In July, 2004, the Fast Track Law to speed up pollution permits and outsource the oversight of environmental protection was enacted by former Governor McGreevey. We aggressively fought to stop passage of this law, and helped organize the Save NJ Coalition of almost 40 urban, labor, environmental and faith-based groups to call for its veto.

Our campaign to repeal Fast Track continues to be our number one legislative priority. We won a temporary moratorium on its implementation, and have used the delay effectively. During the Spring we held fifteen public meetings on Fast Track to educate citizens, local elected and appointed officials, and the press on the ramifications of this ill-conceived and damaging law. We talked to more than 700 people, worked with activists in more than 40 towns to pass resolutions, and gained the cosponsorship of 59 legislators on a bill to repeal Fast Track. But our work is still not done.

While concern about the Fast Track law has grown into a drum beat across the state, our message has not gotten to Acting Governor Codey and Assembly Speaker Sires. Without their agreement and support the repeal bill is dead. In the Legislature for a vote, the moratorium will end and the Fast Track program will take effect, and pave our state.

Please continue the drumbeat by talking to our legislators, our local officials, our local papers and our neighbors. It is our voice and our vote that will put a stop to the damage this law will bring to New Jersey. For more information about the Fast Track to sprawl, pollution and destruction as well as ways to contact your legislators and send letters to newspaper editors, please visit www.SaveNJ.net or call or write me in the Chapter office. You are needed, and it is possible to stop this madness.

An Interview with Lee Snyder, our Pinelands Issues Chair, and a newly elected member of the Chapter’s Executive Committee

JJSS:: When and how did you first become interested in environmental activism?

I took Elizabeth Woodford’s (founder of Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge) Pine Barrens course at the local high school. She was one of the original experts and activists for preservation of the New Jersey Pine Barrens. After the classes, field trips and canoe explorations, I began to understand how valuable and fragile the Pinelands ecosystem was. I realized how interconnected we were with the water, soils, wetlands, plants and animals.

JJSS:: How do you explain your willingness to LEAD, i.e. to become more active than the average environmentalist?

There is a need for more to be done, and I didn’t see many out doing it. I got involved with the Sierra Club to do more for clean air, clean water, less destruction of the environment.

Most people are concerned with these issues; however, they either do not have the time or the incentive to get personally involved. There has to be a counterpoint to the unrelenting forces now at work to degrade the environment. We need many more people willing to help in tipping the balance toward conserving a healthy environment.

JJSS:: Describe your particular role in the New Jersey Chapter.

On the state level, I am a member of the Executive Committee. New Jersey Pinelands Issues Coordinator, and Chair of the ExCom election Committee (for the Fall, 2005, round of ExCom elections). On the local (West Jersey Group) level, I serve on the Group ExCom as Group Pinelands Representative. As the public and the experts to our Pinelands Issues Chair, and an newly elected member of the Chapter’s Executive Committee.

As with so many environmental organizations out there, what’s special about the Sierra Club?

Without describing the obvious reasons — in no particular order, my take on what’s special about the Sierra Club are the political clout, 800,000 members, more than 100,000 volunteers, well informed, well organized, well represented, and well recognized, and very significant percentage of funds used for administration costs - most funds go to protect and preserve the environment.

JJSS:: What advice might you have for someone contemplating becoming more involved in Sierra Club activities?

The Club welcomes participation by all in its many activities. You will meet great people with like-minded goals. You can meet people who will help you like and as you are. Hikes and outings are a good way to start. Attend the monthly meetings of your local group, where there are usually interesting and timely presentations. Don’t be deterred if you do not consider yourself an environmental expert. There are many environmental issues, and therefore many opportunities to learn and expand your knowledge.

JJSS:: Describe your particular role in the New Jersey Chapter.

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Commissioner Campbell has added new rules and access roads to the implementation of linear development — which was supposed to be limited to public infrastructure such as utility and gas lines. Even with 88-acre minimum lot sizes in forested areas, this exemption will allow roads and driveways to cut through stream buffers and steep slopes and will allow large-scale development to occur on mountaintops and scenic ridgelines.

One of the main purposes of the Act was to protect the Polyphemus butterflies and other species into the Highlands Preservation Area in order to stop overdevelopment and protect water supplies. Appropriately, under the Act, water and sewers can be extended to protect public health, but since the rules don’t have criteria, it will be unclear as to whether this exemption will be granted only for justifiable emergencies or to build inappropriate projects. Worse, we believe the DEP Commissioner has gone far beyond the statute to authorize new water and sewer lines to any project that receives a permit.

The Sierra Club has been joined, in raising these significant concerns about excessive and inappropriate discretion in the DEP’s interim rules, by the Highlands Coalition and virtually the entire New Jersey environmental community. We have urgently appealed to Commissioner Campbell to reject regulatory loopholes that would undermine the objectives of the Highlands Act. The Sierra Club continues to be extremely concerned by provisions in the rules that exceeded the Commissioner’s authority under the Act, and we will work to ensure that the rules are changed to reflect the spirit and intent of the law, protecting the water supplies and natural resources of the Highlands.
Forest Issues Update
By Nancy Carringer (ncarringer@yahoo.com), our Forestry Issues Coordinator

In the continuous assault of the Bush Administration on the Environment, two major rules were recently adopted and are now being implemented in the National Forest Management rules, and the changes will replace a bureaucratic planning approach with one that allows for greater or less protection than is currently provided, and that is less stringent than the Clinton's roadless rule. If the forest service wants the petition, it would negotiate a detailed plan with the state.

Other Forest Issues:
The Interior Dept. and the State of Utah worked a backroom deal in 2003 that scrapped wildlife protections for Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands in Utah and elsewhere. That settlement provided that the BLM would never again identify and protect wilderness qualities on its lands. The Clinton's receipt, BLM, and the State of Utah's public lands under its oversight.

For more on this, and there's lots more, check out the Silliman report:
http://www.wilderness.org/NewsRoom/Release/20041101.cfm

Reason For Hope
By Bonnie Tillery (bh44bt@yahoo.com), our Population Issues Coordinator

With tragedies daily in the news, what gives Jane Goodall, the famous primatologist, reason to hope? Goodall's presentation to population activists from around the country capped a weekend of learning about, and lobbying for, $800M for USAID international family planning programs, $50M for the United Nations (UNFPA), and repeal of the Global Gag Rule.

What do population issues have to do with Whitney Houston, the Spade, and Jane Goodall? They see the world as one and share a concern for greater or less protection than is called for under existing forest management plans, which are less stringent than the Clinton's roadless rule. If the forest service wants the petition, it would negotiate a detailed plan with the state.

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The next (Oct-Dec) issue of this Newsletter will contain a ballot for the election of five of the nine atlarge members of the New Jersey Chapter's Executive Committee (ExCom). Members serve for two years, and are expected to attend monthly ExCom meetings as well as perform in a variety of activist roles.

Candidates can make their interest known in two ways: They can ask the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Lee McNicholas, or Mary Ellen Schilling (mcnicholas@sierranet.org or reply to our Trenton office) to send them information on the new proposal takes effect, a governor or less' rule since its inception.

The Sierra Club is suggesting alternative policies that would prevent cutting the Old-Growth trees in favor of a living out-door classroom with hallfields strategic considerations, and that the forest service places a dump site for the trees that were cut in the subject's federal forest.

Some of these trees witnessed the birth of our nation. Is this the example of activist roles. The candidates can make their interest known in two ways: They can ask the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Lee McNicholas, or Mary Ellen Schilling (mcnicholas@sierranet.org or reply to our Trenton office) to send them information.
**Chair’s Message**

**Root Canals and the Environment**

by Ken Johanson, Chapter Chair

(Kjohan@comcast.net)

There I was, sitting in my dentist’s chair dreading the impending ordeal. Sure, he told me that it wasn’t going to hurt, but that was easy for him to say. It was for me, the patient. He gave me a few shots of novacane and then asked me what I did for a living. Speaking was becoming more and more of a challenge, but I did manage to mumble that I was a retired lawyer and a Chair of the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club. He indicated that he was a birdie, a fly fisherman, and a person who, like me, was deeply concerned about the state of our natural environment. He then asked me what kinds of things the Sierra Club was working on. By this stage in the procedure I had an array of metallic and plastic devices lodged in my mouth, but somehow I managed to get out the words “Fast Track.” Much to my surprise he was familiar with the Fast Track Permitting Act and volunteered that he felt that this was a bad law. He then asked me how much of the State was covered by the Law. By now he was digging away at the second molar and nerve of my tooth. I gave a grunt, which was all that I could do, and he went on with his work.

