

# M Mountain State Sierran

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## Mountaineer Gas snatches up property rights for a bargain

Tracy Cannon

As a member of Eastern Panhandle Protectors and a new member on WV Sierra Club's Gas Committee, I began researching the right-of-way agreements made in Morgan and Berkeley counties after I found out the Mountaineer Gas Pipeline was being built through my area. These agreements, which are public records, tell where the pipeline is being built, under what conditions landowners have allowed it to be built, and how much the gas company paid landowners for the right to build it. Here are some of the things I have learned.

The Mountaineer Gas Pipeline is being built very close to the homes of numerous area residents. It is also passing through the property of the U.S. Silica Plant in Berkeley Springs, the Potomac Edison substation on Clone Run Road, the LCS Landfill, James Rumsey Technical Institute, and Hedgesville High School.

Mountaineer Gas paid the property owners in Morgan and Berkeley counties a total of \$1.18 million for the land the pipeline is being built on: landowners in Morgan County were paid around \$645K, and those in Berkeley County were paid around \$533K. Some of the landowners were paid well for their contribution. Others were paid poorly, considering that the pipeline is sure to greatly reduce their property values. Of the 122 landowners who agreed to let the pipeline come through their property, 59 of them received less than \$4,000. Two landowners with smaller parcels received only \$500 each for their rights-of-way. The highest payout was to a group of local businessmen that owns 398 acres in Berkeley County. Their agreement brought them \$113,498.

Mountaineer Gas began getting landowners to sign easement agreements in July 2016. Half of the private property owners (55 out of 112) signed between July and September. This time window is of interest for a couple of reasons. First, property taxes in WV are due on September. Many of those who signed easement agreements were senior citizens.

Often, older property owners have paid off their mortgages and so no longer have a monthly payment to which their property taxes are added. This leaves many on fixed incomes with a large, extra bill to pay every September. The land agents showed up just in time to help them with that.

Second, the deals struck by property owners during the July-September 2016 window show the power of holding out for a better deal — and the wisdom of getting legal representation. Of the 59 non-corporate landowners who received less than \$4,000, 38 of them signed the right-of-way agreement between July and September of 2016, the earliest contract dates on record. Out of the 33 landowners who received \$11,000 or more, 27 of them signed after January 2017.

The Eastern Panhandle Protectors sought out the 20 landowners who received less than \$2,000. We were able to gather information that may point to why they accepted such a low sum: six senior citizens, two properties with no houses on them, and four apparently abandoned. One owner in the bottom 20 signed the easement and then sold their property. None of the lowest-paid landowners were aware that other families received much higher payments than they did.

The worst agreement was made with an elderly couple in Morgan county, who signed in September 2016, \$1,499 for an easement through 38 acres. Compare that to the \$25,000 paid to another landowner in the same area with only 32 acres. The easement on this elderly couple's land goes straight through the property and very close to their house.

The pipeline route was originally proposed to run through their neighbor's property, but the neighbor insisted on \$2,000/acre. That's all it took for the company to move their proposed route right through the middle of the older couple's land.

People were not fully aware that they could negotiate for a higher payout — two-thirds of landowners signed the agreement with no changes whatsoever.

They also did not know they could negotiate to avoid unfavorable conditions included in the boilerplate agreement, such as the company being able to come back at any time and put in another pipe for an undisclosed "customary" sum, or that they can use herbicide to clear brush along the easement.

My advice: Make them wait and make them pay you well! Talk to a lawyer. Make sure you negotiate on those sneaky



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unfavorable conditions, not just the price. Talk to your neighbors and help them negotiate strong agreements, too. Don't sacrifice your land and your peace of mind

for a gas company that is taking advantage of your community. You have what the gas company needs. There is no reason to sell it to them immediately or cheaply.

## NOTICES

### SierraFest postponed until Spring

Look for more info in upcoming Winter and Spring issues.

### ExCom Nominations Needed

The governing boards, or Executive Committees (ExComs), of the WV Chapter and the Monongahela Group will hold elections in December for positions with expiring terms. Nominations and statements from candidates are needed by **November 3**. Please consider running if you'd like to help keep Sierra Club strong in West Virginia.



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## WV Chapter makes Political Endorsements

There are few things you can do for the environment that are more powerful than helping elect pro-environment candidates. The WV Chapter Political Committee has made the following endorsements for the upcoming general election in November.

### US House of Representatives First District: **Kendra Fershee**

### WV House of Delegates

7th District - Ritchie: **Lissa Lucas**  
16th District - Cabell: **Sean Hornbuckle, Dakota Nelson**  
32nd District - Clay (part), Fayette, Kanawha (part), Nicholas (part), Raleigh (part): **Margaret Staggers**  
35th District - Kanawha: **Renate Pore**  
36th District - Kanawha: **Larry Rowe**  
37th District - Kanawha: **Mike Pushkin**  
51st District - Monongalia: **Barbara Fleischauer, Danielle Walker, Evan Hansen, Rodney Pyles**  
58th District - Morgan: **Bibi Hahn**  
65th District - Jefferson: **Sammi Brown**

### WV State Senate

9th District - McDowell (part), Raleigh, Wyoming: **William Wooton**  
10th District - Fayette, Greenbrier, Monroe, Summers: **Stephen Baldwin**  
11th District - Grant (part), Nicholas, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Randolph, Upshur, Webster: **Laura Finch**  
13th District - Marion and Monongalia: **Bob Beach**  
14th District - Barbour, Grant (part), Hardy, Mineral (part), Monongalia (part), Preston, Taylor, Tucker: **Stephanie Zucker**

Additional endorsements are pending. We will be looking at other state and federal races, so watch for press releases and e-mail announcements. A vacancy in the WV Supreme Court will be filled by a Special Election, also on Nov. 6, but the filing deadline for that is after this article goes to press. Stay informed by regularly checking the Chapter website, where you can also find a [Legislative Scorecard](#) for all incumbents.

### What You Can Do

Get involved in supporting endorsed candidates by contacting the Chapter Political Committee, or the candidates' campaigns directly. Campaigns need help with mailings, phone banking and canvassing. Or you can throw a house party, or post yard signs or a bumper sticker. Make a contribution. Follow or "Like" the candidate's Facebook or Twitter accounts. Talk to your friends, neighbors and co-workers. Many voters are looking for information on candidates in local races, and your informed voice can help elect the best candidates. To get involved, contact Jim Kotcon, [jkotcon@gmail.com](mailto:jkotcon@gmail.com), 304-594-3322.

