

M A S S A C H U S E T T S

SIERRAN

From the Massachusetts Sierra Club

Fall 2013

Fall 2013 Issue

Reaching More Than
22,000 Sierra Club Members
and Supporters in Massachusetts

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CHAPTER

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Massachusetts Sierra Club

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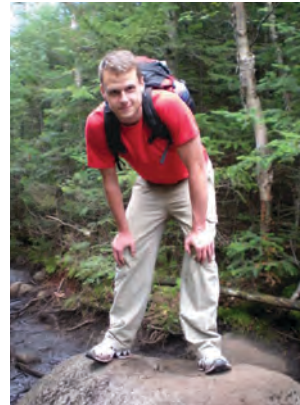
Introductions, Farewells, and the Path Ahead

To the many members I've yet to meet, I'd like to quickly say, "hello and thank you." It is an honor to take over as director of the Chapter, and I have been incredibly lucky to have former director Jay McCaffrey (now with the Sierra Club's national Beyond Coal campaign) just a few steps away to help with the transition.

Further changing of the guard lies ahead as long-time ExCom member and Chapter Chair Dan Proctor reaches his term limit later this year. Dan has also been incredibly helpful and patient with me as I continue to find my footing, but far beyond that, we all owe Dan a heartfelt note of thanks for his shepherding of the Chapter through the recent recession which battered non-profits. From the strong foundation Dan helped preserve, we hope to further develop this organization to lead the fight against climate change and its many related challenges which already threaten the Commonwealth and the planet early on in this young century.

September's flooding in Colorado, the result of yet another 1,000-year storm, is just the latest glimpse of what our altered climate might increasingly look like in the years to come. But extreme weather is only one of many serious challenges resulting from our consumption of fossil fuels, and myriad impacts are already being felt here in Massachusetts (pages 8 & 9). The question is, "how do we respond?"

continued on page 3



ON THE COVER: Pedestrian Bridge over The Charles River, Photo by Ryan Black

MASSACHUSETTS

SIERRAN

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Opinions, unless otherwise stated, are of the author only; positions adopted by the Sierra Club are identified as such.

Circulation of the Massachusetts Sierran is over 22,000 outdoor-minded, environmentally-aware readers.

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Thankfully, we can all do our part to stem the tide of climate change, and many of the easiest, most cost-effective and impactful solutions have been laid out for you by our members, outside contributors, and advertisers in this publication. As you read through these pages, I invite you to think about how you can become an agent of change at home, within local your community, and, of course, as a Sierra Club member.

Ryan Black



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2014 Cover Photo Contest

Do you enjoy nature photography? Why not submit a photo to be considered for the cover of the next Sierran Magazine? Please send submissions to ryan.black@sierraclub.org.



Photo by Diane LeDuc of Harwich

The Rule of 72 - by Dan Proctor

Ben Franklin, who was born across the street from our Boston office, is sometimes credited with inventing the "rule of 72." This is a shortcut for the complex formula that calculates doubling time of anything that is increasing or decreasing at a constant average rate. In a letter that he wrote four years before the shooting started, Franklin spelled out a vicious cycle that he predicted would lead to a violent break between England and the colonies. He had calculated that the population of the colonies was doubling every 25 years, while England's population was stable. On the basis of this disparity, he predicted that when "the bloody struggle" did come, it would probably result in the loss of England's colonies, "from America's growing strength and magnitude."



Nearly all U.S. economists agree that the economy should grow at about three percent per year. The only reason they offer for not wanting it to grow faster is the fear that a faster growth rate would spark inflation. But I have yet to hear of an economist calling for total economic production to double every 24 years. If an economist were to do that, most people would say he or she was crazy. And they would be right. But to call for annual three percent increases in GDP is the same thing as calling for GDP and its associated pollution, resource use, waste, etc. to double every 24 years. The chief challenge facing not only environmentalists but everyone else as well is to find a way to transition our economic system from an exponential-growth model to a sustainable model.

Statehouse News

Lobbying is one of the most powerful tools to affect political change, and the Chapter's stepped-up lobbying effort has proven effective in achieving the Sierra Club's important environmental goals. Led by our Chapter Director, who is a registered lobbyist, and with participation by many volunteer activists, the Legislative Action Committee has testified on dozens of key environmental bills, drafted detailed testimony, provided thoughtful perspectives to the media, and spent countless hours communicating directly with our elected leaders.

Anyone with a will to be heard can become a Citizen Activist and make substantial contributions to the legislative process. The current two-year legislative session, which began in January of 2013, will see thousands of bills introduced, reviewed and given public hearings. These

hearings, where we testify before legislators, will continue until July of 2014.