Well, he was right on both counts. It didn’t hurt and the Fast Track Permitting Act is a bad law. After the procedure was completed and I was working on sorting out the location of my tongue and my lip, I discussed the situation with the good doctor that the Sierra Club was requesting that municipalities adopt resolutions supporting the repeal of the Fast Track Law. He stated that his wife wasn’t his tooth, it was mine. He gave me a grunt, which was all that I could do, and several weeks later, the governing body adopted a resolution urging the repeal of the Fast Track Permitting Act.

If there’s a moral to this story, I suppose it is that all of us who care about the environment need to take advantage of every opportunity we are presented with to reach out to our friends, neighbors and acquaintances, not only to educate them and let them know how we can help us in our mission, but also to take advantage of particular skills and contacts which they may be able to provide. We are engaged in a battle for the hearts and souls of the American people. We cannot afford to sit back and expect those who care about the environment to come to us. We need to reach out to them. There are many people, like the good doctor, who already know about the issues that we deal with that on a day-to-day basis, but there are many others who care about the environment but are less well-informed. We need to reach out to both groups. This is a nine-to-five job. This is a fulltime commitment.

So keep the Sierra Club and the environmental movement in mind and be prepared to interject environmental issues into the conversation whenever the opportunity arises. As an added particular attention to dentists, especially those who specialize in performing root canals.

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**Editor’s Follow-up: National Sierra Club Election Results: Referendum on Immigration:**

My editorial in the April-June issue (“Sierra Club Referenda”) urged a NO vote on a National ballot question proposing that the Club oppose immigration into the United States. I was happy to report that the proposition was defeated by 102,455 votes to 18,998, or more than 5:1. In other voting, all of the candidates elected to the Club’s National Board of Directors were “Nominating Committee” candidates. i.e. none of the “single issue petition candidates,” including those listed only in immigration or vegetarianism, were successful. The results of the other two referendum questions were an imposition of a minimum one-year membership requirement for future Board and Committee candidates. More than 15% of the national membership voted, 40% electronically and 60% by US Mail.

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**Guest Editorial**

**Is Gasoline Expensive?**

by Sunil Somalwar, ex-Chair Chapter

Only a few short years ago, one could buy gasoline at throwaway prices. We haven’t recovered from the “we are running out of everything” statements of the 1970’s. Such statements were mostly true, in that the global environment has indeed suffered tremendously since then. But the WalMarts of today are still bursting at the seams with cheap goods (while distant China gets rich!). While prices fluctuate, venture funds or oil magnates have timelessly trashed, environmentally, so people don’t perceive any crisis, and the right-wing of our society gives to the petroleum industry a huge subsidy tantrum pricing levels, venture funds or oil magnates have timelessly trashed, environmentally, so people don’t perceive any crisis, and the right-wing of our society gives to the petroleum industry a huge subsidy tantrum.

Petroleum has been dirt cheap for the last 15 years or so. Prices will probably never return to those levels - partly because American purchasing power has fallen in relation to that of the rest of the world. However, after a few years of current pricing levels, venture funds or oil companies will probably invest in development of the vast oil sands of Alberta, which will be a huge source of oil. Then there is always plenty of coal. (But the technology for cleanup of greenhouse gases produced by burning coal is extremely expensive.) I suggest that, instead of continuing to sing the “petroleum is running out” theme-song, we should stick to our efforts to reduce fossil fuel subsidies and thus wean our society away from this addiction. A petrol tax is the best way to do this, so it was nice to hear Assemblyman John Wisniewski (D, eastern Middlesex Co.) getting radio time to discuss energy: svso-somalwar@sierraactivist.org.)

Sunil Somalwar at SVSomalwar@SierraActivist.Org

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**YOU HAVE MORE TO GIVE THAN YOU KNOW**

Maybe you can’t make a gift to protect the environment during your lifetime, but you can become a hero by remembering the Sierra Club in your will. You can even direct your gift to a special Club program or to the New Jersey Chapter. For information about making a bequest to the New Jersey Chapter, contact Jen Denzer at 609-799-5839.

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**Earth Wise Singles**

We Are People Like You...

eco-passionate and green-living...politically active...enjoy the great outdoors...eat natural and organic foods and use Earth-friendly products

Please Join Us

www.EWESingles.com

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**OUTMOUTED INCANDESCENT SOLUTION**

If you have already jettisoned the 100 year old technology and converted to compact fluorescents, convince your friends and neighbors to do the same. We would be happy to give you at-cost sample kits. Contact your local Sierra Club Group leaders or e-mail Sunil Somalwar at SVSomalwar@SierraActivist.Org.

(We mean no insult to the hybrid cars. They are wonderful, too.)

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I have heard complaints that offshore wind generators spoil the view and kill birds when they smash into them, and that there are no jobs. Are there no calls to abol- ish airplanes, windows, or cats.

The number of birds killed by wind turbines is much higher than that killed by pollution from coal, oil, gas, nuclear power, or killed in wars fought to con- trol oil. Other living beings are also killed from these sources. Wind power saves lives and reduces disease.

Improvements have made wind power the fastest growing segment of the ener- gy production market.

Before I became an engineer, I was an artist. I find the latest wind generator designs aesthetically pleasing. I am not alone. Tourists go off the beaten path to view windmills in many lands. We can’t please them all.

Are tombstones better to look at? Is the anguish of pollution victims better to see that air is filled with thousands of deaths and illnesses. Radioactive energy sources have harmed many despite white-wash reports. The first signs that nucleu were all over. One sign was the discovery of deformed frogs and animals near plants in normal operation. In the HBO documentary movie “Chernobyl Heart”, the ghastly condition of children was shown. A doctor commented that, in his experience, only 15 to 25 percent of the children are healthy. This was 18 years after the disaster. It is still unre- solved. Despite denials by nuclear promot- ers, farmers downwind of the 1979 Thiepval, France, plant had a nuclear plant accident, near Harrisburg, PA, experi- enced still-born and deformed animals.

The number of birds killed by wind turbines is much higher than that killed by pollution from coal, oil, gas, nuclear power, or killed in wars fought to control oil. Other living beings are also killed from these sources. Wind power saves lives and reduces disease.

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Care about making your voice heard?

Interested in making a difference?

Join the New Jersey Chapter Voter Education Campaign this fall to help educate voters on environmental issues affecting their community and to encourage every- one on both side of the political aisle to make the right choices.

For more information contact the New Jersey Chapter - new.jersey.chapter@njsierra.org or call Kelly McNicholas (609) 656-7612

Tim Wright, Cranford NJ

The Arctic Wildlife Refuge, Oil Consumption, and You

With increasing World population, and industrialization of countries such as China and India, each industry’s energy resources will only increase. It is just a matter of time before the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and other special places will be drilled for oil. It was just a matter of time before the when the US Senate recently voted to allow exploratory drilling in the Arctic Refuge. We care for these places we must take it upon ourselves NOW to decrease our consumption and use alternate fuels. If we fail to do so, these precious places will be lost — one by one. We can’t afford to be lazy and wait until opportuni- ties to save energy come our way. We must actively seek them out. At the pre- sent time in New Jersey we get 40% of our power from natural, 28% from nat- ural gas, and the largest energy source is coal. The question is do we want more of the same? If we expect change then we must change.

The most powerful political, econom- ic and motivating tool is money, like it or not. Greenpeace has found that for- chasing decisions every day, and ask ourselves, as we compare products, factoring the real cost. The government is a more fair and efficient way. We can buy appliances that are fuel efficient, producers will make more of them. To find out whether an appliance is rela- tively efficient you can go to www.ener- gystar.gov. The site is fairly comprehen- sive and gives a point value. The higher the score, the higher the energy star ratings. The largest energy source is coal. In New Jersey [2,3]! In fact, every state has green energy suppliers. You don’t have to change your supplier. You can buy a premium every month on your electric bill, for which your supplier buys some of its energy from a green generator. Nothing else changes. Your energy sup- plier will still come out and fix anything that goes wrong.

If you live in PSEG territory (North Jersey), there are alternate energy mar- keters you can get through PSEG. One of them, Green Mountain Energy Company, makes it easy to buy their hydroelectrical dams, and much of the remainder by burning biomass, a fuel that contains sulfur and other pollu- tants. Another alternative is Community Energy, which mostly gen- erates from wind power. For commer- cial users that want to lower their bills, there are suppliers of combined heat and power [4].

