

TOP STORIES

Utilities Set Back the Commonwealth's Quest for a Clean Energy Economy



The attempt by the two major utilities, Northeast Utilities and National Grid, to terminate their contracts to purchase Cape Wind's clean power from offshore wind is a serious setback in the Commonwealth's quest for a clean energy future.

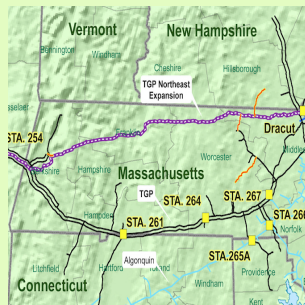
The Mass Sierra Club Is Your Stakeholder at the Dept of Energy Resources (DOER) and Dept of Environmental Protection (DEP)



- Our goals in the currently on-going DOER and DEP proceedings include: 1. reducing our dependence on natural gas; 2. eliminating the need for even more natural gas pipelines...

The Mass Sierra Club is leading on these issues in the DOER and DEP proceedings. To read our submissions click here.

Kinder Morgan Is Holding New "Open House" Meetings in January and February



The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) sends representatives to these meetings to understand public concerns. The more people who attend these meetings, the more FERC will get the message we don't want or need this pipeline.

The need for more gas and/or oil is grossly overstated by Kinder Morgan and the utilities. Efficiency and conservation can more than make up what a new pipeline would contribute.

Newton Makes a Plastic Bag Ban Work



The Newton Board of Aldermen voted Tuesday night Jan 20th, to ban single-use, point of sale plastic bags at retail stores, 3,500 square ft. or larger.

Chapter Election Results



Congratulations to all our members who were elected in our recent election and thanks to all who participated. Joining the state Chapter Executive Committee are Cathy Buckley and Jerry Frenkil as well as re-elected members, Elisa Campbell and Alison Leary.

At its first meeting on January 8, the 2015 Executive Committee elected Cathy Buckley Chair, Elisa Campbell Vice-chair, Ed Woll Conservation Chair, David Heimann secretary, and Laurie Burns Munroe Treasurer.

Elected to the Chapter's three Group Executive Committees were the following: Greater Boston Group: Keith Burrows, Susan Butler, David Heimann, Blossom Hoag, and Benjamin Pignatelli; Thoreau Group: Michael Olex; Cape Cod & Islands Group: Billie Bates, David Dow, and Robert Murphy.

EVENTS & MEETINGS

Special Events

One Cape: Designing Solutions for Clean Water Conference Thursday, February 26, 2015, 8:30 am-4:30 pm Resort and Conference Center, 35 Scudder Avenue, Hyannis

The Cape Cod Commission is sponsoring this conference to discuss its Section 208 report on a watershed approach to address wastewater mitigation challenges.

The Cape Cod & Islands Group submitted the Sierra Club comments on the draft Clean Water Act Section 208 report. A revised report will be submitted to EPA Region 1 and the MA Department of Environmental Protection.

Committee Meetings

Thoreau Group Executive Committee Meeting Tuesday, February 3, 2015, 7:00-8:30 pm Bedford Public Library, 7 Mudge Way, Bedford

The Thoreau Group represents Concord and 11 neighboring towns and is looking for new members. Please join us! We are currently working on ways to support carbon pricing legislation and related public awareness.

Transportation Committee Meeting Tuesday, February 3, 2015, 7:00-9:00 pm Chapter Office, 294 Washington Street entrance, Suite 417, Boston

Our highways, built to sustain our sprawling suburbs, add to our pollution and energy problems and increase our dependence on an unhealthy and unsustainable auto-centric way of life.

Massachusetts Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Sunday, February 8, 2015, 12:00-2:30 pm Chapter Office, 294 Washington Street entrance, Suite 417, Boston

The agenda will include legislative and renewable energy and issues. Ask questions, make suggestions, find out what you can do. Updates on our work to promote climate action.

Cape Cod and Islands Group Meeting Monday, February 9, 2015, 7:00-8:30 pm Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Falmouth, 840 Sandwich Road, East Falmouth

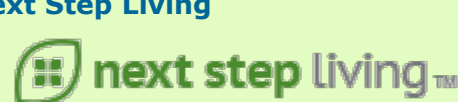
The agenda includes climate change and energy concerns, coastal and ocean issues, and discussion of Sierra Club involvement with Cuba.

Greater Boston Group Executive Committee Meeting Tuesday, February 10, 2015, 7:00 pm Chapter Office, 294 Washington Street entrance, Suite 417, Boston

Agenda includes setting priorities for the new year and engaging activist members. Contact Debbie Cook debbiecook281@gmail.com.

Save Energy and Money with Next Step Living

The Sierra Club is working with Next Step Living to promote energy efficiency measures in thousands of Massachusetts homes using federal and state tax benefits and cost cutting programs.



Now is the time to Go Solar! Go Solar with the Sierra Club's Home Solar Initiative with Sungevity. Solar costs have come down and government incentives have made the installation of solar panels a smart financial decision.

Twitter: @MassSierraClub Facebook: Mass Sierra Club



The Sierra Club is the nation's largest and oldest grassroots environmental organization with over 1 million members and supporters, of which 22,000 are here in Massachusetts.

About the E-Sierran The E-Sierran is the electronic newsletter of the Massachusetts Sierra Club. In an effort to reduce printing costs and the environmental impacts of print communications, the Chapter publishes this monthly e-newsletter to members and subscribers.

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Volunteer Opportunities

There are many ways you can get involved with the Sierra Club's activities. Click here.



Activists' Blog

Post your opinions and ideas!

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