SierraFest 2014, Sept. 19-21
Blackwater Falls State Park

Register now for a fun-filled weekend of entertaining and educational workshops, music, food and reminiscence. Several guests and "celebrities" from the early days of the Chapter will be on hand to offer insights to the "next generation" on how to organize a movement. Registration through Sept. 5 is only $15/person. After that, it is $25/person through Sept. 12, when registration closes. A limited number of rooms have been reserved at reduced prices. Online payment is available.

For details, see the July/August newsletter, or visit westvirginia.sierraclub.org and click on the SierraFest link.

Items still needed for the Silent Auction
If you have items to donate, contact Regina Hendrix, 304-725-0223 (home), 304-590-4943 (cell), or regina.hendrix@comcast.net.

Election News:
Water villains falling!

Based on voting records and bills sponsored, 34 water villains were recognized in the West Virginia Sierra Club's legislative scorecard (available at westvirginia.sierraclub.org under "Announcements").

WV Delegates Ted Tomblin and Larry Kump lost Primary election races, and Delegate Suzette Raines withdrew after questions arose about her residency and failing to file campaign finance reports. Several others have retired. Learn how you can help elect a better Legislature by contacting the Political Committee, at 304-594-3322.

WV Environmental Council
Oct. 17-19, Ripley
Cedar Lakes Conference Center

Mark your calendars now for the annual WVEC Convention, learn about key environmental issues, celebrate 25 years of protecting the environment, and help set the agenda for the next session. Details at wvecouncil.org.

Regina Hendrix
The Sierra Club sponsored a bus that took 29 representatives from WV’s Eastern Panhandle to the Tuesday, July 29, EPA Clean Power hearing in Washington, D.C. The bus stopped in Martinsburg and Charles Town before proceeding to EPA Headquarters.

I was pleased with the turnout on a Tuesday, in the middle of the week. This is the best turnout of supporters that I’ve seen since I moved to the Eastern Panhandle five years ago. Of the 29 citizens who traveled to D.C. with Sierra Club, 11 testified in favor of the proposed regulations. The other 18 supported the enactment of the regulations and a push for energy efficiency.

U.S. Rep. Shelley Moore Capito attended the hearing and expressed her opposition to the EPA’s plan to reduce power plant pollution.

Graham White, of Martinsburg, spoke in regard to the viability of renewable energy and its efficiency. White said there are more jobs available in renewable energy than in the coal industry.

Daniel Chiotos, Sierra Club’s Energy Efficiency organizer, agreed that the proposed plan would provide more jobs within the state, and he said those jobs should be union jobs.

I spoke of my decision to leave my home in Charleston, WV, because of the polluted air and water. I now live in Charles Town. Excerpts from my testimony are reprinted here:

"Good afternoon, my name is Regina Hendrix. I was born in the Kanawha Valley in Southern WV into a family of eight. Six of my family members have had cancer. Through the years, numerous friends and relatives have suffered with cancer, asthma and other maladies brought on by the poisoned water and air in the coalfields. I became so concerned about the pollution from chemicals and the extractive industries that I left the area in 2009 and came to live in the Eastern Panhandle.

As a West Virginian living in the Panhandle I’m free of the polluted air and water; however, I’m not free of paying the price of clean up for our extractive industries, which are being allowed to externalize the costs of mining. The cost of mining is being passed on to taxpayers because there is insufficient bond put up by the companies at permit time. The companies then spin off their subsidiaries into separate entities. When the coal is gone the company is bankrupt. They forfeit the bond and leave a large clean up bill for the taxpayer. Many of these sites will belch out selenium, mercury and all forms of acid drainage in perpetuity.

This EPA rule means we finally do something serious to control greenhouse gases. It will save thousands of lives and is justified by the health benefits alone. We can help bring prosperity back to WV with the jobs created by our investment in energy efficiency and renewables."

(above) The Eastern Panhandle group gathers for a photo, in Washington, D.C.
(right) A group of WV Sierrans joined other groups at a press conference and rally in Pittsburgh, then marched to the hearing. While a large street protest by United Mine Workers generated lots of press, supporters of the Clean Power Plan out-numbered opponents at the hearing.
EPA’s new carbon limits and what they mean for West Virginia

Sandra Fallon

West Virginia has the opportunity to diversify its energy sources, help ensure affordable electricity prices for attracting new industry and develop thousands of new jobs in the energy efficiency sector by implementing the Environmental Protection Agency’s new Clean Power Plan, according to experts who spoke at a July 15 public forum in Morgantown. About 30 people attended the event, which was co-sponsored by the West Virginia University Sierra Student Coalition (SSC), League of Women Voters of Morgantown-Monongalia, and the Monongahela Group of the WV Sierra Club. SSC Secretary Catherine O’Hearn moderated the discussion.

