



Update on Proposed Natural Gas Pipelines

Southeastern Michigan is in the pathway of two proposed natural gas pipelines, both carrying fracked natural gas from Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, across Ohio, into Michigan, and continuing into Canada. Using essentially parallel routes, the ET Rover line runs through western Lenawee, Washtenaw, and Livingston Counties, and the Nexus pipeline runs east of that through Lenawee, Monroe, and Washtenaw Counties. Both would join the existing Vector line to send the gas on to Canada.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or FERC, has the regulatory authority to issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for these projects. If this certificate is issued, the companies can use eminent domain to establish rights of way on private land for the defined route, including pipelines, compressor stations, and metering stations.

In February, FERC released its Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the ET Rover pipeline, triggering a public comment period including several public hearings, only one of which was held in Michigan. The comment period closed April 11th. After issuing a Final EIS, FERC will weigh the “public need” of the project against the potential adverse impacts prior to approving or denying the project. [Note: the Nexus pipeline process is not as far along as ET Rover, but the process and the concerns will be similar.]

The Sierra Club Michigan Chapter

expressed a number of concerns in its comments on the Draft EIS, including:

- FERC is providing incomplete information to landowners regarding acquisition of easements. FERC informs landowners that Rover will contact them to obtain right-of-way agreements if the pipeline crosses their lands, and that, absent an agreement, their land would be subject to an eminent domain proceeding. However, while providing this implicit encouragement to landowners to settle with the company ahead of time, FERC neglects to tell them that FERC uses the proportion of negotiated right-of-way agreements as an indicator favoring approval of the project.
- There are a number of adverse environmental impacts from the project. Soil compaction can reduce crop productivity over many years. Forested areas in the right of way will be permanently impacted, since they cannot be replanted. Wetlands and surface waters will be impacted during construction. Many acres of public lands (including 23 acres of Pinckney Recreation Area) will be affected.
- Safety requirements are not fully addressed. For pipelines of this size (42-inch diameter), the impact of an

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By Nancy Shiffler

Southeastern Michigan is in the pathway of two proposed natural gas pipelines

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explosion or major leak could affect an area within a radius of 1,000 feet or more of the pipeline. Yet in some cases the pipeline passes within 50 to 100 feet of homes or other structures.

- FERC admits that there is the potential for significant adverse impact from the project, but claims the impacts could be sufficiently mitigated if FERC's proposed 55 recommendations are carried out. However, many of these recommendations involve increased monitoring, encouraging a not-well-defined negotiated settlement if future problems arise.
- FERC continues to dismiss any

responsibility for addressing impacts on green house gas emissions, despite being

told by the EPA on numerous pipeline projects that the impacts from methane releases are sufficient to be included in the environmental review.

- FERC continues to take a limited view of cumulative impacts. While acknowledging 10 planned, proposed, or existing FERC-related natural gas transmission projects in the region, FERC limits consideration of cumulative impacts only to segments within 10 miles of the Rover project. FERC

should instead be considering the broad regional impacts of these numerous projects.

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The Lookout Vol.37 No.1 Spring 2016

The Huron Valley Group Newsletter is published 2 times a year by Huron Valley Group, Michigan Chapter, Sierra Club, 621 5th Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Local Food and What You Can Do

By Dorothy Nordness

One of the main speakers at this year's Local Food Summit in February talked about the steps involved in the production of food. Breaking it down into the individual parts of the production process makes it easy to see where a few changes in shopping patterns can serve to directly support our wonderful local farmers and move us away from the destructive practices of industrial-scale farming.

First, the parts of the industrial food system, focusing on fruits and veggies:

- 0 Plant it
- 1 Grow it
- 2 Harvest it
- 3 Transport it (for processing or bring it to a farmers market)
- 4 Process it
- 5 Package it
- 6 Distribute it
- 7 You buy it
- 8 Prepare it
- 9 Serve it
- 10 Eat it – (OK, this one is obvious – you can't eliminate it!)

How many of these steps can you eliminate by doing a few simple things?

When you buy your food at a local farmers market or at a farm-to-consumer store like Argus Farm Stop, a good number of the steps are

eliminated: the farmer bears the burden of growing, harvesting, and transporting it, and you come into the picture when you purchase, prepare, serve it, and eat it. And if it is one of the many crops here in Michigan that need no preparation before serving, so much the better. But you have eliminated steps 4, 5, and 6 without troubling yourself at all. Good work! Now, let's proceed to "excellent" reminding ourselves that Steps 1, 2, 3 and 10 are difficult to eliminate.