The Chapter is actively working on bills to make Massachusetts coal-free (see rally information below!), reduce mercury pollution, price carbon emissions, phase out plastic bags, recycle electronic waste, prohibit fracking, promote solar, wind, geothermal and heat-pump energy technologies, increase energy efficiency, repair costly methane leaks, update the bottle bill, protect citizens from toxins like polystyrene, label genetically modified foods, and much more.

For online access to all of the Club's testimony, please visit www.sierraclubmass.org and click on "legislation".

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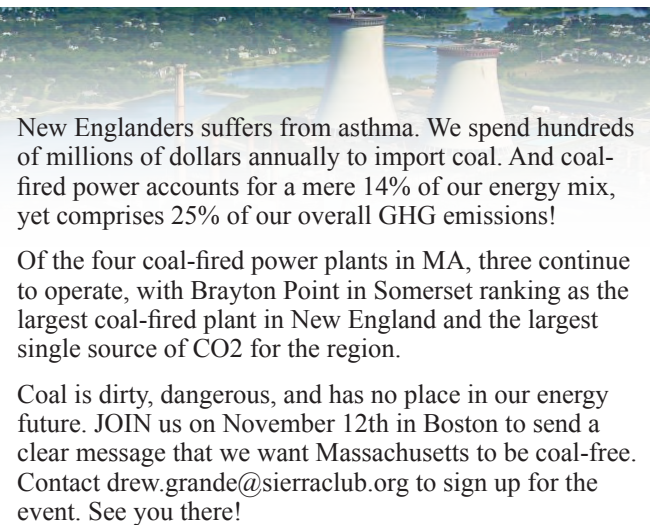


COAL FREE MASSACHUSETTS Rally for a Coal Free Mass November 12th, Boston

Now is the time for Massachusetts to declare its independence from coal! Join us for a morning rally in Boston on November 12th to call upon the legislature and the Governor to make Massachusetts coal-free.

Coal Free Massachusetts, a coalition of more than 100 local, state, and national groups, including community, public health, and environmental organizations, envisions a Massachusetts that is energy efficient, powered by clean renewable energy, and protects communities burdened by coal plants by ensuring smooth economic transitions.

Our state leads the nation in the transition to a green economy, yet coal-fired power continues to take its toll on our health, our economy, and our environment. One in ten



New Englanders suffers from asthma. We spend hundreds of millions of dollars annually to import coal. And coal-fired power accounts for a mere 14% of our energy mix, yet comprises 25% of our overall GHG emissions!

Of the four coal-fired power plants in MA, three continue to operate, with Brayton Point in Somerset ranking as the largest coal-fired plant in New England and the largest single source of CO2 for the region.

Coal is dirty, dangerous, and has no place in our energy future. JOIN us on November 12th in Boston to send a clear message that we want Massachusetts to be coal-free. Contact drew.grande@sierraclub.org to sign up for the event. See you there!

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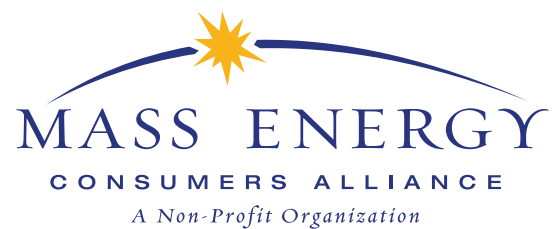
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Building Rating Helps Markets Understand and Value Energy Efficiency

By Allison Webster, Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships



Everyone knows that one way to judge a car is by its fuel efficiency, and car manufacturers love to crow about cars with high miles per gallon rating. But what if there were a way to assess “MPG” for buildings, and give potential owners or renters a sense of how much it would cost to operate over time? The idea is gaining increasing traction in cities and states around the U.S., and internationally – where a number of countries require a building’s energy rating to be prominently posted.

Building energy benchmarking and disclosure policies allow access to information that enables the market to value and respond to building energy performance — helping consumers make informed choices in a way similar to MPG stickers or food labels.

This year, Boston became the first city in New England and the eighth nationwide to enact a building energy reporting and disclosure ordinance (BERDO). In May the Boston City Council voted to adopt energy benchmarking for large buildings, with the goal of promoting energy and carbon savings in Boston’s commercial and industrial building sector, which is responsible for almost half of the city’s greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Boston’s BERDO requirement provides information to owners, residents, and prospective buyers and tenants. Through education and throughout the real estate transaction, BERDO creates incentives to participate in energy efficiency programs. Energy efficiency in existing buildings is the single most important component of the city’s plan to reduce GHG emissions 25 percent by 2020. By passing this ordinance, Boston joins the ranks of New York City, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Seattle, San Francisco, Minneapolis and other major U.S. cities that have enacted energy reporting and disclosure requirements in their jurisdictions.