The Clean Power Plan offers the first-ever guidelines for reducing carbon dioxide emissions — the chief cause of climate change — from existing electric power plants. James Van Nostrand, associate professor and director of the WVU College of Law’s Center for Energy and Sustainable Development, and Mary Anne Hitt, with Sierra Club’s Beyond Coal Campaign, offered their analyses.

Van Nostrand explained that the EPA has the authority to regulate carbon dioxide as a pollutant under the Clean Air Act, and it proposed standards for carbon emissions from new power plants in January 2014. Then, on June 2, the agency released the Clean Power Plan for existing power plants. After a 120-day public comment period (comments can still be submitted through Oct. 16), the EPA will issue the final rule in June 2015. Each state will submit an implementation plan to the EPA by June 2016.

Clean Power Plan strategies to reduce carbon emissions

The Clean Power Plan offers four building blocks that states can use: making fossil fuel power plants operate more efficiently; using lower carbon-emitting power sources such as natural gas instead of coal; transitioning to more zero- and low-emitting power sources, including renewables, nuclear and other non-carbon emitting sources; and using electricity more efficiently, through, for example, energy efficiency programs that allow homes and businesses to use less electricity.

By 2030, West Virginia is expected to lower carbon dioxide emissions by 20 percent, a lower percentage than many other states. Van Nostrand said West Virginia will achieve the greatest carbon reductions by implementing energy efficiency programs for homes and businesses and increasing the development of renewables, including hydropower, followed by increasing energy efficiency operations inside the plant. Ignoring the other building blocks will make it more difficult and costly to achieve compliance, says Van Nostrand.

To take advantage of all the building blocks, the DEP, the state’s air regulator, and the Public Service Commission, the state’s energy regulator with authority over utility rates and energy efficiency programs, must communicate with each other.

Implementing the Plan Will Improve Health and Create Jobs

According to Hitt, the EPA has both the authority and the obligation to regulate carbon dioxide emissions to address the threats climate change poses to human health and well-being, including respiratory problems, infectious diseases, rising sea levels and increasing wildfires.

She said West Virginia’s electric utility companies are capable of creating many more energy efficiency programs for customers, which would help lower electric bills and create almost 20,000 manufacturing, installation and energy-audit jobs.

It’s important to realize that the Clean Power Plan is an incremental step toward reducing carbon emissions, she said. It does not eliminate coal production. The Sierra Club is working closely with organized labor to address the economic transition for workers who may be affected.

What You Can Do to support the Clean Power Plan

The Clean Power Plan will face Congressional opposition and legal challenges before being finalized. West Virginia already joined 11 other coal-friendly states in early August to sue the EPA over the proposed regulations. It’s important to voice your support for the Clean Power Plan by contacting Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin and the West Virginia DEP, writing letters to state and federal representatives and letters to the editor, and talking to your neighbors.

Nominations sought for Executive Committees (ExCom) by Nov. 1

Both the Monongahela Group and the state Chapter need candidates for their respective ExCom elections this December. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in helping guide the Club’s direction over the next two years, or want more information about what the position entails, please send your name, contact information and interests to Sally Wilts: sallywilts@yahoo.com.

Order Form

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Calendars may also be ordered online at store.wvsierraclub.org or by contacting Candice Elliott, celliot2@comcast.net, 304-594-3322

Enjoy, explore and protect the planet

2015 Sierra Club Calendars

Help your Chapter stay strong for the hard work we do to keep West Virginia wild and wonderful.
Make a quick and easy donation from the Chapter’s home page: westvirginia.sierraclub.org
Book Review

The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History by Elizabeth Kolbert

Review by Richard Mier, Martinsburg

The other night I happened to be watching a very good nature show that featured, among other beautiful animals, the Amur leopard. This beautiful carnivore lives in Siberia and because of the usual things, including hunting and habitat loss, is now critically endangered. Perhaps only several dozen remain in the wild, perhaps fewer. After my sad, but brief, mental tsk-tsk, I became distracted as the show went on to other beautiful things, including animals that weren’t endangered. The poor Amur leopard receded into the background.

