

August 2016

Dear Friend,



As this legislative session comes to a close we are grateful for our victories on offshore wind and gas leaks.

We are able to have such a large impact with only three staff members because of dozens of active volunteers who give anywhere from a few hours a month to many hours a day. Please consider getting to know more about what we are up to and how you might get more involved. Drop me a line chapter-chair@sierraclubmass.org and let's talk about how we can do even more, together. -- Cathy

Find a National Drive Electric Week event near you, or host one of your own



National Drive Electric Week (NDEW) returns this year, September 10-18. NDEW is a nationwide celebration to heighten awareness of today's widespread availability of plug-in vehicles and highlight the benefits of all-electric and plug-in hybrid-electric cars, trucks, motorcycles, and more. They are fun to drive, are less expensive and more convenient to fuel than gasoline vehicles, are better for the environment, promote local jobs, and reduce our dependence on foreign oil. Are you considering going electric? Come talk to local owners who have successfully done so. *No events near you yet? Be the first!* Visit <https://driveelectricweek.org/resources.php> to learn how you can host an National Drive Electric Week event in your town!

Seeking Candidates for Chapter and Group Executive Committees in Massachusetts



Every year Sierra Club members have the opportunity to run for their Chapter or local Chapter Group Executive Committee (ExCom).

The ExCom sets priorities, goals and strategies and oversees the finances. If you want to be in the center of action for your Sierra Club Chapter or Group, the ExCom is a good place to be!

Sierra Club members are invited to submit their name and a short statement to the Nominating Committee by September 23rd.

Any Sierra Club member may also submit an issue petition by October 20, 2016.

Please contact [Ed Woll](mailto:Ed.Woll@sierraclub.org) for more information.

Stop Toxic Trade Deals #NoTPP



National Sierra Club just [released a video](#) about the dangers of trade deals. Please share this video to help the movement to keep dirty fuels in the ground and stop toxic trade deals. We can't let bad trade deals undermine our victories on climate.

Get Your Neighborhood On Board with Carbon Pricing



Passionate about Climate change and looking for a way to have an impact on Massachusetts' CO2 emissions?

[Carbon Pricing](#) is a powerful market-based tool to reduce Green House gas emissions and has potential to pass into law during next year's legislative session but we need your help. Volunteer to work in your senate district to promote carbon pricing with your senator and neighbors. Contact [Fran Cummings](mailto:Fran.Cummings@sierraclub.org) for more details.

Sierra Club at Red Sox



Please join us on Friday, September 30th @ 7:10 PM to watch the Red Sox play the Blue Jays. Enjoy an early autumn evening with other Sierra

Club members at beautiful Fenway Park. We have 40 left field grandstand seats in section 31, tickets are \$70/each and proceeds help support the work we do. Please [visit our website](#) for tickets.

Braintree Solar Farm Tour and Electric Vehicle Test Drive Event



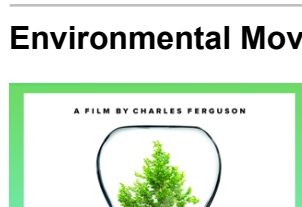
Sierra Club intern Robert Kearns organized a clean energy event for us on July 23rd at the Braintree solar farm to educate the public on [solar power](#) and [electric vehicles](#). We had a very engaged and inquisitive showing despite the



scorching hot 90+ degree temperatures.

Thanks to the [Patriot Ledger](#) for publicizing the event.

Environmental Movie Night



On July 14th we hosted an environmental movie night with [MCAN](#).

