

<u>Sierra Club – Shawnee Group</u>

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Shawnee Trails

http://illinois.sierraclub.org/Shawnee/

June - August 2015 QUARTERLY

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ETCO and Dakota Access Pipelines in Illinois *By Sabrina Hardenbergh*

While the <u>Illinois Hydraulic Fracturing Regulatory Act</u>, related IDNR <u>Rules</u>, and Keystone XL Pipeline have captured much attention the past couple years, other parts of the oil and gas industry supply chain in Illinois have received less scrutiny. A couple years ago, the network of oil pipeline projects across the Midwest and through Illinois were outlined in <u>Shawnee Trails</u>. An <u>Enbridge pipeline</u> bringing Canadian crude oil to the Patoka, IL hub was and still is of concern. Moreover, with recent <u>news</u> highlighting <u>numerous</u> <u>pipeline spills</u> and exploding <u>"bomb trains"</u> (such as the <u>Galena derailment</u>), the new pending Illinois Commerce Commission <u>#14-0754 Dakota Access, LLC</u> and <u>#14-0755 Energy Transfer Crude Oil Company, LLC (ETCO)</u> pipeline permits are also important to review.

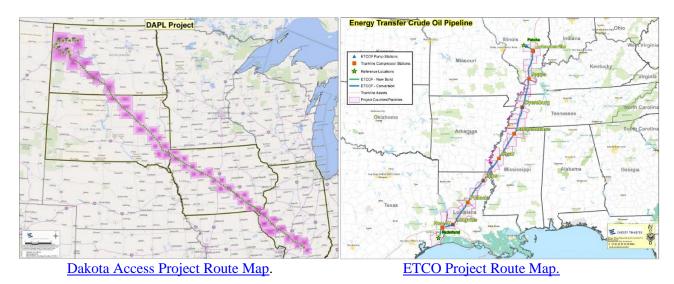
The nearly 1,134 mile Dakota Access pipeline will extend from the Williston Basin, or Bakken Shale fracking fields in northwest North Dakota, across South Dakota and Iowa, across the Mississippi at Hamilton, IL, to the ETCO pipeline near Patoka, Illinois (east of Lake Carlyle), with 180 miles of pipeline in Illinois. The 800 mile interstate ETCO pipeline project will build a pump station and new line from Patoka to a compressor station by Johnsonville, a village in the Wayne County oil fields between Flora and Fairfield, Illinois. ETCO will replace segments of their recently purchased, repurposed Trunkline Gas Co. LLC pipeline through southern Illinois that goes under Lake of Egypt in Johnson County, through the Cache River Wetland, across the Ohio River near the Joppa compressor station, and on south to Gulf oil refineries in Nederland, Texas. Both the Dakota Access and ETCO projects are a joint venture between the Delaware incorporated parent companies and subsidiaries, Energy Transfer Partners and Phillips 66, respectively headquartered in Dallas and Houston, Texas. Assuming ICC approval, Dakota Access and ETCO will commence in the last quarter of 2015, and be in-service a year later.

Although these private companies are not public utilities, as "common carriers", the pipeline projects ask the ICC to permit taking of private land by eminent domain under the interstate "need" precedent interpreted in 2009 in *Enbridge Pipelines (Illinois) LLC, Docket 07-0446*, *in re* the <u>§15-401 Common Carrier by Pipeline Law</u>, not just local need. <u>Opponents</u> of the pipeline projects, including the <u>Iowa</u> <u>Chapter of the Sierra Club</u>, argue that the oil will largely be shipped overseas making huge profits for the oil companies, while leaving environmental costs to local communities and landowners. The

(Continued on Page 2)

(ETCO & Dakota Access Pipelines, Continued from Page 1)

pipeline companies argue for eminent domain in their $\frac{#14-0754}{0.0000}$ and $\frac{#14-0755}{0.00000}$ applications by claiming their "common carrier" pipelines are "needed" to transport the oil to create the fuels, lubricants, asphalts, and other refined products that will benefit the United States, and thereby, Illinoisans.



