



E-Sierran Newsletter



Events, Updates, News, and more!
August 2026

Dear Emma,

It's August already, and another two-year legislative session has come to a close. While the state formal session is 'officially' over, bills like the energy affordability bill are continuing to be reconciled in conference committee—and might not make it to Governor Healey's desk until after the election season. We'll be following closely, and keeping the pressure on our legislators to put our priorities into the final bill.

In other state news, our primary elections are coming up on **September 1st!** [You can check your registration status or register here.](#) Make a plan to vote this month! 🗳️

Conference Committee Action for Energy Bill

2026 Conference Committee



ACTION HOURS

Join our Legislative Team Series!



Join us for this special series of our legislative team meeting to advocate for environmental justice priorities in the final stages of the energy affordability bill! Each action hour, we'll do a deep dive into different topics in the energy bill and use the last half of the meeting to contact our legislators, neighbors and friends about the topic.

August 20: [Mass Save](#)

September 3: [Alternative Compliance Payments](#)

September 17: [Utility Accountability](#)

October 1: [Data Centers](#)

October 15: [Nuclear & Biomass](#)



Need a recap on what happened with the Senate version of the energy bill last month? [Read our latest blog!](#)

Outings Leader Training Now Open!



Sierra Club MA transit-to-trails outing in Rockport, MA this spring.

Do you wish there were more opportunities to meet up with the Massachusetts community in beautiful places throughout the state? Consider leading outings with Sierra Club MA! Join us on Saturday August 22nd from 9am-2:30pm to start the journey to organizing outings:

[Register Here!](#)

It has been a delight to weave together the components of Sierra Club's Mission in advocacy linked outings: To explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth. Any questions? [Celeste](#) would be happy to connect with you.

🦋 We also have an outing coming up on [Saturday, August 29th at 10am at Wachusett Reservoir!](#)

MA State Primaries are on September 1st!

Do you have a plan to vote yet? Your vote always matters, but in local elections, the future of a community can truly be determined by a single vote. In states like Massachusetts, the primaries are where many of the races are decided—way ahead of November elections.

Primary Election Deadlines:

- 📅 August 22: Voter registration deadline
 - 📅 August 25, 5pm: Vote by mail application deadline
 - 📅 August 22-28: Early voting period
 - 📅 September 1, 7am-8pm: Election day polling hours
- [Find more information and check your voter registration here!](#)

Action of the Month

No Immunity for Big Oil!

Republican lawmakers have introduced sweeping legislation to try to put the fossil fuel industry above the law. This would restrict our ability to make polluters pay for the harms they have directly contributed to in our communities. Our Massachusetts Members of Congress can be leaders in speaking out against this legislation! Join us in encouraging them to publicly oppose this get-out-of-jail-free card for Big Oil.

 [Send a message to your U.S. Senators and Representative!](#)

Upcoming Chapter Events

No Immunity for Big Oil: Letter Drop to Senators Warren and Markey's Offices

 Tuesday, August 11th at 2pm
 15 New Sudbury St, Boston, MA 02203

Join us to deliver a letter for the campaign for No Immunity for Big Oil to Senator Warren and Senator Markey's Boston offices! Join us in advocating that fossil fuel companies should not be above the law, and calling on our leaders to speak more publicly about federal legislation that would shield fossil fuel companies from being held responsible for the climate crisis.

No Immunity for Big Oil: Letter Drop to Congressman Seth Moulton's Office

 Thursday, August 13th at 1pm
 21 Front Street, Salem, MA 01970

Join us to deliver a letter for the campaign for No Immunity for Big Oil to Congressman Seth Moulton's office! Join us in advocating that fossil fuel companies should not be above the law, and calling on our leaders to speak more publicly about federal legislation that would shield fossil fuel companies from being held responsible for the climate crisis.

Outings Leader Training

 Saturday, August 22nd at 9am
 Chapter office, Boston, MA 02203

Do you like spending time with people outside? Ready to take the leap towards building leadership and coordination skills? Come take outings leader training in person in Boston this Summer!

Narrative Organizing Training

 Monday, August 24th at 7pm
 Virtual event

Join us for an organizing training and community building hour! The training topic for this week is Narrative Organizing. Sierra Club Massachusetts volunteer Katherine will guide us through the narrative arc and how we tell our stories to better advocate for change.

Wachusett Reservoir Walk & Talk

 Saturday, August 29th at 10am
 Wachusett Reservoir

Join us for a walk along the beautiful Wachusett Reservoir! We expect to walk around 4.1 miles with little elevation gain and loss (~450ft) on the Northern side of

the forests surrounding Wachusett Reservoir with numerous coves and points. As we take breaks, we will be discussing the MA Chapter Forest Protection team’s campaign to end logging on the state lands of the Quabbin, Ware, and Wachusett watersheds.

Visit our [Chapter events calendar](#) to see all upcoming committee and team meetings, in addition to special events!



Friend & Partner Events

August 13-14 | [Tables Upon Tables 2026 Conference](#)

August 15 | [Possible Impacts of Constitution Pipeline for New England](#)

August 19 | [The Future of Cape Cod Energy: Siting, Permitting, and the Electric Grid](#) (RENEW Northeast Infrastructure Committee)

What We're Reading

- Healey sounds alarm on energy costs — but a legislative solution remains elusive for now ([CommonWealth Beacon](#))
- ‘I will tie myself to a bulldozer if I have to’: Westfield residents are up in arms over \$4 billion data center ([Boston Globe](#))
- New ‘Fair Share’ Funding Gives A Down Payment For MBTA’s Regional Rail Vision ([StreetsBlog Mass](#))
- Markley Lowell, city dismiss data center moratorium lawsuit ([Lowell Sun](#))
- Ten communities in Massachusetts went ‘fossil fuel free.’ Then utilities spent \$100M on natural gas infrastructure there. ([CommonWealth Beacon](#))



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