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Backyard Greening and Pope Branch Restoration by Penn Branch Residents

by Linda Fennell

Lewis Shorter and 17 of his neighbors on Nash Street, S.E., are in a peculiar predicament: they are losing their backyards. In this quiet, picturesque community of Penn Branch, located off Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., residents say something has to be done before their yards disappear. So who do they turn to? To Alberta Paul, public works chair of

the Penn Branch Citizens Civic Association. In response Ms. Paul called together staff from the D.C. Department of Health Storm Water Management, along with Mr. Shorter and his neighbor James Ferguson, for a tour of the Pope Branch stream bank on the Nash Street side. Pope Branch is a tributary to the Anacostia River that begins in the vicinity of Fort Davis Drive off Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. It winds its way to the Anacostia River through the Penn Branch and DuPont Park neighborhoods, under Branch Avenue, under Minnesota Avenue, and under the CSX rail line.

The tour was very informative. Sliding down the slippery slope of leaves and tree branches was an adventure in itself for everyone. As the group walked along the stream bank, they identified the erosion that is



photo by Steve McKinley-Ward, AWS

Exposed storm drain at the end of Texas Avenue, N.W.

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Political Committee Needs Volunteers

D.C. Politics Heating Up

by Lisa Swanson

Boy, do we have work to do! At the first public mayoral forum, I put the following question to the contenders: What is your favorite place in D.C.? I suggested they answer with both an open space and a "built" space. If the answers are any indication of the familiarity of the candidates with the city around them, it would be nice if they got out a little more.

Backyards fared well with Linda Cropp and Marie Johns, either their own or that of a young grandson.

Some people might not consider Freedom Plaza—essentially paved over and bounded by traffic on four sides—their favorite "open space," but that's what came to Vincent Orange's mind. Michael Brown's favorite building? Ben's Chili Bowl. Architecturally, not much, but I love it too, and suppose there's plenty more to loving a building than

Continued on page 5

Winds of Change Sweep Through D.C. Government in 2006

Will You Help Elect Candidates Who Will Support Environmental Protection?

by Jason Broehm

Capital Sierran Editors

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

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The 2006 election season is already well under way in the District, and this election will bring the biggest changes to the D.C. government in recent memory. We will elect a new mayor, a new D.C. Council chair, and at least three new council members from wards with open seats. The D.C. Chapter of the Sierra Club has an opportunity to put environmental issues on the political agenda and to help elect candidates who will support environmental protection, but we cannot do it without you.

With Mayor Anthony A. Williams (D) retiring, three current members of the D.C. Council, including Linda Cropp (D-Chairman), Adrian Fenty (D-Ward 4), and Vincent Orange (D-Ward 5), and two other candidates, are running to replace him. This creates open seat races for council chair and Ward 5. Councilmember Kathy Patterson (D-Ward 3) is running for chair, creating an open seat race in Ward 3, and councilmembers Jim Graham (D-Ward 1) and Vincent Gray (D-Ward 7) are reportedly considering entering the race for the chair. In Ward 6, Councilmember Sharon Ambrose (D) is retiring, leaving a third open seat. And if Graham were to enter the chair race, he would leave yet another open seat in Ward 1.

Two at-large council members—Phil Mendelson (D) and David Catania (I)—are also up for re-election. Mendelson, who has been a strong Sierra Club ally and who was honored by the Washington, D.C., Chapter in 2005 for his environmental leadership, is facing an active and well-funded challenger.

In the District, where about 75 percent of voters are registered as Democrats, the real action is generally in the primary election, which is scheduled for Tuesday, September 12. In the six months that remain before primary election day, there is a lot that we can do to ensure that the environment figures prominently in the election.

The D.C. Chapter will survey and interview the candidates on their environmental positions, and we will endorse those candidates who we believe would be allies. But there is a lot more that we can do, and this is where we need your help.

Between now and election day, candidates will be interacting with voters like you and me at candidate forums and many other public events. We need your help in making sure they hear from us that environmental protection is important to our quality of life, and we need to make them take positions in support of the issues we hold dear. We need to educate our fellow voters about the candidates' environmental records and positions. And we need to support pro-environment candidates with volunteer time and money to ensure that they will be in leadership positions to fight for environmental protection.

The D.C. Chapter's Political Committee is already hard at work, but we need you too! Whether you have a little time to contribute to our efforts or a lot, you can make a real difference. To get involved or to learn more, please contact Lisa Swanson, our political chair, at melatar@yahoo.com or 202-291-5972.

Conservation Committee Update

Conservation Chair Report

by Bob Morris

It is a pleasure to be back in the conservation chair, which I left about 18 months ago to work on regional and national projects, in particular, the priority-setting process at the Sierra Summit. I was also a delegate at the U.N. Conference on Climate Change (COP 11) in Montreal. I hope to use this position to help potential activists lose their tag as only “potential.” To that end, I want to make a deal with you. If you will commit to taking some active part in improving our environment, the D. C. Chapter will help you find some way to do it.

Here are three campaigns that can use your help right now:

1. Energy, Climate Action Teams. The teams (E-CATs) formed in October and November. Go to the D. C. Chapter Web site and click onto the E-CAT blog for information. We are working on moving to a new energy future based on clean power and climate protection. We have chosen the New City Project (the development of the 10-acre old Convention Center site) as the vehicle to promote reducing harmful emissions by improving energy efficiency in our buildings. About a third of energy usage goes to powering our buildings, causing about a third of polluting and climate-disrupting emissions nationally and more locally. We can use every member of the chapter in this campaign, so pick one of the areas below that you can work on and contact the leader listed.

Issue development and political outreach:

David Kessler
Kessler862@yahoo.com
908-347-2426

Volunteer organizing and outreach to faith communities:

John Wickham
JDWickham@aol.com
202-966-6813

Power and light outreach to schools (organizing sales of CFL light bulbs):

Russ Edwards
lamontanadesuenos@hotmail.com
678-787-1191

Clean power and climate protection film festival:

Mary Lou Thompson
Lou1027@aol.com

Outreach to donors and fundraising:

Anica Landreneau
alandreneau@ccap.com
202-408-9260

Preparation of materials for outreach and events:

Bob Morris
capitalbob@earthlink.net
202-548-8240

Other:

Joanna Winchester
joanna.winchester@sierraclub.org
202-543-0552

2. Washington Waste Reduction Initiative. The new chair of the Recycling Committee, Matthew Tisdale, is working to move this campaign into new, more positive directions of outreach to schools, businesses and other organizations. We have the laws we need in place, but we aren't going to reduce our waste streams until reuse and recycling are as much a part of public consciousness as the use of indoor plumbing.

