



# Missouri Sierran

One Earth  One Chance

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## Energy: Turning Missouri Around

By Henry Robertson, Energy Chair

In November, the Midwestern Governors Association, comprising 12 states, held a two-day summit on climate change and energy security. It concluded with the Midwest Regional Greenhouse Gas Reduction Accord signed by the governors of nine states and the premier of Manitoba. The accord sets greenhouse gas reduction goals and calls for a regional cap-and-trade system. Two other states did not sign the accord but did endorse an Energy Security and Climate Stewardship Platform that pledges to meet

specific goals on energy efficiency, renewables and biofuels.

Only Missouri was a complete no-show. Governor Matt Blunt's administration did not even participate in the preparations leading to these agreements.

Perhaps not coincidentally, at about the same time the World Resources Institute issued a report on the global warming emissions of eight Midwestern states and found that Missouri's increased the most — 26% between 1990 and 2003. Missouri power plant emissions increased 54% in the same period.

On December 19, Gov. Blunt announced that he had belatedly signed parts of the Platform — but not parts dealing with greenhouse gas reductions in any form other than biomass. Biofuels (ethanol and biodiesel) may be the latest Missouri business, but we still get 86% of our electricity from coal even though no coal at all is mined in Missouri. Go figure.

Don't get too excited about the governors' accord; it relies heavily on "clean coal" remedies like coal gasification and carbon sequestration. We can hope the guys discover that these are expensive boondoggles and steer their states' investments to clean energy solutions. Still, it tells us what we're up against when our governor puts on his blindfold and says, "Show me!"

So how do we turn this ship of state around? We're trying.

### Cool Cities

In 2005 the mayor of Seattle started the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. Over 700 mayors have now signed this pledge to make their cities reach the carbon reduction goals of the Kyoto Protocol even in the absence of action by the Bush administration. Cool Cities is the Sierra Club's campaign in support of this effort (see [www.coolcities.us](http://www.coolcities.us)).

On November 2, 14 mayors in the Kansas City area signed at the same time, with five more unable to attend but promising to sign.

Turning Missouri continued on page 5...



## Personal Life Choices and Sustainability

By Ron McLinden, Transportation Smart Growth Chair

One of the discussions going on within the Sierra Club right now is about how to address the issue of consumption, and our responsibility as individuals to make personal choices that will reduce global warming and other impacts on the planet. It's a difficult discussion — in part because a lot of us live relatively comfortable lives. We don't want to offend our members by being preachy, yet we can't ignore the fact that, to some extent, part of the problem looks back at us from the mirror every day.

In July, the Missouri Chapter adopted a resolution on consumption and sustainability, and forwarded it to the Council of Club Leaders for consideration. That resolution reads:

"The Missouri Resolution: The Council of Club Leaders reaffirms that global warming is the highest priority issue for the Club, and

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# New Wilderness Resolutions for 2008

by Caroline Pufalt

**T**ake the 2008 New Year Wilderness Resolution challenge! Commit to doing some or all of the following:

1. Contact your Senators and U.S. Representative to voice your support for new Wilderness areas in the Mark Twain National Forest.
2. Talk to your friends and relatives who share your concern about preserving Missouri's special places and ask them to contact their legislators too.
3. Write a letter to your local paper voicing your support for new Wilderness areas in Missouri.
4. No matter how busy you are, take time to visit Missouri's wild places!

As many of our readers know, the Missouri Chapter of the Sierra Club, along with many other conservation minded groups and individuals, is supporting the addition of up to seven new Wilderness areas in the Mark Twain National Forest.

Our proposal is modest but significant. It seeks to protect seven areas which have been recognized, some for nearly 30 years, as sensitive landscapes deserving special protections.

For many years they did receive an impor-

## Chair's Column

by Jim Turner, Missouri Chapter Chair

**A** while ago I mentioned Sierra Club membership to a progressive neighbor in my town, and he replied "I'm not that confrontational." Certainly confrontation of determined corporate polluters is necessary at times, and our Missouri Chapter takes the litigation route when other means fail. But we also have an increasing need for "non-confrontational people" to get involved in our Group and Chapter meetings.

More and more we realize that society must become sustainable, and most Americans have consumption habits that need changing. It is "non-confrontational" people, calmly setting a good example, who may be most effective in leading our society into sustainability. Missouri Sierra Club is a good fit for such people. Our chapter has a good track record of working in coalition with various groups in Missouri. And the national Sierra Club provides an extensive network of committees and

tant degree of protection written into the Mark Twain National Forest plan as "sensitive areas" less vulnerable to logging and motorized recreation. But in the most recent Mark Twain National Forest plan-December 2005, those areas lost sensitive area status and are now less protected. National forests are managed through an overall management plan that sets guidelines for how various areas in the forest will be treated. Some areas will be a priority for logging, others for types of wildlife habitat or recreation priorities. Forest plans usually last 10-15 years. Without additional action, these seven areas will be less protected for years in the future.

MO has 1.4 million acres of National Forest land, currently about 4.3% of that is designated as federal Wilderness. Our current proposal would increase that to about 7.3%, not a large percentage. Aside from US Fish and Wildlife, no other public entity, such as State Parks or MO Department of Conservation lands have a wilderness designation. Wilderness provides opportunities for nature to unfold largely without direct effects of modern humanity, it provides recreational opportunities for solitude, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, wildlife viewing and areas for scientific research. For more information see: [www.mowild.org](http://www.mowild.org). Please contact your U.S. Senators and representatives regarding your support for additional Wilderness areas in MO. Contact your senators at: <http://bond.senate.gov/contact/contactme.cfm> <http://mccaskill.senate.gov/contact.cfm>

advisers, providing robust support for local educational action.

Speaking in calm tones can have good long-range results. A few years ago, one of our volunteer activists spoke at a meeting here in Missouri on an environmental matter, and following the meeting he had a cordial discussion with one of his adversaries. Now this year, that former adversary is productively engaged in a process to improve the electrical utility situation in his city.

Whether or not you choose to speak out at meetings inside or outside of our chapter, your presence will be helpful. You can visibly be a witness on the environmental side. We activists of Missouri Chapter have exerted ourselves in recent months, believing that 2007 and 2008 are critical years, tipping-point years, for getting environmental stewardship well underway. Won't you come to a Group meeting in Cape Girardeau, Columbia, Kansas City, Saint Louis, or Springfield to extend your help? We'll also be thinking next year about how to support increased involvement by our members in other areas of Missouri.

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**Items for publication:** Contact **Caroline Pufalt** via E-mail at [cpufalt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cpufalt@sbcglobal.net) or phone (314) 721-7207. The editors reserve the right to edit articles. Material may be edited for length, content, or clarity. Reproduction quality photographs (prints) or artwork are welcome.

We strongly prefer to receive material by email. All submissions must include name, address, and phone number of the author. Hard-working, All-volunteer Editorial and Production Staff: **Caroline Pufalt, Editor, Cheryl Hammond, Becky Parker, production monkeys.**

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# Our Thanks to Bob and Claus!

By Caroline Pufalt

Thanks for years of dedicated volunteer service in editing and publishing the Missouri Sierran newsletter! For many years Bob Sherrick and Claus Wawrzinek have been the “unseen” force behind our newsletter, formerly called the Ozark Sierran.

