



Monthly E-Sierran Newsletter

October 2021

Dear Emma,

I'll be honest, my heart has been feeling heavy this week. Right now, five young people—Abby, Paul, Kidus, Ema, and Julie—are outside the White House in Washington D.C. on hunger strike until Joe Biden and Democrats deliver on their elected mandate and pass climate policy that matches the urgency and the scale of the climate emergency. Abby and Paul are good friends of mine and it hurts me to see my friends, *now on day 8 of their hunger strike*, putting their bodies on the line like this. We must pass the full scope of this bill or we will spiral deeper into the climate crisis. **The urgency of now cannot be understated: this could be our last best chance to pass federal climate policy for the rest of the decade and we won't back down without a fight.**

I have a lot more to say about this, so I hope you'll [head over to our blog](#) to continue reading about what's at stake in this moment, how climate and labor go hand-in-hand, and some of the ways you can take action.

As always, thank you for your action. We could not do this work without you.

In solidarity,
Emma & the Sierra Club Massachusetts Chapter

What's Happening at the Massachusetts Chapter

Advocacy Hour: Campaign Updates

Wednesdays at 5:00pm
Virtual Event

Join Sierra Club Massachusetts leaders on Zoom for a campaign update, every Wednesday at 5pm. This is an opportunity to get plugged into our campaigns, learn about [timely issues](#) and ongoing projects, and talk directly to Sierra Club staff and leaders. New members and volunteers welcome!



Wednesday,
October 27 at 5PM

PFAS - What Are They and How You Can Help
Clint Richmond leads our toxics work and is a member of the Sierra Club national core group on PFAS. This is your chance to ask anything about this complex set of chemicals and their history and uses. He will provide info on state legislation and regulation that we are supporting.

RSVP Here

Post-Election Debrief



**Wednesday,
November 3 at 5PM**

New Volunteer Welcome Orientation

**Thursday, October 28 at 5:30pm
Virtual Event**

Join the Massachusetts Chapter for an introduction to our current work, learn how to get involved, and meet other volunteers! In this orientation, we'll discuss what the Sierra Club is, our equity values and how we put them into practice, and how anybody can get involved in our current work, regardless of your experience level or availability!



[RSVP Here](#)

A Conversation with Vineyard Wind

**Wednesday, November 10 at 5:00PM
Virtual Event**

Join us for a conversation on the importance of working with environmental and labor advocates in the building of the offshore wind industry, with two leaders from Vineyard Wind, the company that is building the first permitted offshore wind development in the US, and is based here in Massachusetts.

[RSVP Here](#)



Plant-based Cooking Demonstration

**Sunday, November 14 at 6:00pm
Virtual Event**

Learn how to make healthy plant-based food with the Plant-based Planet Team! We'll demonstrate how to make various plant-based dishes at home. Feel free to ask us questions; we'll be happy to help you.

[RSVP Here](#)

Sierra Club State Advocacy Training

November 10 at 8:00pm

November 14 at 1:00pm

Virtual Events

Did you know that roughly 49-51% of the members in Congress were state legislators? States have also been leading the way in adopting the policies that will help us mitigate the worst scenarios of the climate crisis. Join us for a workshop on lobbying in state, and be part of driving change from the ground up. As a constituent with a passion to do good you are a powerful force for change. The State Lobbying and Advocacy Team will be hosting a webinar training on how to be an effective in-district volunteer advocate. Post-training we will connect you with the relevant Sierra Club Chapter state-based team.

[RSVP Here](#)

Clean Energy & Climate

100% Clean Act Week of Action

MASSPIRG Students and Environment Mass are hosting a week of action for Sierra Club endorsed 100% Clean Energy Act on social media.

The goal is to generate a lot of “buzz” around the 100% Clean Act so that the Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy Committee (TUE) reports it out of committee for the House to vote on. Please post (samples [here](#) and [here](#)) and tag your local legislators in your posts. You can see if your local representatives are sponsors by checking the bill’s websites [here](#) and [here](#).

[Sample Twitter Posts](#)

[Sample Facebook Posts](#)

Ready For 100: Energy 101 Training Series

Thursday, November 18 at 7:00PM

Thursday, December 16 at 7:00PM

Virtual Events

Join the Ready for 100 campaign for a monthly training series all about energy! Sign up to attend the series, and be sure to visit Ready For 100’s Activist Toolkit to learn more about running a local campaign to transition your community to 100% clean energy.

Training #3 - What motivates an electric utility? How can we make them change?

