



In This Issue:

- PFAS Pg 1-3
- Virtual Summer Programs Pg 4
- COVID-19 and Outings Pg 5
- Legislation Alerts Pg 6
- Shawnee National Forest, Report Pg 7
- Contact Your Rep. Pg 7
- Sierra T-Shirts for Sale Pg 8
- Volunteer Pg 8

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PFAS: Reducing Persistent “Forever Chemicals” Global Pollution

by Sabrina Hardenbergh

[Dark Waters](#) is a [big-box-office film](#) that reflects real issues: PFAS. You may recall the 2018 [EPA](#) public hearing concerning [Veolia Hazardous Waste Incinerator](#) and [protest](#) of the previous federal administration’s attempt to [loosen](#) regulation of [toxic heavy metal emissions](#) into the Metro East St. Louis residents’ air, threatening further cancer and respiratory problems in a place with a history of [higher industrial pollution](#). In April 2021, on Earth Day, [Metro East residents again protested Veolia’s air pollution](#), believing the [Department of Defense \(DOD\) and others may soon attempt to dispose](#) their toxic firefighting foam at the Veolia incinerator. Their Springfield representative, LaToya Greenwood, is sponsoring [HB3190](#) to prohibit disposing of such per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) via incineration in Illinois. Additionally, [SB561](#) will enact PFAS reduction measures with firefighting foam and food packaging, although mounting amendments to the bill may delay or deter some reductions. While [SB562](#) will allow the EPA to establish a take back program for local fire departments that use and store older firefighting foam made with perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances. These statehouse bills follow a federal [lawsuit filed in February 2020](#) by [Earthjustice](#) attorneys on behalf of plaintiffs Save Our County (East Liverpool, OH), Community In-Power and Development Association (Port Arthur, TX), United Congregations of Metro East (St. Louis Metro East), and Sierra Club, against the DOD and others, over the charge of [current](#) and pending damages from their PFAS firefighting foam incineration contract with a [number of incinerators](#) and kilns across the country in environmental justice communities. [No environmental impact assessment](#) occurred during the [incinerator](#) contract process. [HR2591, PFAS Waste Incineration Ban Act of 2019](#) (including PFAS firefighting foam), was filed in Congress, became part of [HR535](#) which passed the House, but [stalled in the Senate](#). Now is a time for states’ rights to regulate PFAS.

In May 2015, a [global network](#) of over 200 chemical and environmental scientists from 38 countries published [The Madrid Statement on Poly- and Perfluoroalkyl Substances \(PFASs\)](#), a lengthy list of health hazards and suggestions to eliminate long- and shorter-chain PFAS, and to develop safer non-fluorinated alternatives. PFAS are a class of approximately 6,000 man-made chemicals, all of which contain fluorine atoms bound to a carbon chain, the earliest PFAS being an accidental [DuPont](#) and [3M invention in the 1930’s](#). The highly fluorinated chemicals include (Continued on Page 2)

(PFAs, Continued from Page 1)

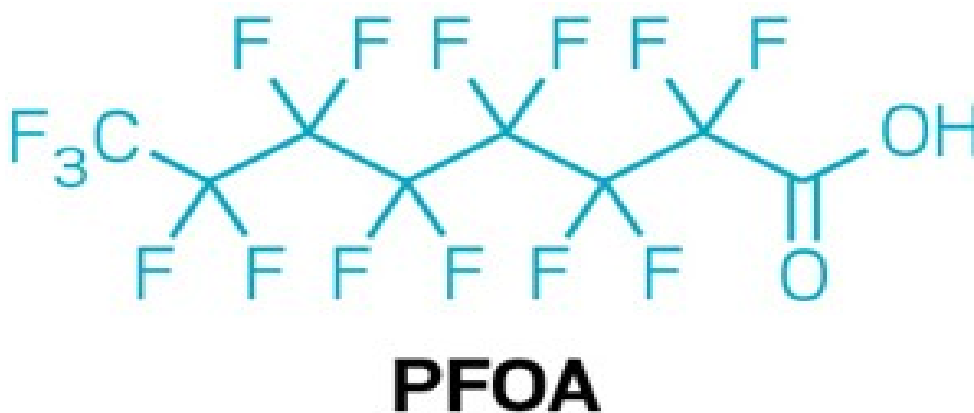
water-repellent clothing, stain resistant fabrics and carpets, non-stick cookware and food contact paper, some cosmetics and dental floss, some firefighting foams, and products that resist grease, water, and oil. These man-made “forever chemicals” were in your old DuPont [Teflon pans](#), [Gore-Tex](#) or [3M Scotchgard™](#)-coated rain jackets, [deli-wrap and food take-out containers](#), pizza boxes, microwave popcorn bags, several “Glide” [dental flosses](#), and Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF, a [3M product](#)) or firefighting foam used by the military and airports since the [1970’s](#). The chemical waste from production and use persists for thousands of years, and has spread worldwide into water, air and soil, from the deep ocean to mountain tops and nearly all living creatures. PFAS production byproducts and PFAS [incineration](#) (also with [uncertain byproducts](#) from incomplete combustion), have high potential for [toxic](#) waste and emissions, although some of the byproducts can be sequestered and reused during manufacturing.