Matthew Tisdale
mtisdale@gmail.com
202-550-0227

3. Defenders of Potomac River Parkland. This two-year-old campaign to prevent development in the C & O Canal National Historical Park has joined 19 other civic, recreational and environmental organizations together to get the National Park Service (NPS) to perform an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) before allowing a giant private recreational facility to be built in the park. The Sierra Club has been firm in demanding that the facility be built outside the park. The NPS has resisted conducting the EIS despite the National Environmental Protection Act requirement to do so. Sally Strain is the chief coordinator of volunteers to provide the grassroots pressure necessary to get the government to follow the law and to protect public parkland for public use.

Sally Strain
seawalk@starpower.net
202-363-4546

We have lots of other things going on as well and we are always interested in new initiatives that you may want to put together. Contact Joanna Winchester at 202-543-0552 or joanna.winchester@sierraclub.org and tell her how you want to help build the grassroots environmental movement in the District of Columbia. Everyone has a part to play. If you don't play yours, something will be missing.

Conservation

Citizens Must Voice Opposition to Boathouse in C&O Canal Park

by Defenders of Potomac River Parkland

The National Park Service (NPS) and Georgetown University (GU) are redrafting the Environmental Assessment (EA) on the proposed university boathouse in the C&O Canal National Historical Park.

Since a public meeting a year ago, NPS and university officials have ignored calls for a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the proposal that would consider sites outside the C&O Canal Park, on degraded land already planned for redevelopment. The law requires an EIS when the impacts are significant.

Citizens who agree that the NPS is not protecting the C&O Canal park need to voice publicly why development by a private entity within the park is against the public interest:

- It is a precedent that reverses the NPS mission to protect congressionally designated national parkland;
- The GU boathouse would eliminate wooded, tidal floodplain, potentially intensifying the adverse effects of floods;
- The massive building would tower over the canal and towpath, obstructing views of the Potomac;

- A 75-foot private dock would block the shoreline route of recreational boaters and alter the river flow;
- A new road to the boathouse would seriously constrict the entrance to the heavily used Capital Crescent Trail;
- The national park belongs to all citizens, yet the private GU boathouse would be closed to the public; and
- The proposed site lies within the Potomac Gorge, one of the most biologically rich areas on the East Coast.

Please continue to send e-mails to NPS Director Fran Mainella at fran_mainella@nps.gov demanding that the NPS prepare a full EIS that considers alternative sites outside the C&O Canal National Historical Park for this private facility.

In addition to writing to Director Mainella, consider writing to national and local officials and newspapers. See www.savethecanal.org for sample letters and addresses. And encourage organizations to join the Defenders of Potomac River Parkland, an alliance of 19 organizations opposed to the proposal.

For more background, see the Defenders Web site at www.savethecanal.org.



photo by Paul Elliott

The Georgetown University boathouse: Hikers Marcia Wolf and Victor Laczko stopped at the prospective construction site while on an MWROP hike to size up the planned mega-boathouse on paper. For more information on MWROP hikes to important D.C. sites, see pages 8, 14.

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.

Antibiotic Resistance and the True Cost of Food

by Susan Prolman

Antibiotics, one of the medical miracles of the 20th century, are becoming less effective in human medicine due to the rise of resistant bacteria. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has declared antibiotic resistance one of its “top concerns.” Antibiotic-resistant bacteria cause infections that are more virulent and they increase human suffering. Patients are forced to take more sick days, disrupting businesses and the economy. The National Academy of Sciences has estimated that antibiotic-resistant bacteria cost U.S. society at least \$4 to

\$5 billion each year.

When bacteria are exposed to antibiotics, the susceptible bacteria die while those bacteria resistant to the drugs live to reproduce. While antibiotics are important for disease treatment, therefore, their use can create stronger, more resistant strains of bacteria over time. For this reason, it is important to use antibiotics only when absolutely necessary, for instance to treat sick animals. Unfortunately, factory farms, also called concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), routinely use massive amounts of antibiotics, including those important in human medicine, for nontherapeutic purposes. The rise

of antibiotic-resistant bacteria due to the overuse and misuse of medically important antibiotics at factory farms is a component of the true cost of industrial animal agriculture.

CAFOs crowd thousands or even hundreds of thousands of animals into tightly confined spaces. These industrial animal operations use antibiotics not to treat sick animals but to compensate for overcrowded, unsanitary and stressful conditions and to promote faster growth. Meat producers use an estimated 70 percent of all U.S. antibiotics and related drugs for such purposes. This translates to about 25 million pounds of antibiotics and related drugs fed every year to

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D.C. Politics

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its shape. Adrian Fenty likes school playgrounds in his Ward 4.

No one mentioned Rock Creek Park, or any part of it—the picnic groves or the walking and biking trail that runs its length. Nor any spot on the banks of either the Potomac or “Washington’s River,” the Anacostia, though the latter is guaranteed to feature highly in the mayor’s thoughts in this term and the next decade. The contenders must have not visited the city’s beautiful cemeteries lately, including my new favorite, Rock Creek Cemetery, predating the city itself, right off North Capitol. No mention was made of the undeveloped parks surrounding some of the forts in the city, or the C&O Canal, or the vistas from St. Elizabeth’s or Malcolm X Park.

With the strength of our membership, the Political Committee of the District chapter hopes to increase the visibility of our issues for those who want to lead the city. The next mayor and the D.C. Council will be confronted with the poor rate of recycling in the District; the need for solid support for

mass transit, and for managing traffic and parking woes; and the chance to use the highest standards of sustainability in a new stadium and other buildings. Though we have recently heard the good news that levels of lead in our drinking water have returned to safer limits, voters will expect the next mayor and future council members to be vigilant about the quality of our air and water.

My hope is that when the future candidates—and the officials we elect—are asked about their favorite D.C. places, the first answers will call up the riches of Washington’s parks, waterways and the city’s other outdoor spaces that make it what it is—the places that our public officials are charged with preserving.

For more information, contact Lisa Swanson at melatar@yahoo.com. The D.C. Chapter’s Political Committee welcomes your participation.

Your Part in Politics

We are watching and listening to the candidates now with endorsements in mind, likely in June, well before the primaries. There is plenty that all Sierra Club members can do:

- Make sure you’re registered, and plan to vote on September 12;
- Go to public forums where the candidates appear and ask questions about the environmental issues that concern all of us;
 - Volunteer for the candidates who take a favorable stand on the environment;
 - Raise and contribute money to campaigns; and
 - Write letters to the editors of the newspapers, and call in to radio shows reminding candidates that the environment figures in your voting decision.

