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**The William Bartram Group**  
*Serving Greenville, Laurens, Spartanburg, and Union Counties*

# Bartram Bulletin

*Explore, enjoy, and protect the planet.*

Volume 43, Number 4

May 2013

*No May meeting*

## **Outing to Natural Burial Ground**

**Saturday, May 11**  
*call Eric for details*

## **Coming in June A Bike Ride on The Swamp Rabbit Trail**



The William Bartram Group meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month (except July) at 255 Enterprise Blvd. Greenville, SC 29615-3577 at 7:30 P.M.—  
**unless otherwise noted.**

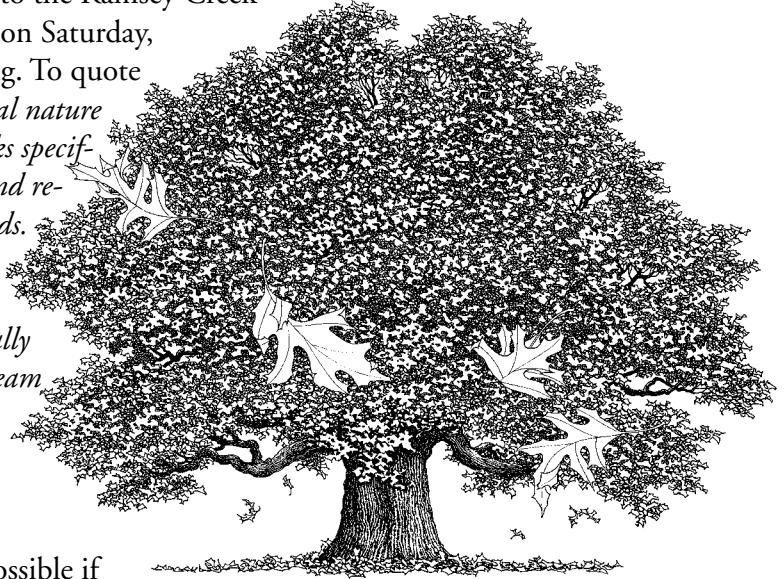
see web site for directions  
<http://sierraupstate.org>

# Tour a Natural Burial Site

*by Eric Thompson*

We will take a trip to the Ramsey Creek Preserve memorial site on Saturday, May 11 as a club outing. To quote their web-site, *Memorial nature parks are memorial parks specifically designed to save and restore significant wildlands. These parks will be a convenient, economical, beautiful, environmentally responsible and mainstream alternative to existing memorial parks.*

Please call Eric Thompson at 297-6015 as soon as possible if you are interested. 🐾



# It's Spring Cleaning Time Again

*an excerpt from Mr. Green, Sierra online magazine*

Americans dispose of more than 12 million tons of textiles annually, less than 25 percent of which is recycled or reused, dooming most secondhand clothing and carpets to a soggy afterlife crammed deep in a landfill.

Donating items is indeed the best way to ensure reuse. If major thrift stores get clothing that's too ratty to resell, the cloth gets converted into things like industrial rags or sound-dampening material. When donating to a used-goods store, make sure it recycles unwanted materials. If your old duds get rejected, there's not much you can do except deploy them as household rags or support the arts by giving them to quilt makers or other rag-intensive craftspeople.

Recycling carpets is a serious pain because it's so difficult to separate their materials. Some 3 million tons of carpets are dumped each year, with only about 5 percent recycled or reused. Outfits like the Carpet Recyclers ([thecarpetrecyclers.com](http://thecarpetrecyclers.com)) can extract and recycle carpet components. Go to [carpetrecovery.org](http://carpetrecovery.org) for more information.





# Outings

and Dates to Remember

Nonmembers of the Sierra Club are welcome to join us on our outings. Please call the trip leader to let him/her know that you are going. She/he can then give you a location to meet as well as information on last minute changes. Discuss how strenuous the trip is, and any health problems you may have of which she/he should be aware. Please, no pets, guns, radios, etc. on hikes. Interested in leading a trip? Call Eric Thompson (864) 297-6015.

In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see <<http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms>> or call (415) 977-5630.

In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing, or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

**Trail Service Outings at Mountain Bridge Wilderness Area for 2013** • May 18 • September 21 • October 19 • November 23

**Saturday, May 18**

Please join us on Saturday, May 18, 2013 for a Trail Service Project to improve and preserve the existing trails at these mountain parks. If you enjoy these trails, please plan to join us on May 18 or one or more of the other 2013 outings. For more details, contact Jim Majors at (864) 233-7576 or [jim\\_majors@bellsouth.net](mailto:jim_majors@bellsouth.net).



**Adopt-a-Highway Dates for 2013**

May 18 • August 24 • November 16

**Saturday, May 18**

The Bartram Group has a two mile stretch on East North (also known as) Old Spartanburg Road between Mitchell Road and Brushy Creek. We will meet at 9:00 A.M. at Mitchell Road Elementary School which is on the corner of Mitchell Road and Old Spartanburg Road. If it is pouring rain, we'll not meet. You will be provided the bags, twisty ties, work gloves, orange safety vests and water. We cover two miles, both sides of the street, and are very fortunate to have sidewalks on the entire route. Contact Steve Root at (864) 346-3081 or [stephenjohn-root@gmail.com](mailto:stephenjohn-root@gmail.com), or Dennis Chamberlain at (864) 430-3754.