Claus and Bob shared the work. The work started usually at a chapter meeting which Bob or Claus would attend and gather ideas for articles - but not just ideas, vol-



unteers were also needed to write those articles. Claus was in charge of getting submissions, via email, in on deadline and that was sometimes a struggle. But with Claus’

reminders and his editing, each issue attracted interesting and timely articles. Chapter Development Director, Melissa Hope, also helped with design ideas and fund-raising tie ins.

Then Claus would start the formatting needed for eventual layout. He and Bob would usually meet at Bob’s house to complete the final layout, fitting articles, pictures, outings announcements etc in each issue. Both Kansas City area residents, Bob and Claus found that working together in person at the final stage was helpful. They also kept on top of technology and tried new publishing programs.



When the final electronic copy was ready, Bob would often take the disk directly to the nearby printer. Claus would make sure the printer had up to date labels for all 10,000 MO members. This is provided by the national club office. The printer would print and mail the newsletter and Bob would retrieve the extra copies that we use at meetings and public outreach events.

Together Bob and Claus produced a quality newsletter that was an important tool for communication within our chapter.

After years of donating time and effort on this project Bob and Claus are still active in the club but pursuing other avenues of volunteering - and maybe they will have more time for some of their favorite free time activities. Claus enjoys photography and hiking and skiing. Claus grew up in Germany near the Austrian Alps so he aims high when it comes to mountains. Bob and his wife, Doris, are lovers of the American southwest. They have enjoyed many Sierra Club service trips in that area.

In their typical generous fashion Claus and Bob have helped with the transition to a new newsletter team. Becky Parker is our new volunteer doing layout. Cheryl Hammond has also helped with an upgrade to a new publishing program. Caroline Pufalt is temporary editor.

If you are interested in editing, contributing articles or ideas, let Caroline know. [cpufalt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cpufalt@sbcglobal.net)

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## Short Trips

*Transportation issues around the state*

By Ron McLinden and Ginger Harris

### **Kansas City Moves Forward on**

#### **Light Rail**

All speculation to the contrary, Kansas City is indeed moving toward building the first phase of a light rail system. A citizen initiative, approved at the polls in November, 2006, was found not to be feasible. Nevertheless, the city council is determined to honor the will of the voters, and the Area Transportation Authority has been preparing a new light rail proposal since early 2007.

In November, 2007, the council formally repealed the result of the 2006 vote and pledged to put a new light rail proposal on the ballot by November, 2008. Council members have vowed to schedule the new light rail vote for the election that, according to polls, it has the best chance of winning. That’s not an insignificant consideration because, in sharp

contrast to the 2006 citizen initiative that promised light rail without a tax increase, a workable plan will involve a sales tax increase of 1/4 or 3/8 cent.

A citizen task force has been working with the ATA on the light rail plan, and advises a 12.2 mile route from about Vivion Road and North Oak to just south of the Plaza (in the general Oak - Main corridor), with an eastward branch line to Prospect. Federal funding of 40-50 percent will be sought, even though getting it will add a year or more to the process.

Meanwhile, some advocates want a shorter phase one line built with local money to avoid the federal funding delays. Meanwhile, Kansas City Mayor Mark Funkhouser continues his Quixotic quest for a regional light rail system, regionally funded and built all-at-once. Meanwhile, there are so many other “moving parts” in this whole picture that even insiders have trouble understanding the full picture.

The one sure thing is that there has never been more support in Kansas City for

light rail.

### **Club Expresses Concern About Eight-Lane I-70 Concept**

Through a letter sent by Great Rivers Environmental Law Center on November 7, the Sierra Club has expressed concerns about MoDOT’s plan to re-study 199 miles of I-70 with the intent of building it as an eight-lane highway, with four of the lanes reserved for trucks. A previous environmental study, completed in 2001, concluded that I-70 should be re-built as a six-lane highway, but MoDOT sought designation of I-70 as part of a federal “Corridor of the Future” and got \$2 million of federal money to study the truck lane concept.

Because the eight-lane concept is so different from the previously approved six-lane concept -- and because it will require a revision of the study’s “purpose and need” statement due to its emphasis on freight -- our letter asks that MoDOT completely re-do the 2001 study and evaluate non-

*Short Trips continued on pg 6...*

*Life Choices continued from pg. 1*

*acknowledges that energy efficiency and renewable energy are critical components of the Club's campaign to address this issue. We ask that the Board initiate a high-profile campaign in support of "sustainable life choices" as a co-equal part of the Club's response to global warming, and that a sustainable life choices message be incorporated into communications from the Club related to global warming."*

*The Council of Club Leaders adopted our resolution on September 28.*

*Following is the beginning of a discussion we want to have with you, our members. We invite you to submit your own thoughts. Perhaps a word of caution is in order. This is written with just a bit of "attitude." We hope you'll give it careful consideration.*

You've heard about sustainability. By one commonly accepted definition, it means meeting our needs today in such a way that we don't compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

No doubt you've seen pitches for products that are "sustainable." Unfortunately, many such products are simply "less unsustainable" than a conventional product.

Let's face it -- We can't consume our way to sustainability.

World population is approaching 6.7 billion, and headed toward 9 billion by mid-century. Meanwhile, aspirations for the material elements of a "good life" are rising throughout the developing world. World oil consumption is over 85 million barrels per day and demand is growing, even as industry experts caution that oil production is at or near the peak of what's possible.

Oh -- and the climate is changing as rising CO2 levels contribute to the warming of the atmosphere and the oceans.

You've read all of that and more. Yet, you feel powerless to do anything about it -- except to maybe write to an elected official asking them to please do something. And maybe you've checked your own environmental footprint using any of the several on-line tools.

Taking personal actions is hard, however, because it seems everybody else is doing nothing. And there's no leadership from the one place that we Americans traditionally look to for leadership -- the Oval Office. The message from the White House is "go shopping and keep the economy strong."

Unfortunately, conspicuous consumption is always going to get more attention than per-

sonal responsibility and restraint, but don't let the seemingly endless self-indulgence of others keep you from acting.

It's time to get radical, responsibly radical -- especially if you have kids or grand-kids who will live into the second half of this century.

So much consumption is linked to major life choices. You make one seemingly simple life choice and instantly find yourself sucked into a whole pattern of consumption based on the expectations of the peers you've unwittingly joined.

Consider just a few of life's major choices, along with some of their associated and unintended peer-pressured consequences.

Living arrangements. Two can usually live more efficiently than one since so much of the home and its "machinery" can be shared -- but this has to be a highly personal decision.

## We can't consume our way to sustainability.

Procreation. Having kids -- whether natural or adopted -- leads immediately to consumption patterns that you didn't plan on. The extra room and bathroom and TV and media-hyped toys and school activities and soccer-mom syndrome driving and... You get the picture. This is not to say you shouldn't have kids -- in fact, if you are reading this you might be a more responsible potential parent than a lot of other folks.

When to have kids also matters. Deferred childbearing is almost always a good thing. Imagine how many fewer people there'd be in the world -- and how much better off the kids would be -- if teen mothers had waited until they were 25 or 30.

