

# Chesapeake

Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club

Winter 2012-2013

## For Cleaner Air, Move Beyond Coal



Sierra Club kayakers at the C. P. Crane power plant

**By Chris Hill**—The Charles P. Crane and Herbert A. Wagner coal plants, in Baltimore and Anne Arundel counties, respectively, have for decades threatened public health in nearby areas. The state of Maryland currently allows these plants to emit toxic sulfur dioxide pollution at levels that would cause four times the concentration of pollution our federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has deemed safe. This pollution puts at risk children playing outside, including in public parks, in recreation areas, and in over 100 schools in the region, as well as all people outside in residential areas and parts of Baltimore's downtown business district. (Maps showing how far the plants' toxic pollution travels and who is at risk appear on page 9).

### Sulfur Dioxide Pollution

Sulfur dioxide, or SO<sub>2</sub>, is classified as a harmful pollutant.  
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## *An Abundance of Opportunity in the 2013 Legislative Session in Annapolis*

**By David O'Leary**—On Wednesday, January 9, the Maryland General Assembly will convene for another legislative session. Over the next three months until midnight on April 8, thousands of bills and budget items will be considered. Some proposals and bills will be new, and others are returning from past sessions. Our Maryland Chapter is developing plans to work on important legislation. We need your help and support.

### Offshore Wind

One priority of ours again in 2013 is providing incentives for construction of an offshore wind farm. In each of the last few years, similar bills have received increasing levels of support. With your help, we should get this past the finish line in 2013. Larry Tierney's article on page 5 in this newsletter provides more details about the campaign to pass this bill, and how you can get involved.

### Pesticides

The use and effects of pesticide application throughout Maryland are not well understood. Over the past several years, various bills were introduced in the General Assembly to require those who apply pesticides to report on the type, amount, and date of application. Unfortunately, these bills did not pass. In 2013, given recent reports on the adverse effects of pesticides and new campaign resources, we are better positioned for success as we work with the Maryland Pesticide Network to pass legislation. But again, we'll need your help! See

Kim Birnbaum's article on page 7 in this newsletter for more information.

### Natural Gas and Fracking

Bills requiring the study and regulation of natural gas drilling in Maryland were considered during the past three General Assembly sessions. But once again, unfortunately, most of the bills did not become law. A Marcellus Shale Advisory Commission was formed as a result of Governor O'Malley's Executive Order in June 2011, but the commission is not adequately funded and progress is slow. Several bills are likely to be introduced in 2013, covering various approaches and aspects of natural gas drilling. In particular, a bill is anticipated that would establish a moratorium on issuing drilling permits (especially for "fracking") until a study is completed and comprehensive regulations are in place. Another bill may ban disposal or treatment of polluted wastewater from fracking. In June of this year, the U.S. Geological Survey reported that shale with potential for natural gas drilling is under many parts of Maryland, not just the westernmost counties. It is important for the state to be prepared and to adequately understand the many risks of drilling before moving forward.

### Renewable Energy

A Community Renewables bill should be re-introduced to ease the process of financing and constructing solar and wind energy projects across Maryland, like the so-  
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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

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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.

## Letter from the Chair

I've continued to enjoy opportunities to hike throughout Maryland this past fall, including a visit to Susquehanna State Park in Harford County. The park landscape includes hills and streams, and some floodplain along the river. There are many wonderful trees in the park—great sycamores in the sandy soil along the Susquehanna River and Deer Creek, large tulip poplars on the hillsides, and an oak tree which is estimated to be more than 230 years old. My favorite, however, is a very large American beech tree, shown in the photo below. The tree is so big that it takes at least three people to reach around the trunk. The bark is scarred with carved initials and proclamations of love, as are so many beech trees that happen to be growing near a trail. The branches spread far and wide in many directions.

As I stood near this tree and then continued on the hike, I reflected on how the tree is like the Sierra Club. The Club has also been around for a long time—not quite as long as the tree—but 120 years is long enough to be considered enduring, at least compared to

many other organizations. We've grown to be quite large, perhaps larger than John Muir and other early members would have ever anticipated. Like the beech tree, Sierra Club also has many scars, from the fights over various proposals for dam construction in the Hetch Hetchy Valley in California, Echo Park in Dinosaur National Monument, and even the Grand Canyon; to efforts to establish and protect national parks and forests and wilderness throughout the country; to our present efforts to slow the threat of climate change and to cleanse the waters of the Chesapeake Bay.

Finally, like the tree, our branches spread in many directions. Since Sierra Club's initial focus on protecting the wild places of the Sierra Nevadas in California, we now have members throughout the country working on a broad range of issues. Members promote renewable energy, increased efficiency, recycling, waste reduction, and reduction of the impact of extracting and burning fossil fuels, and we advocate for new ap-

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## Chapter News: Excom Election

# In Maryland Chapter Elections, Every Candidate Is an Environmentalist

This issue of *Chesapeake* includes the ballot for electing at-large members of the executive committee of the Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club.

The Sierra Club is a grassroots environmental organization that elects its own volunteer leadership from among its members. Every member is entitled to vote and to run for leadership positions in the club. The executive committee (excom) runs the chapter and determines the chapter's policies and responses to the many environmental challenges we face in Maryland. In addition to developing

and supporting our legislative agenda, setting priorities for conservation campaigns, and facilitating communication between the chapter and the groups, the excom faces the challenge of achieving fiscal stability despite rising operational costs and a reduction in funds from the national club.

Six at-large members elected by the Maryland membership, and one delegate from each of our nine groups comprise the chapter excom. At-large members are elected for two-year terms. Three of the six at-large positions are up for election

each year. The executive committee elects the chapter chair and other officers from its own ranks.

This is your chance to choose the people who will lead the chapter through the next year. Please read the candidates' statements, complete the ballot, and mail it to the chapter office at this address:

Elections Committee  
Maryland Chapter/Sierra Club  
7338 Baltimore Ave, Suite 111  
College Park, Maryland 20740

The excom meets in person six times a year on the third Saturday of every odd month, and by scheduled teleconference in the even months. Those elected will take their position at the January 19, 2013, meeting. Ballots are due in the office by January 11, 2013.

Please read the candidates' statements carefully and vote in this election for members-at-large for the executive committee of your Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club.

Ballot appears on page 19. ■

## Richard Reis

Richard (Rich) Reis has been an active member of the Sierra Club since 1968. He is part of almost every meeting of our chapter's conservation and executive committees.

As a licensed professional engineer, Rich uses his skill to work for clean en-

ergy and energy conservation. He designed and implemented (with other volunteers) improvements to our chapter's office lighting that improved lighting quality and environmental stewardship by lowering our energy use—entirely paid for through the state's EmPOWER program.

As chapter energy chair, Rich convenes meetings of the chapter energy team to identify key issues and to work for clean energy and conservation. His articles on energy and the environment have appeared in our chapter newsletter, *Chesapeake*; he also serves on its editorial committee. He testified before state officials and the EPA on the need for energy efficiency and conservation. He leads home energy workshops.

Rich formed Sierran Bicyclists (SB) to support the most efficient and environmentally sensible form of travel. SB held

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## Baird Straughan

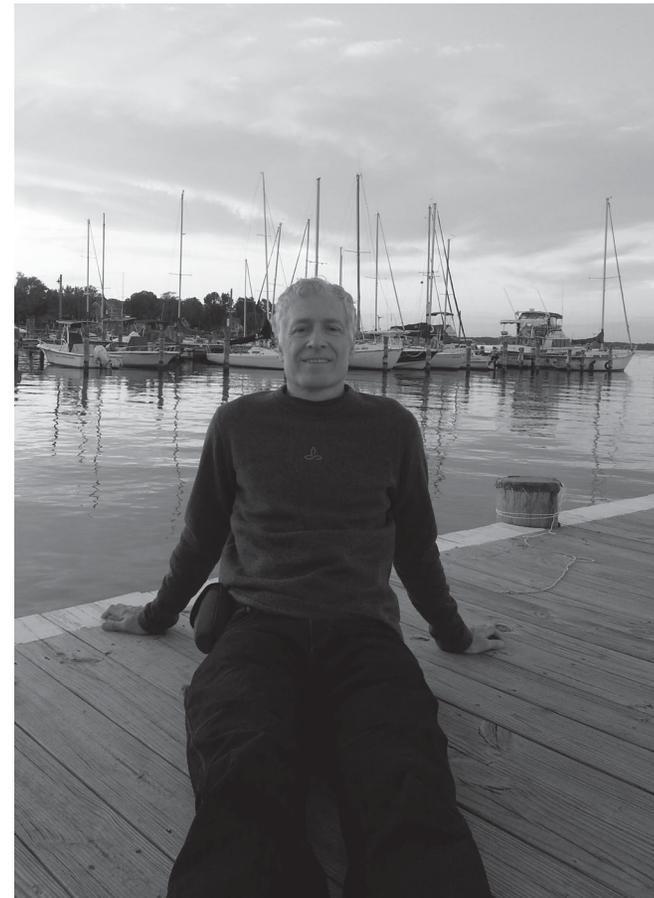
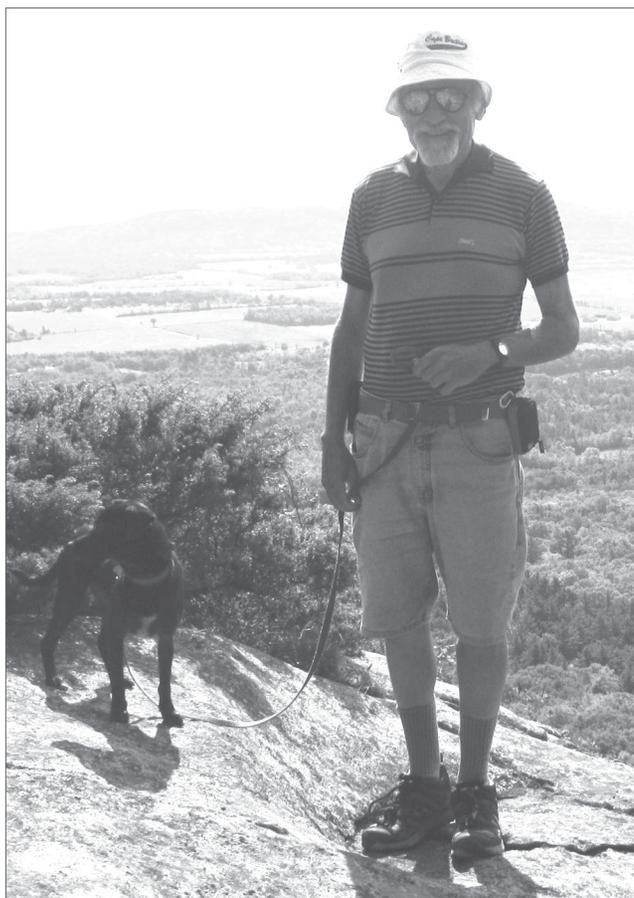
I'm running for the excom because I've been a part of the chapter's remarkable successes and growth over the past four years and want to help it continue. Thanks to previous leaders like Betsy Johnson, the current generation of excom leaders has restored the chapter's steadiness and handled issues without divisiveness. That solid foundation has allowed us to grow, and we have tripled our staff in the last four years.