So, to go one step further, how about adding an area of black raspberries to your yard? Five or six plants will become a dozen or so plants in a few years as the branches take root themselves, requiring little to no effort on your part. Now YOU are doing steps 0 and 1. When you see those succulent morsels appearing on the vine, you decide you would like some fresh fruit in your yogurt, so you head to the raspberry patch with a little container, pick a bunch of your homegrown, fresh, sweet black raspberries, walk inside, rinse them off, and stir them into your yogurt (which you might have made yourself) and enjoy!!! You have now eliminated steps 3 - 8 (and maybe step 9 depending on if you call stirring it as part of "serving" it). You have reached "excellence" with regard to the raspberry portion of your meal. Want to do even better?? **"Excellent +"**

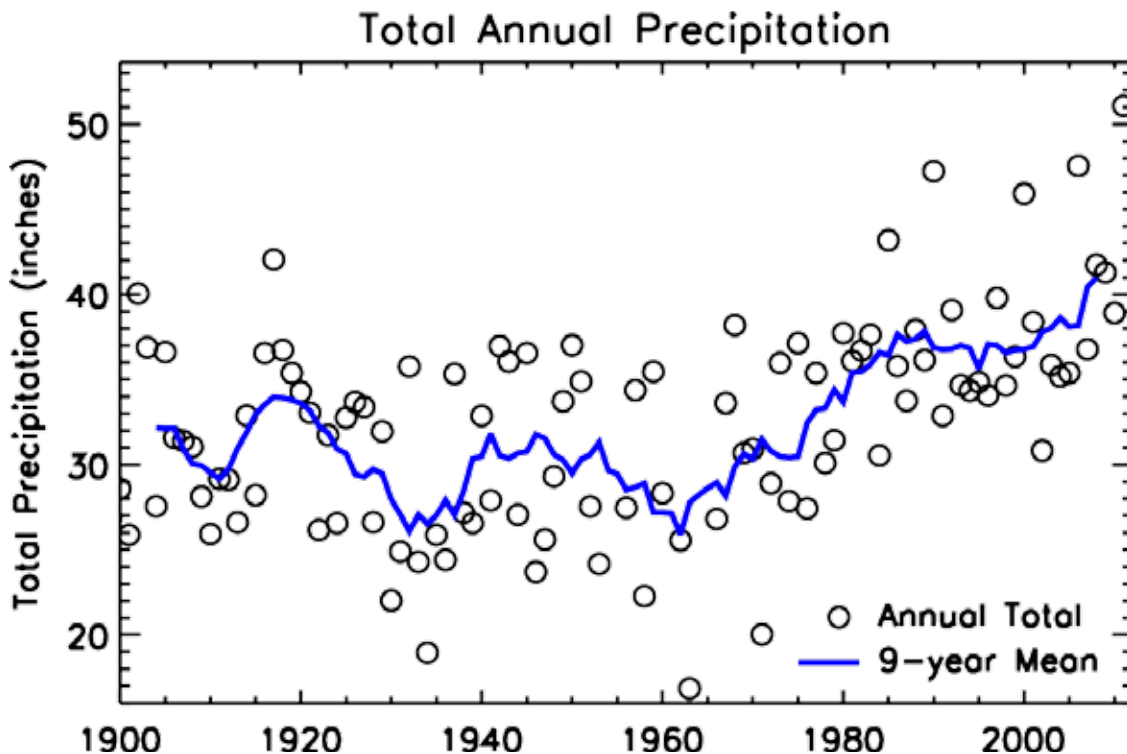
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- Evidence of public convenience and necessity is lacking. Rover is essentially a producer-driven project with little demonstrated market pull. In many cases the producer's finances are questionable for any long-term commitments. The market for natural gas appears to be diminishing. Michigan's natural gas demand has decreased with 2014-2015 natural gas usage below 1990s and 2000s levels. Both DTE and Consumers Energy predict declining natural gas and electricity sales. The US Department of Energy, in a report from February 2015, stated that only 54% of current US pipeline capacity is being used, and better

utilization could reduce the need for new pipelines.