Shelter. A new house in a new suburb is nice, but chances are it's bigger than you really need, and it carries with it a lot of social norm pressures about what kind of car you drive, how aggressive you have to be at eliminating all but certain species from your lawn, and whether you can line-dry your laundry. What's more, in a new suburb the chances are lower than you can walk anyplace -- to a store or library or park, or even around the block for exercise.

Deciding where to live is a complex matter. While some people live in the same place for decades, a lot of households relocate every few years. It's these households that have the best opportunity to lower the impact of their housing location decision.

What kind of shelter. A condo or loft or apartment in a multi-unit building, may meet your needs at least as well as a house in the suburbs, while also relieving you of the obligation to own a riding mower and fertilizer spreader and snow blower. What's more, your heating and cooling bills will be lower since your neighbors help shelter you from extreme temperatures.

As household demographics change and the housing supply adjusts to offer a broader range of choices, the most common reason to purchase a single-family home -- easy marketability -- is actually declining. (Yes, that's a radical notion since it might threaten the industries that build and sell and re-sell single-family houses.) Alternatives to the single-family house deserve a second look.

Location of shelter. Consider where to live. The farther away you choose to live -- from work or play or where you socialize or worship -- the more time you're likely to spend getting there. What's more, it's more likely you'll have to drive alone because transit service isn't available and there are no co-workers with whom you can carpool. If there are two wage earners in the household, look for a location where at least one of you can ride transit, or drive a short distance to a park-and-ride lot.

Achieving life satisfaction. For some people, it seems, conspicuous consumption is the road to happiness. It might be a big house and expensive car and big-screen TV. It might be a second home on the lake with a boat. On the other hand, you might find satisfaction through socializing with friends, reading, engaging in cultural activities, and pursuing other less material interests. These can be far more satisfying and infinitely less resource consumptive.

These are just some of the life decisions each of us makes. Driving a Prius and screwing in compact fluorescent bulbs and buying toilet tissue made from 100 percent recycled paper isn't going to save the planet from climate change.

We literally have to re-evaluate our lives and our priorities, and resolve to make better life decisions. Then we need to let our friends and relatives know -- without being sanctimonious, of course -- that we've made conscious decisions to make our earthly existence less hostile to that of individuals not yet born.

There's no escaping the fact that, no matter how old we are right now, we might not get out of this life without seeing some really unpleasant consequences of climate change. We can be part of the problem, or part of the solution.

# Picnic at Ha Ha Tonka State Park

by Melissa Hope, Missouri Development  
Director

Sierra Club members and friends gathered at Ha Ha Tonka State park on a beautiful afternoon in September, 2007 for a picnic hosted by Barbara Fredholm of Camdenton.

Participants were invited to “Do Something for the Planet!”

Melissa Hope, Missouri Sierra Club and Susan Brown, Concerned Citizens of Platte County spoke about existing and emerging energy issues in Missouri, water quality issues, and shared tips for successfully organizing neighbors and friends for community action. After the presentation the group had the opportunity to discuss concerns about their Ozark environment.

The picnic was enjoyed by all with a backdrop of hammered dulcimer music by Laurie Thompson with Dave Thompson on guitar.

If you would like to organize a similar event in your community or a fundraising house party to support the work of the Missouri Sierra Club please contact Melissa Hope, Missouri Chapter Development Director. 816.806.6965, [melissa.hope@sierraclub.org](mailto:melissa.hope@sierraclub.org)

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*Turning MO Around continued from pg. 1....*

Kansas City itself remains the state's leader. In the St. Louis area eight towns, including St. Louis, are signed on. Columbia is also a cool city.

However, most cities have a hard time getting started on the task of actually reducing their greenhouse gases (GHG). This is where we come in, offering guidance on how to make it happen

The first thing to do is take a greenhouse gas inventory of the city. Data have to be assembled from utilities and other sources to find out how buildings, transportation, waste disposal, etc., consume energy or generate GHG. Energy consumption has to be translated into units of carbon dioxide. The inventory shows the city how to target its GHG reduction efforts.

ICLEI, the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, has software for doing the inventory and training for a city staff person on how to use it. The modest fee for this service and will pay for itself in no

time through energy savings, but many small-city mayors balk at the expense. Alternatives are to tell a city employee to just do it — improvise — or approach a local university about doing it as a student project.

The next step is to appoint a committee to write a climate action plan. If a city does not already have an environmental committee, a special committee can be created by city council resolution or mayoral appointment. These are groups of citizen volunteers, but the committee should include, or at least consult with, key city personnel who will be responsible for implementing the plan — the people in public works, purchasing, city vehicle fleet management, etc.

The plan will itemize the energy saving and waste reduction measures the city will need to undertake — energy efficient lighting, building retrofits, right-sized vehicle fleets and possibly hybrids, inducements to use public transit, recycling, generating electricity from landfill gas, and so on. Cities usually start with their own operations, but city government only accounts for 3–5% of a town's GHG emissions. Public outreach and education are essential and will help citizens save energy and money. The city council can also enact policies like energy-efficient building codes.

Climate action plans are easy to find on the internet. They often contain estimates of anticipated cost savings and GHG reductions. Above all, they show what cities across the country can do and are doing to slow global warming.

By now it's clear that most cities will need continued pressure from their citizens if they're going to follow through on their pledge. This is a great opportunity for Sierra Club members to make a difference in your communities.

## **The AECI power plant**

Associated Electric Cooperatives, Inc., has received a draft construction permit from the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR's) Air Pollution Control Program to build a 660-megawatt coal-fired power plant near the little town of Norborne in Carroll County, 60 miles east of Kansas City. If built, the plant will spew 6.8 million tons of carbon dioxide each year, plus nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, mercury and particulate matter. These contribute to smog, acid rain, asthma and other respiratory diseases, neurological problems and climate change.

On November 13, DNR held a public hearing on the permit in Norborne. Opponents were there in force (see related article in this issue).

Students with the Washington University Interdisciplinary Environmental Law Clinic, which is challenging the permit on behalf of the Sierra Club, addressed the problems with the permit. The most glaring omissions are that it does nothing about carbon dioxide or fine particulate matter. Fine particles left from the burning of coal can lodge deep in the lungs, which makes them even more dangerous than coarser particles at causing or aggravating respiratory illness.

Shortly before the hearing, the director of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment took the unprecedented step of denying a permit to a power plant largely because of global warming. We need to pressure DNR director Doyle Childers and Governor Blunt to do the same with AECI's plant.

## **The laws must change**

Another legislative session is upon us. We were encouraged last session by the passage of a net metering law, which lets citizens get full credit from their utilities for electricity they generate themselves and feed back onto the grid, and by the settlement we reached with Kansas City Power and Light (KCPL) over their new power plant. The settlement, called a Collaboration Agreement, binds KCPL and the Sierra Club to work together to advance energy efficiency and renewable energy. This includes trying to pass legislation.

For starters, we need to enact incentives for utilities to do efficiency programs that help their customers save energy. Love 'em or hate 'em, the utilities are in the best position to do this. But they will be less than half-hearted about it until we make it worth their while. The way rates are set now, they lose money if they sell less gas or electricity. The incentives need to be reversed so that efficiency is as profitable. This is a bit weird, trying to browbeat the utilities into taking more money, but we want them to redirect their investments away from big, expensive, polluting power plants, which will cost us all a lot more.