On the excom, I've been the fundraising chair and have enjoyed working with a small team of volunteers and staff to increase our appeal income and branch out into major donor fundraising. I also helped launch the chapter's Mattawoman campaign, and worked on the committees that prepared the way for hiring a chapter director. In my job, I provide a customized data-

base for river and watershed organizations, after spending many years consulting with environmental organizations of all stripes.

I've advocated for growing the chapter's staff, and now feel responsible

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### From the Chair

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proaches to stop water pollution. These are all important branches of our work.

The Maryland Chapter has members across the state working on these various issues and others, spreading in different directions but held together by a common trunk, sharing resources under our common mission. There is so much work to do, but we have a strong base and many opportunities to get involved and connect to the rest of this exciting organization.

Just after the national election, many Maryland chapter leaders came together for a retreat to share ideas and challenges and work on plans for 2013. Thanks to Mike Martin and the others who helped to plan and conduct the retreat, and to those who spent their time and brought their energy to the planning effort. I encourage all of our members to contact your local group leaders or to call the chapter office to find out how you can get involved in these efforts in upcoming months.

Speaking of elections, I'm cautiously optimistic. It's great that so many of our endorsed candidates were elected into Congress (and as President!), but now we need to work to make sure that these elected officials hear our voices and take action on our issues. I imagine that you are all tired of elections at this point, but I must ask you to vote one more time in the election for the Maryland Chapter Executive Committee. The candidates' nomination statements and a ballot are included in this issue. While we would like to have more candidates, your vote and suggestions for additional candidates are a demonstration of support for the work of our chapter leaders. It won't take too long to clip the ballot and send it in.

As we wrap up the year, I want to express my thanks to three important volunteer leaders.

Don Grace led local efforts on the Eastern Shore for more than three years,

including work on Cool Cities campaigns and various other efforts. Don is stepping down and we are looking for more volunteers to help on the Eastern Shore.

Karen Moody has served on the Chapter Executive Committee throughout the past year, and has helped with building the Catocin Group, from leading educational hikes to supporting the campaign for more sensible and sustainable handling of waste. Karen is stepping down from the Executive Committee with plans to move from Maryland next year. Best wishes to Karen in her new endeavors!

Finally, I want to thank Darla Tewell, who has provided extraordinary service over many years as editor of *Chesapeake*. Darla's efforts to produce this newsletter include shepherding a team of writers, editors, and proofreaders, providing suggestions for content, laying out each issue, and much more. Her guidance and insights on how to effectively inform and involve our members through the newsletter are an incredibly valuable contribution to the chapter. As one who is chronically behind in submitting articles, I especially appreciate her patience and guidance! Darla promises to continue helping with the technical work of layout, but we now need someone to coordinate the team of volunteers who gather, edit, and proofread articles. Please contact the chapter office if you are willing to serve.

As we move into 2013, the Chapter faces many challenges, but we also have many opportunities for success. Chapter leaders across Maryland are looking for additional volunteers to help with running our local groups and protecting our environment. I encourage you to contact your local group chair (see the list on page 14 of this newsletter) or call the chapter office at 301-277-7111. ■

### Excom Candidates' Statements

#### Richard Reis

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several meetings; its advocacy led to the hiring of a full time bicycle planner, the plan of bikeways for Montgomery County, and bikes on Metrobuses.

Rich has lead the Verizon Rides bicycling team, which raised thousands of dollars for the Lung Association's Kid with Asthma program. As a Sierra Club outings leader, he has led numerous hikes as well as a conservation bicycle ride to the Mattawoman area.

As co-leader of the Earth Ethics Committee of the Washington Ethical Society, Rich helps institute significant energy-savings, recruit speakers for the environment, and host a series of environmental films.

Rich practices personal environmental stewardship by using solar water heating and electricity, using transit as well as his bicycle and feet for transportation, and helping small businesses to conserve energy. He savors back country hikes, sailing his yacht (actually dingy), swimming, and of course bicycling.

As member of the executive committee, Rich works to:

- Move Maryland beyond coal through energy conservation and alternative energy
- Encourage alternative transportation, including walking, bicycling, and transit
- Protect wild areas
- Recruit and help select excellent staff

Please contact me to let me know your priorities at rreis@verizon.net or 301-325-8001. ■

#### Baird Straughan

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for making sure that more personnel mean stronger local groups and more activists—more grassroots activism in the Sierra Club way. This isn't easy—there's a real temptation to rely ever more heavily on the people in the office. But we have to meld that with our volunteer leadership structure, and to manage our campaigns in such a way that our local groups benefit. If elected, I'll dedicate more attention there in the coming two years. ■

### Armchair Activist?



**Write!  
Call!  
E-mail!**

**Take action from home!**

**Join the  
Maryland Chapter's  
e-mail action alert list**

<http://maryland.sierraclub.org/action/>

## 2013 Legislative Session in Annapolis

(continued from page 1)

lar electricity system at the Church of the Brethren in University Park (for details, see <http://universityparksolar.com/>). Similar approaches are in place or being developed in states around the country. Community Renewables projects provide increased opportunities for people to own part of a solar or other renewable energy project. The proposal provides mechanisms for a group of people to invest in a system, and then to share the benefits of clean electricity. A system should be constructed where it makes the most sense (lots of sun without shade or with a steady wind). For those who live in apartment buildings or in houses shaded by large trees, this approach allows access to partial ownership of a solar system. It could also help with funding shared wind turbines or geothermal systems on farms, or other kinds of renewable energy projects.

### Bag Fee

Another bill on which the Sierra Club has worked in recent years is the statewide bag fee. Similar to the system already in place in Montgomery County and the District of Columbia, a five-cent fee on disposable plastic and paper bags will encourage people to switch to reusable bags and, in turn, reduce litter in our neighborhoods while saving money for shoppers and businesses. Funds raised from the bag fee will be used for projects to clean up our waterways. The Trash Free Maryland Alliance is leading the way on this effort.

### Bottle Bill

A beverage-container-deposit bill, or “bottle bill,” is also expected to be introduced. Ten states have laws that place a redeemable deposit on various beverage containers (soda, water bottles, etc.). Maryland has a chance to join this group in 2013, further reducing litter and increasing our recycling rate. As the bill’s details are being finalized, you can read about other states’ laws on the Bottle Bill

Resource Guide, [www.bottlebill.org](http://www.bottlebill.org).

Many other environmental issues will be considered in the upcoming legislative session. The state’s budget will include important decisions about funding Program Open Space for public land, the Chesapeake Bay Trust Fund for bay clean-up and protection, renewable energy and energy efficiency programs, and state parks and forests. Also under consideration is a bill requiring local governments to pay a stormwater utility fee, as was instituted for businesses and residences in 2012. Delegate Carr is working with advocates on ways to address the environmental impact of dental mercury.

As you can see, a diverse range of environmental and energy issues will be considered in Annapolis in the next few months. Similarly, there are many ways for you to get involved and make a difference. Assistance is needed with making telephone calls, researching the issues and policies, and writing materials to educate people and lawmakers. We need members to meet with their Delegates and Senators, either in your home district or in Annapolis. Let us know if you are interested, so Legislative Team members can help you get involved. Plan to attend the Environmental Summit in Annapolis on Tuesday, January 29, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. Annapolis Lobby nights are also being scheduled, tentatively once a month on Monday evenings. Please watch for Action Alerts in your email about legislation and opportunities to get involved. You can connect with the Sierra Club legislative efforts by calling the Maryland Chapter office at 301-277-7111. Let’s work together for success and progress on environmental issues in 2013! ■

*David O’Leary chairs the Maryland Chapter.*

## Strong Winds Inspire Participants at the AWEA Offshore Windpower Conference

**By Larry Tierney**—As if summoned up, strong winds brought an appropriate and inspiring backdrop to the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) Offshore Windpower 2012 Conference and Exhibition in Virginia Beach, VA in October. The winds illustrated their power to the true believers who are determined to harness them for the benefit of humankind.

Representatives from all parts of the wind industry participated in briefings and discussions about the forces driving the growth of wind power—political, economic, climatic and technological; the clean energy goals established by the Obama administration, our military, and state governments; and the myriad development plans for the coming offshore wind revolution.

There is strong federal support for offshore wind, led by the U.S. Department of Energy. Several states on the East Coast are planning wind farms offshore. Construction is expected to begin soon on the first wind turbines off our coast, likely beginning in New Jersey and Massachusetts. Advances in turbine design are moving very quickly, promising larger, taller, more powerful turbines with larger blades, fewer moving parts and less maintenance. The cost of wind power has been falling dramatically for onshore systems, and although offshore wind is more expensive to build, advanced designs are expected to be cheaper once the industry has matured and experience grows.

### Federal Support/Interest

With the potential of wind power to provide 20% of all electricity for our nation by 2030, the Department of Energy (DOE) is conducting a \$180 million advanced-technology demonstration effort to showcase offshore wind power technologies. DOE has set a goal of reducing the cost of offshore wind energy below 10 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) by 2020 to compete with conventional gen-

eration on an unsubsidized basis. Over 50 projects are underway, including new wind power test facilities.

The DOE-funded Wind Technology Testing Center in Massachusetts, the largest such facility in the world, is designed to test blades up to 90 meters in length. The Large Wind Turbine Drivetrain Testing Facility at Clemson University in North Carolina, with a \$45 million DOE grant, is capable of testing large-scale wind turbine drivetrain systems of 5-15 megawatts. DOE-funded offshore test facilities in the Chesapeake Bay will be used to measure large-rotor dynamics, drive train reliability, SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) performance, and to evaluate turbine components for corrosion-resistance and radar interactions.

The Department of Defense (DOD) wants wind power. DOD is required to develop and use 25% renewable energy by 2025, and wind power is expected to fill some of that requirement. The Navy, which spends \$4 billion per year on energy, has a goal of one gigawatt of renewable energy by 2020. The Army and Air Force have set similar goals.

### State Action

At the state level, wind power is not a partisan issue. Too many potential jobs are at stake, old coal plants are being shut down, and increasingly the public wants a clean air future. Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell wants his state to be the East Coast energy leader, including offshore wind. Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley is working for approval of the state’s first offshore wind farm. The governors of Massachusetts and New Jersey are pushing for offshore wind off their shores. The Cape Wind Offshore Wind Farm project to be built in federal waters has secured all the necessary permits. Geological testing is currently underway.

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# Legislative Agenda: Wind Energy

## Offshore Windpower

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Construction of this 468-megawatt wind farm with 130 wind turbines on Horsehoe Shoal on Nantucket Sound, about three miles off the coast of Massachusetts, is to begin in the first quarter of 2014, with a construction period of two and a half years.

