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CLUB**
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The William Bartram Group
Serving Greenville, Laurens, Spartanburg, and Union Counties
Bartram Bulletin
Explore, enjoy, and protect the planet.

Volume 44, Number 1

February 2014

**NO February
meeting:**

Adopt-A-Highway

Saturday, February 22
see *Outings*, p.1 for details



Trail Maintenance

Saturday, February 22
see *Outings*, p.1 for details



March meeting

Wednesday, March 19

6:30 P.M.

**“Nobelity”
Documentary
Movie**

Ten Nobel Peace Prize winners discuss the most pressing issues facing the planet in the next 50 years.



The William Bartram Group meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month (except July) at 255 Enterprise Blvd. Greenville, SC 29615-3577 at 7:30 P.M.-
unless otherwise noted.

see web site for directions
<http://sierraupstate.org>

From the ExCom

by Ron Sobczak

Don't Dump on SC!

S. C. Sierra Club is leading the charge to protect the environment: Don't Dump on South Carolina! For the past year the South Carolina Sierra Club has been a lead organization fighting to prevent passage of H.3290. This bill would remove the current authority of counties to control what trash comes into a county and where it is dumped. The opposition is currently trying to attach it as an amendment to another bill-H.3847.

We need to pressure our senators and representatives to oppose this legislation and the maneuver of the amendment. Call or e-mail your senators and representatives letting them know your opposition. **YOU NEED TO ACT IF YOU BELIEVE>>>>**

1. You believe that South Carolina should NOT continue to be the nation's dumping ground. We have already opened our borders to low level nuclear waste, infectious waste, and hazardous waste. About 20 years ago we realized that soon the rest of the nation would be looking to find a place to ship their household garage and sewage as their landfills reached capacity. The General Assembly passed legislation giving local control over accepting this waste to the counties. This has worked to keep the waste out and you like that.

2. You believe that South Carolinians know what is best for South Carolina. You are tired of the role that out-of-state big money interest plays in defining policy in South Carolina. Lobbyists from the big national waste haulers are spending a lot of time and money convincing our politicians that the free market should be the only factor that determines what trash comes into South Carolina and where it goes.

3. You believe that South Carolina is a beautiful state with beautiful places and that these places should not be turned into landfills. Right now we have about 30 years of available landfill capacity at our current rate of disposal. If we open up these landfills to the rest of the nation, the current landfills will quickly fill and we will need to find more sites for landfills. And, of course, the General Assembly and the waste hauler lobbyists have no plan [that they will share with us] as to where these new sites will be.

4. You believe in recycling. One reason we have the capacity cited above is because the counties mandated recycling goals which were very successful in diverting recyclable material from the waste stream. Waste haulers make their money on volume. There is no incentive to recycle.



continued on page 4



Outings

and Dates to Remember

Nonmembers of the Sierra Club are welcome to join us on our outings. Please call the trip leader to let him/her know that you are going. She/he can then give you a location to meet as well as information on last minute changes. Discuss how strenuous the trip is, and any health problems you may have of which she/he should be aware. Please, no pets, guns, radios, etc. on hikes. Interested in leading a trip? Call Eric Thompson (864) 297-6015.

In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see <<http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms>> or call (415) 977-5630.

In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing, or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

2014 Trail Service Outings • Mountain Bridge Wilderness Area (Revised)

February 22 (revised) • March 15 • April 19 (revised) • May 17 • September 20 • October 18 • November 22

Saturday, February 22 • Trail Service Outing

We will be starting our twelfth year of service to Caesars Head and Jones Gap State Parks. Please plan to join us on the Saturdays listed above during 2014. These Trail Service Projects improve and preserve the existing trails at these mountain parks. If you enjoy these trails, please plan to join us on one or more of the 2014 outings. For more details, contact Jim Majors at 864-233-7576 or jim_majors@bellsouth.net.

Adopt-a-Highway

The dates as scheduled by DOT for 2014 are:
February 22 • May 17 •
August 23 • November 15
Saturday, February 22 •

Adopt-a-Highway

Join us for the first pick-up of 2014. The Bartram Group won a South Carolina award last year for our work on this program. We have a two mile stretch on East North (also known as) Old Spartanburg Road between Mitchell Road and Brushy Creek. We will meet at

8:00 A.M. at Mitchell Road Elementary School which is on the corner of Mitchell Road and Old Spartanburg Road. If it is pouring rain, we'll not meet. You will be provided the bags, twisty ties, work gloves, orange safety vests and water. We cover two miles, both sides of the street, and are very fortunate to have sidewalks on the entire route. This month, we will have new Sierra Club tools to help in the process. Join us to pick out yours.

Contact Steve Root at stephanjohnroot@gmail.com for any details or to let him know you will join us.

Note: The Adopt-A-Highway program is now under Palmetto Pride. All the signs will be changed out eventually to read "Palmetto Pride". Until we get them all changed, there will be a mixture of the old and new signs. We basically are the same program as before, just under a different department.

