



Missouri Sierran

One Earth



One Chance

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For the latest updates, visit us on the web: <http://sierraclub.org/missouri>

Sulfur Dioxide Pollution in Missouri

By Gretchen Waddell Barwick

Sulfur dioxide (SO₂) air pollution causes breathing problems in as few as five minutes. SO₂ is particularly dangerous to children, the elderly and people with breathing or heart disorders.

SO₂ pollution from Ameren's massive coal fired power plan in Labadie is harming the respiratory health of people in Franklin and St. Charles Counties. The air quality fails to meet the SO₂ standards of the Clean Air Act. Over 20,000 people live in the area where air quality is the worst. Katy Trail State Park and Weldon Spring Conservation Area are in this area too.

Unfortunately, the Missouri Department

SO₂ Pollution continued on page 2



On September 23, Sierrans gathered on the Katy Trail in Defiance in opposition to SO₂ pollution from the Labadie coal fired power plant. Pictured from left to right: Leslie Limberg, Patricia Schuba, Kathy Holloway, Sara Edgar, Petra Haynes, Demi Haynes, Gloria Sennert, Juli Viel, Rajiv Ravulapati, Ken Sennert, Brittney Stephenson, Jan Brennan, Amy White, Michael Berg. Photo by Gretchen Waddell Barwick

Clean Power Plan – Safeguarding Missouri's Climate Future

By Andy Knott, Beyond Coal Campaign Senior Representative

In August, the US EPA released its historic Clean Power Plan (CPP) that will reduce climate-disrupting carbon pollution from existing power plants in the US by 32% by 2030. Each state is given an emissions reduction target depending on its level of carbon emissions, which is related to a state's dependence on dirty coal. Missouri's target reduction is approximately 30%.

Emission reductions will be phased in between 2020 and 2030. The CPP includes incentives for earlier reductions for energy efficiency projects in low-income communities and for renewable energy. States are also given flexibility in designing a plan to meet its target. Missouri DNR will be developing the state's plan over the next several months.

Coal plant retirements secured under the Sierra Club's Beyond Coal Campaign along with Missouri's

Renewable Energy Standard and Energy Efficiency Investment Act mean that Missouri is well on its way to meeting the CPP. Clean energy investments spurred by the CPP will continue to grow Missouri jobs in the renewables and efficiency sectors. This will also reduce smog, fine particle and sulfur pollution from coal plants, meaning fewer asthma attacks, heart attacks and longer lives for Missourians.

Unfortunately, Missouri Attorney General (AG) Chris Koster filed a lawsuit against EPA to overturn the

CPP. This short-sighted action at the behest of coal polluters would mean more pollution and fewer clean energy jobs for Missourians. Please contact AG Koster at 573-751-3321 or attorney.general@ago.mo.gov and ask him to stop this assault on public health and clean energy.



John Delurey, Sierra Club organizer, and Brandon Wilson of St. Louis join eight other Sierra Club leaders on the Missouri River in floating thousands of petitions to Governor Nixon's office in support of the Clean Power Plan. Photo by Don Shrubshell.

Report on the Council of Club Leaders

By Sarah Willey, Missouri Representative to the CCL

Every year, the National Board of Directors holds a joint meeting with the Council of Club Leaders (CCL). This body consists of one delegate from each Sierra Club Chapter and has a 7-person Executive Committee (ExCom) that is voted on by the CCL. The CCL delegates who attend get to hear from National staff and volunteers about resources and upcoming opportunities to bring back to the Chapter, interact with Chapter leaders from across the country and share ideas. The trip coincides with the Annual Awards Banquet as well.

This was my second year representing Missouri, and it was a fantastic meeting. We have some truly inspiring leaders at the helm of this Club. The Board has recently approved our first-ever Strategic Plan, which is available to view on the Clubhouse website. It highlights diversity, equity, and inclusion in our environmental movement. 2016 will bring us a number of new digital platforms to help extend our reach and streamline our work. I also got to watch Missouri's own Maxine Lipeles accept a William O. Douglas award, and share with the other attendees the great work we've been doing here in Missouri. Congratulations Maxine!

SO₂ Pollution *continued from page 1*

of Natural Resources (DNR) is recommending that no action be taken to reduce the air pollution. The Sierra Club is now asking the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to refuse to follow the DNR recommendation.