According to the [CDC/ATSDR](#), [Madrid Statement](#), and [other research](#), PFAS exposure is associated with testicular and kidney cancer, liver malfunction, hypothyroidism, high cholesterol, obesity, ulcerative colitis, high blood pressure and pre-eclampsia in pregnant women, lower birth weight and size, reduced hormone levels and delayed puberty, and decreased immune response to vaccines in children. [National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine scientists](#) continue to research the impact of PFAS on health, including [testimony from virtual town halls](#) consisting of lay and professional people.

In May 2016, the Environmental Protection Agency issued the [Safe Drinking Water Act lifetime health advisories and recommended actions](#) for drinking water systems with individual or combined levels of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA, a long C8 carbon-fluorite chain), and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) greater than 70 parts per trillion (see further updated [EPA PFAS information](#)).

The previous federal administration held up an investigative report exposing the hazards of PFAS, but eventually it was [released by the CDC in 2018 after congressional pressure](#). [Congressional hearings](#) were held on firefighting foam pollution at US Defense Department sites. At least [36 military installations](#) have on-base drinking water contamination, and the DOD found [401 military installations](#) have known or potential contamination. At former [Chanute](#) Air Force Base in central Illinois, 58 wells were tested, and 38 had 162 - 2,098,000 ppt PFOS and PFOA during base wide assessment and inspection at the fire training area. Existing groundwater treatment systems had to be upgraded with granulated activated carbon to partially mitigate PFOS/PFOA discharges. The [DOD](#) now recently limits the use of aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) to responses to emergency events, and it is no longer used for land-based testing and training. Each release of AFFF is responded to as a chemical spill response. Yet the [DOD](#) says that PFAS-free foams don’t put out fires quickly, and it’s [not clear whether non-PFAS alternatives](#) are much safer. The Navy acknowledges, “[completely preventing exposure to PFC/PFAS is unlikely, and no effective recommendations can be made for entirely reducing individual exposures in the general population.](#)”

(Continued on Page 3)



When mixed with sulphuric acid, fluorite produces [hydrogen fluoride](#), an industrial chemical precursor, wherein in combination with [methane, in a series of reactions, PFAS](#) result.

(PFAs, Continued from Page 2)

Outdoor gear retail companies, including [Patagonia](#), [Columbia](#), [Adidas](#) and [Brooks running shoes](#), are attempting to phase out PFAS in their civilian rain gear and other products. Yet [Gore/Gore-Tex](#) seems quite proud of its myriad expanded polytetrafluoroethylene (ePTFE, a PFAS) and other PFAS product applications from the household to [protective](#) gear and other [material science applications](#) for extreme conditions outdoors, in the military, industrial work and outer space. A number of [chemists](#) and companies like [Chemours](#) (a [spin-off](#) of [DuPont](#)'s fluoroproduct business during ongoing legal issues, when use of the PFOA variety of PFAS were discontinued and [liability transferred to the spin-offs](#)) are ever engineering more fluoropolymers for many technical uses. Yet others acknowledge fluoropolymers' persistence and emissions associated with their production, use, and disposal, and believe [production and uses should be curtailed](#) except in cases of essential uses. Civilian consumers can learn about the manufacturing [partnerships](#) to minimize toxic supply chain chemicals and processes (items on the [Restricted Substance List](#), including PFAS), such as [Bluesign](#) or [Oeko-Tex](#), and look for their certification on clothing labels. [PFASCentral.org](#) lists more companies who are attempting to eliminate PFAS. However, substitutions of new short-chain PFAS for the long-chain C8 PFAS appears to be producing health [problems](#) too, although some claim that non-fluorinated water-repellant options may be [adequate](#) (albeit not oil repellent).

