

## THE ELECTION ISSUE

You've probably heard it before: This is the most important election that you have ever voted in! Why? First, our environment is in its most dire condition yet. **September 2020 was the Earth's warmest month on record.** Second, no President has ever shown more reckless disregard for the environment than Trump. The stakes in this election are astronomical. The Moshannon Group of course urges you to **VOTE!!!**, but more than that, please reach out to your neighbors and make them understand the gravity of our situation.

In This Issue:

**Candidate  
Endorsements**

**LCV Scorecard for Our  
Local Representatives**

**Trump's (Anti-)  
Environmental Record**

Stay tuned: The Nittany Valley Env. Coalition is hosting an environmental election forum for Centre Co. candidates on C-NET. Check our website for times.

### SIERRA CLUB ENDORSES JOE BIDEN

Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune announced the endorsement on August 10, saying: "No president has been worse for our environment or our nation's public health than Donald Trump. He has sold off our public lands to corporate polluters, waged unprecedented attacks on environmental protections, and prioritized the desires of fossil fuel company executives over the best interests of the American people at every turn. In contrast, Joe Biden has laid out a bold vision of safeguarding our air and water, transitioning to a clean energy economy, and investing in communities that for too long have been left behind and forced to deal with the pollution caused by our reliance on fossil fuels. These ambitious plans came as a result of listening to the calls of the climate justice movement, and we are committed to continuing to hold Biden accountable to making them a reality and evolving still further."



# LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS SCORECARD FOR INCUMBENTS

We hope you will consider the following incumbents' voting records from the PA Environmental Scorecard or League of Conservation Voters National Scorecard when you go to the polls. These scorecards rate legislators on their pro-environment voting records on crucial environmental legislation.

	<u>2019</u>
Fred Keller (US 12)	4%
John Joyce (US 13)	3%
Glenn Thompson (US 15)	7%
Martin Causer (PA 67)	0%
Tommy Sankey (PA 73)	0%
Stephanie Borowicz (PA 76)	0%
Scott Conklin (PA 77)	77%
Rich Irvin (PA 81)	0%
Kerry Benninghoff (PA 171)	0%



## ENDORSEMENTS

### PETER BUCK – A CLIMATE-ORIENTED CANDIDATE

The Sierra Club is proud to endorse **Peter Buck**, Democratic candidate for PA House District 171 in the upcoming General Election on **Tuesday, November 3rd, 2020**.

Peter Buck demonstrates the knowledge, dedication, and energy to provide the pro-environmental leadership needed in Pennsylvania. The scientific community has been clear that we need to aggressively address climate change in order to protect people and the planet. Peter has pledged to work in a bipartisan partnership to address both environmental, social and economic concerns, and incentivize job creation and infrastructure improvements in environmentally friendly sectors. He is challenging incumbent Kerry Benninghoff, who has a lifetime Environmental Scorecard rating of 10%, and who often votes in support of legislation that advances the interest of polluters, not the interests of people.

Peter has a record of environmental service. He represented Ferguson Township on the Spring Creek Watershed Commission, volunteers in the watershed to monitor its waters, advances renewable energy at Penn State and in local and

regional government, and leads an environmental justice project. He has pledged to end subsidies for the fossil fuel companies and redirect those funds toward more socially responsible goals. He is supportive of land conservation, sustainable agriculture, and outdoor recreational opportunities. Peter has dedicated many years to protecting our environment and was active in the passage of the Community and Environmental Bill of Rights. As the former Chair of Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors, he helped secure the passage of a resolution that placed them on a path to net zero emissions. He has served on various intergovernmental agencies to promote increased energy efficiency, solar power, climate change mitigation and adaptation and the protection of our region's source water.

Additionally, Buck supports equitable funding for public schools, increasing the minimum wage, protection for our unions, and the advancement of rural people. He recognizes the impact of environmental hazards on our health, and believes strongly that everyone should have access to good health care.



## RYAN GRIMM – AN OUTDOORSMAN

The Sierra Club proudly endorses Ryan Grimm, Democrat, for State Representative in District 75. This is an open seat and a great opportunity to elect someone who cares passionately about the environment and protecting the beauty of the area and the health of its residents.

With his background in environmental studies, Ryan has worked to protect water resources from local pollution. He understands the importance of clean water and supports more efforts on addressing acid mine drainage to help restore waters so that they are habitable to all organisms.

Recognizing the challenge of economic issues, Ryan has pledged to work in partnership with other legislators to create jobs and infrastructure improvements that are environmentally sustainable. This will also provide opportunities to attract younger residents to the area.

As an avid hunter and fisherman, Ryan has already noticed the effects of climate change on the natural world. He supports increasing funding for local conservation districts to help them work collaboratively with residents to protect local resources.