FERC's issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is supposedly based on a balancing of public benefits vs. possible adverse impacts. The financial condition of Rover's suppliers and the questionable level of market demand speak to the lack of public need, while the potential for adverse impacts is clear. We should not be pitting the safety, economic value, and environmental health of property owners and communities against pipeline projects that are neither viable nor needed

Changing Precipitation in Ann Arbor



Above: Working with the UM Climate Center and Graham Sustainability Institute we are already measuring significant changes in the Ann Arbor climate. When you compare data from two thirty year periods 1950-1980 and 1980-2010 you see a major increase in annual precipitation.

Left--Extreme storms have increased 41.2%

Chart & photo courtesy of Matt Naud, Environmental Coordinator for the City, and speaker at April HVG General Meeting on Climate and Sustainability.

How the Sierra Club Endorses Political Candidates

The primary mission of the Sierra Club is to protect the environment. As one part of our work to pursue this mission, all across the country the Sierra Club endorses candidates for elected office at the national, state and local levels. You may be interested in how the Club determines which candidates are endorsed.

Endorsement Criteria

The Sierra Club's endorsement criteria are tightly aligned with our environmental mission. We make endorsement decisions based on candidates' responses to a detailed questionnaire about environmental issues, plus an evaluation of candidates' records if they have been in elected office. We focus our attention on high-priority environmental policy issues.

For state level offices, these policy issues are identified by the state chapter's Legislative Committee. For candidates for national offices (House and Senate), the policy issues are identified by the national club.

For local offices, the Huron Valley Group reviews issues that have been of particular concern to us locally. In Ann Arbor these issues have included:

Considering the current City intentions we are particularly concerned with issues that include

Massive development in and around the city that pays no attention to environmental impact, and have permanent negative impacts on some of the last important natural features of the area and the Huron River

- Effective address and resolution of clean-up of Gelman plume
- Emphasizing priority focus on maintaining tree health, as described in the newly ratified Urban and Community

Forest Plan

- Plans to convert city park land into non-park uses
- Reduced park funding and inappropriate balance of millage funds and general funds.
- Less-than-genuine efforts to create the proposed Allen Creek Greenway for biking and walking.
- Effective implementation of the Ann Arbor Parks and Greenbelt ballot proposal that voters passed in 2003
- Disjointed mass transit plans needing careful study
- Infrastructure planning that addresses climate change impacts

The Sierra Club also considers a broader set of environmental issues, in addition to candidates' statements about their environmental priorities and achievements. Our organization's mission requires that we focus on what candidates for elected office say they will do regarding environmental issues and what they actually do while holding office.

Sierra Club endorsements apply to particular election dates. The endorsements we announce for equally good candidates in primaries may be different than the final set of endorsements released for the general election.

Who Decides?

The Sierra Club endorsement process for candidates in the state of Michigan involves a recommendation from the local group political committee to the local group executive committee for a vote; similarly at



James D'Amour,
Vice-Chair, Sierra
Club Huron
Valley Group

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Sierra Club Endorsements continued from page 5

the state “Chapter” level the chapter political committee sends recommendations to the chapter executive committee for a final vote. Consequently, as many as twenty-five to fifty people evaluate candidates based on the extent to which their questionnaire responses and track records in elected office are consistent with the Sierra Club's environmental priorities. Approval at both the local and state levels is required for a candidate to gain the Sierra Club's endorsement.

Trying Hard To Get It Right

There will always be people who are disappointed by particular Sierra Club endorsement decisions. That should come as no surprise. People with strong environmental convictions sometimes reach different conclusions about what candidates will do in office. After all, we can have different priorities, and we do not have the same information on which to base our judgments.

The Sierra Club follows a rigorous process that involves a large number of activists at multiple levels of the organization. They have diverse backgrounds and perspectives. As an environmental organization, the Club focuses on environmental issues. We try hard not to get lost in the many other factors that individuals quite rightly take into account when deciding how to cast their votes.

Although we cannot promise to be perfect in our evaluation of candidates, we are confident in the thoroughness and objectivity of the Sierra Club endorsement process. The candidates we choose in our judgement are the ones who will go beyond what is politically correct and do what is right to protect our corner of the planet for future generations to explore and enjoy!