Solar energy is also available in New Jersey: for commercial rooftops with heat, or the state’s solar energy pro- gram [5], as well as for residential roof- tops [6,7]. New Jersey even has solar energy dealers [6,7]. In fact the state will pay up to 70% of the cost of instal- lation through the clean energy program

Notes:
(1) Not all lawsuits actually come to fruition. Approval must first be granted by the Club’s legal staff in San Francisco, and other circumstances may apply.
(2) But volunteer Legal services are usually needed & it’s important to have the above to Sierra Club members with legal credentials would be enthusiastically accepted by many.
(3) We authorized a partnership with the Sierra Club to run an Educational Outreach Campaign in 2005. To find out more or volunteer, see box on this page. Look for more in the next newsletter. (May)

(1) We authorized an amicus brief supporting the preservation of Petty’s Island for the New Jersey Chapter’s legal department, in an action against the Camden, as a nature reserve. The Rutgers or Temple Univ. Law Clinic would represent us. (March)
(2) We authorized litigation of viola- tions of New Jersey’s Administrative Procedures Act as applied to special proj- ects exempted from the Highlands Water Protection & Planning Act by using the Rutgers Law Clinic. (March)
(3) We authorized petitioning of EPA Region II to rescind of the NDEP’s authority to regulate water quality, as a means of forcing the DEP to stop stalling on the state’s water quality program for the Passaic River basin. (March)
(4) We authorized a position on HR 1431, the federal Fisheries Science and Management Enhancement Act of 2005, and agreed to fund our Members’ Lobby to Congress to support it. See the article on page 6 of this Newsletter. (May)
(5) We endorsed our Hudson- Meadowsland Group’s opposition to development on Reservoir #5 in Jersey City and ECI’s opposition to development of the site was maintained as a public park. (April)
(6) We authorized our position on HR 1431, the federal Fisheries Science and Management Enhancement Act of 2005, and agreed to fund our Members’ Lobby to Congress to support it. See the article on page 6 of this Newsletter. (May)
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Sierra Club Film and New Worldwatch Book Bring Home the Importance of Local Food

Supplied by Bonnie Webber, a member of the Sierra Club's National Sustainable Consumption Committee

The most significant—and encouraging—change in the American diet today is an ever-growing interest in eating local food. More and more Americans are buying locally grown and raised fruit, meat, and other food products grown and raised on nearby farms, rather than from distant agribusinesses. School districts, hospital chains, food service providers, and even the nation's top grocery stores are also seeking out food that has been raised nearby.

This past fall, the Sierra Club released a short film titled The True Cost of Food. The Club's National Sustainable Consumption Committee is using the film as the centerpiece of a campaign to educate the public about food issues.

The 15-minute animated film is a light-hearted, thought-provoking video introduced to introduce the implications of the environmental costs of the way agriculture is raising our food. It encourages people to buy local and organic food and eat less meat. Check it out at www.truecostoffood.org.

The benefits and re-emergence of local food are documented and examined in Eat Here: Reclaiming Homegrown Pleasures in a Global Economy, a new book from the Worldwatch Institute. Eat Here describes how this simple shift in eating habits not only delivers superior tasting food, but is also better for people's health, the livelihoods of small farmers, and the global environment. The book and film explore how people have responded to concerns about mad cow disease, urban sprawl, and heavy pesticide use by taking control of their food supply and demanding locally grown fare. Learning more about how food is produced and connecting to the sources allows consumers to make decisions that are better for us and for the planet.

Many readers have used the book to organize “local food dinners,” meals built around local ingredients, where attendees can discuss the book and its implications for their local food economy. Attendees at these dinners might be people of varying commitment levels.

“Learning more about how food is produced and connecting to food sources allows consumers to make decisions that are better for us and for the planet.” —Jane Tousman

To order a copy contact us at truecostoffood@aol.com. For more information about Eat Here, including discussion questions and activity ideas, visit www.worldwatch.org/textures/food.

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Opening Up Public Meetings in New Jersey

Club Member lobbies for the televising of local Planning and Zoning Board Meetings

Many New Jersey municipalities are served by boards but not by television coverage of local governmental meetings. The service is generally provided at no charge, as a component of the agreement that franchises a cable provider. The planning and zoning boards of a municipality — except that the municipality must supply a person to actually operate the television camera when meetings are not being broad- cast, the channel often offers a “bulletin board” of community events and public service announcements.

Although many towns teleview the meetings, the county boards, relatively a few televise meetings of Planning and Zoning Boards, at which many important land use decisions are made. Jane Tousman, a member of the Chapter’s Executive Committee, and as Issues Coordinator, has been leading a campaign to require such coverage in her town of Edison, Middlesex County. The issue is controversial: Board members might feel they have more to lose, and therefore less comfortable in the “public eye.” Board meetings are often held behind closed doors, and the details of site plans as they appear on detailed blueprints — which are not photocopied — is a rare Planning Board meeting that sees much controversy or public input.

Perhaps a more important need relates to the opening up of public meetings with television access. The typical pattern is for the Chair to open each Board meeting, of an agenda that includes a substantive outline of each proposal that is up for consideration. Such material could be offered by the cable channel in a public notice, including tabular summaries of the developments under consideration, and/or they could be made available on a municipality’s web site. The advantage of web provisioning is that proposals could be downloaded. Some busy planning and zoning boards hold informal “workshop” sessions at which no voting takes place, and there is a fiscally discussion, and “mark-up,” of proposals. These workshops might not be so controversial, but more important for involvement of the public.

Jane Tousman’s efforts in Edison, contact her at JDTous@aol.com. To learn more about Jane Tousman’s contributions, all members of the Council should have the opportunity of planning “openness,” each municip- al clerk should be able to connect to the local television system, rel- atively few televise meetings of Planning and Zoning, at which many important land use decisions are made. Jane

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Camp Todd Preservation Caps 20-Year Effort to Preserve Ramapo Scout Camps

By Betsy Kohn, Chair of our North Jersey Group, and Dennis Schwejda, Chapter Conservation Director

On a sunny mid-April afternoon, Gov. Jim McGreevey, acting Executive Director, DEP Commissioner McNerney and DEP Commissioner Campbell stood atop the Ramapo Mountain in Wanaque (Bergen County), to make it official: Camp Todd’s 71 mountainous acres will be preserved. The State is supplying $4 million, the County $3.5 million and $700,000 for legal fees, and $450,000 to acquire the last of the Boy Scout camps in the Ramapos.

There’s a long history behind the preservation efforts for Camp Todd. As a Scout, one of us (Denis Schwejda) camped there in 1967 to ’70, scouting with his town of Edison, Middlesex County. As a Scouter in the early ‘80’s, Dennis took his Scouts there. In 1989, the State of New Jersey purchased 1,000 acres of Boy Scout camps in Bergen County’s Ramapo Mountains to prevent that to the adjacent Ramapo State Forest and the Ringwood State Forest and we have about 19 square miles of contiguous forest in northern New Jersey extending up to the New York border.

"Little did I know as a young Scout," said Dennis, "that I would work so long, and with so many great individuals and organizations for over 20 years of effort, we have finally succeeded!"

The following link for photos of Todd http://sierraactivist.org/gallery/todd.

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Do YOU attend Planning Board meetings in YOUR community? Are they controversial?
DEP Budget: Death by a Thousand Cuts
By Jeff Tittel, Chapter Director

The proposed FY 2006 State budget, which takes effect on July 1, contains the most drastic cuts to the Department of Environmental Protection in the last 10 years. Core programs and staff will be cut, so that some of the money can be used to implement Fast Track (see story on p. 3) – which will result in more sprawl and more pollution. The DEP budget cuts will directly impact New Jersey’s environment as well as its public health. We urge cutting money for building up underground storage tanks - at a time when we have a backlog of more than 3,800 tanks that need to be cleaned up. We are hiring new staff to give permits to developers – while at the same time we may lay off 54 conservation officers, game wardens and other personnel in the Division of Fish and Game.

DEP Expenditures

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FY05 Available</th>
<th>FY05 Adjusted</th>
<th>FY05 (Proposed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff &amp; Programs: $252,225,000</td>
<td>$222,524,000</td>
<td>$210,656,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants in Aid: $17,114,000</td>
<td>$16,250,000</td>
<td>$16,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital: $19,100,000</td>
<td>$18,600,000</td>
<td>$18,400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Aid: $12,572,000</td>
<td>$12,572,000</td>
<td>$10,072,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Service: $64,218,000</td>
<td>$65,240,000</td>
<td>$28,954,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL: $269,180,000</td>
<td>$268,399,000</td>
<td>$158,114,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park and Open Space: $56,470,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DEP expenditures for staff and programs will drop by approximately $56 million. The entire DEP budget for FY2006 will suffer a 22% cut - which comes on top of last year's large cuts.

