



Missouri Sierran

One Earth



One Chance

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

Vote for Sierra Club-endorsed candidates on August 2!

By John Hickey, Sierra Club Missouri Chapter Director

The Missouri Sierra Club has endorsed two incumbent Congressmen for re-election in the August 2 Primary.

Congressman Lacy Clay represents the First Congressional District in the St. Louis area. Representative Clay has earned a lifetime score of 88% on the League of Conservation Voters (LCV) Scorecard, and has proven to be a consistent advocate for environmental protection and clean energy. On Earth Day (April 22), Congressman Clay joined the Sierra Club on the roof of the new Ikea store



On April 22 the Sierra Club joined Congressman Clay for a celebration of the Paris Climate agreement and the St. Louis Ikea store's commitment to renewable energy. From Left to Right: Lissa Johnson, marketing manager of St. Louis Ikea store, Natalie Lucas, Executive Director for Care About Climate, Congressman Bill "Lacy" Clay, Missouri Botanical Garden President Emeritus Peter Raven, Chapter Director John Hickey



Congressman Emanuel Cleaver and Sierra Club members show their commitment to clean air. From Left to Right: Eileen McManus, Anne McGregot, John Kurmann, Claus Wawrzinek, Congressman Cleaver, Winston Apple, John Delurey

to inspect the largest rooftop solar array in the state.

Congressman Emanuel Cleaver represents the Fifth Congressional District in the Kansas City area. Representative

Cleaver has earned a lifetime score of 86% on the LCV Scorecard, and has actively supported the transition to increased deployment of clean energy such as solar, wind, and energy efficiency.

To see if the Sierra Club is endorsing any other candidates in your area in the August primary, check the Missouri Sierra Club website under "Political Action", or call the Missouri office at 800-628-5333.

Hard work saves New State Park on the Eleven Point River

By John Hickey

During this past legislative session, anti-public lands forces tried to overturn plans for a new state park on the Eleven Point River in southeast Missouri, and force the sale of the land to private interests. Fortunately, thanks to hard work by Sierra Club members across the state, this legislation did not pass.

The State Parks Division has purchased 4,200 acres straddling both sides of the Eleven Point River south of Highway 160, including about eight river miles total. This section of the

river is part of the National Wild and Scenic River system, but it passed through private property that was being used for cattle pasture. The Parks Division plans to convert the pasture back to native vegetation, cleaning up the river by reducing erosion and e. coli contamination from cow manure.

Funds to purchase the land came from a legal settlement with ASARCO, the lead mining company whose sloppy practices poisoned large areas with mine waste. Part of those funds are targeted to rehabilitating damaged land,

while another part is dedicated to purchasing "mitigation" land in the same eco-region. The property along the Eleven Point River was purchased with this mitigation funding.

Sierra Club members contacted their state representatives and senators, traveled to Jefferson City to lobby, and wrote letters to the editors of newspapers across the state. Now, it is time for the fun part—float this stretch of the river over the summer, and post your experience and pictures on the "Missouri Sierra Club" Facebook page!

Chair's Column

By Sarah Willey, Chapter Chair



I was elected this year to succeed Jim Turner as Missouri Chapter Chair. He has left some very big shoes to fill! I am thankful for the foundation he has laid with his leadership and excited for the work ahead.

At the beginning of the year, the ExCom engaged in a mini strategic planning session to establish four priorities for 2016. These priorities are:

1. Climate Action and Clean Power Plan,
2. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI),
3. Get out the Vote, and
4. Pursuing common goals with other organizations.

We will weave these priorities into the work we do throughout the year.

We have two new leadership positions that have been filled by two young leaders. Our new Volunteer Coordinator is Foster Speichinger, a student at Truman State University (my alma mater, where Jim Turner first recruited me to join the Sierra Club). Second, we have a new DEI Chair, Natalie Lucas, a recent transplant to St. Louis whom I have worked with before on a National committee and who has a history of activism with the Sierra Student Coalition and International Campaign. Foster and Natalie will also be instrumental in accomplishing our goals and strengthening our Chapter.



Sierra Club intern, Matt Heskamp, at Earth Day at the St. Louis Magic House asking children to draw why they love the Earth!

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.