Nancy Shiffler & Ginny Maturen at Monroe Earth Day Celebration

Sierra Club—Huron Valley Group Calendar

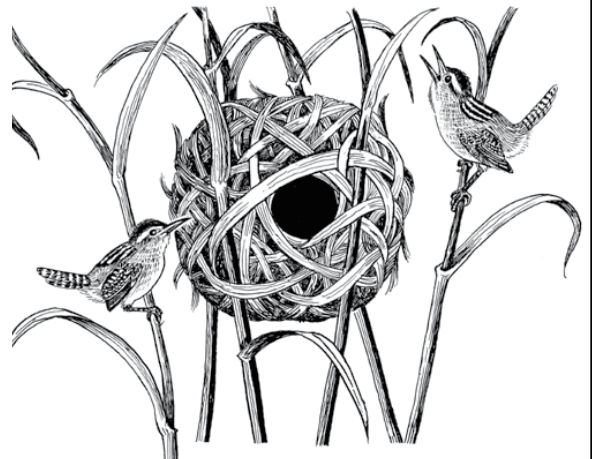


Participants in Sierra Club outings will be asked to sign a liability waiver. If you wish to read the waiver before coming to an outing please see <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/> or call 415-977-5630. When carpooling is used to facilitate logistics for an outing, participants assume the risks associated with this travel, as well. Carpooling, ride sharing and the like are strictly a private arrangement among participants. Park fees may apply. **For up to date information, visit our website at <http://www.michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/>**

Tuesday May 10, 2016 -- 7:30 pm – Huron Valley Group Book Club. Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center, 2513 Jackson Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Book: **“Places of the Heart: The Psychogeography of Everyday Life,”** by **Colin Ellard**. How to get involved? Read the book and join us for discussion. Contact Nancy Shiffler for details: 734-971-1157 or nshiffler@comcast.net

Tuesday May 17, 2016 -- 7:30 pm – “Bringing Conservation to Cities”. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd Ann Arbor, MI). Bringing Conservation to Cities is a timely and informative exposé of what it takes to foster a conservation ethic in a major urban area, complete with lessons learned. **John Hartig, Refuge Manager of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, will tell the story of how making nature part of everyday urban life is part of a strategy focused on inspiring and developing the next generation of conservationists in urban areas because that is now where 80% of U.S. and Canadian citizens live.** Open at 7:00 pm; meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Contact: 734-665-0248 ritalmitchell@gmail.com

Tuesday June 21, 2016 -- 7:30 pm – “Politics of the Environment, 2016 Edition”. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd Ann Arbor, MI). Find out what the Michigan legislature has been up to in regard to our environmental issues, what the 2016 election is going to look like, how the political races in your group's area are shaping up, and how it will impact us. **Mike Berkowitz, Chapter Organizer, and Richard Barron, Political Committee Chair, will speak on the coming year's key races and issues.** Join in the discussion and learn how to make a difference in local, state and national elections. Open at 7:00 pm; meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Contact: 734-665-0248 ritalmitchell@gmail.com



Sierra Club—Huron Valley Group Calendar continued

Tuesday July 19, 2016 -- 7:30 pm – “The Medicinal Garden”. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd Ann Arbor, MI). Plants likely provided the first medicines for humans. **Robert Grese, Director, Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum, was involved with the design of the recently installed Medicinal Garden at Matthaei Botanical Gardens and will lead our tour.** We will learn about pharmaceutical properties, and the connection between plants and human wellness. Open at 7:00 pm; meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Contact: 734-665-0248 ritalmitchell@gmail.com

Tuesday August 16, 2016 -- 7:30 pm – “The Future of Energy”. Matthaei Botanical Gardens (1800 N Dixboro Rd Ann Arbor, MI). What will it take to make the changes that will result in powering our transportation, homes and other elements of our lives, from **non-polluting energy sources?** **“The Future of Energy” is a film that challenges current methods of energy production, and focuses on how we can leave behind the polluting energy sources of fossil and nuclear fuels.** Movie followed by discussion with Matt Hagerty, of Michigan Solar and Wind Power Solutions. Open at 7:00 pm; meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Free and open to the public. Non-members welcome. Refreshments provided. Contact: 734-665-0248 ritalmitchell@gmail.com

Did You Know ...

... The Sierra Club endorses candidates in various local elections, as well as in state and national elections. To find out more about this process, please visit our website:

<http://www.sierraclub.org/michigan/huron-valley/how-sierra-club-endorses-political-candidates> .

