



**SIERRA  
CLUB**  
FOUNDED 1892

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# eco-logue

*Explore, enjoy and protect the Planet*

Rochester Regional Group of the Sierra Club

P.O. Box 10518, Rochester, NY 14610; 585-234-1056

**Sunday, Sept. 20th, 1009**

**“Most Noble Diet” Author to visit Rochester, NY**

On Sunday, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> the Bio/Veg Outreach Committee, in conjunction with the Rochester Area Vegetarian Society (RAVS) will host noted author, educator, environmentalist and registered dietitian, George Eisman. Mr. Eisman, author of The Most Noble Diet, will speak on “The Impact of Diet on Climate Change.” If you would like a better understanding of the powerful impact your food choices have on the planet, you won’t want to miss this presentation. Come hear this enlightening and light-hearted speaker! You can literally make a world of difference – for the environment, for the animals and for yourself.

Date: Sunday, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Brighton Town Park Lodge, 777 Westfall Rd. (between South Clinton and East Henrietta Rd.)

## **A Picture Tour Through Time of Rochester's Park Preservation — Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009**

On Saturday, October 3rd, the Sierra Club is hosting its annual Fall program which will focus on the history of land and park preservation in Rochester. The program will be held at the Tay House Lodge just behind the #1 Elementary School on Hillside Ave. in Rochester.

Our guest speaker, Larry Champoux, has delved into the history and assembled fascinating information about how our City's land preservation movement developed and how we came to have so many beautiful parks. He has assembled wonderful early photos of Rochester to illustrate the history and the changes over the past 100 years. Of particular interest will be photos of the Cobb's Hill Park area showing the old canal and the old

bridge over it on Culver Rd, the boat factory where the Armory now is, and pictures showing the construction of the reservoir. Supplementing the slide talk, there will be a guided hike offered in the afternoon to learn about the Sierra Club's work to restore and protect the forest at the Washington Grove behind Tay House. You can learn about how the Grove got its name, why the old oaks could disappear and how invasive Norway maples could take over if nothing is done to change things.

The guided hike starts at 4:30 pm, and all ages are invited. Pizza and refreshments will be offered (suggested donation \$10/person) starting at 5:30 and the slide-talk will begin at 7 pm. Call

585-234-1056 for more information.



## **Sierra Club Outings: You are invited to attend our next outings**

**A Visit to the Old Girl Scout Camp Beechwood, Saturday,**

**September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009, 9:30am to Noon**

There are many mysterious, forgotten places around this region which the State of New York owns. The old girl scout Camp Beechwood near Sodus Point is one of these places. It contains one of the finest stands of old growth trees on the Lake Ontario shore and is well worth a trip.

Meet at the lower parking lot of the First Unitarian Church, 220 Winton Rd. South at 9:15am, Satur-

day, 9/19/09. Bring normal hiking gear, camera or binoculars. Level of difficulty: easy. Leader Hugh Mitchell.

**Wesley Hill Reserve Sunday, October 18th, 2009, 9:30 am**

We'll explore an assortment of ridges, deep ravines and little known wilderness, nestled between Cummings Nature Center and Honey Lake.

Meet at 9:30 at parking lot at Lake Riley in Cobbs Hill Park, close to intersection of Culver Road and Norris Drive. Leader: Howard Camp.

**Seneca Trail & Ambush Valley Sunday, November 8th, 2009, 9:30 am**

Follow the track of the Seneca, past the site of a historical ambush of French invaders, past some lovely high vistas near Victor. Meet at 9:30 am at parking lot at Lake Riley in Cobbs Hill Park, close to intersection of Culver Road and Norris Drive.

Call the Sierra Club phone line for more information  
585-234-1056

## From the Chair by Deb Muratore

Our brains can be understood as having 3 levels: reptilian, mammalian & cognitive-rational. The instinctive reptilian core of our brain ... is concerned with survival. Our mammalian brain give us a sense of our being-with-others and with all nature. This level is where society & cooperation begin. Our cerebral cortex or "human brain" can give us a sense of linking to a world ... where the intellectual, imaginative & spiritual are born & thrive." The Five Things We Cannot Change by David Richo.

