

Monthly E-Sierran Newsletter

September 2019



Oh What A Night! Chapter Fundraiser

Tuesday, November 12 at 5:30pm
The home of Chris and Hilary Gabrieli, 8 Louisburg Square, Boston

You're invited! Please [join us for our annual fundraiser](#). Together we'll toast our successes and share our plans to build on those wins in 2020. Join us for a special evening of hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine and soda, music, and a special guest speaker. Please reach out to [Ford Athmann](#) with any questions.

Can't Attend - Donate

Purchase Tickets

What's Happening at the Massachusetts Chapter

CRUDE: The Climate Change Musical

October 10 through November 10
Cape Cod Theatre Company, Harwich Junior Theatre, 105 Division Street, W. Harwich

[CRUDE-The Climate Change Musical](#) opens Oct. 10 and runs until Nov. 10, Thursdays - Sundays, at the [Cape Cod Theatre Company](#), in Harwich, MA. CRUDE is about an environmentalist daughter who tries to outwit her oil tycoon Dad!

This musical is being sponsored by the Massachusetts Chapter of the Sierra Club, Cape Cod 350.org, and 350Mass for a Better Future, five solar energy companies on Cape Cod and other green organizations and businesses.

For more information and tickets, visit:

www.capecodtheatrecompany.org, or call 508-432-2002.

Learn more



Watch the Segment

How to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint

The Sierra Club Massachusetts Chapter Director, Deb Pasternak, was recently featured in a segment on [NBC10 Boston](#), in which she offered helpful and practical tips for reducing your carbon footprint. One of the most important ways you can have a significant impact is to cut the amount of liquid soaps in your life by switching to bar soaps and shampoos. Reducing liquid soap consumption drastically cuts fossil fuel consumption! [Watch the segment](#) for more helpful tips!

Clean Energy & Climate

Action: Stop the Weymouth Compressor Station!

The Weymouth Compressor station is a proposed gas compressor station which would bring fracked gas through New England and into Canada. If constructed, it would present serious threats to the health, safety, environment, and economy of the South

ACTION ITEM:

MAKE 3 CALLS

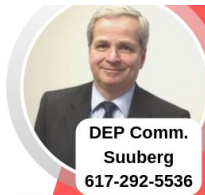
TO STOP THE COMPRESSOR

****Enbridge's anticipated construction start date is Nov. 1, 2019****

Call and ask:

How construction can begin

1. Without the proper permits?
2. On a contaminated site w/o the final Release Abatement Measure Plan?
3. Before the promised safety and risk evaluation reports and coastal resiliency report have not been done?



DEP Comm.
Suuberg
617-292-5536



Gov.
Baker
617-725-4005



EEA Sec.
Theoharides
617-626-1000

Shore.

The proposed site is located in an environmental justice community which already bears the burden of air pollution exceeding state limits. Construction is projected to start November 1. [Click here for further background information.](#)

Call the Governor and his Department of Environmental Protection today and urge his office to investigate the proposed construction start date!

- Office of Governor Charlie Baker: (617) 725-4005
- Office of DEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg: (617) 292-5536
- Office of EEA Secretary Katie Theoharides: (617) 626-1000

Striking for Climate!

On Friday, September 20, Sierra Club joined millions of activists around the world to march and strike for our climate. Like many strikes across the globe, the Climate Strike in Boston was organized by high school students who are passionate and worried about the grim state of our planet.

Missed the strike? [Check out our full blog post here!](#)



OFFICER RESPONDS TO EXPLOSIONS AS HIS HOME BURNS NIGHTLY NEWS

[Watch the Trailer Here](#)

Under Pressure Upcoming Film Screenings

Numerous communities in MA are facing local battles -- with regional and global consequences -- to stop expansion of gas pipelines and infrastructure. We are co-sponsoring 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 visit [Under Pressure online](#).