Recycling Committee Update

Sierra Club Teaming up to Recycle Cell Phones

by Heather Kerst

Ever wondered what to do with that dusty cell phone from two or three service plans ago? The Sierra Club is now working with two nonprofits, Call to Protect and Secure the Call, to breathe new life back into these phones and keep them out of landfills.

Call to Protect, an initiative of the Wireless Foundation, refurbishes donated phones to purchase new Tracfones, with matching airtime, for survivors of domestic violence. In addition, they provide grants to organizations that campaign to end domestic violence.

Secure the Call, a local nonprofit, collects and distributes all its donated cell phones to a variety of local groups that may need to use them for calls to 911. Phone recipients include battered women's shelters and senior citizen centers.



Image courtesy of www.emediawire.com

How you can help:

1. Donate your cell phone! Donations are tax-deductible. You can search both Web sites for D.C. drop-off locations or mail the phones directly to the organizations.

2. Organize a cell phone recycling drive in your school, neighborhood, church or office. With the Sierra Club's help, it's easy to set up and can be a once-a-year project that helps both the environment and community groups in

need.

3. Volunteer! Both organizations need assistance arranging more permanent drop-off locations in the District. Contact them for more information.

Reach Call to Protect at 202-785-0081 or www.wirelessfoundation.org.

Reach Secure the Call at 301-891-2900 or www.securethecall.org.

Penn Branch

Continued from page 1

causing the backyards to disappear and then returned to Mr. Shorter's home for tea and crackers. There Ms. Paul came up with a plan. She had already envisioned a solution to the problem: treescaping and greening the banks of the stream. Ms. Paul has for years worked diligently with her neighbors to keep the city on its toes when it comes to public works issues. The disappearing backyards form just one of several seemingly insurmountable problems. "We are going to get this done," said Ms. Paul with fiery determination, "and we will do it together." She and the D.C. Chapter's environmental justice organizer, Linda Fennell, sat down and conducted research on which agencies and nonprofit organizations could come to the community's aid. Ms. Paul has the goal of making this project a model for other communities in Southeast Washington, D.C., to follow.

The first step was to apply for a grant from the Casey Tree Foundation. After completing the first-round application and attending the orientation session, the next step was to pull together all the interested parties that would become a part of the restoration team. That included contacting

the Anacostia Watershed Society, the Sierra Club staff and volunteers, and getting the neighbors on board. While Mr. Shorter and Mr. Ferguson worked on getting input from the Nash Street neighbors, Ms. Paul and Linda Fennell pulled together all the other parties. A contingent of about 20 people representing five organizations walked the creek again on a cold February morning and found additional problems that affect the stream. It was time to move on to the next step.

Over the next few months, preliminary planning and activities to begin greening backyards and open spaces within the community will take place. The first phase of the planting and restoration project will begin in May or June. It will take at least a year to 18 months to carry out the various greening stages. Stay tuned to hear more about the project's progress.

If you would like to be a volunteer for this project or any other river cleanup programs supported by the D.C. Chapter, please contact Linda Fennell at 202-610-0200 or Joanna Winchester at 202-543-0552.

Inner City Outings

What We Do Best

“Why Live if You Don’t Have Something to Struggle for?”

by John Byrne Barry
Reprinted from *The Planet*

Inner City Outings, managed and staffed by volunteers in 49 groups around the United States, takes disadvantaged kids out into nature. Orange County ICO leader Lisa Hellman, one of more than 400 ICO volunteers nationwide, recently received a prestigious Stewards of the Environment award from REI.

Lisa Hellman first found out about the Inner City Outings program by accident in a teacher newsletter addressed to a former occupant of her apartment. She has since started an ICO group in Orange County, California, raised more than \$10,000, led more than 50 outings in the past three years, and recruited more than 20 volunteers and 20 docents. In November, REI awarded her a prestigious Stewards of the Environment award.

The Angeles Chapter, the club’s largest, already had an established ICO program. But in Orange County, says Hellman, “I saw a void. Most people don’t realize we have pockets of lower-income kids, and some of those kids have never experienced our local natural wonders. Recently, we took some kids out picking up litter on the beach. There were crabs all over the place. They’d never seen crabs before. They thought they were cockroaches.”

Founded by the San Francisco Bay Chapter in 1971, the Inner City Outings program now has 49 groups in the United States, and last year took more than 10,000 low-income inner city youths on trips to the wilderness. ICO is volunteer driven and staffed (with the exception of two support staffers in San Francisco)—more than 400 volunteers led or helped with trips in 2005.

In January 2003, the chapter newsletter published a story Hellman wrote, and a month later 10 people showed up and started building the new ICO group.

Though Hellman gets up at four in the morning for a half-hour of Pilates, bicycles to her job at Hyundai Motor Company, and tutors kids in math and science several evenings a week, she considers her life pretty easy, always has been. That’s why she took on ICO. “I embrace struggle. Why live if you don’t have something to struggle for?”

ICO arranges most of its outings by hooking up with schools or social service agencies. Hellman connected with Garden Grove’s Santiago High School Environmental Club and signed up 20 students to participate in a “Youth Can Conserve” coastal conservation outing series funded by the California Coastal Commission. (She wrote the grant, natch.)

The club members recently presented their findings and recommendations for coastal protection to local city officials. One group did a “fantastic DVD,” another team performed a skit on overfishing. Hellman hopes that now the kids will bring their presentations to the elementary schools.

Hellman, who has led more than half of the outings herself over the past several years, acknowledges that she can’t keep up the pace. “I did it to set a track record. As we’ve recruited more leaders, I’ve done less.”

One way she entices potential leaders is to invite them on an outing with homeless kids. “Volunteers are sometimes in tears afterwards and want to donate clothes and such to the homeless shelter. These kids are popular customers. I’ve always really liked going with them, partly because they’re a mix of ages and are always courteous.”

Though Hellman played a key role in founding the Orange County ICO group, along with “founding buddy” Steve Rotan, and serves as secretary and grantwriter, she says she learned from her two stints in the Peace Corps—Sierra Leone in the mid-1980s and the Dominican Republic 10 years later—“to never put myself in positions of power. To maximize the project’s sustainability, always get someone else to be the leader. And make sure you have a leadership succession plan.”

The REI award comes with a \$20,000 grant to the ICO program.

Inner City Outings In D.C.



photo by Mansir Petrie

Join the local D.C. Inner City Outings for fun adventures like ice-skating! Contact Deepak Tolani at 202-390-8303 or washdcico@yahoo.com.

