



Events, Updates, News, and more!
February 2024

Dear Emma,

February is Black History Month and transit equity month! Public transit is essential urban infrastructure – and access to transit is a critical part of making our communities equitable and sustainable. [Transit Equity Day](#), which is celebrated on the anniversary of Rosa Parks' birthday, is a day of action to lift up transit as a workers' rights, civil rights, and climate-justice issue.

In addition to supporting equitable transit this month we are also celebrating the passing of a [new PFAS resolution](#) in Newton and an announcement from the Healey administration of a new [Environmental Justice Strategy](#) for the state.

🌻 Keep reading to see what else is happening at the Chapter!

Upcoming Chapter Events

Advocacy Training

February 24th
1:00pm

[RSVP Here](#)

Care about the environment but not sure how you could actually make change? Want to hone your understanding of the legislative process in Massachusetts? Come learn about how to make change and advocacy and how you can get started!

Plant-Based Cooking Demonstration

February 25th
7:00 - 8:00pm

[RSVP Here](#)

Join us as we show you how to make delicious healthy plant-based food at home. Feel free to ask us questions; we'll be happy to help you.

Climate Trivia @ Aeronaut Brewing

February 27th
8:00pm

[Event Info](#)

Join us for a night of climate themed trivia, hosted by Sierra Club Massachusetts at Aeronaut Brewing in Somerville!

PFAS Revealed: Virtual Film Screening and Q&A

February 28th
7:00pm

[RSVP Here](#)

This program combines a short film (*Burned*) about PFAS followed by a discussion about local, state and federal action you can take to address the PFAS crisis. This short documentary introduces the hazards and harms of PFAS as well as its devastating impact on firefighters.

Upcoming Committee and Team Meetings

Check out our Events Calendar for all Committee and Team Meetings in addition to special events!

[Events Calendar](#)

Events Calendar



Month	Year	Day	Event
October	2023	1	Committee Meeting
October	2023	2	Team Meeting
October	2023	3	Committee Meeting
October	2023	4	Team Meeting
October	2023	5	Committee Meeting
October	2023	6	Team Meeting
October	2023	7	Committee Meeting
October	2023	8	Team Meeting
October	2023	9	Committee Meeting
October	2023	10	Team Meeting
October	2023	11	Committee Meeting
October	2023	12	Team Meeting
October	2023	13	Committee Meeting
October	2023	14	Team Meeting
October	2023	15	Committee Meeting
October	2023	16	Team Meeting
October	2023	17	Committee Meeting
October	2023	18	Team Meeting
October	2023	19	Committee Meeting
October	2023	20	Team Meeting
October	2023	21	Committee Meeting
October	2023	22	Team Meeting
October	2023	23	Committee Meeting
October	2023	24	Team Meeting
October	2023	25	Committee Meeting
October	2023	26	Team Meeting
October	2023	27	Committee Meeting
October	2023	28	Team Meeting
October	2023	29	Committee Meeting
October	2023	30	Team Meeting
October	2023	31	Committee Meeting

✨ Volunteer Action of the Month ✨

Take Action for Transit Equity Month!

Sierra Club and several partners will be joining a series of events led by Alternatives for Community and Environment (ACE).

[➔ Check out the list of events!](#)

📣 If you are free TODAY at 12pm, come join us outside Park Street station to rally for a safe, reliable, and affordable transit system!

Support the Chapter

Support Your Passion for a Just and Sustainable World

Create a legacy that protects and restores the natural world for future generations by naming Sierra Club's Massachusetts Chapter in your will or trust. Or, name Sierra Club Foundation as the beneficiary of your retirement plan for the benefit of your local chapter and leave less highly taxed assets to your loved ones.



To learn more about the advantages of making a planned gift and to become a member of the Rachel Carson Society, please contact us.