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

St. Louis:

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

Springfield:

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

Energy Update: Ameren Losing Clean Energy Race While Other Utilities Take the Lead

By Andy Knott, Beyond Coal Campaign Senior Representative

While other utilities in Missouri are embracing clean energy, the largest utility in the state, Ameren, continues to fall behind.

In April, we released a comprehensive report called *A Bright Future: Moving from Coal to Clean Energy in the St. Louis Region*. The report analyzes electric utilities in Missouri and the Midwest, comparing their investments in wind and solar. While some companies are soaring ahead, Ameren is in last place with only one percent wind and solar.

Kansas City Power & Light (KCPL) is currently at 12% wind and solar, and announced in April that it was investing in 500 megawatts (MW) at two new wind farms in Missouri. That will bring KCPL to 26% clean energy



Andy Knott explains the new report to clean energy supporters on Art Hill in St. Louis. 30% clean energy generation.

And in December, Springfield MO announced it was purchasing 200 MW of new wind power, and that the cost of that power would be 15% less than generating electricity at the city's own coal plant. Springfield estimates that once this new wind power comes online later this year, the city will be at more than

The report calls on Ameren to become a leader and not a follower and move towards 30% - 50% clean energy by 2030 and 70% - 100% by 2050.

If you would like a copy of *A Bright Future*, and learn how you can help advance clean energy in Missouri, contact the Chapter office at 314-644-1011.

Clean Power Plan Delayed

By Andy Knott, Beyond Coal Campaign Senior Representative

Clean energy is cheaper than dirty coal. The KCPL and Springfield examples above are further evidence that clean energy is advancing in Missouri based on economics, while proposed climate and public health safeguards such as the Clean Power

Plan are bogged down by legal challenges from utilities and state attorneys general.

In February, the US Supreme Court granted a stay on the Clean Power Plan, meaning that US EPA cannot implement the plan until legal challenges are resolved. The DC circuit court will hold a hearing on the Clean

Power Plan in September.

Unfortunately, Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster is one of state attorneys general fighting the Clean Power Plan in court. 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

Coal Blooded

By Gretchen Waddell Barwick

The Sierra Club was proud to host "Coal Blooded: Profits Before

People" with the NAACP of Kansas City, MO and Sustainable Sanctuaries Coalition! More than 55 people came

to learn about how sulfur dioxide pollution from burning coal impacts Kansas City neighborhoods.



Panel: Mary Silwance (Green Works, Kansas City), Mark Morales (Bridging the Gap and Sheffield Neighborhood Association), Margaret May (EPA Environmental Justice Advisory Council and Ivanhoe Neighborhood)



Presenters: Kendra Glover (NAACP, Environmental and Climate Justice Program), Dr. Rex Archer (Director, Kansas City Health Department)

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

Jun 15 (Wed) Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail. To celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the National Park Service, we will begin the day by journeying to Hartford, Illinois to visit the Lewis & Clark State Historic Site and the Lewis & Clark Confluence Tower. Then we journey to St. Charles, Missouri, to visit the Lewis & Clark Boathouse and Nature Center. Not a hike this time but you will be doing a lot of walking while learning of how the Corps of Discovery began their Westward journey on May 14, 1804. Contact Doug Melville, (636) 288-1055 or douglas.k.melville@gmail.com for further information.

Jun 17 (Fri) Day hike: For more info on our weekly hike contact thisissuzanne@yahoo.com or jleachcross@hotmail.com.

Jun 19 (Sun) Father's Day canoe trip on a river in the Meramec Basin. We will choose a quiet section of river to enjoy a peaceful day on the river. Richard Spener or Toni Armstrong, (314) 434-2072.

Jun 22 (Wed) Deadline for EMG outings from Aug 15 to Oct 31. Contact Doug Melville, (636) 288-1055 or douglas.k.melville@gmail.com

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

Jun 24 (Fri) Day hike. Contact David East (one of our new leaders) d.p.east@gmail.com for more info on our weekly hike.

Jun 29 (Wed) Rockwoods Reservation - Engelmann Woods Natural Area & Turkey Ridge Trail. Engelmann Woods contains one of the few remaining 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.

