



Piedmont Plateau - January 2021 E-News

PPG traditionally sponsors outings, trail/creek clean-ups, social gatherings and educational programs that address climate and environmental concerns in Guilford, Rockingham, Randolph, Richmond, and Montgomery Counties. Joining together to Explore, Enjoy and Protect our Planet!



Introducing PPG's Officers for 2021

(Pictured above, left to right)

Group Chair and Webmaster: George Wissmiller

After six years of service to the Sierra Club, George has agreed to serve as PPG Group Chair! In addition, he is currently developing a new website. George also plans to serve on PPG's Conservation Committee, which will resume the Muddy Creek Clean-up and tours of the Greensboro Water Treatment Plant when pandemic restrictions have been lifted. Many thanks to George for stepping up to lead PPG and for designing a new website! George's message: "From taking care of our local community, streams and trails to providing opportunities to explore, enjoy and protect the planet, the Piedmont Plateau Group of the Sierra Club is here to serve you!"

Vice Chair and Sustainability Chair: Hazel Landers

Hazel has been a member of the Sierra Club for 22 years. She served as the group's vice chair, group chair and head of the Sustainability Speakers' Group from 2011 through 2013. While serving as Vice Chair in 2020, Hazel was head of the research and development committee for the "Where Have All Our Forests Gone" Slideshow, moderator for the "Save Our Trees" Forum and co-editor of the Piedmont Plateau Newsletter.

Treasurer and Outings Leader: Tom Taylor

As a long-time member, Tom has previously served as program chair, chief fundraiser, organizer for the group's annual photo contest and organizer of PPG's Meet-up page. Tom is looking forward to scheduling several enjoyable hikes and kayak outings during 2021, after pandemic restrictions have been lifted.

Secretary and Program Chair: Linda Margo

Linda started serving on PPG's ExCom in 2012. As program chair, she has scheduled numerous relevant programs and organized holiday gatherings and picnics. Many kudos to Linda for offering to serve as PPG's recording secretary! She invites all of you to join us for PPG's virtual meetings and speaker series. Linda looks forward to scheduling many other exciting and informative programs in 2021.

Upcoming Programs

The Piedmont Plateau Speaker Series Continues

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM EDT

How to Create Easy Peasy Vegan Recipes

Guest speakers Marie Noel and Sena Crutchly will share environmental facts, easy vegan recipes, and show us how easy it is to enjoy a vegan lifestyle. Marie is a long-time resident of the Piedmont, a certified master herbalist and a retired registered nurse with a passion for local native plants and wildlife. She is currently participating in the NC Environmental Education certification program to pursue her dream of connecting people with local nature. Sena is a UNC Greensboro speech-language pathology professor by day and a social justice and environmental activist 24/7. She is the president of Piedmont Area Vegan Educators (PAVE), has a micro sanctuary for chickens (Ruby's Refuge), and is a member of UNC Greensboro's Sustainability Council. For more info about this interactive presentation and to join the Zoom meeting, [visit our Meetup page](#) or [register directly on Zoom](#).

PPG Executive Committee Meetings

Tuesdays, February 2 & March 2 at 7:00 PM

All PPG members and friends are welcome to join our virtual ExCom meetings online. Volunteers are invited to serve on the Communications, Conservation and Membership committees. Email SierraPiedmontPlateau@gmail.com or call 872 222-6860 if interested.

Special Announcements

Thank you, Nicole Gaines!

Nicole has graciously hosted previous meetings and will continue to keep you informed about upcoming meetings and events on Meetup and Facebook. Many thanks to Nicole for serving as Piedmont Plateau's Group Chair during 2020!

A Home for Foam

NOW YOU CAN RECYCLE YOUR STYROFOAM - LOCALLY!

On Nov. 12, Styrofoam recycling (#6 polystyrene foam) launched in Greensboro. Foam recycling starts with a densification machine located at the Tiny House Community Development warehouse at 1310 W. Gate City Blvd. This project represents a collaborative effort between four non-profit organizations: Environmental Stewardship Greensboro, Tiny House Community Development (THCD), Emerging Ecology and Greensboro Beautiful. Residents and institutions with foam can use the two drop-off bins behind the THCD facility. Street signs indicate where to turn off W. Gate City Blvd. using the marked driveway between the two buildings. This center accepts both clean food service containers – cups, egg cartons, and take-out boxes – as well as packaging materials used for coolers and shipping fragile products. The drop-off location is open 24/7 and is monitored and emptied regularly by the THCD staff and volunteers.

To learn more about the densification process, check out [Tiny Houses' webpage](#). If you are able to volunteer, please contact Bill McNeil at (919) 622-3303 or mcneilplanning@gmail.com.

96 Acres in Randolph County to Become PLC's Next Nature Preserve

Piedmont Land Conservancy (PLC) has acquired 96 acres in Randolph County with frontage along Caraway Creek. The land was previously owned by Joey Parris, who passed in early 2020. Joey loved this land, the hardwood forests, abundant wildlife and the fascinating dam on the property. His wish was to see it preserved. PLC is developing plans to provide public access and hiking opportunities on the property. [For more info, check PLC's webpage.](#)

From the North Carolina Chapter of Sierra Club

Transportation emissions are the No. 1 source of greenhouse gas emissions contributing to climate change in the United States. **Let's make North Carolina the "Green Roads State" - [Sign our petition](#) to ask for electric vehicle charging stations in every state park!**

Sierra Club Statement of Purpose

- To explore and protect the wild places of the Earth.
- To practice and promote the responsible use of the Earth's ecosystems and resources.
- To educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment.

Comments or suggestions? Contact us at Sierrapiedmontplateau@gmail.com.

Websites: [North Carolina Chapter](#) | [Piedmont Plateau Group](#)