



# CAPITAL SIERRAN

Newsletter of the Washington, D.C., Chapter

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## Cool Cities to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in D.C.

by Jessica Deskiewicz

The threat of global warming and the debate that has ensued may seem to be of recent occurrence, but the topic has been under discussion for quite some time. It is only now, however, that the scientific community has decided that it can no longer be overlooked, and it is holding steady in agreement on its findings on the causes of global warming and its effects and the requirement for immediate action. Humanity and its remarkable capacity to create new technology to further its own convenience in the shape of cars, air conditioning and heat, big city lights and the burning of fossil fuels, are precisely what is causing what may be called global inconvenience. As Al Gore's film, "An Inconvenient Truth," points out, we are less concerned about how to cohabit with the earth and understanding where our actions can and will take us than we are with the immediate gratification we

get from performing those actions.

Outside the United States, countries are taking climate change seriously and working to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. They have expressed their commitment to mitigating climate change by signing the Kyoto Protocol, an international agreement that commits the 164 signatories (as of July 2006) to reduce their carbon and greenhouse gas emissions by various percentages from 1990 levels by 2012. The United States has not signed this agreement and, further, many environmental initiatives have been stalled by the federal government. This has caused high frustration and has led to the creation of the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

First promoted by Seattle mayor Greg Nickels, the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement calls on city leaders to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by 7 percent of 1990 levels by 2012. In order to reinforce these commitments, the Sierra Club has launched its

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## George Washington National Forest Plan to be Revised

by Chris Carney

Last year, the Bush administration adopted a new process for revising National Forest Plans, and the George Washington National Forest in Virginia will be one of the very first forests to develop a plan under these new regulations.

Environmental groups are coming together to foster both public involvement and forest restoration in the new forest planning process. Environmentalists are wary of the

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photos courtesy of the National Forest Service

## The Unfinished Path Ahead

by Jason Broehm

On a hot day in late July, I joined about 25 other people for our chapter Transportation Committee's bike ride on the Metropolitan Branch Trail in Northeast Washington. The trail is still a work in progress with additional land acquisitions and trail development work ahead, but when it is complete, it will offer cyclists a continuous path – both on street and off – from Union Station through Takoma Park and on to Silver Spring, Maryland.

Early in the ride, we biked up a ramp to one of the nicest and newest segments of the trail. It was constructed as part of the new New York Avenue MetroRail station, and runs parallel to, but set off from, the rail line. (See photo of trail.) This wonderful stretch of trail has won smart growth awards; for the time being, however, it dead-ends just north of the station. The District is expected to break ground on the next segment to the north in the fall, and when it is complete, it will provide a safe bridge over Florida Avenue, avoiding dangerous road crossings at the busy intersection of Florida and New York avenues. On this ride though, we had to retrace our path down the ramp and carefully venture through the intersection on the street.

This juncture in the trail struck me as a metaphor for where we stand in environmental progress in the District. Our goal in the Sierra Club is to achieve our vision of a Washington, D.C., with cleaner air for us all to breathe, cleaner rivers and creeks in which we can swim and fish safely, and bountiful parks and green spaces we all can enjoy for recreation. In short, we believe that our nation's capital should be a leader in environmental protection, setting a positive example for the nation. While we've made great strides in recent years toward this goal, there is a lot more we can and must do. We cannot afford to remain at a dead end gazing ahead at unfulfilled dreams.

To name just a few examples of our successes, we in the Sierra Club have helped put cleaner burning natural gas buses on our streets. We have fought for a strong public transit system,

funded to meet future needs and committed to better serving its riders. We have protected our residents from the threat of a devastating terrorist attack by blocking the shipment of ultra-toxic cargoes through the heart of our city.

On the other hand, the District's recycling program is performing way below expectations, and we need to work hard to ensure that the law is fully implemented and enforced across the city. We need to continue to work to eliminate raw sewage from overflowing into the Anacostia River when it rains. We must remain vigilant to ensure that redevelopment of the Anacostia waterfront is done in a way that preserves green space and protects water quality. And we need to pass "green" building legislation requiring new development in the District to meet higher energy efficiency standards along with other environmental performance standards that will reduce rainwater runoff and energy use and fight global climate change.

We find ourselves at a crossroads, about to elect a new mayor, a new D.C. Council chairman and several other new council members. We all need to make sure we let them know – both while they are running as candidates and afterward when they have been elected to represent us – that we need their leadership and support in continuing to make progress toward our vision of a cleaner, greener and more livable Washington, D.C.

To find out how you can help us do this, please contact me at [jason\\_broehm@earthlink.net](mailto:jason_broehm@earthlink.net) or 202-299-0745.



photo by Wayne Phyllaiter

*Bikers and pedestrians will soon be able to pass over the dangerous intersection of New York and Florida avenues on this Metro-side skypath.*

### Capital Sierran Editors

Sarah Newbold, Jessica Hanff,  
Yoma Ullman

**To submit letters to the editor or other materials for publication or inquire about display advertising, write to:**

Capital Sierran, c/o Sarah Newbold at [sarah\\_newbold@hotmail.com](mailto:sarah_newbold@hotmail.com)

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### Send changes of address to:

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### Send membership forms to:

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# Volunteering

## Kingman Island Success

by Joanna Winchester

On August 4, at the tail end of D.C.'s heat wave, 25 volunteers dedicated a sticky Friday morning to collecting trash on the Anacostia River at Kingman Island. The event brought Sierra Club chapter volunteers and staff together with teen participants and program chaperones from the D.C. Housing Authority's Do Your B.E.S.T. (Building Excellence through Service and Training) Summer Youth Employment Program.

We learned about the Anacostia River's history and talked about the threats posed by human impact such as trash, contaminants, erosion and other problems. We also discovered many ways to protect and celebrate the Anacostia River, including picking up garbage along the riverbanks and on our

streets, recycling in our homes and schools, and volunteering with local groups like the Sierra Club, the Earth Conservation Corps or the Anacostia Watershed Society.

Some of the day's highlights included sightings of herons and egrets, mountains of treats donated to fuel our volunteers and posing for pictures next to a satisfying pile of full trash bags.

The D.C. Housing Authority (DCHA) Summer Youth Employment Program runs for eight weeks, offering participants aged 14-18 summer employment opportunities at local businesses and nonprofit organizations. The goals of the program are: "[T]o give young people from public housing an opportunity to experience work in the public and private sectors and to challenge them to grow professionally and personally from a structured employment program that includes community service and youth leadership principles." As part of the program, participants also attend educational field trips, workshops and community service projects like the Kingman Island cleanup. The D.C. Chapter is looking forward to working with this program again – we hope you will join us next time!