Join us for info on how utilities make decisions and how to tell when the hurdles to renewable energy they present are real or red herrings. We will be joined by guest speakers who have worked to push utilities toward more renewable energy to benefit their communities.

Training #4 - Renewable Trends: Where is the industry going?

What does the future hold for renewable energy? Join us to hear about where the energy industry is trending and how new technologies become viable in this day and age. We will be joined by an expert on the topic to discuss how we can most effectively steer decision-makers toward practical and equitable solutions.

[RSVP Here](#)

Up in Smoke: How incinerators pollute MA and should scare all of us

Thursday, October 28 at 11:00am

Virtual Event

In Saugus, MA residents live next to a trash incinerator that burns up to 1,500 tons of trash a

day. And the consequences for health and environment are real. Breathing polluted air can cause cancers and other serious health problems, which families in Saugus know all too well.

That's why Saugus residents are rising up and fighting back against trash incineration. And now, we're inviting you to learn more and join us

[RSVP Here](#)

Fix The New England Electric Grid!

Sunday, November 14 at 1:00PM
Crosier Park, Holyoke

ISO New England is the Independent System Operator, a non-profit organization, that oversees the purchase of energy for the New England electric grid. It favors fossil fuel energy over renewables – in fact only 5% of the energy it purchases are renewables. To address our climate emergency, we must show ISO New England they should be responsible to the people of New England and move to solar and wind energy.



[Learn More](#)

Transportation Matters



Speak Up for Clean Cars

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has the power to set fuel economy standards that dramatically reduce vehicle emissions, protect public health, and improve gas mileage. However, NHTSA has proposed a fuel economy standard that offers loopholes that would allow automakers to double down on gas-guzzlers.

Urge NHTSA to set the most stringent standards possible so that people across the country can drive the cleanest, safest, and most fuel-efficient cars.

[Take Action Now](#)

Climate Leadership Fall Session: Building & Transit Decarbonization

Sunday, November 7 at 3:00PM
Virtual Event

Since 2017, the Massachusetts Chapter has worked to empower local elected officials (Mayors Town/City Councilors, Select Board members, local energy committees, etc.) to engage on timely climate and clean energy issues.

Join our fall session to learn about key items which will impact municipalities through the end of 2021 and into next year. This two hour session will educate elected and appointed officials on:

- The launch of Massachusetts Sierra Club's **municipal climate action database**
- A call to action on the upcoming **Advanced Clean Truck (ACT) Rule**, and
- Preparation for the Department of Energy Resources' **net zero stretch code**.

Please note that this event is **only open to anyone with an official capacity within a city or town in Massachusetts**.

[Learn More](#)

Stand in Solidarity

Youth Hunger Strike Solidarity Vigil

Thursday, October 28 at 5:00pm

40 Church St, Northborough



Since October 20, five young people have been on a hunger strike outside the White House. They demand Joe Biden and Democrats pass the full scope of the Build Back Better Act to combat the climate emergency with jobs and for justice.

Please join in supporting youth and protecting the continuation of a habitable planet.

[Learn More](#)

Chapter Committee and Team Meetings

Climate Research Team Meeting

Wednesdays at 6:10pm

Weekly meeting of the Climate Research Team. This team looks at municipal progress on clean energy/climate issues and seeks opportunities to leverage municipal power for state policy change.

[RSVP Here](#)

Community Outreach Team Meeting

Thursdays at 7:00pm

Weekly meeting of the Outreach Team. This team is responsible for person-to-person outreach to Sierra Club members and supporters. They use a variety of tools, including phone calling, peer-to-peer texting, and email blasts.

[RSVP Here](#)

Forest Protection Team Meeting

Thursday, October 28 at 7:30pm

The Forest Protection Team is dedicated to protecting and preserving forests and trees throughout Massachusetts through education, advocacy and community involvement. All are welcome to attend!

[RSVP Here](#)

Toxics Team Meeting

Monday, November 1 at 5:00pm

Biweekly meeting of the Toxics Team. This team handles toxic pollution issues, including deadly chemicals (e.g. PFAS), plastic-based pollutants, and recycling/solid waste issues.

[RSVP Here](#)

NEW Building Team Meeting

Thursday, November 4 at 5:00pm

[RSVP Here](#)

Come learn about the **new** building electrification team and our exciting push to equitably decarbonize our building sector!

Political Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 9 at 6:00pm

This committee researches political candidates and makes recommendations on who the Chapter should endorse.