... The Sierra Club remains unequivocally opposed to nuclear energy. Yet, local policy makers continue to push for renewal of existing nuclear power plant licenses and/or the expansion of those operations. To find out more, please visit:

<http://www.sierraclub.org/michigan/nuclear-free-future> . Also, please contact your local government leaders to express your concerns.

... The Sierra Club offers many different opportunities to volunteer, at the national, state and local level. From hike leading to lobbying to web/newsletter-content, the Sierra Club is always looking for folks who would like to help. To find a list of possibilities, please visit:

<http://clubvolunteer.org/>

A link can also be found on the HVG website. You can narrow your search for opportunities by location as well as by skills/interests. You can also contact a member of the HVG Executive Committee with questions..



Huron Valley Group ExCom Election & Guidelines

Since our last edition (Fall/Winter, 2015), three members were re-elected to 2-year terms on your Sierra Club Huron Valley Group Executive Committee

Ahead of next fall's election, we would like you to review our ExCom election process in hopes that you, or someone you know, might be interested in serving on the ExCom beginning in January, 2017.



Ginny Maturen



Jay Schlegel



Nancy Shiffler

ExCom Election Guidelines

The Executive Committee of the Sierra Club Huron Valley Group (HVG) is responsible for the administration and operation of the group. The seven members of HVG ExCom serve two-year terms, with an annual election of either three or four members. The election is at the end of the year, but the process leading up to the election starts many months earlier. The group bylaws and standing rules describe the schedule of events for each election and require that the schedule be announced to all members.

Any group member can seek nomination to be a candidate in the annual HVG ExCom election. Members willing to serve can be nominated either through the HVG Nominating Committee or by petition signed by at least 15 group members. No member may be nominated or elected against their will.

The HVG Nominating Committee recruits and selects candidates. This committee consists of at least three HVG members, one or more of whom shall not be an ExCom member, and none may be a candidate in the upcoming election.

The HVG Election Committee is responsible for production, mailing, receipt, and counting of ballots. It also consists of at least three group members, one or more of whom shall not be an ExCom member, and none may be a candidate in the upcoming election.

HVG members who wish to be considered for nomination before the Nominating Committee is appointed may inform the group secretary. The secretary will also assist members seeking nomination by petition.

Ballots are normally counted at the conclusion of the December HVG general meeting, but the Election Committee may choose another time and place. Candidates or their representatives may observe the counting. Ballots and nomination petitions are retained until ordered destroyed by ExCom at their next regular meeting.

This schedule is defined by the group bylaws adopted April 6, 2000, and standing rules adopted October 5, 2000.

Election event

- ExCom appoints Nominating Committee
- Nominees inform Nominating Committee of interest
- Nominating Committee selects nominees and informs ExCom and nominees of selection
- Nominees not selected by Nominating Committee deliver petitions to NomCom for consideration
- Nominating Committee declares final candidate list
- ExCom appoints Election Committee
- Election Committee prepares eligible voter list
- Ballots mailed to all eligible group members
- Election committee accepts ballots
- Election Comm. counts ballots & informs secretary of results

Deadline to complete

- August ExCom meeting
- September general meeting
- September general meeting
- 2 weeks after September general meeting.
- October ExCom meeting
- October ExCom meeting
- 15 October (or when newsletter list is prepared)
- 15 November (or when newsletter is mailed)
- At December general meeting or before Dec 31st.

Goal: A National Food Policy

*Excerpted from an article in 'Catalyst' Union of Concerned Scientists, Vol. 15, Winter 2016, "Re-Envisioning our Broken Food System," by Mark Bittman, Olivier de Schutter, Michael Pollan and Ricardo Salvador**

Sumarized for the Lookout by Ginny Maturen

It has been well documented that many citizens of developed countries, do not eat a healthy diet. This is evidenced by high obesity rates, shorter life expectancies and alarming increases in preventative disease rates. Our food system is highly integrated and impacted by global warming emissions, water and air quality, labor conditions, immigrants, soil contamination, wages for farm- and food-chain workers, food safety, marketing to children, and support for farmers.

Reforming the food system, so driven by agribusiness special interest groups heavily impacting our leaders in Congress, is a huge challenge. And the current government food policy, too much of the wrong stuff, is administered by eight different federal agencies.

