



Loo Wit Rumblings



LOOWIT PRESENTS

Climate Change & Native Plants

SATURDAY FEB 22, 2020

3:00-4:30 PM

VSCI 12

WSU Vancouver

14204 NE Salmon Creek Ave

Vancouver, WA 98686



Learn about how climate change affects a group of native PNW plants are resources for an at-risk butterfly, the Boisduval's blue. This talk will discuss how the timing of flowers has changed over time, and what trends we might see in the future. The impact of changes in flowering time could lead to helpful or harmful effects for butterflies, bees, and other beneficial insects like the Boisduval's blue.

Light snacks will be provided and there will be plenty of time to ask questions.

Join us in the Science and Engineering Building (VSCI) room number 12.

Enter the building as indicated on the map, follow the hallway then turn left and go downstairs. Take the left hallway almost to the end and you will arrive!

See a WSUV map on the next page for parking and building location





LOO WIT WELCOMES NEW EXCOM MEMBERS

by Lehman Holder, Outings Leader

One new member, one reelected member and one previous member have joined the Loo Wit Group executive committee (ExCom) for 2020.

New member Wendy Cleveland will serve on Advisory Council as conservation chair.

Emily Waters, Loo Wit's newsletter editor, was reelected, and Lehman Holder, longtime ExCom member, was elected after serving on Advisory Council, an unelected position. Emily also focuses on forestry issues and Lehman will be outings liaison, communicating when needed with outings chair Tom Forest in Oregon. Lehman will also continue leading x-c ski, bicycle and sea kayak outings. If you're interested in becoming part of Loo Wit's ExCom or Advisory Council, contact Mark Leed: markleed02@gmail.com.

LOO WIT MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN LOBBY DAY

By Mark Leed, Group Chair

Loo Wit members from the 17th, 18th and 49th legislative districts joined hundreds of activists from around the state for Environmental Lobby Day on January 30. We met with lawmakers to advocate for Sierra Club priorities including a clean fuel standard, zero emission vehicles, and a ban on suction dredge mining. The day's festivities also included breakout sessions on topics such as environmental justice, protecting orcas, and the proposed ban on plastic bags.



Loo Wit members with Representative Monica Stonier

As always, it was a great way to network with like-minded conservationists, and to interact with our elected representatives. Your advocacy really does make a difference. Lobby Day is just one way to engage with legislators; you can also visit leg.wa.gov to find their contact information and to track bills during the session. To see what our current legislative priorities are, please visit the Washington Chapter website, sierraclub.org/Washington.

LOO WIT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat. Feb. 22nd, Member Program. See page 1 for details.

Executive Committee Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of the month at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Vancouver, WA. Glass Room. 6:30—8:00 pm.

Conservation Committee meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of the month at Brewed Awakenings coffee shop on 63rd and Andresen from 5:30-6:30pm.

Beyond Coal & Oil Task Force Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Vancouver. Meet & greet with pizza starts at 6:00 pm, followed by the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Connect With Us!

If you haven't already, please give us a "like" on Facebook! We share information about upcoming events, photos from outings and the latest Loo Wit news. You can even share our posts with your own Facebook friends, helping to spread the word about Loo Wit!

All of our upcoming outings are posted on MeetUp, and archives of our monthly newsletters on our website. You can find us on Instagram by searching "LooWit.Group"

www.facebook.com/loowit.group

www.meetup.com/Portland-Vancouver-Sierra-Club-Outings-Events

www.sierraclub.org/washington/loo-wit

You can also join our listserv for pertinent conservation related news! Send an email to CASCADE-LOOWIT-CONSFORUM@LISTS.SIERRACLUB.ORG with "subscribe" in the subject line to be added to the list!



Loo Wit Executive Committee Members

Mark Leed—Chair

Lehman Holder— Outings Liaison

Fred Suter — Legislative Liaison

David Bybee—Secretary

Emily Waters—Newsletter/NF Comm.

Kelsey King—Vice Chair



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Loo Wit ExCom Leaders 2019 (voting members)

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Kelsey King — Vice Chair
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Explore — Enjoy — Protect



LOO WIT FORMS NEW CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

By Wendy Cleveland, Conservation Chair

We have a new local conservation focused group in Loo Wit! We cover a broad range of topics including land use, wildlife, forests, and water protection. We will often have guest speakers, elected officials, and candidates with us to highlight local concerns.

We hold our meetings on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 5:30 pm at the Brewed Awakenings coffeeshop on 63rd and Andresen in Vancouver. All are welcome. Open to the public.