Ashland Film Screening



Wednesday, October 2 at 7:00pm
Ashland Community Center, 162 W. Union Street, Ashland

RSVP Here

Athol Film Screening

Wednesday, November 20 at 6:30pm
Athol Public Library, 268 Main Street, Athol

RSVP Here

Every Year is an Election Year

Webinar: Green Your Municipal Light Board

Thursday, October 17 at 7:30pm

Do you live in a town with a municipal light plant? (If you aren't sure, [click here!](#)) If you do — you have far more power than you may think over how Massachusetts confronts climate change. Light plants are controlled by town officials, most of them are elected. That's power to the people in two different ways: an independent utility company AND a democratically controlled light plant.

Have you ever considered running for light board in your town? Imagine the change we could make if climate advocates controlled how we provide electricity to 13% of the state's population. If you think you might run for light board in your town — or would like to support someone else's campaign — join us for this webinar! Co-hosted by [350 Mass Action](#).

RSVP Here

Climate and Environment City Council Candidate Forums

It is more important than ever that municipal officials commit to tackling the climate crisis and protecting our public health. Come hear candidates answer questions and discuss their positions on critical energy and environmental issues facing Boston and Framingham.

Framingham Candidate Forum

Friday, September 27 at 6:30pm
First Parish UU, 24 Vernon Street, Framingham

Note: A previous version of this newsletter incorrectly listed the this event on "Thursday." The correct date and time are above.

RSVP Here

Boston At-Large Candidate Forum

Wednesday, October 2 at 5:30pm
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston Street, Boston

RSVP Here

Webinar: Legislative & Political Action Training

Tuesday, October 1 at 6:30pm

Join us for a deep dive into current and pending legislation at the Massachusetts State House. Learn how to meet with your State Representative and how to advocate for strong climate and environmental justice policies. Whether you're a long-time lobbyist or is this is your first time getting involved, this webinar will cover the information you need to know to be a successful climate advocate.



RSVP Here

Transportation Matters

Electric Vehicle Briefing



Rep. Hecht, Senator Boncore, and Rep. Barber at the briefing.

Why do we need to electrify our transportation system? What kind of electric vehicles are available in the market and does it meet customer needs? Sierra Club together with several of our allies helped answer these questions and more at a legislative briefing hosted by Senator Boncore, Rep. Hecht and Rep. Barber. Discussions included key vehicle electrification policies under consideration this legislative session that will help reduce barriers to electric vehicle adoption and lower transportation emissions. To learn more about our Clean Transportation for All campaign contact [Veena Dharmaraj](#).

Revoking California's power to set Stricter Auto Emission Standards Impacts Air Quality in Massachusetts and Beyond

Last week, President Trump announced [via Twitter](#) that the administration is revoking California's power to set tougher auto emissions standards than those required by the federal government. This doesn't just affect California — 13 other states, including Massachusetts, have also chosen to follow California's pollution emissions standards. And tailpipe pollution is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. This move will set back critical climate policies - children, seniors and others with health problems aggravated by poor air quality will pay the price.

Help protect states' rights to set tougher emissions regulations than those required by the federal government. [Sign this petition](#) to tell your members of Congress to co-sponsor Rep. DeSaulnier and Senator Harris's resolution to protect state authority to set vehicle greenhouse gas emissions standards.

Sign the Petition Now



*Electric vehicles on display on Cape Cod.
Photo credit: Green Energy Consumers Alliance*

National Drive Electric Week

We had another fantastic year for [National Drive Electric Week](#) with over 300 events in all 50 states. Sixteen ride and drive events were held across Massachusetts in celebration, giving folks across the state an opportunity to learn about the benefits of all-electric and plug-in hybrid-electric vehicles. Electric vehicles are fun to drive, less expensive and more convenient to fuel than gasoline vehicles, and better for our environment.

In Lowell, the event organized by Sierra Club's Merrimack Valley Team was inaugurated by Representative Golden and was met with an enthusiastic response from the community. Sierra Club co-sponsored the event in Hyannis. Over 100 people test drove an [electric vehicle at the event in](#)



Merrimack Valley Team members in Lowell

[Hyannis](#), organized by our friends at Cape Air and the Green Energy Consumers Alliance.