The next President can break this congressional deadlock through an executive order that establishes a National Food Policy for the 21st Century. Such a policy should state a vision for a food system that is healthy, green, affordable, and fair. It would reduce the cost to our natural resources and public health.

Elements of a National Food Policy should include:

1. Promote greater production of seasonal fruits and vegetables from local and regional producers.
2. "Re-solarize" the food production system, leading it away from fossil fuel use and single-crop plantings.
3. Appoint a national food policy advisor charged with coordinating food policy across all government departments.
4. Redirect agricultural research to support regionally appropriated, regenerative and

diversified farming systems.

5. Rethink livestock productions by eliminating the routine non-medical use of antibiotics and ending federal subsidies and regulatory loopholes for confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs).

6. Launch a Farmer Corps to educate a new generation of farmers and help put them on the land. The average age of today's farmer is 58 years old.

7. Use existing antitrust laws to restore competition to food markets at every level.

8. Establish a federal grain reserve, modeled on the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. My note: experts are predicting severe food shortages in underdeveloped countries.

9. Ensure fair wages for farm labor allowing workers to purchase and consume the food they produce and deliver.



10. Enforce existing worker safety rules. Give the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) badly needed resources to carry out their mandate.

11. Expand farmers markets, especially in underserved urban neighborhoods.

12. Prioritize regional producers in federal food procurement (military, schools, National Parks, prisons, etc.).

13. Require municipal and institutional composting of food and yard waste, and return the composted product to farmers and ranchers.

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How the Citizens' Climate Lobby Advocates for Change

At times it feels that our situation with climate change is ever more dire. More and more temperature records broken. The Supreme Court putting a halt on the Clean Power Plan. Never ending battles against new and old fossil fuel infrastructure. It can seem hopeless and overwhelming. Thus, it is important to keep in mind the progress that is occurring.

Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL), a national, grassroots, nonprofit with over 270 active chapters in the U.S. (including 10 in Michigan), is one of the many, many organizations working to address climate change. Organizations approach climate change from many different angles, and CCL has a very narrow focus: advocating for federal legislation to put a price on carbon. CCL's proposal, called Carbon Fee and Dividend, charges fossil fuel companies a fee, at the point of extraction (well, mine, port of entry), based on the CO₂ content of the fuel, and returns the proceeds directly to all households as a monthly dividend. The fee, which starts at \$15/ton CO₂ and increases by \$10/ton each year, makes the price of fossil fuels include their true cost to society. Because it is paid by the producers when the fuel enters the economy, it increases the cost of all carbon intensive goods and services. The increased cost creates the incentive for individuals, businesses and investors to transition towards cleaner energy. Returning the revenue directly to individuals protects them from the higher prices. An economic analysis of this proposal found that 2/3 of households would break even or come out ahead. Furthermore, the study found that in 10 years, CO₂ emissions would decline 33% and 2.1 million jobs would be created.

CCL believes that politicians don't create political will, they respond to it. In order to create support for legislation, we must start with building respectful, helpful, nonadversarial relationships with our members of Congress. In addition to

meeting with and writing to members of Congress, CCL volunteers write letters to the editor and opeds, meet with editorial boards, seek endorsements of our proposal from community leaders, and do community outreach – activities which are likely familiar to many Sierra Club activists.

So, what progress do we see? In CCL's meetings with members over the last couple of years, there has been much less climate denial and much more interest in talking about solutions. And we are gradually seeing some Republicans beginning to speak publicly about the reality and seriousness of climate change. In September, 2015, eleven Republican members of the House of Representatives introduced House Resolution 424, also known as the Gibson Resolution, which states, "If left unaddressed, the consequences of a changing climate have the potential to adversely impact all Americans," and concludes that the House should commit to "working constructively, using our tradition of American ingenuity, innovation, and exceptionalism, to create and support economically viable, and broadly supported private and public solutions to study and address the causes and effects of measured changes to our global and regional climates, including mitigation efforts and efforts to balance human activities that have

been found to have an impact." Since the resolution was introduced, two additional Republicans have signed on. In February, 2016, the initial Gibson Resolution co-sponsor, Rep. Carlos Curbelo, joined with Democrat Ted

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By
Ginny Rogers

"If left unaddressed, the consequences of a changing climate have the potential to adversely impact all Americans"