### Cost of Wind Energy Falling

Although the cost of offshore wind energy is estimated to be as high as 21.8 cents per kWh, experts project the cost could fall by one third by 2020. DOE is working to reduce the cost to less than 10 cents per kWh by that year. Too optimistic? Keep in mind that onshore wind has reportedly dropped 30% in cost since 2008.

### Maryland, My Maryland

For Marylanders, offshore wind is essential to our future. Because the wind is free, the cost of wind energy is primarily the cost of the wind farm plus maintenance. The costs of wind energy are predictable and highly stable for 25 years, unlike the volatile costs of power generated with fossil fuels. Thousands of jobs can be created in the offshore wind industry if Marylanders have the vision to seize the opportunity. Those of us lucky enough to live in Maryland could save up to \$2 billion in health care costs over 20 years, by maximizing our use of offshore wind. We can and should take a leadership role in the U.S. in reducing our greenhouse gas emissions which contribute to global warming.

Maryland is one of the most vulnerable states in the union to sea level rise. And although we can't stop the rising seas on our own, other countries will never follow our lead unless we in fact lead the way to a clean energy future. As Marylanders transition to plug-in-electric vehicles, we can ensure that they are powered from wind farms, not from coal fields. We can help our country move away from foreign oil and help increase

our national security. If we embrace offshore wind power, we have a chance to reach our statutory clean energy standards.

How do we get a handle on climate change? How do we lower our unemployment rate? How do we reduce premature deaths from heart and lung disease? How do we reduce and stabilize our electric bills? How do we ensure that we can look our grandchildren in their faces without feeling guilty about the mess we have made of this earth? As Bob Dylan wrote: The answer, my friends . . . (sing it with me now) . . . is blowin' in the wind.

### Campaign for Victory in 2013

The Marylanders for Offshore Wind coalition begins the third year of its campaign with a goal of passing a bill to bring offshore wind to Maryland during the 2013 General Assembly session. We made major strides in the House of Delegates last session with a passage of the Maryland Offshore Wind Energy Act of 2012 (HB441/SB 237) with a resounding vote of 88-47. The 2012 offshore wind bill came within one vote of success on the Senate Finance Committee and a majority of the Senate floor committed to supporting the bill.

### Putting Maryland businesses on the map

Offshore wind legislation that spurs development of at least 200 megawatts of energy will put Maryland businesses at the forefront of this new American industry, joining states like New Jersey and Massachusetts that have enacted supporting policy measures. Over 1,000 Maryland businesses could participate in the supply chain, and the Business Coalition for Maryland Offshore Wind continues to grow.

### How to Get Involved

There are currently a number of ways to get involved, from signing petitions, attending rallies and summits in Annapolis to contacting your delegate or senator urging support of this legislation.

### To learn more and join the campaign, contact:

*Lead Member Volunteer/ Offshore Wind*

*Liaison:* Larry Tierney,  
larry.tierney1124@gmail.com

*Staff Lead:* Christine Hill,  
Chris.Hill@sierraclub.org, 301-277-7111

*Larry Tierney is a member of the Southern Maryland Group and the lead volunteer/offshore wind liaison.*



It's time for America to get smart about energy and be less dependent on fossil fuels like coal. We need to increase use of clean, renewable energy sources like solar and wind.

Add your voice to protect the planet.  
Join Sierra Club

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 \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

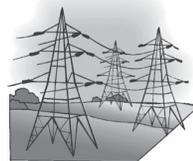
Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
<b>Special Offer</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Student/Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

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 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

or visit our website [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org) F94Q W

## Join Up with the Maryland Chapter Energy Team



The Maryland Chapter's Energy Team is working toward ensuring better implementation of the 2008 EmPOWER Maryland law which aimed to reduce electrical energy use by 5% by 2011 compared with 2007. The state's utilities have only partially met that goal, putting themselves on track to miss the more stringent 2015 goal.

The Sierra Club's Maryland Chapter and other environmental organizations submitted ideas for meeting and exceeding these goals to the Maryland Energy Administration. We are also working toward passing legislation that would lead to the construction of a large wind-powered facility off of Maryland shores. And we are working to move Maryland "Beyond Coal" with the closure of the Crane and Wagner coal-fired power generation plants in the Baltimore area.

Join the energy team and contribute your own energy and ideas! Contact Rich Reis at [rich.reis@mdsierra.org](mailto:rich.reis@mdsierra.org).

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# Maryland Chapter Makes Pesticide Use and Sales Reporting Bill a Priority Campaign

By Kim Birnbaum—The Sierra Club in conjunction with other environmental, civic, and public health groups has been working to pass a Pesticide Usage and Reporting Bill for the last four years. It has been selected as one of our chapter's top priority bills for the upcoming legislative session. There are a number of events that make the 2013 legislative landscape more favorable for the bill:

1. **The release of scientific reports highlighting the need for tracking pesticide usage**, including the soon-to-be released Chesapeake Bay Program report on toxics in the Bay; the Maryland Envi-

ronmental Health Network's report on the impact of toxics on Maryland children, which includes a chapter on the impact of pesticides, and makes the connection between pesticides in our waterways and their impact on public health; and a ground-breaking statement by the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences regarding research on the impact of pesticides at minutely low doses that is contrary to the "dose makes the poison" paradigm on which pesticide registration is based.

2. **A Body Burden study** to be conducted in early 2013 with 20 volunteers, including legislators, farmers, watermen, and rural, urban and suburban residents, which will likely underscore that pesticides are present in people in Maryland from various walks of life.

3. **State House Organic Land Care Demonstration Project and Press Event:** Maryland Pesticide Network, a coalition of which our chapter is a member, is working with the Maryland Department of General Services on transitioning the State House grounds to organic land care as a demo project. This underscores how the state is already beginning to address the issue of toxic pesticide runoff.

4. **Increased public and legislator support**

5. **Increased resources to build public support and lobby for the bill:** Maryland Pesticide Network received funding from a local foundation to hire experts to help counter the Farm Bureau and the Maryland Department of Agriculture and work on promoting successful bill passage.

Additionally, every year we make significant inroads and learn a lot about overcoming roadblocks and objections from our opposition.

### What the bill would require

The cost-neutral bill requires pesticide applicators to report their pesticide usage data, data that they are already required to record and maintain at their place of business. This information could help make critical links to specific pesticides in the event of a fish kill, dead zone, or human illness outbreak, as well as provide valuable information in research and assessments of specific species, such as blue crabs and oysters, and the overall health of the Bay.

Unfortunately lobbyists for the lawn care industry and the Maryland Farm Bureau oppose the bill. They also influence the Maryland Department of Agriculture, which has been a vocal opponent year after year.

The bill is especially important because more than half of the Bay bottom is "seriously degraded" by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), mercury, or pesticides, according to a 2007 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration study. The Environmental Protection Administration has, per the federal Clean Water Act's requirements, classified two-thirds of the waterways within the Bay's tidal zones as "partially or fully impaired" by chemical contaminants.

The bill would be funded by an increase in the annual pesticide and fertilizer product registration fees, paid by the manufacturers, of which Maryland's are the second lowest of 15 nearby states. Even with a fee increase to cover set up and maintenance of the program, Maryland will still rank on the lower end of product registration cost.

The Sierra Club actively works to improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay and its wildlife populations. The Pesticide Usage and Sales Reporting Bill will help restore the Bay and protect public health! ■

*Kim Birnbaum chairs the Maryland Chapter's Pesticides Committee.*



### What you can do to help pass the Pesticide Use and Sales Reporting Bill

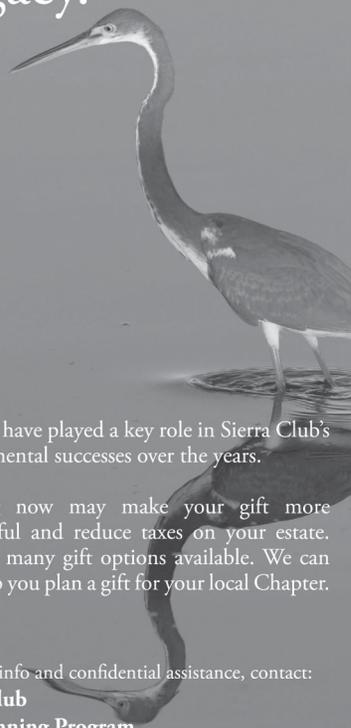
1. Join the campaign's e-mail list for occasional action alerts by e-mailing your full name, full address, and e-mail address to Ruth Berlin (mpnberlin@gmail.com). We will keep you posted on the progress of this legislation including bill numbers so that you can contact your legislators. We will also send you a copy of a petition supporting this legislation.

2. Print and collect signatures for the petition and then mail or scan and email completed petitions to Ruth. **A copy of the petition is on the following page.** Share the information in the article, and have your family, neighbors, and friends sign the petition.

3. Spread the word by forwarding the petition! We are hoping to get thousands of signatures and need your help!

4. Please contact me at Kim.Birnbaum@maryland.sierraclub.org to join the campaign committee; whatever time and energy you can offer will be much appreciated!

## 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:  
**Sierra Club**  
**Gift Planning Program**  
85 Second Street, Second Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
gift.planning@sierraclub.org • (800) 932-4270

# Legislative Agenda: Pesticides



**Smart on Pesticides Maryland**  
**For Safe Water and Healthy Kids**  
**Sign the Petition & Stay Informed!**



Pesticides pose a serious risk to our health, to the Chesapeake Bay and local waterways, and to homeland security—but Maryland lacks comprehensive information about what, when, and where pesticides are being commercially applied.

**Tell Governor O'Malley and the Maryland General Assembly you want them to pass a cost-neutral bill creating a modern, central pesticide reporting database in the 2013 legislative session.**

Certified pesticide applicators already keep records on pesticide use and dealers keep records on pesticide sales. Let's gather this existing information into one central state database that is accessible to government agencies, scientists and public health officials. Once we have more information about when and where pesticides are used, we'll be better able to protect our families and our waterways, including the Chesapeake Bay.

*Please **print your information** clearly. Thank you!*

<b>NAME</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
<b>ADDRESS/ZIP</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
<b>ADDRESS/ZIP</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
<b>ADDRESS/ZIP</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
<b>ADDRESS/ZIP</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
<b>ADDRESS/ZIP</b>	

\*By providing your email address, you agree to receive updates from the Maryland Pesticide Network . You can opt out of this agreement at any time.