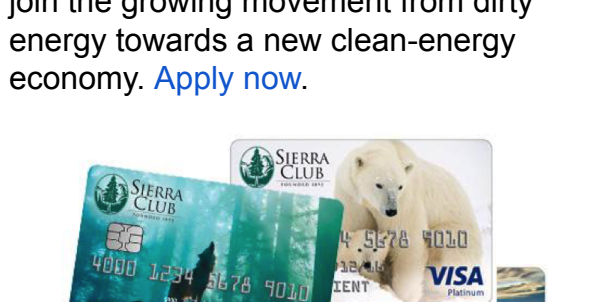


We screened two inspiring short films by children's book author Lynne Cherry and then Oscar-winning

filmmaker Charles Ferguson's new film [Time to Choose](#) featuring Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune. The film addresses the impact of climate change and the inspiring ways people have worked together to discover and implement sustainable solutions. The power of the film is that it won't let us forget that it is within our power to avoid the worst consequences of climate change - we need only choose to do so.

Sierra Club Platinum Card

Sierra Club Visa® Platinum Cardholders have already diverted over \$44 million away from big banks that finance dirty energy. Sierra Club members and supporters in Massachusetts are invited to join the growing movement from dirty energy towards a new clean-energy economy. [Apply now](#).



Massachusetts Legislature Passes Energy Bill

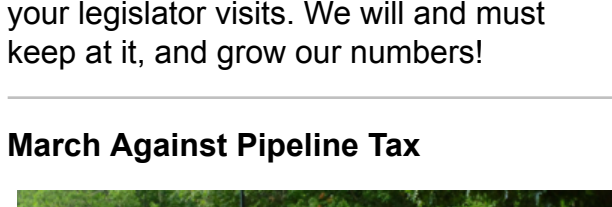


The long-awaited [energy bill](#) has been passed by the legislature and there is much to celebrate. We are finally going to see an offshore wind industry in Massachusetts waters, 15 years after Cape Wind applied for its first federal permit. The bill requires electric utilities to solicit and purchase 2,800 megawatts of offshore wind and hydropower. The bill also requires gas companies to identify and repair "environmentally significant" gas leaks. These methane leaks warm the planet, kill trees, jeopardize safety and waste consumer dollars. The bill also establishes a citizens advisory commission for the decommissioning of the Pilgrim nuclear power plant.

We are disappointed the bill did not contain many of the provisions that were included in the Senate version of the bill. The bill does not prohibit a pipeline tax, nor increase the Renewable Portfolio Standard, nor offer increased incentives for electric vehicle ownership, nor require home energy audits prior to home sales. As Massachusetts experiences yet another [record breaking hot summer](#), as well as an [extended drought](#), we know the climate is changing - this bill, while good, could have been much, much better, e.g. by adopting more of the [Senate language](#). So there is much more work to be done in the next legislative session, not only on the aforementioned areas but also to increase the cap on solar net metering and support low income and community solar.

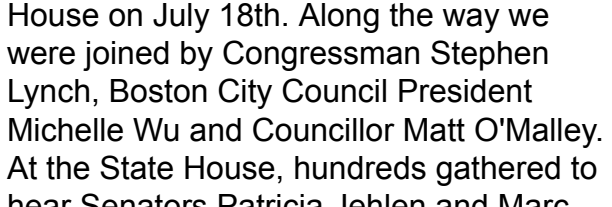
Thank you to YOU, our tireless volunteers. This bill is better than it would have been if it hadn't been for your emails, your calls, your legislator visits. We will and must keep at it, and grow our numbers!

March Against Pipeline Tax



We proudly partnered with [MassPowerForward](#) and [350 Mass](#) on a 43-mile, five day march against new fossil-fuel pipelines that ended at the State House on July 18th. Along the way we were joined by Congressman Stephen Lynch, Boston City Council President Michelle Wu and Councillor Matt O'Malley. At the State House, hundreds gathered to hear Senators Patricia Jehlen and Marc Pacheco, followed by a group march to Governor Baker's office. While the final energy bill did not include a prohibition on a pipeline tax, neither did it include language authorizing one.