Reading “The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History” brings the process of species loss to the forefront, rounding it up in a process of geological proportions. We live now in the Anthropocene, an epoch of our own making. We are changing our planet in degrees, similar to the dramatic changes Earth has experienced before. What we are doing is no different from what asteroids did 65 million years ago. Huge species die-offs occurred then and are occurring now — too many to document on television shows.

Elizabeth Kolbert tells this story clearly in well-written chapters that explore different loss indexes. It is well researched and thoughtful. It comes with a bibliography, explanatory notes and references, and a detailed index. It is well researched and thoughtful. In addition, she is trying to help us see the forest for the trees. The particularity of seeing one species lost, like the Amur leopard, portrayed movingly on one of the television shows sometimes distracts us from understanding what that trouble teaches us about other species in trouble.

Kolbert is not only a wonderful science writer but is also a wonderful storyteller. She is often funny and earthy. The book comes with a bibliography, explanatory notes and references, and a detailed index. It is well researched and thoughtful. In addition, she is trying to help us see the forest for the trees. The particularity of seeing one species lost, like the Amur leopard, portrayed movingly on one of the television shows sometimes distracts us from understanding that this is an ongoing global catastrophe. It is not as if we are about to face mass species extinction. In fact, we are in the midst of mass extinction right now. Understanding this is central to doing something about it, and that is why this book is a must-read.

Luis, was a Nobel prize-winning physicist who was as fascinated by all this as his son and suggested that they check the level of iridium in this clay strata. Though rare on earth, iridium is more abundant in meteorites. When the clay level was found to be loaded with iridium, father and son reasoned that a huge meteorite was responsible for the late Cretaceous loss of a large number of species, including the dinosaurs. Though initially ridiculed, they were eventually found to be right.

In addition to journeys in the past, she takes us also on journeys in the present, to Castello Aragonese, The Great Barrier Reef and the Peruvian rain forest, among other places. Each trip is a travelogue that teaches a lesson. The lessons come with wonderful descriptions of exotic places and include lucid and understandable conversations with the scientists involved in the investigations. She writes about bat die off from white nose syndrome and frog loss from chytrid fungi and about efforts at zoos and other places to save species on their own. She successfully uses a specific organism, sea urchins for one, in its own niche and leads us carefully to an explanation of why it is in trouble and what that trouble teaches us about other species in trouble.

We get ostriches

Some people get flamingoes. Here in West Virginia, we have ostriches. Actually, we have a surprising number of them. They’re big, having worked their way up the food chain. For flightless birds, they get around — some spend a lot of time in the forest for the trees. The particularity of seeing one species lost, like the Amur leopard, portrayed movingly on one of the television shows sometimes distracts us from understanding what that trouble teaches us about other species in trouble.

These are not just ordinary ostriches. These are beautiful, and if you think of them as playing to your base, then you might get an idea that a certain species is in trouble.

Part 3 in an educational series on climate change

John Bird, johnbird@frontier.com

Meltig ice and snow where perpetual glaciers, ice sheets, sea ice and snow cover have existed for millennia illustrates the reality of global warming. Ice is melting all around the world; therefore, the whole earth is warming.

Arctic Ocean sea ice melts in summer until early September, when the ocean starts to refreeze. The extent of sea ice just before re-freezing, when it’s at its smallest area, has declined from about 2.7 million square miles, in 1980, to about 2 million square miles, in 2012. The remaining ice is thinner. Less sea ice reflecting sunlight means the Arctic Ocean absorbs more light energy, adding to the heating of the earth and melting of polar ice. This snow and ice melt feeds the additional energy and the warming.

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A cool summer or very cold winter of ice melt in summer until early September, when the ocean starts to re-freeze. The extent of sea ice just before re-freezing, when it’s at its smallest area, has declined from about 2.7 million square miles, in 1980, to about 2 million square miles, in 2012. The remaining ice is thinner. Less sea ice reflecting sunlight means the Arctic Ocean absorbs more light energy, adding to the heating of the earth and melting of polar ice. This snow and ice melt feeds the additional energy and the warming.

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Marcellus Academy, Outings

3rd Marcellus Academy trains new state leaders, in June

Chuck Wyrostok

In June, WV Sierra Club held its third annual Marcellus Academy at WV Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, with a wide array of informative workshops, the West Virginia premier of “Triple Divide” and a healthy mix of learning, concern and fun. Activists from around the state soaked up all manner of information and tactics. Industrial-scale Marcellus shale gas drilling sites are causing major problems to our water, land, air and health. Families and communities around West Virginia are constantly affected by the onslaught of unwanted noxious incursions into their lives.