Numerous studies discuss the benefits of benchmarking and disclosure policies and describe how BERDO is good for the economy, creates jobs, and can lead to more energy efficiency improvements in buildings. Research also shows that labeling buildings with energy efficient or environmental design certifications, such as ENERGY STAR or LEED, results in higher occupancy rates, rental rates, and sale values in the marketplace than comparable buildings.

BERDO policies are gaining traction throughout the United States as an effective means to improve building performance, save energy and money and reduce GHG emissions. There’s already talk of other Northeast communities, such as Cambridge, Massachusetts, Providence, Rhode Island, and Burlington, Vermont, adopting similar ordinances to Boston’s.

Is BERDO coming to a city or town near you? Talk to your elected officials to find out, or contact NEEP for resources and assistance on communicating the benefits of building energy reporting and disclosure policies.

Allison Webster is Senior Building Energy Policy Associate with Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships, a regional advocacy group. She can be reached at awebster@neep.org or 781-860-9177 ext. 126. Visit www.neep.org for more information on building rating and other energy efficiency topics.

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The Cod-Forsaken Cape

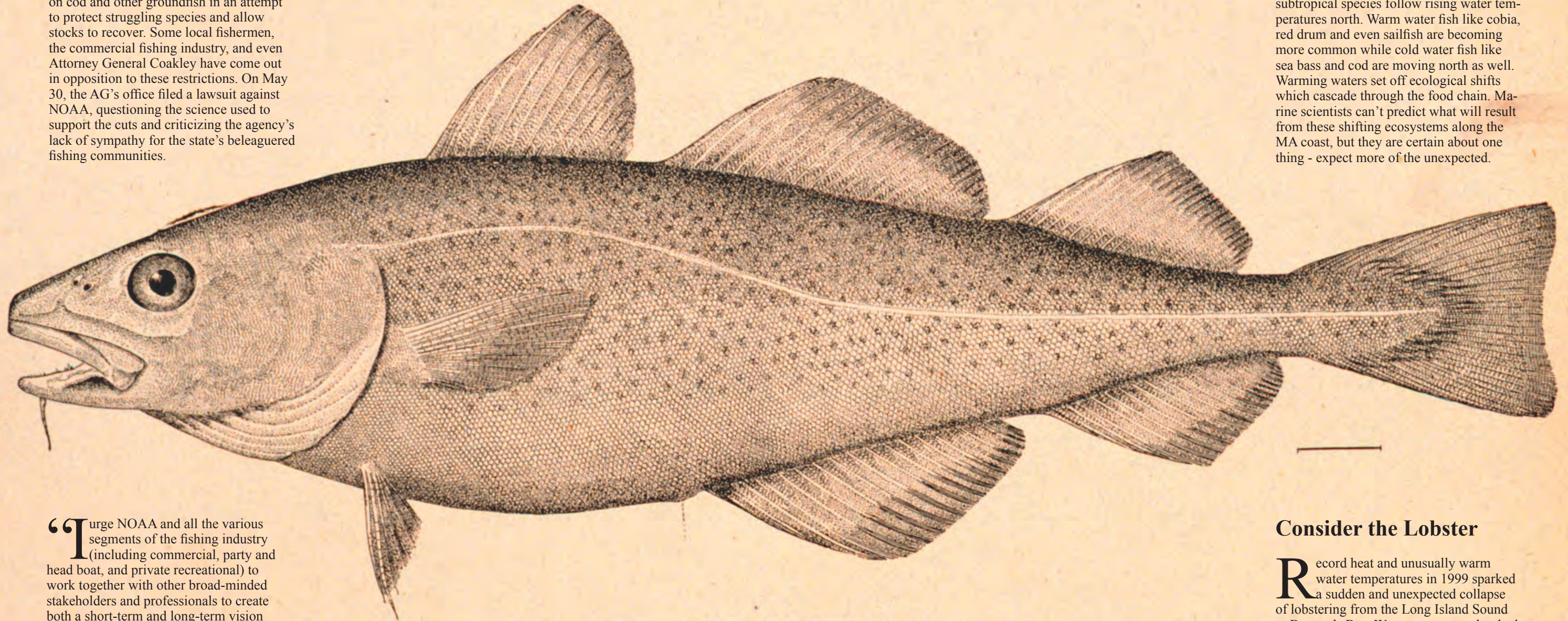
The Old Man and the Sea

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) recently imposed strict catch limits on cod and other groundfish in an attempt to protect struggling species and allow stocks to recover. Some local fishermen, the commercial fishing industry, and even Attorney General Coakley have come out in opposition to these restrictions. On May 30, the AG's office filed a lawsuit against NOAA, questioning the science used to support the cuts and criticizing the agency's lack of sympathy for the state's beleaguered fishing communities.