MWROP Holds to Tradition by Doing an Old Annual Hike on a Very Old Trail

by Paul Elliott

On the very first morning of the current year, as has long been the custom, hikers assembled on the brick plaza adjoining the Georgetown sidewalk where lower Wisconsin Avenue spans the C&O Canal and next to a faded stone obelisk commemorating the canal's protracted construction in 1828-1850. Greetings were exchanged, liability forms were signed, handouts were distributed, and announcements were made. And then the hikers stepped onto the canal's restored towpath to embark upon the 32nd annual New Year's Day Hike.

Staged by the Sierra Club's Metropolitan Washington Regional Outings Program (MWROP), this event is a 10-mile excursion on the towpath. And for many years those have been the same 10 miles, with the hike consisting of a five-mile walk up canal to the vista-equipped riverbank next to the Little Falls pumping station, and then the same way back to Georgetown. Attendance predictably



photo by Gabriele Ludwig

On New Year's Day, MWROP hikers clearly outnumbered birds along the restored C&O Canal north of Chain Bridge.

fluctuates from year to year, mostly in proportion to either the weather or the weather forecast. The fluctuation, according to Walter Wells, who was along as usual this year with his wife Luella, has ranged from 130 down to 10 ("mostly my relatives," Walter admits, "and that number was also the temperature"). Walter should know. A

longtime Sierra Club activist and hike leader (now emeritus), he founded the event in 1975, after having led a similar hike in New Jersey for a decade.

This year we had crisp but sunny weather and 74 participants. And as is usually the case on a go-at-your-own-pace and choose-your-own-distance hike aimed at welcoming just about everyone, the participants included the young and the old, the large and the small, the swift and the slow, and the veteran hikers and the first-timers—and all the in-betweens, plus several leashed dogs and half a dozen or so vigilant MWROP leaders. Also, as in years past, some hikers turned around before reaching the pumping station, and a few deliberately overshot that mark to get additional exercise.

The hikers' attention en route was similarly diversified, reflecting the fact that the New Year's Day event has evolved over the years into a multipurpose recreational, social, environmentally aware and enduringly popular activity. Some surged ahead and stopped for almost nothing. Most, though, seemed to saunter briskly while engaging in spirited and freeform



photo by Paul Elliott

In Georgetown, the hikers switched sides on the historic canal, but not on the issue of its preservation and historic value

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Traditional Hike

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conversation, but they would pause occasionally or frequently for various reasons.

Those reasons included watching or photographing birds (several great blue herons obliged), admiring the sycamores, taking in the river views, reading the trailside information plaques, using the cue sheet and fellow hikers to learn about local history, stopping non-optional at toilet-equipped Fletcher's, and observing what has changed along the canal (this year's most conspicuous difference being that the canal in Georgetown has been partially drained to permit repair of the lock walls). And some hikers—probably MWROP leaders—handed out MWROP outings calendars and talked up the outings (which I'll also do here by urging you to turn to the back of this newsletter). One key topic of discussion consisted of matters of environmental concern, particularly Georgetown University's proposal to build a mega-boathouse beside the towpath. Amber Jones, representing the Save Our Canal organization and using handouts, spoken words and large oversize displays, stood at the proposed site, just upriver from Key Bridge, and graphically described the project's likely impact on the local environment and towpath users.

By mid-afternoon, the last of the hikers had returned to the obelisk trailhead, and some of them then prolonged the event by going to nearby Dean & DeLuca for an afternoon cap.

Paul Elliott is the current MWROP chair and author of "60 Hikes within 60 Miles: Washington, D.C."

Antibiotics and Food

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livestock—almost eight times the amount given to humans to treat disease.

The nontherapeutic use of antibiotics involves the addition of low levels of the drugs to feed, which is provided to animals over long periods. This creates the ideal environment for bacteria to develop resistance. Resistant bacteria can be transferred from animals at CAFOs to humans in three ways: through meat consumption, through direct contact with the animals and through environmental contamination.

There is growing recognition that industrial agriculture's contributions to antibiotic resistance must be addressed. On the federal level, the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act would end the routine, nontherapeutic use of medically important antibiotics in animal agriculture. The American Medical Association, the American Public Health Association, the National Association of County and City Health Officials, The Humane Society of the United States, and the Sierra Club are among the more than 380 health, consumer, agricultural, environmental, humane and other organizations that have endorsed this bill. States are moving forward as well, with legislation addressing this issue offered in Maine, Ohio and Wisconsin. On a local level, citizens are asking schools, restaurants and supermarkets to stop purchasing meats from animals raised with the nontherapeutic use of antibiotics.

To learn more about the problem of the overuse of antibiotics at CAFOs and how you can help, please visit the Union of Concerned Scientists' Food and Environment Web site at http://www.ucsusa.org/food_and_environment/antibiotics_and_food/ and the Keep Antibiotics Working Web site at <http://www.keepantibioticsworking.com>.

Support our local chapter



photo: Karin Kiser

We send out an appeal in March to each of our members, asking for contributions directly to our Chapter. These contributions really do make a difference to us, and are an important part of our Chapter's budget.

When you make a donation to the Chapter, you support the Sierra Club's work in your own backyard. You allow us to continue our work to protect wilderness and wildlife, to improve the quality of life in our cities, and to promote the enjoyment of nature.

Please be as generous as you are able—remember, these funds directly affect your way of life in your neighborhood.



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Wild Legacy Activist Trips

by Vicky Hoover

Sign up for a 2006 Sierra Club national activist outing and become part of the new Wild Legacy Conservation Initiative that the club inaugurated as a result of the 2005 Sierra Summit. Our nation's Wild Legacy is at the heart of the Sierra Club mission, and our outings program is tied to this proud tradition. National activist outings inspire people to fight to preserve our wild legacy and also train participants to become strong advocates for preservation on their return home.

In 2006, four Wild Legacy activist adventures await you:



Participants on a Sierra Club national activist outing to Nevada enjoy broad views on the Toiyabe Crest trail.

Nevada: Endangered Wilderness of the Toiyabe Crest. July 6-12. Follow leader Melinda Goodwater on a 43-mile moderate backpack along the lofty, dazzling crest of this unprotected roadless area in the longest of this wild state's 300 mountain ranges. The trail weaves among peaceful meadows at 10,000 feet, cascading trout streams and sheer cliffs with bighorn sheep. Trip #06101A, \$395.