PROGRAMS THAT WILL BE ENTIRELY ELIMINATED:
- Greenhouse Gas Action Program
- Land Management Local Program
- Diesel Program
- Recycling
- Park and Open Space
- Stormwater Management
- Livable Communities
- Environmental Grant (to Environmental Commissions)

PROGRAMS THAT WILL BE REDUCED:
- Site Remediation Cleanup Funds
- Site Remediation Staff/Administration
- Underground Utility Tanks
- Brownfield Cleanups Loans & Grants
- Land Use Management - Fish and Game
- Office of Permit Information
- Land Use Management - Fish and Game

Another Contra: Tax Cut for Polluters

The proposed Codey budget gives a $12 million tax break to the hundred largest polluters in New Jersey by repealing the air toxics tax. ▼

Sierra Club Supports New Federal Legislation to Manage Marine Fisheries

Club members are asked to contact their Members of Congress to recommend co-sponsorship of this legislation.

Sierra Club de Puerto Rico
Club Inaugurates First Spanish-Speaking Chapter

Contributed by Jennifer Hattam, Sierra Associate Editor

The traffic-clogged road out of San Juan is lined with Wal-Marts, car dealerships, and McDonalds. Only the road signs en Español remind visitors that they’re not in the mainland U.S. But a drive of less than an hour (if the traffic gods are with you) puts you in the midst of a lush rainforest, where the most common sounds are the birds chirping far away.

“Tension between development and conservation is especially acute in Puerto Rico, a densely populated island about the size of Connecticut. There’s not much room to build, but powerful developers keep building anyway. Until now, conservationists have had a tough time keeping them at bay. Most environmental groups here are formed to protect individual places, but we manage them.”

Among the recommendations were a series of measures designed to enhance fisheries science and decision-making to ensure the long-term sustainability of marine fish, ocean ecosystems and the coastal communities that depend on them. The Fisheries Science and Management Enhancement Act of 2005 seeks to implement those recommendations by making the following changes to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA):

1. Strengthening the Use of Science in Fisheries Management

In many fisheries, councils must significantly limit the number of fish caught to ensure long-term sustainability, while at the same time allocating fish among competing groups of fishermen. Because of the political difficulty and economic consequences of reducing quotas, some councils delay conservation decisions and instead set unsustainable catch levels, which are contrary to scientific recommendations.

To address this problem, the USCOF recommended amendments to the MSA to require councils to develop fishery management plans that at minimum conform to the recommendations of qualified scientific advisors. The bill amends the MSA to implement the following recommendations:

2. Broaden the Representation on Fisheries Management Councils and Reduce the Conflict of Interests

A recent study by the Stanford University Fisheries Policy Project found that multiple viewpoints improve decision-making because groups with diverse perspectives tend to look at and consider a broader range of information and options when making decisions.

The USCOF recommended amending the MSA to require governors to nominate a slate of candidates that includes at least two representatives of commercial fishing interests, recreational fishing interests, and environmental and conservation groups.

The bill amends the MSA to implement this recommendation and require the Secretary of Commerce to ensure balance when making council appointments. ▼

The Jersey Sierran: July-September 2005

Are you receiving Dennis Schejda’s News Bulletins and alerts? Go to http://SierraActivist.org
Northwest Jersey Group:
Hunterson, Sussex & Warren
North Jersey Group:
Passaic & most of Bergen
Essex County Group:
Essex
Hudson Meadowlands Group:
Hudson & SE Bergen
Loantaka Group:
Morris & Union
Central Jersey Group:
Mercer
Baritas Valley Group:
Somerset & Middlesex
Jefferson Group:
Essex County
West Jersey Group:
Gloucester, Camden & Burlington
South Jersey Group:
Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland & Salem

These designsations are approximate; members are welcome to participate in whichever Group(s) they find convenient.

Northwest Jersey Group:
(Sussex, Warren and Hunterdon Counties; note that the former Hunterdon Group has merged into the Northwest Jersey Group)

OFFICERS:
Chair: Dennis Miranda
Special Events Chair: Pat Manning
Membership Chair: Susan Rotter
Treasurer: Charles Kopp
Group Delegate to Chapter ExCom: Ralph Prince

Northwest Group Meets on the LAST TUESDAY of each month. For local and national information, please contact Susan Rotter. 973-547-8849. We feature guest speakers, plan hiking trips and address conservation issues.

Planning Board meetings, representatives of the Northwest Group managed to have
Protection and Planning Act), while upstream, it can be given over to subdivisions,
2 million residents in northern New Jersey. It seems absurd that this important bi-state
UUPPPPEERR RRAAMMAAPPOO RRIIVVEERR WWAATTEERRSSHHEED TTHHRREEAATTEENNEEDD::Several large-scale housing pro-

North Jersey Group:
(Passaic and Bergen Counties, approximately)

OFFICERS:
Chair: Betsy Kohn
Vice Chair: Mike Herson
Conservation Chair:
Tom Thompson
Membership Chair: Ellen Friedman
Outings Chair: Ellen Blumenkrantz
Political Chair: John Kashwib
Political Alternate: Greg Tondi
Publications Chair: Emily Stocker
Treasurer: Tom Thompson
Wildlife Chair: John Mikalonis

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/CONSERVATION MEETINGS: Held at least four times a year (once every quarter). For the date and location, please contact Betsy or Mike (see above).

GENERAL MEETINGS: Held at 7:30 pm on one month (except July, August and December). We will meet on Sept 8 (Thurs) at Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, 443 Van Nosstrand Avenue, Englewood (program TBA). For more information: http://new-jersey.sierracal.org/northjersey.asp

UPPER RAMAPO RIVER WATERSHED THREATENED: Several large-scale housing projects are being proposed on Ramapo and Malwah watershed in NY State, just across the NJ border. The Ramapo River supplies up to 64 million gallons daily to over 2 million residents in northern New Jersey. It seems absurd that this important bi-state watershed is protected downstream in New Jersey (under the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act), while upstream, it can be given over to subdivisions, roadways and traffic. Meanwhile, a planned development to build over 100 McMansions on 575 acres in the middle of Sterling Forest State Park. To find out how you can help us stop this, contact Tom (see above).

PROTECT WATERSHEDS IN BERGEN AND PASSAIC COUNTIES: Riparian corridors, wetlands, woodlands, and forested slopes must be maintained for water supplies, river health, flood control, wildlife habitat, and open space. Let us know if you hear of any plans to develop or pave. To find out more or help, contact Mike (see above).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: Pursue your interest in an issue like climate change or environmental justice or recycling or sustainability or transportation or one of your choosing; or help with public education, publicity, fundraising, tabling, political endorsements or campaigns; for more information, contact Betsy (see above). SIGN UP FOR GROUP EMAIL NOTICES: http://NorthJersey.NJSierra.org/listinfo.html

RECYCLE YOUR USED PRINTER OR FAX CARTRIDGES! Bring your used cartridges, laser or inkjet, to Whole Foods Market, 905 River Road in Edgewater, NJ, open from 8 am to 10pm, seven days a week. Just leave them in the Sierra Club box in the front window by the exit door. (Please note, cartridges that have already been recycled are not accepted.)

