as generous as you are able - and remember, these funds directly affect your way of life in your neighborhood.

Make your contribution to Maryland Chapter, Sierra Club
7338 Baltimore Ave., #1A
College Park, MD 20740

Thanks so much!

From a Distance

This is my last outings calendar for the *Chesapeake* newsletter. I have taken a new job in West Virginia, so I have resigned as the outings chair for the Maryland Chapter. I plan to lay low for awhile, to get established in the new position and new location. We've bought a small farm in Preston County, and Susan already has two goats and a horse keeping us busy. The West Virginia Chapter has an active outings program, and a relatively fresh outings chair, Nate Parr, who is doing a fine job.

My best wishes go to Jan Hoffmaster, the new Outings

Chair for the Maryland Chapter. I know that he will welcome the interest and participation of any members who would enjoy sharing their love of the outdoors with other Sierrans by planning and leading outings to their favorite places. Join Jan on the outings committee; you'll be glad you did! You can e-mail him at outings@maryland.sierraclub.org.

My new position is with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) at the National Energy Technology Laboratory in Morgantown. I will be working on natural gas resource assessments, particularly the enormous potential supply from the Marcellus Shale in the Appalachian Basin. I'll also be involved with secondary oil recovery, deep drilling technology, and geological sequestration of carbon dioxide. These are all interesting, national topics, which I think are critically important to the energy future of this country.

Some people in the Sierra Club might question my "environmental credentials" for leaving a water resource position with the U.S. Geological Survey to take a DOE job working on fossil energy. Well, besides the fact that it offered a raise, a promotion, and relocation reimbursement, I have an answer for that.

Outings Chair Dan Soeder Says Goodbye to Maryland, Hello to West Virginia

I believe that working from the inside is more effective than being an outsider. Someone coming at an issue from the outside can't possibly know all the history, the players, and what is driving the issue politically, socially and economically. Insiders have that information, and are in a better position to move an issue in a different direction. Also, outsiders are often starkly negative in opposition to something, without being able to offer an attractive, economical, environmentally-sound alternative. Just telling people "no" usually inspires only defiance, adversity, and resistance.

It is my hope that this new job will give me an opportunity to make a difference. What if we really do find the 350+ trillion cubic feet of recoverable natural gas predicted for the Marcellus Shale? How much coal burning could that offset? And how much less CO₂ might be emitted from hydrogen-rich natural gas firing a power plant instead of carbon-rich coal? If a huge increase in domestic gas supply lowers the fuel costs for CNG (compressed natural gas) vehicles, how much gasoline, made from imported oil, could be replaced? Did you know that all a standard gasoline engine needs to run on CNG is a little reprogramming of the ignition timing? They've been using it in western Canada for decades. How much cleaner could the air in our cities be if vehicles ran on CNG? I think applications of existing technology under favorable economic circumstances can help immensely with reducing greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, and do so quickly.

So with my environmental street cred intact, I wish you happy trails. See you outside, somewhere, sometime. ■

Daniel J. Soeder is the former outings chair for the Maryland Chapter.

Abbreviations Used

Most outings in the Maryland Chapter are run at the group level, with a few chapter and inter-chapter events.

The group originating the outing is identified in parentheses by the leader's name. These and other abbreviations used are listed below:

- AA: Anne Arundel Group
- AMC: Appalachian Mountain Club
- AT: Appalachian Trail
- BLM: Bureau of Land Mgmt.
- CCA: Canoe Cruisers Association (Washington, D.C.)
- CG: Catoctin Group
- C&O: Chesapeake and Ohio Canal
- FFA: Family Friendly Activity (kids/dogs ok, but check with leader)
- FWS: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Svc.
- GB: Greater Baltimore Group
- GWNF: George Washington National Forest
- HC: Howard County Group
- JNF: Jefferson National Forest
- MNF: Monongahela National Forest
- MC: Montgomery County Group
- NPS: National Park Service
- NRA: National Recreation Area
- NWR: National Wildlife Refuge
- PFD: Personal Flotation Device (lifejacket)
- PRO: Sierra Club Potomac Region Outings (formerly MWROP)
- SF: State Forest
- SM: Southern Maryland Group
- SP: State Park
- SNP: Shenandoah National Park

Sierra Club Outings Policy

Sierra Club outings are open to everyone, members and non-members alike. Each outing is intended to be a wholesome, safe, and enjoyable experience in the outdoors. Participants must have proper clothing, equipment, and stamina suitable to the event, and are encouraged to select activities that match their individual abilities for outdoor adventures. The club offers a variety of outings from "easy" to "strenuous" that suit all activity levels. The difficulty of each outing is clearly designated in the announcement. Reservations are generally not required for a local outing unless noted, but the outing leader should be contacted in advance for questions about the terrain, the difficulty or duration of the trip, recommended clothing, footwear and equipment. Activities are normally held "rain or shine," but may be postponed at the leader's discretion for safety reasons in the event of inclement weather.