On the other side of the state, Veolia Energy in Kansas City is emitting hazardous levels of sulfur dioxide air pollution, impacting 65,000 residents.

The DNR is requiring Veolia to reduce their sulfur dioxide emissions by 95% by January 1, 2017.

For more information or to get involved contact the Sierra Club office at 800-628-5333 or email Missouri.Chapter@sierraclub.org.

The Missouri Sierran is published two times a year by the Missouri Chapter of the Sierra Club. Annual dues of Sierra Club members pay for subscription to this publication. Non-members may subscribe for \$15 per year.

Items for publication: Contact our Chapter Office via E-mail at Missouri.Chapter@sierraclub.org or phone 314-644-1011 or 800-628-5333, prior to sending, for information on how to submit articles.

The editors reserve the right to edit articles! Material may be edited for length, content, or clarity. It is our job to help you communicate. If you have strong creative ownership of your writing, and wish to review your edited article before



publication, consider your deadline 10 days prior to the published deadline. With notice, we will be happy to work with you.

Reproduction quality photographs (prints) or artwork are dearly welcome. Please send us photos.

Submissions received after the deadline are subject to the possibility they won't appear in the issue: you will feel bad and we will feel bad.

All submissions must include name, E-mail or street address, and phone number of the author. Only your name will be printed in the newsletter. If you want your submission returned (including your CD), please include a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope.

Chapter Executive Committee AT LARGE

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Kansas City:

<https://www.facebook.com/THBSierraClub/>

St. Louis:

<https://www.facebook.com/EMGConnector/>

Springfield:

<https://www.facebook.com/SierraClubWhiteRiverGroup/>

Watch your mail for the
Sierra Club Missouri Chapter
End of Year Appeal -
Please give generously!



You can send a check to:
Sierra Club Missouri Chapter
2818 Sutton Blvd.,
St. Louis, MO 63143.

Trans-Pacific Partnership bad for Environment

By Jim Turner, MO Chapter Chair

Last March in Kansas City, (pictured to the right) a coalition of concerned citizens met to discuss the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). By next June, Congress will vote on the TPP. Its alleged environmental protections are of doubtful enforceability. Worse, it would include Investor-State Dispute Settlement provisions; international corporate-dominated tribunals could sanction us and any nation which did not scale back environmental and labor protections. This could compel the USA to approve larger coal exports to other nations – despite



carbon-driven climate disruption. Defeating TPP will be a big step in restraining corporate excesses that threaten Earth's habitability. Please watch <http://www.sierraclub.org/trade/>

trans-pacific-partnership and Club emails for cues: phone Congress, write to newspaper editors, and Like our Facebook postings.



State Representative Bill Otto addresses the crowd of Sierra Club and Missouri Clean Energy Coalition members on October 14th in St. Louis for the National Climate Day of Action. At the event, participants delivered over 2,000 petitions in support of climate action to Governor Nixon's office.



On August 26 Sierra Club members and supporters met in Springfield with representatives of Empire Electric utility to learn about solar rebates. Photo by James Radke.



A team of Missouri climate activists met with Sen. McCaskill at her Washington DC office on Sept. 10 to ask for her support for the EPA Clean Power Plan. The team includes (from the left) Gale Thackrey - Interfaith Power and Light, John Hickey - MO Sierra Club staff, Jennifer Conner - Sierra Club White River Group ExCom, Senator Claire McCaskill, Gerald Nickelson - IUE-CWA, Anne McGregor - Sierra Club Thomas Hart Benton Group ExCom, Adam Stipanovich - Missouri Sun Solar.

MISSOURI CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS

Eastern Missouri Group
<http://www.sierraclub.org/missouri/eastern-missouri/outings>

Sierra Club Outings are open to the public. A dollar per person donation is requested. No guns or pets are allowed on trips. Use of audible electronics must be approved by the leader. Participants must sign a liability release. Outings Leaders are volunteers. Outings officially start at the trailhead or river access. Carpooling is encouraged but not the responsibility of the Leader. For more information contact the Leader of a particular Outing or for general information contact Doug Melville, (636) 288-1055 or douglas.k.melville@gmail.com. All are encouraged to check for recent outing additions on our EMG website, emg@missouri.sierraclub.org CST 2087766-40

Dec 12 (Sat) Day hike at Columbia Bottom Conservation Area. We will do either the 3-mile River's Edge Trail or the 4.75-mile Confluence trail depending on the weather or the interest. Call Jim Rhodes at (314) 821-7758 for more information.