We also want a mandatory Renewable Electricity Standard that requires electric utilities to generate increasing percentages of their power from renewable sources. We want statewide energy efficient building codes. We want better incentives — tax credits or rebates — for people to install their own solar panels or small wind generators.

This is a lot to ask, but you can help by calling or writing your state senator and representative to let them know what you want. <http://missouri.sierraclub.org/thb/officials/html>



*Melissa Hope, Missouri Sierra Club Development Director, speaks at Norborne coal plant press conference. Photo Claus Wawrzinek*

*MO Can Do Better continued from pg. 9...*

states like Oklahoma, Florida and most recently Kansas and reject the permit for this new coal plant because of the serious health, economic and environmental threats it poses,” said Henry Robertson, Energy Chair for Missouri Sierra Club. “Missouri should invest in clean alternatives instead of new coal.”

To reduce the worst impacts of global warming, including severe droughts, scientists tell us that we need to reduce our global warming emissions 80% by 2050—an achievable 2% a year. But we have no hope of meeting this challenge if we continue to build coal-burning power plants.

Missouri gets 86% of its electricity from burning coal, among the highest percentage

in the nation. In 1999, approximately 73.5 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> was emitted by Missouri power plants, an increase of more than 20 million tons from this source in 1990. MDNR has permitted two additional coal-burning power plants in the past two years (KCPL Iatan 2 and City Utilities-Springfield) increasing Missouri’s CO<sub>2</sub> power plant emissions to approximately 81.6 million tons per year. Adding the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the proposed Norborne plant increases emissions to approximately 88.4 million tons/year, a 65% increase from 1990 coal plant emissions. Clearly we are moving in the wrong direction.

Missouri ranks 46th in the nation for energy efficiency. If we focus on increasing efficiency—which is the simplest, cheapest way to meet our energy needs—we can make the Norborne plant unnecessary, save money on our electric bills, protect our health and the environment, and create good jobs in Missouri.

“Another huge coal plant is not only bad for the health of Missourians, it is also the wrong choice for our economy,” said Emil Ramirez, Assistant to the Director, United Steel Workers District 11. “The good news is that Missouri can become a leader in clean energy development, reducing our dependence on coal, boosting our economy and helping to fight global warming. Investing in efficiency and renewable energy technologies today could create over 22,500 clean, good-paying jobs in Missouri.”

Focusing on efficiency, we can make the Norborne plant unnecessary, save money on our electric bills, protect our health and the environment, and create good jobs in Missouri.

#### Short Trips continued from pg. 3

highway alternatives for moving freight. We also asked that the Sierra Club be considered a key public interest stakeholder in all meetings related to the new study.

#### **Short Trips**

Every day we travel about to meet our many life needs. Sometimes, a long trip is unavoidable. Sometimes, without even thinking, we travel farther than need be. When there’s a choice, it’s usually good to choose the shorter trip. Less time, less energy, less pollution, less hassle. Plus, if it’s short enough, you might be able to walk or ride your bike, in which case there’s a chance that you’ll encounter someone else doing the same. Stop and say hello -- and build community in the process. Hooray for short trips!

## Ozarks New Energy Conference to feature high-profile alternative energy experts

*By Jennifer Ailor, ONE Conference Coordinator*

*Focus on current and future alternative energy and sustainable fuels for the Ozarks*

The Ozarks New Energy (ONE) Conference Feb. 22-23 will bring a slate of prominent researchers and speakers to Springfield, as well as local experts, discussing alternative fuels to coal, gas and oil and their development and application in the Ozarks.

More specifically, speakers will explore biomass and gaseous fuels for power generation, alternative liquid and gaseous fuels for transportation, solar and wind technologies, efficient design and energy efficiency and conservation. Hydrogen, ammonia, algae, methane, cellulose and other biomass products are among the alternative fuels discussed at the conference. Elected officials representing the state and federal government and the chair of the Missouri Public Service Commission will discuss federal and state energy policy, initiatives and incentives.

This first-of-its-kind conference is the result of a meeting called last June by Dan Chiles of Springfield City Council to brainstorm ideas for a future new fuels conference in Springfield. The approximately 150 people attending that meeting enthusiastically embraced the idea of a conference. The result is the ONE Conference, sponsored by the City of Springfield, City Utilities of Springfield, Drury University, Greene County, Killian Construction, Missouri State University, Oakridge Consulting and Watts Radiant. Other sponsors will be announced.

The conference, will be held at the Gillioz Theatre, Discovery Center and other downtown venues. It is intended for anyone interested in the development of alternative energy sources in the Ozarks.

[www.ozarksnewenergy.org](http://www.ozarksnewenergy.org)



# Environmental Podcasts

by Claus Wawrzinek, THB Chair

Podcasting is largely a recent phenomenon that has arisen with the emergence of portable audio players. Podcasting provides an easy outlet for smaller organizations or individuals to bring their message to the world. As opposed to radio broadcasting, the podcasting medium is to some degree a form of narrowcasting. Podcasts typically reach very small niche audiences. However, some podcasts are quite popular and can reach large audiences.

Podcasting is a type of audio and video broadcast media distribution on the Internet. Usually podcasts involve data files that contain audio or video data that is stored on the Internet that comes to your computer automatically on a subscription basis. Once a podcast is downloaded to your computer, you can either listen or watch the broadcast on your computer or you can transfer it to a portable audio/video player and listen to it without being on the Internet. This can be quite convenient when you ride the bus or do your yard work.

The production quality of podcasts can vary greatly. Some may be very similar to high quality radio broadcasts and others may be just a person sitting in a basement in front of a computer talking into a microphone. The spectrum is from very refined to clunky. You just never know what you will get. Nevertheless they can be very interesting. Sometimes radio broadcasts are also distributed via podcast media. This allows you to listen to a program on your own time whenever you choose.

While there are many ways to subscribe or to get podcasts to come to you, one of the best ways is iTunes. There are many programs available that allow similar functionality. iTunes makes it very easy to search for a specific topic and to subscribe to it. iTunes can be downloaded for free at <http://www.apple.com/itunes>. You may look for alternatives to iTunes and get more information about how to listen and create your own podcasts at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Podcast>.

You can find just about any topic you can imagine in the form of a podcast, including the environment. Here are just a few examples:

- **Sierra Club radio**

<http://www.sierraclubradio.org>

This is the Sierra Club's podcast. It is distributed once per week and covers news, current politics, interviews with book authors, and gives insight on various environmental topics.