Potential participants are reminded that all outdoor activities carry a degree of risk, and some take place in locations where professional emergency medical aid may be two or more hours away. People with health concerns should consult a physician to determine the advisability of participating in these or similar activities. The club outing leader is responsible for the safety of all participants, and has the final authority to decide whether or not an individual may participate on a specific outing. Sierra Club safety policy requires that helmets be worn on bicycling outings, and that personal flotation devices (PFDs) be worn on outings using personal watercraft such as kayaks or canoes.

Unless noted in the announcement, club outings are intended for adults. Children and dogs are not normally permitted, unless an outing is so designated.

continued ➞

Outings (September)

↩ continued

Even on outings that are designated as child/dog friendly, please contact the leader in advance before bringing minors or pets. Minors (under 18 years of age) must be accompanied by a parent or a legal guardian, or they must have both 1) a signed permission slip, and 2) the leader's prior consent to participate in the club outing. Dogs must be non-aggressive, well-behaved, and on a leash. Sierra Club outings officially begin and end at the trailhead, paddlecraft put-in/take-out point, or some other similar designated locality near the activity. Travel to the official starting point and back, even from an advertised meeting place, is the sole responsibility of each participant. While the club encourages car-pooling, such arrangements are strictly between the riders and the drivers, and are not a part of the outing. Participants assume full responsibility and liability for all risks associated with such travel.

All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver, which can be viewed on the web at <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/index.asp>. Sierra Club local outings are free of charge, although payment of park entrance fees, a share of campsite rental costs, permit fees, equipment rental charges, etc. may be required from the participants. Such costs are specified in the announcement whenever possible. The Sierra Club practices "leave-no-trace" trail techniques, including hiking and camping on durable surfaces, minimizing campfire impacts, packing out all trash, respecting wildlife, being considerate of other visitors, and leaving the environment as it was found. Take only pictures, leave only footprints, and have fun out there.

The Sierra Club's California Seller of Travel identification number is CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California. ■

SEPTEMBER 2009

Saturday-Sunday, Sep 5-6: Neighbor Mt./Knob Mt. Backpack, VA (*rated strenuous*) 18 mile trek with an overnight stop along Jeremy's Run. Total distance will depend on how far up the Run it takes to find a campsite. Option to return along the Run instead of Knob Mt.; group decides. Beautiful views from Neighbor Mountain, and Jeremy's Run is always lovely. **Leader:** Betty Steil (HC) 443-745-3041, blsteil@verizon.net.

Saturday-Monday, Sep 5-7: AT Shuttle Backpack, The Triple Crown of VA (*rated strenuous*) This trek experiences over 3700 ft of elevation gain in 25 miles. Daily mileage 13/8/4, but this might change if we find other official campsites between the shelters. Fantastic views at the Dragons Tooth, McAfee Knob and Tinker Cliffs with more in between. Pre-registration with leader is required. **Leader:** Mike Juskelis (HC) 410-439-4964, mjuskelis@cablespeed.com.



Saturday, Sep 5: Big Schloss and Little Schloss. Great North Mountain Circuit Hike (*rated strenuous*). Schloss means castle in German, referenced here to the large, castle-like rock outcroppings that bear the name. 17 mile hike with 3,000 ft elevation gain features scenic overlooks of West Virginia mountains. Meet at Oakton Shopping Center in

Vienna, Virginia on Route 123 near I-66 at 7:30 AM. Pre-registration with leader is required. **Leader:** William Needham (MC) 410-884-9127; Needham82@aol.com.

Saturday, Sep 12: FFA Stony Run Trail Hike (*rated moderate*) Older children and dogs are welcome on this hike along 5½ miles of the Stony Run stream through Baltimore neighborhoods including Hampton and Roland Park and through Wyman Park. The trail is well-maintained, mostly flat and shaded, with scenery ranging from jungle to manicured parks. Go underneath several bridges decorated with graffiti. Learn about and see first-hand the extensive stream restoration by Baltimore City (which may still be in process) and the planting of native trees by the Jones Falls Watershed Association and other volunteers. Children under 18 must be able to hike this distance and be accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult. Dogs must be leashed and friendly. Optional lunch afterwards. Meet at 10 AM on Wyman Park Drive beside the former Stieff Silver headquarters. Contact leader for details/directions. **Leader:** Mary Corddry (GB) 410-239-4590 (home), 443-386-0862 (cell); XxDiTz4LyFxX@aol.com.

Saturday, Sep 12: Blackwater NWR Canoe Trip (*rated moderate*) See eagles and other shore birds at Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge on the Eastern Shore. All paddlers must wear personal flotation devices while on the water. Pre-registration with leader is required. **Leader:** Liz Vanden Heuvel (AA) 410-267-9009; liz2vh@olg.com

Saturday Sep 12: Scotts Run, Dead Run, Turkey Run, VA. Moderate 9-10 mile hike exploring where three tributaries drop to the Potomac River. The trail is rocky in places and several stream crossings are involved. Bring lunch and water. Depart at 8:00 from the west lot of the park & ride on Broken Land Parkway at Rt. 32. Call Ken Clark, 301-725-3306, kenclark7@comcast.net.

