

Chesapeake

Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club

Maryland Primary Election Guide 2006

Perez for Attorney General

An Impressive Environmental Record Makes Tom Perez an Outstanding Choice

By Dolores Milmo and Betsy Johnson—“Stellar” is the word many use to describe Tom Perez’s performance on environmental initiatives during his tenure on Montgomery’s County Council.

Tom Perez is the only candidate for Maryland attorney general who brings an impressive environmental record to the race. He bravely opposed the Inter-county Connector during the 2002 campaign and helped form the Coalition to Build the Purple Metro Line. As president of the Montgomery County Council, he took on tough issues long avoided by previous council presidents. He was responsible for bringing the Clarksburg development debacle to light after the citizens had worked for a year without results.

Perez brought other controversial issues to the council agenda, such as limiting development in the county’s agricultural reserve. His successful initiative to protect the 93,000 acre reserve resulted in a ban on sewer and water extensions. These initiatives on the council show Perez’s greatest strengths: a willingness to take on the tough fights, an ability to develop consensus among disparate factions and, best of all, a willingness to give credit to others.

As attorney general, Perez pledges to “rock the boat.” Many people see the attorney general as the governor’s lawyer, but not Tom Perez. He sees the attorney general as “the people’s lawyer,” and he wants to

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Why Vote?

By Betsy Johnson—Did you know that many critical races in the state are decided in the primary? Yet, I’m sorry to say, only about half of our Maryland members vote in the primary. So here is a list of reasons why primaries are so important:

1. Because many of our districts are overwhelmingly either Democratic or Republican, many of the races are decided in the primary.
2. Even if the district is more heterogeneous, voting in the primary gives you an opportunity to choose the candidates you want to run in the general election.
3. Your Sierra Club political committee has spent weeks interviewing candidates and making endorsements. We need you to vote for the people we recommend. Our power is derived from our ability to influence a large number of voters. But if the voters don’t turn out, then our power is diminished.

4. We need to vote to diminish the power of the corporate influence over our political process.
5. We are privileged to be able to vote in democratic elections. We should take every opportunity to exercise that privilege.

I hope that’s enough to convince every single one of you to come out and vote on September 12. If you think you won’t be able to vote on that day, then you can either request an absentee ballot or vote early at one of the designated early voting locations. See page 6 for more information on early voting. The deadline for requesting an absentee ballot is September 5. You can find more information about absentee ballots and early voting by calling your local election office. You can find the phone number on the web at www.elections.state.md.us/citizens/county_boards.htm.

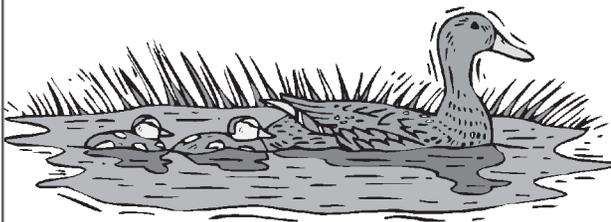


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Vote as if the planet depends on it.

It does.



Betsy Johnson, Chair

Who Gets Our Endorsement?

“Senator Paul Sarbanes to Step Down!” So screamed the *Washington Post* headline early last year that began the Maryland political season now in full swing. A retiring U.S. senator caused a domino effect that is being felt throughout the state. Congressman Ben Cardin resigned his seat to run for Senate, State Senator Paula Hollinger resigned her seat to run for Cardin’s seat along with a host of other candidates, and now loads of people are lining up to run for Hollinger’s seat. If that weren’t enough activity for one year, all of Maryland’s state and local elected officials run for reelection this year, from the governor down to the county councils in all jurisdictions. We have a lot of work to do.

The Sierra Club has a well-defined political program with rules for making endorsements. Many of our members don’t understand our endorsement policy, and I often get angry calls when we endorse a candidate they don’t like. But the policy makes sense, and I would like to outline it for you briefly:

- ◆ We are a non-partisan organization. We can endorse viable candidates from any party if they support us on our issues.
- ◆ Incumbency matters. Incumbents who heed requests to vote for our agenda usually get our endorsement. They have proved that we can rely on them to help get our agenda through, and we reward those actions with an endorsement even if a challenger has a better environmental platform. We do this in order to send a consistent message to elected officials that if they work for our issues, we will support them.
- ◆ Viability matters. Challengers need to prove that they have the campaign structure and enough money to mount a credible campaign. Such a candidate may not be the person who has the best talking points on the environment. Our goal is to get good people elected to office, not to fall on our swords in support of an idealistic message.
- ◆ Political landscape matters. We strive to get the best person elected that we can get in a particular district. That may mean we endorse someone who does not have

stellar environmental credentials, but who is still the best of the bunch.

There are always exceptions, but for the most part we follow those rules very closely. Our endorsement process includes having the candidates fill out a questionnaire and submit to an interview by Club leaders, who then make recommendations to the appropriate executive committee. All endorsement recommendations must be approved by two levels of the Club. For local and state candidates, those levels are the group and state. For federal candidates, they are the chapter executive committee and the national political committee.

Much of the Sierra Club’s influence with legislators at all levels of government is derived from its political program. Legislators listen to us because they know that our endorsements tend to swing lots of voters. We are considered the “good housekeeping seal of approval” for the environmental community when it comes to elections, and our endorsement is sought by many candidates in Maryland. But the endorsement is only the first step. Its effectiveness depends, in large part, on the actions of our members. We need you to be involved in the political process!