- **Living on Earth**

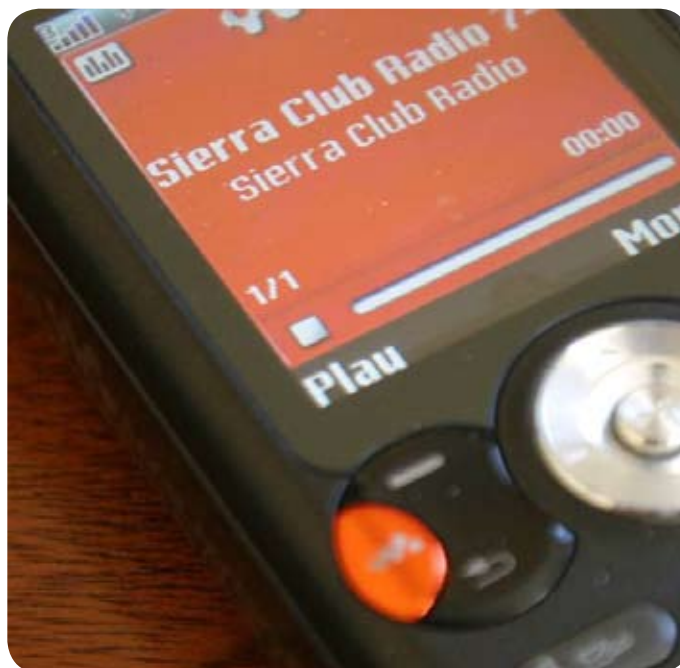
<http://www.loe.org>

This is a weekly podcast that covers many different angles about the environment. It is well researched and well produced.

- **NPR Climate Connections**

<http://www.npr.org/climate>

This is an excellent example of a podcast on environmental topics. In 2007 National Public Radio (NPR) and National



Geographic Magazine are producing a one-year series about "How we are shaping climate and how climate is shaping us." There are hundreds of episodes available for download. The programs are well produced and researched. This is one of my favorites. I highly recommend this podcast.

- **NPR Science Friday**

<http://www.sciencefriday.com>

This is a podcast about different scientific topics. Environmental topics seem to be covered more frequently than other topics. Also one of my favorites. This is a weekly program.

- **BBC One Planet**

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/programmes/one\\_planet.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/programmes/one_planet.shtml)

The British Broadcast Corporation (BBC) has this weekly program about the environment that looks at environmental issues from a viewpoint that we may not be familiar with in the United States. This program covers environmental issues around the world.

- **Energy Star Podcasts**

[http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=products.pr\\_podcasts](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=products.pr_podcasts)

This podcast gives a good overview of what the Energy Star program is about and what to look for. The program is very informative, but only a few episodes are available.

- **Green TV (video)**

<http://www.green.tv>

This video podcast originates in the United Kingdom and has frequent updates. It is broken into multiple channels and distributes videos from different organizations like Greenpeace, the United Nations and others. Categories or channels to choose from are Air, Climate Change, Land, People, Technology, and Water.

- **Ken Midkiff on CAFOs**

<http://www.kmidkiff.com>

Ken Midkiff has his periodic commentary on Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) online now. Ken is a well-known longtime Missouri Sierra Club activist.

- **KDHX Earthworms**

<http://www.kd hx.org>

Go to Radio Programs and click on the Earthworms program. You should be able to listen or subscribe there. This program is produced by KDHX, a St. Louis community radio station. It covers a wide variety of environmental issues that affect Missouri.

## VOTING ALERT!!

When voting in February 5 city or state elections, ask for a paper ballot. Avoid the touch-screen vote counting machine. See details at [www.MoHonestElections.org](http://www.MoHonestElections.org). Look for article in next Sierran by Ginger Harris, [gingerharris@charter.net](mailto:gingerharris@charter.net), 314-503-1320.

# Energy Bills Likely to Draw Attention of Legislators

By Roy C. Hengerson, Missouri Legislative Director

The Missouri State Legislature begins its 2008 Session on Wednesday January 9 at 12 noon.



How prominent environmental issues will be is not certain at this point. However, it is likely that energy bills will again receive attention from legislators. Passage of the Easy Connection Act, which combined net

metering with renewable energy targets, was a significant victory in 2007, and one that may lead to other energy bills being introduced and moving through the legislative process. We can count on the need to play defense in preventing passage of bad environmental bills that always crop up.

The Missouri Sierra Club plans to be fully engaged as the 2008 General Assembly debates and decides on bills affecting the health and environment of Missouri's citizens. Your support for our legislative program is vital to its success.

## Green Building Legislation

Passage of the Easy Connection Act was a breakthrough for the environmental community in 2007. Now is the time to advance other clean and renewable energy proposals, as more and more people understand the need to conserve energy and reduce climate change-causing emissions. Two such legislative proposals are establishing a renewable energy standard and measures to encourage the use of "green" building technologies. There were a number of meetings in the fall of 2007 on green building measures organized by State Senator Jeff Smith. Other legislators are also interested in green building legislative proposals. Other energy bills will likely be introduced as the 2008 Session unfolds.

## State Forestry Law

The Missouri State Forestry Law was enacted in 1946 and is badly outdated, espe-

cially the Forest Cropland Program which is part of the Law. Some of the objectives of a revised State Forestry Law include continuation of a voluntary incentive-based forest protection program, increased use of best management practices on private forests, increased use of trained loggers and foresters in private forest land management, and recognition of the many benefits of well managed and protected forests to Missouri citizens.

A meeting of interested stakeholders was held in June 2007 to provide input to development of a forestry law revision. Based on this, legislation will be drafted and reviewed to revise the forestry law. It may take more than one year to enact this law, but the goal is to bring a proposal to the Missouri Legislature for consideration during the 2008 Session.

## CAFOs/Local Control

Family farmers, local government officials, and environmentalists won a significant victory by blocking efforts to reduce or eliminate local control of large confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs) in 2007. However, we know the issue will be back in 2008. These allies met in June 2007 to review the events of the 2007 Session and plan for legislative proposals and actions for the 2008 Session. Involvement of the Missouri Association of Counties to protect family farmers and the agricultural landscape is a key objective. Building public support for the need to control CAFOs will also be important.

During the 2008 Session local control allies will closely monitor the legislative process, assure good communications among the organizations and individuals involved, and plan appropriate activities such as lobby days and other lobbying tactics. The records of individual legislators will be scrutinized and where appropriate will be used in the 2008 legislative elections in order to hold legislators accountable to their constituents.

## Water Fees and MDNR Budget

The Joint Committee on Restructuring Fees of the Clean Water and Storm Water Programs in the Department of Natural Resources has been meeting and gathering input. Committee Chairman Walt Bivens wants to have a report drafted by the end of 2007. So far there has been limited input from a spectrum of stakeholders. The Committee's report will guide development of a bill and more public involvement is needed.

## Invest in Missouri's Future

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Contributions payable to: \*

- Missouri Sierra Club (not tax deductible)\*
- Sierra Club Foundation, Missouri Chapter\*\*

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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### Mail to:

Missouri Chapter  
7164 Manchester Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63143

**On-line donations:** <http://missouri.sierraclub.org>. Only **non-tax-deductible** donations are available on-line.

Contact Melissa Hope, Chapter Development Director, [Melissa.Hope@sierraclub.org](mailto:Melissa.Hope@sierraclub.org), (816) 806-6965.

\*Contributions to the **Missouri Sierra Club** are **not tax-deductible**; they support our effective citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts in Missouri. [This type of gift is preferred as it provides maximum flexibility for our work in Missouri.](#)

Contributions or gifts to "**The Sierra Club Foundation, Missouri Chapter**" are tax-deductible as charitable contributions as they support grants for public education, research and public interest litigation to further the Club's goals in Missouri.

- Please send me information on how to plan a bequest from my will or living trust.
- I am specifically interested in supporting Missouri Sierra Club with a planned gift.
- Please do not publish my name as a donor.