Wednesday, Sep 16: Potluck Dinner and Talk (*not rated*) Ever wonder what kind of rock that is? Well, come to Oregon Ridge Nature Center and find out. We have a naturalist from the Maryland Geological Survey to do a talk, with slides, on geology. Prior to the talk will be a potluck and social hour. Bring a sweet or savory dish to share along with serving utensils. We provide coffee and tea. The potluck and social hour starts at 6:30 pm with the talk commencing around 7:30 pm. So turn off the TV, PC, VCR, DVD, TiVo, iPod, MP3, Xbox, Wii, Bluetooth, Blackberry and anything else with a battery or wire and meet at Oregon Ridge Nature Center, 13555 Beaver Dam Road, from 6:30 to 9 PM. Meet new people, try different foods and maybe even learn something. The Nature Center can be reached from the Shawan Road West exit (#20B) from I83. Take Shawan Road to the traffic light at Beaver Dam, make a left, then follow the right fork in the road to the parking lot. **Leader:** Joyce Fletcher (GB), 410 254 7240.

Friday, Sep 18: Happy Hour and Social (*not rated*) Members and non-members are invited to meet 6 – 8 PM for socialization, happy hour, and dinner at a location to be determined. **Leader:** Paul Schoen (GB) 410-667-4889, paul@peschoen.com.

continued ➞

Outings (September, October)

← continued

Saturday, Sep 19: International Coastal Cleanup (*not rated*) Service outing. A new location for this annual event, as we concentrate on cleaning local waterways which feed into the Chesapeake Bay. We will meet at 9 AM on Castleford Road in Jessup. Plan to work until noon. Bring work gloves, water and lunch if you want to sit in the lawn area and eat afterwards. **Leader:** Sue Muller (HC) 301-498-8462, sonicsue@verizon.net.

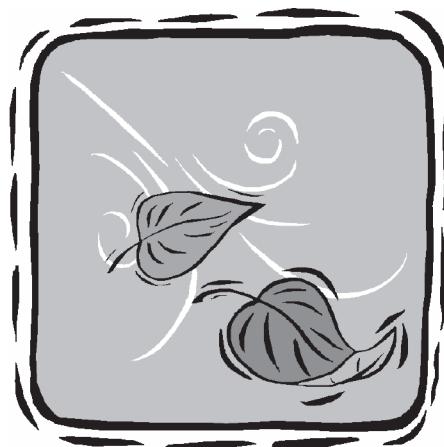
Saturday-Tuesday, Sep. 19-22: Camping at World's End State Park, PA (*dayhikes rated moderate to strenuous*) Dayhikes will include one that is 8 miles in length, and the other will be 10-12 miles in length. Views and beautiful streams featured. Pre-registration with leader is required. **Leader:** Mike Juskelis (HC) 410-439-4964, mjuskelis@cablespeed.com.

Sunday, Sep 20: FFA Woofstock Festival in Harrisburg (*rated easy*) 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. "Paws" for a day with your dog (or enjoy other peoples' pets) at Riverfront Park in Harrisburg by the scenic Susquehanna River. There will be lots of tie-dyed clothing, groovy music, food, and Victoria Stilwell as featured guest (from "It's Me or the Dog" and "Great American Dog"). Free admission. Check the website at: <http://www.cpaawoofstock.com/>. We will carpool from the Towson area at 10:00 AM. **Leader:** Paul Schoen (GB) 410-667-4889, paul@peschoen.com.

Sunday Sep 20: Blockhouse Point, MD. Moderate 8 mile hike, starting flat at Pennyfield Lock on the historic C&O canal, then over hilly terrain leading to a great view of the Potomac River from the cliffs over the canal. Bring lunch and water. Depart at 9:00 from the west lot of the park & ride on

Broken Land Parkway at Rt. 32. Call Ken Clark, 301-725-3306, kenclark7@comcast.net.

Saturday Sep 26: McKeldin area, Patapsco State Park. Moderate 4 mile hike along the Patapsco River, past McKeldin Falls. Optional restaurant lunch after the hike. Meet at the Bagel Bin off Rt. 40 in the Enchanted Forest Shopping Center, for a 9:00 departure. Call James Perschy, 410-964-1902, jameshike@verizon.net.



Sat.-Sun. Sept. 26 - 27. Backpack Shenandoah National Park.

Unrated. Explore the scenic southern section of Shenandoah N.P. on a weekend backpack through the park's largest wilderness area. Get away from the crowds, as we trek through the Big Run watershed and across Rockytop Mountain with its spectacular views of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Total distance: 16 miles over two days. Meet at the Vienna Metro (north lot) off of I 66 and Nutley St. in Vienna, Va. at 8:AM. **Leader:** Glenn Gillis 703/430-0568, glennpotomacfalls@yahoo.com.

