

Events, Updates, News, and more! March 2024

Dear Emma,

We, at the Massachusetts Sierra Club, are delighted to share that the chapter **Executive Committee voted unanimously in support of Vick Mohanka as the New Chapter Director**. He replaces former director Deb Pasternak, who transitioned to serve as the Chief Field Officer overseeing Sierra Club field work nationally.

Vick is the first person of color to hold the Director role at the Sierra Club Massachusetts Chapter in its over 50year-old history, which affirms the fact that more than ever, our organization must continue to work with marginalized communities in order to deliver on our mission to protect the planet for everyone.



Vick brings a dedication to building a strong and resilient climate justice and environmental protection movement and a commitment to leading the Chapter's mission of tackling the climate crisis, reducing toxic pollution, and combating racial, economic, and gender inequity.

#### Read more about Vick here!

Sincerely,



Celia Doremus Chair Executive Committee

# **Upcoming Chapter Events**

# Phone Outreach Team 🌭

March 20th 5pm

RSVP Here

We have new folks who join our Sierra Club community every day. Join us to make phone calls to new Sierra Club MA members and supporters to welcome them and invite them to upcoming events -- We'll offer brief training at the beginning of each session for anyone who is new to making calls.

# **Outings Leader Training and Adult First Aid**

9am - 5pm RSVP Here

March 23rd

Our first of two Outings Leader trainings scheduled for this Spring is happening in Boston 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! <u>Or join us Saturday May 4th at Wachusett Meadows</u> <u>Sanctuary!</u>

# Plant Based Cooking Demonstration

March 24th 7pm 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.



## Earth Month Evening Walk & Social

Join the Chapter on a special walk to celebrate Earth April 2nd 5:30pm Month and our newly permanent State Director, Vick Mohanka, in his new role and his birthday. 🎉 We will walk **RSVP** Here around 5 miles along the beautiful Boston Harbor walk and looping back along the Rose Kennedy Greenway. Optional post-walk gathering at Democracy Brewing. Advocacy Hour: Protecting Our Night Skies April 10th Light pollution represents a threat to nocturnal habitats, 5pm disrupts our circadian balance, wastes energy, and robs us of enjoying the night sky's glorious canopy of stars. Our **RSVP Here** partners at DarkSky Mass will speak more about this issue and solutions, including Massachusetts legislation (S.1382/H.2131) that, if enacted, would provide a crucial first step in combating light pollution throughout the Commonwealth. The Malden River: Access, Advocacy, and Action April 13th The Malden River is a beautiful, but often under-10:00am appreciated, part of the landscape connecting the cities of Everett, Malden, and Medford. Join us on an **RSVP** Here approximately 3.2 mile walk around the riverfront and learn about the history of this community treasure, the work to overcome the impact of it's industrial past, and how you can be a part of it's future.

#### Upcoming Committee and Team Meetings

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

**Events** Calendar



### 材 Volunteer Action of the Month 차

Solidarity Action: Protect Water and Reject Line 5! The 70-year-old Line 5 crude oil pipeline stretches from Superior, Wisconsin, east through Michigan's Upper Peninsula and the Straits of Mackinac, on to Ontario, and crosses critical waterways flowing into Lakes

Superior, Michigan, and Huron. Now Enbridge, the pipeline's operator, is seeking permission from the Army

Corps of Engineers to reroute a portion of the pipeline around the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Reservation in Wisconsin.

Tell the Army Corps: Don't take any shortcuts on the proposed Line 5 pipeline reroute in Wisconsin!

# Support the Chapter





# New on the Blog



Private Jet Expansion: Its Abundant Consequences Private jets, emitting greenhouse gases and consuming substantial amounts of fuel, have a detrimental impact on our environment.





Press Release Sierra Club Massachusetts Responds to Nation's First Office of the Energy Transformation (OET).





## 70 Municipal Officials Sign Letter to the Governor in Support of School Bus Electrification

With 70 signatures from 35 municipalities, this letter calls for Massachusetts to commit to an all-electric school bus fleet by 2035 and for the Governor to create a \$70 million fund to support school bus electrification.



Want to learn more about our current work? Check out our Campaign Updates Document for more information!

# Friend & Partner Events

#### Fix the Grid Community Forum

- 芦 March 23rd, 9:30am 5pm
- 9 Southern NH

## **Fix the Grid Community Summit** SATURDAY, MARCH 23rd 2024 9:30am - 5pm **Southern NH**

# **REGISTER NOW**

**Build relationships with other communities** impacted by electric grid infrastructure and connect with movement partners!

- child care, Spanish interpretation, and food provided - transportation support available - sliding scale registration fee

bit.ly/FTG-communitysummit



### New England Youth Oceans Summit 芦 Sunday, April 7th

## <sup>¶</sup> University of Massachusetts, Boston

MASSPIRG Students has been working to protect New England's oceans. As young people, we love the life of our shores and want to see decision makers take steps to protect our oceans. Join us to learn how you can make a difference for the ocean, inspire your peers and make real change.

# What We're Reading

- After laying out a bold vision to transition to green energy, state creates a new office to implement the plan (*Boston Globe*)
- Sierra Club sues SEC over climate disclosure rule (The Hill)
- Why do we call a dirty fossil fuel 'natural' gas? (The Seattle Times)
- Climate-Science Deniers, Right-Wing Think Tanks, and Fossil Fuel Shills
  Are Plotting Against the Clean Energy Transition (*Sierra Magazine*)
- A project in Mass. tests a future for gas utilities without fossil fuels (<u>WBUR</u>)



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