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Spring Outings Leader Trainings



July 2023 Outings Leader Training



Do you want to advocate for environmental action in MA while being outside and building community? We have two trainings scheduled for this Spring to get folks ready to lead others outside with the Sierra Club MA Chapter. For the first time, we are offering First Aid training in the same session to reduce the barriers to get involved!

Outings Leader training and Adult First Aid at the Boston Office and Greenway

 Saturday, March 23rd
 9:00am - 5:00pm

[Save Your Spot!](#)

Outings Leader training and Adult First Aid at Wachusett Meadow Sanctuary

 Saturday, May 4th
 9:00am - 5:00pm

[Save Your Spot!](#)

New on the Blog



Joint Rule 10: What happened to our priorities?

Wednesday February 7th was Joint Rule 10, which gave us the first real glimpse into the State Legislature's opinion on the environmental and climate justice movement's priorities. The results? A mixed bag.

[→ Read On](#)



Chasing Warmth: The Burden of Energy Costs

This is the story of a family of four living in Gloucester. They recently moved into a new home and have been grappling with the extreme cost of energy.

[→ Read On](#)



Why We Need the Zero Carbon Renovation Fund (ZCRF)

This is a proposal in front of the Massachusetts legislature (S.2365 / H.3232) that would create a grant program with initial funding of \$300 million for building efficiency and electrification with a focus on low income housing and municipal buildings such as schools.

→ Read On

Stand in Solidarity

With the cost of living increasing, from food and gas to housing, we need a higher minimum wage for MA workers. Raise Up Massachusetts in collaboration with partners is [advocating for An Act relative to raise the minimum wage](#), S.1200 (filed by Sen. Lewis) & H.1925 (filed by Reps. Nguyen & Donahue), which would raise the minimum wage to \$20 by 2027 and index it to inflation in the future.



👉 This legislation would ultimately raise the wages of almost 1 million workers, and extend the minimum wage's protections to municipal workers like teachers' aides and school cafeteria workers who are currently excluded!

📞 [Contact your elected officials TODAY](#) to show your support for legislation increasing the minimum wage in Massachusetts to \$20/hr! This bill is critical to ensure that workers in Massachusetts can afford to stay in the state amidst the affordability crisis, and elected officials need to hear about it.

Want to learn more about our current work?
Check out our [Campaign Updates Document](#) for more information!

Friend & Partner Events

[Black History Month Transit Tour](#)

📅 February 24th, 11am-3pm

📍 South Station, 700 Atlantic Ave, Boston

TransitMatters, Alternatives for Community & Environment (ACE), the Fairmount Indigo Transit Coalition, and more invite you to join us for our Black History Month Transit Tour on February 24 from 11:00am–3:00pm.

[Framingham Repair Cafe](#)

📅 February 24th, 2-5pm

📍 Scott Hall at 24 Vernon St, Framingham

Have you got something that needs fixing or mending? Our volunteers can

help fix many things for free including: clothing, lamps, small appliances, computers/other electronics, bikes, batteries, toys, jewelry and sewing machines. We will also have a station for sharpening straight knives, scissors and garden tools. If you know what parts are needed, please get them ahead of time.

[MassAlliance Grassroots Campaign Training](#)

 **March 9th and 10th, 10am-5pm**

 **Marlborough, MA (SEIU 509)**

MassAlliance's signature Grassroots Campaign Training is back in-person! This comprehensive two-day training will teach you all you need to know to run and win a grassroots campaign, including mailers, GOTV planning, fundraising, messaging, social media, and more. *Deadline to register is February 26th.*

What We're Reading

- New Mass. plan puts equity at center of environmental policy ([NBC Boston](#))
- Mass. joins 8 states in setting new electric heat pump goals ([WBUR](#))
- More questions than answers after Massachusetts order to transition from natural gas ([Energy News Network](#))
- Climate and economic development bills are powerful avenues to net-zero goals ([CommonWealth Beacon](#))
- Boston's first geothermal heating system to replace gas in public housing ([MassLive](#))



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