OCTOBER 2009

Thursday, Oct 1: Greater Baltimore Outings Planning Meeting (*not rated*). New and prospective outings leaders are welcome to attend the quarterly meeting of the Greater Baltimore Group's Outings Committee. Come plan new outings and meet other outings leaders. If you're interested in leading outings and are curious about what is involved, come and talk with the outings leaders. The meeting will be held at the Panera Bread restaurant in Timonium, beginning with dinner and socialization at 6:30 PM in a quiet corner and the meeting to follow at 7:00. From I-83 north, take exit 16 Timonium Rd. east, turn left on York Rd., and turn right at the next light for the Timonium Center across from the State Fairgrounds. **Leader:** Bette Thompson (GB) 410-666-2696.

Friday-Sunday, Oct 2-4: FFA Sierra Club Maryland Chapter Jamboree, Camp Barrett (*not rated*) Join other Sierrans at Elks Camp Barrett near Crownsville in Anne Arundel County for a weekend of workshops, activist training, campfires, hiking, discussions, debates, good food and fellowship. **Contact:** Alana Wase or Laurel Imlay at the Chapter office.

Saturday, Oct. 3: Brown Mountain and Rockytop Trails in Southern SNP (*rated strenuous*). The hike will proceed over Brown Mountain down to Big Run and then up Rockytop to Skyline Drive. Return to complete the circuit on the AT for 17 miles with a total elevation gain of 3500 feet. Meet at Oakton Shopping Center off route 66 on route 123 just outside Vienna, Virginia at 7:30 AM. Alternative meeting place in Howard County possible (contact leader). Moderate pace with stops for flora and fungi of

interest. Pre-registration with leader is required. **Leader:** William Needham (MC) 410-884-9127; Needham82@aol.com.

Sunday, Oct 4: FFA Invasive Vine Removal on Prettyboy Fireroad (*rated easy*) Service outing. Give 2 hours of your time to help cut invasive vines choking trees in the Prettyboy watershed. Some tools are available, or bring your own. Wear long pants and long sleeves. Older children are welcome. Meet at 9:30 AM at the Mt. Carmel Rd. Park and Ride just west off I-83 north of the Baltimore Beltway and past the Shawan Rd. exit. **Leader:** Mary Corddry (GB) 410-239-4590 (home), 443-386-0862 (cell); XxDiTz4LyFxx@aol.com.

Sunday, Oct 4: FFA Prettyboy Trail Hike (*rated moderate*) Older children and dogs are welcome to join this 7-mile hike along the shoreline and through forests around Prettyboy Reservoir on the old Prettyboy Trail. This will be a shuttle between George's Creek and the Tracey Store Rd. parking for the CCC trails. The trail is maintained by the GB Sierra Club in collaboration with the Prettyboy Watershed Alliance and the Mountain Club of Maryland. Learn about the wildlife and enjoy the pristine water along this isolated trail. The trail is cleared to varying degrees and has some hills and stream crossings. Children under 18 must be able to hike this distance and be accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult. Dogs must be friendly. Meet at 1:00 PM at the Mt. Carmel Rd. Park and Ride just west off I-83 north of the Baltimore Beltway and past the Shawan Rd. exit. **Leader:** Mary Corddry (GB) 410-239-4590 (home), 443-386-0862 (cell); XxDiTz4LyFxx@aol.com.

continued →

Outings (October, November)

← continued

Saturday Oct 10: Furnace Mountain and Jones Run Trails in Southern SNP (*rated strenuous*) Circuit hike of 16 miles with a 3,500 ft elevation gain, featuring three waterfalls and possibly some good chanterelle mushrooms. Return on Madison Run Fire Road. Meet at Oakton Shopping Center in Vienna, Virginia on Route 123 near I-66 at 7:30 AM. Pre-registration with leader is required. **Leader:** William Needham (MC) 410-884-9127; Needham82@aol.com.

Saturday Oct 10: Sugarloaf Mountain, MD. Moderate 8 mile hike featuring rocky outcrops with sweeping views. Bring lunch and water. Meet at the Bagel Bin off Rt. 40 in the Enchanted Forest Shopping Center, for a 9:00 departure. Call James Perschy, 410-964-1902, jameshike@verizon.net.

Saturday-Monday Oct 10-12: Chuck Keiper Trail Backpack, PA (*rated strenuous*) 30 mile hike features steep ascents and descents. Daily mileage 10/10/10 depending on campsite and water availability. Pre-registration with leader is required. **Leader:** Mike Juskelis (HC) 410-439-4964, mjuskelis@cablespeed.com.

Sat.-Mon. Oct. 10-12. Columbus Day Weekend Backpack. Unrated. Enjoy Columbus Day weekend with a backpack through Assateague Island National Seashore on Virginia's Eastern Shore. On Saturday we will explore Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge with its famous lighthouse, wetlands, and herd of wild ponies. The final two days will take us on a 12 mile backpack along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline. Enjoy a rare pristine wilderness beach, with spectacular views of the Atlantic and coastal marshland with abundant

wildlife. For reservations contact Glenn Gillis at 703/430-0568, glennpotomacfalls@yahoo.com.