**Please return to Maryland Pesticide Network 544 Epping Forest Road Annapolis, Maryland 21401**  
**info@mdpestnet.org FAX 410-849-5272**

# Beyond Coal Campaign

## For Cleaner Air, Move Beyond Coal

(continued from page 1)

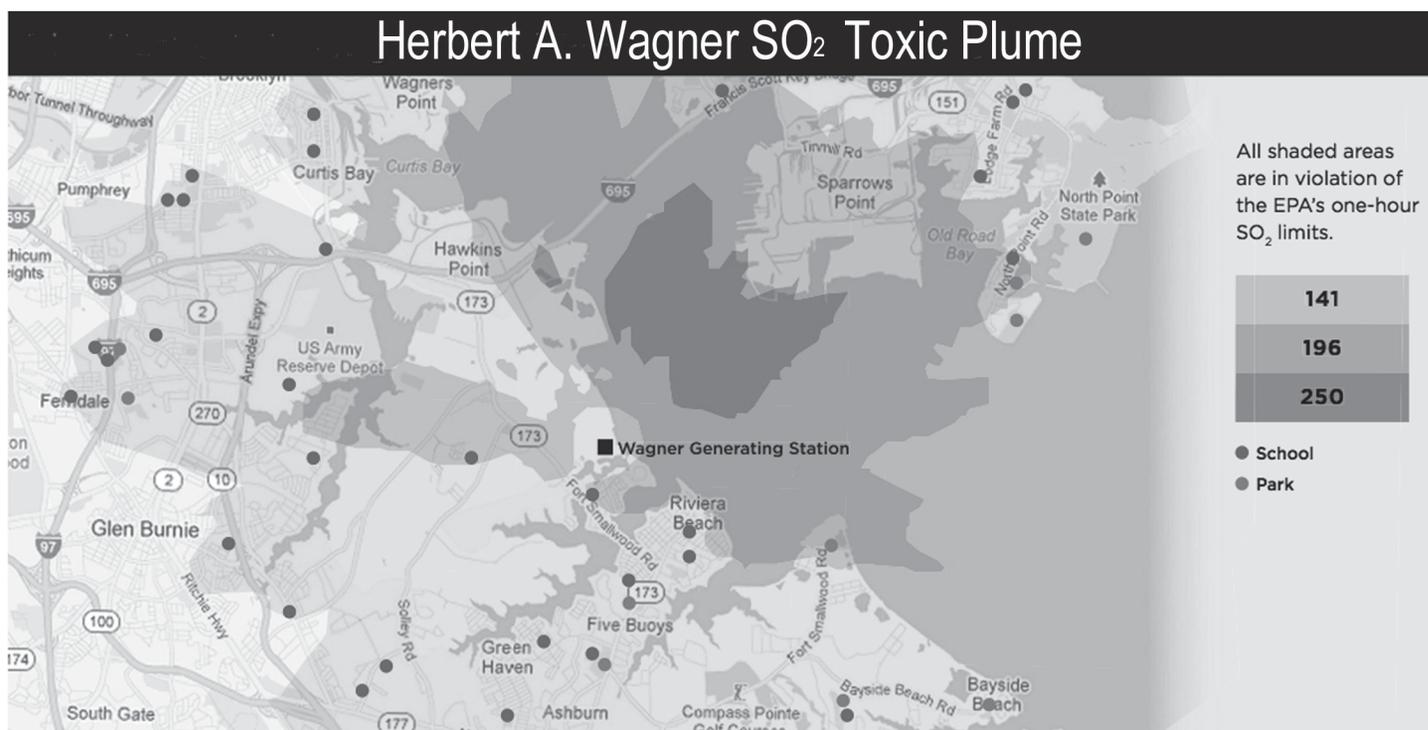
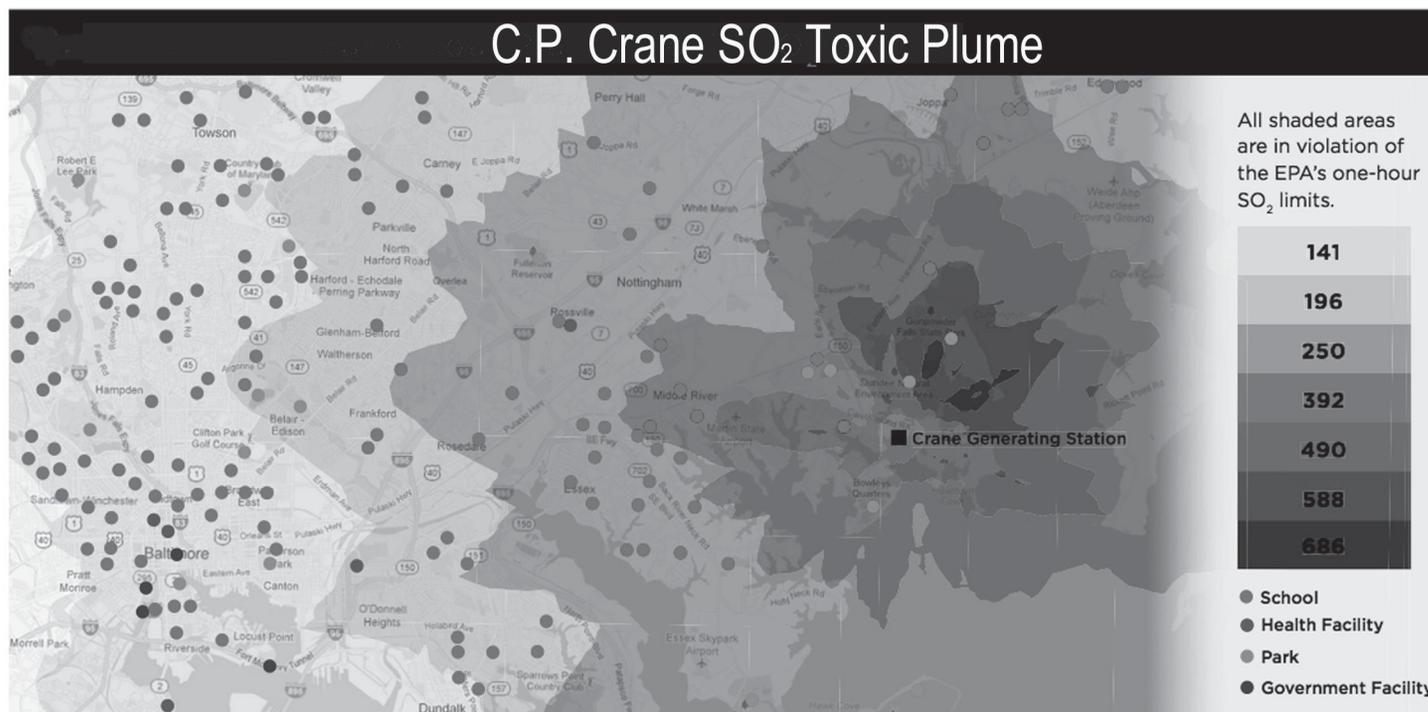
ant. The EPA sets limits on how much can accumulate in our air. Sulfur dioxide triggers asthma attacks, airway constriction, and other respiratory problems.<sup>1</sup> Exposure to sulfur dioxide pollution, even for five minutes, can make it hard for a person to breathe, and exposure at high levels can send people to emergency rooms. Any exposure is especially dangerous for the nearly 10 percent of people in Baltimore and Anne Arundel counties who suffer from asthma, especially the 35,000 children with pediatric asthma.<sup>2</sup>

Coal-burning plants like Charles P. Crane and Herbert A. Wagner are the largest sources of dangerous sulfur dioxide pollution in the nation. In fact, Crane and Wagner are the last two large coal-burning plants in the Mid-Atlantic<sup>3</sup> without plans either to install modern pollution safeguards, commonly known as “scrubbers,” or to make commitments to retire their coal units. Scrubbers help cut plants’ dangerous air pollutants, including sulfur dioxide, mercury and particulate matter, but they do not reduce pollution entirely.

### The Crane and Wagner Coal Plants Threaten Public Health

The EPA recently strengthened limits on sulfur dioxide with one of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, in order to protect people’s health and to reflect the latest scientific knowledge. These limits require that entities like Maryland’s state government compel large polluters to work together to ensure that our air is safe to breathe.

The Crane and Wagner coal plants’ current permits were issued before this critical EPA update, and, therefore, they allow the plants to emit amounts of sulfur dioxide so high that the new National Ambient Air Quality Standard, the standard for what is deemed safe, would be violated. As a result, the Crane and Wagner coal plants threaten Baltimore area residents with sulfur dioxide pollu-



These maps were created by Gray Sky Solutions, Inc., using publicly available information including emissions information, plant characteristics, topographical information, and meteorological data to demonstrate how air pollution disperses from a source, and in what concentrations, using an air dispersion model called AERMOD in accordance with the EPA’s protocols for modeling the impacts of SO<sub>2</sub>.

tion nearly four times the limit determined to protect public health. Sulfur dioxide is measured in either parts per billion (“ppb”) or micrograms per cubic meter (“µg/m<sup>3</sup>”). Right now, the EPA’s National Ambient Air Quality Standard for SO<sub>2</sub> is 196 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, but the Crane plant

alone is permitted to emit SO<sub>2</sub> at rates that cause air pollution concentrations of 736 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. In order to meet the EPA’s safe standards for short-term one-hour SO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the Crane plant would have to cut its current allowable emissions by over 70 percent, and the Wagner plant

would have to cut its current allowable emissions by over 30 percent.

(continued on page 10)

# Beyond Coal Campaign

## For Cleaner Air, Move Beyond Coal



(continued from page 9)

### Who is Responsible for Cleaning Up the Air?

#### **Riverstone Holdings**

In August, 2012, the Exelon Corporation announced that Riverstone Holdings LLC, a private equity firm with offices in New York, Houston, and London, won a bid to buy three coal plants in the Baltimore region, including Crane and Wagner. Once the sale is finalized near the end of 2012, Riverstone Holdings will be responsible for the plants—and their toxic pollution—through a subsidiary it recently created, Raven Power. Prior to the sale announcement, Exelon's own experts suggested that both plants would likely need upgrades to limit sulfur dioxide pollution, providing a clear warning to Riverstone Holdings. Riverstone Holdings has to choose: it can retire these outdated and dirty coal plants and clean up the region's air, or continue to emit dangerous pollution that threatens the health of Baltimore families.

### Maryland Department of the Environment

As part of the sale process, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) will have an opportunity to review the air pollution permits for the plants. MDE can decide to ratchet down the pollution these plants are allowed to emit and force them to meet the latest standards scientifically determined by the EPA. If MDE decides to review the permits before Riverstone Holdings is allowed to take them over, it could help reduce the threat of dangerous sulfur dioxide pollution.

### Where Are We in This Campaign?

As many know, we launched this campaign for clean air in August of this year with a kayak trip to the Crane plant. (See photo on the cover of this newsletter.) Soon after, we launched a billboard in Baltimore directed to Riverstone Holdings, and our "media hits" (stories) are continuing. So far, we have had 10 press hits, five radio hits and one television hit. We have over 1,400 petition signatures and recently sent about a thousand letters to Secretary Robert Summers at the Maryland Department of the Environment. Fifteen organizations signed a letter to Secretary Summers urging him to direct his agency to look into these permits. Talks with MDE are ongoing.