Over the past [two decades](#), two common types of PFAS, PFOA and PFOS, have been largely [phased out](#) of use in fluoropolymer production by [eight](#) major U.S. manufacturers. However, PFOA remains a processing aid, especially in [Asia](#). Substitution of shorter carbon-chain fluoropolymers has still produced environmental and health [hazards](#) in air and waterways near manufacturing sites. Fluoropolymer production [byproducts can also be highly volatile](#) and therefore difficult to remove in filters or liquid scrubber baths. Chemours discovered more than 250 unique PFAS in their wastewater in North Carolina.

In September 2020, [Illinois EPA](#) began to test municipal water sources for PFAS, and they continue to test many locations in southern Illinois in 2021. EWG also has a partial PFAS site [map](#). According to IEPA's [PFAS Investigation Network](#)



[Rosiclare Mine, Hardin County, IL.](#)

A key element in PFAS production is fluorite, Illinois' state mineral (fluorspar is the commercial name). The U.S.'s highest producing fluorspar mines were formerly in and near [Rosiclare](#), Illinois in Hardin County, commercially producing from the [late 19th century](#) until 1995. [Geologists reporting our local fluorite](#) noted its WWII era national defense and economic value, as fluorspar was flux material in steel production, and used in glass and enamel production by the ceramics industry. This period is also when DuPont and 3M commercial production of PFAS products began. Among the first uses of [PTFE or Teflon was to contain highly reactive uranium](#) in the WWII [Manhattan Project](#). The US is no longer a top fluorspar producer; China, Mexico, Mongolia, South Africa and Vietnam were [top producers in 2020](#).

[Interactive Dashboard and Map](#), Carbondale, Lake of Egypt, Saline Valley Conservancy District, and Rend Lake Inter-City Water System water apparently were below the Minimum Reporting Level for various PFAS. However, Metro East sites including Wood River, Alton, Bethalto, Edwardsville and Collinsville water had notable PFAS. When PFAS are above laboratory minimum reporting levels (MRLs), Illinois EPA will work with communities to ensure residents are informed and to determine how to reduce exposure. On [January 28, 2021, Illinois EPA issued health advisories](#) for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in accordance with Illinois groundwater regulations.

[Illinois Chapter Sierra Club supports SB561](#) PFAS Reduction, and [HB3190](#) Safety Tech (banning PFAS incineration). Contact your state representatives with your position on the PFAS legislation (see contact information on page 7). The national Sierra Club also has a [PFAS petition you can sign](#) to the EPA to hold DuPont, Chemours and 3M accountable.

SUMMER 2021: SHAWNEE GROUP SIERRA CLUB VIRTUAL MEMBER PROGRAMS

Information for joining these online Zoom webinar meetings will be shared later by Shawnee Group email, [Shawnee Group of the Sierra Club Facebook Page](#), and at <https://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/shawnee>. **No in-person Shawnee Group member programs will occur through July 4th, per national Sierra Club directions, because of COVID.** Do also consider Illinois Sierra groups' virtual presentations: www.sctrips.org.

No Shawnee Group member programs will be held during June & July 2021.

Date & Time: Thursday, August 12, 2021, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Presenters: Aimee Hemphill, Rick Whitecotton, Judy Groskind, & Kathy Belletire

Program Title: Creating & Restoring Pollinator Habitat with Native Flora at Crab Orchard Refuge: A Friends Project

Location: via Zoom link—registration access to be shared later by email and on Shawnee Group's Website (<https://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/shawnee>) and FaceBook page (<https://www.facebook.com/SierraClubShawnee>)

Please note: Sierra Club National will decide in July whether to again permit in-person meetings. If it does, we may shift our August program to an in-person event. We will notify you via email and on our website and the Shawnee Group of the Sierra Club Facebook page.



[The Climate Economy Education Inc](#), a local 501(c)(3) nonprofit for education, is hosting weekly Zoom meetings on a variety of topics and everyone is invited to tune in:

- Mondays at noon for Sustainable Business News and Tips
- Tuesdays at noon for Our Southern Illinois Local Carbon Network Progress
- Wednesdays at noon for Solar and Energy Efficiency Jobs News

Also, everyone can participate in the "Community Climate SWOT" (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) online survey to help optimize our community efforts towards clean energy and climate adaptation and mitigation activities. Go to the CLimate Economy Action Network, CLEANetwork.com, for links to meetings and more information!