Saturday October 17: Cove Point Heritage Trust (*rated easy*) Join Sierra Club members and leaders of the Maryland Conservation Council on a tour of the Cove Point Heritage Trust and other nearby natural areas in southern Calvert County. We will learn about the interesting and beautiful flora and fauna of this area, including endangered species in the marsh at Cove Point. Prior registration is required to participate in the Cove Point marsh tour. Visits to the Cove Point and Hellen Creek natural areas are free. Members of the group might also visit nearby Calvert Cliffs State Park (entrance fee) for additional hiking. Please contact the chapter office at 301-277-7111 to indicate interest, get detailed directions and a schedule, and arrange for carpools. More information on the Cove Point Heritage Trust can be found at <http://www.covepoint-trust.org/>


Saturday Oct 17: Great Falls Billy Goat Trail, MD. Moderate 8-9 mile hike on trails near the Potomac River, with short rock scrambles on the Billy Goat Trail. Enjoy dramatic scenery and observe wildlife. Bring lunch and water. Depart at 8:30 from the west lot of the park & ride on Broken Land Parkway at Rt. 32. Call Ken Clark, 301-725-3306, kenclark7@comcast.net.

Saturday Oct. 24: Catoctin Mountain Park, MD. Moderate 9 mile hike, visiting Cunningham Falls, Wolf Rock and Chimney Rock. Bring lunch and water. Meet at the Bagel Bin off Rt. 40 in the Enchanted Forest Shopping Center, for an 8:30 departure. Call James Perschy, 410-964-1902, jameshike@verizon.net.

Saturday-Tuesday: Oct 24-27: Camping at Douthat State Park, VA (*dayhikes rated moderate to strenuous*) Camp in the oldest park in the Old Dominion. Dayhikes range from 7 to 10 miles. Lots of views. Pre-registration with leader is required. **Leader:** Mike Juskelis (HC) 410-439-4964, mjuskelis@cablespeed.com.

Saturday & Sunday: Oct 31 & Nov 1: Car Camping at Caledonia State Park in PA (*dayhikes rated moderate*) Camping and day hiking exploring lakes and streams in the Michaux State Forest in southern Pennsylvania. We will hike parts of the Appalachian Trail with some good views. **Leader:** Jack Wise (GB) 410-256-3963.

Saturday Oct. 31: Little Devils Stairs, VA. Strenuous 8 mile hike in Shenandoah NP, rough and steep at times, with numerous stream crossings. Look for walking stick bugs and other wildlife. Bring lunch and water. Depart at 7:30 from the west lot of the park & ride on Broken Land Parkway at Rt. 32. Call Ken Clark, 301-725-3306, kenclark7@comcast.net.



Save the date!

Maryland Chapter
JAMBOREE

October 2-4

**Camp Barrett,
Crownsville, MD**

See page 27 for details.

NOVEMBER 2009

Sunday Nov 1: Potomac Conservancy Fall Photography on the Canal (*non-Sierra Club event*) Join photographer Joanne Miller for some one-on-one pointers as you capture the sights along the C&O Canal. Bring your favorite camera and a good eye. Begins 8 AM in River Center at Lockhouse 8, C&O Canal National Historical Park, 7906 Riverside Ave., Cabin John, MD 20818. Contact: Bridget Chapin, Potomac Conservancy, 301.608.1188, ext. 211, chapin@potomac.org

Sunday Nov 8: Kelly Run & Pinnacle Overlook (*rated moderate*) Hike 8 miles exploring gorges with great overlook of the Susquehanna River. This hike also has a good chance of seeing migrating waterfowl and bald eagles. Meet at 11:00 AM at the K-Mart on Rt. 1 (Bel Air Rd.) just north of the Baltimore Beltway Exit 32. **Leader:** Jack Wise (GB) 410-256-3963.

Saturday Nov. 7: Seneca Creek Greenway - Black Rock Mill, MD. Easy 7.5 miles, out-and-back from Black Rock Mill to Riffle Ford Road. Enjoy this beautiful and quiet section of Seneca Creek Greenway. Lots of birds and evidence of other wildlife. Move from forest area to open streams. May be muddy along stream. Depart at 8:30 from the park & ride at the Clarksville Fire Department on Rt. 108 at Rt. 32. Contact Betty Steil, 443-745-3041, blsteil@verizon.net.

Sunday Nov. 8: Old Rag Mountain, VA. Strenuous 9 mile hike featuring boulders, some scrambling, and great views. Bring lunch, water. Depart at 7:00 (to avoid the worst of the crowds) from the west lot of the park & ride on

continued →

Outings (November, December)

↩ continued

Broken Land Parkway at Rt. 32. Call Ken Clark, 301-725-3306, kenclark7@comcast.net.