For more information about DCHA's Do Your B.E.S.T. programs, call 202-535-2170. For more information about upcoming D.C. Chapter volunteer opportunities, call Joanna Winchester at the D.C. Chapter office at 202-543-0552.

photo courtesy of D.C. Dept. of Planning



*Aerial view of Kingman Island*

**Thank you!!!** The D.C. Chapter of the Sierra Club and D.C. Housing Authority Kingman Island Cleanup was made possible through the generosity of the following partners:

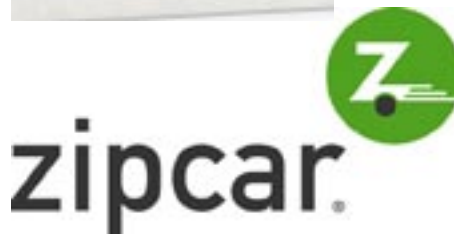
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## Chapter E-mail Alerts

Would you like to receive e-mail alerts from the chapter about upcoming events and opportunities to speak up for the District's environment? To join, please submit a request by e-mail to [washingtondc.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:washingtondc.chapter@sierraclub.org).

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## Cool Cities

*Continued from page 1*

nationwide Cool Cities campaign. Cool Cities engages with and encourages local leaders across the United States to take the initiative in first signing on to the agreement and then implementing inventive energy solutions that address an individual city's emissions rate. By taking action, mayors can improve public health, reduce dependence on oil and save taxpayer dollars. This objective can generally be accomplished in three ways: first, by pursuing cleaner vehicle options, such as adding more hybrid gas-electric vehicles to public transportation fleets, as well as offering incentives for those who already drive hybrid vehicles; second, by enforcing high standards of energy efficiency in old and new buildings around the city; and third, by increasing the use of renewable energies, like wind or hydroelectric power. While the approaches will vary from city to city, the goal is the same and is being met, one city at a time. As of August 10, 2006, 279 mayors representing over 48.5 million Americans had signed the agreement. D.C. mayor Anthony A. Williams (D) took the first step by signing the agreement in July 2005. We have yet, however, to see any large initiative on his part to follow up on that commitment.

We at Cool Cities in D.C. are working hard to educate institutions and members of the public about how their actions can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our city. It is our goal to bring our nation's capital to the forefront of environmental innovation as a leader in the reduction of greenhouse gases. The first step in this process will be to conduct a global warming emissions inventory. This will help make our campaign more specific to the District so we can learn what areas are priority targets. The emissions inventory itself will be done through the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI). It will be a key step in

identifying where our starting point is, so we can show our residents how our initiatives are helping the city as they unfold.

As mentioned earlier, one of the three ways to reduce D.C.'s greenhouse gas emissions is by increasing the number of green vehicles. Although the District has already replaced 414 of its diesel buses with cleaner natural gas buses, we want to encourage the government to add yet more green vehicles. We are looking into ways for D.C. to replace the remaining diesel buses with buses that are either hybrid or run on natural gas and to prove to the city that this will be cost-effective.

The second way to make D.C. a cool city is by offering energy-efficient solutions for existing and new buildings. With the help of Dave Kessler and the Sierra Club's Energy-Climate Action Team (E-CAT), we are focusing on the New City Center redevelopment project. E-CAT is working with the project's developers and the D.C. Council to persuade them to include the most energy-efficient and sustainable technologies in the new design. E-CAT's team is also selling compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs) at various locations around the city for the purpose of educating schools, places of worship and individuals about the cost and energy benefits of simply changing a light bulb.

Cool Cities D.C. has taken a giant step forward with its "Lighten Up!" project. It motivates institutions to lighten up by reducing their energy consumption. We have also established what will hopefully be a long-term relationship with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). What started out with the goal of having Metro change the light bulbs at stations has turned into a consultancy on improving energy efficiency at individual stations throughout the Metro system.

*Continued on page 5*

# Conservation

## GW National Forest

*Continued from page 1*

new regulations, which no longer require an Environmental Impact Statement to be prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The NEPA process insured broad public participation in the development of a plan, required a consideration of alternative approaches to managing the forest, provided for an assessment of the cumulative impacts of activities on the forest, and allowed for legal challenges. The new regulations significantly weaken these elements of the planning process.

The Bush administration’s rationale for removing forest planning from the full NEPA process is that only actual, site-specific projects affect the forest. This, despite the fact that a forest plan will govern the overall management of the forest for 10 to 15 years, including, for example, setting timber targets. Since the new regulations also encourage these new plans to avoid setting enforceable standards and guidelines, it is especially important for citizens to hold the agency accountable by insisting that it adopt firm, enforceable standards to protect natural resources.

Without the safeguards of NEPA, forest protection activists are preparing for the new planning process by reaching

out to diverse groups to inform them about the value of the George Washington National Forest as an environmental and recreational resource and the need to encourage restoration of its ecological health.

If you know of an organization that would like to learn more about the George Washington National Forest and how to protect it from commercial logging, natural gas development and large-scale commercial recreational development, we would be happy to come and speak to your group.

The environmental organizations engaged in this effort at this time include Wild Virginia, Virginia Forest Watch, Virginia Wilderness Committee, Southern Environmental Law Center, Wildlaw, Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition, The Wilderness Society and the Sierra Club.

Want to get involved? For more information or to sign up for updates on forest issues, please contact Chris Carney at 202-237-0754 or [chris.carney@sierraclub.org](mailto:chris.carney@sierraclub.org).

*Chris Carney is a regional conservation organizer.*



*photos courtesy of the National Forest Service*

## Cool Cities

*Continued from page 4*

We hope eventually to use Metro as a shining example of how energy efficiency can work for any company. This approach will help various cities in Maryland and Virginia to reach their reduction goals as well.

Even though the campaign is new in our city, we are confident that we can create some wonderful changes that will ultimately allow D.C. to prosper. Through operating at the grassroots level, we look forward to learning from

and working with all the other cities around the nation that have signed on to the agreement so that our entire nation will be at the forefront of energy efficiency. With the help of those cities and the residents of this diverse and progressive area, we will be sure to protect the green areas in cities including the District, cut greenhouse gas emissions and reduce the impending threat of climate change.

We can do it with your help. Please

contact Jessica Deskiewicz or Akima Cornell, co-coordinators of Cool Cities D.C., at [coolcitiesdc@gmail.com](mailto:coolcitiesdc@gmail.com) for more information or to kindly offer help.