Dec 16 (Wed) Deadline for EMG outings from February 15 to April 30. Contact Doug Melville, (636) 288-1055 or douglas.k.melville@gmail.com

Dec 16 (Wed) Wakonda State Park. This park is located just West of Quincy, Illinois and South of La Grange, Missouri. We will be walking around two lakes (Agate Lake and Jasper Lake) in this water world state park. For this hike, we will be walking at lake level which makes for an easy hike. Afterwards we will be dining in Hannibal, MO for a special holiday outing. Contact Doug Melville, (636) 288-1055 or douglas.k.melville@gmail.com for further information.

Dec 18 (Fri) Weekly hike, 6-9 miles. Time and location TBD For information contact thisissuzanne@yahoo.com

Dec 19 (Sat) Holiday party and pot-luck dinner. Bring your beverage and a dish to share. Call for time and directions. Barb Wall, (636) 529-0477, Marilyn

To participate in 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 before the outing, please see:
<http://sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms> or call 415-977-5528.
 In the interest of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. CST 2087766-40

Harlan, (314) 966-8797, or Ann Eggebrecht, (314) 725-1560.

Dec 19-20 (Sat-Sun) Two day backpack trip (approximately 20 miles) on a section (to be determined) of the Missouri Ozark Trail, contingent on weather conditions. Jim Wilson, (636) 677-4909 home, (636) 375-2136 cell.

Dec 30 (Wed) Forest Park, St. Louis, MO. This week we can take a walk in Forest Park before celebrating the New Year. We will be starting at the Visitor and Education Center and hike around the circumference of the park ending with lunch at the Boat House restaurant. Contact Doug Melville, (636) 288-1055 or douglas.k.melville@gmail.com for further information.

6-8 mile weekly hike. Contact thisissuzanne@yahoo.com

Jan 16-17 (Sat-Sun) Winter backpack. In the tradition established by Bob Gestel, if the weather cooperates, there will be a short 4-8 mile backpack. It will be within 100 miles of St. Louis in a place where fires are permitted. Some cross country will be involved. Exact destination to be determined later. George Behrens, (314) 821-0247.

Jan 22 (Fri) Day hike. Hike with us close to St. Louis. Contact thisissuzanne@yahoo.com

Jan 27 (Wed) Engelmann Woods Natural Area & Turkey Ridge Trail (Rockwoods Reservation). Engelmann Woods contains one for the few remaining



October Ozark Trailbuilding. Photo by Becky Denney

old growth forests that date from the early 1800's. The trail is a short walk back in time to when these trees covered most of the St. Louis area. After our 2-mile walk, we will journey back to Rockwoods Reservation to hike the Turkey Ridge Trail for a second two mile hike through the woods. Contact Doug Melville, (636) 288-1055 or douglas.k.melville@gmail.com for further information.

Jan 8 (Fri) Day hike. Walk off those holiday goodies on our weekly hike. Contact thisissuzanne@yahoo.com

Jan 13 (Wed) Green Rock Trail. This hike will include Rockwoods Reservation, Greensfelder County Park and Rockwoods Range. This will be a push for us but when we go at our usual pace, this will be a great walk through the hills in Eureka. This 10-mile trail will be what we need after our Christmas party from the previous week. Contact Doug Melville, (636) 288-1055 or douglas.k.melville@gmail.com for further information.

Jan 29 (Fri) Day hike. Join us for a 6-9 mile hike depending on the weather. Contact thisissuzanne@yahoo.com

Feb 5 (Fri) Day hike. After ground hog day hike to see what was predicted. Contact thisissuzanne@yahoo.com

Feb 6 (Sat) 7-9 p.m. Fourteenth Annual Winter Sing Along. A group of musically dubious Sierrans fulfill their musical destiny. Linda and Betsey have agreed to give it all they have on guitar and harmonica. Songs range from early Dylan to old Stephen Foster. Attendees are welcome to bring refreshments. At the

Sierra Club office at 2818 Sutton Blvd. in Maplewood. For more information or in case of inclement weather (snow or ice) cancellation call George Behrens at (314) 821-0247.