Saturday Nov 14: FFA Invasive Vine Removal on Glen Ellen Trail (*rated easy*) Service outing. Give 2 hours of your time to help cut invasive vines choking trees along fireroads and trails in the Loch Raven watershed. Some tools are available, or bring your own. Wear long pants and long sleeves. Older children are welcome. Meet at 10:00 AM where you can park on Seminary Ave. just past the light to the left off Dulaney Valley Rd., north of the Baltimore Beltway. Leader: Mary Corddry (GB) 410-239-4590 (home), 443-386-0862 (cell); XxDiTz4LyFxX@aol.com.

Saturday Nov 14: FFA Glen Ellen – Seminary Trail Hike (*rated moderate*) Dogs and older children are welcome on this 6-mile hike around coves bordering Loch Raven Reservoir, along streams, and through woodlands, walking along relatively flat paths and a fire road. Learn about this diverse habitat, including how invasive vines create meadows by snapping off trees. Children under 18 must be able to hike this distance and be accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult. Dogs must be friendly. Meet at 1:00 PM where you can park on Seminary Ave. just past the light to the left off Dulaney Valley Rd., north of the Baltimore Beltway. Leader: Mary Corddry (GB) 410-239-4590 (home), 443-386-0862 (cell); XxDiTz4LyFxX@aol.com.

Saturday Nov 14: Kennedy Peak and Duncan Knob (*rated strenuous*). Massanutten Mountain Circuit Hike, includes panoramic view of Shenandoah Valley and western slopes of Blue Ridge. 16 mi., 3,000 feet

elevation gain. Meet at Oakton Shopping Center off route 66 on route 123 just outside Vienna, Virginia at 7:30am. Pre-registration with leader is required. Leader: William Needham (MC) 410-884-9127; Needham82@aol.com.

Saturday Nov. 14, Liberty Reservoir – Piney Point, MD. Easy 6.3 miles through hardwood and pine forests but with several stream crossings. Bring lunch and water. Depart at 8:00 from the Park & Ride just north of I-70 on Rt. 32. Contact Mike Juskelis, 410-439-4964, mjuskelis@cablespeed.com.

Sunday Nov. 15: Patapsco – Rockburn Branch, MD. Moderate 7-8 mile hike with several stream crossings, following the Patapsco River on the Valley View Trail. Bring lunch and water. Meet at 10:00 in Rockburn Branch Park, the entrance off Landing Road one mile north of Montgomery Road; park in the lot at the end of the road under the power lines. Call James Perschy, 410-964-1902, jameshike@verizon.net.



Saturday Nov. 21: Gunpowder – Sweet Air Area, MD. Easy 7-mile loop through pines, hardwoods, around a pond and along pretty Little Gunpowder River. Depart at 8:00 from the west lot of the park & ride on Broken Land Parkway at Rt. 32. Contact Mike Juskelis, 410-439-4964, mjuskelis@cablespeed.com.

Sunday Nov. 22: Savage Park, Wincopin Trail. Moderate 7 mile hike along the Middle and Little Patuxent Rivers, easy except for a few hills and rocky parts. Bring lunch and water. Meet at 9:30 at Patuxent Valley Middle School, off Vollmerhausen Road just west of Savage Guilford Rd. Call Ken Clark, 301-725-3306, kenclark7@comcast.net.

Friday Nov. 27: Gunpowder – Sweathouse Branch / Pot Rocks, MD. Moderate 5 or 10 mile hike, do all or half. Some stream crossings. Visit the Sweathouse Branch Wildlands, Saw Mill Run and Pot Rocks. Depart at 8:00 from the west lot of the park & ride on Broken Land Parkway at Rt. 32. Contact Mike Juskelis, 410-439-4964, mjuskelis@cablespeed.com.

Saturday, Nov 28: FFA Full Moon Hayride and Farm Tour (*not rated*) Tractor-pulled hayride starts at 7:30 PM at Yoder's Land of Promise Farm in Long Green. We will hope to see the full moon. After the hayride we will have refreshments of cocoa, spiced cider, hot dogs, and marshmallows around a bonfire, with guitar music and sing-along. Extra instruments invited! Activity will end about 10:00 PM. Cost will be \$10.00 per person. We will meet at 7:00 PM at the church parking lot on Seminary Ave at Dulaney Valley Road 1/2 mile north of I-695. If less than 8 people sign up, we will just meet as scheduled and go to dinner nearby. Children OK with prior approval. Leader: Paul Schoen (GB) 410-667-4889, paul@peschoen.com.