# Green Promises: Changing the World One Eco-Wedding at a Time

by Chasta Piatakovas

Preparing for your wedding is definitely a time to flaunt your style and personality, but don't miss the chance to be eco-savvy as well. My October 2005 wedding definitely reflected my unique style and personality – informal, fun-loving, adventurous and eco-friendly. But today there is a growing trend to spare no expense—either in money or in personal values—on a wedding. “The wedding industry is estimated at \$139 billion this year, and the average wedding budget today is \$26,000,” says Corina Beczner, founder of Vibrant Events. “The industry offers cookie cutter experiences for mass market appeal. There is little room for personal values, authentic tradition, or creative style...and worse, couples run the risk of losing themselves and creating an event that looks like all the rest!”

Beczner founded Vibrant Events to organize weddings and special events that draw on local, organic and socially responsible vendors to create truly unique and personal events without compromising quality. “Weddings are one of the most well known celebrations in our society, and what couples want most is for their wedding to be a personal reflection of who they are now and who they are committed to becoming. This is the meaning we hope everyone is touched, moved and inspired by in weddings.”

It is possible to have a truly wonderful environmentally sound wedding with personality on a reasonable budget. From organic foods at the reception, to recycled paper for the invitations, to flowering plants as centerpieces, all weddings should

be infused with environmentally sound tips. “We live in a time where people have a growing concern for our environment... The wedding industry has missed the opportunity to support the sustainable economy. It sells over-consumption and unsustainable products, trying to get brides and grooms to buy more, more, more,” believes Beczner.

There are plenty of resources like Vibrant Events and Organic Weddings that can help couples plan a wedding infused with their sustainable lifestyles. When couples plan their big day, Beczner advises that “reflecting on what brings meaning into their lives is key.”

### Make Guests Eco, Too

When planning, don't forget to help guests to be more earth-aware. Instead of traditional wedding favors, make a donation of \$1 per guest to the Sierra Club, or for the bride with a bigger budget, give gift memberships. (If you wish to purchase more than one gift membership at a time, contact me at the number below.) Then for each place setting, you can design a small white place card with the Sierra Club's logo and text that describes the charitable donation. You can also print a list of environmental tips on the back of the place card.

Another great trend developing, and one of Beczner's current favorites, is the potential for couples to offset the carbon emissions created by guests traveling to their event through several organizations like Future Forests or DriveNeutral.

Your wedding is sure to be remembered for all of the creative ways you helped the environment. And your guests will probably learn a lot that they can apply to their everyday lives as well. So, have fun making your wedding eco-friendly! And contact me at 202-230-1205 or [washingtondc.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:washingtondc.chapter@sierraclub.org) for more ideas.

*Chasta Piatakovas is membership chair for the D.C. Chapter.*



*The mountains of Vermont make a lovely backdrop for this wedding.*



# Eco - Green Living

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## America's Wild Legacy

by Tom Valtin  
(reprinted from *The Planet*)

Late last year, taking its cue from the 1765 Sierra Summit delegates who met in September, the Sierra Club Board of Directors established "America's Wild Legacy" as one of the club's three priority conservation initiatives. The Wild Legacy campaign seeks to rally a broad spectrum of citizens around the value of protecting wildlife, public lands, and special places, and block threats to these lands from commercial logging, mining, abusive recreation and overgrazing.

**Endangered Species Act:** The Endangered Species Act is one of our most effective tools for protecting America's wildlands and safeguarding our fish and wildlife. Thanks to this landmark law, passed in 1973, wild salmon still spawn in the rivers of the Pacific Northwest, wolves have returned to Yellowstone and bald eagles have made a comeback from coast to coast.

**National Forests; Not For Sale:** President Bush's proposed 2007 federal budget includes a billion-dollar public land sell-off scheme that flies in the face of widespread opposition to recent proposals to privatize some of this country's most treasured public lands. The president wants to sell off 800,000 acres of National Forest and Bureau of Land Management lands to raise money. The Sierra Club is rallying public opposition to the plan. The club is also working to defeat the Walden-Baird logging bill to fast-track commercial salvage logging in our national forests.

**Tongass National Forest:** Protecting the Tongass National Forest—the world's largest temperate

rainforest—is among the club's top wildlands priorities. Alaska organizers have persuaded nearly 100 businesses, including the Municipality of Anchorage, to sign the club's Wild Lands for Wild Salmon proclamation. They have also organized gatherings and outings in Tongass communities to celebrate the benefits of Tongass wildlands and wild salmon for their economy and quality of life. Press events, community potlucks, outings, tabling events, phone banks and door-to-door canvassing efforts are ongoing in Anchorage and around the state.

**Klamath Basin:** The plight of Klamath River salmon highlights the importance of the Endangered Species Act. The Sierra Club is working with an array of partners to restore salmon populations after water releases for irrigated farming have devastated their numbers in recent years.

**West Virginia Wildlands:** The Monongahela National Forest contains some of the most spectacular unprotected wild places in the eastern United States, like the Roaring Plains proposed wilderness pictured below. But the state's wildlands are now threatened

by mining, logging, road-building and industrial energy development. The Wild Legacy campaign is helping local activists move wilderness support and legislation forward in the state. The West Virginia Chapter has initiated a joint West Virginia Wilderness Campaign with the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy and the Wilderness Society.

**Giant Sequoia National Monument:** Giant Sequoia National Monument, home to more than half the world's Sequoia redwoods, was protected by President Clinton in 2001. But the Bush administration is calling for the removal of large, healthy trees up to 30 inches in diameter, even within the sequoia groves, violating the original monument designation and contradicting a proclamation by the first President Bush declaring these forests off limits to commercial logging. In late July, the House Resources Subcommittee took up legislation that would allow two commercial logging projects in Giant Sequoia Monument to move forward and would shield the timber sales from any environmental or legal review. The bill would also

*Continued on page 9*



photo by Wayne Phyllaiter



## Spicy Businessman Goes Solar

*(reprinted from The Planet)*

Ralph Maltese, a McCormick Spices Employee from Santa Cruz, California, installed an array of solar panels in his yard just before Christmas 2004. “We had a modest chunk of money and we didn’t know where to invest it because the economy was lousy at the



time. I’d studied solar energy in college and business school and I wanted to do something good with the money.”

They put in a 2,500-watt system, which originally cost \$23,000, but dropped to half that after rebates and tax credits, and they expect to pay it off in 14 years. He says the payback time is where a lot of people get cold feet, but he views it as a long-term investment, like a bond where you get back a certain

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## Wild Legacy

*Continued from page 8*

exempt from review another highly controversial 130,000-acre logging project in the Kings River watershed in nearby Sierra National Forest.

## Off-Road Vehicles (ORV):

Hunters and anglers, native nations, faith organizations and ranchers are increasingly allied with conservation groups in fighting the rampant growth of ORV use in national forests and other public lands. The Wild Legacy campaign is building constituencies to combat this abuse.