While the companies argue their large operation experience, parent company Phillips 66 had an April 17, 2015 oil pipeline spill into the Cahokia Canal and Mississippi River from its <u>Wood River Refinery</u> at its <u>Hartford, IL</u> <u>terminal</u>, opposite St. Louis. Energy Transfer Partner ventures also have had spills, one in <u>Philadelphia</u> in January 2014. Moreover, Bakken oil is <u>more flammable</u>, as witnessed in recent accidents.

The public may comment online to the ICC regarding the Dakota Access and ETCO pipeline projects, by clicking the following links: <u>14-0754 Dakota Access Public Comment</u>, <u>14-0755 ETCO Public Comment</u>.

2015 SUMMER SHAWNEE GROUP OUTING

Sunday, May 17, 12:00 Noon

Sierra Club Outing, hike on Kinkaid Lake Trail at Crisenberry Dam.

Moderate hike of up to 5 miles offers views of the lake, rock ledges, canyon and cave.

All hikers should first meet at the US Forest Service at 2221 Walnut in Murphysboro (on the left at the end of Walnut) before noon. Then, from Murphysboro, go west on 149 about 6 miles, turn right on Spillway road, go 1.5 miles to small parking area. Bring water and wear appropriate hiking shoes. A Forest Service map can be viewed beforehand: <u>https://fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprd3806179.pdf</u> The leader is Bob Mulcahy. Call Bob at 618-942-6342 to go on the hike or for more information.

Piasa Palisades Group Outings Chair:

Carol Klinger, 618-288-5506, <u>ciklinger@yahoo.com</u> http://illinois.sierraclub.org/PiasaPalisades

Eastern Missouri Group Outings Chair:

Bob Gestel 636-296-8975, <u>rgestel@sbcglobal.net</u> http://missouri.sierraclub.org/emg/outings.aspx

Future Outings TBA:

Updates listed on our website:

http://illinois.sierraclub.org/Shawnee/

Other short notice outings and events may be announced on our Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/SierraClubShawnee

2015 SUMMER PROGRAMS NOTE: Start time at 7 PM!

Location: REAR entrance, through green door in alley, of the Carbondale Township Meeting Room at 217 East Main, across from Rock Hill Baptist Church (at Monroe and Marion Streets). The front door is locked! FREE and open to the public. Refreshments and socializing before and after meeting.

Thursday, May 14, 2015 at 7 pm Speaker: Laurel Toussaint: Native Landscaping Dinner at 5 pm: Longbranch Café, 100 East Jackson, Carbondale, 529-4488

Thursday, June 11, 2015 at 7 pm Speaker: TBA, watch our website and Facebook page for a speaker announcement Dinner at 5 pm: Sabor de Mel (Brazilian restaurant), 606 South Illinois Ave, Carbondale 457-2292

Thursday, July 9, 2015 at 7 pm Speaker: Angelique Kuehl: Backyard Chickens Dinner at 5 pm: TBA



Woodland Wildflowers: Creating a native wildflower garden for shade or sun. Carbondale resident Laurel Toussaint shares how she transformed her yard with native wildflowers. Photo by Ruth Kelley

Recap on Recent Events: April 9 Program, Canebrakes make a comeback

In agricultural landscapes, farmers are strongly encouraged to maintain strips of native vegetation, commonly called riparian buffers, along rivers and streams to help filter out nutrients and sediments running off farm fields. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is trying to restore giant cane riparian buffers in the Cache River basin to mitigate disturbances including agricultural runoff. Researchers in the SIU Forestry Department have concluded that giant cane is an ideal species to promote in riparian buffers. Cane's extensive shallow rooting network and dense stems have been found to promote infiltration of surface runoff, deposition of sediment and associated nutrients. Dr. Jon Schoonover found giant cane stands to perform as well as, or better than, forest vegetation in terms of reducing groundwater and surface water nitrogen levels. Current research at SIU by former master's student Margaret Anderson is looking at encouraging the spread of canebrakes through fertilizer and/or prescribed burnings. General life history data, as well as soil and landscape characteristics were being collected by PhD student Amanda Nelson.

Presenter Amanda Nelson recently earned her PhD in forest hydrology at SIU. She currently works as a research scientist at Little River Research and Design in Carbondale. She has a strong background in limnology, stream ecology, and aquatic entomology.