## Gas committee receives Grassroots Network grant

Natalie Thiele

The Gas Committee has received a \$9,500 grant from Sierra Club's Grassroots Network to work on an organizing and public education project focused on the health risks of the Appalachian Storage Hub (ASH). The ASH will be a petrochemical storage, processing and manufacturing complex comparable to Louisiana's petrochemical hub, known as Cancer Alley. Proponents of ASH brag that our region's hub will be bigger. West Virginia has historically failed to protect her people from the health risks and economic devastation of fossil fuel extraction and the damage and illness caused by recklessness and bad-faith action from our chemical manufacturing industry. Our committee is concerned that the buildout of the fracked gas and chemical industries that will come with a mega storage hub will come at the expense of West Virginians' health, wealth and wellbeing.

With our Grassroots Network Grant and a match from the WV Chapter, the Gas Committee will be working on delivering educational and organizational materials to

communities targeted as possible sites for the ASH, especially those already suffering petrochemical infrastructure buildout (for example, U.S. Methanol Corporation's Liberty One methanol processing facility in Institute, near Charleston, and its future twin Liberty Two, which will also be sited in the Charleston area).

We have recently begun working with Kaleidoscope Consulting ([kaleidoscopewv.com](http://kaleidoscopewv.com)) to create professionally designed materials for distribution (such as handouts, mailers and information packets), a project website, and periodic social media posts, action alerts and emails. The Kaleidoscope founders have a strong social justice background, and I'm very excited we have the chance to work with them.

While we have a small team of Gas Committee volunteers working on this project, we would love to have more folks join us. Some possible volunteer roles may include: targeted research to help with messaging, social media participation, developing calls to action and public events, volunteering at events, one-on-one meetings with community members, and phone or in-community canvassing.

We will be able to reimburse mileage for volunteers who travel for the project. If you want to help on this project but can't afford it, please let us know and we will work out a way to make it happen.

If you are interested in joining our team, or if you might be interested and want to learn more before you decide, please contact Natalie Thiele, [natalie.a.a.thiele@gmail.com](mailto:natalie.a.a.thiele@gmail.com), and we can set up a quick phone chat or meeting.

One last note for other organizations and activists: If you are already organizing in an area that may become part of the ASH complex, our team would love to connect with you and talk about ways we can follow your lead or help grow your work. Maybe we could volunteer with you or help you connect with new volunteers. We could also give your message and your organization a signal boost through social media or on our project website. If you're interested in learning about ways our project might be helpful in your community, the resources we will be developing and distributing, or facilitation of ASH-related community information meetings, please contact me at the email listed above.

## Can the community save Haymaker Forest?

JoNell Strough and Tony Christini

Morgantown's Haymaker Forest is 42 acres of woods and wetlands separated on the southeast from East Oak Grove Cemetery by a creek whose headwaters lie in the forest and flow to Decker's Creek. The deciduous forest is one of the last large, unfragmented wooded areas on Morgantown's southern city boundary.

The City of Morgantown's 2013 Comprehensive Plan identified Haymaker Forest as a keystone in the development of a "greenbelt" transportation corridor for cyclists and foot traffic. Haymaker lies between Morgantown's White Park and Marilla Park. A connector trail through Haymaker, along with a Dorsey Ave cross walk, and a Don Knotts Blvd pedestrian bridge, would link White and Marilla Parks (and the Decker's Creek and Caperton Rail Trails), creating a southeast greenbelt loop. The Plan also calls for northeast and outer loop trails. Recent cyclist and pedestrian deaths and injuries highlight Morgantown's need for safe, alternative transportation routes.

The 2013 Comprehensive Plan designated Haymaker Forest as an area to preserve, deeming its steep slopes unsuitable for development. The forest absorbs storm runoff from three neighborhoods, captures carbon and filters air pollution from the chemical plant and the coal-fired power plants that surround Morgantown.

For many years, the Haymaker land appeared to have been abandoned by its owners. The original forest was cleared as a frontier farm. Now, the neighborhoods that surround Haymaker are medium to high-density and are racially and economically diverse.

The battle to save Haymaker Forest began in summer 2015, when a local

resident discovered an engineering map on the edge of the woods. The map depicted a massive new development in the county and city. In response to the discovery of the map, a tri-neighborhood committee formed. First Ward resident Kathryn Madison created a Facebook group, [Save Our Haymaker Community Forest](#), that is still active and includes much of the history and other information about this area, including videos of the forest.



Haymaker Tulip Tree

Despite several public appeals, no efforts toward preserving the forest were made by either the county or the city of Morgantown. Meanwhile, residents pursued funding and preservation options for Haymaker Forest that spanned city, county, state, federal, environmental, university, and private funding sources. One year prior to the first bulldozer grinding into the forest was Election Day in Morgantown. The battle for Haymaker Forest fueled the election. Councilors known to be opposed to spending city money to preserve the

forest lost in a landslide to Mark Brazaitis and Rachel Fetty. Brazaitis had made preservation of Haymaker Forest a centerpiece of his campaign. All of his allies were elected, with no losses.

Despite concerted efforts of Councilor Brazaitis and support from other council members, no tangible progress has been made.

Opposition to the Haymaker purchase has focused mostly on its owners' (ALP, Inc) asking price. The WV Secretary of State's office lists Theresa Angotti, Donald Lazzelle Jr. and James Prete as the business's officers. The owners value the profit to be made from developing Haymaker to be \$5.2 million. An appraiser valued the land at \$2.5 million.

Yet, land value is only one criterion experts use to determine the economic value of forests and parks to a city. Other economic values include (1) direct use value to visitors who walk, picnic, ride bikes, engage in bird watching or sit quietly for "forest bathing," (2) tourism value to visitors, (3) health value, with recent research highlighting the benefits of greenspace for improving mental and physical health, (4) community cohesion value that emerges from sharing common ground in a peaceful setting, (5) reduced costs to the city and county of controlling damage from urban storm water runoff, and (6) removal of air pollution. A dollar amount could be assigned to each of these.

Advocates for preserving the forest hope that ongoing negotiations between the City of Morgantown and ALP, Inc., are resolved to the satisfaction of all parties. For information or to join the effort to save Haymaker Forest, contact [strough.jo@gmail.com](mailto:strough.jo@gmail.com) or [tcchristini@gmail.com](mailto:tcchristini@gmail.com).

# Jim Sconyers Memorials



Two projects funded with Sierra Club donations made in Jim Sconyers' memory have been completed on the Greenbrier District of the Mon National Forest. Mary Wimmer and Sally Wilts were instrumental in seeing these projects through.