## Public Lands in Public Hands:

On September 30 comes National Public Lands Day, the nation’s largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance America’s public lands. Last year nearly 90,000 people around the country participated in trail or historic site maintenance, tree planting, fence pulls, trash and weed removal, habitat restoration and accessibility improvements. The Sierra Club is joining the effort with its Public Lands in Public Hands campaign to raise awareness about attempts to give away our public lands and engage communities in local restoration projects on Public Lands Day. Club volunteers will be providing photos and accounts detailing their day of action, to be posted on the Sierra Club’s public website. To find out about an event near you, see <http://sierraclub.org/publiclandsday>.

## Public Lands Day

*(reprinted from The Planet)*

Want to help celebrate Public Lands Day on September 30? The America’s Wild Legacy Conservation Initiative Committee wants to help! Your group or chapter can get up to \$250 as part of the Public Lands in Public Hands campaign.

The goal of Public Lands in Public Hands is twofold:

- 1) Raise awareness about recent attempts to give away our national public lands.
- 2) Engage our communities in local restoration projects on Saturday, September 30, 2006, to demonstrate citizens’ support for the continued ownership, protection and restoration of our public lands.

Possible projects include, but are not limited to, trail or historic site maintenance, fence pulls, trash or noxious weed removal, habitat restoration and accessibility improvements for visitors with special needs. Projects may take place on federal, state, city or county land and must be entered into with the approval and cooperation of the managing agency.

Any Sierra Club entity is eligible to receive up to \$250 (per project) for hosting a September 30 Public Lands in Public Hands project if it agrees to provide digital photos and a short story detailing its day of action. There are a limited number of stipends available – all awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis upon receipt of qualified applications – so an early return of completed applications is encouraged. Stipends are not limited to one per entity. Besides the stipend, sponsoring entities will receive a limited number of buttons and stickers for Public Lands in Public Hands project participants.

Want to plan an event but don’t know where to start? Contact Jill Workman at [workmanjm@aol.com](mailto:workmanjm@aol.com) or 503-421-3635 for help in getting started.

For more information or an application, please contact Jeff Waner at [jeff.waner@sierraclub.org](mailto:jeff.waner@sierraclub.org) or 202-675-7914; or write to Sierra Club, 408 C Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002.

## Keep the Chapter Growing

by Karen Cordry

Elsewhere in the newsletter, you'll see the announcement that the Sierra Club's D.C. Chapter has made a big leap of faith by moving our fabulous part-time staff person, Joanna Winchester, to full time. Funding that position is a big challenge, but we are encouraged by the great work she and our membership chair, Chasta Piatakovas, have been doing in terms of supporting the chapter's conservation work, finding and nurturing new volunteers and just generally helping the chapter take its work to another level.

As treasurer, I'd just like to remind you that there is still time to help support that work by making contributions. We only come to you once a year, in March, but we'll take your contributions all year long. Right now, we're just a fraction away from \$5,000 -- but we'd like to make this a record-breaking year to go along with the chapter's record-breaking accomplishments. The chapter has about 3,000 members; if every one of those members only contributed \$10, we'd have enough to ensure that we can keep all of the great projects you see described in the pages of this newsletter moving forward.

If you want to give more, we have set up three levels of donors (based strictly on the size of the river!)—Rock Creek Donor at \$75 or above, Anacostia River Donor at \$100 and Potomac River Donor at \$200. We have listed the donors below—and a huge thank-you to those who have given so far. And we hope all the rest of you dig out that donor card and follow through on your March resolution to support the chapter. If you can't find your card, just send the check to Karen Cordry, 10705 Torrance Dr., Silver Spring, Md. 20902, and you will find your name in the next issue.

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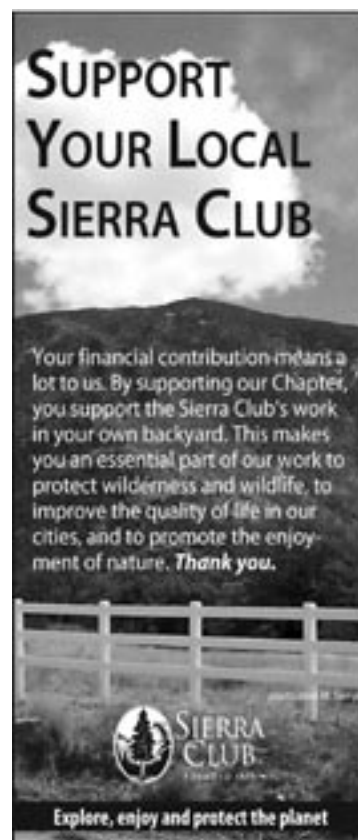
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### Potomac River Donors

Tom Metcalf  
Karen Cordry  
Jason Broehm



# Announcements

## Environmental Justice Organizer Linda

### Fennell Departs

by Jason Broehm

After serving two and a half years as the Sierra Club's environmental justice (EJ) organizer in Washington, D.C., Linda Fennell left the club in August to take a position with the Earth Conservation Corps (ECC), which provides hands-on education, training, professional experience and leadership skills to disadvantaged youth to empower them to rebuild the environmental, social and economic health of their communities.

During her time with the Sierra Club, Fennell built strong relationships with communities east of the Anacostia River and helped bring together members of those communities with Sierra Club members to clean up our local environment. By supporting these communities, she helped them achieve important improvements in their quality of life.

Fennell worked with the Fort Davis/Fort Dupont Citizens' Task Force on a successful campaign to prevent construction of a gasoline station in their neighborhoods in Southeast D.C. Just outside the District, in West Hyattsville, Md., she supported a community that has had some success in fighting a proposed Liquefied Natural Gas facility there.

This year, Fennell partnered with the Penn Branch community and Casey Trees Foundation to bring together volunteers from the community, the Sierra Club and other organizations to plant dozens of trees along Pope Branch Creek, a tributary of the Anacostia River, as



part of a project to control erosion and improve water quality downstream. That work will continue with another planting this fall.

Those who have been associated with Linda Fennell have nothing but praise for the work she has done. "Linda had the trust and respect of the communities with which she worked, and she knew how to get things done—never any excuses, just results," said Glen Besa, Sierra Club regional director and Linda's supervisor, "Linda will be missed!" As

a token of the respect of her fellow Sierra Club staff and volunteers and members of the community with whom she has worked, about a dozen of them convened for a farewell dinner to honor Fennell's contribution to the Sierra Club and to the District's environment.

While Fennell's departure will be a real loss to the Sierra Club and the communities that the EJ program serves, it is heartening to know that she will not be going far and that she will continue to work on similar issues for an organization with which the Sierra Club collaborates. Dennis Chestnut, a leader in the Watts Branch neighborhood who serves as a community representative on the EJ Advisory Committee, put it well at the farewell dinner when he remarked that she was just "crossing the [Anacostia] river," moving from her Sierra Club office in Anacostia to her new ECC office in Southwest on the other side.