Call for articles and photographs for Shawnee Trails!

The next issue will be published in May. Please send your Word, PDF or JPG files to <u>sabrina@midwest.net</u> by **August 10th.**

Shawnee Trails, June - August 2015

ALERT! Your Comments Needed on Transportation, Open Space For Gov. Rauner's Budget!!

By Barbara McKasson

We need your help to amp up the call for making parks, road and bridge repairs, and mass transit priorities in the new, restricted Illinois budget. We also need to "shout down" the calls for new mega highways, such as the <u>I-66 Corridor</u> proposed for Southernmost Illinois.

Investment in public transportation, including trains, buses and intermodal transport is vital to cutting climate disruption pollutants, creating jobs, and saving people money. For example, the Rauner proposal to cut down Amtrak service between Carbondale and Chicago would really hurt attendance at SIU – Carbondale. Also, senior citizen and on-call transport service is vitally important all over Southern Illinois, and cuts down on pollution from cars.

Illinois should not be wasting scarce money on new superhighways when our current highways and bridges are sorely in need of repair. I know that I have hit some very rough spots on State Rt. 51 and on I-57. I'm sure you can provide your own example of a state road that needs immediate attention. Also, the Mississippi River bridge in Chester should be replaced.

We are urging Rauner to make a freeze on new highway proposals permanent. Boondoggles such as the proposed I-66 Corridor in Southern Illinois should simply not be built – at least not in Illinois. It would help businesses in Missouri and Kentucky, but bypass small businesses and tourist areas in southernmost Illinois. The Illiana Expressway and Rt. 53 in Lake Co. should be cancelled.

We are also calling for capital investment in more natural open space and waterways, which would benefit wildlife habitat and expand recreation opportunities, and in turn generate more tourism dollars for Illinois, especially down here in Southern Illinois. A study by Trust for Public Land found that every \$1 invested in parks and open space returns \$4 in economic gain. The next capital bill should invest in the Open Land Trust so we can save Illinois' last special places.

You can fill out a questionnaire online at:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VGLPYVM

Use the spaces where they want more comment to state our main concerns for funding repairs and transit, not wasting money on boondoggles and to include an investment in open space in any capital bill, and/ or for your favorite example close to your home. This method is quick and easy.

You can also send comments by Email to: <<u>idot.illinois.gov</u>> Hover over "About IDOT", click on "<u>Contact</u> <u>Us</u>", then click on the link "<u>Online Web Form</u>."

Or by snail mail to: Illinois Dept. of Transportation, 2300 Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL, 62764 Or by Phone: (217) 782-7820

Recap on Recent Events: Earth Day 2015

On Wednesday, April 22, a special daytime Sierra Club program was hosted by Professor Karen Midden, associate dean of Agricultural Sciences, on the campus of SIU. She gave us a tour of the Agriculture Building green roof, installed in 2010 and used for student research. When the roof was replaced, it was retrofitted to hold 25 pounds per square inch. Due to weight limitations, the roof will support only 3 inches of growing medium (not soil,) but students have succeeded in growing vegetables on the roof. And raccoons have succeeded in raiding them!

Professor Midden also showed us the permeable pavement and rain garden which were used to end periodic flooding on the east side of the building, and proudly showed off the "green wall," which is basically a vertical hydroponic garden in the Ag Building.

Attendees included several SIU students and one Carbondale City Council member.

<u>!!HELP PREVENT "FAST TRACK" VOTE ON THE TRANSPACIFIC PARTNERSHIP !!</u>

By Barbara McKasson

Does it make sense to not debate a trade agreement that would allow corporations to override our environmental and labor laws through an international court, and that would allow corporations to sue our national, state and local governments when they claim that laws and regulations are cutting into their profits?

Some members of Congress want to abdicate their responsibility by prohibiting any changes in the Transpacific Partnership Trade Agreement by Congress, and allowing only a "Yes or No" vote on this international agreement. Of course, we know that dozens or even hundreds of international corporations have been at the table negotiating this agreement. Members of Congress can view the agreement, but cannot take notes or pictures, nor even bring an aide when they are allowed to view the agreement. The Congress members also are sworn to secrecy of the contents of the agreement. President Obama says "Trust me."