Feb 10 (Wed) Lost Valley Trail. This hike will follow along the little Femme Osage Creek, cross a clear spring and then trek through the woods in St. Charles County. We should be able to make a nice 8-mile loop in this natural area located just off Route 94. Contact Doug Melville, (636) 288-1055 or douglas.k.melville@gmail.com for further information.

Feb 12 (Fri) Day hike. A hike in honor of Abe Lincoln. Contact thisissuzanne@yahoo.com

Feb 19 (Fri) Day hike. Will we have a snow hike? Contact thisissuzanne@yahoo.com

Feb 20-21 (Sat-Sun) Day hikes and camping. Two one day hikes with campground camping Sat night. Hikes will be 6-10 miles each. Destination will be within 110-miles of St. Louis. George Behrens, (314) 821-0247.

Feb 24 (Wed) Trail of Tears State Park (Peewah Trail), Cape Girardeau, MO. This will be our second trip to the park as we were just there in May of 2015. This time we will not have the foliage blocking our view of the Mississippi River from the bluffs. Bring your camera or have your phone to get some great shots. Contact Doug Melville, (636) 288-1055 or douglas.k.melville@gmail.com for further information.

Feb 26 (Fri) Day hike. Join us for our weekly 6-8 mile hike. Contact thisissuzanne@yahoo.com

Thomas Hart Benton Group

<https://www.sierraclub.org/missouri/thomas-hart-benton/outings>

The Thomas Hart Benton Group has all its outings on Meetup.com. You can find the latest scheduled outings at

Meetup.com/KC-Sierra-Club-Outings/

Dec 11 - 13 (Fri - Sun) 2015 Missouri Wilderness Backpack Series: Devil's Backbone Wilderness

Backpack the Devil's Backbone Wilderness. 2 nights. More details on Meetup. \$10 donation requested.

Dec 19 - 21 (Sat - Mon) 2015 Missouri Wilderness Backpack Series: Paddy Creek Wilderness

Backpack the Paddy Creek Wilderness. 2

nights. More details on Meetup. \$10 donation requested.

Osage Group

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

Dec 12 (Sat) 10 a.m. Hike and Look for Eagles at "Eagle Bluffs Wild Life Area"

This is an easy hike on the Katy Trail from the Providence Conservation Access north 1.5 miles to a natural arch and back (3 miles round trip). Those that want a more difficult hike and a better view of possible eagles can get access by climbing a short steep trail to an observation deck. After the hike, we will climb into our vehicles and drive some of the gravel roads to look for additional eagle sightings, taking short walks in the process. A liability waiver is required to be signed before taking the hike. To find Providence access, take Route K south to Smith Hatchery Road (Old Plank Road), take a right and then another right on "Old Plank Road" and follow it down the hill to the access on Perche Creek. Remember to bring binoculars if you have them. Call Tom Lata at (573) 489-2302 for additional information.

White River Group

<http://www.sierraclub.org/missouri/white-river>

The White River Group currently has no outings listed. Please check the website for the latest updates.



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In October 97 people participated in a successful Ozark Trail week, with work completed on the Current River Trail, the Ozark Trail, the Laxton Hollow Trail and the Brushy Creek Trail.

Photo by Becky Denny.

Annual Missouri Chapter Sierra Club Ballot Executive Committee Ballot Profiles

James Harmon



Disorder posed by our changing climate is the encompassing and urgent challenge we face. Sierra Club's multi-faceted agenda addresses global warming in diverse spheres. It promotes appreciation, care, and protection of nature. I hope to continue advancing this agenda in a 3rd term on Chapter Executive Committee.

Highlights from my 2014-2015 Sierra Club efforts include:

- Facilitating the August-September 2014 display in Kirksville Arts Association Gallery of a traveling photography exhibition commemorating Fifty Years of the Wilderness Act.

Organization in Kirksville of:

- A visit by the Chapter Director to this Wilderness Exhibition—coordinated with **James Harmon** *continued on page 7*

Jennifer Conner



Jennifer's degree in conservation and wildlife management spurred her into an environmental protection career with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. An environmental specialist with the department's hazardous waste enforcement unit, Jennifer was responsible for bringing environmental violators back into compliance and assessing appropriate penalties. Jennifer also served as district coordinator for the Soil and Water Conservation Program.

Jennifer has hiked the Grand Canyon rim-to-rim, spent a week backpacking through Hercules Glades wilderness, and kayaked 100 miles down the the nation's first national river, the Buffalo River.