DECEMBER 2009

Friday, Dec 4 to Sunday, Dec 6: Camping and Historical outing in Harpers Ferry, WV (*rated easy*) We will leave the Baltimore area about 4:00

Create an Environmental Legacy

Planning now may make your gift more meaningful and reduce taxes on your estate. We have many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter. For more information and confidential assistance, contact:

John Calaway
Director, Gift Planning
85 Second Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
415-977-5639 or e-mail
planned.giving@sierraclub.org



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

PM Friday evening and stay in a Kabin at the Harpers Ferry KOA <http://www.koa.com/where/wv/48107/> Friday and Saturday. Carpooling is encouraged, and alternate arrangements may be made among participants. We will discuss the history of Harpers Ferry and the Civil War Battle of Antietam. Saturday morning is a good opportunity to visit the nearby outlet stores, including LL Bean and Timberland. Saturday evening we will take a short drive to Antietam to experience the annual illumination www.nps.gov/anti/planyourvisit/luminary.htm. Sunday we will take a 3-5 mile easy hike on part of the Appalachian Trail and the C&O canal, and visit historical sites in Harpers Ferry. Pre-registration with

continued ➞

Outings (December, BICO)

← continued

leader is required (preferably two weeks ahead). Children and pets OK with prior approval. **Leader:** Paul Schoen (GB) 410-667-4889, paul@peschoen.com.

Saturday Dec 5: Soldiers Delight, MD. Easy 5 mile circuit hike on meandering trails. An interesting geological area varies from one side of Deer Park Road to the other. See Serpentine Rock and evidence of old mining activity. Depart at 9:00 from the park & ride at the Clarksville Fire Department on Rt. 108 at Rt. 32. Contact Betty Steil, 443-745-3041, blsteil@verizon.net.

Sunday Dec 6: Gunpowder River Hike (*rated moderate*). Hike 8 miles along the Gunpowder River in the Hereford area. Meet at the Shawan Rd. park and ride off I-83 north of the Baltimore Beltway at 11:00 AM. For details, call Jack at 410-256-3963. **Leader:** Jack Wise (GB) 410-256-3963.

Saturday Dec 12: FFA Holiday Hike through Hampden and on Jones Falls Trail through Druid Hill Park (*rated easy to moderate*) Older children are welcome on this 4 mile hike on mostly flat paved trail and sidewalks beginning with a stroll around Druid Lake on a ridge overlooking the City. Visit the glass house of the Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, decorated with poinsettias for the holidays. Continue through the Druid Hill Park on the new Jones Falls Trail into the yuppified Woodberry and Clipper Mill area. Walk through Hampden, past fascinating shops decorated for the holidays. Lunch stop at an eccentric area restaurant. Finish by walking down the famous Miracle on 34th Street, with its to-be-seen decorations, then past the old mill houses in Stone Hill back to our cars.

Children under 18 must be able to hike this distance and be accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult. Meet at 11 AM and park on either side of Wyman Park Drive beside the ex-Stieff Silver and the Boy Scouts headquarters, or in the parking lot on the left with the Jones Falls Trail sign. From 28nd or 29th Street just east of the Jones Falls Expressway, turn north onto Keswick Rd./Sisson St. and then take the first left onto Wyman Park Drive. **Leader:** Mary Corddry (GB) 410-239-4590 (home), 443-386-0862 (cell); XxDiTz4LyFxX@aol.com.



Saturday Dec 12: Fairhill NRMA, MD. Easy 8 mile circuit hike through woods, open fields and along pretty Big Elk Creek. Depart at 8:00 from the west lot of the park & ride on Broken Land Parkway at Rt. 32. Contact Mike Juskelis, 410-439-4964, mjuskelis@cablespeed.com.

Saturday Dec 26: Greenbelt Park, MD. Easy 8 mile circuit hike in this "urban oasis" through mature hardwood forest. Depart at 8:00 from the west lot of the Park & Ride on Broken Land Parkway at Rt. 32. Contact Mike Juskelis, 410-439-4964, mjuskelis@cablespeed.com. ■

BICO Outings

Sierra Club Inner City Outings is a community outreach program providing opportunities for urban youth and adults to explore, enjoy and protect the natural world.

Baltimore Inner City Outings (BICO) was founded in 1999 with the goal of providing under-served Baltimore City youth with educational, enjoyable and safe outdoor experiences at no cost to them. Since start-up, BICO has conducted more than 290 outings, serving over 2,900 youngsters.

BICO provides environmental education and promotes respect for the outdoors, teamwork and leadership skills and a community service ethic.

For more information, please send inquiries to baltimoreinnercityoutings@gmail.com, or visit our web site at <http://bico.sierraclub.org/baltimore/>

September 2009

- 12 Outdoor Leadership Training 101, Digital Harbor High School Media Center contact baltimoreinnercityoutings@gmail.com
- 13 Volunteer Appreciation Picnic, Quiet Waters Park contact Bob Iacovazzi at bicobob3@verizon.net
- 16 General BICO Meeting @ Digital Harbor High School Room 456 contact Bob Iacovazzibicobob3@verizon.net
- 19 Urban Orienteering and Hike Federal Hill & Fort McHenry DHH

October 2009

- 3 Exploring Baltimore Harbor with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation DHH
- 9-11 Camping at Pocomoke State Park DHH

Abbreviations:
DHH: Digital Harbor High

JAMBOREE
registration
page 23



**Maryland Chapter Jamboree
Registration Form**

Name: _____

e-mail: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

County _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____

_____ I am willing to give someone a ride.

_____ I need a ride.

Will your party be joining us at dinner on Friday? _____

Names in your party, including ages of any children:

Number sleeping in cabin _____

Number bringing own tent(s) _____

Are you vegetarian, vegan, or allergic to any food? Anything else we should know? _____

Please check appropriate registration levels for yourself and anyone you're bringing. We will reimburse you if the level is full and we cannot accommodate you. *Sorry, no refunds for cancellations after September 15.*

Children ages five and under are free.