Sierra Club Endorses Hillary Clinton for President

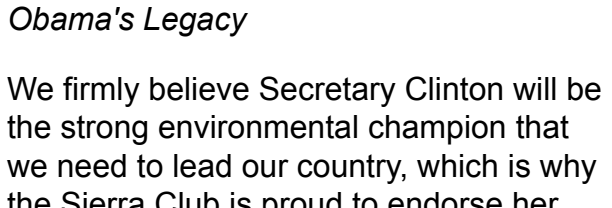


Nation's Largest and Most Influential Grassroots Environmental Organization Cites Clinton's Detailed Plans and Ability to Build on Obama's Legacy

We firmly believe Secretary Clinton will be the strong environmental champion that we need to lead our country, which is why the Sierra Club is proud to endorse her and her vision for America.

See full Sierra Club endorsement [here](#).

#NeverTrump



Michael Brune (@brunest) · Jun 30
Proud of [@MassSierraClub](#) on the front page of the Boston Globe this morning. [#NeverTrump](#)



TURNOUTS FOR, AGAINST TRUMP—About 100 protesters gathered on Franklin Street while the Republican candidate spoke to a gathering of similar size at a fund-raiser in the Langham Hotel. B1. The party's Senate leader flirts himself in a delicate dance. A2.

Recent Press Coverage

Chapter Director Emily Norton [quoted in WickedLocal](#) speaking in favor of more public electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

Chapter Director Emily Norton responds to a [Boston Globe editorial](#), explaining why we indeed do NOT need any more natural gas in Mass.

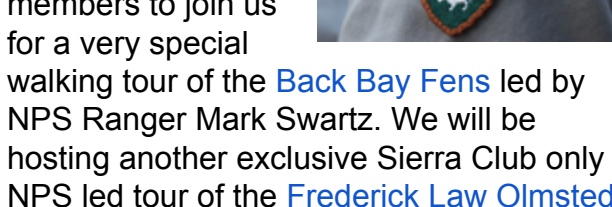
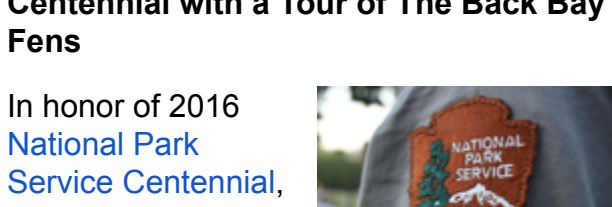
Chapter Director Emily Norton co-authors this piece in [Boston Business Journal](#) with Tedd Saunders (Saunders Hotel Group) explaining the need for greener building codes.

Celebrating the National Park Service Centennial with a Tour of The Back Bay Fens

In honor of 2016 [National Park Service Centennial](#), we invited our members to join us for a very special walking tour of the [Back Bay Fens](#) led by NPS Ranger Mark Swartz. We will be hosting another exclusive Sierra Club only NPS led tour of the [Frederic Law Olmsted National Historic Site](#) in early October so please stay tuned.

Hopping on the Vans Warped Tour Eco Initiative

Traveling the country with a punk-rock music revue can leave a heavy footprint if not done properly. Luckily the [Vans Warped Tour](#) has been doing this a long time, and has some eco-minded people running the show. The Tour's founder is a Sierra Club supporter, and established the [Eco Initiative](#) to work with all aspects of the tour to reduce environmental impacts. The Warped Tour also provides [service to communities](#) so when the 2016 tour made its stop in Mansfield this July, our Outreach Coordinator, Kevin, dialed in some local helping hands for their recycling team.



Meetings + Events

Chapter Executive Committee Meeting
Saturday, August 6 at 10:00 AM
Massachusetts Sierra Club Office Conference Room
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108
All are welcome. Contact Cathy Buckley, chapter-chair@sierraclubmass.org.

Greater Boston Group Meeting
Tuesday, August 9 at 6:00 PM
Massachusetts Sierra Club Office Conference Room
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108
All are welcome. Contact Keith Burrows, kdburrows@yahoo.com.

Thoreau Group Meeting
Monday August 8 at 7:00 PM
Bedford Town Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Mudge Way, Bedford, MA 01730
All are welcome. Contact Terry Gleason TerrySierraClub@gmail.com.