More pressure is needed on MDE and Riverstone. Please consider working on this campaign! ■

*Christine Hill is the Maryland Chapter's conservation coordinator working on energy issues and the Beyond Coal campaign. She can be reached at 301-277-7111 or [chris.hill@sierraclub.org](mailto:chris.hill@sierraclub.org).*

#### *(Endnotes)*

1 American Lung Association State of the Air Report 2012: <http://www.stateoftheair.org/2012/states/maryland/>

2 American Lung Association State of the Air Report 2012: <http://www.stateoftheair.org/2012/states/maryland/>

3 Mid-Atlantic states include New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Maryland, and North Carolina.

## Here's How You Can Help!

Children are at the greatest health risk from air pollution because they are more likely to be active outdoors and their lungs are still developing. Asthma strikes nearly 1 out of every 10 school children in the United States, and is the number-one health issue that causes kids to miss school. On "bad-air days" or "air alert days," particularly during the warmer summer months, kids with asthma are forced to stay indoors for fear of aggravating their conditions. Maryland families deserve better.

Sulfur dioxide pollution from the outdated Crane and Wagner coal plants poses serious risks to communities within their toxic plumes. But action by the state of Maryland, Riverstone Holdings, and Baltimore area communities could clean the air so the region's children can breathe easier.

Join the Maryland Sierra Club in calling on Riverstone Holdings to retire the Crane and Wagner coal plants and invest in local clean-energy solutions that will mean cleaner air, new jobs, and a stronger economy that is built to last.

Visit [www.sierraclub.org/coal/maryland](http://www.sierraclub.org/coal/maryland) for more information and to find out how to join the campaign.



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



### SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SIERRA CLUB

We send out an appeal in March to each of our members, asking for contributions directly to our Chapter. These contributions really do make a difference to us, and are an important part of our Chapter's budget.

When you make a donation to the Chapter, you support the Sierra Club's work in your own backyard. You allow us to continue our work to protect wilderness and wildlife, to improve the quality of life in our cities, and to promote the enjoyment of nature.

Please be as generous as you are able - and remember, these funds directly affect your way of life in your neighborhood.

Make your contribution to  
Maryland Chapter, Sierra Club  
7338 Baltimore Ave., Suite 111  
College Park, MD 20740

Thanks so much!

# Clean Water Campaign

## Pollution Trading is Coming to Maryland Whether We Want It Or Not . . . Maybe

By Claudia Friedetzky—Many of us know about pollution trading from the energy sector. In January of 2003, EPA issued guidance on another type of trading that applies to water pollution and can presumably help clean up the nation's waterways. It is called nutrient trading or water quality trading. It is a market-based way to control pollution by providing incentives to certain water polluting sectors to reduce their pollution significantly below what they are already required to do. They then can sell the additional water pollution reduction as a credit to another entity that produces pollution.

As in the energy sector, the goal is to reduce the polluting substances by asking a polluter to purchase offsets for his emissions from another entity that pollutes less.

### ***Where does the idea of water pollution trading come from?***

As we are all aware, business interests have a strong bias toward market-based solutions to everything, from providing health care, to running prisons, to cleaning up our environment. Their constant deference to the perceived wisdom of markets has led some sectors of our society to assume that business simply does a better job at providing services and regulating itself. Yet while there are debates about whether or not these market-based approaches work, and whether or not they are cost-effective, there is certainly no evidence that they are intrinsically more effective than services provided or regulations enforced by bureaucracies.

Likewise, there is little evidence that pollution trading actually works. What we do know is that traditional command and control systems, or "Government to polluters: stop polluting or else," works faster and better than pollution trading approaches. It was, for example, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s regulations under the Clean Water Act that delineated and set limits for a long list specific contaminants in public water

systems, creating legally enforceable standards.

Nonetheless, the EPA sanctioned water-pollution trading as one of the program elements for cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay. One of the main rationales for doing so is that pollution trading allegedly has the potential to reduce the cost of the clean-up significantly. State and local governments strapped for funds are eager to deploy solutions that help them deal with the vast amount of funds required for addressing widespread water pollution that we are facing.

### ***Who trades for what?***

The state of Maryland has decided to use nutrient trading to address the water pollution that will occur as a result of population growth that's expected to add 478,000 households and more than two million pounds of nutrient pollution by 2035. Under Chesapeake Bay Restoration, we need to continue to reduce water pollution from all sectors over the coming 12 years to meet our clean-up goals. Thus, we need to cancel out or offset the pollution that will be caused by population growth. Nutrient trading, it is hoped, will help accomplish that goal.

The trading is supposed to primarily involve two business entities: developers, as creators of pollution, and farmers, as potential pollution mitigators.

Developers cause pollution through the overwhelming emphasis on sprawl development. Sprawl development causes dangerous levels of pollution by increasing impervious surfaces such as roads, roofs, and parking lots. Rainwater doesn't get absorbed or filtered by these surfaces and instead flows into storm drains and then directly into streams after picking up nitrogen, sediment and other types of pollution. In addition, sprawl development often relies on septic systems, which pollute nine times more than developments that are connected to wastewater treatment plants. Developers responsible for sprawl development will be asked to

purchase offsets for the pollution that their activities create.

The trading scheme that is being envisioned assigns primarily farmers to the role of generating the offsets for the pollution caused by developers. Participating farmers will—we hope—utilize pollution-reducing practices on their farms, in addition to meeting already existing requirements to minimize water pollution. These additional practices could include the installation of forested buffers or wetlands and other permanent, more complex practices.

A developer would then purchase the reduction in water pollution that would result from the practices that the farmer has implemented. On a very basic level, that's the essence of nutrient trading in Maryland. That's the simple part.

### ***Bye, bye simplicity***

From here on, the policy terrain is complicated as far as the eye can see. Here are just a few examples of questions that need to be answered in a final Maryland Accounting for Growth Policy:

1. ♦What are we offsetting? Just nitrogen or nitrogen and phosphorus?
2. ♦Where can the trading take place? Within a county, within a watershed, between one county and another?
3. ♦How much pollution are we offsetting? Do we include air emissions, for instance, generated by locating sprawl development in rural areas? Do we offset the pollution that washes into the local stream, or do we offset the smaller amount of pollution that actually ends up in the Chesapeake Bay? Do we offset all the nitrogen generated by the new development, or do we subtract the nitrogen that a pre-existing forest generated before the development went in? (Yes, even forest generates some nitrogen that goes into the Bay.)
4. How do we ensure that the pollution-reduction practices implemented by the farmer are in place and working to actually offset the pollution generated by the

development?

5. If the development is permanent, how do we ensure that the offset is permanent as well? And what does permanency mean?

6. How do we account for and protect against the fact that there is variation in the efficiency of the pollution reduction practices that are installed on farms, depending on the weather, for instance?

And on and on . . . Another big question lies in the readiness and willingness of the farmers to become involved in nutrient trading at all. Apparently, farmers across the country have not been as excited about nutrient trading as the program developers. Maryland is no exception. Farmers do not seem to be terribly interested in adding another business line to their already existing one of growing cash crops. As a result, policy makers are faced with the question about how to handle the possibility that there will be "no market" when the Accounting for Growth Policy goes into effect. "No market" in this case means that there would be no supply of offsets for developers to purchase when the policy begins to apply.

### ***Timeline of the Accounting for Growth Policy***

The details of the policy will be determined in a state workgroup over the course of 2013. From an environmental perspective, much is at stake in getting these details right, most importantly, that local water quality will be protected and that the trading scheme, if implemented, is designed to truly offset the water pollution of future population growth. The Maryland Chapter is working hard to make the policy as strong as possible so we can look forward to achieving a restored Chesapeake in our lifetimes. Please stay tuned for opportunities to become involved. ■

*Claudia Friedetzky is the chapter's conservation coordinator for water issues.*

## Group News: Prince George's

### Prince George's Group Holds Excom Election

The Prince George's Group is holding elections for four members of its executive committee. In accordance with our bylaws, terms of executive committee members are two years in duration, and staggered so that four members of the committee are elected each year. Below are the biographies of the nominees running to fill these four positions. Once elected, they will serve until December, 2014.

In addition to elections, the group is gearing up to launch its campaign for the Bag Bill. This legislation would encourage citizens to utilize re-usable bags when shopping or pay a small fee if the store provided them with bags. The group succeeded as part of a coalition to pass solid-waste legislation that will start a pilot program for composting food-waste, ban yard waste in plastic bags from the current composting facility, and require commercial and industrial properties within the county to recycle by 2014. Thanks to the volunteers involved who helped with the passage of this important legislation! Do you want to get involved in any of our initiatives or campaigns? Contact Alex Hirtle at 301-927-2105 or AlexHirtle@hotmail.com.

#### Excom Election

According to our bylaws, there are two ways of casting your vote:

1. Paper ballot: Use ballot which follows the candidates' statements to vote for the candidates you want to elect to the Prince George's Group Executive Committee, and mail it to:

Laurel Imlay  
c/o Prince George's Group Elections  
Maryland Sierra Club  
7338 Baltimore Avenue #111  
College Park, MD. 20740.

You must include your full name(s) and your Sierra Club member number (if possible); it appears with your address on the mailing label of *Chesapeake*.

2. Electronic voting: Send an email listing the candidates you want to elect to the Prince George's Group Executive Committee to [ttopping@verizon.net](mailto:ttopping@verizon.net). You must include your full name and your Sierra Club member # (if you have it); it appears with your address on the mailing label of *Chesapeake*.

Please vote for no more than four (4) candidates! *Your ballot must be e-mailed or postmarked by January 20, 2013.*

Questions? E-mail Tom Topping at [ttopping@verizon.net](mailto:ttopping@verizon.net).

#### Candidates' Biographical Statements

##### **Martha Schmidt**

I earned my BS in agronomy from Oregon State University in 1982 and my MS degree in plant nutrition from Univ. of Massachusetts in 1986. I have worked in the horticulture industry for 25 years—including 20 years in the mid-Atlantic region. I am an avid organic gardener and beekeeper. I am passionate about soil and water conservation, saving the Mattawoman, and protecting the Chesapeake Bay.

##### **Susan Stewart**

I am a long-time volunteer activist on progressive and environmental issues, with a focus on the issue of climate change. Because of the urgent need to halt the effects of climate change, I became an active volunteer with climate advocacy groups, including 1Sky, the Chesapeake Climate Action Network and the Greenbelt Climate Action Network. With these groups I helped organize events, did promotion and outreach into the community, collected petitions, and lobbied our state and federal elected officials on the issue of global warming and green jobs.

Raised here in Maryland, I now live in Greenbelt, MD, with my husband and soon-to-be-8-year old son.

I am most interested in being on the board because I am increasingly aware of how there are many issues that must also be addressed at the local county level. Over-development and poorly-planned building projects can devastate the local watersheds, good air-quality, and precious green spaces. When we destroy these things, we not only lessen our quality of living and beautiful places, but we're also not actually improving the local economy either. More support is needed in mass-transit, green re-development of urban areas, and energy conservation and efficiency. I know the Sierra Club has been at the forefront of this work, and I would like to continue to be involved and assist however I can.

##### **John Henderson**

Being a near-native of Central Florida, I started my career life as a local residential builder, which morphed within a few years into residential designer/builder. My passions include music, flying, bicycling, hiking, canoeing, and anything else that involves me and nature on a one-to-one basis. Some 40 years later I am welcoming the current Green Building movement as its time is well overdue. I currently design using the mostly common sense principles of Feng Shui plus I am getting GREENER every day. Currently I'm studying and becoming certified in Building Biology from the *International Institute for Bau-Biologie and Ecology*.

