



Piedmont Plateau - April 2022 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!

April Program & General Meeting

Tuesday * April 12, 2022 * 7:00 to 8:30 PM



Tiny House Community Development, Inc.

Guest speaker, **Scott Jones** will talk about his experiences of turning one tiny house, built in 2014, into Tiny House Community Development, Inc.(THCD). The nonprofit's mission is to be a coalition of diverse individuals and local organizations who aim to reduce homelessness by engaging in partnerships to create tiny home communities. In addition to creating communities, THCD started a 12-weekwork-force development program that allows homeless folks a chance to obtain skills in carpentry by building chicken coops and garden boxes and allows them the opportunity to work at their Hay Street location by building porches and stairs. The work-force program also allows them the chance to operate a foam densifier to help give back to our communities through recycling.

As the Executive Director of THCD, **Scott Jones** has been instrumental in the development of some of North Carolina's first permanent tiny house communities that address the growing population of homelessness. His degree in NonProfit Management from Duke University prepared him to work on the development of these communities and assist other Non-Profit organizations across North Carolina as they look to build tiny home communities and provide permanent, safe and affordable housing for many individuals and families.

Join the Zoom meeting at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/>

Or sign up at: www.meetup.com/ppgsierraclub.



Earth Day Plant Exchange

at

Sylvan Pathways

Friday * April 22 * 2 to 4 PM

Please join us for our **annual plant exchange** at the home of members, Lou and Rudy Gordh. Gather your extra plants, mark them as to whether they're sun or shade plants and trade them for other plants at the event.

Location: Sylvan Pathways, 720 South Chimney Rock Road, Greensboro, NC 27409.

For directions and more information: <https://www.meetup.com/ppgsierraclub>

Hike the Company Mill Preserve Heritage Trail

Saturday * April 9 * 9 AM - 11 AM



The Company Mill Preserve Heritage Trail, with a trailhead in Hagan Stone Park, is a relatively new trail in Guilford County. Join Tom Taylor and Karen Katula for this moderately challenging hike. Enter the park off Hagan Stone Park Road; we'll meet at the parking lot at the end of the paved road. We'll shuttle to the opposite end of the trail on Company Mill Road and hike back. PLEASE WEAR MASKS IN THE SHUTTLE VEHICLES. The trail is 2.64 miles and will take about 2 hours. Dogs are welcome with leash. More details at: [Company Mill Preserve Heritage Trail - North Carolina | AllTrails](https://www.alltrails.com/trail/north-carolina/company-mill-preserve-heritage-trail) .

If interested contact Tom at (336) 402-6100 or tnt2703@yahoo.com or sign up at: www.meetup.com/ppgsierraclub

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## Message from Group Chair, Hazel Landers

When I wrote the Save Our Trees petition in early 2019, little did I know that the petition would give such a boost to PPG's Executive Committee. At the start of the pandemic, as membership diminished, through the following years of uncertainty, only three of us maintained leadership roles. I am pleased to announce that our executive committee has tripled in size with all positions now filled. Officers, committee chairs and advisors will now be listed at the end of each monthly newsletter.

This month's program reminds me of another "little did I know" occurrence. At the beginning of 2014, I took time off from PPG's ExCom in order to write a grant and develop programs for another organization. The grant was to provide funds for a series of "green living" workshops, which included two weekend workshops for building a tiny house. Again, at no stretch of my imagination did I ever think that the workshops held at the *Interactive Resource Center* in Greensboro would lead to the development of three tiny house communities in Guilford County.

It's with great pleasure that I welcome Scott Jones as April's guest speaker. Scott's the one who has done all the hard work of turning a small grant into a major accomplishment. Thank you, Scott, for providing homes for those who have experienced homelessness in the Triad!

All of us need to remember that downsizing, living simply, walking softly and protecting trees are the best ways of honoring our planet on EARTH DAY, 2022, and EVERYDAY!