Utah: From the Tushar Highlands to the Aquarius Plateau. Aug. 27-Sept. 4. Enjoy Central Utah's undiscovered national forest plateaus on two short, moderate backpacks separated by a rest day. From these remote heights,

admire broad views over Utah's basin and range to the spectacular Escalante canyonlands. Learn Utah wilderness history and issues with Vicky Hoover and Jim Catlin. Trip #06102A, cost \$545.

Idaho, Oregon and Nevada's Owyhee: Big Sky and Winding Rivers. Sept. 8-16. This hidden land of high desert and a vast, undulating volcanic plateau deeply cut by abrupt gorges is known to few people. We'll day hike the Owyhee's dramatic ridges and rivers while van-camping along obscure backcountry roads. Leader Craig Deutsche shows off this prime habitat for pronghorn antelope, eagle,

sage grouse and more. Trip 06103A, cost \$725.

Vermont: Autumn Wanderings in Wild Vermont. Sept. 10-17. Come enjoy our mixture of moderate backpacking and trail maintenance in Vermont's proposed Glastonbury Mountain Wilderness. Early autumn colors and an exciting wilderness campaign enhance our two separate short "working" backpacks in the legendary Green Mountains with leader Debbie Smith and Vermont activist John Harbison. Trip #06104A, cost \$595.

Sign up now while space is still available. For details, contact Vicky Hoover at 415-977-5527 or vicky.

Sierra Club Board of Directors Election

Directors whose terms expire in 2006 are: Robert Cox, Lisa Force, Douglas La Follette, Paul Watson and Bernard Zaleha.

This year, there are seven candidates for the Board of Directors for the 2006-2009 term. All seven were nominated by a Nominating Committee chaired by David Wells (Texas). There were no qualifying petition candidates this year.

Margot Higgins (Mont.)
Robin Mann (Pa.)
Ed Paynter (Ind.)
Ellen Pillard (Nev.)
Rafael Reyes (Calif.)
Marilyn Wall (Ohio)
Bernie Zaleha (Idaho)

The Board of Directors, composed of 15 elected volunteers, is the governing body of the Sierra Club. The board has the responsibility and authority to oversee all staff and volunteer activities of the club, to establish the club's conservation priorities and internal policies, and to adopt and implement the annual budget (approximately \$80 million in 2006). The Board of Directors elects the club's officers, including the president and Executive Committee, and selects the club's executive director. Directors normally also serve on at least one of the club's governance committees.

VOTING ENDS AT NOON EDT,
MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2006

hoover@sierraclub.org. Ask about partial trip scholarships for applicants for whom cost is a deterrent. For a trip brochure and application form, call Sierra Club Outing Department at 415-977-5522, or visit www.sierraclub.org/outings/national.

Just beyond the bay. **Cool.**

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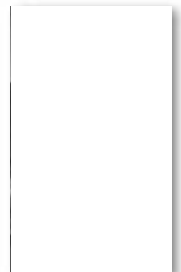


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* Packages subject to availability and price change. Valid from Baltimore/Washington (BWI). Valid for departures 01-28MAR06. Also available at higher prices 02APR-31MAY06. All nights must be in hotels booked through Icelandair Holidays. Cancellations/changes subject to \$400 penalty 30-60 days prior to departure; nonrefundable/nonchangeable 29 days or less prior to departure. All fees are per person. Personal travel insurance not included. Lower priced packages may be available on icelandairholidays.com. Other restrictions apply. Seats are limited. Prices quoted are exclusive of applicable taxes and official charges by destination of approx. \$100-\$185, including the September 11th Security Fee.

Direct flights from Baltimore/Washington International Airport

Reykjavik	Paris	Manchester
Copenhagen	Frankfurt	Milan
Oslo	Munich	Zurich
Stockholm	Berlin	Barcelona
Helsinki	London	Madrid
Amsterdam	Glasgow	

Announcements

Environmental Film Festival in the Nation's Capital Marks 14 years

The impact of escalating oil prices on the suburban way of life, a film-clip-illustrated discussion of Hollywood and the environment, and the case for restoring Yosemite's Hetch Hetchy Valley are among the topics explored in 100 documentary, feature, animated, archival, experimental and children's films presented by the Environmental Film Festival from March 16 through 26. Selected to provide fresh perspectives on local, national and international environmental concerns, films will be screened at venues throughout the District.

Don't miss "The Anacostia: Restoring the People's River." Showing March 17 at the National Museum of Natural History, the documentary follows the efforts in restoration together with the river's history, scenic beauty and degradation.

For a complete schedule, visit the festival Web site at www.dcenvironmentalfilmfest.org or call 202-342-2564 for a festival brochure.



photo courtesy of Uncommon Productions

Whales show their tails on the film, "A Life Among Whales" profiling the work of renowned whale biologist Dr. Roger Payne. The film will receive the Earthwatch Institute Film Award on March 22 at the National Geographic Society.



photo courtesy of Flat Dog Productions Ltd.

A sycamore African Fig Tree whose interlocking and co-dependent world of insects, birds and animals is revealed in the film, "The Queen of Trees," to be shown March 25 at the National Museum of Natural History.

Potomac River Program along the Anacostia

The D.C. Chapter of the Sierra Club is booked for a field education experience with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) along the Anacostia River. CBF's Potomac River Program enables participants to better understand how the aquatic worlds of the Anacostia and Potomac rivers are intimately linked to daily city life. Hands will get wet and new experiences will be encouraged as we travel from one site to the next, bringing new meaning to storm drains, garbage, electricity and fish. Speakers, including chapter activist Merchant Wentworth, will be on hand to answer questions. Cost discounted for anyone who volunteers with the Sierra Club at the Anacostia Watershed Society's Earth Day River Cleanup on Saturday, April 22. Space limited 20 persons.

Date: Saturday, May 20, 2006

Time: 9:45 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Location: The Gangplank Marina, 600 Water St. S.W. Metrorail: Waterfront Metro Station (Green Line); Metrobus: Circulator

Cost: \$20.00 per person or \$10 per person for Earth Day volunteers (cost includes refreshments)

RSVP: www.evite.com/app/publicUrl/nckaos@aol.com/boat

For more information, please contact Chasta Piatakovas at nckaos@aol.com or 202-320-1205.

Announcements

Bike Ride with Urban Design and Transportation Discussion

Meet at the plaza near Eastern Market Metro Station on Saturday, April 29 (time to be determined) for a fun and educational bike ride that will explore transportation, urban design and other environmental issues on both sides of the Anacostia River between Benning Road and 11th Street. Enjoy a ride of about seven miles in roughly two hours of scenic views with several stops to discuss the ways in which the built environment affects the quality of life.