You can also connect with the Conservation Committee by searching “Loowit local conservation group” on Facebook.



POSSIBLE CHANGES TO HERITAGE FARM

By Fred Suter, Legislative Liaison

Clark County Councilors are considering changes to the 78th Street Heritage Farm. If you are Heritage Farm supporter and interested in the outcome of the planning process, there are a couple of ways for you to get involved. First, please write or call the Clark County Councilors to voice your opinion on the issue.

The second is the Clark County Council work session on Heritage Farm, meeting on the 6th floor of the Public Service Center (1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver) on Wednesday, February 19th at 10:30 AM. There is no opportunity to provide comments at the work session but would be important to attend to demonstrate community interest and support for Heritage Farm.

The following link provides background information about the Heritage Farm as posted by Friends of Clark County:

<https://clarkcountylive.com/to-do/preserve-the-rich-history-of-the-78th-street-heritage-farm/>



NEW CAMPAIGN: CLIMATE ACTION PLAN FOR THE CITY COUNCIL

By Don and Alona Steinke, Advisory Council

On February 10, we are launching a campaign to encourage the City of Vancouver to adopt a two-part Climate Action Policy.

Generally, elected officials need to feel public support before taking action.

How will the Vancouver City Council know the community wants climate action if we don't tell them?

The best way to do that is to show up and speak up in ever larger numbers every month.

The two parts of the Climate Action plan would be to:

Establish the goal of being Net Zero by 2050.

Develop a plan to get there.

There are already 100 cities including Portland and Eugene that have done this.

We plan to be at Council every month as long as needed.

We've met with six of the seven council members and we believe we'll have the votes if they actually start the conversation and put it on the agenda, BUT we need at least 20 supporters every month, particularly young people.

Let us know if you'd like to receive our notices.

crVanWash@gmail.com

We raced to the moon...

Lets race to clean energy!



Image courtesy ya-webdesign.com



SIERRA CLUB

Explore—Enjoy—Protect

MAKE AMERICA GREEN AGAIN: THE 2020 ELECTION STARTS NOW

Lehman Holder, Loo Wit ExCom

Everyone who loves our environment realizes that the ongoing fight to protect and preserve it has already begun – and there is no time to waste.

Simply put, we must counter the attacks of the Trump administration on our air, water and public lands. This year, 2020, is a critical opportunity to do that. So, what are Sierra Club's priorities and what is the Club's plan?

Sierra Club knows that the most effective way to reach voters is by doorbelling – speaking directly to voters, and a huge effort will be put into that. National Sierra Club will be working with its Chapters and Groups to knock on five million doors this campaign season. Second priority is sending handwritten letters to voters. A handwritten letter is also very effective. Details on that part of the plan will be released very soon. Third, 50 conservation organizers will be redirected to guide and join the first two efforts. Sierra Club will contest every race that can be won. It should come as no secret that the Club's top priority is to defeat Donald Trump.

It's also about more than dumping Trump. State and local decisions can have more impact on environmental decisions that most people realize. A local school board can create a generation of Green activists through curriculum choices. A local mayor can pledge to commit to 100% renewable energy. A city planner can adopt more energy-efficient building codes. In addition to the national election, the Club will focus on down-ballot races – governors, state legislatures, mayors, city and county council members who will commit to advancing clean energy goals.

You might ask, is Sierra Club effective? In the 2018 election cycle, because of the Club's investment of time, energy and dollars, 76% of the candidates for U.S. Senate won; 60% of governors the Club endorsed won, and 56% of candidates we endorsed for U.S. House won. Locally, Loo Wit endorsed two winning city council candidates and an endorsed Port of Vancouver commission candidate also won.

Your help is encouraged and welcomed. We cannot sit on the sidelines in this extremely critical year.



SIERRA CLUB

Explore—Enjoy—Protect

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

By Fred Suter, Legislative Liaison

Priorities:

Transportation Bills

The transportation sector accounts for the largest contribution of GHG emissions. Cleaning up the US transportation system is one of the Sierra Club's 10 top challenges for 2020. Bills we are monitoring:

Zero Emissions Vehicle Standards - SB 5811 would match California's requirements for a certain percent of vehicles sold will be electric. This bill passed the Senate in 2019; now in the House Committee on Environment & Energy (let Richard DeBolt 20th LD ranking minority member know you support this bill) - public hearing Feb 13.