Hudson Meadowlands Group:
(Hudson County and southern Bergen County: Lyndhurst, Rutherford, East Rutherford, Carlstadt, Ridgfield, Edgewater, Cliffside Park and Fairview)

OFFICERS:
Chair: Louise Taylor
Vice Chair and Conservation Chair: Mike Selender
Treasurer: Charlotte Ermanno
Secretary: Catherine Perre
Political Chair: Melissa McCarthy
Publicity: Betty Leung
ExCom Members:
Gail Hawkins
Don Kopczynski

NEWS: As you can guess, the Hudson-Meadowlands Group is suffering "growth pains." It takes active volunteers to operate a club; people interested both in local issues (environmental justice, protection of the Hoboken waterfront area, oversight of Liberty State Park, motivations for using public transport, local parks, Meadowlands issues, etc.) and people interested in the larger regional and statewide issues discussed at monthly Chapter ExCom meetings and pursued by our Issue Coordinators. Hudson (and southern Bergen) County always presents interesting political election endorsement issues. Issue Priorities for 2005:
1) Closing of Indian Point/Oyster Creek (held informational meeting Sept, 2003 — Kyle Rabin)
2) Regional transportation issues (held informational meeting July 15, 2004 James Sander from Senator Sosehi’s Office)
3) Preserving urban parkland (held informational meeting June, 2004 which resulted in the formation of a committee which has had one meeting: Point persons on 4 potential parks designated as our 2004-5 priorities: a) Hoboken Park: Leah Healey, former head of Hudson River Walkway Conservancy b) Guttenberg Park: Rentie Pollani c) North Bergen Park: Gill Hawkins (New Jersey Fisherman’s Association, our ExCom, et al) with Connie Ftera (our ExCom) currently doing research d) Edgewater Park: Mark Coad
4) Edgewater Master Plan Revision
5) Replacing the “Superfund Site” sign on toxic land in Edgewater: Tina Munson (our ExCom)
attended part of the slide show. We had pres in the New York Times, New Jersey Network news did a piece on it, and West Chronicle covered our press conference in front of Seton Hall Prep on Northfield Avenue. We have generated a lot of interest in the issue. What’s at stake is the remaining 20+ acres of a forty-acre tract on Prospect Avenue where parts of an Ancient Forest remain and which contain the ruins of Gov. George McClellan’s abbev. The school plans to expand its sports facilities and eventually destroy this valuable, historic and environmentally sensitive area. Late-breaking news: the NJ Office of Historic Preservation has asked us for more documenta-tion of McClellan’s ownership and cultivation of an abbev.

West Essex Highlands: The Essex Group has organized an effort to stop a high-density development on the Second Watchung Mountain in West Orange. The property is one of the last remaining privately owned large forested areas in Essex County. The develop-ment would result in the loss of an ecologically sensitive and highly scenic tract of land. Many streams actually pass below a Braddock Brook, a tributary of the Passaic River, and are classified as Priority Wetlands by the Environmental Protection Agency. We hired an attorney to counter the developer’s testimony at the West Orange Planning Board meeting on June 15.

OTHER ACTIVITIES: Working to preserve wetlands in the Hatfield Swamp in the Passaic River Basin and remaining forested areas in Essex County, continuing to ensure that the Essex County Park and Open Space Trust Fund is implemented in a fair and consistent way, and addressing environmental justice (EJ) issues. Working to bring an energy audit to Essex County through the D.O.E.’s ReBuild America Program.

Loantaka Group (Morris and Union Counties, approximately)

**WEB SITE:** http://loantaka.NJSierra.org

**OFFICERS:**
- **Group Co-Chairs:** Chris Mills and Paul Sanderson
  - Chris Mills: 973-377-1742
  - Paul Sanderson: 908-233-2414
- **Treasurer:** Joyce White
  - Joyce White: 973-224-4779
  - Sonya Kaloyanides: 973-275-0288
- **Conservation Chair:** Ken Johanson
  - Ken Johanson: 908-233-2414
- **Union County:**
  - Eric Hausker: 732-669-0719
  - Lisa Ridge: 732-658-6440
- **Political Chair:** Chuck S. Swingle: 908-587-9680
  - Joyce White: 973-224-4779
  - Carolyn Kaloyanides: 973-275-0288
- **Education Chair:** Fred Waterman
  - Fred Waterman: 908-745-6262
- **Fundraising Chair:** Eric Hausker
  - Eric Hausker: 732-658-6440
- **Outings Chair:** Joyce White
  - Joyce White: 973-224-4779
  - Sonya Kaloyanides: 973-275-0288
- **Publicity Chair:** Nancy Carringer
  - Nancy Carringer: 973-438-8688
- **Websites:**
  - Central Jersey Group: http://loantaka.njsierra.org
  - Loantaka Group: http://loantaka.njsierra.org

To find out our activities, go to: http://loantaka.NJSierra.org

To join our email list, send a blank email to:
- http://lists.nj.org/ListInfo.cgi?loantaka-group-announcements-njjserra.org

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** are held on the FIRST TUESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at the Library of the Chathams, 234 Main St., Chatham, NJ.

This is your club and there is always an open invitation to attend an ExCom meeting. Right now, we have no open positions on our Executive Committee. If you are interested in a position and would like to find out more, please contact Paul Sanderson. There will be no ExCom Meetings in July and August. Join us on September 6.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Meetings are held on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at the Library of the Chathams, 234 Main St., Chatham. (Directions are posted on our website: http://loantaka.NJSierra.org)

Loantaka Group Fundraising: an electronic AUCTION:
To fund the battle to save our state’s undeveloped areas — our forests, rivers, wet-lands, and the Highlands — against the rising tide of urban sprawl, air and water pol-lution and loss of wildlife habitat, Loantaka is planning an e-mail “silent” auction - carried out entirely on-line - to be held early in the Fall.

We are soliciting merchants and businesses in Morris and Union Counties for in-kind donations in the forms of services or merchandise which we can offer for bid-ding. Examples would be Dinners for Four, 15-minute Shopping Spree, Bed & Breakfast getaways, Certificates of $50-$100, body care products, hybrid vehicles, or specific items to be sold to the highest bidder. The proceeds will go into our general fund to support Sierra Club initiatives for conservation, environ-mental education, and consciousness-raising.

We appeal to Loantaka members who own businesses or who have contacts in, or can network with, restaurants, theaters, spas, malls, small businesses, and the like. Please contact Eric Hausker, fundraising chairperson for the Loantaka group at: haukerriaol.com if you can contribute “auctionables.” You and your contributing organization will be mentioned as the generous donor.

**Loantaka Group Fundraising: an electronic AUCTION:**
To fund the battle to save our state’s undeveloped areas—our forests, rivers, wetlands, and the Highlands—against the rising tide of urban sprawl, air and water pollution and loss of wildlife habitat, Loantaka is planning an e-mail “silent” auction—carried out entirely online—to be held early in the Fall.

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**Contact one of our Issue Coordinators (see the list on p. 12) if there’s a state-wide issue that interests you!**
**West Jersey Group**

(Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

**Web site:** user_snip.net/~gjacme/home.htm

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**OFFICERS:**

- **Group Chair:** Gina Carola  609-814-8851  gcarola@afmsn.net
- **Vice Chair:** W. Allan Zinni  609-726-8407  carola@afmsn.net
- **Secretary:** Becky Payne  609-488-5510  beckyp@afmsn.net
- **Treasurer:** Trish Clements  609-724-3913  ptarr32@comcast.net
- **Publicity Chair:** Richard Kalits  609-428-8071  budkalis@earthlink.net
- **Political Chair:** Wayne Zanni  609-726-4507  pineandl@hotmail.com
- **Greenways Coordinator:** Frank and Ellen Zinni  thunderlighthouse@yahoo.com
- **Conservation Chair:** Stacey Aylens  609-347-9224  eyefishsusan@afmsn.net
- **Fundraising Chair:** Reiss Tiffany  609-319-6405  rctiffany@afmsn.net
- **Speakers Chair:** Brian Booze  609-957-5022  bboozemybooz@gmail.com
- **Outings Chair:** Open position
- **Inner City Outreach:** Need volunteers

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Held at 7:30 pm on the SECOND TUESDAY of each month, at the Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse at 1475 West Front Street in Lincroft (please check the congregation’s bulletin for meeting times). Handicap accessible parking and entrance in rear of building.

**July and August:** We do not meet in July or August. Please join us on a hike.

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**Sep 13:** Rick Holmes, from Absolutely Energized Solar Electric will discuss the benefits of solar energy for your home and the NJ Solar Energy Incentive Program.

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**Jersey Shore Group**

(Monmouth and Ocean Counties, approximately)

**Web site:** http://njsierra.org/~njshoar/

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**OFFICERS:**

- **Group Chair:** Dennis Anderson  732-888-3154  dennis@afmsn.net
- **Vice Chair:** 612 Second St., Union Beach, NJ 07735
- **Secretary:** 732-389-1813  josefdo@att.net
- **Conservation Chair:** 732-274-7011  knowton@afmsn.net
- **Ocean County:** 732-355-1183  mauser@sprimtime.net
- **Ocean County Section Chair:** Open position

**Webmaster:**

- George Newsome  732-598-1518  newsome1@afmsn.org
- Treasurer: 732-458-5074
- Laura Bagwell  732-471-8631  bagwell@verizon.net
- Mike韦尔克  732-768-1071  packems@aol.com
- Membership: 732-780-1508  roameleon@monmouth.com
- Program Chair: Regina (Maurer) Knowton  732-535-1183  mauser@sprimtime.net

**GREAT MEETINGS:** Held at 8pm on the FOURTH MONDAY of each month - except in July and August, and at a NEW LOCATION: The Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse at 1745 West Street in Little Ferry (please check the congregation’s website for directions, at http://www.uucm.org/where-we-are.htm). Come early to socialize and enjoy refreshments. For additional directions or information, please contact Regina or Steve Knowton at 732-353-1183, or visit our web site.