For more information, please contact Chris Carney at 202-281-9565.

Recycle or Dispose of Household Chemicals, Home Electronics at Carter Barron Amphitheatre on Earth Day

The District Department of Public Works (DPW) will hold its biannual household hazardous waste and electronics recycling drop-off event Saturday, April 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Carter Barron Amphitheatre parking lot at 16th and Kennedy streets N.W. These services are free and open to all District residents.

Household hazards include old cleaning and gardening chemicals, pesticides and poisons, acids, varnish, oil-based paints, solvents, aerosols, wood preservatives, spent batteries of all kinds, roofing tar, chemistry sets, automotive fluids and even asbestos floor tiles.

DPW will also have an electronics recycling station to receive end-of-life televisions, office and audio equipment, computers and computer parts and accessories. All computer monitors and TV screens must be intact, not cracked, punctured or shattered. During processing, the electronics are broken down into component parts, precious as well as toxic metals are extracted, and then the various materials are recycled or disposed of safely.

The fall HHW collection will be staged on the east side of the city at the Benning Road Trash Transfer Station on 3200 Benning Rd. N.E. A date has not yet been announced.

For more information on household hazardous waste, visit the DPW Web site at <http://dpw.dc.gov> or at dpw@dc.gov. Check with DPW ahead of time to make sure the event is taking place as scheduled.

Want to Save the Planet? Then Subscribe to It!

The monthly newspaper *The Planet* and the twice-weekly e-mail update *The Current* are guides to environmental international levels. Educate yourself on hot conservation issues, learn how to get involved in club campaigns, and find out how you can take individual action. Both publications are free to all Sierra Club members and other active environmentalists. To subscribe to either, e-mail planet@sierraclub.org or visit <http://www.sierraclub.org/planet>.

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday April 22, 2006

Join the Sierra Club as we participate in the Anacostia Watershed Society's

EARTHDAY ANACOSTIA RIVER CLEANUP

Bring your neighbors! Bring your children! Youth are encouraged to participate for community service hours.

8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Cleanup Sites: Kingman Island, Kenilworth Park, Watts Branch, Seafarer's Yacht Club, and more sites to be added

For more information, contact Joanna Winchester 202-543-0552 or Chris Carney, 202-237-0754

Spring Home Energy Expo (Volunteer Opportunity)

The Office of People's Council (OPC) is planning a Spring Home Energy Expo on Thursday, March 16, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Sherwood Recreation Center on Tenth and G streets N.E. This is an excellent opportunity to display the Sierra Club's campaigns on energy alternatives, alternative fuels, etc.

To volunteer, please contact Joanna Winchester at joanna.winchester@sierraclub.org or 202-543-0552.

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 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 mi., 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.

Fairfax County Cross County Trail (CCT) Hikes are one-way outings covering the just-about-finished trail's 40-plus mi. between the Occoquan River and the Potomac River. The first one is scheduled for March 19.

Get Fit for Spring/Train for the One Day Hike outings are designed to help hikers shake the winter blahs, explore the beauties of nature without crowds, and prepare for both outdoor activities in general and MWROP's annual One Day Hike along the C&O towpath to Harpers Ferry. The distances covered by these weekly go-at-your-own-pace hikes gradually increase through the winter and early spring, so that hikers can better gauge which (if any) of the three optional distances (50, 80, or 100 km) they'll want to tackle on the 33rd annual One Day Hike, to be held on April 29 (see www.onedayhike.org).

Multi-Day Hikes

Fri.-Sun. Mar. 31-Apr. 2. Not Rated. Backpack Trip: Virginia's Triple Crown—Dragon's Tooth, McAfee Knob and Tinker Cliffs. A challenging loop, partly on the AT, and including some of Virginia's best overlooks. Unscouted outing covering 35.9 mi., with 7,760 ft. elev. gain. Based on "50 Hikes in Southern Virginia" by Leonard M. Adkins. Leader: Dimitri Tundra 301-770-9639 or tartakd@hotmail.com.

Fri.-Sun. Apr. 28-30. Not Rated. Backpack Trip: Fourth Annual Cranberry Backcountry Outing. On the first day, we will visit the Brooks Arboretum at Watoga State Park, W.Va. On the second and third days, we will cover the Pocahontas and Fork Mountain Trails in their entirety (part of the Cranberry Backcountry). Total distance: 24.5 mi. Car shuttle required. On the way back, we will drive along picturesque Maury River and stop at Jefferson Baths (natural hot springs). Leader: Dimitri Tundra 301-770-9639 or tartakd@hotmail.com.

Sat. Mar. 4. Rated E (or C). W&OD Trail (Get Fit for Spring/Train for One Day Hike series). Out-and-back hike of 18 mi. (or do a 12-mi. option), on paved surfaces, with only a few small inclines, between Vienna and Herndon (or Reston). Meet 9 a.m. in the parking lot of the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna, Va. Leaders: Christine Ford 703-425-6899 and Marjorie Richman 301-320-5509.

Sun. Mar. 5. Rated B. Rock Creek Park. Explore the beauty of Rock Creek Park in "early spring." Meet at 1 p.m. at street level by the Cleveland Park Metro Station elevator. Bring water and snack. Kids who can walk 7+ mi. on relatively level terrain are welcome. Leaders: Jim Finucane 301-365-3485 (before 9 p.m.) and Bob Mathis 301-589-7539.

Sat. Mar. 11, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Rated A. Northwest Branch Conservation Walk. A leisurely 6-mi. stroll through one of the most interesting stream valleys in the metro area, with opportunities to discuss some of the conservation issues and potential threats (such as the ICC) to this park. Leader: Ron LaCoss 301-946-1106 (before 9 p.m.) or ronenviroed@aol.com.

Sat. Mar. 11. Rated D (or C). C&O Towpath (Get Fit for Spring/One Day Hike series). From Swains Lock (at towpath mile 16.54) either do 19 mi. in two out-and-backs (first up to milepost 23 and back; then down to Lock 15 at mile 13.5 and back), or do only the first part, for a 13-mi. option. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Swains Lock parking lot. See www.MWROP.org or call for directions. Leaders: Pat Hopson 703-379-1795 (before 10 p.m.) and Carol Ivory carolivory@verizon.net.