How Overfishing and Climate Change are Disrupting Life Along Our Shores

From the Ship's Deck

Fishermen in Southern New England have been reeling in increasingly unusual catches in recent years as subtropical species follow rising water temperatures north. Warm water fish like cobia, red drum and even sailfish are becoming more common while cold water fish like sea bass and cod are moving north as well. Warming waters set off ecological shifts which cascade through the food chain. Marine scientists can't predict what will result from these shifting ecosystems along the MA coast, but they are certain about one thing - expect more of the unexpected.



THE CODFISH.

Gadus morrhua, L. (p. 200.)

Drawing by H. L. Todd, from No. 10444, U. S. National Museum, collected at Eastport, Me., 1872, by U. S. Fish Commission.

“Urge NOAA and all the various segments of the fishing industry (including commercial, party and head boat, and private recreational) to work together with other broad-minded stakeholders and professionals to create both a short-term and long-term vision for our coastal economy. Such planning should include a place of honor for the fisheries that is realistic in terms of the low population levels seen in our supposedly rebuilt stocks, in addition to anticipated climate change impacts.”

*Les Kaufman, Long-time Sierra Club Member
Professor of Biology, Boston University Marine Program
Marine Conservation Fellow, Betty and Gordon Moore Center
for Ecosystem Science and Economics, Conservation International*

Consider the Lobster

Record heat and unusually warm water temperatures in 1999 sparked a sudden and unexpected collapse of lobstering from the Long Island Sound to Buzzards Bay. Warmer waters unleashed a previously rare shell disease, decimating inshore stocks. Nearly fifteen years later, those lobster fisheries have not recovered, and extremely stressful water temperatures for lobsters are now routine. The colder waters above Nantucket Sound still foster healthy populations, but as higher temperatures continue their march northward, the lobster's future off the shores of Massachusetts may be in jeopardy.

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Our State Parks Need Our Help

by Elisa Campbell

This year, again, the state budget for parks has gone down. Down from a barely workable budget last year. Funding for "operations," the people who keep the parks open and functioning, is \$323,371 below the amount last year. Funding for "seasonal staff," the people who work during the summer only, was also cut – by \$132,035. Plus, the state agreed on raises with its unions, so DCR must pay an additional \$1.2 million this fiscal year for staff salaries.

Forty four employees retired in the past year, and most are not being replaced. On average, retirees cost \$25,000 per person to buy out unused sick and vacation time. Sixty percent of the remaining staff are over 50 years old. Some will retire soon, costing more money in buy-outs and removing their years of accumulated experience from the system.

These kinds of cuts are not new. In 2009, DCR had 1,167 full-time equivalent employees (FTEs). Each year since the numbers have gone down, with the biggest drop from 2009 to 2010 (1,015 FTEs). Now there are 940.

Our parks cannot continue to protect environmental and cultural treasures with decreasing financial resources. Although DCR has been forced to "close" some parks, it's obvious that most parks cannot really be closed; people still go there. Designating a park "closed" is like hanging a sign on the front gate that says "Nobody home." No one is there to look after it, to protect it from inappropriate uses and behavior; or to assist a visitor who needs help.

Since the Great Recession, advo-



Parks Suffering Under Budget Pressures

cacy for the parks and their budgets has not been adequate to prevent these cuts. Governor Patrick's initial budget included some increased funding for the parks; when the legislature didn't agree with that, he vetoed some of their "earmarks" (where legislators set aside dollars in the budget for a particular project, thus decreasing the amount of money for general operations). The legislature over-rode his vetoes.

We, as users and lovers of our

parks, have to change the minds of our legislators. Contact yours; tell him or her about the parks you love and what they need. If you can, take a legislator for a walk in the park. But please don't leave a legislator with the impression that only that park deserves to be taken care of.

Let's work together on this so next year the story – and our parks – will be better.

Endorsed Candidates, 2013 Municipal Elections

Sierra Club endorsements are based on a candidate's record and demonstrated commitment to the environment. Candidates meriting the Club's support have also shown a realistic approach in tackling our key concerns. By supporting Sierra Club endorsed candidates, you can help elect officials that will protect the land, water, and air that are vital to us. The following list is complete as of Sep. 30, 2013. Visit sierraclubmass.org for a current listing.