**"Editor's note: The Sierra Club promotes a multi-solution approach to combating climate change; please visit our website for more details."*



Citizens' Climate Lobby

Political Will for a Livable World

citizensclimatelobby.org



Deutch to establish the bi-partisan Climate Solutions Caucus. The stated purpose of the caucus is to “serve as an organization to educate members on economically-viable options to reduce climate risk and protect our nation’s economy, security, infrastructure, agriculture, water supply and public safety.” Representatives will only be allowed to join the caucus in pairs, a Republican and a Democrat, to keep it truly bi-partisan. According to Rep. Curbelo, who was the guest speaker on CCL’s March national conference



call, “I have had many conversations with Republican colleagues from all over the country — even the deep South — and people are ready to move on this issue. They’re tired of the hyper-politicization of this issue. They’re tired of the demagoguery surrounding this issue. They’re tired of allowing the disingenuous to hijack the truth with regards to this issue, and they’re building the courage to move forward.” While it can still be dangerous politically for Republicans to speak out on after primary season is over, we will see more joining the caucus. CCL volunteers were instrumental in making both the Gibson Resolution and the Climate Solutions Caucus happen, so we know that our methods are effective. On the surface they may not seem like a big deal, but they truly demonstrate significant progress towards Congressional action on climate change.

April is Kroger Community Rewards Renewal Time

It's April and time to renew your Kroger Plus card in the Kroger Community Rewards program.

ASAP, all participants must re-enroll for the program in order to earn funds for the Sierra ClubHuron Valley Group from May 2016 April 2017.

Note: When I reenrolled on April 3, I learned that my enrollment had expired, so any purchases I made after April 1 until I reenrolled would not have been applied.

To reenroll, Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com

Sign in with your email address and password.

Click on ReEnroll.

Enter the 5 digit (#82587) organization number.

Click Search.

Select: Sierra Club Huron Valley Group.

Click on Enroll.

Check the shopwithscrip.com website for over 730 retailers for all your fall shopping needs.

Not signed up? Go to the above website and click on

'get started'

If you are signing up for the first time, you will need your 12digit number from the back of your **Kroger Plus** card and create a password. Your email address is your user name.

Be sure to link your Kroger Plus card to Sierra ClubHuron Valley Group. The instructions on the web site are easy to follow.

For additional information, check the Sierra ClubHuron Valley Group web site (michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/) or call Kroger Customer Service Specialist with questions at 8775767587. .



By
Ginny Maturen

Goal: A National Food Policy continued from page 10

14. Promote food education as an accepted part of the school curriculum.
15. Support maximum transparency in food labeling, addressing health and GMO issues allowing consumers to make informed decisions when purchasing.

“A national food policy would address three of the most critical issues of our time: health care, climate change, and economic equality.” It would also seem to address the issues of environmental and social justice.

My own thoughts: Such a policy would encourage consumers to select tasty alternatives to processed food choices. Thus market forces would prod the commercial food manufacturer and package industries toward more healthy choices. Consumers, who must rely on easily prepared and cooked choices for themselves and their families, would have more healthy choices and better options.

** This article was adapted from the much longer: 'Memo to the Next President' published in Medium.com.*

Get Involved: Plate of the Union campaign www.ucsusa.org/



You can help the earth at no cost to you — through your regular shopping!

- Over the past 15 years the Sierra Club Huron Valley Group's **Shopping for the Earth** has been a very successful program for supporting our efforts to protect parks, natural areas and local farmland, and to address local and regional environmental problems.
- For every \$20 of cards you buy, you get the full \$20 in store credit—and earn from \$0.80 to as much as \$4.60, depending on the merchant, for the Sierra Club.