Jennifer's vision for the White River Group includes both expanding citizen activism for local environmental issues and emphasizing the importance of preserving local wilderness areas. In an effort to make her vision a reality, Jennifer created the Sierra Club's White River Group Facebook page which boasts more than 394 "likes" and lots of fan engagement. The page has provided a grassroots platform for organizing and informing citizens of environmental issues and events in southwest Missouri.

Jennifer has been instrumental in educating the public on City Utilities proposed coal ash landfill In Springfield. She has made presentations to the City Council and City Utilities board about the initial site investigation and the science behind why the site is unacceptable for a toxic landfill.

Jennifer embraces the adage: "Knowledge is power." She believes the more citizens know about a wilderness area and the more opportunities they have to experience it firsthand, the more likely they will be to protect our wild places.

Jennifer is excited and honored to have the opportunity to represent Sierra Club members for the State Of Missouri!

Henry Robertson



I'm running for my 6th term on Excom. I serve as Chapter Energy Chair due to my day job as an attorney with Great Rivers Environmental Law Center in St. Louis, where I fight the uphill battle of getting our electric utilities to do more energy efficiency programs for their customers and more renewable energy.

Thanks to our Chapter director and a growing staff provided by the Chapter and the national Beyond Coal Campaign, we have become more visible and active around the state. This is a great opportunity to accomplish things on an unprecedented scale.

We always have lots of issues on our plate—pushing for clean energy, preserving wilderness areas and protecting the Current, Jacks Fork and Eleven Point. And we still need active volunteers to get the word out about a sustainable future and the EPA's Clean Power Plan. Communicating, above all, is what we need to do. My big interest at present is in finding a way to get the general public to care about global warming.

I welcome the opportunity to continue representing you on the Chapter Executive Committee.

Jim Turner



As Chair of Missouri Chapter over the past six years, I have supported enlarging our staff to push for reducing coal use and for ramping up reliance on renewable energy and efficiencies. Recently I served on Governor Nixon's Steering Committee for a Comprehensive Energy Policy, where we saw that Missouri's energy technologies can be updated in many ways to help America reduce its bad climate impact.

I also have been happy to support our Chapter's volunteers and staff in ongoing vigilance and work with allies to protect Missouri's streams and groundwater. And continued vigor of our Outings programs nurtures our collective motivation to protect outdoor Missouri.

Missouri's cities are important laboratories for enabling human community to survive in a stressed world. Each of our Groups, with assistance of Chapter staff, is engaged in important efforts. Our Chapter Executive Committee also helps to integrates our Groups' work with our state-level work.

Sarah (Merida) Willey



My name is Sarah Willey, and I am running for re-election to the Missouri Executive Committee. Over the past two years I have served as both Fundraising Chair and Council of Club Leaders (CCL) Delegate. I have enjoyed being a part of our Chapter's leadership, and representing us at National. I also currently serve on the National Chapter Capacity team and was recently elected to the CCL ExCom. As a member of the Missouri ExCom, I will continue to work hard to promote our state, and to help us grow. My priorities for the next few years include increasing our membership and diversity and (re)establishing a state awards program.

Outside of the Sierra Club, I am finishing my master's degree in Nonprofit Management and Washington University and working at the Siteman Cancer Center. In my free time I reading, yoga, running, hiking, and trying out different outdoor sports.

Missouri Chapter ExCom Ballot instructions:

Carefully read ALL instructions before completing or mailing your ballot.

Ballots must be received by 5 p.m. on Monday, January 4, 2016 in order to be counted.

1) You must use this ballot with your address label attached to the back. The ballot portion will be detached from the label portion before counting. Ballots without address labels will not be counted.

2) Vote for up to five (5) candidates. Indicate your choices by marking an X through the box to the left of the candidate's name. If yours is a joint membership, two (2) members may vote, each in their own column.

3) Put the ballot into an envelope, write **BALLOT** on the outside, and mail it to:

**Elections Committee
Sierra Club
2818 Sutton Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63143**

4) For questions, including the date, time, and place of ballot counting, please call the Sierra Club office at 314-644-1011 or 800-628-5333.

