



Monthly E-Sierran Newsletter

June 2019



We are accepting photo submissions for a [Nature Photo Contest!](#) We seek photos that capture Massachusetts' abundant natural beauty -- what that means is up to your interpretation, so be creative! Be sure to send in photos that are nature and/or wildlife-oriented, taken here in Massachusetts. Three winners will be selected: first place, runner-up, and third place.

The winning photo will be featured as the cover of the [2019 Massachusetts Sierran](#), our annual paper newsletter to our members. The runner-up and third place photos will also be showcased in the publication, our website, and social media pages. To participate, submit your photo by 11:59 PM on Monday, July 22, 2019.

[Submit Your Photo!](#)

What's Happening at the Massachusetts Chapter

We're Hiring!

Join our small Boston-based team

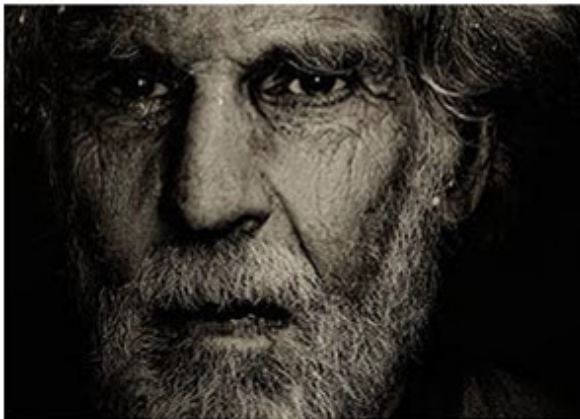
The Massachusetts Chapter is hiring a [part-time Development Associate](#). The associate

will work closely with staff and volunteers to implement effective fundraising strategies and grow current campaigns. Note that this is currently a part-time position (~20 hrs/wk) with a strong possibility of full-time depending on funding and candidate performance.

The Sierra Club is an equal opportunity employer committed to workforce diversity.



Apply Now!



A Celebration of John Lewis Wednesday, July 17 at 10:00am Christopher Columbus Park, Boston

Please [join us](#) to celebrate and commemorate the life of our friend, long-serving Sierra Club member, and environmental champion John M. Lewis. John leaves a legacy of stalwart environmentalism, and decades of activism to help preserve and protect public lands across the Commonwealth.

A memorial ceremony will be held on **July 17th, at Christopher Columbus Park in Boston** -- a park John helped create as part of his decades of activism to help preserve Boston's waterfront and open space access.

RSVP for the Celebration of Life

Clean Energy & Climate

Legislation Announced to Fund Climate Resilience
Gov. Baker and Speaker DeLeo Propose Separate Bills



Governor Baker testifying before the Joint Committee on Revenue in a crowded room

Governor Charlie Baker filed a measure to raise taxes on real estate transfers to generate ~\$137 million annually for infrastructure and climate resiliency programs. Sierra Club supports a further real estate transfer increase to also provide much-needed revenue for affordable housing.

At the same time, Speaker Robert DeLeo's "[Greenworks](#)" bond proposal would generate \$1 billion over ten years to support new local climate resilience and mitigation initiatives, including support for microgrids, municipal sustainability coordinators, and electric vehicles.



Speaker DeLeo announcing "Greenworks" at Greentown Labs in Somerville

We testified in support of both bills last week, but acknowledge that further urgent legislation is still needed reduce our dependency on fossil fuels and lower the state's carbon footprint.

Check out our **Reading List** below for more information.

Under Pressure Film Screenings Coming Soon!

Numerous communities in MA are facing local battles -- with regional and global consequences -- to stop expansion of gas pipelines and infrastructure. We are encouraging screenings of the powerful 2019 student-produced documentary [Under Pressure](#) to educate about the dangers of fracked gas in an era of climate change. To inquire about hosting an **Under Pressure** screening, please contact [Connie Kastelnik](#).



[Watch the Trailer Here](#)

Transportation Matters

#UnfairHikes Take Action to #FixTheT

On July 1st, a 6% fare hike on subway and commuter rail passes will go into effect. These hikes will place an undue burden on residents already struggling to meet transportation-related costs. The Massachusetts Chapter is opposed to the fare increase, especially without a significant increase in quality of service.

We are supporting an action on Monday, July



1st, to station volunteers at each MBTA stop and on each train during the morning rush hour commute, helping to engage riders and spark a conversation throughout the day and beyond about what we could do NOW if we marshal the political will to act with urgency.

Take Action to #FixTheT

Democracy & Voter Rights

Why Massachusetts Needs Same-Day Voter Registration

The Sierra Club Massachusetts Chapter supports same day voter registration (SDR), and it's long overdue, considering that our 20-day registration cutoff prevents [as many as 170,000 potential voters](#) from participating in elections. Election day registration exists in 21 states so far. In New England alone, three states -- Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine -- already allow SDR. And it makes a difference: Maine, for instance, has roughly 4-6% higher voter turnout than Massachusetts.

We joined Secretary of State Bill Galvin, Attorney General Maura Healey and dozens of advocates to testify in support of SDR bills last week. To learn more, check out [our blog post](#) by Chapter intern Maxine-Gunther Segal.



Get Outdoors with the Sierra Club!



Merrimack River Kayak Paddle

Sunday, June 30 at 9:00am

Join us for an enjoyable and educational 5 mile trip downstream on the Merrimack River from Tyngsborough to Lowell. Public single kayak: \$45, tandem kayak or canoe: \$65, shuttle transportation only \$5.

Register Here

Yoga Walk in Beaver Brook (Hollis, NH)

Sunday, July 9 at 10:00am

Join us for a walk in the woods of the Beaver Brook Association with some standing yoga poses in the meadow to connect with nature. Dogs and kids are welcome.

Register Here

Outings Leader Training (OTL101)

Saturday, August 17 at 9:30am

We can give you the tools, including first aid, you need to qualify as a leader of safe, enjoyable outings with Sierra Club. Outings can range from a simple walk in the woods to more challenging

Register Here

technical expeditions. Registration cost is \$140 (or \$40 if wilderness first aid certified).

Educational Events

Chef's Plant-Based Planet Roundtable

Tuesday, July 23 at 2:00pm

Sierra Club Office, 50 Federal Street, 3rd Floor, Boston

Come for a talk on how to eat a healthy plant-based diet to fight climate change. Learn how to eat lower on the food chain with whole grains, legumes, fruit, and vegetables. Vegan snacks will be provided.

RSVP Here

Our Reading List

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

- [Cape Air announces plan to order all-electric aircraft](#) (6/18/19 WCVB)
- [House aims to pass Greenworks bill this summer](#) (6/18/19 Commonwealth Magazine)
- [Baker touts resiliency bill in testimony before lawmakers](#) (6/18/19 Boston Globe)
- [Residents come out strong against proposed Weymouth compressor](#) (6/18/19 Wicked Local Braintree)
- [Walsh seeks to sharply increase recycling, composting in Boston](#) (6/19/19 Boston Globe)
- [State plans to scrap electric vehicle rebate](#) (6/24/19 The Salem News)
- [WBUR Poll: Just 29% Approve Of The Way Baker Has Handled The MBTA](#) (6/27/19 WBUR)

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!](#)