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 babitaji@aol.com if you are interested in helping in any way.

Concerned about fracking?

Contact Barb McKasson at babitaji@aol.com if you are interested to help. Bills to support in Springfield, include [HB282](#) (fracking transparency bill) and [HB1562 \(People's Property Protection Act\)](#), concerning subsurface trespass), so do contact your legislators. However, Barb can alert you of many action, outreach and planning opportunities that come up.

FYI, to receive more timely alerts from the Illinois Chapter of the Sierra Club, sign up online at their state website: https://secure.sierraclub.org/site/SPageNavigator/Chapter/il_newsletter_signup.html?jsessionid=84420F4C49A5A8CD264E1E3C3F131E25.app205a

Call for articles and photographs for Shawnee Trails! The next issue will be published in June. Please send your Word, PDF or JPG files to sabrina@midwest.net by **Monday, August 2nd**.

SUMMER 2021 – NO SHAWNEE GROUP SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS

Because of Governor Pritzker's [Executive Orders](#) and their direction to shelter-in-place during the COVID-19 pandemic, related [Illinois Department of Public Health](#) and [CDC](#) guidelines, and Illinois Chapter and national Sierra Club [response](#), we will not have organized group outings for a while. Still, the governor's orders do recognize the health benefits of allowing individuals to exercise outdoors (e.g., walking, hiking, running, bicycling), so long as one is not sick with COVID-19, avoids crowded places (possible at trailheads), and follows social-distancing guidelines of staying 6 feet apart from other people. Those at higher risk of negative COVID-19 outcomes, including the elderly and those with pre-existing health conditions, are advised to stay at home. In southern Illinois, some federal and state park land has reopened for socially-distanced use such as hiking. However, some park facilities like bathrooms, playgrounds, campgrounds and shelter houses may still be closed because they attract a crowd, and they have commonly touched surfaces where one could transfer the COVID-19 coronavirus.

Check the Shawnee National Forest and Illinois Department of Natural Resources' state park websites for updates and **rules** about hiking trail and waterway closures and openings during the COVID-19 pandemic. IDNR state parks: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/closures/Pages/ParksOpenDuringCoVID19.aspx>
General US Forest Service COVID-19 advice: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/covid19-updates>
Shawnee National Forest: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/shawnee>
Crab Orchard NWR: https://www.fws.gov/refuge/crab_orchard/

Visit our older Shawnee Group Sierra Club blog page, lower right side (Index), for a list of weblinks to local hiking trail descriptions, and directions about how to get there: <https://shawneegroup.blogspot.com/>



[New visitor center at Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge, 6987 Headquarters Rd., Marion](#)

Service Outings – Help Save High Quality Natural Areas

Shawnee Group is committed to helping rid high-quality natural areas of non-native invasive plants (NNIS) that are threatening to crowd out our native plant communities at La-Rue Pine Hills Research Natural Area (Snake Road) and at Fern Rocks Nature Preserve (Trillium Trail) in Giant City State Park.

COVID-19 pandemic guidelines restrict group activities, but service outings will eventually occur again.

Please consult our web page sierraclub.org/illinois/shawnee or our Facebook Page ([Sierra Club Shawnee Group](#)) for further developments in 2021 or contact Barb at 618-549-9684, babitaji@aol.com or text 618-534-7440.

Piasa Palisades Group Outings Chair:

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

Eastern Missouri Group Outings Chair:

Doug Melville, 636-288-1055
douglas.k.melville@gmail.com
<http://sierraclub.org/missouri/eastern-missouri>

Future Outings TBA:

Updates listed on our or Illinois Chapter websites:
<http://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/shawnee>
<https://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/events-calendar>
Other short notice outings and events may be announced on our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/SierraClubShawnee>

Illinois Chapter Legislative Roundup

by Barb McKasson

A lot of hard work by the Illinois Chapter Sierra Club lobbyists and volunteers is now paying off with all of our [priority bills](#) either in serious promising negotiations or passed in either the Illinois House or Senate.

Both of the bills regulating the toxic “forever” PFAS chemicals have passed unanimously in one house and will now go on to the other house— [SB561](#) on phasing out PFAS firefighting foam and [HB3190](#) banning incineration of the PFAS firefighting foam. SB561 will now be voted on in the House and HB3190 will now be voted on in the Senate. See the feature story and how to help on our front page.