It frightens me that our world view has been reduced to "be afraid". We are more concerned that terrorists will attack us than the far more realistic issues of planetary & individual economic, environmental and health issues. These issues are all inter-related. We must stop using our reptilian

brain and begin to use our cognitive-rational brains to make changes in our lives to work towards social & environmental justice for all.

My initial interest in the Sierra Club was to help "Reduce, Re-use & Recycle." Monroe County has many programs to help do this. You can visit them at <http://www.monroecounty.gov/> to find more information about: Household Hazardous Waste/

Pharmaceutical Collections, Environmental Recycling, Residential Recycling & Electronics Recycling. We can all take steps to reduce our consumption, re-use items by donating them & recycling instead of land filling or contaminating our water supply. The earth is a precious, balanced life form & we must begin to treat it with respect instead of indifference. Stop and Think before you buy something and/or dispose of it.

**JOIN IN:** Abundance/Sierra Club Reading Group at the Abundance Café, 62 Marshall Street, Sept 15 @ 6:30pm, 454-2667

Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life by Barbara, Kingsolver

Part memoir, part journalistic investigation, this book (released May 2007) tells the story of how our family was changed by one year of deliberately eating food produced in the place where we live. Barbara wrote the central narrative; Steven's sidebars dig deeper into various aspects of food-production science and industry; Camille's brief essays offer a nineteen-year-old's perspective on the local-food project, plus nutritional information, meal plans and recipes.



## Committee Update

### Zero Waste Committee:

Zero Waste: After a lull in activity, we plan to get together this fall and focus our efforts around activities other communities have adopted to achieve these ends. The Sierra Club promotes Zero Waste as a design principle for the 21st century and producer responsibility-based recycling as the means for achieving a deep transformation of production and consumption. Please check this web page for further activities:

[http://newyork.sierraclub.org/rochester/Zero\\_Waste/Zero\\_Waste.html](http://newyork.sierraclub.org/rochester/Zero_Waste/Zero_Waste.html)

### Transportation Committee:

Transportation Committee: We have been working on series of ideas to increase bicycling in the Rochester area. Few argue that bicycling instead of driving a greenhouse gas emitting vehicle is an environmentally friendly way to move about, but many factors keep a large number of people to consider bikes as a real transportation mode—especially, in a temperate climate like ours. So, slowly, working with other groups, the Sierra Club is considering bike boulevards [low-traffic neighborhood streets that have been optimized for bicycling.]. Check out this web page for times and places for our next meetings:

<http://newyork.sierraclub.org/rochester/Transportation/Transportation.html>

### NEW: Beyond Coal Committee:

The RRG of the Sierra Club has a new committee that welcomes you, Beyond Coal. The Committee is Co-Chaired by Paul Ciavarrri and Bette Heger. Bette will also be the Executive Committee Representative. This committee's focus will be educating people about the implications of our continued use of coal, and especially mountaintop removal coal. In the near future they will focus their efforts on the House of Representatives' Clean Water Protection Act and plan to extend that focus to include the Senate version of that bill. Questions? Suggestions? Interest in joining the Beyond Coal initiatives? Call or email the committee co-chairs: Bette Heger 585-473-1529 or [bteheger@juno.com](mailto:bteheger@juno.com) or Paul Ciaverrri at 585-734-4866 or 342 [paul@gmail.com](mailto:paul@gmail.com)

### Other Beyond Coal News:

**CLEAN** is a collaborative movement of over 125 organizations and individuals with the common goal of implementing a new energy future. You can check out their website at [www.theclean.org](http://www.theclean.org) to read their analysis on the American Clean Energy and Security Act. Click on current position and talking points for a succinct summary of the good, the bad and the ugly.

