



Dear Chapter Supporter,

Our records indicate that you are not a member. Your membership may have lapsed, or perhaps you never joined. Would you please consider becoming a [Massachusetts Sierra Club member](#)?

The introductory annual rate is only \$15 and that includes a gift. Your membership will increase our numbers and our budget, thereby strengthening our ability to lobby for clean energy and environmental protections in Massachusetts. We are working hard on many fronts - your help is needed and welcome.

Thanks very much!

Cathy Ann Buckley
Chapter Chair



AG Maura Healey Joins Fellow Attorneys General to Hold ExxonMobil Accountable

ExxonMobil lied. Our AG won't let that fly, and neither should we. Reports released last year in the [Los Angeles Times](#) and [Inside Climate News](#) suggest that the fossil fuel giant knew as early as the 1970s of climate harm caused by fossil fuels, but deliberately deceived the public and denied science to protect its business interests. Now Attorney General Maura Healey is joining twenty of her counterparts to [launch an investigation](#) into ExxonMobil's public deceit. She states that this action is overdue against "those who have needed to be held accountable for far too long."

ACTION: Please thank AG Maura Healey by letting her know how much we appreciate this noble undertaking. Her office can be contacted by email at ago@state.ma.us.

Earth Day + Arbor Day

Earth Day, Friday, April 22, and Arbor Day, Friday, April 29



Celebrate our one and only planet by participating in a Sierra Club Earth Day or Arbor Day event listed below.



Day or Arbor Day event listed below.

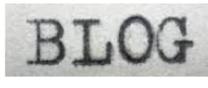


Boston Globe Subscribers - We Need Your Help!

The Boston Globe sent an offer to subscribers offering a [free \\$25 voucher to your favorite local non-profit](#). Please choose the Sierra Club and help us earn valuable advertising space. All you need is your Boston Globe subscriber number, which you can find on your home delivery invoice, or by calling 1-888-MY-GLOBE (694-5623). (Digital subscribers received an email from grant@email.globe.com in early March). The deadline to submit your voucher is April 30th.

ACTION: [Click here](#) to receive and submit your \$25 voucher.

Check Out Our



For more interesting stories and perspectives, take a look at some headlines from our [blog](#). Please [contact us](#) if you'd like to be a blog contributor.

[Riding Electric in Worcester](#)

[Utilities are Shortchanging our Energy Future](#)

Show some love, plant a tree!



No Pipeline!

Governor Baker is proposing we pay eight billion dollars for fracked gas pipelines we don't need.



You heard that right. Existing gas pipelines are on average almost half empty, and never full, but pipeline companies, abetted by electric utilities, want to increase pipeline capacity in Massachusetts by 73%. Attorney General Healey - our chief consumer advocate in the state - found that no additional pipeline capacity is needed to meet our energy demand.

Thank our Beacon Hill allies fighting fracked gas pipelines

Governor Baker has a plan to enact a surcharge on our electricity bills to pay for \$8B in new fracked gas pipelines. Thankfully, we have allies on Beacon Hill who know charging ratepayers for gas pipelines is a terrible idea. Representative Stephen Kulik and Minority Leader Bradley Jones circulated an anti-pipeline letter to their colleagues in the House of Representatives. [Click here](#) to see if your State Rep signed on, and if so, please thank them. (To find out who your State Rep. is, [click here](#).)

Saving Solar in Massachusetts



Despite a strong coalition-led effort by environmental groups, businesses, and solar advocates - including dozens of Sierra Club volunteers - the MA House and Senate last week passed a disappointing compromise bill which [we encouraged them to reject](#).

1. The net metering cap was raised by 3%, allowing stalled solar projects to go forward. The cap will need to be raised again in less than a year to avoid future deadlocks.

2. The legislation slashed compensation rates by 40% for low-income and community solar projects. This is particularly unfortunate as low income residents [pay a higher proportion of their income](#) in energy costs and thus stand to benefit more from access to solar.

3. The bill changes rates for projects already underway, creating uncertainty in the MA business environment.

For more on solar energy, visit our website at <http://www.sierraclub.org/massachusetts/solar>.