Boston: Ayanna Pressley - At Large Michael F. Flaherty - At Large Stephen J. Murphy - At Large Suzanne Lee - District 2 Matt O'Malley - District 6 Tito Jackson - District 7 Josh Zakim - District 8 Mark S. Ciommo - District 9	William A. White Jr. - Alderman At Large Dennis M. Sullivan - Alderman At Large Sean Fitzgerald - Alderman At Large	Large Susan Falkoff - Councilor At Large Vincent J. Piccirilli - District C Councilor Anthony Palomba - Councilor At Large
Somerville: Mark Niedergang - Alderman Ward 5 Rebekah L. Gewirtz - Alderman Ward 6 Katjana Ballantyne - Alderman Ward 7	Cambridge: Craig Kelley Tim Toomey Henrietta Davis Dennis Carlone Jefferson Smith Kristen von Hoffmann Marc McGovern Minka VanBeuzekom	Fitchburg: Lisa Wong - Mayor
	Springfield: Michael A. Fenton - Ward 2 Melvin A. Edwards - Ward 3	Saugus: Debra Panetta - Board of Selectmen
	Watertown: Mark Sideris - Councilor At	

Key Races, 2013 Municipal Elections



Suzanne Lee
District 2, Boston

Reducing energy consumption has been a top personal and professional priority of Suzanne Lee for many years. As the president and founder of the Chinese Progressive Association (CPA), Suzanne has overseen projects offering energy efficient housing options and retraining for green jobs, also offering bilingual trainings in weatherization programs. Since the inception of its weatherization efforts, the CPA has worked on weatherization projects on dozens of Boston buildings. In addition to her weatherization efforts, Suzanne has focused on the negative effects of having more cars on the road; the CPA has studied pollution emitted from I-90 and I-93, and has opposed a proposed parking garage in Chinatown. Suzanne has 35 years working experience in public schools, during which time she established regular school wide "walk days," in which parents were encouraged to walk their children to school rather than drive. Her priorities as a City Councilor are also tied to education, putting an emphasis on green education in

both our schools and in our communities - pushing for more recycling, cleaner streets, and developing district-wide walk/T-ride days and other similar ideas. Working out of Chinatown, which has less public space per person than any other Boston neighborhood, Suzanne understands the need to protect public space and prioritize an expansion of green spaces in Boston. From teaching children of the importance of recycling and reducing energy consumption, to working on community weatherization projects, Suzanne Lee has made substantial efforts to improving her community through emphasizing a lower carbon footprint.



Mark Niedergang
Alderman, Ward 5
Somerville

Mark Niedergang is a committed environmental advocate who began reducing his carbon footprint long before global warming was a household term. Not only does he support environmentally responsible initiatives, but he proposes and actively promotes change. As a member of the Somerville School Committee, Mark

The Sierra Club's Endorsement Process

In odd-numbered years (such as 2013), the Massachusetts Sierra Club investigates the voting records of incumbents, reviews questionnaires, and discusses policy with candidates for municipal office. Many important environmental issues are decided on the municipal level, so it is crucial that Sierra Club members work hard to elect pro-environment mayors, councilors, aldermen, and selectmen.

Some of these candidates have had our endorsement in the past, while some are new. All are candidates who will help us advocate for environmental protection. You can make a big difference by volunteering in election activities as well as voting. We urge you to support our endorsed candidates! If you have questions about the endorsement process, or can help elect environmental candidates, contact cpc@sierraclubmass.org.

supported the adoption of a policy that prohibits idling at Somerville public schools, and initiated and advocated for system-wide recycling in the school system. Mark also supported the passage by the Board of Aldermen of an ordinance that requires all stores above a certain size to offer plastic bag recycling. As Ward 5 Alderman, Mark would improve upon waste management and recycling efforts, promote weatherization projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save residents money, decrease the usage of plastic water bottles and plastic bags, oppose any reduction of open space in Somerville, and move the city towards fewer vehicles on the road by extending the Community Path and promoting the extension of the Green Line through Somerville. Mark is a member of several local and national environmental advocacy organizations. At home, he composts and recycles, hangs his laundry out to dry, and gardens organically. His bicycle has been his primary means of transportation for almost 40 years. Between his leadership ability, passion for the environment, experience in local government, and ability to enact change, Mark will make a strong addition to the Somerville Board of Alderman as an ally of environmental issues.

Key Races, 2013 Municipal Elections



Katjana Ballantyne
Alderman, Ward 7
Somerville

Katjana Ballantyne is an environmental advocate who leads by example and believes that stewardship of the environment begins with the individual. In her personal life, Katjana rides a bicycle year round for local transportation, lives in a car free household, has renovated her home to be more energy efficient, uses reusable containers, and composts and recycles at her home. Extending her personal habits to her career as a City Council member, Katjana supported improvements to Somerville's recycling program that have increased recycling participation in Somerville by 58%, and has promoted home insulation and energy retrofitting programs. Katjana has advocated in favor of the Green Line Extension in Somerville, citing many environmental benefits such as reduced vehicle emissions, increased air quality, reduced noise pollution and improved public health. As a business consultant to Boston-based non profits, she helped establish an energy efficiency retrofitting company with a goal of creating jobs in the green economy and encouraging local reinvestment in energy efficiency. In May of 2013 she supported the ban of polystyrene take out containers, and also supports reducing the use of plastic bags and bottled water in Somerville with the cooperation of business. If presented with the decision, Katjana would fiercely oppose any expansion of incineration as a source of power, and would oppose reductions of public parkland. Katjana's political record, along with her experience in the green job sector and her personal lifestyle choices make her an ideal environmental candidate.