Local Advocacy

Braintree Town Council Hearing: Green Community

Thursday, September 26 at 6:00pm

Braintree Town Hall 1 John F Kennedy Memorial Dr, Braintree

The Braintree Town Council will hold a public hearing on becoming a Green Community. The Green Community designation and grant provides a road map along with financial and technical support to municipalities that 1) pledge to cut municipal energy use by an ambitious and achievable goal of 20 percent over 5 years and 2) meet four other criteria established in the Green Communities Act.

[RSVP Here](#)



Attleboro Town Hall on Energy & the Environment

Tuesday, October 29 at 7:00pm

Murray Unitarian Universalist Church, 505 N Main St, Attleboro

Join neighbors, constituents, and environmental organizations to discuss environmental issues facing Attleboro and the Commonwealth. Representative Hawkins, Senator Feeney, and Senator Rausch will be present and take questions from the audience.

[RSVP Here](#)

Friend and Partner Events

CoastSweep Cleanup at Smith Beach

Saturday, October 5 at 9:00am

176 Edgehill Road, Braintree

Each September and October, thousands of CoastSweep volunteers across Massachusetts collect tons of trash from beaches, marshes, river banks, and the seafloor. The Braintree Stormwater Division is partnering with the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) to host a cleanup at Smith Beach on October 5, 2019 from 9:00 am to 12 noon. Rain date: October 12th.

RSVP Here

TRACES OF THE TRADE

A STORY FROM THE DEEP NORTH



"Traces of the Trade" Film Screening

Saturday, October 5 at 9:30am

Chatham Orpheum Theater, Chatham

Join us for a film screening of "Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North." Filmmaker Katrina Browne discovers that her New England ancestors were the largest slave-trading family in U.S. history. She and nine cousins retrace the Triangle Trade and gain powerful new perspectives on the black/white divide. Tickets cost \$10.

RSVP Here

STEEP

Sources, Transport, Exposure & Effects of PFASs

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND SUPERFUND RESEARCH PROGRAM

Get the facts on PFAS at "STEEP Science Day"

Wednesday, October 2

Members of the STEEP center will be on the Cape to discuss the science of hazardous chemicals called PFAS and their occurrence in U.S. drinking water supplies, including on Cape Cod. The annual event will include updates from the team—what scientists are learning about the health effects from exposures and how the chemicals move through the environment—as well as a presentation on preliminary findings from the STEEP private wells study.

This is an opportunity for members of the Cape Cod community to connect with STEEP scientists, learn about research on PFAS, ask questions, and voice their concerns. The event is free and open to the public. All are welcome!

There will be two opportunities for the community to attend the program that day:

12:00 to 2:00 p.m.
Barnstable Town Hall
367 Main Street, Hyannis

6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Yarmouth Senior Center
528 Forest Road, West Yarmouth

For more information about STEEP, please visit <https://web.uri.edu/steep/>

Chapter Committee and Team Meetings

Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 10 at 5:30pm

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

The monthly meeting of the Massachusetts Chapter Executive Committee. Sierra Club members welcome and encouraged to attend!

[RSVP Here](#)

Our Reading List

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

- [Who Wants to Kill the Electric Car This Time?](#) (6/28/2019 Sierra Magazine)
- [Proposed Brookline bylaw would make fossil fuels a thing of the past in future construction](#) (8/27/2019 WickedLocal Brookline)
- [Mayflower Wind bids for Massachusetts offshore wind](#) (8/31/2019 South Coast Today)
- [Ashland officials challenge Eversource pipe plan](#) (9/1/2019 The MetroWest Daily News)
- [Can Solar Power Save Massachusetts' Cranberry Bogs?](#) (9/2/2019 WGBH)
- [Older generations broke the climate. It's up to young people to fix it](#) (9/17/2019 Boston Globe)
- [Renewable Communities 2019 Report](#) (8/2019 Environment Massachusetts Research & Policy Center)

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!](#)

ABOUT | DONATE | JOIN

