Atlanta Sustainable Building Ordinance Vote

On August 25, the Atlanta City Council will be voting on the proposed Atlanta Sustainable Building Ordinance. These plans, some of the most progressive in the country, set standards for water-use efficiency, energy, and indoor air quality in new construction projects and will help Atlanta rise to meet many of the serious challenges it faces today. Georgia’s environment and the Sierra Club need your help to voice your support for this important measure by August 25!

The Atlanta City Council needs to know that the Atlanta community supports these upgrades to the existing building code as means to better protect the environmental and economic welfare, health and overall quality of life for all Atlantans.

**August 25th:** The CD/HR (Community Development/Human Resources) Committee of Atlanta City Council will vote on whether or not to take the proposed Atlanta Sustainable Building Ordinance (ASBO) before the entire council.

**September 8th:** If the CD/HR Committee agrees to take the proposed ASBO before the entire council, the Council will vote on whether or not to enact the ASBO.

Please take action now by sending this generic advocacy letter to your city council members to support these important plans. You can also find more information about the proposed ASBO on the Sustainable Atlanta’s website.

If you would like to read the Atlanta Sustainable Building Ordinance please click here.

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Sierra Club Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>RAIL Committee Meeting</strong></td>
<td>Monday, August 24th, 6:45p.m.</td>
<td>Jim Dexter 678-313-2407, <a href="mailto:jimdex@aol.com">jimdex@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fundraising Committee Meeting</strong></td>
<td>Tuesday, August 25th, 6:30p.m.</td>
<td>Sandy Stewart &amp; Erin Wetty - Co-Chairs, call 404-607-1262 x 225</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Smart Energy Team Meeting</strong></td>
<td>Sunday, September 6th, 5p.m.</td>
<td>Seandra Rawls - Chapter Staff, 404-607-1262 x 222</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Executive Committee Meeting</strong></td>
<td>Saturday, September 19th</td>
<td>Genie Strickland - Chapter Staff, 404-607-1262 x 221</td>
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</tbody>
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**Wahsega Conservation Retreat** - **SIGN UP NOW!**

Friday - Sunday, August 28th - 30th
Camp Wahsega near Dahlonega
Come to the cool Georgia mountains to hear the latest on the conservation campaigns of the Sierra Club. This year's conservation retreat is for volunteers both new and veteran, chapter conservation issue leaders, group conservation chairs and anyone else interested in helping save the planet. Clean energy, transit, water protection, wildlands, coastal and other issues will all be covered. Registration fee of $85 includes all meals from dinner Friday through lunch on Sunday. For more information please contact Mark Woodall at markwoodall@windstream.net or click here.

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**Sierra Club Social Corner**

http://action.sierraclub.org/site/MessageViewer?em_id=124921.0
**Williams Pulpit**  
Saturday, August 15th  
Western North Carolina  
Hike to the "pulpit" a huge 100 foot rock outcrop with great views of the nearby valley. The area is reportedly a great spot for summer wildflowers. Contact volunteer leader Lee Thomas at 770-458-3389.

**World Peach Cafe Breakfast**  
Saturday, August 22nd, 10a.m.  
Join us for breakfast at the World Peach Cafe in Sandy Springs. The vision of the World Peach Cafe is to serve nutritious and tasty vegetarian food in a peaceful, warm and gracious environment. Come join us at 220 Hammond Drive, Suite 302, Sandy Springs!

**Hot Planet, Cold Drinks**  
Thursday, September 10th  
Come join us for dinner at Parish for the latest installment of Hot Planet, Cold Drinks. Dave Emory, transportation planner for ARC and creator of the ATrain trip planner will school us on the past, present, and future of transit in the state. As always, Parish will be serving the tasty Sierra Martinis and we'll be introducing the A-Train drink. 7 p.m. at 240 N. Highlands, brought to you by the Social and Rail Committee.

**Whiteside Mountain**  
Saturday, October 10th  
North Carolina  
This is a perennial favorite of the Sierra Club. It is a long drive but well worth it. Count on seeing a few waterfalls on this trip. Contact ArthurRatliff@Bellsouth.net or 404-284-0055.

**Chapter Retreat at Okefenokee Swamp**  
Friday - Sunday, October 30th - November 1st  
Laura Walker Park, near Okefenokee Swamp  
Join us this fall for the annual chapter gathering. We'll have kayak/canoe trips in the swamp, float trips on the St. Mary's river, hikes with naturalists in the forest, and much more... Please look for the registration form on the chapter website, and join us in the swamp for an unforgettable Halloween. For questions or more information please contact Genie Strickland at the Georgia Chapter at genie.strickland@sierraclub.org or 404-607-1262 or click here.

**Environmental Scoop**

**Southern Solar Summit**  
Thursday, September 3rd  
GreenBusiness Works EXPO, Cobb Galleria Center  
At the Green Business Works EXPO, individuals interested in alternative energy options will gather with panels on solar thermal hot water, solar photovoltaics, the Smart Grid, solar economics, solar and Georgia state policy and much more. There will be keynote addresses by Paula Vaughan (Sustainability), John Bergwell (Chevron Energy Solutions), and Bradley D. Collins (Executive Director of ASES and Publisher of SOLARTODAY magazine). The Summit in Atlanta is a full-day format and requires registration. Please click here for more information.

**Stay Local, Help Environment**  
Have you ever wondered where your food comes from whether you are eating at your favorite restaurant or shopping at your local store? Instead of buying from your local grocery store, there are many options available that better support your local community and protect our environment. You can join a Community Supported Agriculture program (CSA) that will deliver you fresh, seasonal produce or shop at local farmers markets. Help the environment and be creative! Explore your options by clicking here.

**Hemlockfest**  
Friday - Sunday, November 6th - 8th  
HemlockFest is an annual benefit music festival to increase public awareness and generate funds to help save the Eastern and Carolina Hemlock trees. Funds raised each year are used for support of the Georgia laboratories rearing adelgid-devouring beetles, education and research on the HWA problem, and assisting businesses and homeowners to protect Hemlocks on their private property. Learn more by clicking here.
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