One project involved replacing two old wooden bridges in Island Campground with large culverts and gravel (Jim's fund bought the gravel) to accommodate backflows of the East Fork Greenbrier River. The other project was the installation of a bench overlooking the pond next to Middle Mountain Cabins, located at the southern end of the Laurel Fork Wilderness Area.

Jim stayed in both of these places over the years, doing trail work, hiking, camping and picnicking. Pictured in the photos are District Ranger Jack Tribble, Sally Wilts and Mary Wimmer.

**We gratefully acknowledge the U.S. Forest Service for their help and cooperation on these projects.**



# Victories to Celebrate!

It's nice to celebrate some of the positive outcomes for the environment once in awhile. Here are recent wins to feel good about:

### Scott Pruitt is "Out" as EPA Administrator

It was a string of ethical issues that led President Trump to ask for his resignation, not his failure to protect the environment. And the new acting administrator is a coal lobbyist, so this one is a mixed victory at best. But we will take it.

### Blair Mountain is "In" on the National Register of Historic Places

After 12 years of effort that included long court battles, the Keeper has officially placed Blair Mountain back on the list. This provides added protection for the historic battlefield. Congrats to Regina Hendrix and all those who kept up the fight.

### Pipelines' Construction Halted

Numerous water-quality violations accompanied the start of construction of the Mountain Valley Pipeline, and a federal judge ruled that the Environmental Impact Statement was inadequate. FERC issued a Stop Work Order on August 3. On May 15, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals halted work on parts of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, finding that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had failed to protect endangered species along the route. On August 10, FERC issued a Stop Work Order for the ACP as well. We will see how long that lasts.

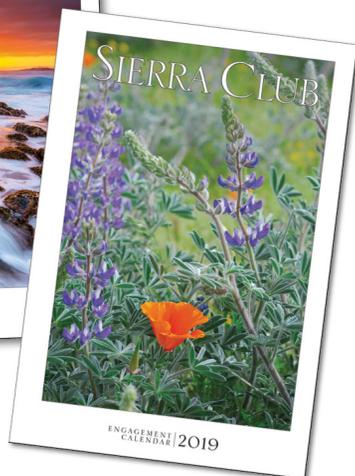
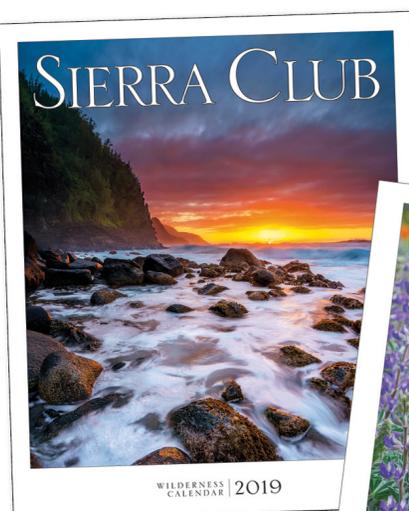
### Moving Beyond Coal

Since 2010, 270 coal-fired power plants have closed or announced retirement. These closures have saved more than 7,000 lives and \$3.4 billion in health care costs.



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## 2019 Sierra Club Calendars



ORDER FORM			
ITEM	COST	QTY	TOTAL
Wilderness Calendar	<input type="checkbox"/> \$13.00	_____	_____
Engagement Calendar	<input type="checkbox"/> \$14.00	_____	_____
Please make checks payable to "WV Sierra Club" and mail to: 2019 SC Calendars c/o Candice Elliott 414 Tyrone Avery Rd Morgantown WV 26508-4199		Subtotal:	_____
Email <a href="mailto:candice.k.elliott@gmail.com">candice.k.elliott@gmail.com</a> for alternate delivery methods.		Shipping:	\$6.00
		GRAND TOTAL:	_____

**SHIP TO:**

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## Eastern Panhandle Group

Maggie Louden

The Eastern Panhandle Sierra Club (EPSC) has been very active lately, mostly because of two major issues we're focusing on: 1. the Mountaineer Gas Pipeline being constructed through the Eastern Panhandle that threatens the people and environment of the area, and 2. the construction of the Rockwool Plant in Jefferson County, which produces insulation and, as a byproduct, many harmful chemical runoffs. We also continue to hold regular meetings and outings to attract more members to our group.

Our June educational meeting focused on WV Rivers and an update on the pipeline. David Lillard, of the WV Rivers Coalition ([wvrivers.org](http://wvrivers.org)), provided participants with a great understanding of the wonderful waterways in West Virginia, the threats to their well-being, and how people can join with organizations that work to protect these waterways. We were encouraged to view a webinar produced by WV Rivers Coalition and Trout Unlimited that explained how to make visual assessments of pipelines to monitor waterways. He also encouraged us to train as waterway monitors. David informed us of the need to work with our legislators on bills that affect our waterways and how to stay connected with groups, such as Appalachian Mountain Advocates ([appalmod.org](http://appalmod.org)), that provide guidance on the issues facing rivers in WV.

Tracy Cannon, of Eastern Panhandle Protectors ([easternpanhandleprotectors.com](http://easternpanhandleprotectors.com)), updated us on the progress of the Mountaineer Gas Pipeline and what actions can be taken to affect its construction. The Berkeley Springs part of the pipeline has been completed, and pipe is being laid in Berkeley County. (Since the meeting, FERC has approved the construction of the pipeline through Maryland and under the Potomac River.) Tracy encouraged attendees to observe where pipeline construction comes near streams and explained how to report if runoff from it is coming into the streams.

Our July Conservation meeting saw many more Sierrans from the Eastern Panhandle join us. The mainly discussed

and shared information on the Rockwool Plant being constructed in Ranson, WV. We learned about the chemicals that are a byproduct of the production of the insulation and how the permits needed for the plant were procured. There was a lot of enthusiasm to form committees to respond to this threat to the health of people nearby, especially the students of North Jefferson Elementary School adjacent to the site and two other near-by schools. Three days later, because a reporter wanted to interview Regina Hendrix at the plant site, a group of concerned citizens, including parents with their children, came out to the site with signs protesting the construction, as well as the secrecy local political entities used when negotiating with Rockwool.

Chris Craig updated us on outings that have occurred and informed us of future outings. Overall, outings are going well. Chris is planning outings that will accommodate people with limits on hiking long distances or with much elevation change.

### 2018 Educational Meetings

**August 28:** Dan Conant, founder of Solar Holler, Shepherdstown. Solar Holler is a social enterprise dedicated to bringing solar energy within reach of all West Virginians, including churches and other community organizations. Dan will tell us about innovative ways that individuals and community organizations can finance solar installation.