We also know that there are Sierra Club members who don’t vote. Your vote is very important, and we have enough members to swing a close election. Many races are decided in the primary—so it’s important to vote in both primary and general elections. If you will not be here on election day, request an absentee ballot. You can do that at the local board of elections for your county, or online at www.elections.state.md.us/registered_voters/absentee_ballot.html

This election year is filled with dangers and opportunities. Many who have stepped down from their elected positions have been good environmental supporters. We must not let those seats go to our opponents. We need the Sierra Club presence to be felt out there. If you would like to get involved, please call me at 301-656-4948. Rest assured that we will find something for you to do. ■

Reprinted from Chesapeake, Summer 2006 Edition

Two Strong Candidates for the Democratic Nomination

The Sierra Club has not made an endorsement in the Maryland Senate race. However, we wish to highlight two of the candidates running for the Democratic nomination: Ben Cardin, currently serving as Representative from MD Congressional District 3, and Kweisi Mfume, former Representative from MD Congressional District 4. Both of these candidates have excellent environmental records and have been endorsed in the past by Sierra Club. We interviewed both of them and concluded that we couldn't make a choice at this time. So, to introduce them to you, we are printing their answers to the Sierra Club Questionnaire for Federal Candidates.

Another candidate, Josh Rales, is putting a lot of his own money into ads promoting his candidacy. We chose not to interview him after learning that he is a former Republican who not only supported George Bush, but who contributed a large sum of money to Bush's campaign in 2003. Our concern is that his support of Mr. Bush bespeaks a lack of consideration of the destructive environmental policies of the Bush administration. Of course, should he win the nomination, we will take another look.

Candidates Cardin and Mfume Answer Our Chapter's Questions

What has been your greatest environmental achievement?

Cardin: From my work in the state legislature to enact the original Chesapeake Bay Agreement, to my role in Congress building on the federal partnership in the Bay program, I am most proud of my efforts to restore the Chesapeake Bay. While the Bay ecosystem is not as healthy as anyone would like today, the regional, inter-governmental and private partner-

ship to "Save the Bay" is a national model for effective environmental progress.

Mfume: I believe lead paint poisoning is the most significant environmental health threat to children, particularly in low-income and minority communities. As President of the NAACP, I joined the Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning in filing a class action lawsuit against the lead paint industry, and helped



Ben Cardin

to increase awareness of this problem. I also worked with the Maryland General Assembly in support of legislation that would set stricter standards for landlords who own properties that contain high levels of lead dust. As Senator, I will work to pass federal legislation to combat this preventable form of environmental poisoning. As a Congressman, I supported the Preventive Health Amendments Act of 1992, which extended the program of block grants for preventive health and health services, including lead poisoning.

If elected, how will you provide environmental leadership, and

on what aspects will you focus your efforts?

Cardin: I believe the federal commitment to the Chesapeake Bay program must be expanded and made a national funding priority, like the restoration of the Florida Everglades. As well, the program has always been largely focused on education and incentives for action. Upon the 20th anniversary of the first Chesapeake Bay



Kweisi Mfume

Agreement, I believe it is necessary to reassess this strategy and consider stronger, regulatory action to protect the Chesapeake's environment.

On a national level, I have worked hard to protect our Clean Air and Water programs from regulatory and funding attacks. I will continue working to see these successful environmental programs strengthened, rather than weakened.

Mfume: As Senator, I will take a leadership role in efforts to preserve and protect the environment. My work in the civil rights community fits well with the environmental movement, because so often,

disadvantaged communities are exposed to significantly more environmental toxins, such as lead paint and solid waste disposal, than those living in more affluent areas. As a Congressman, I cosponsored legislation that would have amended the Solid Waste Disposal Act to allow petitions to be submitted to prevent certain waste facilities from being constructed in environmentally disadvantaged communities. As Senator, I will continue to lead the effort to protect underprivileged communities from big companies.

Second, I am dedicated to protecting the Chesapeake Bay area, and as Congressman, I sponsored legislation that would require the Environmental Protection Agency to apply the hazard ranking system under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to areas in the Chesapeake Bay Program in the same manner as such system is applied to areas in the National Estuary Program. I will continue to lead such efforts as a Senator.

If elected, will you support increasing miles per gallon standards (known as Corporate Average Fuel Economy, or CAFE standards) to a 40 m.p.g. average?

Cardin: Yes.

Mfume: Congress must pass legislation to force car companies to increase fuel efficiency. It is preposterous to believe that the CAFE standards from 1975 are still appropriate today, when technology has increased, and we have a greater awareness of the harmful effects of fuel emissions. As Senator, I will support efforts to amend the CAFE standards to reflect the increase in knowledge and technology we now have available.

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Ben Cardin and Kweisi Mfume on the Environment

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Will you support a law to mandate that at least 20% of our electricity comes from clean, renewable sources by 2020?

Cardin: Yes. The Department of Energy estimates that given current efforts, 7.6% of our energy will come from renewable sources in 10 years. Given the limited nature of current efforts, 20% over the 14 years should be a more than achievable goal.

Mfume: Absolutely. If we want to avoid a global warming catastrophe, we must act now before it is too late. I will lead the charge to pass legislation that increases the availability, and decreases the cost, of renewable energy sources. The federal government needs to do more to encourage the use of alternative energy, and a law mandating that a portion of our electricity come from those sources will have my support.

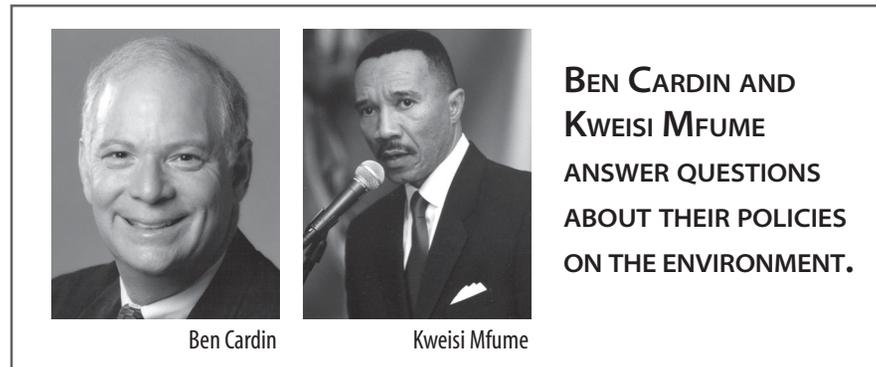
What other measures do you believe Congress should take to curb global warming?