WHAT YOU CAN DO: The only way we are going to stop this clandestine corporate coup is for everyone to wake up and speak up. Call and email your U.S. Representative and Senators to urge them to stop the "Fast Track" bill in its tracks!

"Illinois Clean Jobs Bill" Needs You! Please Call or Email Your Legislators NOW! By Barbara McKasson

Are you itching to do your part to curb global warming and climate change? Here's one thing you can do: <u>Contact your state legislators and urge them to co-sponsor and vote YES for HB2607 and SB1485, the</u> <u>"Illinois Clean Jobs Bill."</u> There are currently 25 co-sponsors in the Senate and 48 in the House, but none of them are from the Shawnee area – we need to shake up our legislators with hundreds of phone calls and Emails!

This bill is loaded with great solutions: It would generate an estimated 32,000 jobs per year; raise Illinois' energy efficiency target to a 20 percent reduction by 2025; raise the Renewable [Energy] Portfolio Standard (RPS) to 35% by 2030; fix the RPS to allow the Illinois Power Agency to use these ratepayer dollars to invest long-term in solar and wind.

It would also enable "Cap and Invest": the EPA would set up an auction system to allocate carbon emissions with the proceeds in turn invested in: direct bill assistance for families, investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency, and clean energy job training and transition assistance. The Citizens Utility Board estimates the average consumer would save at least \$98 per year if this bill is passed. Please call or email your legislators – see Page 6 for contact information.

Tell Your Illinois Legislators to vote NO on Utility Companies' Money Grab! By Barbara McKasson

The Clean Jobs Bill should be a "no brainer" but, unfortunately, two "powerhouse" utility companies are trying to get their sticky fingers into the renewables money pot.

Exelon wants to disguise nuclear power as renewable energy while taking money from renewables and energy efficiency. The Exelon Bill would create NO NEW JOBS, impose \$300 million/ year surcharge on customers and do nothing to reduce carbon pollution. Tell your state senator and rep to vote NO on the Exelon bills – <u>SB1585</u> and <u>HB3293</u>.

Commonwealth Edison's bill would create about 400 jobs, would raise monthly cost for consumers, reduce energy efficiency programs, discourage rooftop solar, achieve no carbon reduction, and would encourage more electrical usage through investments using rate-payer money. Tell your state senator and representative to vote NO on the ComEd bills – <u>SB1879</u>, <u>HB3328</u>.

BOBCATS NEED YOUR HELP!

<u>SB106/HB352 – Bill to Allow Hunting of Bobcats in the State of Illinois</u> – Bobcats have just barely recovered in some areas and still need protection in other areas of the state. We have managed to persuade some legislators to oppose this bill. It was vetoed by Gov. Quinn in 2014, but now it's back! This bill allows a bobcat hunting and trapping season from November 1st through February 15th. IDNR estimates that 500 permits per year would be issued. This bill has already passed the IL House and is currently assigned to the Senate Agriculture Committee. Call your state Senator – Luechtefeld, Forby, Righter, etc. - to vote NO (contact info below) and Gov. Rauner to veto it if it reaches his desk (217-782-6830).

Illinois Legislative Contacts: Call Your Legislators Today!

State Dist. 109 Rep. David Reis: 618-392-0108 or 217-782-2087; <u>www.davidreis.org</u> State Dist. 115 - Rep. Terri Bryant: 618-242-8115; 217-782-0387; <u>staterepterribryant@gmail.com</u> State Dist. 116 - Rep. Jerry Costello II - 618-282-7284; 217-782-1018 <u>Staterepcostello@gmail.com</u> State Dist. 117 - Rep. John Bradley - 618-997-9697; 217-782-1051; <u>repjohnbradley@mychoice.net</u> State Rep. 118 - Rep. Brandon Phelps - 618-253-4189; 217-782-5131; <u>bpphelps118@gmail.com</u> Senate Dist. 55 Senator Dale Righter: 217-235-6033 or 217-782-6674 Senate Dist. 58 - Senator Dave Luechtefeld: 618-243-9014; 217-782-8137; <u>sendavel@midwest.net</u> Senate Dist. 59 - Senator Gary Forby: 618-439-2504; 217-782-5509; <u>www.senatorforby.com</u> Governor Bruce Rauner: 217-782-0244, http://www2.illinois.gov/gov/Pages/ContacttheGovernor.aspx