**July 17:** (Sunday), noon till ??? — Annual Group Picnic: Join your fellow Group members at Turkey Swamp Park in Freehold Township for a fun-filled afternoon of eating, talking, eating, playing games, eating, hiking, — oh, did I mention eating? We gather at one of the lovely picnic areas — just follow the signs to find us! Bring a dish to share, vegetarian or otherwise, and bring the kids or grandkids, too, if you have any!

**Further for information, or directions, please contact Joelle Landy, at flutey@comcast.net or 732-741-4756.

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**Officer Positions:**

- **Chair:** Sandi Lowich  732-247-5760  Abstracta@afmsn.com
- **Chesnut Hill:** 44 Chestnut St. Milltown 08850 1410
- **Member:** Sunil Somalwar  732-572-7221  vsonmalwar@seeracactivist.org
- **Conservation Chair:** Dave O’Leary  732-572-2095  daveol@earthlink.net
- **Political Chair:** Randy Gill  732-256-2612  ragill@optonline.net

**ISSUES:** We are fighting development along streams, wetlands, flood plains and steep slopes. We are pro-farmland preservation. Group members are involved in local issues, answering questions for concerned citizens regarding development, and monitoring/ reviewing all township/regional land use master plans in our area. This includes working to protect threatened and endangered species. Help us stop developers from buying sub-standard lots and obtaining permits and variances for new homes.

**Calling All Volunteers:** The Raritan Valley Group welcomes you to our activities. Currently, the position of secretary is open. If you are interested, contact Sandi Lowich, the Group Chair.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Held at 7:30 pm on the THIRD WEDNESDAY of the month except for July and August. Meetings are held at the Unitarian Society of New Brunswick, 176 Tices Lane, East Brunswick. Take the Ryders Lane exit off Rte 1 towards East Brunswick. Make a left turn at the first four-way intersection onto Tices Lane; and the church is the second driveway on the right. The public is invited and refreshments are served. For further directions and information, visit our website.

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE:**

- **No public meetings will be held in July or August.**

**Sep 21:** Vegetarianism: Megan Metzelaar, a New Jersey attorney and a vegan, will discuss healthy eating habits, vegetarianism, eliminating meat from your diet, and how vegetarians help the environment. Recipes will be available.

**Meeting Programs:**

- **Executive Committee Meeting:** Held at 7pm on the FIRST THURSDAY of every other month except for July and August. Currently, meetings are held at the Bound Brook Presbyterian Church, 409 Mountain Avenue. In Bound Brook. All Sierra Club members are invited to attend. Please contact us first.

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**The central conservation issue, for which the Group was founded in the 1970s, continues to be the protection of the Great Egg Harbor Wild & Scenic River, and continues to consume the energies of those few officers who remain active — both within the Sierra Club and in two other organizations that have “spun off” from the South Jersey Group. Very few of our local members seem interested in the meetings we’ve scheduled in the past few years, and many of them have been cancelled or cut back because of interest. We’d like to welcome new members! Please join us on a hike.**

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**Seniors Section**

(A new chapter-wide special interest section offering hikes/cleanups, social gatherings, movies, meetings, etc.)

**The Section hopes to promote Senior participation in letter writing campaigns, in social outings, and in increasing membership in a dynamic group component of the NJ Sierra Club. For further information, contact Nancy Carringer (ncarringer@yahoo.com) or Richard Isaac (risaacx@aol.com).**

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**Singles Section**

(A chapter-wide special interest section offering hikes/cleanups, social gatherings, movies, meetings, etc.)

**Please join us! The NJ Singles Section was specifically created to offer a variety of single-oriented activities to NJ Sierra Club members and those who would like to know more about us! Are you not a Local Group, yet you’d like to attend? Everyone is welcome to attend our events. Come out and meet fellow Club members and enjoy!**

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**Group meetings offer interesting speakers, involvement, friendship, and usually food!**
GROUP NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

who cares about the environment. We can only offer as many activities as we have volunteers to run them – if you have the least interest to get involved, please give it a try!

Page dimensions: 792.0x1224.0

GROUP NEWS

not having pizza.

at 7:30pm. $5 donation at door and RSVP (required for pizza only) to Joyce Haddad’s outings

Pre 3 for: 2nd Monday monthly meeting

Pre 4 for: Tuesday 3rd Thursday in Montclair

Pre 5 for: Joyce Haddad’s outings

Pre 8 for: Singles Dance-and-a-Movie or Volleyball

The NEW way to be notified of upcoming events is to join our listserv by going to http://lists.njerra.org/mailman/listinfo.cgi/nj-terra-sierra-newsannouncements.org (list server, including those planned after publication, will be sent to your email mailbox. If you prefer not to receive email, you may view all messages which have been sent to the listserv by going to http://lists.njerra.org/pipermail/nj-terra-sierra-newsannouncements@sierra.org

OFFICERS:

Chair: Bob Johnson bob.johnson@comcast.net
Outings Chair: Joyce Haddad jkhaddad@juno.com
Volunteer Coordinator: Dave Ogen Bandi29@aol.com
Conservation Chair: Mary Walsh mbeth@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Joyce White JoyceCmhn@att.net
Webpage designer: Tom M Jones tmjones@comcast.net
Social Chair: Adriana Allegri aallegri@aol.com
Programs: Diana Ichibolz MistyAngel2003@yahoo.com
Publicity: Lynn Forrest lynn777@msn.com
Membership Chair: Walter Goldenbaum goldenbl1@hotmail.com
Calendar Chair: Nancy Sullivan nancysullivn@comcast.net

Volunteer Opportunities:

We need volunteers in all areas of the state to run events. Volunteers needed for the position of hike leader, Fundraising Chair/Co-Chairs, and members of all committees, including social event planning. Please attend an executive committee meeting or email any of the officers if you are interested. You may co-chair any position with a friend, if desired. We’re happy to help you learn the ropes.

GENERAL MEETINGS:

Causal pizza gathering, introduction to club issues and activities, and activist letter writing. SECOND MONDAY of each month starting at 7pm with optional pizza, at the Chatham Library (214 Main St). Guest speakers at each meeting at 7:30pm. $5 donation at door and RSVP (required for pizza only) to Joyce Haddad’s outings. Please leave name and specify plain or veggie-topping pizza. Free (and no RSVP) if you are not hungry.

No meetings will be held in July or August.

On Sept 12, Paul Smith will be presenting a slide show of Duke Gardens Park in Hillborough. Doris Duke’s Estate is open to the public for hiking, biking, and birding walks.

On Oct 10 we will be showing a film. Please join our listserv to find out more details.

Directions to the Chatham Library: From I-287 take Rt 24 East to Exit 8 (Summit Ave). Turn left at the top of the ramp and then left again so you go back onto Rt 24 headed West. Take exit 7A for Chatham and bear right onto Rt 124 (Main St). Follow Main St through the traffic lights at University and Hillside Avenues. The Library is to your right about 1/2 block past the traffic lights. From Rt 10 take Rt 78 south to Rt 24 West. Take exit 7A for Chatham and follow above directions. For further directions, call the library at 973-6560650.

PLANNING/ECCOM MEETINGS take place once a month at various locations. All welcome. Contact any officer for location.

SOCIAL GATHERINGS:

SOCIAL DINNER: First Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm. Join us for dinner in Morristown at the Fatmashed Frog. RSVP required; join our listserv for further details.

SOCIAL DINNER: Third Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner in a Morristown restaurant. Location will be announced 2 weeks before the social. RSVP is required to jkhaddad@juno.com or 973-364-7573 option # 4.

SINGLES DINNER:

Friday, Aug 19, 7pm at the Grand Buffet Restaurant, 875 Rt 17 South, Ramsey, NJ. Approximate cost $15 includes full buffet, tax, tip, and is free for members. $5 extra for non-members. RSVP required by 8/19 noon to MistyAngel2003@yahoo.com or 973-364-7573 option # 8.