The goal was to show attendees how to organize others and help guide local leaders toward environmentally sound Marcellus policies.

Bill Hughes, of the Wetzel County Citizen Action Group and Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition (OVEC), rolled out a series of valuable tactics, including plotting locations on Google Earth, using courthouse tax maps and identifying trucks and equipment. His resources are an asset for all of us.

A spirited session on using “old school media” was presented by OVEC’s Vivian Stockman. She emphasized how the art of writing op-ed pieces, attracting media coverage and writing good letters-to-the-editor are still important pieces of the messaging toolbox.

Kirk Kalbert, from the FracTracker Alliance, showed us how to use FracTracker maps and information services to examine gas activities in our community. FracTracker.org is an excellent web-based tool for tracking and visualizing data about oil and gas extraction operations.

George Monk, of WV Sierra Club’s Marcellus Campaign Committee, walked us through the West Virginia laws that relate to oil and gas activity. Especially illuminating was an eye-opening look at WV DEP’s record of enforcement, industry’s compliance and what more is needed.

And while everyone should know their rights while witnessing or recording activity in the gas fields, many are not sure what’s legal and what’s trouble. During her section of the Academy, Kim Ellis, of Radical Action for Mountains & Peoples Survival (RAMPS), laid out the crucial information you need to know. It’s easy to get stressed out with the challenges of environmental activism. Just ask anyone living in the gas fields. Jody Mohr helped us by describing the symptoms and warning signs and explaining how to care for yourself. Jody lives in Doddridge County, where fracking is rampant. And David Stum, chair of WV Sierra Club’s Marcellus Campaign committee, gave a solid rundown on how PowerPoint can be a powerful tool for activism in your community.

The Saturday evening treat was the screening of the investigative documentary “Triple Divide,” about fracking in the Marcellus Shale. The filmmaker/journalists Joshua Pribanic and Melissa Troutman, who are taking their movie on a nationwide tour in a Tesla Model S, a long-range, all-electric family sedan, joined us. The trip will test the manufacturer’s nationwide Supercharger system, where electric cars can be quickly recharged for free. This is a beautiful car … 300 miles on a single charge and half an hour to completely recharge.

The film’s website is tripledividefilm.org. Marcellus Academy was the first stop on the U.S. tour.

Academy attendees will become part of the growing number of West Virginians creating a strong, intelligent response to the challenges of Marcellus drilling. They will be looking for helpers in their counties to assist in organizing and people to pass their new knowledge along to. To get in touch with them, email us at outreach@marcellus-wv.com, or call 877-252-0257.

To keep up with Marcellus notices, ask to be added to our email list at outreach@marcellus-wv.com. See more at marcellus-wv.com. And, be watching for announcements for next summer’s Marcellus Academy.

AUGUST OUTING EDUCATES

Despite rainy weather, Carl Werntz (left), Donna Ford-Werntz, their daughter, Shannon, and Martha Mullet, all of Morgantown, learn about Cranberry Glades and Beartown from Beth Little, on Aug. 10 outing.

Outings Leaders Wanted!

Calling all those who love the outdoors, conservation and opportunities to meet like-minded people.

Outings are a great way to meet up with old friends, meet new ones and share fellowship with like-minded people. The outings are open to members and non-members, alike.

Another requirement to become an OL is to have your basic First Aid/CPR certificate. We have made arrangements with a local certified instructor to teach this class on Saturday afternoon. This will be a great opportunity to complete the two major requirements of becoming an OL. Also, if you have taken OLT 101 in the past, but never got your First Aid/CPR certification, here is your chance. The certification is only good for three years, so if yours is about to expire, please plan to attend.

There is a nominal fee for the First Aid/CPR certification to cover the cost of the instructor. The fee is based on the number of attendants, but should not exceed $20/person.

It is my hope that by offering both the OLT 101 and Basic First Aid/CPR classes at one convenient time and location, more members will be encouraged to become OLs. Our members have so much love and knowledge of our great state. What a great opportunity being an OL is to share that with others. We already have a great team of OLs, but we’re always looking for additional motivated individuals.

If, by chance, you cannot make it to SierraFest and are interested, please let me know so I can make arrangements to teach OLT101 at another time and place. Keep in mind, the OL101 course is also offered online.