# Sierra Club's Clean Air & Energy Campaign leads the way in Missouri

By Melissa Hope, Development Director

**O**ur successful Clean Air & Energy Campaign is energizing citizens across the state to demand smart energy solutions that clean up our environment, curb global warming and create jobs. In addition, we are working directly with Missouri's energy industry and the Public Service Commission to encourage the development of clean and responsible energy alternatives for our future. When necessary we use public interest litigation to achieve our goals.

The March 2007 landmark KCP&L agreement is a remarkable example of the Campaign's success! Please help Missouri Sierra Club continue this amazing work by financially supporting our Clean Air & Energy Campaign.

Send your tax-deductible contribution to Missouri Sierra Club, 7160 Manchester Ave, Maplewood, MO 63143. Please make your contribution payable to "Sierra Club Foundation, Missouri Clean Air & Energy

*Norborne coal plant protesters/clean energy advocates, Photo Claus Wawrzinek*



Campaign." Contributions and gifts to The Sierra Club Foundation are tax-deductible as charitable contributions as they support grants for public education, research and public interest litigation necessary to further the Sierra Club's conservation goals.

For questions contact Melissa Hope, Chapter Development Director, melissa.hope@sierraclub.org, 816.806.6965.

## Missouri Can Do Better Than Coal

By Melissa Hope, Development Director

**S**ierra Club assembled a broad coalition of citizen, health, religious, labor, energy and environmental groups from throughout Missouri on November 13, 2007 to announce their opposition to Associated Electric Cooperative Inc's (AECI) planned coal-burning power plant in Norborne, MO and their support for clean and renewable energy sources for Missouri's future. The announcement preceded a public hearing being held by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) in which many participants testified.

COALITION: •Concerned Citizens of Carroll County •United Steel Workers •Blue Green Alliance •Columbia Climate Change Coalition •Burroughs Audubon •Citizens for Environmental Action •Concerned Citizens of Platte County •Sustainable Sanctuary Coalition of Kansas City •True Blue Women

•Sierra Club •Missourians for Safe Energy •Missouri Coalition for the Environment •The American Lung Association •Physicians for Social Responsibility.

If you know of a group that would like to join the coalition, please contact Melissa Hope, 816.806.6965, melissa.hope@sierraclub.org.

The groups joined forces to demonstrate their support for Missouri's Clean Energy Future and explain why a massive coal plant proposed for Missouri is not in the long-term best interests of the health of the state's citizens, the state's economy, and its environment.

*With the addition of two coal plants currently under construction and the Norborne plant, Missouri's CO2 emissions will be up 65% from 1990. Missouri gets 86% of its electricity from burning coal, among the highest percentage in the nation.*

In addition to thousands of tons of toxic ozone and smog pollution, the plant would emit 6.8 million tons of global warming causing carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) per year. That's over 340 million tons over the next 50 years, the likely lifespan of the facility. The CO<sub>2</sub> emitted by the plant each year is the equivalent of adding nearly 1.2 million new cars onto the state's highways.

"Coal-fired power plants emit very high volumes of pollutants that are leading causes of respiratory and cardiovascular disease," said Dr. Michael McCally, executive director for Physicians for Social Responsibility. "Not only do these pollutants cause significant harm to the lungs and heart during prolonged exposure, they have an immediate effect on children, the elderly and those with respiratory disease. Residents of Missouri would not be immune to these pollutants."

After the landmark United States Supreme Court decision in April declaring global warming pollution is harmful to our health and the environment the state has an obligation to reject the Norborne coal plant. "We are asking the state to follow the lead of

*MO Can Do Better continued on pg. 6...*

Outings continued from pg. 11....

lunch, work gloves, and outdoor hand tools.  
Steve Hassler, 913-707-3296, hassler@planetkc.com

Mar 8 (Sat) LaBenite Park Trail Maintenance, Sugar Creek, MO Eileen McManus , 816-523-7823 eileen4250@sbcglobal.net

Mar 14-16 (Fri-Sun) Backpacking in the Irish Wilderness, Wilderness, MO Spend the weekend before St. Patty's day backpacking in this scenic wilderness area near the Eleven Point River . A great trip for beginners. \$10 donation requested. Dave Patton, 816-461-6091 davedahiker@yahoo.com

Mar 28-30 (Fri-Sun) Backpacking Trip to Richland Creek Wilderness, Dickey Junction, AR. \$10 donation requested Paul Gross , 816-228-6563 wildwoodp@hotmail.com

## White River Group

<http://missouri.sierraclub.org/wr>

Beginning in January, White River Group will begin offering an outing each month. At press time, nothing had been scheduled, but here's what you can look forward to:

- A day building trail along the lower Buffalo River in Arkansas in January or February. We'll hook up with master trailer builder Ken Smith on one of his Saturday work days.
- A trip to Tom Aley's Ozark Underground Lab near Protem.
- Hikes on Missouri and Arkansas trails.
- An outing to the new Valley Water Mill Park in Springfield to work in our rain garden and hike the trails.

- Day and overnight floats on Missouri and Arkansas streams.

For details, check our Web site, watch your e-mails (if you're on the Sierra Club listserv) or call Jennifer Ailor at 417 581-4018.

## Know Your Sierra Club - Council of Club Leaders

By Caroline Pufalt

We know the Sierra Club from the ground up. We read the local newsletter, attend a local outing, learn about state legislative issues and gather information on national environmental issues to help out at that level. We vote for group and chapter volunteer leaders in Missouri. We all have the option of voting for the Club's National Board of Directors too.

But the Club has 750,000 some members and it operates on the national, regional and even international scene. There are campaigns, committees and task forces that fall between the national and local level. How do we all communicate, make decisions and take action? Sometimes it is not easy, but one entity that helps is called the Council of Club leaders.

Briefly the Council of Club Leaders (CCL) is made up of a representative from each chapter in the Sierra Club and a member from the Sierra Club Student Coalition. The CCL functions as the official communication link between the chapters and the Club's National Board of Directors. The CCL meets once a year, usually in

September in San Francisco in a joint session with the National Board of Directors.

In addition to meeting with the Board of Directors the CCL meets separately and considers a variety of measures affecting chapters and groups as well as national level issues within the Club.

Each chapter selects a delegate to attend CCL, it is often but not always the chapter chair. Our chapter chair, Jim Turner is our delegate. But Jim's schedule kept him from attending this year and instead, Cheryl Hammond, chapter executive committee member, attended for the Missouri chapter.

It was at the Sept 2007 CCL meeting that the Missouri chapter's resolution regarding Sustainable Life Choices was adopted. See page 1 for article re sustainable living. Evaluating resolutions regarding conservation related issues is only one task the CCL completes. It also considers issues regarding Club finances at the national and local level. For example it might advise Club staff on what tools would help local level treasurers. It advocates for improvements in technology and communications to address chapter and group needs. It helps resolve problems that arise. The CCL advises the National Board of Directors on Club operations and direction.

To learn more about the CCL, visit their website at: <http://clubhouse.sierraclub.org/people/committees/council/>

## REMINDER Vote in Sierra Club's 2008 Board of Directors Election.

Look for your ballot in March, due via mail or email April 21, 2008.