Melvin Edwards
Ward 3, Springfield

Melvin was elected to the Springfield City council in 2009 and again in 2011, upholding his commitment to the environment in both of his terms. As the president of Keep Springfield Beautiful, Melvin has hosted a number of events and has helped replant several dozen trees in the area. A focus of Melvin's the past few years has been the issue of

waste management in Springfield; as a member of the City Council he has created programs to address illegal dumping by teaching residents to be more responsible for their waste and asking for increased surveillance and enforcement. In his own neighborhood, Melvin has hosted an electronic materials recycling drive and has increased his own recycling efforts. To increase energy efficiency in the city, Melvin voted in favor of the Energy Stretch Code, which provides a more energy efficient alternative to the base energy code applicable to both new and existing buildings. One of the most important votes of his career as a City Council member was in voting to revoke a special permit for a proposed biomass incineration plant in East Springfield, a project that will be ecologically devastating and a serious danger to public health if passed. In making these decisions, Melvin understands that there is no contradiction between the environment and economic development. Melvin has proven his commitment to the environment in his past two terms and would make a great candidate to make further improvements.



Debra Panetta
Board of Selectmen
Saugus

Debra Panetta started her career in elective politics by leading the fight against incineration of coal ash in Saugus. Debra led the "No Third Burner" campaign in 2003 and 2004 against a third burner by working with numerous environmental advocates to go door-to-door to educate people on the ill-effects of incineration. During her time on the Board, Debra has sponsored three successful articles to limit the height of company's ash pile and to empower people to speak out when they saw wrongdoings at the plant. Debra serves as the President of the Saugus River Watershed Council, and a past president and active member of the Saugus Action Volunteers for the Environment. Debra has also been a staunch advocate of pro-environmental policies in numerous other areas. As the chair of the Saugus School Committee, Debra pushed for a "green school" when rehabilitating one of the district's schools (Belmonte). She fought to bring recycling into all of the district's schools, work that she has brought town-wide on the Board

of Selectmen. In 2008, Saugus' recycling rate was in the 20 percent range, but Debra supported a new contract that increased the frequency of curbside recycling collection, resulting in an overall recycling rate that has increased by more than 50 percent. Finally, she has pushed to crack down on municipal idling, and has used her position as a selectman to push for the enforcement of a five-minute idling law for all municipal vehicles.



Josh Zakim
District 8, Boston

Josh is deeply committed to improving the lives of those who live in his community, which covers

a swath of territory from Beacon Hill to Mission Hill. He will fight to vigorously enforce laws—like bus and truck idling laws, to crack down on asthma-inducing particulate matter—that safeguard the public health of his constituents. Josh is focused on using urbanism as an antidote to sprawl, and will push for policies -- including neighborhood schools -- that keep people in the City of Boston and reduce their dependence on cars and other forms of motorized transportation. He has also called for the creation of a long-term development plan to guide new residential construction in Boston, a particularly important issue in light of the fast pace of development in the city and the debate over the future of Boston Redevelopment Authority. He has called for smart growth, including locating additional development near transit hubs, which will reduce energy consumption and automobile use. As an attorney, Josh has worked for Greater Boston Legal Services, where he took on banks attempting to foreclose on people's houses, a key effort to protect the stability and vitality of the city's neighborhoods. Josh has also served as a bond lawyer, and worked on issues for the MBTA and Mass DOT—experience that has given him a strong understanding of the challenges facing the region's transportation infrastructure both in terms of funding for operating and long-term state of good repair needs.

Massachusetts Chapter and Group Elections

Massachusetts Chapter Executive Committee Candidate Statements

Terry Gleason – Inspired by the local chapter making the important connection between environment and climate change, I became a member. With broad environmental interests I would be useful in creating coalitions, and working with others sharing our goals. Climate change science is well-established, and the task now is to find ways to connect with our neighbors, relatives, and colleagues, who remain inactive or undecided because of the lack of information, or being overwhelmed by the issues. Expanding our audience beyond the ‘choir’ and showing people small but effective ways to make a difference would be my priorities.