The Sierra Club is currently searching for a new EJ organizer to carry on this important work.

## Spicy Businessman

*Continued from page 9*

amount every year.

Their annual electricity bill used to be \$900 a year, now it's a little more than \$100 -- that's a 10 percent annual, about 6.9 percent after taxes.

Because of the way Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) charges for electricity based on when you use it, the family tries to limit their electricity use during the day – at peak solar collecting hours – so they get the maximum credit. "At peak hours in summer, we maximize how much we send to PG&E at 30 cents per kilowatt hour. When we buy electricity at night, we pay around 9 cents per kilowatt hour. Plus direct conversion from solar to electricity right on the spot is much

more efficient than if the electricity had to be shipped to us, so we're saving energy as well as money."

Maltese says maintenance is minimal—four times a year he spends half an hour washing the collectors. There are no moving parts, just a fuse that prevents a voltage spike from damaging the equipment. Maltese's son Jesse monitors the system regularly, reporting to the family how many kilowatt hours it has generated. "We feel we're doing something good, and we're teaching our kids something in the process."

# Announcements

## Exciting Upcoming Membership Events

The D.C. Chapter has been steadily organizing events for our membership. At least 70 events have been held since January, with at least another 25 scheduled by December. In addition to the monthly **Second Monday Happy Hour** and **True Cost of Food Campaign Restaurant Outing**, we have organized a book club, film screenings and green tours. Our web calendar at [dc.sierraclub.org/calendar](http://dc.sierraclub.org/calendar) is updated regularly with exciting social events, committee meetings and volunteer opportunities, and you can RSVP online too.

The chapter is excited about two upcoming tours. We toured the Casey Trees greenroof in June and now we have organized a tour of the **Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) building** on Thursday, September 28 at 6:15 p.m. and a tour of **“The Green House: New Directions in Sustainable Architecture and Design”** exhibit at the National Building Museum on October 19 at 1:45 p.m.

We will host several film screenings in the fall. The chapter has already screened “The Anacostia: The People’s River” and “Monumental: David Brower’s Fight for Wild America,” and we are looking forward to screening **“Oil on Ice”** on Tuesday, September 26 at 6:30 p.m. “Oil on Ice” portrays the native Gwich’in Indians taking on powerful global energy interests to prevent invasive oil operations threatening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge’s fragile caribou calving grounds on which the native people’s subsistence has always depended. We screen **“Chicago: City of the Big Shoulders,”** a film about grassroots determination to promote green architecture, on Tuesday, October 17 at 6:30 p.m. More films will be added. Please feel free to send suggestions to [washingtondc.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:washingtondc.chapter@sierraclub.org).

In November, we will have **three discussions with author/illustrator Lynne Cherry**. Lynne speaks passion-

ately about teaching students respect for the earth and how living in our democratic society enables children to make a difference in their world. In her 45-minute presentations, she talks about how her books were inspired by her love of the natural world and how using nature to integrate elements of the curriculum makes a child’s learning relevant.

To end the year with a fun-filled celebration, the chapter is ironing out details and location for our **Annual Holiday Party on Wednesday, December 6** at 6:30 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity to meet your chapter leaders, fellow members and non-members, and distinguished guests from the D.C. government for an enjoyable evening of socializing over food and drink. There will be door prizes, too! A donation will be suggested to help cover the cost of food. There will be a cash bar.

Visit our web calendar at [dc.sierraclub.org/calendar](http://dc.sierraclub.org/calendar) regularly for complete details and updated information on all of our events as well as to RSVP. If you have any questions, please contact Chasta Piatakovas, membership chair, at [washingtondc.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:washingtondc.chapter@sierraclub.org).



**zipcar.**

### Zipcar Half Off Offer

Sierra Club members will receive ½ price memberships from Zipcar Members can sign up at [www.zipcar.com/sierraclubdc](http://www.zipcar.com/sierraclubdc).



**GET OUT!**

Learn about local chapter outings at [www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter](http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter) today!

**SIERRA CLUB**  
Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



# Announcements

## Seeking Intern to Chapter Recycling Committee

### BASIC FUNCTION AND RESPONSIBILITY

To provide administrative support to leaders of the Recycling Committee of Washington D.C.'s Chapter of the Sierra Club as they seek to encourage D.C. residents and businesses to recycle reusable resources. Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Implementation of a recycling education program for D.C. youth;
- Development of a recycling curriculum befitting early childhood (K-5) education in collaboration with Sierra Club leaders;
- Coordination of volunteers in conjunction with The George Washington University's Office of Community Service; and
- Outreach to D.C. public schools and youth education centers.

### ENTRY-LEVEL QUALIFICATIONS

- Positive attitude
- Commitment to the Sierra Club's mission to "Explore, Enjoy, and Protect the Planet"
- High school diploma
- Strong communication and customer service skills
- Some experience in grassroots organizing, including volunteer management.

### EXPECTATIONS

- An average of seven hours a week commitment
- Minimum of four months participation (ideally September – December)

Intern will report directly to Recycling Committee chair, with support from the chapter's assistant.

The Sierra Club is willing and able to work with existing college/university internship programs to sign off on credits for the internship.

### THIS POSITION IS UNPAID

To apply for this internship opportunity, please email [mtisdale@gmail.com](mailto:mtisdale@gmail.com).

## Chapter Assistant Goes to Full Time

by Jason Broehm

In September, Joanna Winchester, the chapter assistant, began working for the Washington, D.C., Chapter full time. For about the previous three years, including Winchester's 11 months with the Sierra Club, the chapter has employed a half-time staff person.

Recently, the chapter's Executive Committee decided to expand the position to full time in order to increase the support Winchester will be able to provide to the chapter's campaigns, particularly recruiting and involving new volunteers. In making the change, the Executive Committee recognized that the chapter must do additional fundraising in order to sustain a full-time employee for the long term. The Fundraising Committee is exploring fundraising options and is searching for volunteers who have fundraising expertise.

If you would like to help the chapter step up its fundraising either by making a financial contribution or by getting involved with the Fundraising Committee, please contact Jason Broehm at 202-299-0745 or [jason\\_broehm@earthlink.net](mailto:jason_broehm@earthlink.net).

## Seeking GREEN FESTIVAL Volunteers

**October 14 and 15 – Washington Convention Center,  
Washington, D.C.**

We need your help staffing the Sierra Club table at the Green Festival, the biggest environmental gathering of the year. The club will have a booth with information on our local campaigns and outings. If you volunteer for a shift at our table, we'll give you a free ticket to get into the festival. Contact Chris Carney at 202-237-0754 or [Chris.Carney@SierraClub.org](mailto:Chris.Carney@SierraClub.org).