Courtois Section. The Courtois Creek is the most scenic part of this section of the Ozark Trail. As you walk along the Creek as well as cross it, you will see high ridges and scenic views of the Courtois and Huzzah valleys. This will be a point to point with 2 creek crossings for an 8 mile section of the Ozark Trail. Contact Doug Melville, (636) 288-1055 or douglas.k.melville@gmail.com for further information.

Jul 15 (Fri) Day hike. Getting pretty warm so our weekly hikes might start earlier. For info contact rickarmstrongpi@gmail.com or David East at d.p.east@gmail.com

Jul 16-17 (Sat-Sun) We will paddle the Jack's Fork River from Rymer's Access down to Alley Spring for a total distance of about 15 miles. This will be an overnight canoe outing and it may be possible to rent canoes. Provided the weather cooperates, this should be a really enjoyable canoe or kayak outing. Call Jim Rhodes at (314) 821-7758, for more information.



Sierrans Backpacking in the Irish Wilderness in April

Jul 22 (Fri) Day hike: Might be an assortment of coneflowers, daisies etc on our 7-9 mile weekly hike.

For more info contact thisissuzanne@yahoo.com

Jul 1 (Fri) Day hike. Not sure if there will be a holiday weekend hike but contact thisissuzanne@yahoo.com for more info.

Jul 8 (Fri) Day hike: Might be a bike or hike but contact jleachcross@hotmail.com for more info.

Jul 9 (Sat) Afternoon and evening canoe trip on the Meramec River. Join us as we put on the river in the afternoon for a leisurely paddle, we will enjoy the warm evening light and take out prior to dark. You must have your own canoe or kayak as no rentals are available. Toni Armstrong or Richard Spener, (314) 434-2072.

Jul 27 (Wed) Day hike. Lower Rock Creek is located in the Mark Twain Forest Just South of the Silver Mines Recreation Area. It is like a Wilderness Area due to the remote nature of the area and the rugged bolder strewn canyon. There are no set trails here but by following the narrow canyon, you have a limited area of access. The colorful pink granite boulders and the gray limestone walls make for a lot of photo ops. If you are interested in a little exploring and do not mind getting wet, then this hike is for you. Contact Doug Melville, (636) 288-1055 or

douglas.k.melville@gmail.com for further information.

Jul 29 (Fri) Day hike. Or might be a bike ride. Contact thisissuzanne@yahoo.com for more info.

Aug 5 (Fri) Day hike. For info on our weekly event contact jleachcross@hotmail.com

Aug 7 (Sun) One day canoe trip on a tributary of the Meramec River. We will choose a section of river that has less boat traffic to enjoy the river. We will have stops to swim and cool off, a great way to beat the heat of the city. Toni Armstrong or Richard Spener, (314) 434-2072.

Aug 10 (Wed) Day hike. Eldon Hazlet State Park (Carlyle Lake) is located on the Western side of Carlyle Lake in West Central Illinois. With several trails available for hiking, a day at the lake will make for a pleasant summer experience. The total length of the trails will be about 6 miles. Contact Doug Melville, (636) 288-1055 or douglas.k.melville@gmail.com for further information.

Aug 12 (Fri) Day hike: Something is sure to happen so contact rickarmstrong-pi@gmail.com for more info.

Aug 19 (Fri) Day hike. Might be hike or bike depending on the temps. Contact David East at d.p.east@gmail.com or jleachcross@hotmail.com

Aug 24 (Wed) Day outing. Lincoln Home, National Historic Site, Springfield, Illinois will be our first stop. Built in 1839, this is the home of the Lincoln family from 1844 to 1861. The second stop will be a visit to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. This should make for a fun way to celebrate the National Park Service 100th anniversary. Contact Doug Melville, (636) 288-1055 or douglas.k.melville@gmail.com for further information.

Aug 26 (Fri) Day hike. Whew! summer almost over so contact one of us to see what is happening this week. thisissuzanne@yahoo.com or rickschweitzer2@gmail.com

Aug 27 (Sat) Treasure and Trash Hunt: Operation Clean Stream. Join us as we search for treasures and trash along the Meramec River. We will paddle about 7 miles near Eureka. It is a fun day with a friendly competition of who can find the most unusual trash. Participants may bring their own canoe or kayak. For those who do not have a boat, there are a limited number of canoes available for the day;

however, participants must call to reserve a canoe no later than August 20. For more information or to sign up, please contact Jim Rhodes at (314) 821-7758.