Cardin: I have called for a comprehensive national commitment to achieving energy independence for this nation over the next decade. This effort will have to include significant new programs and requirements for the development of renewable and alternative energy sources and conservation. These efforts should effectively act to curb our emissions of greenhouse gasses. I am also a supporter of working internationally to curb global warming and believe American leadership is essential for success.

Mfume: Congress needs to pass a comprehensive and environmentally sound energy policy that includes the replacement of old power plants with new, more efficient plants. Second, Congress should

offer tax incentives to individuals and companies who use alternative energy sources, such as wind and solar power.

Would you support efforts to force the EPA to produce a more protective rule that requires every power plant to install modern pollution control tech-



nology? Would you reject efforts to allow some power plants to continue indefinitely without cleaning up their pollution, as long as they don't modernize, or as long as power plants in other locations are cleaned up?

Cardin: Yes, on both questions.

Mfume: Yes. Power plants should not be allowed to operate unless they are equipped with the latest pollution-controlling technology. When power plants produce waste, it is incumbent upon them to immediately and completely clean up their own pollution. As Senator, I will work to require power plants to modernize, and dispose of their pollution in an environmentally sound manner.

Would you favor having the Congress restore protection for such bodies of water as headwaters streams, isolated wetlands and prairie potholes?

Cardin: Yes.

Mfume: I have always supported efforts to clean and protect wildlife areas, such as bodies of water and wetlands. I am especially committed to protecting the Chesapeake Bay region, an issue I fought for as a Congressman. I will continue these efforts as Senator.

Will you support dedicated funding for the maintenance and upgrading of our nation's sewage infrastructure and restore funding for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund that assists communities with maintaining and upgrading their wastewater treatment facilities and infrastructure?

Cardin: Yes.

Mfume: Absolutely. Our nation's wastewater treatment facilities must be modernized and maintained on a regular basis. As Senator, I will support legislation to fund and oversee a federal effort to do so.

Would you vote against all bills and amendments authorizing drilling for oil in the Alaska Natural Wildlife Refuge?

Cardin: Yes.

Mfume: Yes. Our national parks and forests are alive with many species of wildlife, from plants to mammals to birds and insects, that we cannot afford to destroy. I will oppose all efforts to authorize drilling for oil or any other destructive endeavors in such areas.

Do you favor the provisions of current law which require the Interior Department to designate critical habitat for the recovery of wildlife species? Would you oppose efforts to weaken these requirements?

Cardin: Yes, on both questions.

Mfume: Yes. It is incumbent upon our government to protect all species of wildlife, and I would oppose any effort to weaken our ability to designate habitats for endangered species.

Would you support reinstating the 2001 Roadless Rule to protect 60 million acres of wild roadless national forests from logging and other destructive uses? Would you support legislation such as the National Forest Protection and Restoration Act, which focuses on protecting and restoring National Forests?

Cardin: I have co-sponsored legislation and will continue to fight for legislation to reinstate the 2001 Roadless Rule protections. I have co-sponsored other bills and supported funding to ensure the long term management of our public forests and lands for conservation and the benefit of future generations.

Mfume: Yes. The government must protect our National Forests from loggers so that future generations will be able to

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Ben Cardin and Kweisi Mfume on the Environment

(continued from Page 4)

enjoy them. I will support the reinstatement of the 2001 Roadless Rule and legislation that would protect and restore our National Forests.

Do you support a funding increase in international and domestic family planning programs? Why or why not?

Cardin: I support such funding increases. Allowing women and families to plan for the birth of children is an important means to alleviate hunger and poverty around the world. Controlling population growth also is a means to reduce long-term pressures on our global environment.

Mfume: Yes. I support efforts to provide men and women in the United States and in developing nations with the tools they need to protect themselves from sexually

transmitted infections and unwanted pregnancy. I am appalled at the policies of the Bush Administration that have defunded or under-funded vital programs such as UNFPA and Title X. With population growing as quickly as it is, we should do more to prevent unintended pregnancies, not less. As Senator, I will work to compel the President to restore our commitment to international and domestic family planning programs.

Will you support Comprehensive Sexuality Education here in the U.S. to help lower the incidence of unplanned teenage pregnancy?

Cardin: Yes.

Mfume: Yes. The Bush Administration's contention that abstinence-only sexuality education is the best way to prevent the epidemic of teenage pregnancy is both false and detrimental to young people. I fully support efforts to provide federal funding for comprehensive sexuality education.

Fast Track/Trade Promotion Authority will come up for renewal in Congress in the spring of 2007. Fast Track/TPA limits Congressional debate to 20 hours and only allows for an up or down vote on trade agreements with no amendments permitted. Will you oppose renewal of a Fast Track/TPA agreement like the one we currently have and support an alternative to Fast Track/TPA that would allow Congress to debate fully and amend trade agreements? What type of agreement would you support?

Cardin: As the leading Democrat on the House Trade Subcommittee in the 109th Congress, I have fought to ensure that all trade agreements have strong labor and environmental provisions. We must ensure that free trade agreements are a means to build both economies, and broadly just and healthy societies in the countries with which we have the strongest trade ties. I have numerous issues with the Fast Track/TPA process as currently structured. Fast Track/TPA should specially allow U.S. trade negotiation to include labor and environmental provisions in trade agreements. I voted against this Fast Track/TPA authority. I believe the process often forces Congress to focus on small free trade agreements with individual nations, rather than broader and more important trade issues, such as environmental consequences, relations with our largest trade partners or growing trade deficits. I will be working towards a different model for any future Fast Track/TPA.