**October 23:** Mary Anne Hitt, Beyond Coal Campaign, Sierra Club. Mary Anne directs the Beyond Coal Campaign, which works to replace coal with clean energy by mobilizing grassroots activists in local communities.

In non-program months, September and November, the Eastern Panhandle group will sponsor conservation meetings in members' homes. Also starting at 6:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month, these meetings focus on various topics but also allow for time to socialize and strategize with fellow Sierra Club members. All Sierrans are welcome to these meetings. Info: Regina Hendrix ([regina.hendrix@comast.net](mailto:regina.hendrix@comast.net)).

## Elsewhere in the State

### MONONGAHELA GROUP

#### Rise for Renewables Rally

Sat, Sept. 8, 2-5 p.m.

Morgantown Farmers Market, 400 Spruce St

This event is part of the Global Day of Action — Rise for Climate, Jobs and Justice. The Mon Group is sponsoring a family-focused event with live music and free activities for children.

Info: John Bird ([johnbird@frontier.com](mailto:johnbird@frontier.com)) or Laura Yokochi ([lyokochi@aol.com](mailto:lyokochi@aol.com))

### National Drive Electric Week

Sat, Sept 15, noon-3 p.m.

Martins Distributors Warehouse and Office Bldg, 528 Race Street, Martinsburg

Local electric-car owners, MD-VOLT, Mountain View Solar, Plug In America, Sierra Club and the city of Martinsburg are thrilled to hold the very first NDEW Meet-Up covering a 30-mile radius of Martinsburg, which includes Hagerstown, MD, and Winchester, VA. Centrally located, we hope to draw enough interest from folks living nearby to make the easy drive to meet and greet many like-minded EV enthusiasts.

The event will be held at a local family-owned beer distributor that is powered by solar modules made in America, including eight type 2 EV chargers. Mountain View Solar LLC installed the solar modules and chargers many years ago. We will offer electric vehicle (EV) rides for those not yet initiated and answer questions from the public on how to get started in the EV revolution about to take the public by storm just on the financial incentives alone. Come see what EVs are all about.

### National Solar Tour comes to WV

#### Statewide open houses held Oct 6-7

The 2018 National Solar Tour, America's largest annual grassroots solar event, will take place in neighborhoods nationwide during the weekend of October 6-7. Sponsored by the American Solar Energy Society (ASES) and Solar United Neighbors, the National Solar Tour empowers people across the country to learn about solar technology and the process of going solar from their friends and neighbors. Solar open houses and local solar tours bring together solar supporters, home and business owners, and community members to celebrate and help grow solar in their communities.

ASES is the nation's leading association of renewable energy professionals and advocates. It has regional chapters in 41 states and the District of Columbia. It publishes the award-winning *SOLAR TODAY* magazine and the e-newsletter Solar@Work for renewable energy professionals. It also hosts the ASES National Solar Conference, which took place this past August in Boulder, CO.

The 2018 edition of the National Solar Tour marks its 23rd anniversary. This is the first time Solar United Neighbors has participated in the effort. A national nonprofit organization representing the

needs and interests of solar owners and supporters, Solar United Neighbors helps people go solar, join together and fight for their energy rights.

Its West Virginia state program, *Solar United Neighbors of West Virginia*, was formerly known as WV SUN. Solar United Neighbors of West Virginia partners with the West Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club and other groups to implement local solar bulk purchase programs, or "solar co-ops," and to advocate for the rights of solar owners and supporters.

Any solar home or business owner around the country can host a solar open house as part of the 2018 National Solar Tour. Fourteen solar homeowners in West Virginia have already signed up to do so, including WV Sierra Club Political Chair Jim Kotcon and Newsletter Editor Candice Elliott, at their home on Tyrone-Avery Road in Morgantown!

Here is the list of National Solar Tour open houses in West Virginia available at press time:

#### Saturday, October 6

- 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. — 111 Citadel Rd, Morgantown, 26505
- 9 a.m.-7 p.m. — 48 Round Bottom Rd, Morgantown, 26508
- 10 a.m.-4 p.m. — 1602 Nile Rd, Summersville, 26651
- 10 a.m.-2 p.m. — 50 Maple Rd Dr, Ridgeley, 26753
- 10 a.m.-6 p.m. — 1771 Oak Grove Rd, Terra Alta, 26764
- 11 a.m.-5 p.m. — 781 Cherry Low Gap Rd, Webster Springs, 26288
- 1 p.m.-4 p.m. — 33 Cheval Pl, Falling Waters, 25419
- 1 p.m.-4 p.m. — 414 Tyrone Avery Rd, Morgantown, 26508
- 1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. — 1065 Steele Hollow Rd, Spencer, 25276

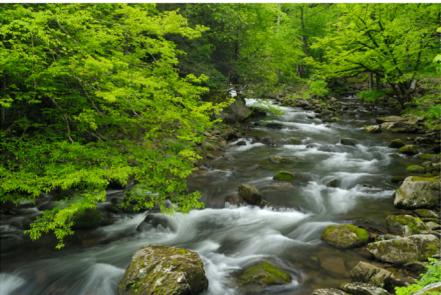
#### Sunday, October 7

- 9 a.m.-1 p.m. — 552 Mackle Pt, Lewisburg, 24901
- 10 a.m.-4 p.m. — 972 W Alexander Rd, Valley Grove, 26060
- 11 a.m.-4 p.m. — 719 Mission Rd, Harpers Ferry, 25425
- 12 p.m.-7 p.m. — 116 Hall St, Clarksburg, 26301
- 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m. — 72 Mt Grove Rd, Bruceton Mills, 26525

Solar owners interested in hosting a solar open house as part of the Tour can sign up to participate at: [nationalsolartour.org](http://nationalsolartour.org). The sign-up deadline to host an open house as part of this year's National Solar Tour is Friday, August 31.

Find a solar open house near you and sign up to receive updates about the 2018 National Solar Tour at: [nationalsolartour.org](http://nationalsolartour.org).

To learn more and get involved with Solar United Neighbors of West Virginia, including active and upcoming local solar co-ops, visit: [solarunitedneighbors.org/westvirginia](http://solarunitedneighbors.org/westvirginia).



Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club  
 Please charge my:  Visa  Mastercard  AMEX

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**With your help we can clean up our water**

Sierra Club Water Sentinels are the first line of defense of America's waters. We live on the water planet. However, water is a finite resource with only about 1 % of the world's water actually being available for human consumption. Water pollution & over-use are threatening both the quality & quantity of our water resources at an alarming rate.