If you are interested in participating in an outing or interested in becoming an outings leader, please feel free to contact me, or one the many other outstanding outings leaders.

“The mountains are calling, and I must go.”

— John Muir

— Russ Flowers, Outings Chair
Outings — Autumn

Sierra Club Liability Policies For Chapter Outings

Sierra Club outings are open to everyone, members and non-members alike. Each outing is intended to be a wholesome, safe, and enjoyable experience. Participants must have suitable clothing, gear, and stamina, and are encouraged to select activities that match their individual abilities for outdoor activities. The club offers a variety of outings from "easy" to "moderate" to "strenuous" that suit all activity levels. The difficulty of each outing is clearly designated in the announcement. Reservations are generally not required unless clearly designated in the announcement. Participants are reminded that all outdoor activities carry a degree of risk, and some take place in locations where professional emergency medical aid may be two or more hours away. People with health concerns should consult a physician to determine the advisability of participating in these or similar activities. The leader is responsible for the safety and enjoyment of all participants, and has the final authority to decide whether or not an individual may participate in a specific outing. Sierra Club safety policy requires that helmets be worn on bicycling outings, and a personal flotation device (PFD) be worn when using personal watercraft such as kayaks or canoes. Unless noted in the announcement, Club outings are intended for adults. Children and dogs are not normally permitted, unless an outing is so designated. Minors (under 18 years of age) must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian, or they must have both a signed permission slip, and the leader's prior consent to participate in the Club outing. Sierra Club outings officially begin and end at the meeting point. Travel to the official starting point and back, even from an advertised meeting place, are at everyone's own risk. Contact the Junior leader for further directions and questions. Leader: Russ Flowers, 304-482-7919, rusturd@gmail.com Nearest town: Williamstown, WV Web info: canaanresort.com

Sat, Oct 4 Wild Walks Weekend: Hike between the Parks — Blackwater SP to Canaan SP rated-strenuous — This is a non-Sierra Club-sponsored outing, but is organized through Blackwater and Canaan SPs. Join this family-friendly 8-mile hike between Blackwater and Canaan SPs during prime fall foliage. There is a fee of $25 for adults and $15 for ages 6-12. The fee covers shuttle service and a cookout lunch at the 4-mile mark. Pre-registration is required. Contact OL or Canaan Valley SP for more info. Leader: Russ Flowers, 304-482-7919, rusturd@gmail.com Nearest town: Davis, WV Web info: canaanresort.com/1wp-content/uploads/2014/07/wil-wakawakid-2014-refomp.jpg

Sat, Oct 11 Hike: Lumberjack Trail—Seneca Creek Loop rated-strenuous — This is a 10.7-mile loop hike with a 996-foot elevation gain, in the Spruce Knob area of the MNF. We'll get your early start at 9:30AM from Post Road and Saturday nights at Seneca Shadyside Campground. Reservations are recommended, and sites can fill fast. I reserved one site to share, with a 2-tent capacity. Sunday, we have an optional mile out-and-back hike at Seneca Rocks before going home. Contact leader to register. Leader: Pam Peitz, 240-818-655, pspellet@gmail.com Nearest town: Seneca Rocks, WV Web info: medfordathichikes.com; recreation.gov/welcome.do

Sat, Nov 8 Hike: Cacapon Resort SP rated-strenuous — This 7-mile hike is rated strenuous, as it involves a 1200-foot elevation gain. Sections of the trail are very steep, rocky and slippery when wet. Allow 3 1/2 hours for this hike. We will meet at the Walmart in Front Royal, Va. Register, contact to leader. Leader: Pam Peitz, 240-818-655, pspellet@gmail.com Nearest town: Berkeley Springs, WV Web info: cacaponresort.com

Sat, Nov 15 Hike: Valley Falls SP rated moderate — Join us for a moderate hike at Valley Falls SP. We will do an out-and-back hike on the Rhododendron Trail. We’ll see the “hidden” waterfall at the end of the trail. This is a short hike of about 4 miles, with some steep sections. Bring your camera, as there are some great photographic opportunities. Bring along some water; sturdy foot-wear is highly recommended; trekking poles can be helpful. Sections of the trail are very steep, rocky and slippery when wet. Allow 3 1/2 hours for this hike. We will meet at the Walmart in Front Royal, Va. Register, contact to leader. Leader: Russ Flowers, 304-482-7919, ruswu@gmail.com Nearest town: Williamstown, WV Web info: fws.gov/northeast/ohioriverislands