Congressional Contacts

Senator Dick Durbin: 618-351-1122; 202-224-2152; <u>durbin.senate.gov</u> Senator Mark Kirk: 202-224-2854; 312-886-3506; <u>kirk.senate.gov</u> Representative Mike Bost: 618-457-5787; 202-225-5661; <u>bost.house.gov</u> Representative John Shimkus: 618-252-8271; 202-225-5271; <u>shimkus.house.gov</u>

The Illinois Chapter Sierra Club's Frack Fight Team is steered	FYI, to receive more timely alerts from the
by Terri Treacy (<u>terri.treacy@sierraclub.org</u>).	Illinois Chapter of the Sierra Club, sign up
To receive periodic updates and communications from local	online at their state website:
and national Sierra Club, become a member of the Illinois	https://secure.sierraclub.org/site/SPageNav
Chapter's Frack Fight Team:	igator/Chapter/il_newsletter_signup.html;j
http://action.sierraclub.org/site/Survey?ACTION_REQUIRED	sessionid=84420F4C49A5A8CD264E1E3
=URI ACTION USER REQUESTS&SURVEY ID=138181	C3F131E25.app205a

Volunteers Needed to Help Protect Shawnee National Forest

Protecting Shawnee National Forest involves frequent communication with the Forest Service, research on issues, and educating others about those issues. We especially need help in keeping oil and gas wells out of the forest including fracking wells. Please contact Barb at <u>babitaji@aol.com</u> if you are interested in helping in any way. Hick's Dome Prospecting Permit Pending with Forest Service Geological prospecting, or core drilling of <u>radioactive rare earth</u> <u>elements (REEs)</u>, including <u>thorium</u>, is proposed for Hick's Dome in Hardin County. This poses waste containment and health issues, whether during drilling, or later possible mining. REEs are used in technologies and electronics, such as hybrid vehicles, wind turbines, and cell phones. China provides most REEs presently. Read the <u>Project Documents</u>, read about <u>REEs</u>, and <u>email or send your public comments by May 19th, if possible.</u> <u>http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=44736</u>

Second Annual Sierra Club Native Plant Sale!!

Saturday, May 16, 10 am 'til ?? Come early – avoid disappointment! Town Square Pavilion, near intersection of US 51 North and Hwy 13 West, Carbondale, Illinois

Large selection of plants native to southern Illinois – hardy, beautiful, pollinator friendly, and low maintenance. To encourage landscaping with native plants, we will have more than 1000 plants of many species, including perennial wildflowers, grasses trees, shrubs, and vines for shade and sun. There will also be plants for rain gardens (moist to wet soil). This sale of reasonably priced plants will help raise money for the local Shawnee Group Sierra Club's activities.

We have had a very good response from volunteers to work at our second native plant sale. Thanks to all these volunteers, we are looking forward to a very successful event!

May is Invasive Species Awareness Month!

"These prohibited plants present a real danger to everything from the beauty of a backyard garden to the native flora of our state. Exotics like buckthorn, kudzu and purple loosestrife spread rapidly, degrade natural communities, and can cause serious harm to threatened and endangered plants and wildlife." -- <u>Illinois Department of Natural Resources Director Joel Brunsvold</u>.

Illinois Noxious Weed Law

It is the duty of every person to control the spread of and to eradicate all noxious weeds on lands owned or controlled by him in the State of Illinois. According to Section 220.60, "noxious weeds" include the following annual, biennial, or perennial plants propagated by seed or vegetative parts: **Marihuana** (Cannabis sativa L.); **Giant Ragweed** (Ambrosia trifida L.) within the corporate limits of cities, villages, and incorporated towns; **Common Ragweed** (Ambrosia artemisiifolia L.) within the corporate limits of cities, villages, and incorporated towns; **Canada Thistle** (Cirsium arvense); **Perennial Sowthistle** (Sonchus arvensis); **Musk Thistle** (Carduus nutans); Perennial members of the **sorghum** genus, including **johnsongrass** (Sorghum halepense), S. almum, and other johnsongrass X sorghum crosses with rhizomes; and **Kudzu** (Pueraria labata).