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Special Announcements

~From the Piedmont Plateau Group:

Marie Noel, Stream Conservation Advisor, extends a big thank you to all that attended the March 2020 *Haw River Assembly* Clean-Up Event! We had a great turnout of 8 people at Cascade Park to clean up the stream running through Cascade and Forest Hill Parks. It was a beautiful day and wonderful to get together outside! We are in the process of adopting the stream with the city of Greensboro and monitoring water quality for Haw River Assembly.

Don Henza, Conservation Chair, reports that PPG will resume management of **Bold Moon**, an Open Space property that's now included in the Guilford County Park System. PPG will again be involved with maintenance, trail clean-ups and restoring the signage.

PPG's Conservation Committee is currently developing four advocacy programs that will provide protection of our region's natural areas, forests, watersheds and farmlands. This program will better prepare our group to respond to neighborhoods who are dealing with urban growth and development issues. Neighborhoods that need assistance and those who would like to serve on the Conservation Committee as advocates can contact Don Henza at: drhenza@gmail.com

Check out the Conservation Advocacy Programs and review PPG's recently updated website! Hazel extends kudos to Thomas Hatfield, a webmaster from the SE Arizona Group, Sierra Club, who recently assisted her with uploading past newsletters and revising PPG's website! www.sierraclub.org/north-carolina/piedmont-plateau.

~From **Local Environmental Groups**:

Hands-on Intro to Permaculture Class, Sunday, April 3, 3 – 5 pm

Get your hands dirty with Sow Permaculture and learn permaculture basics while helping install edible and medicinal species in the Reading Garden at Kathleen Clay Library. To register, e-mail melanie.buckingham@greensboro-nc.gov

Drive Electric Earth Day, Saturday April 16, 10 am – 2 pm

Triad Electric Vehicle Association invites you to come and see over 14 electric vehicle models on display at the Kathleen Clay Library: Tesla, Chevy Bolt, Chevy Spark, Ford Mustang, Volkswagen ID.4, Honda Clarity, Nissan Leaf, Volvo XC40, Polestar 2, E-bikes, and E- Scooters. Also Greensboro Transit Agency will have an electric bus that you can ride to see their charging infrastructure. Come learn about this fascinating technology and meet the car owners.

Kathleen Clay Library, 1420 Price Park Rd., Greensboro, NC 27410, 336-373-2923, melanie.buckingham@greensboro-nc.gov

~From the **North Carolina Chapter of Sierra Club**:



Tell Governor Cooper

Reject the Mountain Valley Pipeline!

This pipeline poses threats to the environment and communities in its path. Let your elected officials know this is an issue you care about, and you'd like to see them publicly oppose the MVP! Sign: [NC, Sierra Club AddUp petition](#) now!

From the National Office of Sierra Club:

Urge President Biden to Be a #PlasticFreePresident: Plastic is made from fossil fuels. Fortunately, President Biden and his admin can begin to clean up this mess. Urge the president to take eight actions to help stop plastic polluting our communities and world. Sign: [Sierra Club AddUp petition](#) now!

Tell President Biden to Protect Our Old-Growth and Mature Forests! Forests on federal land must be protected in order to safeguard our communities from the future impacts of climate change. Sign [Sierra Club AddUp petition](#) now!

PPG Officers, Committee Chairs and Advisors

Hazel Landers, Group Chair, GreenTeam, E-news, clayartist.hfl@gmail.com

Karen Katula, Vice Chair, kskatula@uncg.edu

Tom Taylor, Treasurer, Outings Chair, tnt2703@yahoo.com

Linda Margo, Secretary, Programs Chair, linda.mrg@gmail.com

Don Henza, Conservation Chair, drhenza@gmail.com

Marie Noel, Water Conservation Advisor, marinoel912@gmail.com

Boots Howard, Membership Chair, Howard@Northstate.net

Ned Pearson, Communications Chair, pearson.ned@gmail.com

Thomas Hatfield, Webmaster, Thomas.Hatfield@gmail.com

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 the human environment.

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

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