Mfume: Yes. I am adamantly opposed to a fast track agreement, because it does not provide adequate time for debate, and does not allow amendments to important legislation. I would support an agreement that would permit amendments to any such bill, and would allow unlimited debate. I am opposed to free trade agreements such as NAFTA because they encourage companies to outsource jobs to countries with weak labor and environmental standards. I represented Maryland's 7th District and was the Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus when NAFTA passed in 1993, and I voted against and was an outspoken opponent of the bill. ■

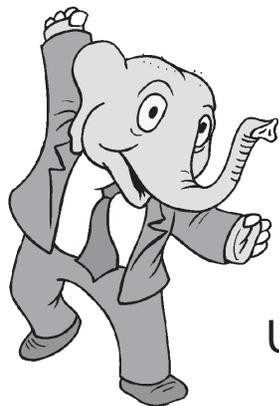


SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SIERRA CLUB

Your financial contribution means a lot to us. By supporting our Chapter, you support Sierra Club's work in your own backyard. This makes you an essential part of our work to protect wilderness and wildlife, to improve the quality of life in our cities, and to promote the enjoyment of nature. **Thank you.**



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



You Can't
VOTE

Unless You've
Registered!



AUGUST 22, 2006
Last day to register before the Primary Election

Information on voter registration, districts, polling places, etc.
<http://www.elections.state.md.us/faq.html>



Primary Election
Tuesday, September 12

Maryland Chapter Endorsed Candidates

Federal Endorsements

U.S. Senate No Endorsement
(See article on Page 3)

U.S. House of Representatives

Congressional District 1	No Endorsement
Congressional District 2	Dutch Ruppertsberger
Congressional District 3	Paula Hollinger
Congressional District 4	See website**
Congressional District 5	See website**
Congressional District 6	No Endorsement
Congressional District 7	Elijah Cummings
Congressional District 8	Chris Van Hollen

**www.sierraclub.org/politics

Away on Election Day? Vote Early, or Cast an Absentee Ballot!

Early voting for both primary and general elections is available Tuesday through Saturday before the election, from 7 AM to 8 PM. So for the primary election, early voting is Sept. 5 through Sept. 9, and for the general election, early voting is Oct. 31 through Nov. 4. The early voting sites are on the web at:

www.electionsmaryland.com/citizens/Early_Voting.html

The deadline to request an absentee ballot is: if the application is mailed, 4:30 p.m. on September 5, 2006; or if the application is faxed, 11:59 p.m. on September 5, 2006. After the deadline, a Late Application for Absentee Ballot must be completed in person at the board of elections. www.electionsmaryland.com/registered_voters/absentee_ballot.html

State and Local Endorsements

State of Maryland

Attorney General	Tom Perez
Comptroller	Peter Franchot

Anne Arundel

Office	Dist	Candidate	ICC
DELEGATE	30	Mike Busch	*
DELEGATE	30	Virginia Clagett	*
DELEGATE	30	Barbara Samorajczyk	*
DELEGATE	31	Joan Cadden	*
DELEGATE	31	Craig Reynolds	*
DELEGATE	32	Pam Beidle	*
DELEGATE	32	Mary Ann Love	*
DELEGATE	32	Ted Sophocleus	*
SENATOR	33	Scott Hymes	*
DELEGATE	33B	Mike Shay	*
COUNTY EXEC	At-large	George Johnson	
COUNTY COUNCIL	1	No Endorsement	
COUNTY COUNCIL	2	No Endorsement	
COUNTY COUNCIL	3	No Endorsement	
COUNTY COUNCIL	4	Jamie Benoit	
COUNTY COUNCIL	5	Cathy Vitale	
COUNTY COUNCIL	6	Josh Cohen	
COUNTY COUNCIL	7	No Endorsement	

Baltimore Area, Incl. Harford

Office	Dist	Candidate	ICC
SENATOR	7	Patricia Foerster	
DELEGATE	7	Jack Sturgill	
SENATOR	10	Delores Kelley	
DELEGATE	10	Emmett Burns	
DELEGATE	10	Adrienne Jones	
DELEGATE	10	Shirley Nathan-Pulliam	*
SENATOR	11	Bobby Zirkin	*
DELEGATE	11	Jon Cardin	
DELEGATE	11	Dan Morhaim	
DELEGATE	11	Dana Stein	
DELEGATE	34A	Marla Posey-Moss	
DELEGATE	34A	Mary Dulany-James	*

Baltimore Area, Incl. Harford (cont.)

DELEGATE	35	Stan Kollar	
DELEGATE	40	Marshall Goodwin	*
SENATOR	41	Lisa Gladden	
DELEGATE	41	Jill Carter	*
DELEGATE	41	Nathaniel Oaks	*
DELEGATE	41	Samuel Rosenberg	*
SENATOR	42	James Brochin	
DELEGATE	42	Steve Lafferty	
DELEGATE	42	Tracy Miller	
DELEGATE	42	Russ Pope	
SENATOR	43	Joan Carter Conway	*
DELEGATE	43	Curt Anderson	*
DELEGATE	43	Ann Marie Doory	*
DELEGATE	43	Maggie McIntosh	*
SENATOR	44	Verna Jones	*
DELEGATE	44	Keith Haynes	*
DELEGATE	44	Ruth Kirk	*
DELEGATE	44	Jeffrey Paige	*
SENATOR	45	Nathaniel McFadden	*
DELEGATE	45	Talmadge Branch	*
DELEGATE	45	Hattie Harrison	*
DELEGATE	46	Peter Hammen	
DELEGATE	46	Carolyn Krysiak	*
DELEGATE	46	Brian McHale	*

Harford

Office	Dist	Candidate	ICC
COUNTY EXEC	At-large	Ann Helton	
CNTY CNCL PRES	At-large	Robert S. Wagner	
COUNTY COUNCIL	A	Dion Guthrie	
COUNTY COUNCIL	B	Valerie Twanmoh	
COUNTY COUNCIL	C	Joan Morrissey Ward	
COUNTY COUNCIL	D	Douglas Howard	
COUNTY COUNCIL	E	No Endorsement	
COUNTY COUNCIL	F	Mary Ann Lisanti	