Karen O'Donnell – Sierra Club Life Member, Waltham resident, former state representative, CPPAX Board member, Gallops Island Ranger, Co-chair, volunteers and Friends of The Boston Harbor Islands, Inc. IBEW union electrician on the MBTA. Delegate to The Greater Boston Labor Council. The Sierra Club is one of the few environmental organizations that is politically active on issues and endorses candidates. Our members care about and are involved in causes that The Sierra Club supports, from preserving parks, forests and waterways for people and animal habitat to eliminating bottled water and fighting for a coal free MBTA. I want to continue to support our club and members by serving on GBG ExCom and holding our officials accountable for policies that foster environmental justice, for healthy communities through sustainable development, parks and open space, clean renewable energy and public transportation. Our members can count on me to support public events and sponsorships that expand volunteers, ideas and action.

Roxanne Zak – Roxanne has several decades of increasing involvement and achievement as a conservationist and environmental activist and has been involved with the Club since 2006. Throughout New England she has overseen the preservation of multiple key pieces of conservation land. Here in Massachusetts she has been an active organizer and volunteer in local environmental activities. With the Sierra Club she has been an advocate for finding balance between economic development and responsible environmental stewardship, working on numerous lobbying projects with the Massachusetts legislature. Over the past

decade, Roxanne has augmented her background in biology with coursework in public policy, economics and legislative affairs at Boston University and Suffolk. In addition, she was part of the search committee that recently recruited our Chapter's new director, Ryan Black. As an incumbent seeking re-election, Roxanne is completely committed to working toward a solution to our climate change problems while upholding the Sierra Club's position as leader in preserving and protecting our natural resources and economic well-being.

Ed Woll, Jr. – Ed Woll is a newer Executive Committee member, has invigorated the Energy Committee as its chair and helps create coalitions. His work keeps the Chapter at the forefront of reducing climate change, promoting home and business solar, energy efficiency, geothermal heat pump and other clean energy solutions to move off fossil fuels. He provides testimony with the Legislative Action Committee on key environmental bills and writes on energy for the e-sierran. Ed was also on the Chapter's search committee for our new director, Ryan Black. As a land use and litigation attorney with 2 engineering degrees, his experience fits with the Chapter's goals. He asks for your vote so that he can continue on the Executive Committee to realize a clean energy future and preserve the land and wild places around us.

Launa Zimmaro – I joined the Sierra Club six years ago and currently serve as a member of the Excom and Chair of the Thoreau Group and Chapter Zero Waste Committee. I am also active in the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts at the state and local level (Concord-Carlisle). At the town level, I have been a member of the Carlisle Household Recycling Committee and developed and oversee a school-wide composting program for school cafeteria scraps, recognized by the MassDEP as a model for other districts. The focus of my Chapter and grassroots work has been sustainable waste management, but the interrelatedness of the climate change challenges we face is increasingly evident. As the country's oldest and most comprehensive environmental organization, the Sierra Club allows for a systems-based perspective that leads to thoughtful and effective policies and solutions. I am eager to continue work with the Chapter and ask for your vote.

Cape & Islands Group Executive Committee Candidate Statements

Walter Diggs – former ExCom member Memphis, TN., chairman Harwich Conservation Commission, emergency management evaluator.

Chris Polloni – has served as the outings Chair for the Cape Cod Group and is especially interested in renewable energy options for Cape Cod. He is also on the Sierra Club Massachusetts Chapter Zero Waste Committee.

Greater Boston Group Executive Committee Candidate Statements

Craig Kelley – A 50 year-old life member of the Sierra Club, I am a Cambridge City Councilor, Honors graduate of BC Law School, father of 2 and a current member of the Massachusetts Chapter of the Sierra Club's Executive Committee. I am a former environmental consultant with experience in sustainability planning and training, hazardous waste and hazardous materials management and spill response operations. I am an avid cyclist and urban mobility advocate, a proponent of low-carbon eating and a promoter of transparent local government. I hope to help the GBG focus on sustainability and emergency planning issues at the local government level and to expand public dialogue around low carbon lifestyles and personal responsibility for an individual's carbon footprint.

Tracy Paulsen – As a former Sierra Club employee (San Francisco office), I understand the Club's ability to forge solutions to environmental problems. I have worked as both a concerned citizen and attorney on a range of environmental issues such as renewable-energy policy and advocacy, enforcement of environmental laws, wetlands conservation, and sustainability outreach.

I currently serve on the steering committee for Boston Green Networking, which works to align like-minded people in areas of sustainability. I would like to serve directly the environmental interests of the Commonwealth and help forge innovative solutions to our communities' environmental issues through participation on the GBG ExCom.

John Kyper – I am running for reelection to the GBG. I am also a past member of the Chapter ExCom, and am the current Chair of its Transportation Committee. As a longtime Roxbury resident, I am concerned with the environmental needs of the inner city and how businesses, institutions and government affect the daily lives of its residents through policies like the expansion of highways and the siting of pollution-generating facilities. The long struggle for equity in transportation planning is another aspect of the state's neglecting the needs of its most transit-dependent residents. I have long supported an enlightened transportation policy that would reduce our dependence on the private automobile by providing more benign and attractive alternatives.