Sep 3-5 (Sat-Mon) Canoe/Kayak Trip. Mississippi River below St. Louis. Experienced paddlers only. Explore the big water and enormous sandbars of the Father of Waters. George Behrens, (314) 821-0247.

Sep 23-25 (Fri-Sun) 15th Annual Car Camping Fall Celebration Campout at Hawn State Park. Great for beginner campers and families. Bring your own food and gear. Call if you need advice or suggestions. You are also welcome for come for short laid back day hikes if you don't want to camp. Small camping fee to be determined. George Behrens, (314) 821-0247.

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/ Jun 11 (Sat) Day Hike the Weston Bluffs Trail and Weston Bend State Park. \$3 donation to the Sierra Club is requested.

Jun 17 - 18 (Fri - Sat) Touring Around Arrow Rock State Historic Site. This includes one night of camping.

Jun 24 (Fri) Backpack The Hercules-Glades Wilderness.

Jun 25 (Sat) Hike a 1 1/2 mile trail through tall grass prairie in Johnson County. A \$3 donation to Sierra Club is requested.

White River Group

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

June 12 (Sun) – White River Group Member Potluck – 1:30 to 5 pm, Lake Springfield Boathouse. To all current and aspiring members of the Sierra Club White River Group: please join us for a potluck and meet fellow members! This is a green event so please bring a dish, a plate, and utensils! Kayak and canoe rentals are available and we will have entertainment! To learn more or RSVP contact Judy Dasovich at jdaso@aol.com or call 417-832-8624

Osage Group

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

There are currently no Osage Group outings available.

Trail Work

June

Saturday, June 18th, 9AM to 2PM, New Trail construction at Robertsville State Park.

Meet at the Day Use parking area. We may move our vehicles to different parking areas depending on exactly where we will be working.

The Park is 5 miles south of the I-44, Exit 247 at Hwy 50 at the Bourbeuse River crossing. The outing will consist of new trail construction along the trail corridor (already cleared). The trail is circular and 2.5 miles long. The work location is to be determined.

It would be preferable that participants have some trail building experience with Pulaskis and McLeods.

We will hike to our work location with the tools. Participants should bring work gloves, plenty of water, lunch snacks, etc. A pair of loppers would also be useful for removing roots.

Register with Rick Schweitzer at rickschweitzer2@gmail.com and copy to co-coordinator Danny McMurphy mcmurphy1@yahoo.com

October

Sat. Oct 15 thru Sun. Oct 23: Ozark Trail Maintenance in Pioneer Forest during the week and tread work on the Current River Trail near Current River State Park on weekends.

Whether you attend several days or all week you will meet and enjoy our volunteer member chef Luise Stephan. Spend your evenings at the historic Current River State Park Lodge and sleep in your tent on the bank of the Current River.

You must register for this event.

Contact Becky Denney, dardenney3@gmail.com or 636-751-3158 for more details.

2016 Legislative Report

By Michael Berg, Chapter Organizer

2016 was not a great legislative session in Jefferson City for Missouri's environment. The reality is that with the present make-up of the House and Senate, it is basically impossible to pass strong environmental legislation. While positive bills are not being considered, several bad bills did pass this session, including a bill designed to give control of our Clean Water Commission to corporate agricultural interests. In order to change this situation, we need more legislators elected who work for the best interests of our environment.

Still, the Sierra Club succeeded in stopping some of the worst anti-environmental proposals in Jefferson City. Working with others, we stopped a proposal to sell the land that will soon be Missouri's new state park on the Eleven Point River. We successfully fought bills attempting to interfere with implementation of the Clean Power Plan in our state. We also helped kill a bill designed to help utilities keep dirty coal-fired power plants running long past their proper time for retirement. Without our efforts, things could have been much worse.