**Keep our water safe. Join Sierra Club.**

# Public Lands 101: Making sense of where you recreate

Mel Waggy

If you are a Sierra Club member, you likely spend much of your free time recreating in, enjoying and protecting our public lands. However, understanding the divisions within our public land system and the various rules and regulations that govern these lands can be confusing. In this day and age, when our public lands are at risk from inappropriate development, neglect, lack of adequate protection, overuse or disposal, it is important to understand the system so we can intelligently work to protect these lands. Additionally, having a better understanding of our public land system may enrich our experiences and foster a deeper appreciation of these special places.

In the United States, “public land” typically refers to those lands owned by the federal government and managed in accordance with laws and regulations for the benefit of the public. According to a 2017 publication by the Congressional Research Service entitled *Federal Land Ownership: Overview and Data*, the federal government owns approximately 640 million acres, or 28%, of the U.S. land mass. A small proportion of federally owned lands (<5%) is managed by the Department of Reclamation or the Department of Defense and typically is not considered public lands. The remaining acres are overseen by two cabinet level

departments: the Department of Agriculture (DOA) and the Department of the Interior (DOI). Four separate federal agencies under the two departments manage these lands: the Forest Service (FS) is under the DOA while the National Parks Service (NPS), Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) all fall under the jurisdiction of the DOI. While each agency has a separate mission, all are generally required to manage the lands under their jurisdiction for “multiple-use,” but in a way that preserves the lands for current and future generations.

Federal public lands are unequally divided among the agencies. The BLM is responsible for the largest number of acres, managing nearly 40% of public lands. The FS is the second largest land manager, responsible for approximately 30%. Lands under either of these jurisdictions are generally managed for recreation, resource extraction such as timber or minerals, cattle grazing, watershed protection, wildlife and fish habitat, research, and general conservation (e.g., native and rare plants, archeological sites). About 15% of lands are managed by the FWS as part of our wildlife refuge system that was created to protect and conserve fish, wildlife and plants. Additionally, refuges provide recreational opportunities for birding, fishing, hiking and hunting. The remaining lands – about 13% – are managed by the

NPS. These lands include open space as well as cultural resources (e.g., national monuments, historic landmarks). The NPS strives to keep lands unimpaired for future generations while allowing limited development such as restaurants and lodges. On these sites, there is an emphasis placed on ecosystem and historic preservation, outdoor recreation and education. Activities such as resource extraction, grazing, logging or hunting are typically not allowed but may be permitted on a limited basis depending on the park.

You may occasionally see public lands designated as Wilderness. The Wilderness Act of 1964 allows Congress to designate wilderness areas to ensure that America’s pristine wild lands will not disappear. Wilderness areas can occur on BLM, FS, FWS or NPS lands. According to the Department of Interior’s website there are more than 680 Wilderness Areas covering over 106 million acres in 44 states. The Wilderness Society website indicates there may be even more. On these lands, an emphasis is placed on allowing natural processes such as wildfires or forest succession to proceed with little intervention from man. Most non-motorized activities such as hiking, horseback riding, fishing, camping, bird watching and hunting are allowed in these areas. Activities such as logging, grazing, motorized recreation and biking typically are not allowed. Other

designations you might see associated with public lands include, but are not limited to, National Seashores, Wild and Scenic Rivers or National Trails. These special designations may provide more specific use and management guidelines but are still managed by one of the four agencies mentioned above.

In West Virginia, there are more than 1 million acres of federal public land to enjoy and protect: 1,046,231 acres overseen by FS; 65,194 acres by NPS; and 19,850 acres by FWS. Examples include the Monongahela National Forest (FS), New River Gorge National River (NPS) and Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge (FWS). On any given day, there is likely a Sierra Club member out there hiking their trails, paddling their rivers, birding, searching for a rare plant or enjoying the view. Public lands in West Virginia have a lot to offer. We shouldn’t take them for granted.

*In addition to federal public lands, states, cities and counties also manage lands for the enjoyment of the public. In the next issue of this newsletter, I will provide a brief discussion of these lands, too, particularly those managed by the state of West Virginia.*

## Staying informed: One advocate’s perspective

April Pierson-Keating

As a Sierra Club member, your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers will look to you for information on a range of environmental issues. How do you stay focused on relevant issues? Where do you go for reliable information? Here is one person’s answer.

There are many ways to stay informed. This article is not exhaustive and will likely leave out a some important ways to be informed. If you have tips or comments, please leave them on the Sierra Club West Virginia Facebook page.

One of the easiest ways to engage is to look at our Chapter website and newsletter. Be sure to browse through the links to events, political updates from the political committee (the legislative Scorecard is VERY important — go look now!), the newsletter, gas, pipelines, public lands, etc.

I’ve been working on water protection issues around fracking and pipelines for almost nine years. I maintain the website for Mountain Lakes Preservation Alliance, with a page of resources for information and support.

For interstate gas projects, check out the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). At [ferc.gov](http://ferc.gov), you can sign up to receive docket updates. You may also want to sign up for E-filing (not Ecomment). With E-filing, you can add attachments. Submit your email address and they will send you a link. From then on, you will use your unique ID to log in and make comments on any project. You can also search to find projects and docket numbers, both those

still pending and those already permitted.

WV-DEP has a query system (TAGIS) complete with maps, permits, charts, etc. TAGIS describes coal mining-related activity, pipelines, and oil and gas well information. Map layers can be turned on or off to show roads, water bodies, underground mines, surface mines, permit status, and more.

DEP’s website for gas is their “ESS” or electronic submission system. Once there, click on Query (bottom right of the page) to find your project through its name or the company name. Call the DEP’s Office of the Environmental Advocate for help in using it.

Listserve and Google groups are available for many issues and locations. If you are fighting gas pipelines, find the Stop Pipelines WVANC group on Google. WVSUN (solar) and CCL (Citizens’ Climate Lobby) also have listserve. POWHR, ABRA, and WV Rivers have e-mail lists for members. The VOICES listserve by Delaware Riverkeeper Network does action against gas infrastructure, including lobbying in D.C. VOICES stands for Victory Over InFrackstructure; Clean Energy InStead.