**Chapter Creates Global Warming Petition**

There's no need to tell Sierra Club members about the threat of global warming but what to do about it is a challenge. The Atlantic Chapter Global Warming Committee has created a downloadable petition for distribution for all to sign. We hope it will be widely distributed and returned in time to influence both the planned 350.org, Oct. 24th National Rally Day and it will help move the Administration to take a strong position at the upcoming December International Global Warming Summit in Copenhagen.

Please call up the following string, print it and collect as many signatures as possible.

[http://newyork.sierraclub.org/rochester/Documents/stop\\_Climate\\_Change.pdf](http://newyork.sierraclub.org/rochester/Documents/stop_Climate_Change.pdf)



**Green Buildings Open House  
Saturday, October 3rd, 2009**

The Northeast Sustainable Energy Association Green Building Open house is happening on Saturday, October 3rd, 2009. For the latest list of sites near you visit: <http://www.nesea.org/greenbuildings/>

Please join the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA) for a breathtaking journey through the famous Redrock country of Southern Utah. Presented by SUWA's National Grassroots Organizer Jackie Feinberg, Wild Utah: America's Redrock Wilderness is a multi-media slide show featuring stunning images by noted wilderness photographers and narrated by Robert Redford.

**Attend a unique multimedia slideshow on Utah's threatened redrock country...Educate and activate yourself in 2009!**

**Monday, November 16 at 7:00pm**

**Brighton Town Hall Auditorium**

**2300 Elmwood Ave. Rochester, NY**

**Hosted by RRG Sierra Club**

**For more information, contact Jackie Feinberg at [jackie@suwa.org](mailto:jackie@suwa.org)**



**Global Warming & Energy Committee Reorganized**

On Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm there will be a meeting at St. Thomas Episcopal Church\* (lower conference room) to reorganize the Rochester Group Global Warming / Energy Committee.

We would like to make plans to coordinate our activities with the Chapter and National Club's Global Warming efforts and recreate a local committee interested in learning and working on these vital concerns.

If interested please plan to attend and bring a friend.

\* St. Thomas Church, 2000 Highland Ave (corner Winton Rd South)

This is the local Sierra Club's biggest fundraiser each year.

Please consider ordering the 2010 calendars for your holiday gift giving and support the work of your local Sierra Club.

**Please mail all orders to: Sierra Club, Calendar Sales, PO Box 10518, Rochester, NY 14610**

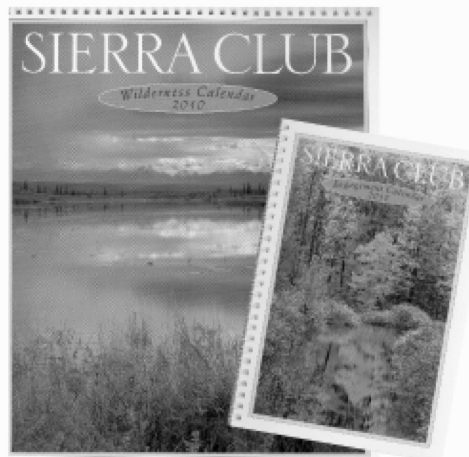
Call 585-271-0544 if you would like to order a large quantity or if you have any questions.

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL SIERRA CLUB.**



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**Sierra Club 2010 Calendars**



**Order Form**

Item	Cost	Quantity	Total
Engagement Calendar	<input type="checkbox"/> \$13.95	_____	_____
Wilderness Calendar	<input type="checkbox"/> \$12.95	_____	_____
		Subtotal	_____
		Shipping (\$3 per calendar)	_____
		Sales tax	_____
		Grand Total	_____

Please make checks payable to "Sierra Club" and mail to the return address shown on your newsletter.

**Ship To**

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 Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Great Lakes News

### Great lakes Compact Implementation initiative

Great Lakes Basin Advisory Council Draft Report is available at this website: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/56095.html>The

Great Lakes Basin Advisory Council has released the draft report Our Great Lakes Water Resources: Conserving and Protecting Our Water Today for Use Tomorrow. This draft report offers recommendations to Governor Paterson and the NYS Legislature in response to the directive issued to the Council by the New York State Legislature in approving the ratifying legislation of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact (the Compact) in 2008.

### Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (Source: <http://www.great-lakes.net/infocenter/restoration.html> )

Early in 2009, President Obama released his proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2010 which includes a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. The Initiative will accelerate Great Lakes restoration by investing \$475 million to confront some of the most serious threats to the region, including invasive species, nonpoint source pollution and toxic sediments. The Initiative represents a significant down payment on a multiyear effort to fully implement the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration restoration strategy.

An investment in Great Lakes restoration will help with other efforts to reinvigorate the economy of a region especially hard hit by recent downturns in the global economy. In the Great Lakes region, freshwater and access to the lakes are intertwined with economic activity and are fundamental to our future. The Brookings Institution has estimated that implementing the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy will generate \$50 billion in long-term benefits.

### Great Lakes Coalition 5th Annual Great Lakes Restoration Conference (Source: <http://www.healthylakes.org/09conference/> )

The Healing Our Waters®-Great Lakes Coalition will come together on the shores of Lake Superior to reunite with friends, celebrate our successes, and develop strategies to achieve our Great Lakes restoration goals for 2010 and beyond. The conference agenda will address critical issues such as linking Great Lakes restoration to economic recovery, working with the Obama administration to fulfill the \$5 billion Great Lakes commitment, and securing Congressional funding for on the ground restoration work.



### September 19th, 2009 - Rochester Coastal Cleanup

It's Your World.....Make A Difference - Join the International Coastal Cleanup  
Did you know that we all live in a watershed?! A watershed is all the land that surrounds a body of water. After a rain shower (in Rochester, a snow-melt), runoff will travel to the lowest point, taking along anything and *everything* with it.

Visit: [www.rochestercoastalcleanup.org](http://www.rochestercoastalcleanup.org) for more info.

### Executive Committee Nominations - Now Open

Our Executive Committee (ExCom) is composed of 12 environmentalists. Six members are elected each year, so we now have six openings on the Ex-Com. Why not consider running for office? We meet for two hours each month, usually on the first Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:30 at the Harro East. Many Ex-Com member (but not all) choose to join or head up an administrative or conservation committee. Others serve "at large" and choose to add their voice and vote on envi-

ronmental issues. We are all friends and learn from each other.

In the past, a number of people interested in doing something about conservation, who have not had much prior experience with leadership, have joined the board. It's a great way to work with a group and sharpen your leadership skills. Training and guidance are available. In fact, some of our Ex-Com have traveled to national headquarters in San Francisco

for training - with most expenses paid.

If you are interested in learning more about seeking a nomination for the Ex-Com or if you have a Sierra Club friend who you think would make a good board member, please call or e-mail Deb Muratore 585-385-9743 [deb.muratore@hotmail.com](mailto:deb.muratore@hotmail.com) or Hugh Mitchell at 585-244-2625 [gos-hawk@frontiernet.net](mailto:gos-hawk@frontiernet.net). Nominations close October 1.

**September 11th & 12th,  
2009**

**Montezuma Muck-race**

**24 hour birding competition  
that raises money for**

**Montezuma National Wildlife  
Refuge**

Visit:

[http://www.friendsofmontezuma.org/muck\\_race.html](http://www.friendsofmontezuma.org/muck_race.html)

## Marcellus Shale Information Night: Monday, October 19th, 2009, 7 pm - 9pm

### Natural Gas Production- A Comprehensive evening on what the Marcellus means to New York State.

We all know that New York State is fortunate to have an excellent supply of fresh water, from Lake Ontario to the Finger Lakes and many rivers and streams. But how many of us know that we also have a rich supply of natural gas in the Southern Tier of New York, in what geologists call the Marcellus Shale layer?