There are currently many thousands of lead service lines in Illinois, in urban and rural areas, with the chief concern being the effect on child development. The “Lead Service Line Replacement Act” - [HB3739](#)- requires all community water suppliers to set up a fee and procedures to keep lead out of our drinking water. It also sets up a process for financial relief to residential customers who qualify for assistance in order to have clean water and requires the DCEO to establish a comprehensive low-income water assistance policy and program with specified requirements. It requires community water systems to report to the Illinois EPA. This act passed in the House and now moves on to the Senate, with Senator Robert Peters as the main sponsor. **Call your State Senator** to co-sponsor passage of HB3739 in the Senate.

The “Nutrient Loss Reduction Act” increases Illinois’ capacity to meet the state 2025 milestone to reduce nitrogen by 15% and phosphorus by 25% in Illinois waters. This will improve the health of our waterways and cut down on the nutrient pollution causing the “Dead Zone” in the Gulf of Mexico. SB2474 and HB1792 will ramp up funding to implement the “Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy” including resources needed for reporting, research, water-quality monitoring and technical assistance. Some of the money would provide cost-share funding for nutrient capture projects on farmland. The total funding would be \$138 million spent over six years. **Call your state representative and senator** to support nutrient loss reduction from farmland, streets and wastewater plants by co-sponsoring [SB2474](#) (Senator Villivilam) or [HB1792](#) (Representative Vella).

We have been working on the “Clean Energy Jobs Act” (CEJA) for over two years now, educating our members, the public and state legislators. Governor Pritzker has now ramped up his efforts to pass an energy bill that will help Illinois transition from fossil fuels to more energy efficiency and renewable energy sources. Illinois Chapter lobbyists and other members of the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition will now be negotiating with unions and the governor’s office to work out details for a final bill to be voted on by the end of this legislative session, which is May 31st. **Please call or Email your state senator and representative today.**

- **The Message:** The Clean Energy Jobs Act will create quality clean energy jobs, secure a carbon-free power sector by 2030, increase access to clean transportation, incentivize modern energy businesses, and make sure no Illinois workers or communities are left behind as we transition to 100% clean energy.
- **The Ask:** Will you co-sponsor Ann Williams’ [House Bill 0804](#) for a clean jobs economy? If not, can we count on you to vote “yes” when it comes up for a vote?
- **For Your Senator:** Will you co-sponsor Senator Castro’s [Senate Bill 1718](#) for a clean jobs economy? If not, can we count on you to vote “yes” when it comes up for a vote?

The purpose of the “Environmental Justice Act” – [HB3090](#) – is to help remedy the fact that the air, land and water pollution in Illinois is highly concentrated in minority and low-income communities. This act would upgrade the Illinois Environmental Protection Act to address this injustice and also increase funding for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to carry out the new responsibilities. This would also give disadvantaged communities a stronger voice in permitting and enforcement actions. Details of this bill are being worked out, so it has been referred to the House Rules Committee. You can help further this bill by **urging your state representative to become a co-sponsor of HB3090**. The main sponsor is Representative Sonya M. Harper.

For more information and fact sheets on all these issues, go to: <<https://www.sierraclub.org/illinois>> and click “Legislative Priorities” under the “Legislative” tab. For even more information on CEJA, go to <ilcleanjobs.org> which is the website for the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition. For more on lead in water service lines to homes and businesses, go to <ilenviro.org>. For more on the Environmental Justice Act, go to <ilga.gov> and look up [HB3090](#).

Shawnee National Forest Committee Report

Shawnee National Forest Committee is a committee of the Illinois Chapter Sierra Club with membership open to any Sierra Club member in Illinois. The committee is currently in the process of establishing yearly goals and objectives. Anyone wishing to join should contact Barb McKasson, the Committee chair at habitaji@aol.com.

The committee sponsored volunteer invasive plant eradication events at Snake Road in the [LaRue-Pine Hills Research Natural Area](#) which has largely been interrupted by Forest Service pandemic measures. However, the Forest Service will probably open up for volunteer invasive species removal later this year. We previously sponsored two garlic mustard pulls in the Bald Knob Wilderness and in the Snake Road area. We will continue to monitor the areas for any resurgence. In any case, we will continue to observe the general conditions at LaRue Swamp/Otter Pond/Snake Road.