Illinois Exotic Plant Law

The <u>Illinois Exotic Weed Act, 525 ILCS 10/</u>, prohibits the purchase, sale, offer to sell, distribution or planting of **Japanese honeysuckle, multiflora rose, purple loosestrife, kudzu** and six species of **buckthorn**_(common buckthorn, glossy buckthorn, saw-toothed buckthorn, dahurian buckthorn, Japanese buckthorn and Chinese buckthorn). This Act is currently being <u>amended</u> to add "**bush honeysuckles** (Lonicera maackii, Lonicera tatarica, Lonicera morrowii, and Lonicera fragrantissima), **exotic olives** (Elaeagnus umbellata, Elaeagnus pungens, Elaeagnus angustifolia), **salt cedar** (all members of the Tamarix genus), **poison hemlock** (Conium maculatum), **giant hogweed** (Heracleum mantegazzianum), **Oriental bittersweet** (Celastrus orbiculatus), and **lesser celandine** (Ficaria verna), **teasel** (all members of the Dipsacus genus), and **Japanese, giant, and Bohemian knotweed** (Fallopia japonica, syn. Polygonum cuspidatum; Fallopia sachalinensis; and Fallopia x bohemica, resp.) to designated exotic weeds."

Check the scientific names of plants. Make sure you are not buying a prohibited species. If you see prohibited plants for sale in Illinois, contact the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Office of Law Enforcement at 217/782-6431 or 1-877/236-7529 (1-877-2DNRLAW). Be very cautious when you read the following: *Foolproof, Fast growing, Naturalizes easily, Hardy in all climate zones, Easy to grow, Fast maturing, Self-seeds.*

For identification of these plants, see the <u>USDA Plants database</u> and the <u>River to River Cooperative Weed Management Area</u>'s <u>Invasive Plants of Southern Illinois</u>.

Shawnee Trails, June - August 2015

Leadership Opportunities Run for the Board!

We need a few good women and men.

Join the board of directors (the executive committee, also known as the ExCom) in overseeing the Shawnee Group's strategic direction and economic health. Board members meet monthly for about 2 hours. Board terms are for two years. We are always interested in potential candidates.

We also need:

* Hospitality team members

Provide refreshments for one monthly meeting each year (second Thursday). Contact Hospitality Chair Phyllis Beck at 618-549-9819, <u>ptherapist@frontier.com</u> OR Act as a greeter for a monthly meeting or welcome and assist our speaker OR Select and make reservations at a local restaurant for our monthly "Dinner Before the Meeting." Contact Program Chair Ruth Kelley at (618) 684-2196 or rth kelley@yahoo.com.

Has Your Email Address Changed?

To continue to receive notification when the latest Shawnee Group newsletter is posted online, be sure to inform the Group when you change your email address. Send email address updates to: doi:doi.org/doi.or

At any time you can read current and past newsletters on the Shawnee Group website: <u>http://illinois.sierraclub.org/Shawnee/</u> Visit the website also for information on upcoming local programs and outings as well as state and national Sierra Club issues.

Jackson/Perry County Hazardous Waste Collection

8 am - 3 pm, Saturday, May 30th, Southern Illinois Airport

Bring your **ID to show county residency**. **NO** business, agricultural or industrial waste disposal. **NO** explosive, radioactive, medical, electronic, appliance, or tire waste. For more information on **acceptable chemical or medication waste**, see the health department flyer: http://jchdonline.org/images/jchd_data/env-health/may_30_event_flier.pdf

Bob Tyson's memorial tree, planted by Shawnee Group Sierra Club members at Evergreen Park south of Carbondale, IL. Tyson will long be remembered for his dedication in leading hikes and regional trail maintenance. Our late Outings Chair compiled *Easy Trails for Seniors*: http://www.sierraclub.org/sites/www.sierraclub.org/files/sc e/shawnee-group/Bunny%20Trails%202.pdf Photo by Dorcy Prosser.