[RSVP Here](#)

Cape Cod Group Meeting

Tuesday, November 9 at 7:00pm

Please join us for the bi-weekly meeting of the Cape Cod Group. All interested parties are welcome.

[RSVP Here](#)

Plant-based Planet Team Meeting

Wednesday, November 10 at 7:00pm

Please join us for the monthly meeting of the Plant-based Planet Team. Come discuss strategies to promote a plant-based diet as way of fighting climate change and conserving natural resources.

[RSVP Here](#)

Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 18 at 5:30pm

The monthly meeting of the Executive Committee. All members welcome to join except for any Executive Session.

[RSVP Here](#)

Energy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 30 at 5:00pm

Join us to discuss and respond to critical energy issues affecting Massachusetts.

[RSVP Here](#)

Transportation Committee Meeting

Monday, December 13 at 6:00pm

Join us to discuss and respond to critical transportation issues affecting Massachusetts, including rail, bus, bike, pedestrian, and traffic pollution policies.

[RSVP Here](#)

Friend and Partner Events

Zero Carbon Home, Zero Bills

Wednesday, October 27 at 7:00pm

Virtual Event

Sustainable Westborough is excited to offer the "Zero Carbon Home, Zero Bills" presentation by noted expert David Green. Learn how to cut your heating bill, electric bill and carbon footprint to zero, by someone who has done it - David Green.

[RSVP Here](#)

Fossil Free Future Day of Action

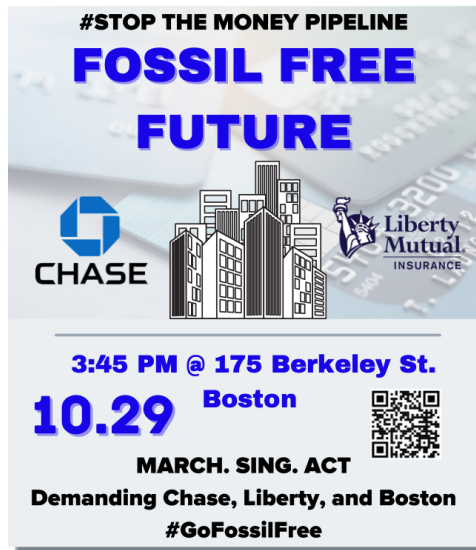
Friday, October 29 at 3:45pm

**425 Washington St, Boston, MA
02108**

Join this day of action targeting Liberty Mutual at their Boston headquarters.. Liberty Mutual has not yet responded at all

to the Gwich'in Steering Committee despite numerous attempts at outreach. Liberty Mutual is a top oil and gas insurer and they have no company policies regarding the Arctic Refuge or broader Arctic region.

RSVP Here



#STOP THE MONEY PIPELINE
FOSSIL FREE
FUTURE

CHASE Liberty Mutual INSURANCE

3:45 PM @ 175 Berkeley St.
10.29 Boston

MARCH. SING. ACT
Demanding Chase, Liberty, and Boston
#GoFossilFree

Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative conference: Powering Change at the Grassroots Level

Friday, October 29 at 8:30am

Virtual Event

Our roadmap to a clean energy future. Citizens, business leaders, policy makers, elected officials, environmentalists, clean energy providers, nonprofits, and youth and faith community activists from around the region and beyond will meet to explore innovative policies and tools that will accelerate our region's journey to a clean and equitable energy future.

Register Here

Our Reading List

Read the latest environmental news from Massachusetts and beyond...

- [Hunger strike at White House: Protestors confront Joe Manchin](#) (CNN, 10/26/21)
- [Challenges Facing the Cape Cod Aquifer](#) (David Dow)
- [The state asked for a blueprint of a gas-free future. Why are the utilities writing the first draft?](#) (Boston Globe 10/14/21)
- [Baker Shifts Thinking on Offshore Wind](#) (Commonwealth, 10/13/21)
- [The climate colonizer mentality](#) (HEATED, 10/12/21)
- [Mass. urged to join neighboring states in banning 'forever chemicals' in food packaging](#) (WickedLocal.com, 10/8/21)
- [Ranked-choice voting would increase turnout](#) (Bay State Banner, 10/7/21)
- [Massachusetts Advocates Say they are Being Ignored in Future of Gas talks](#) (E&E, 10/4/21)

Always be sure to check our [website calendar](#) for more upcoming events. If you'd like the Sierra Club to co-sponsor your event (and add it to our events digest), [please email us!](#)

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This email was sent by the [Sierra Club Massachusetts Chapter](#)

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