Debbie Cook – I would feel very privileged to serve on the GBG ExCom. As an environmentalist since my teens, I have been concerned about the impact of too many people consuming too many precious non-renewable resources. Early on I joined the Sierra Club, because it was composed of like-minded activists. Now my main concern is climate-change, which of course is a result of overpopulation and overconsumption. I currently work

for the North and South Rivers Watershed Association in Norwell, MA as Communications Director and I manage the 50-town Greenscapes Coalition. During the last four years I have educated 12,000 South Shore children about protecting their town's water. A Cohasset resident, I recently chaired the Conservation Commission, and the Open Space Committee and led the effort to bring the CPA to Cohasset.

Thoreau Group Executive Committee Candidate Statements

Nancy Carapezza – Nancy lives in Wayland and has served three terms on the Thoreau Group Excom. She has held the positions of vice-chair and treasurer of the Group. She is a past president of the Massachusetts League of Women Voters.

a tremendously complex and interesting endeavor. This year, I joined my town's visioning committee, Acton 2020, where I am assisting with initiatives related to sustainable growth, environmental awareness, and community building. As a 2013 graduate of Vermont Law School's Masters of Environmental Law and Policy, I look forward to leveraging my interdisciplinary training in law, policy, science, economics and advocacy to help drive the initiatives of the Sierra Club.

Vickie Wallin – My commitment to supporting environmental concerns comes from a love of the natural world and an awareness of the importance of returning to sustainable ways of living,

Voting Instructions

- Mail ballots to: Sierra Club Elections, 10 Milk Street, Suite 632, Boston, MA 02108
- Membership number must appear on the outside of envelope for ballot to be valid (Your eight-digit membership number appears above your name and address on the back page of the Sierran).
- A second ballot is provided for households with joint memberships so each member may vote.
- Ballots must be received by 5:00 PM, Saturday, December 14, 2013 to be counted.
- If you have further questions, call the Chapter office at (617) 423-5775.

BALLOT

Massachusetts Chapter
Executive Committee

Vote for no more than five candidates

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Terry Gleason | <input type="checkbox"/> Karen O'Donnell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ed Woll, Jr. | <input type="checkbox"/> Roxanne Zak |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Launa Zimmaro | |

BALLOT

Massachusetts Chapter
Executive Committee

Vote for no more than five candidates

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Terry Gleason | <input type="checkbox"/> Karen O'Donnell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ed Woll, Jr. | <input type="checkbox"/> Roxanne Zak |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Launa Zimmaro | |

BALLOT

Thoreau Group
Executive Committee

Vote for no more than two candidates

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nancy Carapezza | <input type="checkbox"/> Vickie Wallin |
|--|--|

BALLOT

Thoreau Group
Executive Committee

Vote for no more than two candidates

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nancy Carapezza | <input type="checkbox"/> Vickie Wallin |
|--|--|

BALLOT

Cape & Islands Group
Executive Committee

Vote for no more than two candidates

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walter Diggs | <input type="checkbox"/> Chris Polloni |
|---------------------------------------|--|

BALLOT

Cape & Islands Group
Executive Committee

Vote for no more than two candidates

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walter Diggs | <input type="checkbox"/> Chris Polloni |
|---------------------------------------|--|

BALLOT

Greater Boston Group
Executive Committee

Vote for no more than four candidates

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Debbie Cook | <input type="checkbox"/> John Kyper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Craig Kelley | <input type="checkbox"/> Tracy Paulsen |

BALLOT

Greater Boston Group
Executive Committee

Vote for no more than four candidates

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Debbie Cook | <input type="checkbox"/> John Kyper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Craig Kelley | <input type="checkbox"/> Tracy Paulsen |

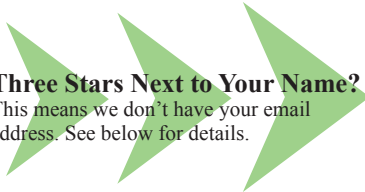
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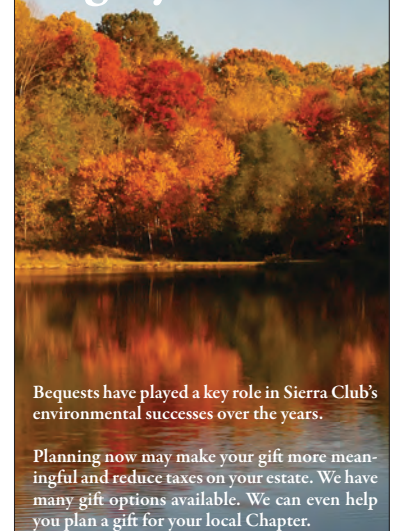


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