"We donated \$140 last year to prevent sprawl and protect wildlife. It was easy, and it didn't cost us anything extra."
-Gwen Nystuen

"A bonus for nature for every grocery purchase I make- even chocolate!"
-Rita Mitchell

Two ways to order cards:

1. **Mail-In Order Form** for local groceries
2. **Online ordering** from over 600 national merchants including Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bath & Body Works, Best Buy, Cabela's, Chipotle Mexican Grill, CVS/pharmacy, Econo Lodge, Glen's Market, Groupon, Home Depot, iTunes, Kohl's, L.L.Bean, Lands' End, Lowe's, Noodles & Company, Office Max, REI, Rite Aid, Sears, gas stations, Starbucks, Tim Hortons, United Artist Theatres, Walgreens, Whole Foods.. Please visit: michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/glscrip.htm

Great for:

- ✓ Regular purchases like grocery shopping
- ✓ Giving as gifts
- ✓ Planned purchases like appliances
- ✓ Making online purchases



Mail-in Order Form

Please fill out the number of cards you'd like for each store below. Your total order: \$_____

Ann Arbor People's Food Co-op	_____ cards @ \$25 ea	_____ cards @ \$50 ea	_____ cards @ \$200 ea
Arbor Brewing Company	_____ cards @ \$25 ea		
Arbor Farms	no card--just tell the cashier that you're donating to the Sierra Club		
Busch's	_____ cards @ no cost - add money when shopping at Busch's		
Produce Station	_____ cards @ \$25 ea	_____ cards @ \$50 ea	
Meijers	Please order both through Shopwithscrip - see: michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/glscrip.htm		
Whole Foods	For help with Shopwithscrip contact Ed Steinman (esteinma@umich.edu)		
Hiller's Markets	Obtain card at Hiller's and register it at hillers.reachoffers.com then donate your rewards		
Kroger	Obtain card at Kroger's and register it at krogercommunityrewards.com so that the Sierra Club receives a donation from your reloads - see http://michigan.sierraclub.org/kroger.htm		

Reloadable cards! The Sierra Club receives a contribution each time you reload, so only one card is needed per person.

Not reloadable—consider ordering several

Name: _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ Date _____

Email: _____

- Please send me local Sierra Club email updates
- Please send me the local Sierra Club newsletter

Your information will not be shared with any group.

Mail with your check payable to "Sierra Club - Huron Valley Group" to:
Ed Steinman (esteinma@umich.edu)
621 5th St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103



Huron Valley Group Directory

www.michigan.sierraclub.org/huron/

Chair * = HVG Excom Member

Nancy Shiffler* 971-1157

Vice-chair

James D'Amour*

Treasurer

Ginny Maturen* 730-2947

Secretary

Ed Steinman* 665-0248

Chapter Representative

Ed Steinman* 665-0248

Alternate Chapter Representative

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Dorothy Nordness 668-6306

Inner City Outings Chair

Joan Wolf

Outings Chair

Kathy Guerreso 677-0823

Inner City Outings Liaison

Membership Chair

Ed Steinman* 665-0248

Political Chair

James D'Amour*

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Shopping for the Earth

Ed Steinman* 665-0248

Fund Raising Co-Chairs

Jay Schlegel* 477-5715

Ed Steinman* 665-0248

Website

Ed Steinman* 665-0248

Newsletter Team

Jay Schlegel*, Editor 477-5715

Gwen Nystuen 665-7632

Ed Steinman* 665-0248

How to Get HVG reminders via email!

At each HVG general meeting, there is an email sign up list. For those who missed it, or haven't joined us at a meeting, here's how you can get our general meeting reminders.

If you would like to receive email notices of each month's Huron Valley Group general meeting and occasional notices about other local Sierra Club activities send an email to Doug Cowherd at dmcowherd3@comcast.net with your name and "HVG email list" in the body of the message.

Are You A New Member?

Welcome to the Huron Valley Group of the Sierra Club. When you join the Sierra Club you are automatically a member of a local group, as well as a state chapter and the national organization. Membership entitles you to this newsletter as well as all editions of the state and national member publications. Check this page for our Directory with contacts on conservation, outings, political action, and the Inner City Outings program. Check the calendar in the middle of this issue for announcements of Monthly Public Program topics and our calendar of activities. We will be glad to see you at our next meeting or answer any questions if you care to call. Please take advantage of your membership as an opportunity to enjoy, preserve and protect our natural environment!



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



With your help, we can clean up our water.

Over the last 50 years, we've made great progress cleaning up our water. But the Bush Administration is threatening that progress, proposing that "isolated" small streams, ponds and wetlands no longer be covered under the Clean Water Act. Work with us to strengthen the Clean Water Act and its enforcement. Together we can leave our children a legacy of clean water, air and wild lands.

Keep our water safe. 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 Category	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	
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 \$7.00 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and \$1 for your Chapter newsletters.

Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club
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Citizen's Climate Lobby