Sierra club members worked hard. We organized 14 in-district meetings with legislators, with nearly 200 members and supporters participating. Over 100 people attended one of our four lobby days, meeting face to face with almost every Senator and Representative, and leafleting the capitol each time. Over 2400 members contacted their legislators on issues con-



Sierra Club Osage Group Lobby Day, March 8

cerning the Eleven Point River State Park and attacks on our Clean Water Commission

This year's legislative program accomplished much more than in previous years, thanks to the work of our legislative committee: Mike Diel (Chair), Carolyn Amparan, Dan Reed,

Barb Yates, James Harmon, Foster Speichinger, Caroline Pufalt, Paulette Zimmerman, Henry Robertson, Ross Hunt, Juli Viel, Claus Wawrzinek, Steve Mohler, Anne McGregor, Winston Apple, Myra Scroggs, Jim Arneson, Audrey Elder, and Lucas Doyle. Thank you for your hard work.



Sierra Club Thomas Hart Benton Group Lobby Day, April 27



Sierra Club Eastern Missouri Group Lobby Day, April 12

Energy Efficiency = Big Payoffs



By John R. Wrightfield

My dream was to build an energy efficient home that was sustainable, multigenerational, and “smart,” with

Americans with Disability Act concepts. In 2013, we began that project seeking to decrease our energy footprint.

Our new home is a third larger, but consumes much less energy than our previous home. Using LED lighting, low-flow water systems, high-efficiency windows, insulation using cellulose and foam (including in crawl spaces), geothermal heating and cooling and programmable thermostats, we are seeing big paybacks.

Just as my parents were affected by the Depression of the 1930s, I have looked back upon the 1970s — and the beginnings of the energy crisis — to find that I was just as affected by the changes of that era.

Much has changed in four-plus decades with energy and policies. As our state begins to invest more into energy efficiency, there can only be positives. Energy efficiency is the best way to conserve energy use, lower your bills, and enjoy cleaner air.

It is 2016, Do You Know Where Your Building Code is?

By Gretchen Waddell Barwick, Chapter Organizer

Energy efficient building codes save us money and energy. They make our homes safer and our air cleaner. However, since Missouri does not have a statewide building code, it is up to cities and counties to adopt and update their residential and commercial codes.

Clayton, St. Charles, Kirksville, Marshall and Branson in Missouri have adopted the most recent version of the International Residential Code (2015 IRC) but most are woefully behind. Do you know where your building code is?

St. Louis County is considering the 2015 IRC but special interests have lobbied for the removal of important energy-saving portions like programmable thermostats. Other jurisdictions, like Springfield, have removed the energy efficiency chapter all together. The Columbia City Council is currently considering adopting the 2015 IRC with similar weakening amendments.

By moving from the 2006 IRC to the 2015 IRC, homes save 30% more energy their 2006 IRC counterparts.

Learn how you can be more involved by contacting Gretchen at Gretchen.waddellbarwick@sierraclub.org or (800) 628-5333.

Say Hello to our Summer Interns!

We are excited to have several interns at the Sierra Club this summer. Through their internship they will work with Sierra Club members, the community and other interns on advocacy issues in the state of Missouri. If you see them, say hi!

Christine Montero (Washington University) is helping the Sierra Club work towards 100% Clean Energy in St. Louis.

Matt Heskamp (St. Louis University) is helping to organize In-District meetings and work on candidate campaigns.

James Petersen (Washington University) is working to create Sierra Club Outings for local veterans and veterans groups.

Kelsie Landers (Washington University) is working to modernize St. Louis County Building Codes and lobby decision makers.

Kelsey Esther (Missouri State University) is working in Springfield building the power of the Sierra Club in Southwest Missouri.

Brianna Hickey (University of Chicago) will be working on clean air issues in St. Charles and Franklin County.



Sierra Club members attended the annual Ameren Shareholders meeting on April 28 in Peoria IL to promote a resolution calling for Ameren to transition from coal to clean energy. Illinois members joined Missouri Chapter Director John Hickey in front of the Peoria Civic Center to make our point!



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On March 17 a Missouri Sierra Club delegation went to Washington, DC to talk with Senator Claire McCaskill about sulfur dioxide pollution. From left to right: Trisha Sheehan, Mom's Clean Air Force, Rajiv Ravulapati, Maxwell Pfeleiderer, John Hickey, Sarah Willey, Tony Wyche, E2, Senator Claire McCaskill, Janet Nuse, Sara Edgar, Bill Kinkaid and Kay Mills, Mom's Clean Air Force



Sierra Club interns Kelsie Landers and James Petersen work on the native plant garden outside of the Missouri Sierra Club office.

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