Clean Fuels Bill - HB 1110 will reduce GHG emissions from fleet gasoline and diesel powered vehicles. This bill passed the House in 2019; now in the Senate Environment, Energy & Technology (let Ann Rivers 18th LD and Annette Cleveland 48th LD know you support this bill).

State Clean Air Bills - SB 6628 and HB 2892 will provide Gov Inslee with the authority to regulate indirect GHG emission sources under the State Clean Air Act. Utilities and natural gas industry oppose. Both bills passed out of their respective committees on Feb 6th. SB 6628 is now in the Rules Committee while HB 2892 is in House Appropriations.

Orca Task Force Bills

Suction Dredge Mining - SB 5322 will ban suction dredge mining. The bill passed the Senate in 2019 and is retained in present status. Meanwhile the House is addressing Suction Dredge Mining with HB 1261 which has passed out of committee and is ready for floor vote.

Energy

Pipeline Leakage Bill - HB 2518 concerns the safe and efficient transmission and distribution of natural gas. This bill passed out of the House Committee on Environment & Energy and is scheduled for public hearing in Appropriations on Feb 10.

Article continued on following page



LEGISLATIVE REPORT, CONTINUED

By Fred Suter, Legislative Liaison

Other Bills:

Healthy Forests Bill - SB 5996 funds fire prevention and suppression activities from DNR. Sierra Club opposes this bill. The bill passed out of the Senate Ways & Means Committee in 2019 and has been reintroduced for 2020, but there doesn't appear to be much action up to this point.

Plastic Bag Ban - SB 5323 has passed the Senate and referred to House Committee on Environment & Energy. Cut off is Feb 28th.

Bottle Water Production Bill - SB 6278 came about as a result of Crystal Geyser's attempt to establish a water bottling facility at Randle, WA. The bill passed out of committee on Feb 7th and is presently in the Senate Rules Committee.

KICK OFF THE NEW YEAR BY BUSTING WASTE

Emily Waters, NF Committee & Newsletter

Clark County Green Neighbors is sponsoring it's annual WasteBusters challenge to help reduce waste for organizations and individuals in Clark County, all while encouraging some friendly competition! Prizes include an indoor smart garden and an Instant Pot.

This year, the main challenges are:

- * Pledging to reduce paper waste in the kitchen by switching from single use paper towels and paper napkins to cloth alternatives for 20 days

- * Pledging to have a waste-free lunch by bringing a waste-free lunch to work or school three days a week or more for 20 days

- * Pledging to eliminate food spoilage by not allowing any food purchased to spoil or be thrown away for 20 days

There will be a kick-off event on Friday, February 28th at the Vancouver Community Library from 6pm-7:30. To sign up and learn more, visit: https://clarkgreenneighbors.org/en/?option=com_content&view=article&id=152&Itemid=316



LOO WIT OUTINGS

WINTER CROSS COUNTRY SKI OUTINGS UNDERWAY

By Lehman Holder, Outings leader

With good snowfall at Mt. Hood, Nordic (cross-country) ski outings kicked off in mid-January. Participants enjoyed several inches of fresh powder on the groomed trails of Teacup Lake Nordic Area, along with outing leaders Lehman Holder and Chris Hartman.

If you love skiing and the snow, join us! Two additional x-c outings are scheduled in February and two more in March. To see outing details, go our Meetup site: www.meetup.com/portland-vancouver-sierra-club-outings-events . If you have questions, contact Lehman at tripsguy@aol.com .

Participants should have “advanced beginner” skills – moving forward (diagonal stride), turning and stopping. We ski at a very easy pace, and usually get in 4-5 miles on an outing. And of course, the winter scenery is spectacular. Help us feed the gray jays who live along the trails and love tidbits!



Outings leaders Lehman Holder & Chris Hartman on the Teacup Trail.

Photo credit: Ann Richmond



Don't Get Left Out in the Cold... Join Us!



Sierra Club Outings are a terrific way to meet new people and enjoy the great outdoors. Whatever your interests - hiking, canoeing or birdwatching - there is an outing for everyone. If you are new to the area, let your local Chapter or Group give you the lay of the land. Join today and become part of America's largest environmental organization offering the most enjoyable outings.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

YES! I would like to give a gift membership to:

Gift Recipient _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club

Please charge my: Visa Mastercard AMEX

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____ Exp. Date ____ / ____

Signature _____

**Join today and receive
a FREE Sierra Club
Weekender Bag!**



Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 15	N/A
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35
Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35

Contributions, gifts & dues to Sierra Club are tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$ 7.50 for a subscription to SIERRA magazine and \$ 1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

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