The Missouri Chapter Executive Committee recommends a vote for Lane Boldman, Jim Dougherty, Jerry Sutherland and David Scott.



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First Affirmative Financial Network, LLC is an independent Registered Investment Advisor registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Jim Horlacher is an Investment Advisory Representative of First Affirmative Financial Network.

*Outings continued from Pg. 12...*

Feb, 9-10, Sat-Sun: Backpack trip to an undisclosed location. Trip is limited to 10 experienced winter hikers. Bob Gestel (636) 296-8975, or [rgestel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rgestel@sbcglobal.net) Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352, or [lonebuffalo@earthlink.net](mailto:lonebuffalo@earthlink.net)

Feb 9-10, Sat-Sun: Escape the bane of winter confinement and help restore Washington State Park glades! PLUS, bonfires will keep you warm. Glades are unique ecosystems with an abundance of botanical diversity. The encroaching Eastern red cedar trees are being cut down because they shade out pre-existing native grasses and wildflowers. The Sierrans will gather the wood in piles and make bonfires. Come one day or both. Spend Sat. night in a cabin in the park. Contact Nathan for more info. (314) 973-4280, or [nzenser@sial.com](mailto:nzenser@sial.com)

Feb 10, Sun: Day hike on the Lewis & Clark Trail. Toni Armstrong, (314) 434-2072.

Feb 16, Sat: 9 rocky and hilly miles at Meramec State Park may be the perfect winter outing. For information contact Margot Kindley at (636) 458-4063, or [margot107@prodigy.net](mailto:margot107@prodigy.net).

Feb 17, Sun: Day hike at Bell Mt. We will do a car shuttle to make this a thru hike. We will then hike to the summit to take in the fantastic view. Our hike will start at the upper parking lot. Wear sturdy foot wear extra warm clothes and rain gear. Bring lunch and water. Bob Gestel (636) 296-8975, or [rgestel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rgestel@sbcglobal.net) Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352, or [lonebuffalo@earthlink.net](mailto:lonebuffalo@earthlink.net)

Feb 20, Wed: Let's look for elk and bison at Lone Elk Park. On the 3.25-mile White Bison Trail we may also see some deer and other wildlife. For information contact Margot Kindley at (636) 458-4063, or [margot107@prodigy.net](mailto:margot107@prodigy.net).

Feb, 24, Sun: Day hike Cuivre River State Park. We will hike the Cuivre River Trail and Frenchman's Bluff Trail. Bring lunch, water and raingear. Wear sturdy foot wear. Bob Gestel (636) 296-8975, or [rgestel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rgestel@sbcglobal.net) Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352, or [lonebuffalo@earthlink.net](mailto:lonebuffalo@earthlink.net)

Mar 1, Sat: Rated as one of the most beautiful hikes in the St. Louis area, the 8.2-mile Lewis and Clark Trail is attractive in any season and may be in a pre-spring mood. For information contact Margot Kindley at (636) 458-4063, or [margot107@prodigy.net](mailto:margot107@prodigy.net).

Jan 4 (Fri) Ice Skating. Join us for a night of Ice Skating in Jefferson City followed by dinner at a local restaurant. We will meet in the early evening to carpool to Jefferson City. Contact Julie Sears, (573) 817-7595, or

[ozprevention188@yahoo.com](mailto:ozprevention188@yahoo.com).

Jan 27 (Sun) Hike at Little Dixie. Little Dixie Conservation Area near Millersburg is a nice place to hike with a pretty lake. We will do an afternoon hike. Contact Greg Leonard, (573) 443-8263, or [greg.leonard@missouri.sierraclub.org](mailto:greg.leonard@missouri.sierraclub.org).

Mar 15 (Sat) Park Clean Up. We will clean up Indian Hills Park off of Clark Lane. Last year we got 7 big bags of trash and 4 bags of recyclables. Contact Greg Leonard, (573) 443-8263, or [greg.leonard@missouri.sierraclub.org](mailto:greg.leonard@missouri.sierraclub.org).

Mid to Late March, Wildflower Walks. Join Randal Clark for his annual Spring Wildflower Walks. Learn about wildflower identification while taking a walk on the wild side. Dinner after the hike at a local restaurant. Meet each Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at the Devil's Icebox parking lot of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park. Contact Randal Clark for starting date and more information, (573) 875-0514.

Mar 22 (Sat) Bike Ride. Spring is here and time to get the bikes out. Let's take an afternoon ride on the Katy trail starting at Coopers Landing. Nice views of the river and the bluffs are a certainty. Possible dinner at the Thai restaurant afterwards. Contact Greg Leonard, (573) 443-8263, or [greg.leonard@missouri.sierraclub.org](mailto:greg.leonard@missouri.sierraclub.org)

## Osage Group

<http://missouri.sierraclub.org/osage>

Jan 4 (Fri) Ice Skating. Join us for a night of Ice Skating in Jefferson City followed by dinner at a local restaurant. We will meet in the early evening to carpool to Jefferson City. Contact Julie Sears, (573) 817-7595, or [ozprevention188@yahoo.com](mailto:ozprevention188@yahoo.com).

Jan 27 (Sun) Hike at Little Dixie. Little Dixie Conservation Area near Millersburg is a nice place to hike with a pretty lake. We will do an afternoon hike. Contact Greg Leonard, (573) 443-8263, or [greg.leonard@missouri.sierraclub.org](mailto:greg.leonard@missouri.sierraclub.org).

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## Thomas Hart Benton Group

<http://missouri.sierraclub.org/thb/outings>

Jan 5 (Sat) Monkey Mountain Day Hike and Geocaching Adventure, Grain Valley, MO

We'll help you work off some of that Holiday candy on this hike/high tech scavenger hunt in Eastern Jackson County. Great fun for kids too. \$5 donation requested. Dave Patton, 816-461-6091 [davedahiker@yahoo.com](mailto:davedahiker@yahoo.com)

Jan 19 (Sat) Day Hiking at Fleming Park, Jackson County, MO

Enjoy the crisp winter air as we hike and explore some off trail ravines and woodlands. Bring your lunch, and we'll provide the hot chocolate. \$5 donation requested. Paul Gross, 816-228-6563 [wildwoodp@hotmail.com](mailto:wildwoodp@hotmail.com)

Please check Thomas Hart Benton Group's website for updated outings. [www.missouri.sierraclub.org/thb](http://www.missouri.sierraclub.org/thb)

Feb 9 (Sat) Blue River Glades Trail Maintenance, Kansas City, MO. Steve Hassler, 913-707-3296, [hassler@planetkc.com](mailto:hassler@planetkc.com)

Feb 10 (Sun) Perry Lake Day Hike, Perry, KS An extended day hike along Perry Lake Trail in a winter setting \$5 donation requested. Bob Wilshire 913-384-6645 [rjwilshire@kc.rr.com](mailto:rjwilshire@kc.rr.com)

Feb 16 (Sat) LaBenite Park Trail Maintenance, Sugar Creek, MO Dave Patton, 816-461-6091 [davedahiker@yahoo.com](mailto:davedahiker@yahoo.com)

Feb 23 (Sat) Beginner Backpacking Class, Independence, MO Learn backpacking basics in this 5 hour information and hands on class. We'll cover equipment, a section on low budget options, places to go and more. \$5 donation requested. Paul or Melody Gross, 816-228-6563 [wildwoodp@hotmail.com](mailto:wildwoodp@hotmail.com)

Mar 1 (Sat) Perry Lake Trail Maintenance, Perry, KS Join us as we continue our 17-year tradition of maintaining the Perry Lake Trail. Bring a

*Outings continued on pg. 10..*

# MISSOURI CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS

## Eastern Missouri Group

<http://missouri.sierraclub.org/emg/outings.aspx>

For general information about outings call Wayne Miller, (314) 628-9084 .