SINGLES DINNER & DANCE:

Saturday, Sept 24, 7-10pm at Jimmy’s in Morristown. Join us for our first ever Sierra Singles Dinner & Dance at Jimmy’s Haunt, 217 South Street, Morristown. This group will be hopping to the beat of a different drum as us singles mingle in our own private room complete with DJ, dancing, food & more! Space is limited, so reserve your space in advance and don’t get left out! Reservation are required, as is advance payment. Contact Diana at MistyAngel2003@yahoo.com or 973-364-7573 option # 8. For checks received by the September 9th deadline, $35 in advance pays for everything including all-you-can-eat penne alla vodka pasta and other hot finger foods. After September 9, $40 in advance payment is still required to hold your place and reservation. We will be located in the glass courtyard at the back of Jimmy’s and will have cash only credit card processing available.

SINGLES DINNER AND A MOVIE:

Aug 6: RSVP required. Please join us at 6pm at The Plaza Grille, 3 Headquarters Plaza, in Morristown. Approximate cost is $50, (plus $5 extra fee for non-members, please bring membership card), for a full buffet dinner including soft drinks, coffee, dessert, tax, tip, and a movie ticket valid for one year at all Clearview Cinemas. Please include full name in email and subject the email “Sierra Dinner and a Movie”. If you must cancel, please do so by e-mail ASAP. We will decide at dinner whether to show a movie at Clearview Morristown, or at different movies. RSVP required by June 10th to MistyAngel2003@yahoo.com or 973-364-7573, ext. 8.

SINGLES PICNIC/VOLEYBALL/SWIMMING: Saturday, July 16th, 2pm. 107 Rte 525 (Oldwick Rd.), Whitehouse Station, NJ. RSVP required to Diana at MistyAngel2003@yahoo.com or 973-364-7573 option # 8. Cost and details of event to be announced.

HICKS: Please see the Outings section of this newsletter for our hikes. Many of Paul Serduik’s South Jersey hikes/events are also oriented towards singles.

Sierra Student Coalition
(a semi-autonomous organization of college and high school students)

Website: www.ssc.org/nj

Contact Tejal Kuray, 752-770-2142, tejal.kuray@sc.org for information.

Inner City Outings Section (another Chapter-wide special interest activity)

Volunteer Job Opportunities

All volunteers are provided with training, and may be reimbursed for telephone calls and postage. The time involved is flexible, and tailored to the individual needs of volunteers. Fitness is not required, as volunteer open-

ings is as easy as picking up the telephone and calling our Group Effectiveness Chair, Richard Isaak at 973-716-0297, or emailing him at riaaaxa@aol.com.

State Level Opportunities: Advertising Editor for the Jersey Sierran; Seniors Program Coordinator for the Seniors Section; Environmental Attorney.

RESIDENTS OF OCEAN COUNTY: The Nj Chapter is organizing a new Group in Ocean County!! If you live in Ocean County, and are interested in learning more, please contact Richard Isaak, at 973-716-0297

Other Local Opportunities: See the “open position” designations in each Group’s News (pp. 7-10 of this Newsletter).

FEDERAL FISHERIES LEGISLATION

(CoContinued from page 9)

science, basic ecology, social science and fishery economics, the requirement of the MSA, and other relevant statutes and regulations.

The bill amends the MSA to imple-

4. COOPERATIVE RESEARCH, DATA COLLECTION AND GEAR MODIFICAT-

One of the greatest challenges facing fishermen is the lack of informa-

The bill amends the MSA to imple-

The UNSCP recommended increased collaboration with fishermen through cooperative research activities.

The bill amends the MSA to imple-

(Brooks Mountain can be reached at bmountain@conservationdf.org)
Your financial contribution means a lot to us. By supporting this Chapter, you help the Sierra Club work in your backyard. This makes you an important part of our work to protect wilderness, wild wildlife, to improve the quality of life in our cities, and to promote the enjoyment of nature.

GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

Central Jersey: Ken Mayberg kmayberg@sierraclub.org
Essex County: Dave Ogan 973-226-0474 (H) 64 Eiel Road, Caldwell, NJ 07006
Hudson/Middlesex/Atlantic: Dr. Fred Fournier 518-908-3966 (W) 386 Grand St., Union, NJ 07085
Jersey Shore: Mike Verange 908-732-8544 (W) 1497 Fremont St, Linwood, NJ 08221
Lancaster: John Trowbridge 717-245-2611 (W) 661 Wildwood Ave., York, PA 17403
North Jersey: Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417 elllenkrantz@hotmail.com
Northwest Jersey: Pat Marzioni, Patmarizo@hod.com
Raritan Valley: Teresa @tver@sierraclub.org, 908-348-0497 (W) 354 Northview Ave., Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
South Jersey: Tom Boghosian 609-625-0785 (H) 4794 Ambro Dr., Maple Shade, NJ 08052
West Jersey: Vacant

River Touring:

includes bringing pets. ALL participants must sign liability waivers on ALL outings. NO pets except certified service dogs. Rain or adverse weather conditions cancels. If registration is required, then it is due on the date listed. NO exceptions to the date listed.

In case of rain, please arrive early at the meeting place so that the outing is not canceled. If the rain continues, watch the weather and bring an umbrella.

Please arrive early at the meeting place so that the outing is not canceled. If the rain continues, watch the weather and bring an umbrella.

Outings Leaders: Please send October-December 2005 info to your Group Outings Coordinator before July 30. If you are planning to lead an outing close to the beginning of one of our planning periods, please submit it for the previous Sierra, due to the occasional lag in mail.

Note: If possible, leaders should send their trip descriptions to their Group Coordinator instead of directly to the Chapter Outings Coordinator. This is particularly important for occasional leaders.

GROUP OutingS COORDINATORS: Please submit your October-December trip write-up by Aug. 9.

NOTES ON OUTINGS: All outings are open to club members, guests, and anyone interested in outings. Unless otherwise specified, the events are free and open to the public. All outings must go by telephone only on all outings sponsored by your local Group. Please call the leader before the departure date to confirm your attendance. A parent or other responsible adult must accompany persons under 18. At their discretion, leaders may permit pets on outings if the event description specifically includes bringing pets.

Sierra Club outings are arranged by volunteer leaders who are in charge of the trip and the responsible for the safety, welfare and enjoyment of all participants.

Volunteer leaders determine qualifications to participate, adequacy of equipment, need to be followed, and special precautions to be taken. Please arrive adequately prepared and equipped. If you have any allergies, please remember to bring your medication. The leader has the final word in the conduct of the trip. Your cooperation will help assure a successful trip.

If you are a Sierra Club member interested in becoming an Outing Leader or have questions for new outings contact your Group Outings Chair or the Chapter Outings Chair for assistance and further information. The Sierra Club Group coordinating each outing is given at the end of the write-up, as follows:

(C) Central Jersey
(CJ) Central Jersey
(L) - Locustville
(NW) - Northeast Jersey
(N) - North Jersey
(H) - Hudson
(IS) - Inlet City Outings
(E) - Elise County
(JR) - Jersey Shore
(R) - Raritan Valley
(H) - Hunterdon
(F) - Franklin County
(A) - Atlantic County
(T) - Trenton

July 2005

July 5 (Sat) 9am: Social Kayak Trip: We will be the Maurice River Boating. C level water. Contact Ellen Blumenkrantz for more info. Meet at Al & Sam’s Canoe Shop, 126 N. Main St., Hammonton. Take Rte 520 approx 3 miles N of Stockton. Leader: Paul Serdiuk, 609-462-3593 evenings, or pis1@cccnj.net.

July 10 (Sun) 6pm: Social Hike, Bull’s Island, 7 miles moderate pace. We will do a loop and lunch hike. Bike on Bull’s Island on an old railroad bed. Take your bike. Meet at parking area at the far left toward the back. Bring a picnic lunch

July 15 (Sat) 9am: Harlem River stream/takes loop, 11 mile easy hike along stream/takes in Harlem to view passing trains, & long uphill. Bring lunch. Meet at the eastern most point of the Harlem River State Park. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, 201-784-8417, elllenkrantz@hotmail.com.

July 17 (Mon) 6pm: Delphi Beach Kayak Paddle: Water trip to Delphi Beach. Paddling long climb up to Mount Tammany, then descended to Delphi Creek and paddled to Sunrise Point. Back on the AT. Bring lunch, snacks & drinks, boat, life jacket, group of people. Hikers must pre-register. Call up to 10 days in advance. U piano dinner stop. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz-201-784-8417, elllenkrantz@hotmail.com.

July 17 (Sat) 6:30pm: Social Bike Ride, Three Bridges Ride in the Pine Barrens. Class D ride, pace with friends.