Like you, Ryan wants to safeguard the environment for future generations. **VOTE FOR RYAN GRIMM on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. WIN WITH GRIMM!**



### Quick Tips to Make Your Vote Count on November 3<sup>rd</sup>:

- If you vote by mail, place your ballot inside the smaller "Official Election Ballot" security envelope before placing it in the mailing envelope. Seal both envelopes. Fill, sign, and date the Voter's Declaration on the back of the mailing envelope. No postage is necessary.
- If you deposit your envelope in one of the official ballot boxes that are scattered throughout the Commonwealth, make sure it is an approved site. You may not deposit anyone's ballot other than your own.
- If you vote in person, please wear a mask.

- Only first time voters at a precinct may be required to show ID.
- If you obtained a mail-in ballot, but changed your mind and want to vote in person, bring the mail-in ballot to the polling place to be voided. Then you can vote a regular ballot.

Speaking of Elections – Please Vote for the Moshannon Group Executive Committee.

This year there are 4 two-year positions on the Moshannon Group's Executive Committee (ExCom) up for election by the membership (that means YOU!!). The Moshannon Group seeks to "explore, enjoy, and protect" the environment in an 11-county area (Bedford, Blair, Huntingdon, Juniata, Mifflin, Centre, Clearfield, Jefferson, Elk, Cameron, and McKean).

Please view our website ([www.sierraclub.org/pennsylvania/moshannon](http://www.sierraclub.org/pennsylvania/moshannon)) for the biographies of this year's nominated candidates and instructions on how to vote. Your vote must be cast in December. This is your opportunity to help determine priorities, policies, and funding for environmental issues that affect our Group's area.

TRUMP'S ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACY:  
IS HE REALLY *THAT* BAD?  
ANSWER: NO – HE'S MUCH WORSE!

Maybe Donald Trump is from another planet – because he certainly doesn't value this one. In less than four years, he has rolled back at least 100 environmental rules and regulations. Here is a partial compilation of the environmental wreckage of the Trump administration. Don't give him another four years to destroy our home.

Jan 24, 2017 – Trump issues a memorandum calling for expediting permitting of the Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipelines.

Feb. 16, 2017 – Trump signs a Congressional repeal of the stream protection ruling for surface coal mining.

Aug. 15, 2017 – Trump issues an executive order removing a requirement that infrastructure projects must consider climate change.

Dec. 22, 2017 – Trump signs a tax-cut law that authorizes oil and gas drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Dec. 29, 2017 – Bureau of Land Management relaxes regulations on fracking on federal and Indian lands.

April 11, 2018 – The Interior Department weakens protections under the International Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

July 30, 2018 – The EPA eases rules on storage of coal ash containing contaminants, including mercury.

Nov. 30, 2018 – Trump rescinds a ban on using seismic air guns to search for oil and gas under the ocean, imperiling whales.

June 19, 2019 – EPA removes electric utility emission limits aimed at reducing carbon emissions.

July 18, 2019 – EPA refuses to ban pesticide chlorpyrifos (causes neurological, developmental, and autoimmune disorders).

Aug. 21, 2019 – Trump gives states authority to set their own coal emission standards.

Aug. 12, 2019 – Trump weakens habitat protections under the Endangered Species Act.

Aug. 29, 2019 – EPA proposes eliminating rule that requires fracking operations to detect and fix methane leaks.

Sept. 12, 2019 – Trump (through the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers) repeals the protections of the Waters of the United States Rule.

Nov. 4, 2019 – Trump begins process of withdrawing the United States from the Paris Climate Accord.

Feb. 13, 2020 – Trump announces he plans to divert \$3.8 billion of military funds to build border wall which will block animal migration, destroy endangered species habitat, and dam watercourse.

March 31, 2020 – Trump revokes Obama-era mandate for improved automobile fuel efficiency. June 1, 2020 – EPA finalizes rule under the Clean Water Act, limiting state authority to impose clean water restrictions on projects seeking federal permits.



Sierra Club Moshannon Group  
 P. O. Box 513  
 State College, PA 16804  
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Chair and Programs	*Doug Mason	814 753-0598	ramakong1@gmail.com
Vice Chair, Conservation, Air Quality	*Nancy Parks	814 349-5151	nancyfparks@gmail.com
Outings Chair	*Katherine Alden	814 404-2165	aldenkat@gmail.com
Tabling, Newsletter	*Ernest Boyd	814 861-2649	ernestcboyd@gmail.com
Water Dragon	*David Roberts	814 769-0550	puzzlewuzzle.dr@gmail.com
Membership	*Steve Lachman	814 867-4534	stevlachman@gmail.com
Treasurer	Ron Johnson	814 359-6841	greenbowl1@hotmail.com
Secretary and Political Delegate	Judy Tanner	814 542-8519	billtann@verizon.net
Programs	*Deborah Escalet	814-470-1649	d5me16@gmail.com

\* Indicates Executive Committee Members

Our website address has changed. It is now:

[www.sierraclub.org/pennsylvania/moshannon](http://www.sierraclub.org/pennsylvania/moshannon)