Saturday, March 22 • Nine Times Preserve

Join me and Frank Holleman, conservationist and attorney for the Southern Environmental Law Center, as we day hike and explore Nine Times Preserve in Pickens County. The Nine Times Preserve is not only an ecological treasure of the upstate but a perfect example of how local citizens, local and national environmental groups, and government work to protect and preserve our public natural lands. We will also have a chance to share thoughts and ideas with Frank on some important environmental issues facing our southeastern forests and learn more about what the SELC is dealing with in our state and forests.

The hike will be moderate and at a reasonable pace to enjoy the streams, waterfalls, and early spring flowers. We will meet at the parking area at the intersection of Eastatoee Road and Preston McDaniel Road. From Greenville, take Highway 11 west from the intersection at Highway 178. Turn left at the Antioch Baptist Church. Parking area is at the bottom of the hill. Be there at 9:00 A.M. sharp. We should be back in Greenville by 4 P.M. Those who wish to carpool from Greenville will meet at the McDonald's near Furman and be leaving there at 8:00 A.M. sharp. Call Dennis Chamberlain (864) 430-3754 for details and let him know to expect you at either rendezvous point.

For information and history of Nine Times visit *The Nature Conservancy* website at: <http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/southcarolina/placesweprotect/nine-times-preserve.xml>.

Volunteers In Action

Thanks to the folks joining us for our November 2013 Trail Maintenance Service Outing: **Dale Bartels, Martin Gorecki, Jeff Maitz, Curtis Koch, Jim Kelly, and Jim Majors.**

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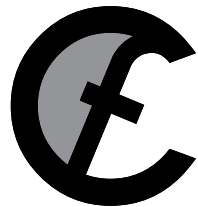
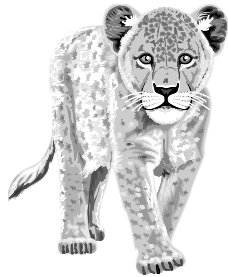
2014 Officers

Bartram Group of the Sierra Club

(Executive Committee Members denoted by asterisk)

Sierra Club Membership & Officers listing is the property of the Bartram Group of the Sierra Club and cannot be distributed without permission.

Chair	Ron Sobczak*	297-6015
Vice Chair	Karen Mascaro*	250-4620
Secretary	Bob Church*	268-4769
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Legal	Dennis Chamberlain*	331-3069
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Trails Maintenance	Jim Majors	h 233-7576
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Three things
cannot be
long hidden:
the sun, the
moon, and
the truth.

—Buddha



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 **Deadline for March bulletin is
Friday, February 21**

Send your submissions to wbartramnews@gmail.com

Lawyers Supporting the Environment

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Frank J. Dana III, CELA

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The Bartram Group of the Sierra Club—Upstate, SC



Don't Dump... continued from page 1

5. You believe you are going to lose weight this year. And you probably have a few excess calories to burn today. So get mad about this piece of legislation and shake your fist. Pound out a letter, craft an e-mail or make a call to your elected official while running in place. And once you do it, stretch and pat yourself on the back.

THIS IS WHAT YOU CAN (yes you can) DO

1. Go to the South Carolina General Assembly web page and find your Senator and House member.
2. Send the letter, e-mail or make the call: I am against (and you should be too) H. 3290 (which takes away the authority of SC counties to say no to out of state waste) and the amendment to H. 3847. [Note: This bill itself isn't bad..it provides funding for dealing with e-waste. The problem is the guts of H. 3290 have been prepared as an amendment. It is the usual tactic of trying to sneak something into another bill and hope no one notices.]
3. If you would like to see the South Carolina Sierra Club continue to fight against bad legislation go to <http://mysierra.org/chapter/> and click on "Donate" to help support efforts like this.
4. Let us know if you contacted your legislator. You did good and we would like to thank you: sobczakr@yahoo.com

The Green Spot
 Sharing the Green



Easy Resolutions To Keep

1. Keep the TV off. You could get so much done today if you spend less time watching reruns — and you could cut down electricity usage too.
2. Make dinner tonight. Go with local, organic ingredients to step it up a notch. Not only will you be saving money, and help out the local economy, you'll have leftovers for later.
3. Take a shorter shower. In general, it'd be good to cut back on excess water usage. You can install low-flow showerheads and fix leaky faucets for other inexpensive and easy conservation moves, but if you shave a minute or two off of your shower today that's a step in the right direction. Do that for a whole month and you could save 150 gallons of water and be one step closer to being a Water Sentinel.
4. Clean out your closet. It's time to clean out all those clothes you never wear and put them to good use. Donate them to your local Salvation Army or upcycle them into something new. You'll feel better for having cleared out some of the clutter, believe us.
5. Drop that paper towel. Sure it's easy to just grab that roll of paper towels when there's a spill or you need a napkin, but a regular kitchen towel does the same trick and reduces waste. It's a hard habit to break, we know, but worth it! You could also go with Bambooe towels to help kick that regular roll of disposable towels out of the kitchen.

send your "green" submissions to: wbartramnews@gmail.com