Howard

Office	Dist	Candidate	ICC
DELEGATE	12B	Liz Bobo	
DELEGATE	13	Frank Turner	
DELEGATE	13	Neil Quinter	*
DELEGATE	13	Shane Pendergrass	*
COUNTY EXEC		No Endorsement	
COUNTY COUNCIL	1	No Endorsement	
COUNTY COUNCIL	2	No Endorsement	
COUNTY COUNCIL	3	Jennifer Terrasa	
COUNTY COUNCIL	4	Joshua Feldmark	
COUNTY COUNCIL	5	No Endorsement	

(Endorsements continue on Page 7)

Maryland Chapter Endorsed Candidates

Montgomery

Office	Dist	Candidate	ICC
SENATOR	14	No Endorsement	
DELEGATE	14	Anne Kaiser	
DELEGATE	14	Karen Montgomery	
DELEGATE	14	Herman Taylor	*
SENATOR	15	Rob Garagiola	*
DELEGATE	15	Brian Feldman	*
DELEGATE	15	Kathleen Dumais	*
SENATOR	16	Brian Frosh	
DELEGATE	16	Bill Bronrott	*
DELEGATE	16	Marilyn Goldwater	*
DELEGATE	16	Susan Lee	*
SENATOR	17	No Endorsement	
DELEGATE	17	Luiz Simmons	*
SENATOR	18	No Endorsement	
DELEGATE	18	Ana Sol Gutierrez	
DELEGATE	18	Jane Lawton	
DELEGATE	18	Jeff Waldstreicher	
SENATOR	19	Adrienne Mandel	
DELEGATE	19	Hank Heller	
DELEGATE	19	Paul Griffen	
SENATOR	20	No Endorsement	
DELEGATE	20	Sheila Hixson	*
DELEGATE	20	Gareth Murray	*
DELEGATE	20	Heather Mizeur	
SENATOR	39	No Endorsement	
DELEGATE	39	Charles Barkley	
DELEGATE	39	Nancy King	*
COUNTY EXEC	At-large	Ike Leggett	
COUNTY COUNCIL	At-large	Marc Elrich	
COUNTY COUNCIL	At-large	Duchy Trachtenberg	
COUNTY COUNCIL	1	No Endorsement	
COUNTY COUNCIL	2	Sharon Dooley	
COUNTY COUNCIL	3	Phil Andrews	
COUNTY COUNCIL	4	Marilyn Praisner	
COUNTY COUNCIL	5	Valerie Ervin	

Prince George's

Office	Dist	Candidate	ICC
SENATOR	21	Jim Rosapepe	
DELEGATE	21	Barbara Frush	
DELEGATE	21	Brian Moe	
DELEGATE	21	Jocelyn Pena	
SENATOR	22	Paul Pinsky	
DELEGATE	22	Anne Healey	
DELEGATE	22	Tawanna Gaines	*
SENATOR	23	Doug Peters	
DELEGATE	23A	Jim Hubbard	

Prince George's (cont.)

Office	Dist	Candidate	ICC
DELEGATE	23A	Mary Conroy	
DELEGATE	23B	Marvin Holmes, Jr	
DELEGATE	24	Joanne Benson	
DELEGATE	24	Carolyn Howard	*
DELEGATE	24	Michael Vaughn	*
DELEGATE	25	Dereck Davis	*
DELEGATE	25	Melony Griffith	*
DELEGATE	25	James Walls	
DELEGATE	26	Darryl Kelley	*
DELEGATE	26	Veronica Turner	
DELEGATE	27A	Joseph Villario	*
DELEGATE	27B	Sue Kullen	
SENATOR	47	Gwendolyn Britt	
DELEGATE	47	Rosetta Parker	
DELEGATE	47	Victor Ramirez	
DELEGATE	47	Check the web	
COUNTY EXEC	At-large	Check the web	
COUNTY COUNCIL	Dist 3	Eric Olsen	
COUNTY COUNCIL	Dist 4	Fred Robinson	
COUNTY COUNCIL	Dist 5	David Harrington	

* These candidates voted in accord with good environmental principles, except they also voted to devote an extraordinary amount of the State's transportation and general fund resources to building the Intercountry Connector, a vote which will not only cause grave environmental damage to parkland and streams in Montgomery County, but also will inhibit spending for all of Maryland's critical public transit needs for many years to come. See related story at right.

Chapter Endorsements and the ICC

by Pamela Lindstrom—The Sierra Club's Montgomery County activists may seem to be obsessed with the Intercountry Connector. Thus, we should explain why we single out officials' votes on the ICC among the many votes taken on important environmental issues.

The ICC will set transportation policy in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties for years to come. A road this expensive will affect transportation policy all over the state. To quote Robert Smith, Governor Ehrlich's former appointee to the Metro Board, "All money available is going to the Intercountry Connector and, indeed, even future federal money has been bonded for that project." This expenditure might not be so ridiculous if the ICC would actually help relieve congestion, but the state's own studies show that it won't. And, it is to be a toll road with exceptionally high tolls that will make it unaffordable to those of us struggling to make ends meet. To learn more about the ICC deficiencies please visit www.savecommunities.org.

The ICC will be extraordinarily damaging to our best streams and forests. But the ICC's problems go way beyond ineffectiveness and environmental impact. *This one road will be our transportation policy.* Transportation policy determines land use and growth policy in positive and negative ways. Building a road of such length and capacity will increase driving on many of the roads it intersects. Providing space for moving and parked cars consumes land, forcing buildings farther apart, making public transit uneconomical, and walking unpleasant if not dangerous. Thus, the ICC will continue the historic role of roads that fuel ever-expanding sprawl development.