Jan 1, Tue: Hike in Meramec S.P. will happen again as it has for the last fifteen years. Hike into a beautiful area that the Sierra Club helped to restore. Mostly off trail hiking. Plan for cold weather. Proper clothing and footwear is required. Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352, or [lonebuffalo@earthlink.net](mailto:lonebuffalo@earthlink.net)

Jan 4, Fri: Start the new year right with a 7-8 mile hike from Taum Sauk to Hwy 21 through the St. Francois Mountains. Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, [thisissuzanne@yahoo.com](mailto:thisissuzanne@yahoo.com)

Jan 5-6, Sat-Sun: Our annual winter backpack trip. Where we go will depend on weather and driving conditions. Trip is limited to ten experienced winter hikers. Bob Gestel (636) 296-8975, or [rgestel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rgestel@sbcglobal.net) Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352, or [lonebuffalo@earthlink.net](mailto:lonebuffalo@earthlink.net)

Jan 9, Wed: Day hike on the 5.3 mile Clark Trail in Weldon Spring with beautiful vistas from bluffs overlooking the Missouri River. For information contact Margot Kindley at (636) 458-4063, or [margot107@prodigy.net](mailto:margot107@prodigy.net).

Jan 11, Fri: Stay close to home for our Chubb Trail workout. 7.5 miles past the flint quarries, along the Meramec River, and ending at the new Raptor Center. Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, [thisissuzanne@yahoo.com](mailto:thisissuzanne@yahoo.com)

Jan 12, Sat: Day hike at Washington State Park. We will walk 8 miles through forests, over rocky and hilly terrain and glades, find old CCC buildings and view historic American Indian petroglyphs. For information contact Margot Kindley at (636) 458-4063, or [margot107@prodigy.net](mailto:margot107@prodigy.net)

Jan 12-13, Sat-Sun: Escape the bane of winter confinement and help restore Washington State

In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see [www.sierraclub.org/chapter/forms/](http://www.sierraclub.org/chapter/forms/) or call (415) 9797-5630. Outings cost one dollar and are open to the public. Please call the leader well in advance for details, approval, or if you plan to cancel. No guns, pets, or radios are permitted on trips.

Park glades! PLUS, bonfires will keep you warm. Glades are unique ecosystems with an abundance of botanical diversity. The encroaching Eastern red cedar trees are

being cut down because they shade out pre-existing native grasses and wildflowers. The Sierrans will gather the wood in piles and make bonfires. Come one day or both. Spend Sat. night in a cabin in the park. Contact Nathan for more info. (314) 973-4280, or [nzenser@sial.com](mailto:nzenser@sial.com)

Jan 18, Fri: Annual eagle hike and white pelicans, too. About 7-8 miles of hiking at Pere Marquette with a stop after for fish or your other favorite food. Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, [thisissuzanne@yahoo.com](mailto:thisissuzanne@yahoo.com)

Jan 19, Sat: Return of the classic Marble Creek to Crane Lake hike. Walk along a portion of the Ozark Trail on this 8.5 mile hike; sturdy boots required, fairly challenging; good vista of Crane Lake toward end of hike. Map of route is provided. Option for dinner in Fredericktown after hike. Jim Moody (314) 439-1944 w, or [tsoeh15@yahoo.com](mailto:tsoeh15@yahoo.com)

Jan. 19-20 Sat-Sun: Trail maintenance on the Ozark Trail in the Pioneer Forest. You will need to wear sturdy foot wear and work gloves. Bring rain gear extra warm clothes and two lunches and one breakfast. Common commissary Saturday night. Bob Gestel (636) 296-8975, or [rgestel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rgestel@sbcglobal.net) Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352, or [lonebuffalo@earthlink.net](mailto:lonebuffalo@earthlink.net)

Jan 23, Wed: 7 flat miles on Howell Island in West St. Louis County. Leaves will be gone, and we may spot some wildlife, and muddy patches will be frozen. If the causeway is flooded, we may find an alternate hike. For information contact Margot Kindley at (636) 458-4063, or [margot107@prodigy.net](mailto:margot107@prodigy.net).

Jan 25, Fri: Queeney Park might have snow on our 7 mile zig-zaggy look. Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, [thisissuzanne@yahoo.com](mailto:thisissuzanne@yahoo.com)

Jan 27, Sun: Outings leader training workshop at Powder Valley Nature Center. We invite all current leaders and those wishing to join the ranks to spend the morning and afternoon with us

for this workshop. There will be a small fee to cover copying and refreshment expenses. This workshop is now required by the national club for all local outings leaders once every four years. Wayne Miller, (314) 628-9084, [MillWy@aol.com](mailto:MillWy@aol.com)

Feb 1, Fri: Will the ground hog see his shadow? Will we see ours on our weekly adventure? Call for the surprise location. Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, [thisissuzanne@yahoo.com](mailto:thisissuzanne@yahoo.com)

Feb 2, Sat: Mardi Gras grand parade in Souard. 10 am - 8 pm. Most help needed 2 pm - 8 pm. Join us for a few hours of volunteer work to support the club at one of our most successful fund raisers and have fun doing it. We will be serving Margaritas and Hurricanes on Russell at 9th Street. Volunteers must be 21 or older. Call the office, (314) 644-0890, or Jim Young, (314) 664-9392.

Feb 2, Sat: This 8-9 mile day hike on the Lost Valley Trail in Weldon Spring will lead us along meadows and the scenic meandering Little Femme Osage Creek, perhaps sporting some ice formations. We will hike up some moderately rocky hills and down through open areas on comfortable former country roads. For information contact Margot Kindley at (636) 458-4063 or, [margot107@prodigy.net](mailto:margot107@prodigy.net)

Feb, 2-3, Sat-Sun: Trail maintenance/building on the Ozark Trail or the Brushy Creek Trail in the Pioneer Forest. You will need sturdy foot wear and work gloves. Bring two lunches, one breakfast, water and rain gear. Common commissary Saturday night. Bob Gestel (636) 296-8975, or [rgestel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rgestel@sbcglobal.net) Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352, or [lonebuffalo@earthlink.net](mailto:lonebuffalo@earthlink.net)

Feb 6, Wed: This 4.5 mile day hike in West Tyson Park on the popular Flint Quarry Trail features moderate climbs through cedar woods and a scenic overlook. We will also find a picnic table! For information contact Margot Kindley at (636) 458-4063 or, [margot107@prodigy.net](mailto:margot107@prodigy.net).

Feb 8, Fri: Call for info for our 7-10 mile cold weather hike. Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, [thisissuzanne@yahoo.com](mailto:thisissuzanne@yahoo.com)

*Outings continued on pg. 11*