Sun. Mar. 12. Rated B. Brookland (Get to Know D.C. series). Wiggly figure-eight hike of 9 mi. through distinctive "Little Rome" section of Northeast Washington. Visit and learn about Brookland's cultural, educational and religious institutions—and historic Rock Creek Cemetery and funky cafe. Meet at 10 a.m. at basilica parking lot off Harewood Rd. at Michigan Ave. (0.5 mi. from Brookland-CUA Metro Station on Red Line). Call for driving directions. Joint event with AMC/DC. Leaders: Paul Elliott 703-256-6351 and Helen Epps 202-363-0936.

Fri. Mar. 17. Rated B. Key-Chain Circuit. Hike up the Potomac Heritage Trail (PHT) to Chain Bridge, cross the bridge, and then take the C&O Canal towpath and Key Bridge back to the trailhead. About 9 mi. with modest elev. change but some rocky sections and a few minor sharp crossings. Meet at 10 a.m. sharp at the Theodore Roosevelt Island parking lot. Bring lunch and water. Joint hike with PATC. Leaders: Ray Evert (MWROP) 703-893-3792 or hikerdude22@msn.com and Gary Albrecht (PATC) 202-546-6089 or GAlbrecht@aol.com.

Sat. Mar. 25. Rated C. Metro-accessible Hike: Northwest Branch Trail. On this unofficial version of the Rachel Carson Greenway celebration, we'll hike approx. 11 mi. from the Hyattsville station (Green Line) to the Glenmont station (Red Line) on the Northwest Branch Trail. Be prepared for a variety of walking conditions, on both paved and natural surfaces, with minimal elev. gain. Meet at 10 a.m. at entrance to Hyattsville station. Leader: Scott Wilson 301-220-3248 or swilson@rmlrc.org.

Sat. Mar. 25. Rated C. Trails of Mason Neck. Enjoy our national river as we explore nearby Mason Neck in southern Fairfax Co. This 12-mi. circuit hike includes both Mason Neck NWR and Mason Neck SP, which are now connected by High Point Trail. Watch for

bald eagles as they hover high over the Potomac River. To carpool, meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Vienna Metro Station (north lot), off I-66. Leader: Glenn Gillis 703-430-0568.

Sat. Mar. 25. Rated G (or D). Modified "Parade of Parks" (Get Fit for Spring/Train for One Day Hike series). Circuit of 23 mi. (or 14.4-mi. option) on paved and dirt trails in D.C. and Md. parklands, with some gentle elev. change. Meet 8 a.m. at Fletchers Boathouse, off Canal Rd. Leaders: Mike Gingerich 703-590-3188 and Frank Wodarczyk 703-569-6737 (before 9:30 p.m.).

Sat. Apr. 1. Rated A (afternoon hike only). Spring Meeting of MWROP. This program focuses on the almost-completed, 40-mi. Fairfax County Cross County Trail (CCT) and includes an illustrated talk by CCT "father" Bill Niedringhaus plus a short afternoon hike on the trail and the usual business meeting and potluck lunch. To be held at Colvin Run Mill in Great Falls, Va. Although the event is intended chiefly for MWROP's 40-plus volunteer leaders, guests are most welcome. Details will be e-mailed to MWROP leaders (and any prospective guests) and posted on www.mwrop.org by March 5.

Sun. Apr. 2. Rated B. Carderock/Gold Mine Tract. Easy 7-mi. walk in suburban Md. along C&O Canal towpath and the Gold Mine Tract to Great Falls Tavern; return via towpath. Meet at 1 p.m. (*daylight savings time*) at Carderock (take Clara Barton Pkwy. for 1 mi. west of Beltway, cross over pkwy. and pass under canal, turn right, and drive to farthest parking lot). Bring water and snack. Leader: Jim Finucane 301-365-3485 (before 9 p.m.).

Sun. Apr. 9. Rated A (or B). Annual Bloomin' Monument Hike (Get-to-Know-D.C. series). Celebrate the coming of spring in Washington with an easy 4-plus-4-mi. walking tour of major memorials and monuments during peak bloom of the beautiful cherry blossoms. Meet at 9:30 a.m. near Ripley Center kiosk (on Jefferson Dr. near both Freer Gallery and Smithsonian Metro Station's Mall entrance). Leashed dogs OK. Leader: Mike Darzi 301-593-4551 or mike_darzi@ssaihq.com.

Fri. Apr. 14. Rated A/B. Moonlit Hike on the Mall. Explore the beauty of D.C.'s Mall and monuments by the full moon. Bring water. Kids who can walk 7+ mi. (or 3 mi.) on relatively level terrain are welcome. Meet at 7:30 p.m. on the Mall side of Constitution Ave. halfway between 15th St. and 17th St. Use Metro (Federal Triangle Station is nearby) or park on Constitution Ave. near "16th St." line. Leader: Jim Finucane 301-365-3485 (before 9 p.m.).

Sat. Apr. 15. Rated B. Change of Seasons Hike. We'll do 10 mi. along riverside trails and C&O Canal towpath, checking the wonders of early spring. Between pauses, we'll proceed on the Billy Goat South Trail toward the hike's midpoint (which has flush toilets!). Bring lunch and children (and nice dogs, but check first with the leader). Meet at 9:30 a.m. at Minnehaha Bridge in Glen Echo Park, near Clara Barton House and proximal to

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

the intersection of Goldsboro Rd. and MacArthur Blvd. in Bethesda, Md. Leader: David Burd 703-998-9390 or dburd301@netzero.com.

Sun. Apr. 16. Rated B/C. Woodstock Equestrian Park. Scenic circuit hike of 10.5 mi. in spacious new park in Beallsville area of Montgomery Co. Leashed dogs okay. To carpool, meet at 9:30 a.m. at Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro Station (Red Line) just inside garage (area 2C) in Park & Ride lot. Or call for trailhead location and meeting time. Joint event with AMC/DC. Leaders: Paul Elliott 703-256-6351 and Helen Epps 202-363-0936.

Sun. Apr. 16. Rated D/E. Round Up the Usual Poetry Hike. As usual the leader hasn't yet picked a route, but also as usual it will be 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.

Sat. Apr. 22. Rated D. Waterfalls of Shenandoah Park. Celebrate Earth Day with a hike near Big Meadows in SNP. Distance: 10 mi. Dinner at Big Meadows Lodge afterward, with spectacular views of Shenandoah Valley. To carpool, meet at 8:30 a.m. at Vienna Metro Station (north lot), off I-66. Leader: Glenn Gillis 703-430-0568.