# Calendar

## Outings

Following is a *partial* list of activities offered by the Metropolitan Washington Regional Outings Program (MWROP). For a more complete and up-to-date list and additional information, visit [www.mwrop.org](http://www.mwrop.org) or call 202-547-2326.

### The Hike Series

**Change of Seasons Hikes** use the C&O Canal towpath and other trails along the Potomac River to explore what happens to local flora and fauna as we move from one season to the next.

**Conservation Hikes** are generally slow-paced, family-friendly walks of 3-6 miles, rated A or B, with an emphasis on education. They usually focus on the natural history and conservation problems of the areas they explore. Sometimes a local expert accompanies the MWROP leader.

**Get to Know [locale]** hikes are educational/recreational outings open to all but aimed chiefly at newcomers to hiking or the metro area. They focus on selected areas and combine exercise with brief, information-enhanced stops, often along interesting but little-known routes.

**Splashdown Hikes** offer opportunities to cool off on hot days by swimming, dog paddling, floating, wading, toe dipping or splashing around.

**Sat. Sep. 2. Rated C. Little Devil Stairs, Northern SNP.** Moderate 8-mi. beginning with a steep, rocky ascent up a stream-crossed ravine, then descending along Piney Branch Trail to pass the lovely Bolen Cemetery on the return. To carpool, meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Oakton Center near McDonalds. Leaders: Pat Hopson 703-379-1795 (9 a.m.-10 p.m.) and Marjorie Richman 301-770-3608.

**Sat. Sep. 2. Rated E. Sugarloaf Mountain, with Optional Side Trip to Lilypons Water Gardens and Its Annual Koi & Wine Festival.** Moderately paced woodland circuit hike of 8.1 mi., with 2,500 ft. of elev. change, several fine overlooks, and discussion of Sugarloaf's Civil War role and its American chestnut research project, followed by optional sampling of almost-nearby 300-acre water gardens and its festival. To carpool, meet at 8:30 a.m. in Bethesda at Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro Station, open-air Park & Ride lot (just behind garage). Joint event with AMC/DC. Leaders: Paul Elliott 703-256-6351 and Mike Darzi 301-593-4551 or [mike\\_darzi@ssaihq.com](mailto:mike_darzi@ssaihq.com).

**Sun. Sep. 3. Rated B. Rock Creek Park** (Get to Know D.C. Series). Easy 7-mi. walk through central Rock Creek Park. Meet at 1 p.m. at Cleveland Park Metro Station on east side of Connecticut Ave. at Ordway St. at street level. Bring beverage and light snack. Kids who can walk 7 mi. on relatively easy terrain are welcome. Leader: Jim Finucane 301-365-3485 (before 9 p.m.).

**Mon. Sep. 4 (Labor Day). Rated G. Corbin Cabin in Central SNP** (Splashdown Series). Moderate-to fast-paced hike of 12 mi. with 2,250 ft. of elev. gain. Very scenic route with beautiful trails, a great climb and several great swimming holes. Bring swimsuits & Tevas. To carpool, meet at 8:30 a.m. at Vienna Metro Station, north parking lot. Beginners must call first for

requirements. Leader: Ted Fryberger 410-312-2982 (before 9:30 p.m.) or [tkfryberger@comcast.net](mailto:tkfryberger@comcast.net).

**Fri. Sep. 8. Rated A/B. Moonlit Hike on the Mall** (Get to Know D.C. Series). Explore the beauty of D.C.'s Mall and monuments by the full moon. Meet at 7:30 p.m. on the Mall side of Constitution Ave. parking lot by Washington Monument. Use Federal Triangle Metro Station or park on street. Kids who can walk 7+ mi. (or 3 mi.) on relatively level terrain are welcome. Leader: Jim Finucane 301-365-3485 (before 9 p.m.).

**Sat. Sep. 9. Rated B. Two Aqueducts Towpath Hike.** Join us for a 9.9-mi. one-way hike from the ruins of the Catoctin Aqueduct on the C&O Canal towpath to the beautifully restored Monocacy Aqueduct. Car shuttle required. To carpool, meet at 8 a.m. at Carderock (directions at [www.mwrop.org/directions](http://www.mwrop.org/directions)), or meet at the trailhead in Lander, Md., 2.4 mi. upstream from Point of Rocks, around 9:30-9:45 a.m. Leaders: Carol Ivory 703-476-8730 or [carolivory@verizon.net](mailto:carolivory@verizon.net) and Pat Hopson 703-379-1795 (between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m.).

**Sat. Sep. 9. Rated C. Lands of American Chestnut Land Trust, with Optional Posthike Harvest Moon Canoe Trip.** Moderately paced circuit hike of 7.5 mi., with about 1,800 ft. of elev. change in secluded private nature preserve in Calvert Co. Run by ACLT, our ecology-oriented canoe trip (5-8 p.m.) will be on last remaining undeveloped tributary on Chesapeake Bay's western shore. Call leaders for details and reservations. To carpool, meet at 10:30 a.m. in Alexandria at Van Dorn Metro Station, Park & Ride lot. Joint event with AMC/DC. Leaders: Paul Elliott 703-256-6351 and Frank Wodarczyk 703-569-6737.

**Sat. Sep. 16. Rated B. Prince William Forest Park.** Moderate 10-mi. circuit hike in close-in forest area just 22 mi. south of Capital Beltway (I-495). Elev. change negligible. Meet at 8:30 a.m. Call for meeting place. Leader: Sue Auerbach 703-931-2728.

**Sat. Sep. 16. Not Rated. Upper Montgomery County Bike Circuit.** 15-30 mi. over rolling/hilly terrain with stops at points of historical interest. Helmets mandatory. Bring water and a packed lunch or cash to purchase lunch at a country store. Leader: Jim Finucane 301-365-3485 (before 9 p.m.).

**Sun. Sep. 17. Rated B. Sugarloaf Mountain Northern Peaks Trail Conservation Walk.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Scenic 7-mi. loop from the base up around the main summit and over several lower peaks. Leader: Ron LaCoss 301-946-1106 (before 9 p.m.) or [ronenviroed@aol.com](mailto:ronenviroed@aol.com).