I have been a longtime tree hugger and a member of the Sierra Club for a few years now, and I felt it was time to be personally involved. Anybody can write a check, but I wanted to do more. Here I am on my path to help save the planet. I believe that if we don't take care of our environment . . . it won't take care of us.

##### **Nick Orrick**

I was a mechanical engineer with the US Naval Research Lab (retired), and now serve as a part-time trampoline coach at the Fairland Sports and Aquatics Center. I've been a resident of Prince George's

County for most of the last 43 years. I'm also an Eagle Scout, and have been a member of Sierra Club for several decades. I am particularly interested in energy efficiency and transportation, which covers a lot of issues.

Recently, I have worked on (among other things) county elections, the Watershed Implementation Plan, the bag bill, and pushing forward with the writing of the Prince George's Group bylaws so that we could move on to the more important conservation issues.

##### **Melanie Lynn Griffin**

I was on staff in the national legislative office of the Sierra Club from 1982 to 2008, where I lobbied for passage of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, headed the Public Lands program for nine years, and was Director of Constituency Outreach for seven years. I have experience in legislative and educational grassroots campaign planning and implementation, lobbying, communications, and constituency building. My personal priority has been expanding the base of support through faith-based and multicultural environmental activism.

Since leaving the D.C. office, I have gotten more involved in local activities. I have facilitated strategic planning for Chesapeake Covenant Congregations, worked with the Greenbelt Climate Action Network, started an organic farm with my church, and helped found a local chapter of A Rocha, an international Creation Care group. I am currently working on a Masters in Writing at Johns Hopkins University and am a staff writer at the Greenbelt News Review. I am a member of the Club's Rachel Carson Society, and look forward to serving the Prince Georges Group!

##### **Sam Williams**

I strongly believe that more environmental outreach and "green" education must be done with poor and working class communities in a manner that is acces-

continued →

# Group News: Anne Arundel, Catoclin

←continued

sible and relevant. If I were elected to serve on the executive committee, I would work to expand MD Sierra Club's influence in such localities and help promote a culture of grassroots environmental activism, specifically within Prince George's County.

I am a board member of Anacostia Hours, a local currency/barter network active along the Route One/Baltimore

Avenue corridor. I steer our internal network of members that are in the market for goods and services toward neighborhood suppliers of locally-produced and gently-used materials. I am also a member of the Lions Club (Prince George's, D-22), a volunteer organization primarily working to collect, repair and recycle eyeglasses for donation to individuals in the United States and throughout the world. ■

## Prince George's Group Excom Ballot

**All PRINCE GEORGE'S GROUP members are eligible to vote.**

**Vote for no more than four (4) candidates.**  
(Read candidates' statements on pages 12-13 of this issue of *Chesapeake*)

**Clip this ballot and return to:**  
**Laurel Imlay**  
**c/o Prince George's Group Elections**  
**Maryland Sierra Club**  
**7338 Baltimore Avenue #111**  
**College Park, MD. 20740.**

**Ballots must be received by January 20, 2013.**

Joint Member  
Only

- |                          |                          |                             |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Martha Schmidt</b>       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Susan Stewart</b>        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>John Henderson</b>       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Nick Orrick</b>          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Melanie Lynn Griffin</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Sam Williams</b>         |

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Joint Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

(if applicable)

Sierra Club Member No. (if available) \_\_\_\_\_

## Anne Arundel Group News



The Anne Arundel group has mailed ballots to all its members, seeking their input on Executive Committee members for the coming year. The committee has ten members, with staggered terms so that five members are up for election each year. We actually have two vacancies at the moment, so we strongly encourage

any Anne Arundel Sierran who sees the group's work as important, and wants to help us continue in our efforts to protect the environment by pushing for sound and thoughtful development in the county (as in the controversial Reserve at Quiet Waters and Crystal Springs projects in Annapolis), to join with us. No experience needed other than Club membership. This is your chance to get involved; we need you!

For more information call David Prosten at 410-703-0847 or [dprosten@yahoo.com](mailto:dprosten@yahoo.com).

## Catoclin Group News



The Catoclin Group is still opposing the 1,500 tons-per-day waste incinerator planned for construction in Frederick. We have coordinated our opposition efforts with several grassroots groups: Waste Not Frederick, Waste Not Carroll and No Incinerator Alliance. We review permits and attend public meetings held by the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority (NMWDA) and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE).

We conduct a monthly nature hike led by Karen Moody. Karen, who teaches environmental science, is always happy to help hikers learn more about ecology and the environment as they enjoy the hike.

We are very much engaged in a variety of environmen-

tal issues in our community. We are helping citizens in Myersville, MD oppose a proposed natural gas compressor station by assisting with public speaking. And we are helping with Planet Carroll, a combined effort with McDaniel College and Carroll County Community College (CCCC), focusing on climate change, the Bay and water issues, and sprawl development. Consistent with our support for reducing waste through recycling, we assist with zero-waste zones at local festivals. And we assist with teaching zero-waste and composting at CCCC.

We are involved in the Smithsonian camera trail image project capturing wildlife in the Catoclin Mountain Park at nighttime on film, and we show eco-movies upon request. We're considering a local eco-banquet.

For more information on the Catoclin Group or any of these activities, contact Dan Andrews, Catoclin Group Chair, [dooze@qis.net](mailto:dooze@qis.net).

## Group News: Mont Co, West MD

### Montgomery County Group News



In 2013, we want to persuade more Maryland households to take energy efficiency measures, both to save money and to help lower their carbon footprint. We need your help in reaching out to

residential neighborhood and civic associations to co-organize these household meetings.

Next year, we will also begin building public support for the Bus Rapid Transit system being planned by the county government, which will be a significant boost for public transit and quality of life in the county. Email Alvin at [alvin.carlos@maryland.sierraclub.org](mailto:alvin.carlos@maryland.sierraclub.org) if you have questions or if you are interested in helping out.

### Western Maryland Group News



The Western Maryland Group is regrouping and at press time, had two meetings scheduled for December 4 in Deep Creek Lake and December 5 in Frostburg. We are asking our members to step up

and take an active role in preserving our natural heritage.

Campaigns we are working on are Marcellus Gas, Wind Energy, and Climate Change. If you are interested in spending one to two hours a month with the nation's oldest and largest grass roots environmental group, please contact the chair, Sam White, at 301-264-4162 or [sam.white@maryland.sierraclub.org](mailto:sam.white@maryland.sierraclub.org).

## Maryland Chapter Leaders

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**David O'Leary, Chapter Chair, At-Large Del. (2012)**

301-580-8673  
[dave.oleary@mdsierra.org](mailto:dave.oleary@mdsierra.org)

**Ron Henry, Vice Chair, At-Large Del (2012)**

443-474-7449  
[ron.henry@mdsierra.org](mailto:ron.henry@mdsierra.org)

**Karen Moody, At-Large Del. (2011)**

443-789-1638  
[karen.moody@mdsierra.org](mailto:karen.moody@mdsierra.org)

**Rich Reis, At-Large Del. (2011)**

301-325-8001  
[rich.reis1@gmail.com](mailto:rich.reis1@gmail.com)

**Baird Straughan, At-Large Del. (2011)**

410-757-4134  
[baird.straughan@mdsierra.org](mailto:baird.straughan@mdsierra.org)

**David Hauck, At-Large Del (2012)**

301-270-5826  
[david.hauck@Maryland.sierraclub.org](mailto:david.hauck@Maryland.sierraclub.org)

**David Prosten, Anne Arundel Del.**

[dprosten@yahoo.com](mailto:dprosten@yahoo.com)

**Dan Andrews, Catoclin Del.**

410-857-4129  
[dooze@qis.net](mailto:dooze@qis.net)

**Don Grace, Eastern Shore Del.**

[don.grace@mdsierra.org](mailto:don.grace@mdsierra.org)

**Sally Ann Cooper, Howard Del.**

410-730-3684  
[sacooper1@verizon.net](mailto:sacooper1@verizon.net)

**David Sears, Montgomery Del.**

[david.sears@maryland.sierraclub.org](mailto:david.sears@maryland.sierraclub.org)

**Alex Hirtle, Pr. Geo's Del.**

[chair.pg@mdsierra.org](mailto:chair.pg@mdsierra.org)  
301-927-2105

**Marc Imlay, Southern MD Del.**

301-283-0808  
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**Sam White, Western MD Del.**

301-264-4162  
[sam.white@maryland.sierraclub.org](mailto:sam.white@maryland.sierraclub.org)

### GROUP CHAIRS

**ANNE ARUNDEL GROUP**

**David Prosten**  
410-263-6341 or 410-703-0847  
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**CATOCIN GROUP (CARROLL, FREDERICK, WASHINGTON COUNTIES.)**

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**EASTERN SHORE GROUP (CECIL COUNTY AND EASTERN SHORE COUNTIES)**

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**GREATER BALTIMORE GROUP (BALTIMORE CITY AND COUNTY, HARFORD COUNTY)**

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**Ken Clark**  
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**MONTGOMERY COUNTY GROUP**

**Alvin Carlos**  
[alvin.carlos@maryland.sierraclub.org](mailto:alvin.carlos@maryland.sierraclub.org)

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GROUP**

**Alex Hirtle**  
[chair.pg@mdsierra.org](mailto:chair.pg@mdsierra.org)  
301-927-2105

**SOUTHERN MARYLAND GROUP (CALVERT, CHARLES, AND ST. MARY'S COUNTIES)**

**Frank Fox**  
301-884-8027  
[ff725@yahoo.com](mailto:ff725@yahoo.com)

**WESTERN MARYLAND GROUP (ALLEGANY AND GARRETT COUNTIES)**

**Sam White**  
301-264-4162  
[sam.white@Maryland.Sierraclub.org](mailto:sam.white@Maryland.Sierraclub.org)

**Environmental Legislative Summit**

**Annapolis**

**January 29, 2013**

**4:30 to 6:00 p.m.**

continued →

# Maryland Chapter Leaders

←continued

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Vacant

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**Bob Burchard & Nicole Veltre**

Baltimore Inner City Outings Chairs  
baltimoreinnercityoutings@gmail.com  
http://ico.sierraclub.org/baltimore/

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**Office:** 7338 Baltimore Avenue, #111

College Park, MD 20740  
Tel: 301-277-7111, Fax: 301-277-6699  
http://maryland.sierraclub.org

FREE IN THIS ISSUE  
chapter excom election kit  
candidate bios page 3  
ballot page 19

VOTE!



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



## VOLUNTEER with US!

Sierra Club offers many different types of volunteer opportunities for anyone looking to become more involved in helping to protect the planet. By volunteering, you will be given the exciting opportunity to contribute to the betterment of our world and our future. So get active, meet new people, and have some fun!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please select the activities that interest you.