Sat. Apr. 22. Rated C, E, or H. C&O Canal Towpath between Point of Rocks and Harpers Ferry (Get Fit for Spring/Train for One Day Hike series). This ODH tune-up has three options: end at Harpers Ferry (13 mi.), with car shuttle; return to Brunswick (19 mi.), with car shuttle; or return to the start (26 mi.)—ideal warm-ups for the 50K, 80K, or 100K a week later. To carpool, meet at 8:15 a.m. at Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro Station's Park&Ride back lot. Leaders: Larry Broadwell 301-215-7135 and Mike Darzi 301-593-4551.

Fri-Sun. Apr. 28-30. Backpack Trip: Fourth Annual Cranberry Backcountry Outing. See Multi-day Events.

Sat. Apr. 29. Not Rated. Raptor-Watching Canoe Trip. Experienced novice-level, with class 1-2 white water. You must have your own canoe; life jackets required. We will paddle a section of the Rappahannock River where many bald eagles have been seen and nest. Sponsored by Sierra Club, Canoe Cruisers Association and the Blue Ridge Voyager Canoe Club. Leader: Jim Finucane 301-365-3485 (before 9 p.m.).

Sat. April 29. Rated H+. One Day Hike to Harpers Ferry, on C&O Canal towpath. The 33rd annual 100K hike with concurrent 80K and 50K options. For details and volunteer opportunities, visit www.onedayhike.org or call leaders (registration closes April 17). Leaders: Paul Elliott 703-256-6351 or metrohiker@yahoo.com and Carol Ivory carolivory@verizon.net.

Sun. Apr. 30. Rated A. Virginia State Arboretum. We'll do 5-6 mi. wandering through the meadows and finding tree specimens from all over the world, after good rains will have made for the most beautiful scenery this side of the Blue Ridge. To carpool, meet at 9 a.m. at Oakton Shopping Center, at Starbucks. Be sure to bring a good picnic lunch. Leader: Dave Burd 703-998-9390 or dburd26@hotmail.com.

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 Web site, <http://dc.sierraclub.org/>.

Thu. Feb. 23

True Cost of Food Campaign Restaurant Outing. (\$) 6:30 p.m. RSVP. Nirvana, 1810 K St. N.W. Metro: Farragut North (Red Line); Farragut West (Orange/Blue Lines) or L2, 38B, 42, D1/D3/D5/D6, 30/32/34/35/36. Contact Susan Prolman at prolmans@aol.com or 202-667-1162.

Mon. Feb. 27

Screening of two films celebrating the life and work of David Brower. 6:00 p.m.–8:45 p.m. Northeast Neighborhood Library, 330 Seventh St. N.E. Contact Joanna Winchester at joanna.winchester@sierraclub.org or 202-543-0552.

Thu. Mar. 9

Executive Committee Meeting. 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m. Sierra Club, 401 C St. N.E. Metro: Union Station (Red Line) or D6, Circulator. Contact Jason Broehm at Jason_broehm@earthlink.net or 202-299-0745.

Mon. Mar. 13

Second Monday Happy Hour (\$) 5:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m. The Reef, 2446 18th St. N.W. Metro: Woodley Park – Zoo/Adams Morgan (Red Line) or 90/92/9. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at nckaos@aol.com or 202-320-1205.

Tue. Mar. 14

Transportation Committee Meeting. 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m. Sierra Club, 401 C St. N.E. Metro: Union Station (Red Line) or D6, Circulator. Contact Tom Metcalf at thmetcalf@mac.com or 202-832-3809.

Thu. Mar. 30

True Cost of Food Campaign Restaurant Outing (\$) 6:30 p.m. RSVP. Aladdin's Eatery, 4044 South 28th St., Shirlington, VA. Contact Susan Prolman at prolmans@aol.com or 202-667-1162.

Mon. Apr. 10

Second Monday Happy Hour. (\$) 5:30-7:30 p.m. Warehouse Cafe & Bar, 1021 Seventh St. N.W. Metro: Gallery Place/Chinatown (Red Line); Mount Vernon Square/Convention Center (Yellow/Green Line.) or Circulator, 70/71, G8. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at nckaos@aol.com or 202-320-1205.

Tue. Apr. 11

Transportation Committee Meeting. 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m. Sierra Club, 401 C St. N.E. Metro: Union Station (Red Line) or D6, Circulator. Contact Tom Metcalf at thmetcalf@mac.com or 202-832-3809.

Thu. Apr. 13

Executive Committee Meeting. 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m. Sierra Club, 401 C St. N.E. Metro: Union Station (Red Line) or D6, Circulator. Contact Jason Broehm at Jason_broehm@earthlink.net or 202-299-0745.

Sat. Apr. 22

Anacostia Watershed Society's Earth Day River Cleanup. 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Kingman Island. Contact Joanna Winchester at joanna.winchester@sierraclub.org or 202-543-0552.

Thu. Apr. 27

True Cost of Food Campaign Restaurant Outing (\$) 6:30 p.m. RSVP. Vegetate, 1414 Ninth St. N.W. Metro: Mt. Vernon Sq/7th St. Convention Center (Yellow/Green Line) or G2/G8, Circulator. Contact Susan Prolman at prolmans@aol.com or 202-667-1162.

Sat. Apr. 29

Bike ride with urban design and transportation discussion. Time TBD. RSVP. Meet at plaza near Eastern Market Metro Station. Contact Chris Carney at Chris.carney@sierraclub.org or 202-281-9565.

Mon. May 8

Second Monday Happy Hour (\$) 5:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m. Recessions Lounge & Sports Bar, 1823 L St. N.W. Metro: Farragut West (Orange/Blue Line) or L2, 38B, 42, D1/D3/D5/D6, 30/32/34/35/36. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at nckaos@aol.com or 202-320-1205.

Tue. May 9

Transportation Committee Meeting. 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m. Sierra Club, 401 C St. N.E. Metro: Union Station (Red Line) or D6, Circulator. Contact Tom Metcalf at thmetcalf@mac.com or 202-832-3809.

Thu. May 11

Executive Committee Meeting. 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m. Sierra Club, 401 C St. N.E. Metro: Union Station (Red Line) or D6, Circulator. Contact Jason Broehm at Jason_broehm@earthlink.net or 202-299-0745.

Sat. May 20

Potomac River program along the Anacostia. (\$) 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. RSVP. The Gangplank Marina, 600 Water St. N.W. Metro: Waterfront (Green Line) or Circulator. Contact Chasta Piatakovas at nckaos@aol.com or 202-320-1205.

Thu. May 25

True Cost of Food Campaign Restaurant Outing. (\$) 6:30 p.m. RSVP. Sunflower Restaurant, 2531 Chain Bridge Rd. (Route 123), Vienna, Va. Contact Susan Prolman at prolmans@aol.com or 202-667-1162.



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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.



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