**Sun. Sep. 17. Rated C+ or E. Shenandoah River State Park, with Last-Leg Canoe Option.** Moderately paced 9.5-mi. circuit hike, with about 3,000 ft. of elev. change, in hilly and scenic area south of Front Royal. Canoe option will consist of doing last 3.5 miles on Shenandoah's River's South Fork. Reservations are required (call leaders by Sep. 14). To carpool, meet at 8:30 a.m. at Vienna Metro Station, north parking lot (train riders: bear right on emerging

outdoors). Joint event with AMC/DC. Leaders: Paul Elliott 703-256-6351 and Mike Darzi 301-593-4551 or [mike\\_darzi@ssaihq.com](mailto:mike_darzi@ssaihq.com).

**Sat. Sep. 30. Not Rated. Fall General Meeting of Metropolitan Washington Regional Outings Program (MWROP).** To be held on Capitol Hill, this moderately paced event will feature an informative morning program focusing on Washington, D.C., and an afternoon hike in same city (see separate listing), with a potluck lunch in between. Current MWROP leaders, prospective leaders and members of general public are invited to attend. This listing will be updated and details will be sent to current leaders by Sep. 16. Contact: Paul Elliott 703-256-6351.

**Sat. Sep. 30. Rated A. Afternoon Hike in Area between Capitol Hill and Anacostia River** (Get to Know D.C. Series). Moderately paced circuit hike of about 6 mi. with emphasis on places of historic, cultural and political interest, which are likely to include Eastern Market, Lincoln Park, Frederick Douglass Alley and Congressional Cemetery. Leashed dogs welcome. Meet at 1 p.m. at Nathanael Greene statue in Stanton Square, (Massachusetts Ave. between 4th and 6th streets S.E., and three blocks from Union Station Metro Station). Leaders: Helen Epps 202-363-1278 (leave message) and Paul Elliott 703-256-6351.

**Sun. Oct. 1. Rated B. Rock Creek Park** (Get to Know D.C. Series). Explore the beauty of Rock Creek Park in early fall. Meet at 1 p.m. at the Rock Creek Nature Center (Military Rd. and Oregon Ave. N.W.). Bring water and a snack. Kids who can walk 7+ miles on relatively level terrain are welcome. Leader: Jim Finucane 301-365-3485 (before 9 p.m.).

**Sun. Oct. 1. Rated D/E. Continuing Saga of the Last-Minute Poetry Hike.** A fun hike somewhere with some poetry. Limited to 20 people. Leader: David Cheng 301-980-6112 (before 9 p.m.) or [dmcheng@yahoo.com](mailto:dmcheng@yahoo.com).

**Sat. Oct. 7. Rated B. Takoma Park Neighborhoods and Trails** (Get to Know Metro D.C. Region Series). Join this 6-7 mi. hike through quaint neighborhoods and Sligo Creek Park to experience Victorian homes, historical buildings and Salvadoran pupuserias. Meet at 10 a.m. at Takoma Park Metro (Red Line) Station. Bring lunch, water. Leaders: Jane Hudson 301-589-8708 or [janedc2002@yahoo.com](mailto:janedc2002@yahoo.com) and Helen Epps 202-363-1278 (leave message).

**Mon. Oct. 9. Rated B. Columbus Day Holiday at Great Falls, Va.** One-way and scenic 7.5-mi. hike from Leigh Mill Rd. to Fairfax Cross County Trail terminus at the Potomac River in Great Falls Park, and then do partly hilly stretch along riverfront in that park and Riverbend Park. Car shuttle required. Joint event with PATC. Bring lunch and water. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at Riverbend Park visitor center. Leader: Henri Comeau 703-451-7965 or [HenriComeau@aol.com](mailto:HenriComeau@aol.com).

**Sat. Oct. 14. Rated B. Northwest Trails—but No Dancing** (Get to Know D.C. Series). A 6-7 mi. hike on various trails and streets in Northwest D.C., stop-

### Hike Rating System

One point is assigned to each mile and each 400' elevation change, up & down. The higher the point total, the more difficult the hike. For example, a five-mile hike with 1,200' elevation change (400' up, 800' down) gets a point total of 8 and is rated B; an 8-mile hike with an elevation change of 3,600' gets a point total of 17 and is rated E.

Rating	Points	Rating	Points	Rating	Points
A	7 or less	B	8-10	C	11-13
D	14-16	E	17-19	F	20-22
G	23-25	H	more than 25		



# Calendar

## D.C. Chapter and Related Events

*Following is a list of activities of the D.C. Chapter at press time. Because of the possibility of changes, please confirm with the contact person or by checking our website, <http://dc.sierraclub.org/>.*

### Wed. Aug. 30

Members Appreciation Day. 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. The Reef, 2446 18th St. N.W. RSVP. Our members are obviously the people who keep us successful and we offer this event to say thank you. Paid members only. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at 202-320-1205 or [cpiatakovas@netzero.com](mailto:cpiatakovas@netzero.com).

### Tue. Sep. 5

Capital Crescent Trail (CCCT) Traffic Survey (volunteer opportunity). The CCCT is asking for volunteers to perform a trail traffic survey. Contact [survey@ccctrail.org](mailto:survey@ccctrail.org).

### Sat. Sep. 9

Marvin Gaye Park Picnic (volunteer opportunity). 12:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Riverside Center, 5200 Foote St. N.E. Contact Joanna Winchester at 202-543-0552 or [joanna.winchester@sierraclub.org](mailto:joanna.winchester@sierraclub.org).

### Sun. Sep. 10

Adams Morgan Day Festival (volunteer opportunity). 12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Adams Morgan, 18th St. N.W. between Columbia Road and Florida Ave. N.W. Contact Joanna Winchester at 202-543-0552 or [joanna.winchester@sierraclub.org](mailto:joanna.winchester@sierraclub.org).

### Mon. Sep. 11

Second Monday Happy Hour's "9/11 Forgotten Heroes" Film Screening. 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Sierra Club Legislative Office, 401 C St. N.E. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at 202-320-1205 or [cpiatakovas@netzero.com](mailto:cpiatakovas@netzero.com).

### Tue., Sep. 12

Transportation Committee Meeting. 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Sierra Club, 401 C St. N.E. Contact Tom Metcalf at [thmetcalf@mac.com](mailto:thmetcalf@mac.com) or 202-832-3809.

### Thu. Sep. 14

Executive Committee Meeting. 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Sierra Club, 401 C St. N.E. Contact Jason Broehm at [Jason\\_broehm@earthlink.net](mailto:Jason_broehm@earthlink.net) or 202-299-0745.

### Sat. Sep. 16

D.C. Energy Expo (volunteer opportunity). 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Emery Recreation Center, 5701 Georgia Ave. N.W. Contact Joanna Winchester at 202-543-0552 or [joanna.winchester@sierraclub.org](mailto:joanna.winchester@sierraclub.org).