## Volunteers In Action

Thanks to **Dennis Chamberlain, Trey Fouché,** and **Karen Mascaro** for work on Altera. Thanks to **Steve Root** and **Ed Marsh** for much appreciated help on outings.

Trail Volunteers for April 20th were: **Dale Bartels, Martin Gorecki, Kam Watkins, Pam Schoon,** and **Jim Majors.** Thanks for giving your time and labor!



*Inspiration Point in Yosemite National Park*



I think the environment should be put in the category of our national security. Defense of our resources is just as important as defense abroad. Otherwise what is there to defend?

—Robert Redford  
*Yosemite National Park dedication, 1985*

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# From the Chair

by Eric Thompson

## Let's Help the Chapter

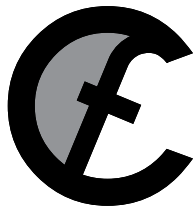
Last month, I talked here about the visit from Susan Corbett, who serves as the volunteer Chair of the South Carolina Chapter. Susan highlighted many activities that have been happening at the state level. Most of the activities are associated with Conservation issues like national waste companies lobbying to weaken local regulations of landfills, the health, safety and costs to consumers associated with building new nuclear plants and legislation pending that could make solar power more available.

While the Sierra Club is 99% volunteers, we do need to support of some paid staff like our part-time lobbyist, Benton Wislinski and associated office support.

To that end, the Bartram Executive Committee has personally pledged \$1,000 in donations to the Chapter. We are asking the rest of the membership to match our commitment by sending a check in any amount you can afford, made out to the "South Carolina Sierra Club" to our local address, Sierra Club-William Bartram Group, PO Box 5923 Greenville, SC 29606-5923. *We appreciate your support.*

### Ten Easy Tips on How to Get Started Gardening

1. Start small.
2. Ask questions.
3. Get seedlings instead of seeds.
4. Use garden soil and/or compost.
5. Grow vegetables you love to eat.
6. Build your garden around easy plants.
7. Grow natives.
8. Water regularly — every day or every other day when plants are young, two or three times a week once they get established.
9. Get good gloves.
10. Don't treat gardening like a chore.
11. And here's one bonus tip, which gives me a chance to link to a memorable column that has nothing to do with gardening — Wear sunscreen.



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 **Deadline for June bulletin is  
Friday, May 17**

Send your submissions to [wbartramnews@gmail.com](mailto:wbartramnews@gmail.com)

## Lawyers Supporting the Environment

### Dennis Chamberlain

General Practice • Emphasis on Bankruptcy, Financial and Business Issues

819 East North Street, Greenville, SC 29601; (864) 331-3069  
[wdchamberlainlaw@greenvillelaw.net](mailto:wchamberlainlaw@greenvillelaw.net)

### Frank J. Dana III, CELA

Certified as an Elder Law Attorney by the National Elder Law Foundation  
**Upstate Elder Law, P.A.**

Wills and Estate Planning, Medicaid Planning, Guardianships and Conservatorships, Estate Administration, Special Needs Trusts  
15 Brendan Way, Suite 130, Greenville, SC 29615; (864) 288-7631  
[www.UpstateElderLaw.com](http://www.UpstateElderLaw.com); [info@UpstateElderLaw.com](mailto:info@UpstateElderLaw.com)

### Tom Dudley • Kenison, Dudley & Crawford, LLC

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704 East McBee Avenue, Greenville, SC 29601; (864) 242-4899  
[tom@conlaw.com](mailto:tom@conlaw.com)

### Ronald A. Maxwell

With Emphasis on Personal Injury and On the Job Injuries

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516 West Avenue, North Augusta, South Carolina 29861  
(803) 202-1100; [maxwell@maxwelllawfirm.com](mailto:maxwell@maxwelllawfirm.com)

### Don Pilzer

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300 University Ridge, Greenville, SC 29601; (800) 518-0234  
[don@donpilzer.com](mailto:don@donpilzer.com)

### Gary W. Poliakoff

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## The Green Spot

 *Sharing the Green*

**Just the Facts**

- Five or more barrels of water are needed to produce a single barrel of oil from mining oil shale. Coal, uranium, and petroleum production already uses 1 to 2.5 gallons of water in processing and cooling for every gallon of fuel product. But the quest for energy security has oil companies looking to other sources of fossil fuels, despite the even higher water cost. Basically, oil shale is sedimentary rock that must be heated either underground or mined and heated off-site to then separate and collect the resulting liquid.
- The average annual cost of a bicycle is \$308, versus \$8,220 for the average car.
- Investment in green jobs would create four times the jobs than investing that same \$100 billion in the oil industry. What could shifting funds to greener pastures look like? Instead of building and expanding roads, green jobs include building and expanding mass transit, and increasing existing buildings' energy efficiency.

—from *The Green Life*