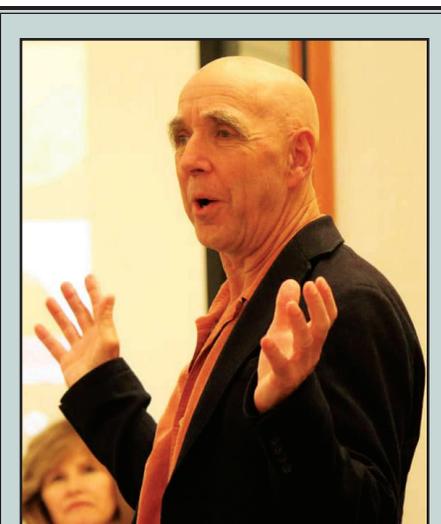
WV Sierra Club has two area groups, the Eastern Panhandle and the Monongahela Group in North Central WV. At WVU, the Sierra Student Coalition is a student group. These are good for getting face-to-face info and meeting like-minded people in your neighborhood, so look for contact info on the back page. And, of course, most advocacy groups have pages on Facebook. Look for, Like, and Follow Sierra

Club WV, POWHR, Preserve Monroe, Friends of Deckers Creek, Doddridge County Watershed, WVEC, SORO, Mountain Lakes Preservation Alliance, WV Highlands Conservancy, Delaware Riverkeeper, and all other watershed groups and advocacy groups you can think of who really understand the issues. Each one has its own focus, its own geographical area of coverage, and a certain aspect of policy or action it is concerned with.

The WVU Energy Institute has experts such as Michael McCawley, who studies the effects of microfine particles on human health. He was recently highlighted in the news for finding that the diesel emissions from gas operations are damaging to the human respiratory and nervous system, bad for the workers and for us. There is the Water Research Institute, the Isaak Walton League, the WV Hemp Farmers’ Cooperative, IPL (Interfaith Power and Light), and more groups concerned with all aspects of the issues. Go to the OVEC website for info on actions and updates regarding the Appalachian Storage Hub, or contact Natalie Thiele, with the WV Chapter Gas Committee.

Be aware that every newspaper or webpage is owned by someone who may have ties to industry. You can find ownership info on all businesses on the Secretary of State website. As our mothers always told us, “Consider the source.”

For more information, contact April Pierson-Keating, [apkeating@hotmail.com](mailto:apkeating@hotmail.com), or go to [mountainlakespreservation.org](http://mountainlakespreservation.org).



Kelly Cambrel

*Dr. Patthoff at the Humans, Ethics and Environment event*

**T**he 2018 Humans, Ethics and Environment event in Martinsburg was held on May 19 with co-sponsorship from the WV Sierra Club. Highlighted remarks were provided by keynote speaker Barbara Gottlieb, Director of Environment and Health with Physicians for Social Responsibility, Washington, D.C. Honored civic leaders and community residents discussed partnership information to increase renewable energy usage statewide, regionally and internationally. The event helped to provide funding for a July series of 2018 College Planning Workshops at the Martinsburg HUB Community Workspace.

# OUTINGS

For additional details about any outing or to RSVP your intent to participate, please contact the designated leader ahead of time. To view Sierra Club's Liability Policy for Outings, go to [sierraclub.org/west-virginia](http://sierraclub.org/west-virginia) under Events. \*Please be advised that Sierra Club assumes no responsibility for shuttles or carpooling. Car sharing is at the sole risk of the participants and is not covered by Sierra Club Liability.

## Sat, Sept 15

### Day Hike: Spruce Knob

**Distance/Difficulty:** approx. 9 miles. MODERATE

**Duration:** 5-6 hours

**Description:** We will be using the Lumberjack Trail, a short section of Huckleberry Trail, Judy Springs Trail and the Seneca Creek Trail. Hikers should be able to walk moderate-rated trails, bring plenty of water, wear sturdy shoes, and dress for the weather. We will stop in the Judy Springs area for snack/lunch and explore the natural wonders of the area. There are several stream rock-hopping crossings. **Contact Outings leader to sign up for hike.**

**Meet:** 11:00 a.m. at the Seneca Creek Trailhead on Spruce Knob Forest Road 112

**Leader:** Brent Carminati, 703-999-8679, [brentcar1@frontiernet.net](mailto:brentcar1@frontiernet.net)

**Nearest Town:** Riverton, WV

**Bring:** Plenty of water, wear sturdy boots.

## Sat, Sept 22

### NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY Hike: Antietam National Battlefield

**Distance/Difficulty:** 3.2 miles, EASY

**Duration:** 2 hours

**Description:** We'll be celebrating National Public Lands Day and commemorating the 156th anniversary of the Battle of Antietam (September 17, 1862), the bloodiest day in American history; we will meet at the Visitor Center and walk rolling Park trails that commemorate the first two segments of the battle. We will walk at an easy pace and review some of the history as we go, but there will also be time to just enjoy the pastoral setting. Those who want to may spend time at the Visitor Center on their own prior to or after the hike. Open to any adult of adequate fitness for terrain and unpaved trails and to children with accompanying adult. Well-behaved dogs on leashes are also welcome but are not allowed in Park buildings or in the National Cemetery.

**Meet:** 10:00 a.m. at Antietam National Battlefield Visitor Center, 5831 Dunker Church Rd., Sharpsburg, MD 21782 (just off MD Route 65, just west of downtown Sharpsburg).

**Leader:** Chris Craig, 304-433-1260, [ccraig@laurellodge.com](mailto:ccraig@laurellodge.com)

**Nearest Town:** Sharpsburg, MD

**Additional Info:** Normally there would be an admission fee to the Park; but in celebration of National Public Lands Day, the National Parks System is offering **free admission to all National Parks.**

## Sat, Oct 13

### Day Hike: Grandview Park, Grandview Rim and Castle Rock

**Distance/Difficulty:** 3.5 miles, MODERATE to DIFFICULT

**Duration:** approx. 2.5 hours

**Description:** We will hike along the Rim trail and enjoy breathtaking views of the New River Gorge below and the mountains with a hint of Fall colors. Grandview Rim trail is considered moderate because it has a few steep sections and a set of 150 steps at the end to reach the Turkey Spur Overlook platform (optional) with exceptional views of the Gorge. We will backtrack on Rim trail up to Castle Rock Trail, follow it, and loop back to the cars. This 0.6 miles of narrow rocky trail with uneven footing and some drop offs makes it the most technically demanding, or difficult, part of the hike, but you will be rewarded with close-ups of impressive views of towering rocks like castle walls, and some views of the Gorge.

**Meet:** Tentatively 1:00 pm. **RSVP leader for location and to sign up.**

**Leader:** Laura Miller, 304-776-4677, [aepicysta@gmail.com](mailto:aepicysta@gmail.com)

**Nearest Town:** Grandview, WV

**Bring:** Boots or hiking shoes required, hiking poles or stick suggested, water and snack

**Additional Info:** Please RSVP leader to sign up. Number of participants limited to 10. Hike not suitable for children. For safety reasons, no dogs please. We will not hike Castle Rock Trail if conditions are wet or slippery.