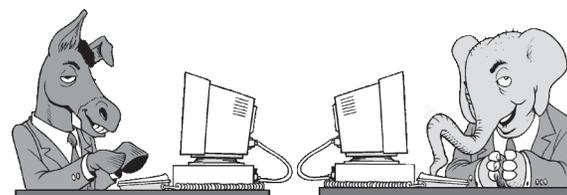
Sustainable transportation policy requires provision for alternate modes. We must provide more public transit, from major rail lines, like the Purple Line and the Red Line in Baltimore, to lots of new buses for efficient local service. We must remodel arterial roads like Rockville Pike into boulevards friendly to buses, bikes, and pedestrians alike. These facilities, though expensive, would cost far less than the ICC, but they would be unaffordable given the ICC's demands. Without these new facilities, the public will rightly fear increased congestion, and oppose the transit-oriented infill development that can transform our auto-oriented suburbs into communities where we can travel without cars and driving.

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There's More!

For more political information and endorsements for state and local offices, see the Maryland Chapter website: www.maryland.sierraclub.org

For endorsements for federal offices, see www.sierraclub.org/politics



MD Atty. Genl.

Spread the Word! Tom Perez Deserves to Be the Next Attorney General

(continued from Page 1)

“transform the office” to do more environmental, consumer, and civil rights enforcement. As a federal prosecutor, he brought cases in all of these areas, and he is excited about the opportunities to once again use his legal skills on behalf of people and the environment. He wants to make the Maryland attorney general’s office a national model.

Tom faces at least one better-funded opponent, and expects to be the subject of a negative campaign. So spread the word about Tom Perez. He deserves our support. He deserves to win. He would make a fabulous attorney general!

Tom Perez is a graduate of Brown University, Harvard Law School and the John F. Kennedy School of Government. In addition to serving on Montgomery’s County Council, he is also a professor of law at the University of Maryland Law School in Baltimore. Previously, he was a prosecutor at the U.S. Department of Justice, senior advisor to Sen. Edward Kennedy, Deputy Assistant General for Civil Rights under former Attorney General Janet Reno, and the director of the Office for Civil Rights under former Secretary Donna Shalala. ■

Policy & ICC

Why Endorsements for the General Assembly Are Affected by the ICC

(continued from Page 7)

We are just beginning to realize how different the 21st century will be from the 20th. Our profligate use of energy will end, whether due to our foresight, or due to decreasing supply, increasing prices, and disruptions caused by irrational world leaders. We find it difficult to excuse even legislators with good environmental records when they do not or will not understand the costs of setting us on the wrong path.

The Sierra Club’s endorsement policy is to endorse incumbents with good records on our issues. Obviously, there are many issues other than the ICC that come before the legislature. We have a number of legislators with excellent voting records, except for the one vote on the ICC funding. In a rather unsatisfying compromise, we decided not to endorse those incumbents who have publicly led the fight for the ICC, and to give the others a qualified endorsement in order to highlight their support for the ICC’s disastrous funding mechanism. Our list of endorsed candidates highlights with asterisks those incumbents who supported the ICC funding. ■

4th Congressional District

Donna Edwards Challenges Al Wynn in the 4th District Congressional Primary

Maryland’s fourth congressional district has an important choice in the September 12 primary. Incumbent Al Wynn has portrayed himself as a progressive, but, unfortunately, his most significant progress has been in his support of the Bush/Cheney program. And although challenger Donna Edwards has not yet held public office, she has devoted her life to public service on a high level, and has a great resume to show for it.

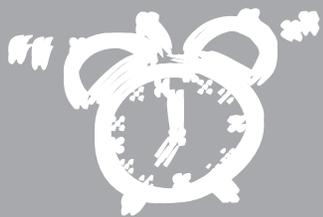
Donna is the executive director of the Arca Foundation, an important funder of environmental and other worthy causes. When she completed law school, she directed her ambition not to maximizing her personal wealth, but to maximizing what she can do for her community. She has been on the boards of the League of Conservation Voters (which has endorsed her campaign for Congress) and Common Cause. She is known as an activist on behalf of issues the Sierra Club has been fighting for.

Wynn, on the other hand, has been building a record that, for this very progressive district, is increasingly extreme. Cheney’s energy bill? Wynn was for it. The war in Iraq? Wynn was an enthusiastic supporter until he backed off in re-

sponse to political reality in his district, which is overwhelmingly opposed to the war. The legislation introduced by the notorious California Congressman Richard Pombo to weaken the Endangered Species Act? Wynn voted wrong there, too. These are not side issues; they are among those most important for the Sierra Club.

Other important issues show that Wynn is out of step with his district. He has supported abolishing the estate tax, which is contrary to the interests of his constituents, and which would reduce the already outrageous under-funding of environmental protection by the federal government. He was a strong advocate for casinos in his district, which would hurt the poor among his constituents.

Fighting on our side of these issues is what Donna Edwards has been doing with her life, and what she will continue to do. She will do it most effectively as the representative of the fourth congressional district. For more information, or to get involved in the campaign, visit www.donnaedwardsforcongress.com, or telephone (301) 316-1880. ■



*Decisions are
made by those
who show up.*

—Aaron Sorkin

Where can you find an environmentalist?

- A. On a hike
- B. Removing invasive plants
- C. At a stream clean-up
- D. Voting in the Maryland primary
- E. All of the above

E. All of the above

**VOTE IN THE MARYLAND PRIMARY
September 12, 2006**

A!

How to Help Elect Your Candidates

What You Can Do NOW to Elect Candidates Who Share Your Concern for Maryland's Environment

The quick answer to "What can I do?" is simple. You, as a citizen, are free to support your candidate as you see fit. To comply with election law, be sure to use your own resources, such as telephone, desk, e-mail, or computer, not those of your employer or the Sierra Club.

1. Make sure you are registered to vote.

Is your registration up-to-date and accurate, reflecting your current address? Make sure it is correct. Contact your county voter registration office if you have

any questions about your registration. (For contact information for county voter registration offices, see page 10.)

2. Help others register to vote.

Encourage and urge your friends, family members, neighbors and co-workers to register to vote. Call your local elections office and find out exactly who can register voters or what the process is, and share that information. The easier you make the process, the more likely it is that others will register.