Sat, Nov 15 Service outing: Coopers Rock Fall Adopt-a-Trail rated-easy (hiking) to moderate (work intensity) — Join the fun with the fall trail maintenance for Sierra Club’s adopted Intermediate cross-country ski trail at Coopers Rock South. Fall clean-up emphasizes clearing fallen leaves, drainage restoration and trail clearing along a 1.25-mile loop. Volunteers should wear sturdy boots and don work gloves, water and snacks. Useful tools to bring are long-handled pruners, rakes and pointed shovels. Adults and adolescents are invited to help and those under 16 must be accompanied by a parent or a legal guardian. Volunteers will be required to sign a standard Sierra Club Liability Waiver and a DNR Volunteer Work Program Agreement. Please pre-register with the leader. Leader: Pam Reaves, 304-944-9500, pamreaves@wv.gov Nearest town: Morgantown, WV Web info: cooperrockstateforest.com; cooperrocks.org

Sat, Dec 13 Hike: Grafton Sp rated moderate — This is a moderate 6-mile hike at one of the few places that does not allow hunting this time of year. Allow about 2 1/2 hours for the hike. We will meet at the trailhead in the park. Register, contact trip leader. Leader: Pam Petz, 240-818-655, pspellet@gmail.com Nearest town: Frederick, MD Web info: dcr2maryland.gov

Maryland Chapter Outings

Our neighboring chapter to the east has an active outings program, with many trips coming into West Virginia or western Maryland. These outings, by highly experienced leaders, range from easy to strenuous, and are open to everyone. Join an outing by checking out their calendar.

maryland.sierracclub.org

Allegheny Group Outings

Sierra Club members in the Pittsburgh area belong to the Allegheny Group. They have a moderately active outings program as well as links to other local outdoor activities. Visit their website for an outings calendar and more details at

alleghenysc.org

Potomac Region Outings (PRO)

This is an activity section of the Sierra Club Virginia Chapter, with an extensive outings program run by leaders who live in and around the Washington, D.C., area. A calendar of activities, information and updates can be found on their Potomac Region section. Visit their website:

www.sierratopotomac.org

West Virginia Chapter Outings

For updated listings of outings sponsored by the West Virginia Chapter, check their Chapter website at

westvirginia.sierracclub.org

Abbreviations Used

AMC Appalachian Mountain Club
AMG Appalachian Mountain Guides
GWNF George Washington National Forest
JNF Jefferson National Forest
MG Monongahela Group
MNF Monongahela National Forest
NPS National Park Service
NRA National Recreation Area
NWR National Wildlife Refuge
PFD Personal Flotation Device (lifejacket)
SF State Forest
SP State Park
SNP Shenandoah National Park

Mountain State Sierran
www.westvirginia.sierracclub.org

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West Virginia Sierra Club Chapter Directory

**Chapter Executive Committee**

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Gary Nelson (*14) Vice Chair  
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To Contact STATE LEGISLATORS

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For planned giving in West Virginia, contact Paul Wilson at 304-725-4360

**Inside this Issue**

1. Register now for SierraFest 2014, Sept. 19-21, Blackwater Falls State Park • WV Sierrans make presence felt at D.C. and Pittsburgh EPA hearings • Election news: Water villains falling! • WV Environmental Council Convention, Oct. 17-19, Ripley

2. EPAs new carbon limits and what they mean for West Virginia • Water & Wellness Conference, Oct. 3-4, Charleston • Nominations sought for ExCom by Nov. 1 • 2015 Calendar Order form

3. Book Review: “The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History” by Elizabeth Kolbert  • View from the Chair: Useless Birds of a Feather • Part 3 of Climate Change Series: Ice doesn’t lie: Melts at 32 degrees; always has, always will • Membership form

4. Recap of 3rd Marcellus Academy, in Buckhannon, June 21-22 • Perspectives on Outings: Outings Leaders Wanted! • Photo from Aug. 10 outing to Cranberry Glades and Beartown

5. OUTINGS: Autumn 2014 • Liability Policy for Chapter Outings

* Page 1 photo, May 1983: The man with the handlebar mustache is none other than our current Chapter Chair, Jim Sconyers. The woman to his right is Chris DeChristopher, our first Chapter Chair and mother of “Bidder 70” climate activist, Tim DeChristopher.