- Attend and/or Testify at a Hearing
- Door Hanger/Literature Delivery
- Fundraising
- Host Club Leaders Visiting My Area
- Lead an Outdoor Activity or Inner City Outing
- Perform Legal Services
- Phone Calling
- Media Relations
- Signature Gathering
- Work at Club Booths at Fairs and Events
- Use My Vehicle to Transport People and Supplies
- Work in the Club office
- Work at a Mailing Party
- Trail Maintenance, Tree Planting or Other Outdoor Activity
- Volunteer Coordination
- Work on the Web Site
- Write Letters

Please list your top three conservation issues:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Maryland Chapter/Sierra Club  
7338 Baltimore Ave., Ste. 111  
College Park, MD 20740

## Outings (General Information)

### Get Outdoors and Explore, Enjoy, and Protect the Planet

All of our activities, including those listed below, can be viewed on the Sierra Club's Online Activity and Registration System (OARS). For activities in the Maryland Chapter, go to the chapter website, [www.maryland.sierraclub.org](http://www.maryland.sierraclub.org), and click on "Get Outdoors." In addition to the "outings," you will also be able to review upcoming social events, club support events, meetings and activist events. You can sort the list by location, type of activity, or date of activity. Sierra Club outings are open to everyone, members and non-members alike. Outings are intended to be wholesome, safe, and enjoyable experiences in the outdoors.

Participants must have proper clothing, equipment, and stamina suitable to the event, and are encouraged to select activities that match their individual abilities for outdoor adventures. The Club offers a variety of outings from "easy" to "strenuous" that suit all activity levels. The difficulty of each outing is clearly designated in the announcement.

Reservations are generally not required for a local outing unless noted, but the outing leader should be contacted in advance for questions about the terrain, the difficulty or duration of the trip, recommended clothing, footwear and equipment. Activities are normally held "rain or shine," but may be postponed at the leader's discretion for safety reasons in the event of inclement weather.

All outdoor activities carry a degree of risk, and some take place in locations where professional emergency medical aid may be two or more hours away. People with health concerns should consult a physician to determine the advisability of participating in these or similar activities. The Club outing leader is responsible for the safety of all participants, and has the final authority to decide whether or not an individual may participate on a specific outing. Sierra Club safety policy requires that helmets be worn on bicycling outings. Also, any participant must wear a personal flotation device (PFD)

on outings using personal watercraft such as kayaks or canoes.

Unless noted in the announcement, Club outings are intended for adults. Children and dogs are not normally permitted, unless an outing is so designated. Even on outings that are designated as child/dog friendly, please contact the leader in advance before bringing minors or pets. Minors (under 18 years of age) must be accompanied by a parent or a legal guardian, or they must have both a signed permission slip, and the leader's prior consent to participate in the Club outing. Dogs must be non-aggressive, well-behaved, and on a leash.

Sierra Club outings officially begin and end at the trailhead, paddlecraft put-in/take-out point, or some other similar designated locality near the activity. Travel to the official starting point and back, even from an advertised meeting place, is the sole responsibility of each participant. While the Club encourages carpooling, such arrangements are strictly between the riders and the drivers, and are not a part of the outing. Participants assume full responsibility and liability for all risks associated with such travel.

All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver, which can be viewed on the web at <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/index.asp>. Sierra Club local outings are free of charge, although payment of park entrance fees, a share of campsite rental costs, permit fees, equipment rental charges, etc. may be required from the participants. Such costs are specified in the announcement whenever possible.

The Sierra Club practices "leave-no-trace" trail techniques, including hiking and camping on durable surfaces, minimizing campfire impacts, packing out all trash, respecting wildlife, being considerate of other visitors, and leaving the environment as it was found.

Take only pictures, leave only footprints, and have fun out there. ■

## Outings (December)

### Abbreviations Used

Most outings in the Maryland Chapter are run at the group level, with a few chapter and inter-chapter events. The group originating the outing is identified in parentheses by the leader's name. These and other abbreviations used are listed below:

- AA: Anne Arundel Group
- AMC: Appalachian Mountain Club
- AT: Appalachian Trail
- BLM: Bureau of Land Management
- CCA: Canoe Cruisers Association (Washington, D.C.)
- CG: Catoctin Group
- C&O: Chesapeake and Ohio Canal
- FFA: Family Friendly Activity (kids/dogs ok, but check with leader)
- FWS: (U.S.) Fish and Wildlife Service
- GB: Greater Baltimore Group
- GWNF: George Washington Natl. Forest
- HC: Howard County Group
- JNF: Jefferson Natl. Forest
- MNF: Monongahela Natl. Forest
- MC: Montgomery County Group
- NPS: Natl. Park Service
- NRA: Natl. Recreation Area
- NWR: Natl. Wildlife Refuge
- PFD: Personal Flotation Device (lifejacket)
- PRO: Sierra Club Potomac Region Outings (SCPRO)\*
- SF: State Forest
- SM: Southern MD Group
- SP: State Park
- SNP: Shenandoah Natl. Park

\* For hike ratings of SCPRO, refer to their website at <http://www.sierrapotomac.org/rating.htm>

## December

### Wednesday, December 12, 6:30 PM Maryland Chapter Activist Event Prince George's County Offshore Wind Town Hall

Vidal Hines [vidal.hines@sierraclub.org](mailto:vidal.hines@sierraclub.org)  
The 2013 Legislative session is upon us. Before it starts we must be prepared to let our legislators know what we want for our county. There is a clean-energy proposal on the table that would create jobs and clean up the air in the county. Come join us as we host the 2012 Prince George's County Offshore Wind Town Hall. Come find out about clean-energy opportunities, like offshore wind, that can boost the local economy, create jobs, clean the air, and fund a small and minority business development fund. This event will have a list of distinguished panelists, including State Delegate Michael Vaughn, Lt. Governor Anthony Brown (invited), State Delegate Aisha Braveboy (invited) and issue experts, followed by a Q & A session at the end. Please join us! We look forward to seeing you there. Please spread the word. Questions? Please contact Vidal Hines, [vidal.hines@sierraclub.org](mailto:vidal.hines@sierraclub.org)

### Friday, December 14, 8:00 Southern Maryland Group Outing Myrtle Point Park Owl Prowl

Robert J Boxwell 410-394-1300



Join the Friends of Myrtle Point Park for a night time visit to the park in search of resident owls.

### Saturday, December 15, 9:00 AM Howard County Group Outing Gambrill State Park Hike

Tim Ryan 410-248-2974

[hikertimnh48@gmail.com](mailto:hikertimnh48@gmail.com)

Moderate 7 mile hike on wooded trails, with several scenic overlooks. Bring lunch and water. Meet at the Bagel Bin off Rt. 40 in the Enchanted

continued →

## Outings (December, January)

←continued

Forest Shopping Center, for a 9:00 departure. Call Tim Ryan before 9:30 PM, 410-248-2974, hikertimnh48@gmail.com.

### **Sunday, December 16, 10:00 AM Southern Maryland Group Outing Chapman Forest Solstice Walk**

Marc Imlay 301-442-5657  
ialm@erols.com

Celebrate the winter season in Chapman Forest with its spectacular scenery and remarkable diversity of native trees. We will focus on an inner loop walk from Mt. Aventine across the gentler, sandy hills and ravines between the mansion and the convergence of the Aventine stream and the Glymont stream - all old-age forest. We'll see new state co-champion Pagoda Oak (*Quercus pagoda*), state champion and co-champion Chinquapin Oak (*Quercus muhlenbergii*), the natural hybrid between White Oak and Chinquapin Oak, Swamp Chestnut Oak (*Quercus michauxii*), as well as White Oak (*Quercus alba*), Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*), Shumard Oak (*Quercus shumardii*), Southern Red Oak (*Quercus falcata*), Willow Oak (*Quercus phellos*), and other oaks and trees. Bring: Wear sturdy shoes and bring lunch or snacks and water. Most of the walk traverses rolling, fairly open forest along trails, though some steep grades will occasionally be encountered. Registration is not required.

### **Sunday, December 16, 9:15 AM Howard County Group Outing Patapsco Valley State Park**

James Perschy 410-964-1902;  
jameshike@verizon.net

Moderate 7 mile hike. Bring lunch and water. Meet at 9:15 at the parking lot behind the Hilton Area Nature Center, just inside the Hilton Avenue entrance on the right

### **Friday, December 21, 6:00 PM Greater Baltimore Group Outing Holiday Evening Hike**

Alan Penczek 410-252-5720  
apenczek@stevenson.edu  
3 miles. Celebrate the first day of winter on an evening tour of Hampden's famous holiday decorations on 34th Street. Hike will continue through other interesting areas including an art district and the "Avenue."

### **Saturday, December 22, 9:00 AM Howard County Outing Group Patuxent River Park-North**

Easy 7 mile hike using footpaths, old work roads and boardwalks through pleasant woods, fields and the wetlands of Jug Bay. Some eager beavers frequently flood one portion of the trail so be prepared for a knee high wade across a wide section of a creek. The bottom is firm sand. Bring boots, water, towel, dry socks, water crossing shoes and a snack. Depart at 9:00 from the west lot of the Broken Land Parkway Park & Ride at Rt. 32. Contact Mike Juskelis, 410-439-4964, mjuskelis@cablespeed.com.

### **Saturday, December 29, 9:30 AM Howard County Outing Group Patapsco State Park**

James Perschy, 410-964-1902,  
jameshike@verizon.net  
Moderate 4 mile hike along the Patapsco River, past McKeldin Falls. Meet at 9:30 at the parking lot just inside the park entrance off Marriottsville Road, 4 miles north of I-70 on the right.

## January, 2013

### **Tuesday, January 01, 1:00 PM Greater Baltimore Group Outing Oregon Ridge Park Hike**

Alan Penczek 410-252-5720  
apenczek@stevenson.edu  
Celebrate the New Year on this

figure-8 hike to Ivy Hill Pond. Some shallow stream crossings. Meet in front of Nature Center at 1 PM. Take I-83 to Shawan Rd. and exit west. After 1 mile turn left at stoplight onto Beaver Dam Rd., then turn immediately onto right fork into park. Follow road to end and walk up to Nature Center. Cancelled for storms.

### **Tuesday, January 1, 9:00 AM Howard County Outing Group Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary**

Mike Juskelis, 410-439-4964,  
mjuskelis@cablespeed.com  
Easy 7 mile hike. Views of the wetlands from 3 separate loops connected by paved and gravel roads. This is a frequent stopover for migratory waterfowl. Bring boots, water and a snack. Depart at 9:00 from the west lot of the Broken Land Parkway Park & Ride at Rt. 32.

### **Saturday, January 5, 9:00 AM Howard County Outing Group Gunpowder Falls, Hereford**

James Perschy, 410-964-1902,  
jameshike@verizon.net  
Moderate 7 mile hike over hilly terrain to Prettyboy Dam. Bring lunch and water. Depart Columbia at 9:00 from Long Gate Parkway Park & Ride, off Rt. 100, just east of Rt. 29.