3. Urge others to vote for the candidates endorsed by the Maryland Chapter.

Encourage friends, family members, neighbors and co-workers to vote for candidates who care about the environment in Maryland. Tell them about the candidates the Sierra Club has endorsed, and explain why. Keep it legal by using your own personal e-mail lists, computer, telephone, stamps, paper, envelopes, etc., not those belonging to your employer or the Sierra Club.

4. Speak out publicly.

You can support candidates with good environmental records, and/or criticize those who don't by writing a letter to the editor of your local paper or calling a talk show.

5. Make a contribution to candidates' campaigns.

6. Volunteer to work with a campaign.

Volunteers have the opportunity to do valuable work, such as working at the local campaign headquarters, organizing or participating in campaign events, contacting voters door-to-door, or helping with campaign phone banking.

7. Organize a group to work for the campaign.

Get a group of friends, neighbors and fellow activists together to work for the campaign. Again, use your own resources!

8. Post a campaign sign.

Post a sign in your yard or window. Encourage your friends to do the same.

9. Publicize campaign events

Talk about and spread the word on any campaign event. Remember to use personal resources to do so.

10. Speak in favor of your candidate at a campaign event.

Let listeners know why you are supporting the candidate's campaign.

11. Walk and talk.

Call on your neighbors door-to-door to tell them why you are supporting your candidate. Again, you must use your personal resources, not those of your employer or the Sierra Club. Check with the campaign headquarters of your candidate for information.

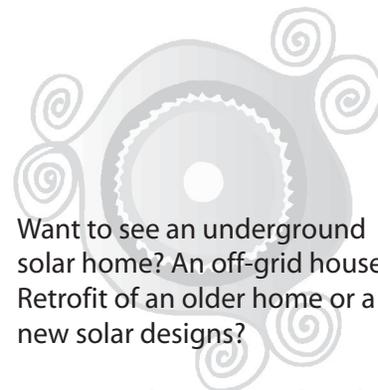
12. Get out the vote.

Volunteer to assist with get-out-the-vote, absentee, or early ballot efforts.

13. Vote! Vote! Vote!

This is what all the other steps are about. Vote absentee or use an early ballot if you aren't sure you will be able to make it to the polls on election day. **Every vote is important!** Remind your family, friends, and neighbors to vote, too. ■

Solar Tour



Want to see an underground solar home? An off-grid house? Retrofit of an older home or a new solar designs?

See more than 30 terrific solar and energy efficient homes at the annual

Greater Washington Tour of Solar Homes Saturday-Sunday, October 7-8

The homeowners and architects will be there to answer your questions and encourage you to do something similar at your new or existing house.

Come see, touch, and maybe kick the tires on the hybrid-electric, all electric and solar cars in the driveway!

There will be a guided bicycle tour of several homes. Or, choose from among the 30-plus homes (half open each day) for a self-guided tour. Many of these homes are making their debut on this 17th annual Tour of Solar Homes.

More details are available at www.solartour.org. Free tickets/brochures will be available at locations listed on the web site. Call Charlie at 202-564-1088 for additional information.

Stop global warming, one house at a time. Let's go solar!

SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Create an Environmental Legacy.

Bequests have played a key role in Sierra Club's environmental successes over the years.

Planning now may make your gift more meaningful and reduce taxes on your estate. We have many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more info and confidential assistance, contact
Gift Planning Program
85 Second St, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
(800) 932-4270
planned.giving@sierraclub.org

