Hello fellow SussexDE Sierrans and supporters,

We are happy to report that SussexDE has been approved by the national Sierra Club for monthly email updates focusing on events and activities related to the Sierra Club and its mission specifically taking place in or concerning issues and topics about Sussex County. You will still be receiving statewide Chapter emails and newsletters as well to give you a broader perspective, but it is nice to know what is going on closer to home and how your efforts can be targeted here.

SussexDE relies on your interest and participation in activities like these. If you have ideas or you want to be more directly involved in any SussexDE events and activities, please email SierraSussexDE@gmail.com

UPDATES

Fall of 2019: If you are interested in planning a Climate Change Conference in 2019 in Sussex County please email SierraSussexDE@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 26, 2019 (Saturday) at 10 a.m. Trap Pond State Park, 33587 Baldcypress Lane, Laurel, DE -- Winter Waterfowl
Take a walk along the pond and spot some of our wonderful waterfowl. Binoculars will be provided; all you need are warm clothes and comfortable walking shoes. Meet at the Nature Center. Free.

January 29, 2019 (Tuesday) 6:00-7:30 p.m. Summer House Restaurant 228 Rehoboth Ave, Rehoboth Beach, DE -- Green Drinks will host a conversation about sustainable agriculture at Summer House Restaurant in Rehoboth Beach. Free on-street parking is available. Green Drinks is a way to connect with eco-minded people, share new ideas, discover new opportunities, build relationships and support the local economy. Local farmer Zach Dittmar of
Dittmar Family Farms will speak about sustainable farming and gardening techniques, and the importance of healthy soil. Dittmar Family Farms is a 40-acre organic farm located in Felton. He is a third-generation farmer from Wisconsin.

February 02, 2019 (Saturday) 1:00-3:00p.m. Milton Public Library 121 Union St. Milton, DE -- Sussex Health and Environmental Network (SHEN) Meeting. Objectives will include forming sub-groups and approval of a mission statement.

February 13, 2019 (Wednesday) 3:00-4:30 p.m. Lewes Public Library, 111 Adams Avenue, Lewes, DE -- Clean Water Campaign to host Clean Water Forum. The Forum will bring together Alliance members and partners to discuss exciting campaign developments and strategies for securing dedicated clean water funding in 2019.

March 16, 2019 (Saturday) 9:00 a.m. to noon. 30th Annual Beach Grass Planting! This year's beach grass planting will include Delaware Seashore State Park, Slaughter Beach, Bowers Beach, Kitts Hummock Beach and Pickering Beach.

Each March since 1990, many dedicated volunteers have helped to build and protect Delaware's sand dunes by planting Cape American beach grass on Delaware's ocean and Delaware Bay beaches. Their efforts have been very successful in helping to re-establish the vegetation along our coastline. Our plan is to plant beach grass in various bare areas, to help stabilize existing dunes so that they may continue to grow. To volunteer, please register online at: http://de.gov/beachgrass

LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

As we begin new legislative sessions, this information may be useful as bills and ordinances concerning the environment are introduced and debated.

Federal

Offshore Drilling Proposal – The next draft of the offshore drilling proposal by the Trump Administration is delayed due to the federal government shutdown. The government, through the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, BOEM, proposes to open up the remaining protected coastline to energy
exploration. SussexDE continues to work with a coalition of local groups to communicate opportunities to voice opposition.

**Delaware State Legislature**

**Senate Environmental & Natural Resources Committee**
Sussex County State Senators, David L. Wilson (18th SD) and Gerald W. Hocker (20th SD) are members of the Committee

Chair: Trey Charles Paradee; Vice-Chair: Stephanie L. Hansen; Members: Harris B. McDowell, Gerald W. Hocker and David L. Wilson.

**House Natural Resources Committee**
Sussex County House Representatives serving on the Committee are House District 36, Bryan W. Shupe and House District 38, Ron Gray.

Chair: Debra Heffernan; Vice-Chair: Krista Griffith; Members: William J. Carson; John A. Kowalko; William Bush; David Bentz; Richard G. Collins; Ronald E. Gray; Charles S Postles Jr.; and Bryan W. Shupe

**Sussex County Council - Members**

**Michael H. Vincent - Council President**
Council District: District 1
Contact: (302) 629-2396 View

**Samuel R. Wilson, Jr.**
Council District: District 2
Contact: (302) 856-2972 View

**Irwin G. Burton III - Council Vice President**
Council District: District 3
Contact: (302) 313-5501 View

**Douglas B. Hudson – new**
Council District: District 4
Contact: (302) 542-1432 View

**John L. Rieley – new**
Council District: District 5
Contact: (302) 858-8649 View
Your contribution will help sustain our efforts into 2019. We cannot do it without your generous support!

Join - Donate - Keep Informed on the Delaware Chapter of the Sierra Club Website

EXPLORE, ENJOY, PROTECT the planet!

SussexDE Section
of the Delaware Chapter of the Sierra Club