In April, we learned that a levee district excavated a ditch from the southern unit of LaRue Swamp because they feared that the area would become flooded from the spring rains. They also trapped and killed the beavers that had lived in the pond. We took pictures of the damage and also the plants with their roots that were now exposed. We officially objected to the damage done by these actions and demanded that remedial action be taken to keep LaRue Swamp and Otter Pond from being drained and from probably causing native and rare plants and aquatic animals from being killed. We also expressed our concern that there are now no beavers to do the work of repairing leaks that can (and have) now occur around the dug-out area. We plan to go monitor the site soon.

Forest Service staff quickly responded and installed a flap gate structure in the gap, which stops the excess drainage but keeps the swamp from overflow. The structure leaks, however, and the absence of beavers means it won't be maintained, with leaks being repaired by them. Swamps and beavers possess intricate [ecological relationships](#) and their removal may have long-term negative consequences. We need to keep a close eye out for traps in the more northern parts of LaRue.

Over the winter, at the invitation of the Forest Service, we accompanied the botanist and other staff to several high quality designated Natural Areas that the FS wants the SNF Committee to adopt. We hope to do this, but it would help if other members would volunteer to be trained and to help with this task. To increase our capacity to protect the eighty high-quality designated Natural Areas and the SNF resource in general, we plan to reach out and cooperate more with the many nature-based organizations in far southern Illinois and also recruit more volunteers.



Illinois Legislative Contacts: CALL YOUR LEGISLATORS TODAY!

State Dist. 109 - Rep. Darren Bailey: 618-665-4109 or 217-782-2087; <http://www.ilhousegop.org/contactbailey>

State Dist. 115 - Rep. Terri Bryant: 618-242-8115; 217-782-0387; staterepterribryant@gmail.com

State Dist. 116 - Rep. Nathan D. Reitz: 618-282-7284; 217-782-1018 repnreitz@gmail.com

State Dist. 117 - Rep. Dave Severin: 618-440-5090; 217-782-1051; www.ilhousegop.org/contactseverin

State Rep. 118 – Rep. Patrick Windhorst: 618-294-8703; 217-782-5131; www.ilhousegop.org/windhorst_contact

Senate Dist. 55 - Senator Dale Righter: 217-235-6033; 217-782-6674; dalerighter.com/Contact

Senate Dist. 58 - Senator Paul Schimpf: 618-684-1100; senshimpf58@gmail.com

Senate Dist. 59 - Senator Dale Fowler: 618-294-8951; 217-782-5509; senatorfowler59@gmail.com

Governor JB Pritzker: 217-782-6830; <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/gov/contactus/Pages/default.aspx>

Speaker of the House Emanuel Chris Welch: 217-782-8120; 708-450-1000; repwelch@emanuelchriswelch.com

Senate President Don Harmon: 217-782-8176; 708-848-2002; <http://www.donharmon.org/contact-senator-harmon>

Congressional Contacts: CALL YOUR CONGRESSMEN TODAY!

Senator Dick Durbin: 618-351-1122; 202-224-2152; <http://www.durbin.senate.gov/>

Senator L. Tammy Duckworth: (202) 224-2854; <https://www.duckworth.senate.gov/>

Representative Mike Bost: 618-457-5787; 202-225-5661; <https://bost.house.gov/>

Representative Mary Miller: 618-240-3155; 202-225-5271; <https://marymiller.house.gov/>

Has Your Email Address Changed?

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: crusso1957@yahoo.com.

Read current and past newsletters on our website: <http://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/shawnee>. The website also lists information on upcoming local programs and outings, plus state and national Sierra Club issues.

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 need Hospitality team members

Provide refreshments for one monthly meeting each year (2nd Thursday). Be the Hospitality Chair to organize refreshment providers and greeters 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 Jane Cogie, 618-549-4673, jane.cogie@gmail.com.



The Native plant sale on May 1 was a huge success! Thanks to all who volunteered and participated. Southernwood Gardens sold around 495 plants and made a profit of \$2,477.00. Shawnee Group made \$495.00 from the sale. Thank you all!

**Native Plant Sale Committee
Shawnee Group Sierra Club**

Shawnee Group Sierra Club T-Shirts for Sale!

Show your support for our local group's activities.

Contact Barb McKasson at 618-549-9684 or ba4ba5lu@aol.com.

White logo on blue T-Shirt **\$15**
Medium Large or X-Large