County Election Offices

Register to Vote; Get Your District Number; or Find Your Polling Place

Allegany 701 Kelly Road, Suite 213 Cumberland, MD 21502-3401 Catherine O. Davis, Election Director 301-777-5931; 301-777-2430 (Fax) www.gov.allconet.org/elections/election_home.htm	www.carolinemd.org/government/elections/index.html	Harford 133 Industry Lane Forest Hill, MD 21050 Molly Neal, Election Director 410-638-3565; 410-638-3310 (Fax) www.co.ha.md.us/elections/	St Mary's 41650 Tudor Hall Rd. Leonardtwn, MD 20650 Catherine Countiss, Election Director 301-475-7844; 301-475-4077 (Fax) www.co.saint-marys.md.us/supervisorofelections/
Anne Arundel Anne Arundel County Government Building 7320 Ritchie Highway, Second Floor Glen Burnie, MD 21061 Barbara Fisher, Election Director 410-222-6600; 410-222-6833 (Fax) www.aacounty.org/BdofElections/	Carroll 225 N. Center Street, Room 105 Westminster, MD 21157-5194 Patricia Matsko, Election Director 410-386-2080; 410-876-3925 (Fax) www.carr.org/election/	Howard 8900 Columbia 100 Parkway Columbia, MD 21045-2339 Betty Nordaas, Election Director 410-313-5820; 410-313-5833 (Fax) www.co.ho.md.us/voting.html	Somerset County Office Building 11916 Somerset Avenue Princess Anne, MD 21853 Joanne Emely, Election Director 410-651-0767; 410-651-5130 (Fax)
Baltimore City Charles L. Benton Bldg., Room 129 417 E. Fayette Street Baltimore, MD 21202-3432 Gene Raynor, Election Director 410-396-5550; 410-962-8747 (Fax) www.baltimorecity.gov/government/elections/index.html	Cecil 129 E. Main Street Court House, Room 332 Elkton, MD 21921-5940 Evelyn Potter, Election Director 410-996-5310; 410-996-5066 (Fax) www.ccgov.org/ccboe/index.htm	Kent 135 Dixon Drive Chestertown, MD 21620-1141 Florence L. Sutton, Election Director 410-778-0038; 410-778-0265 (Fax) www.kentcounty.com/gov/elections/	Talbot 605 Port Street Easton, MD 21601-0353 Patricia Davis, Election Director 410-770-8099; 410-770-8078 (Fax) www.talbotelections.com
Baltimore County 106 Bloomsbury Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228 Jacqueline McDaniel, Director 410-887-5700; 410-887-0894 (fax) www.baltimorecountyonline.info/Agencies/elections/index.html	Charles 9320 W & W Industrial Road La Plata, MD 20646 Tracy Dickerson, Election Director 301-934-8972; 301-934-6487 (Fax) www.CharlesCounty.org/boe/	Montgomery 751 Twinbrook Parkway Rockville, MD 20850 Margaret A. Jurgensen, Election Director 240-777-8500; 240-777-8505 (Fax) www.777vote.org/elections@montgomerycountymd.gov	Washington 35 W. Washington Street, Room 101 Hagerstown, MD 21740 Dorothy Kaetzel, Election Director 240-313-2050; 240-313-2051 (Fax) www.washco-md.net/election/elect1.html
Calvert 150 Main Street, Suite 107 Prince Frederick, MD 20678 Gail L. Hatfield, Election Director 410-535-2214; 410-535-5009 (Fax) www.co.cal.md.us/government/elections	Dorchester County Office Building 501 Court Lane, Room 105 Cambridge, MD 21613 Bobbie Hall, Acting Election Director 410-228-2560; 410-228-9635 (Fax)	Prince George's 16201 Trade Zone Avenue Upper Marlboro, MD 20774 Robin Downs, Election Director 301-430-8020; 301-430-8080 (Fax) www.co.pg.md.us/Government/AgencyIndex/Elections/voter_reg.asp?h=&s=&n=240	Wicomico 123 Bateman St. Salisbury, MD 21804 Joanne Barthman, Election Director 410-548-4830; 410-548-4849 (Fax) www.wicomicocounty.org/Election/
Caroline Health and Public Services Building 403 S. Seventh Street, Suite 247 Denton, MD 21629-1335 Sandra Logan, Election Director 410-479-8145; 410-479-5736 (Fax)	Frederick 12 E. Church Street Winchester Hall Frederick, MD 21701-5447 Stuart Harvey, Election Director 301-694-1005; 301-631-2344 (Fax) www.co.frederick.md.us/elections/	Queen Anne's P.O. Box 274 County Annex Building Centreville, MD 21617-0724 Vacant, Election Director 410-758-0832; 410-758-1119 (Fax) www.qacelections.com/	Worcester 100 Belt Street Snow Hill, MD 21863-1310 Patricia Jackson, Election Director 410-632-1320; 410-632-3031 (Fax) www.worc.lib.md.us/elections.html
Chesapeake	Garrett Public Service Center 2008 Maryland Highway; Suite 1 Mountain Lake Park, MD 21550 Steve Fratz, Election Director 301-334-6985; 301-334-6988 (Fax) www.co.garrett.md.us/elections/elections.html		

Maryland Chapter Leaders



Sky's the limit?

Even today in 2006, over *half* of America's electricity is generated from coal-fired power plants. Consequentially, we are being exposed to soot, smog, acid rain, and dangerous toxins such as mercury, which threaten people and wildlife alike. Bush's "Clear Skies" plan will allow 520% *more* mercury pollution by 2010, not to mention delaying the enforcement of public health standards for smog and soot until the *end* of 2015. The sky isn't getting any higher, and the air we breathe isn't getting any cleaner. The sky IS the limit.

JOIN Sierra Club to keep breathing easy.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

Email _____

Join today and receive
a FREE Sierra Club
Weekender Bag!



Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club.

Please charge my: Visa Mastercard AMEX

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____

Exp. Date ____/____/____

Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$47
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
Student/Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

Contributions, gifts and dues to Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1 for your Chapter newsletters.

Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club,
P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968
or visit our website www.sierraclub.org

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To make democracy work, we must be a
nation of participants, not simply
observers. One who does not vote has
no right to complain.

—Louis L'Amour

Credits

The Maryland Chapter wishes to thank those who contributed to this issue of *Chesapeake*.

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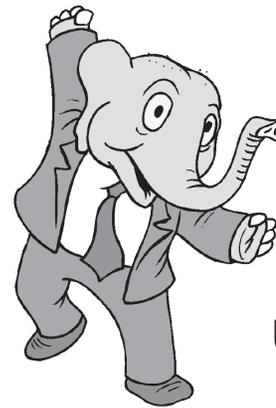
The opinions expressed in this newsletter are in general aligned with those of the environmental community in Maryland but are strictly those of the authors and not necessarily official policy of local, state or national Sierra Club entities. The Sierra Club prides itself on being a grassroots volunteer organization. The concerns and opinions of all its members are welcome in these pages.

Items for publication are best submitted by email to <maryland.chapter@sierraclub.org> or <laurel.imlay@sierraclub.org> with "For Chesapeake" and title in subject line. Items must include the author's address and telephone numbers. Material may be edited for length, content or clarity at the discretion of the editor. Photographs, illustrations and other works of art are welcome. Materials cannot be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self addressed envelope.

Change of address: send address changes to the Sierra Club, 85 Second Street (2nd Floor), San Francisco, California 94705-3441. For fastest service, please include your old and new addresses along with your 8-digit membership number. For local membership information contact the Maryland Chapter Office 301-277-7111 or write: Maryland Chapter/Sierra Club, 7338 Baltimore Ave (Suite 101A), College Park, MD 20740.

Advertising: For display and classified advertising rates and information, contact:
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Sierra Club Maryland Chapter
7338 Baltimore Ave, Suite 101
College Park, MD 20740

VOTE ON SEPTEMBER 12!



You Can't
VOTE

Unless You've
Registered!



AUGUST 22, 2006

Last day to register before the Primary Election

Information on voter registration, districts, polling places, etc.
<http://www.elections.state.md.us/faq.html>



Primary Election Guide

Endorsements Inside!

- Why Your Vote Is Important!
- The Candidates That Deserve Your Vote
- How You Can Help Elect the Best Candidates

Vote on September 12

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