July 22 (Th) 6pm: Social Moonlight Kayak Paddle, Padula the Mill Creek with a BBQ after paddle. Some paddlers have expressed some interest in added folding chairs and/or a BBQ dinner. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593, eves. or pis1@cccnj.net

July 23 (Sat) 7pm: Social Hike, 6 miles moderate pace. Enjoy a mushroom hike, under the back of the moon. Meet at Raritan Valley Park for a cool 3 miles N of Stockton. Leader: Paul Serdiuk, 609-462-3593, eves. or pis1@cccnj.net

July 25 (Mon) 6am: Social Kayak Trip. Paddle the Mill Creek with a BBQ after paddle. Some paddlers have expressed some interest in added folding chairs and/or a BBQ dinner. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593, eves. or pis1@cccnj.net

July 29 (Fri) 6:30pm: Social Bike Ride, Three Bridges Ride in the Pine Barrens. Class D ride, pace with friends.

August 2005

August 7 (Sat) 9am: Social Kayak Trip. We do the Egg Harbor River. We will have a pizza party after a trip and a volleyball game. Call leader to reserve kayak space. limited. PM/PM must be worn. Meet at Palace Restaurant, Rte 37 East, Port Republic. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593, eves. or pis1@cccnj.net

August 12 (Thu) 7:30pm: Social Bike and Hike and Mount Snower. 6 miles moderate pace. Short hike and then watch the sun set from the summit. Bring bike, bike helmet, water and snacks. Meet at Holiday Park, 2nd Rte. 37 West at the site side of the River. NC/PN. Pets must be leashed at all times. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593, eves. or pis1@cccnj.net

August 19 (Fri) 6pm: Social Cycle Tour. Repeat of last year’s great trip. A 4 lazy hours paddle down the Mill Creek. Bring lunch & snacks. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593, eves. or pis1@cccnj.net

August 23 (Sat) 10am: Social Hike in Watchung Reservation. We will hike about 6 miles of hills & level terrain. Bring lunch & lots of water. Limit 12 people. Must pre-register. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, 201-784-8417, eves. or pis1@cccnj.net

August 25 (Mon) 6pm: Social Bike Ride, Five Bridges Ride in the Pine Barrens. Class D ride, pace with friends. Meet at Holiday Park after ride. Call leader for Additional info. Leader: Mike Verange, 908-902-0718 or mjverange@aol.com (JS)

September 2005

September 9 (Sat) 11am: Social Mountain Bike Trip. Call leader for carpool Info. NC/NP. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593, eves. or pis1@cccnj.net

September 11 (Mon) 6pm: Social Bike Ride, Five Bridges Ride in the Pine Barrens. Class D ride, pace with friends. Meet at Holiday Park after ride. Call leader for Additional info. Leader: Mike Verange, 908-902-0718 or mjverange@aol.com (JS)

September 16 (Sat) 9am: Social Hike in Watchung Reservation. We will hike about 6 miles of hills & level terrain. Bring lunch & lots of water. Limit 12 people. Must pre-register. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, 201-784-8417, eves. or pis1@cccnj.net

September 22 (Sat) 11am: Social Sunset Kayak Trip. Meet in the early afternoon after all your chores are done and paddle the Mill Creek. A beautiful sunset guaranteed. We will have a BBQ either at the landing or the outfits. Call leader to reserve spots. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593, eves. or pis1@cccnj.net

Note: (Continued on page 12)
**NEW JERSEY CHAPTER LEADERSHIP**

*Issue Coordinators*

- ATV Issues: Patti Swinn (609) 498-7639
- Clean Air Issues: Bob Campbell (973) 273-5202
- Clean Rivers Issues: Dr. George Newsome (732) 308-1518
- Coastal Issues: John Cashen (609) 720-2048
- Conservation & Education: Ellen Blumenkrantz (201) 784-8417
- Conservation & Policy: Mike Gallaway (609) 737-1342
- Environmental Justice: Joe Seidman (973) 321-4578
- Forestry: Nancy Carringer (732) 438-8688
- Grassroots: Ken Johanson (908) 272-4478
- Legislative Policy: Tina Schvejda (see Dennis Schvejda, below)
- Marine Issues: Tina Schvejda (see Dennis Schvejda, below)
- NJ Trail: Marie Schmitt (908) 457-1342
- Outreach: Steve Johnson (973) 273-5207
- Pinelands: Lee Snyder (see left column)
- Risk Management: John Cashen (609) 720-2048
- Transportation Policy: Dave Mattek (609) 737-1342
- Wildlife Policy: Jane Tousman (see left column)
- Wildlife Population Survey: Jeff Huppert (908) 272-4478
- Wilderness Policy: Bob Johnson (973) 458-0562
- Waterline Policy: John Cashen (609) 720-2048

**Political Chair**

- Rich Isaacs (973) 716-0297

**Secretary**

- Bonnie Tillery (908) 259-6438

**Treasurer**

- George Denzer (609) 598-5539

**Webmaster**

- George Newsome (732) 308-1518
- Ellen Blumenkrantz (201) 784-8417

**Student Outreach Coordinator**

- Jeff Huppert (973) 263-0344

**Upcoming ExCom Meetings:**

- Chapter 609-273-5202, 139 West Hanover Street, Trenton 08618
- fax 609-656-7618
- Chapter Director: Jeff Tittel
- jeft@vicentcom.net
- Conservation Director: Dennis Schvejda 973-427-6863
dennis.schvejda@SierraClub.org

**New Jersey Sierra Club Newsletter**

**JERSEY SIERRAN**

**New Jersey Sierra Club**

**PO Box 52938, Boulder, CO 80328-3293 and to the Chapter Office, 139 West Hanover St, Trenton 08618 or call 415-973-6873.**

**Editorial Board:**

- Dick Colby, George and Joan Denzer, Rich Isaac, Ken Johnson, Laura Lynn, Chris Nix, Ruth Prince, Paul Sanderson, Sunil Somalwar, Bonnie Tillery, and Jeff Tittel.

**Contact:**

- Dick Colby: 609-985-4453
- dick.colby@stockton.edu

**Webmaster:**

- George Newsome (732) 308-1518
- Ellen Blumenkrantz (201) 784-8417

**Membership Chair:**

- Chris Miller (609) 573-1270
- Chris Miller@sierraclub.org

**Group Effectiveness Chair:**

- Rich Isaacs (973) 458-0562

**Council Delegate:**

- Jane Tousman (908) 561-5504
- jdtousman@comcast.net

**Consultant Editor:**

- Dr. Ellen Blumenkrantz (201) 784-8417
- eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**Editor:**

- Robert Hausker.

**Contributors to this Issue:**

- Kelly McNicholas, Jeff Tittel, Bob Johnson, Peter Schmit, John Cashen.

**Office:**

- 139 West Hanover St, Trenton, NJ 08618 or call 415-973-6873.

**The Jersey Sierran**

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**The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writer(s) and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Jersey Sierran or the Sierra Club Organization.**

**Members, volunteer-drivers, or other interested parties who wish to drive to any of these meetings should contact the Chapter Chair, 609-720-2048 or kjohan@comcast.net.**

**Newsletter Editor:**

- dick.colby@stockton.edu

**Regional Editors:**

- John Cashen (609) 720-2048
- Jennifer Hattam, Eric Hausker.

**Advertising Director:**

- Bill Clokey.

**Advertising Manager:**

- contact the Advertising Manager before submitting an advertising proposal. Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers, and other Officers are appointed by the New Jersey Chapter Executive Committee and serve staggered terms of one year. The New Jersey Chapter Executive Committee is an ad-hoc body and is not to be confused with the National Sierra Club Executive Committee. **Acknowledgement of the source would be appreciated.**

**Contributors to this Issue:**

- Kelly McNicholas, Jeff Tittel, Bob Johnson, Nancy Carringer, Bonnie Tillery, Sunil Somalwar, Ken Johnson, Staci Goodman, Tim Wright, Brice Schmit, Dennis Schvejda, Bonnie Tillery, Jane Tousman, Brenda Brooke, Jennifer Halman, and Eric Hausker. **Thank you to all who contributed. The Jersey Sierran is produced mostly by volunteers.**

**OUTINGS**

**Enjoy the Beauty of Summer**

Celebrate the season, and join the Sierra Club today!

Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!

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**P.O. Box 52938, Boulder, CO 80328-3293**

**Upcoming Outing Events:**

- **September 18**
  - EXP DATE
  - MASTERCARD 
  - VISA 
  - AMERICAN EXPRESS

**New Jersey Sierra Club Newsletter**

**The Jersey Sierran:** July-September 2005

**The Jersey Sierran**

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