Even though oil companies have been extracting this natural gas for the last 100 years, most of it was inaccessible until the recent combination of two new techniques: horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing. By using these techniques together, the oil companies are confident that they can extract this natural gas and use it to heat people's homes and cook their food in the East-

ern United States. But before we do this, we should consider the following:

- Approximately **1 million gallons of water** are forced deep into the ground each time a well is fractured, and there may be hundreds of wells;
- Many compounds, some of them very toxic, are used to help fracture a well; these could leak out and **contaminate ground or surface water**;
- Fracturing produces huge quantities of contaminated waste water; even if sewage treatment is available locally, our sewage treatment plants currently have **neither the technology nor the capacity to treat this hazardous waste**.
- In addition to our water supply, there will be impacts on **roads, traffic patterns, noise levels, aesthetics, and air quality** (including emissions from

trucks, drilling equipment, compressors, and test burn-offs).

- Local business, such as **farming, wineries, fishing, real estate and tourism**, depend upon our excellent quality of water, air, and soil, as well as the beautiful landscapes of the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes.

**Join us on Monday, Oct. 19, 2009 from 7-9PM in the Brighton Town Hall Downstairs Meeting Room at 2300 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618 to learn about impacts of drilling for natural gas in New York State. For more information, see [www.fmce.org](http://www.fmce.org) or call 392-4918.**

Co-Sponsored by the Federation of Monroe County Environmentalists, League of Women Voters, RRG-Sierra Club, GVC-Adirondack Mountain Club and Genesee Valley Audubon Society.



**Chill The Drills: Oct 20, 2009, Time: 7 - 8:30 pm**  
**Location: Brighton Town Park, Carmen Clark Lodge, 777 Westfall Rd, Rochester NY 14620**

#### Join us for a Special Presentation:

The Arctic ecosystem on the North Slope of Alaska represents a microcosm of the realities that society at large faces with regard to fossil fuel dependency, climate change and the importance of protecting our last wild and pristine places. Come learn what is being done to protect this iconic American landscape and what you can do to help!

#### Featured Speaker & Host

Kit McGurn is the National Arctic Organizer for the Sierra Club. He is working to educate and engage citizens across the country in Arctic conservation issues in order to build demand for protection of the unique ecosystems in America's Arctic. Prior to joining the Sierra Club, Kit worked for the Greater Yellowstone Coalition where he organized around issues such as Northern Rockies wolf protection and Roadless area preservation. Kit completed degrees in Economics and Environmental Studies at Pacific Lutheran University.

**CONTACT:** 585-234-1056 or Sierra Club NW office, Kit McGurn, 206-378-0114 ext. 324 or [kit.mcgurn@sierraclub.org](mailto:kit.mcgurn@sierraclub.org)

## Cool Rochester: Save Money, Energy, and the Planet!

Cool Rochester is gearing up to reduce carbon dioxide emissions in our area by a billion pounds over the next three years. Though no longer a Sierra Club program, the effort sprang forth from our Rochester Group's Low Carbon Diet Challenge in the Fall of 2008. Global warming is the Sierra Club's top issue; addressing it is the most crucial challenge of our times. Cool Rochester will help our community save the billion pounds of emissions by engaging 80 thousand households over the next three years via partner organizations. A partner—a business, school, nonprofit, neighborhood group, faith community, even a group of friends, etc.-- commits to reducing energy consumption using the Low Carbon Diet workbook or other resources that Cool Rochester provides. On **September 15th** at City Hall, our community will rally together to kick off the effort with both committed and potential partners. A weekend training session and milestone celebrations will follow. Can you help by engaging your organization or group? Would you like to help in some other way? Many fun volunteer opportunities from small to large await you. With strong support by Mayor Duffy and the City of Rochester, Cool Rochester is poised to make the biggest difference in reducing our carbon footprint that the greater Rochester area has ever seen! For more information, e-mail [CoolRochester@gmail.com](mailto:CoolRochester@gmail.com), or go to [www.CoolRochester.com](http://www.CoolRochester.com).

**October 24, 2009**

**350.org for local sites and events.**  
**International Day of Climate Action.**