**Cancellation policy:** Rain will cancel the hike. We will continue with drizzly conditions.

## Sat, Oct 20

### Day Hike: Sleepy Creek WMA, Devil's Nose/Third Hill Mountain

**Distance/Difficulty:** 6.2 miles, MODERATELY DIFFICULT

**Duration:** 4 hours

**Description:** Devil's Nose in the Sleepy Creek Wildlife Management Area is a unique rock outcropping that overlooks Meadow Branch Creek Gorge. We will enjoy views there and also visit the lesser known overlook toward North Mountain from the Tuscarora Trail on Third Hill Mountain. This hike is moderate in length but has 1,290 feet of elevation gain, making it somewhat challenging. Open to any adult fit for these substantial elevation gains and to children with accompanying adult. Well-behaved dogs on leashes also welcome.

**Meet:** 10:00 a.m. at the end of Audubon Road (39.58724, -78.11897), Berkeley County. (From I-81, take exit 16W onto WV9, traveling 10.6 miles west. Turn left onto Mountain Lake Rd, then after 1.5 miles turn right onto Audubon Road. Take twists and turns of Audubon Rd. for 3 miles to its end.

**Leader:** Chris Craig, 304-433-1260, [ccraig@laurellodge.com](mailto:ccraig@laurellodge.com)

**Nearest Town:** Hedgesville, WV

**Bring:** Water, lunch, protection from ticks & sun

**Additional Info:** No charge for this hike

## Sat, Nov 17

### Day Hike: Appalachian Trail, Washington Monument SP (MD) to Wolfville Rd. (MD)

**Distance/Difficulty:** 6.2 miles, MODERATELY DIFFICULT

**Duration:** 4 hours

**Description:** Devil's Nose in the Sleepy Creek Wildlife Management Area is a unique rock outcropping that overlooks Meadow Branch Creek Gorge. We will enjoy views there and also visit the lesser known overlook toward North Mountain from the Tuscarora Trail on Third Hill Mountain. This hike is moderate in length but has 1,290 feet of elevation gain, making it somewhat challenging. Open to any adult fit for these substantial elevation gains and to children with accompanying adult. Well-behaved dogs on leashes also welcome.

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Road. Take twists and turns of Audubon Rd. for 3 miles to its end.

**Leader:** Chris Craig, 304-433-1260, [ccraig@laurellodge.com](mailto:ccraig@laurellodge.com)

**Nearest Town:** Hedgesville, WV

**Bring:** Water, lunch, protection from ticks & sun

**Additional Info:** No charge for this hike

## Sat, Dec 15

### Day Hike: C&O Towpath, Weverton (MD) parking lot to Harpers Ferry

**Distance/Difficulty:** 3.5 miles, EASY

**Duration:** 2.5 hours

**Description:** After the crowds of Olde Tyme Christmas, Harpers Ferry quiets down for the winter. But the town and trails nearby provide some of the best views of the year and also an active launch to the Yuletide season. Join us for a walk from Weverton, MD, down to the C&O towpath, where we'll enjoy views of the Potomac and perhaps an eagle or two. We'll walk across the Appalachian Trail pathway on the old railroad bridge into the town, where a car shuttle\* will return drivers/hikers to their cars.

The car shuttle is required so **please RSVP leader** to plan accordingly and to guarantee a ride back to cars. This hike is open to any adult, or child accompanied by an adult, of adequate fitness for a mostly flat walk along unpaved trails. We will carry on in light rain or snow but cancel if there's substantial ice or heavy precipitation.

**Meet:** 10:00 a.m. Weverton (MD) Park and Ride area on the Appalachian Trail (39.333125, -77.685541). From US340, take MD 67 north to first right turn onto Weverton Road. The parking lot is on your right in 1,500 feet.

**Leader:** Chris Craig, 304-433-1260, [ccraig@laurellodge.com](mailto:ccraig@laurellodge.com)

**Nearest Town:** Harpers Ferry, WV

**Bring:** Water, lunch, protection from ticks & sun

**Additional Info:** Please RSVP leader to arrange shuttle back. No charge for this hike.

Those wishing may gather for lunch at one of the lower-town restaurants at the end of the hike.

**Cancellation policy:** We will carry on in light rain or snow but cancel if there's substantial ice or heavy precipitation.

## Perspectives on Outings

— Laura Miller, Outings Chair

## Old-growth Trees and the Forest Ecosystem

I believe we can all agree that old-growth trees are particularly handsome and noble. They provide unique habitats for many animals and plants above the soil surface, but deep in their root systems they serve an even more important role in sustaining forest ecosystems.

Trees are connected to each other underground by infinite networks of root fungi, or mycorrhizae. These networks form mutualistic symbiotic relationships; they are the highways that trees use to pass along carbon and other nutrients to each other, as well as to send chemical stress signals and defensive mechanisms. Old-growth trees are essential participants in this tree communication, for they are the repositories of genes and they hold the "knowledge" that's vital for younger trees to survive future stresses.

This means that it does matter when trees are logged indiscriminately, particularly when old-growth trees are logged. It's not

a question of not logging at all; it's a matter of doing it with a conscious mind that looks into the future, giving nature the opportunity to regenerate healthy forest ecosystems without depleting this natural resource. So we need to save these legacy trees to help maintain healthy forest ecosystems for future generations.

In recent months, conservation groups and activist individuals have taken on the task of searching for, measuring and recording the occurrences of these precious trees around the state, in hopes of protecting them. The good news is that we are finding old-growth trees and tracts of old-growth forests that escaped early-1920s logging scattered in several public lands around the state.

Our outings program will continue to offer educational hikes related to this subject to help build awareness and educate people about the importance of these trees in the forest ecosystem.



Laura Miller

Two-hundred-year-old (or older) Hemlock tree.



Chris Craig

Hikers brave a soupy Appalachian Trail on South Mountain (Maryland), on June 3.

### Homegrown Resistance

— Laura Yokochi

## Eric Engle, Parkersburg activist

Since Parkersburg is a bastion of Republican conservatism and home to several petrochemical industries, it is surprising to find that it is also a hotbed of “homegrown” activism and resistance. MOVCA, Mid-Ohio Valley Climate Action, is one of West Virginia’s newest and fastest growing environmental groups, and its chairman, Eric Engle, is one of our most passionate climate activists.