### Tue. Sep. 19

Environmental Book Club. "Caribou Rising" by Rick Bass. 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Caribou Coffee, 1800 M St. N.W. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at 202-320-1205 or [cpiatakovas@netzero.com](mailto:cpiatakovas@netzero.com).

### Tue. Sep. 26

"Oil on Ice" Film Screening and Discussion. 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Sierra Club Legislative Office, 401 C St. N.E. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at 202-320-1205 or [cpiatakovas@netzero.com](mailto:cpiatakovas@netzero.com).

### Thu. Sep. 28

FCNL's Green Building on Capitol Hill Tour. 6:15 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Friends Committee on National Legislation, 245 Second St. N.E. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at 202-320-1205 or [cpiatakovas@netzero.com](mailto:cpiatakovas@netzero.com).

### Thu. Sep. 28

True Cost of Food Campaign Restaurant Outing (\$) 6:30 p.m. Punjab Dhaba, 7263-F Arlington Blvd (Route 50), Falls Church, Va. Contact Susan Prolman at 202-667-1162 or [prolmans@aol.com](mailto:prolmans@aol.com).

### Sun. Oct. 1

GWU Block Party (volunteer opportunity). 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Eye Street Mall. Contact Joanna Winchester at 202-543-0552 or [joanna.winchester@sierraclub.org](mailto:joanna.winchester@sierraclub.org).

### Mon. Oct. 9

Second Monday Happy Hour (\$) 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Biddy Mulligan's, 1500 New Hampshire Ave. N.W. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at 202-320-1205 or [cpiatakovas@netzero.com](mailto:cpiatakovas@netzero.com).

### Tue. Oct. 10

Transportation Committee Meeting. 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Sierra Club, 401 C St. N.E. Contact Tom Metcalf at [thmetcalf@mac.com](mailto:thmetcalf@mac.com) or 202-832-3809.

### Thu. Oct. 12

Executive Committee Meeting. 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Sierra Club, 401 C St. N.E. Contact Jason Broehm at

[Jason\\_broehm@earthlink.net](mailto:Jason_broehm@earthlink.net) or 202-299-0745.

### Tue. Oct. 17

"Chicago: City of the Big Shoulders" Film Screening. 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Sierra Club Legislative Office, 401 C St. N.E. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at 202-320-1205 or [cpiatakovas@netzero.com](mailto:cpiatakovas@netzero.com).

### Thu. Oct. 19

Behind-the-Scenes Tour of "The Green House: New Directions in Sustainable Architecture and Design." 1:45 p.m.-3:00 p.m. RSVP. National Building Museum, 401 F St. N.W. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at 202-320-1205 or [cpiatakovas@netzero.com](mailto:cpiatakovas@netzero.com).

### Thu. Oct. 26

True Cost of Food Campaign Restaurant Outing (\$) 6:30 p.m. Java Green Café, 1020 19th St. N.W. Contact Susan Prolman at 202-667-1162 or [prolmans@aol.com](mailto:prolmans@aol.com).

### Thu. Nov. 9

Executive Committee Meeting. 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Sierra Club, 401 C St. N.E. Contact Jason Broehm at [jason\\_broehm@earthlink.net](mailto:jason_broehm@earthlink.net) or 202-299-0745.

### Mon. Nov. 13

Second Monday Happy Hour (\$) 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. OZIO Restaurant & Lounge, 1813 M St. N.W. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at 202-320-1205 or [cpiatakovas@netzero.com](mailto:cpiatakovas@netzero.com).

### Tue. Nov. 14

Transportation Committee Meeting. 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Sierra Club, 401 C St. N.E. Contact Tom Metcalf at [thmetcalf@mac.com](mailto:thmetcalf@mac.com) or 202-832-3809.

### Thu. Nov. 16

Lunch Discussion with Author/Illustrator Lynne Cherry. 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. Sierra Club Legislative Office, 401 C St. N.E. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at 202-320-1205 or [cpiatakovas@netzero.com](mailto:cpiatakovas@netzero.com).

### Wed. Dec. 6

Holiday Party. 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Location TBD. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at 202-320-1205 or [cpiatakovas@netzero.com](mailto:cpiatakovas@netzero.com).

ping near the end of the hike for food (restaurant or buy/bring your own). Meet at 10 a.m. at the trailhead of Glover Archbold Park on Van Ness St. N.W., about 100 yds. west of Wisconsin Ave. and about 0.5 mi. south of the Tenleytown Metro Station on the Red Line. Leaders: Helen Epps 202-363-1278 (leave message), and Jane Hudson 301-589-8706 (before 10 p.m.) or [janedc2002@yahoo.com](mailto:janedc2002@yahoo.com).

**Sun. Oct. 22. Rated B. Change of Seasons Hike at Glen Echo Park.** Moderate 10-mi. circuit explores C&O Canal National Park river trails. Meet at 9 a.m. at Glen Echo Park's Minnehaha Bridge, by parking lot adjacent to MacArthur Blvd. at end of Goldsboro Rd. Bring food for mid-hike lunch. Leader: Dave Burd 703-998-9390 or [dave.burd@verizon.net](mailto:dave.burd@verizon.net).

**Sat. Oct. 28. Rated A. Blockhouse Point Conservation Walk.** 9 a.m.-noon. Take a leisurely stroll through one of Montgomery County's wildest forest parks and learn about some of the threats to local parks. Leader: Ron LaCoss 301-946-1106 (before 9 p.m.) or [ronenviroed@aol.com](mailto:ronenviroed@aol.com)

**Sun. Oct. 29. Rated A/B. Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail Hike #5.** Moderately paced circuit hike of 6-8 mi. and going both to and through Red Rock Wilderness Overlook Regional Park, Balls Bluff Regional Park, Edwards Landing Park and Veterans Park. Meet at 10 a.m. at Red Rock Wilderness Overlook Regional Park parking lot (call leaders for driving directions). Joint event with AMC/DC and Potomac

Heritage Trail Association. Leaders: Glenn Gillis 703-430-0568 and Paul Elliott 703-256-6351.

**Sat. Nov. 25. Volunteer Opportunity: Cleanup Trip along the C&O Canal Towpath near Edwards Ferry.** 9 a.m.-noon. Join C&O Canal Association "level walkers" Carol Ivory and Pat Hopson in cleaning up their assigned section of the towpath, mainly picking up trash. We'll meet at 9 a.m. at Edwards Ferry (directions at [onedayhike.org](http://onedayhike.org), driving directions) and work until noon, then have lunch in Poolesville. Bring work gloves; we'll supply the trash bags. To volunteer, contact Carol at 703-476-8730 or [carolivory@verizon.net](mailto:carolivory@verizon.net) or Pat at 703-379-1795 (9 a.m.-10 p.m.).

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