### **Sunday, January 6, 9:00 AM Howard County Outing Group Wincopin Trail**

Ken Clark, 443-280-4050,  
kenclark7@live.com  
Moderate 7 mile hike along the Middle and Little Patuxent Rivers, easy except for a few hills and rocky parts. After the hike, we will have a potluck lunch at Ken's house, and watch football playoffs. Meet at 9:00 at Patuxent Valley Middle School, off Vollmerhausen Road just west of Savage Guilford Rd.

### **Saturday, January 12, 9:00 AM Howard County Outing Group Patuxent River Park-South**

Mike Juskelis, 410-439-4964  
mjuskelis@cablespeed.com  
Easy 7 mile hike through forests and swamps with views of the wetlands. Includes 1.5 miles of walking on paved roads. Bring boots, water and a snack. Depart at 9:00 from the west lot of the Broken Land Parkway Park & Ride at Rt. 32.

### **Saturday, January 19, 8:00 AM Howard County Outing Group White Oak Canyon, VA**

Ken Clark, 443-280-4050,  
kenclark7@live.com  
Strenuous 10 mile hike in Shenandoah National Park, featuring several ice-covered waterfalls. The trail will likely be icy in places. Bring lunch, water, and good hiking boots. Depart at 8:00 from the west lot of the Broken Land Parkway Park & Ride at Rt. 32.

### **Saturday, January 19, to Monday, January 21**

### **Greater Baltimore Group Outing Cross Country Skiing in Western Maryland**

Jack Wise 410-256-3963  
hikingjack@netzero.net  
Sat. to Mon. Cross Country Skiing in New Germany State Park. Will stay at Casselman Inn in Grantsville. If no snow day hike will be held. For details call Jack at 410-256-3963.

### **Saturday, January 26, 9:00 AM Howard County Outing Group American Chestnut Land Trust**

Mike Juskelis, 410-439-4964,  
mjuskelis@cablespeed.com  
Easy 6 mile hike that includes an out-and-back to a small farm with views of the Chesapeake Bay and Parker Creek Swamp. Bring boots, water and a snack. Depart at 9:00 from the west lot of the Broken Land Parkway

continued →

## Outings (January February March)

←continued

Park & Ride at Rt. 32.

### **Sunday, January 27, 11:00 AM Greater Baltimore Group Outing Cross Country Skiing at Prettyboy Reservoir**

Jack 410-256-3963

Local hike or cross country skiing at Prettyboy Reservoir, depending on the weather and snow conditions. Meet at 11:00 AM at the Mt. Carmel Rd. Park & Ride just west off I-83 north of the Baltimore Beltway and past the Shawan Rd..

### **Sunday, January 27, 9:30 AM Howard County Outing Group Great Falls, VA**

Ken Clark, 443-280-4050,  
kenclark7@live.com

Moderate six mile hike on dramatic cliffs overlooking the Potomac River, along the historic Patowmack Canal, and past the scenic Difficult Run rapids. Bring lunch and water. Depart at 9:30 from the west lot of the Broken Land Parkway Park & Ride at Rt. 32

### **Tuesday, January 29, 4:30 PM Maryland Chapter Activist Event Environmental Legislative Summit in Annapolis!**

Christine Hill 30-277-7111  
chris.hill@sierraclub.org

Save the Date for the Annual Environmental Legislative Summit in Annapolis Tuesday, January 29 from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m

## February

### **Saturday, February 2, 9:00 AM Howard County Group Outing Rock Creek Park**

Tim Ryan, 410-248-2974,  
hikertimnh48@gamil.com

Moderate 8 mile circuit hike through woods by the creek, with a quick visit to the zoo. Bring lunch and water. Depart at 9:00 from the west lot of the Broken Land Parkway Park & Ride at Rt. 32.

### **Saturday, February 9, 9:00 AM Howard County Group Outing American Chestnut Land Trust (South)**

Mike Juskelis, 410-439-4964,  
mjuskelis@cablespeed.com  
An easy, 6 mile hike over rolling terrain composed of four interconnected loops. An old graveyard, barns and diverse forest types are featured. Bring boots, water and a snack. Depart at 9:00 from the west lot of the Broken Land Parkway Park & Ride at Rt. 32

### **Friday, February 15, 2013 to Monday, February 18, 2013 Virginia: SCPRO Outing 29th annual Ski-Dance Weekend**

Bob Mathis 301-589-7539  
talibob@starpower.net  
29th annual Ski-Dance Weekend: cross-country skiing, contra dancing, and music making. Lots of fun outdoors and indoors in a rustic setting. Check website, [www.skidance.com](http://www.skidance.com) for more information and registration form. Leader - Bob Mathis, 301/589-7539, talibob@starpower.net.

### **Saturday, February 16, 9:00 AM Howard County Group Outing Catocin Mountain Park**

James Perschy, 410-964-1902,  
jameshike@verizon.net  
Moderate 7-9 mile hike, visiting Cunningham Falls, Wolf Rock and Chimney Rock. Bring lunch and water. Meet at the Bagel Bin off Rt. 40 in the Enchanted Forest Shopping Center, for an 9:00 departure. Or contact the leader to meet at the Catocin Visitor Center.

### **Sunday, February 17, 10:00 AM Howard County Group Outing Patuxent River State Park**

Ken Clark, 443-280-4050,  
kenclark7@live.com  
Moderate 7 mile hike, west of Howard Chapel Rd., through woods

and across rolling farm fields. Bring lunch and water, and boots for muddy trails and challenging stream crossings. Depart at 10:00 from the west lot of the Broken Land Parkway Park & Ride at Rt. 32.

### **Saturday, February 23, 10:30 AM Howard County group Outing Patapsco State Park**

Tim Ryan, 410-248-2974,  
hikertimnh48@gmail.com  
Moderate 8 mile circuit hike in the Glen Artny/Orange Grove areas of the park, on the Soapstone, Valley View and Vineland Spring Trails. Lunch at the Cascades. Bring lunch and water. Hike starts at 10:30 from the Rolling Road Park & Ride, I-195 @ MD 166.

### **Sunday, February 24, 9:00 AM Howard County Group Outing Calvert Cliffs**

Mike Juskelis, 410-439-4964  
mjuskelis@cablespeed.com  
Easy 7 mile hike featuring two swamps and the famous Calvert Cliffs with its shark teeth. Bring boots, water and a snack. Depart at 9:00 from the west lot of the Broken Land Parkway Park & Ride at Rt. 32. Contact Mike Juskelis, 410-439-4964, mjuskelis@cablespeed.com.

### **Sunday, February 24, 1:00PM Greater Baltimore Group Outing Circuit Hike Prettyboy Watershed**

Alan Penczek 410-252-5720  
apenczek@stevenson.edu  
4 mile circuit hike with spurs. Diverse forest on peninsula of reservoir, with rocky overlook above the water. Constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Meet at 1 PM at trailhead on Traceys Store Rd.

From I-83 take Mt. Carmel Rd. west 3 ½ mi. to Prettyboy Dam Rd. and turn right. After 1 mi. turn left onto Traceys Store Rd. Continue 1 mi. to parking lot at a bend in the road. Cancelled for storms.

## March

### **Saturday, March 23, 2013 1:00PM Greater Baltimore Group Outing Little Gunpowder Hike**

Alan Penczek 410-252-5720  
apenczek@stevenson.edu  
4 miles. Celebrate spring with this "pleasant" hike along the Little Gunpowder and Ma and Pa Trails between Bottom Rd. and Pleasantville Rd. Some hills. Meet at 1:00 PM at the roadside pullouts along Bottom Rd. where it meets the river. Directions from Baltimore Beltway: Take Exit 31, Harford Rd. (Route 147) north. Go 8 miles to Fork Rd. and turn left. Go 1.7 miles to Bottom Rd. and turn right. Go 2 miles and park at any of the pullouts on either side of river. Cancelled for storms. For more details, contact Alan at 410-252-5720 or [alan.penczek@mdsierra.org](mailto:alan.penczek@mdsierra.org).

### **Sunday, March 24, 11:00 AM Greater Baltimore Group Outing Glen Ellen – Seminary Trail Hike**

Jack 410-256-3963  
6-7 mile hike around coves bordering Loch Raven Reservoir, along streams, and through woodlands, walking along relatively flat paths and a fire road. Meet at 11:00 AM where you can park on Seminary Ave. just past the light to the left off Dulaney Valley Rd., north of the Baltimore Beltway



Looking for outings or events? Search our website!

<http://maryland.sierraclub.org/events/ActivitySearch.asp>

### Baltimore Inner City Outings



Sierra Club Inner City Outings (ICO) is a community outreach program providing opportunities for urban youth and adults to explore, enjoy and protect the natural world. It was founded in 1999 with the goal of providing under-served Baltimore City youth with educational, enjoyable and safe outdoor experiences at no cost to them.

Since start-up, Baltimore ICO (BICO) has conducted more than 350 outings serving over 3,000 youngsters.

BICO provides environmental education and promotes respect for the outdoors; teamwork and leadership skills ; and a community service ethic. BICO's outings in and around Baltimore include nature hikes & orienteering; camping, canoeing, cycling & caving; initiative and confidence coursework; community service for Baltimore's Recreation & Parks Department.

We are associated with Digital Harbor High School, Mi Espacio, Paul's Place, and Southwest Baltimore Charter School.

Please send inquiries to [baltimoreinnercityoutings@gmail.com](mailto:baltimoreinnercityoutings@gmail.com). For more information and a schedule of our outings, visit our website at <http://ico.sierraclub.org/baltimore>.

### Maryland Chapter Excom Ballot

*Leaders of the Sierra Club are chosen democratically from candidates who volunteer their time and talent to protect our Earth.*

*Please honor this democratic tradition and their willingness to serve by voting.*

**All Maryland Chapter members are eligible to vote.**

**Vote for no more than three (3) candidates. (Read candidates' statements on pages 3-4)**

**Clip this ballot and return to:**

Election Committee  
Maryland Chapter/Sierra Club  
Suite 111  
7338 Baltimore Avenue  
College Park, MD 20740

**Ballots must be received by January 11, 2013.**

- Joint Member  
Only
- |                          |                          |                        |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Richard Reis</b>    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Baird Straughan</b> |



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## Credits

The Chesapeake is published quarterly by the Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club. Annual Sierra Club membership dues pay for subscription to this publication. Non-members may subscribe for \$20.00 per year.

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:  
Editor, *Chesapeake*  
Sierra Club Maryland Chapter  
7338 Baltimore Ave, Suite 111  
College Park, MD 20740

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

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**Outings Editor:** Jan Hoffmaster

"We want our children to live in an America that isn't threatened by the destructive power of a warming planet."

—President Barack Obama

## *President's Day March*

February 18, 2013



Washington, DC

Join the Sierra Club, 350.org, and allied groups of concerned citizens to promote policies to reduce greenhouse gases and slow climate change. Reject tar sands, the Keystone XL pipeline, and other extreme oil sources.

**Say NO to extreme oil!**

NON PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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Power from wind, not coal  
Pesticide registration  
Nutrient trading & the Bay  
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