Eric was born and raised in Parkersburg, where his father, a Union member and registered Republican, made a good living working for Chevron Chemical. After high school, Eric attended Marshall University and graduated with a major in Political Science and a minor in History. He also received a Certificate of Legal Studies from WVU Parkersburg, which enabled him to find secure employment at the U.S. Treasury Department, Bureau of Fiscal Services. Eric is proud to be a “dues paying” member of the National Treasury Employees Union.

It was only about four years ago that Eric really began to understand the danger of climate change and realized that it is the most urgent and important issue of our time. He is a father of two young children, and sacrificing their future is not an option. According to Eric, “we really need to step up.”

In 2015, when several local residents, including Bill and Jean Ambrose, Wayne Dunn and Cindy Taylor, held a meeting to organize a local chapter of the Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL), Eric attended and volunteered to become a group leader. Members decided that the CCL focus was too narrow, so the group evolved into Save

the Grandchildren, Mid-Ohio Valley Climate Action, and began meeting monthly at the First Christian Church in Parkersburg. Group volunteers are visible participants at local parades and festivals and give talks on climate change to students in local schools. They feel that winning the hearts and minds of children is the best hope for the future.

MOVCA Vice-Chair Jean Ambrose says Eric is “rock solid and reliable” as leader of the group. She is impressed with his collaborative leadership style and willingness to take on many tasks, including the group Facebook page. Bill Ambrose says Eric is a voracious reader who has educated himself on the science of climate change and the political developments related to it.

Eric is active in just about every progressive cause. He is a member of Wood County Indivisible and a board member of West Virginia Rivers. His family is supportive, though not actively involved. He says that they are more influenced by “pocket book issues,” so he understands that we need to stress the economic effects of climate change in order to win over those who don’t want to be seen as “tree huggers.”

Although he is a fairly new member of the Sierra Club, our Chapter Awards Committee decided that Eric would be a very deserving recipient of our 2018 Jim Sconyers Award for Environmental Activism. Congratulations Eric and keep up the good work!

### View from the Chair

— Justin Raines, Chapter Chair

## Looking Ahead to November

It’s been a wild year, with both victories and losses for those who fight for the people of this state and its environment. In a dark era of U.S. history, millions of people have stepped up to the plate to defend our values and our basic existence against those who would have us all fighting each other as we’re crushed under a corporate boot.

Even as I write this, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has issued a Stop Work Order for the entire Mountain Valley Pipeline because critical permits for it were deemed unlawfully issued. The biggest lesson I take from this past year is that when we fight, and fight together, **we win**.

We have several more fights ahead of us across this state. From a variety of disastrous pipelines, the menace of fracking, the ongoing devastation of mountains in the coalfields and the toxic Rockwool plant in Jefferson County, there is no shortage of work for those who seek to defend our people. **But the biggest battle ahead in this next quarter isn’t in a national forest or at a construction site ... it’s right there in your neighborhood, at the voting booth.**

The latest research from the Environmental Voter Project during the last election cycle showed that as many as **15 million** environmentalists in the United States simply didn’t vote. We can recycle, compost, show up to all the rallies, write all the letters and make all the calls, but if we don’t take that energy and enthusiasm to the ballot box on November 6, we’ll be much less effective as a movement.

During this past legislative session, we had the most environmentally hostile legislature in the history of the WV Chapter of the Sierra Club. Out of 134 legislators that our Chapter Political Committee looked at, 70 of them had an environmental voting record of “0” in 2018. That means well over half of our elected representatives at the Capitol voted against human health and the environment **every single time** a bill came before them. Only 13 in the entire legislature had a voting record of 60 percent or more.

The single biggest power that we as citizens have in our government is the act of choosing who comprises that government. Now is your chance to use that power, and use it wisely. If you want to fight, if you want to win, make sure you show up on Election Day.

## Eastern Panhandle Outings

Chris Craig

Sierra Club hikes have continued successfully in the Eastern Panhandle, in spite of the heavy rains and flooding during late spring and early summer. On June 3, five Sierrans showed up to hike 11 miles on the Appalachian Trail (AT), ending in Harpers Ferry. While this hike was a rescheduled outing after flooding caused road and trail damage in May, the trail was still a slurry, and heavy rain fell during much of the hike (see photo above). In fact, the night after we finished, the Potomac rose more than 20 feet, putting some of our path from earlier that day under water.

Thanks go out to the C&O National Historical Park and all the AT volunteer teams who have nearly completed trail and towpath restoration after those recent floods.

Thankfully, subsequent hikes have been dryer, and we have plans for some more great hikes in the region through 2018. Come join us if you can! Outings are listed in this newsletter and on the Chapter’s website Calendar.



Chris Craig

On the Tuscarora Trail in July, the group pauses at Shockey’s Knob in the Sleepy Creek Wildlife Management Area (Berkeley County).



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Change Service Requested

**Fall 2018**

## West Virginia Sierra Club Chapter Directory

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\* CCL Delegate to National

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\* Group Delegate to Chapter ExCom

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(202) 224-7665 (SMC)

White House Comments Line:  
(202) 456-1111 Fax: (202) 456-2461  
Capitol Switchboard (202) 224-3121

The Hon. David McKinley  
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(202) 225-3452 (-)

Fax: (202) 225-7564 (DM)  
(202) 225-7856 (AM)  
(202) 225-9061 (EJ)

#### **To Contact the GOVERNOR**

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State Capitol  
Charleston, WV 25305

Dial-the-Governor:

1-888-438-2731

email: [governor@wv.gov](mailto:governor@wv.gov)

#### **To Contact STATE LEGISLATORS**

email to WV Legislature:  
[cglagola@mail.wvnet.edu](mailto:cglagola@mail.wvnet.edu)  
(Put name of recipient under subject)

Messages for legislators can be left at:  
1-877-565-3447 or 304-347-4836

Mail address:

Member, WV Senate or  
House of Delegates  
Bldg 1  
State Capitol Complex  
Charleston, WV 25305

website: [www.legis.state.wv.us](http://www.legis.state.wv.us)

has contact information for all state legislators.

### **Regional Sierra Club Staff**

**TO BE ANNOUNCED!**



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

## *Preserve the Future*

Not everyone can make a large gift to protect the environment during their lifetime, but you can preserve the environment for generations to come by remembering Sierra Club in your will. There are many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more information and confidential assistance, contact:

**Sierra Club  
Gift Planning Program**  
85 Second St, Second Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
[gift.planning@sierraclub.org](mailto:gift.planning@sierraclub.org) • (800) 932-4270

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