BALLOT

Missouri Chapter ExCom Ballot

Household voter 1

- () Jennifer Conner
 () James Harmon
 () Henry Robertson
 () Jim Turner
 () Sarah (Merida) Willey
 ()
 (write-in candidate above)

Household voter 2

- () Jennifer Conner
 () James Harmon
 () Henry Robertson
 () Jim Turner
 () Sarah (Merida) Willey
 ()
 (write-in candidate above)



*From left to right: Gretchen Waddell Barwick, Ed Schmidt, Fran Glass, Scott Woodbury, Penny Holtzmann, Caroline Pufalt, Mary Gibbons and Kathy Bildner planting the new native garden at Maple and Sutton in Maplewood.
Photo by John DeLurey.*

James Harmon continued on page 7

tours, his multiple presentations and media coverage.

- Two Kirksville “in-district” lobbying sessions—February & July 2015—with State Representative Nate Walker.

Environmentalism is amongst my lifelong pursuits. Currently, I am engaged with three Rotary Action Groups in the Environmental Fellowship of Rotarians. One group focuses on Population Growth & Sustainable Development; another on efforts to Reuse, Reduce, and Recycle materials—thus slowing inputs aggravating climate disruption; and a third group for Environmental Sustainability focuses on mitigating negative climate change effects.

Some political, social, economic, and environmental problems are interrelated and ultimately issues of fairness and justice. One goal for my future work with the Executive Committee is to encourage solidarity amongst grassroots groups promoting efforts and interests shared by Sierra Club.

Another goal is to revive the Missouri Chapter Solar Committee. Solely economic considerations lend urgency to its task—considering the 30% federal tax credit for private solar installations scheduled to expire after 2016.



*On October 27, members of the St. Louis Energy coalition tour the Urban Chestnut Brewery after learning about the importance of St. Louis County adopting modern residential energy efficiency building codes.
Photo by Bing Nan.*

2015 White River Group Executive Committee Election

If you are a member of the White River Group you are eligible to vote in the group Executive Committee election. All White River Group members have the word “WRG” on their mailing address label. This election will be held online - you can learn about the candi-

dates and vote at this link :

<http://tiny.cc/WRG2015>.

Instructions appear before the ballot. You must vote before 11:59 pm on December 31, 2015. If you have questions, please contact Elections Committee chair Judy Dasovich at jdaso@aol.com.



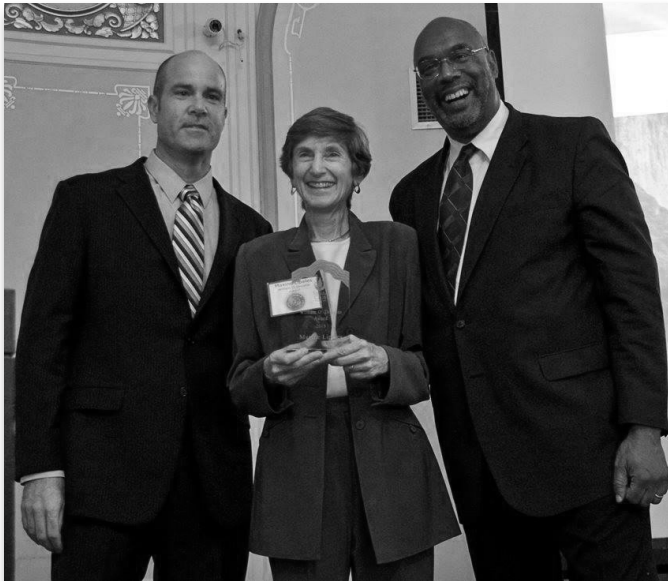
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Maxine Lipeles, director of the Washington University Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic received the Sierra Club's William O. Douglas Award. She has been part of the Sierra Club's Environmental Law Program for more than 15 years, playing a key role in the Club's efforts to shut down coal-fired power plants, both in the Midwest and nationally. The award was presented at a ceremony in San Francisco on September 12 by Michael Brune, the Sierra Club Executive Director (on left) and Aaron Mair, Sierra Club Board President (on right).

Photo by Chris Applegate.

INSIDE

- Sulfur Dioxide Pollution in Missouri 1
- Clean Power Plan – Safeguarding Missouri's
Climate Future 1
- Report on the Council of Club Leaders 2
- Trans-Pacific Partnership bad for Environment 3
- Sierra Club outings 4, 5
- 2015 Missouri Chapter ExCom Ballot Profiles .6
- 2015 Missouri Chapter ExCom Ballot6
- 2015 White River Group Executive
Committee Election 7
- Sierra Club award 8