Momentum Continues for Polystyrene Bans



There are now 14 communities with [polystyrene](#) bans representing almost a half million Massachusetts residents. Recently Town Meetings in **Westford** and **Concord** voted by large margins to ban polystyrene. The [Lowell Sun reported](#) that residents agreed "polystyrene has harmful effects to its consumers, especially the children who eat their school lunches off them." Contact [Clint Richmond](#) if you would like assistance with local plastic legislation in your community.

Agawam: Berkshire Power Plants GUILTY to Violating Clean Air Act



This power plant may not be an ExxonMobil-sized fossil fuel giant, but they polluted the air right in our backyard, endangered our families, **and lied about it.** The [Boston Globe reports](#) that "between January 2009 and March 2011, employees at Berkshire Power in Agawam manipulated the emissions monitoring system" to cover up evidence of illegal pollution. The operators of Berkshire Power have agreed to plead guilty, and will pay a settlement of \$8.5 million, which will go toward installing electric-vehicle charging stations across Massachusetts, and to American Lung Association programs.

Meetings + Events



Film screening: Love Thy Nature, narrated by Liam Neeson

Wednesday, April 20th, 6:00-7:30 PM (free but please [RSVP](#))
Fort Point Room, Athlantic Wharf, Congress Street, Boston.
In celebration of Earth Day and Massachusetts Park Serve Day, the award winning film, Love Thy Nature, a cinematic immersion into the beauty and intimacy of our relationship with the natural world. With mesmerizing artistry and fascinating details, the film explores how nature nourishes us. Visit www.lovetbynature.com/ to view the trailer. [Go here](#) for more information and to RSVP. Organized by the Sierra Club Greater Boston Group and Boston ICO (a division of Sierra Club Outdoors).

West Roxbury Pipeline Protest

Saturday, April 23, 9:00 AM-Noon
Draper Playground, 5279 Washington Street, West Roxbury
9:00-10:00 AM: Gather for convocation, song and words.
10:30 AM-Noon: March to witness the protest at the West Roxbury Pipeline construction site.



Arbor Day Celebration, Tree Planting in Worcester

Friday, April 29, 9:30 AM-2:00 PM (free but please [RSVP](#))
Crow Hill Conservation Area, 145 Harrington Way, Worcester (across from the EcoTarium)
In celebration of Arbor Day, the Massachusetts Sierra Club, in partnership with the Worcester Tree Initiative and the Worcester EcoTarium, will celebrate Arbor Day by planting trees at the Crow Hill Conservation Area and the Worcester EcoTarium. Please come and participate! [Go here](#) for more information, directions and to RSVP.

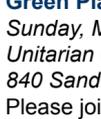


Waquoit Bay Earth Day / Mass Park Serve Day Cleanup

Saturday, April 30, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM (free but please [RSVP](#))
In celebration of Earth Day and Massachusetts Park Serve Day, the Sierra Club's Cape Cod & Islands Group is planning an event at the Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve located in the village of Waquoit (East Falmouth). [Go here](#) for more information, directions and to RSVP.

Green Planet Faire Toxics Table

Sunday, May 1, 1:00-5:00 PM
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Falmouth
840 Sandwich Road, East Falmouth
Please join the Sierra Club Cape Cod & Islands Group, GreenCape, Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition and Silent Spring Institute for an outreach event on contaminants of emerging concern and other toxic chemical challenges we face in our drinking and wastewater on Cape Cod. These groups often work together on issues at the grassroots level. Please contact [David Dow](#) for more information. All are welcome!



Do Good and Go Solar with Sungevity

Solar costs have come down and government incentives have made the installation of solar panels an even smarter financial decision. You can now install a solar system on your rooftop for a fraction of what it used to cost. Within minutes after installation, you'll become a clean-energy producer, even selling power back to your electric company.



Learn more. Special Offer - Sign up [here](#) and you'll receive a \$750 cash gift card and Sierra Club receives \$750, too. Note that you must use the [link](#) to obtain the gift card and Sierra Club donation. Request your quote now and find out how solar is more affordable than ever!



What Will Be Your Legacy?

Ensure your legacy by making a gift to the Massachusetts Sierra Club in your will or trust by beneficiary designation. Planned gifts are particularly important to the Chapter as they provide significant resources to continue conservation activities over an extended period of time. For more information on naming the Massachusetts Chapter as a beneficiary of a bequest or on creating life-income gifts, call [\(800\) 932-4270](tel:(800)932-4270) or email giftplanning@sierraclub.org.