_____ x \$75 regular= \$ _____

_____ x \$50 student/senior/low income= \$ _____

_____ x \$50 worker (1 day kitchen/cleanup)= \$ _____

_____ x \$10 children (ages 6-12)= \$ _____

Can't make it for the whole thing?

Join us for success stories and speaker

Friday night, or at the party Saturday night, |

or Sunday events:

_____ x \$20 (Friday)

_____ x \$40 (Saturday)

_____ x \$30 (Sunday).

TOTAL PAYMENT: \$ _____

Mail checks and registration form to:

Sierra Club Maryland Chapter
7338 Baltimore Ave, Suite 101A
College Park, MD 20740

October 2nd-4th

**Elks Camp Barrett,
Crownsville, MD**

*Don't miss this fun-filled weekend with live music,
environmental workshops, and nature-lovin' people!*



Join us for bonfires, silent and live auctions, fun hikes with nature experts, great speakers like Sierra Club President Allison Chin, environmental workshops, games, live bluegrass music, and more!

The Jamboree will be held in a beautiful wooded area, perfect for hikes, bird watching and enjoying the outdoors. Accommodations include dormitory-style cabins and beautiful campsites. The location is a mere 30 minutes from Baltimore city and 45 minutes from the DC area. All meals and lodging are included in registration price.

PRICE: Regular \$75, Student/Limited Income/Workers \$50, Children \$10, 5 & under Free.

TO SIGN UP:

Please make checks out to *Maryland Sierra Club* with "Jamboree" in the memo line

More information available at
www.maryland.sierraclub.org and 301-277-7111.

**Maryland Chapter's Biennial
JAMBOREE**

Credits

The Chesapeake is published quarterly by the Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club. Annual Sierra Club membership dues pay for subscription to this publication. Non-members may subscribe for \$20.00 per year.

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are in general aligned with those of the environmental community in Maryland but are strictly those of the authors and not necessarily official policy of local, state or national Sierra Club entities. The Sierra Club prides itself on being a grassroots volunteer organization. The concerns and opinions of all its members are welcome in these pages.

Items for publication are best submitted by email to <maryland.chapter@sierraclub.org> or <laurel.imlay@sierraclub.org> with "For Chesapeake" and title in subject line. Items must include the author's address and telephone numbers. Material may be edited for length, content or clarity at the discretion of the editor. Photographs, illustrations and other works of art are welcome. Materials cannot be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self addressed envelope.

Change of address: send address changes to the Sierra Club, 85 Second Street (2nd Floor), San Francisco, California 94705-3441. For fastest service, please include your old and new addresses along with your 8-digit membership number. For local membership information contact the Maryland Chapter Office 301-277-7111 or write: Maryland Chapter/Sierra Club, 7338 Baltimore Ave (Suite 101A), College Park, MD 20740.

Advertising: For display and classified advertising rates and information, contact:
Editor, The Chesapeake
Sierra Club Maryland Chapter
7338 Baltimore Ave, Suite 101
College Park, MD 20740

The Maryland Chapter thanks those who contributed to this issue of *Chesapeake*.

Writers and Contributors: Alana Wase, Ron Henry, Matthew Lindberg-Work, Kristin Ricigliano, John Howley, Steven Bruckner, Matt Dernoga, Janis K. Oppelt, Mary Corddry, David Prosten, Gregor Becker, Barb and Lou Rimbach, Ken Clark, David Hauck, Chip Reilly, Alex Hirtle, Dan Soeder

Editors: Betty Brody, Mary Corddry, Donna Engle, Becky French, Laurel Imlay, Betsy Johnson, Sue Kunkel, Dave O'Leary, Janis Oppelt, Cindy Paré, Darla Tewell, Alana Wase
Stewardship Editor: Darla Tewell
Outings Editor: Dan Soeder

Layout and Typography: Darla Tewell

Your Two Cents



Want to comment on something you've read in *Chesapeake*?

Send your comments by email to newsletter.editor@mdsierra.org with "For Chesapeake" in subject line. Please include your name, address, and phone number. We'll post comments on the Chapter website, <http://maryland.sierraclub.org>.

Material may be edited for length, content or clarity at the discretion of the editor.

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The inside line . . .
on transmission lines

- Could massive transmission lines bring more dirty energy to Maryland? The proposals, and the rebuttals.
- Maryland delegation helps pass a climate bill
- Cool Cities workshop generates energy
- Outings, events, and news from around the state
- *Register for the 2009 Jamboree!*

and much more!