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# The Jersey..... SIERRAN

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Nearly 21,000 Members in New Jersey

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Report from Trenton

## A Scorecard for Governor Corzine

By Jeff Tittel and Becca Glenn, our Chapter staff

In April, Governor Corzine appeared at the Global Green Expo, held at Yale Univ, looking for green cover while he devastates New Jersey's environmental programs. We think the Governor wants to look green without actually being green.

As he talks about the environment, he is undermining and destroying environmental programs throughout the state. As he talks about global warming, he wants to build nuclear power plants instead of promoting renewable energy and efficiency. As he talks about open space, he wants to close nine state parks and three recreation areas. As he talks about the need to clean up contaminated sites, he wants to outsource the Site Remediation Program to polluters.

The Governor's proposed budget has thrown environmental advocates into the highest-stakes battle in recent memory. The budget includes a 12.5% cut to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) - a move that would cripple dozens of environmental programs and cause the closing of nine state parks and three recreation areas.

Other environmental threats the state is facing under the Corzine Administration include:

- **Funding for open space is about to run out.** Last May, the story emerged of a backroom deal between the Governor and Assembly Speaker Joe Roberts to kill ACR 10, the bill that would have provided a long-term, stable source of funding to the Garden State Preservation Trust, which administers the state's open space, farmland, and historic preservation programs. Instead the Legislature passed a bill allowing voters to approve one year of stop-gap funding to keep the programs running, while Governor Corzine promised that the needed long-term funding source would be passed during the Legislature's 2007 lame duck session. Although that session ended months ago, there has been no attempt by the Governor to find a solution for meeting this need. Instead, the Governor has proposed cutting funding to existing parks even further.

- **The DEP is proposing a weakening of site remediation standards and the outsourcing to private consultants.** Although the legislature passed a new

law to prevent future Kiddie Kolleges (a day-care center in southern New Jersey built on a severely contaminated site), the Site Remediation Program remains in shambles. Now the DEP has proposed allowing polluters to hire their own consultants to oversee and certify the clean-up of toxic sites. We call this "the fox guarding the henhouse."

- **The Energy Master Plan promotes nuclear power and fossil fuels.** Although New Jersey passed the landmark Global Warming Response Act last year, the implementation of that law is still in question and may end up undermining the goals of the act. The draft Energy Master Plan, which should be the vehicle by which the state takes a major step toward its global warming goals, promotes nuclear power and fossil fuels instead of the clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency we need.

- **The Highlands Act is being weakened.** Although the Highlands Act was a major victory for the protection of the state's drinking water, the draft Highlands Regional Master Plan (RMP) will not achieve that goal. The current version of the RMP will bring more development into the Highlands Preservation Area and undermine the Highlands Act, leaving the drinking water supply for more than half the population of New Jersey at risk.

- **The builders are writing environmental rules for the state.** Department of Community Affairs Commissioner Joe Doria has convened committees made up of builders and their associates to write housing and development policy for New Jersey without any input from the public or the environmental community. The reports written by these committees call for bringing back Fast Track, a law so bad that even the Bush Administration opposed it; granting automatic approvals to developers; and repealing a host of important environmental protections, such as the Flood Hazard Rules, the Water Quality Management Planning Rules, and the Category 1 stream protection rules.

- **The Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) has written a new rule proposal that promotes development in rural and**

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## Smart Container Act Gets a Hearing in Legislature: May 12

By David Yennior, our Recycling Issues Coordinator

The Smart Container Act (SCA), A121, was reintroduced in the NJ Legislature on Jan 8th. The Primary Sponsors are Assemblywomen Valerie Vainieri-Huttel, Linda Greenstein, and Linda Stender. Co-sponsors are Assemblywomen Nilsa Cruz-Perez, Sheila Oliver, and Joan Voss.

The SCA received a full hearing before the Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee on May 12th. Testifying for the bill were this writer, our Chapter Director Jeff Tittel, Betty McLaughlin of the Container Recycling Institute, Clifton's Recycling Coordinator Al DuBois, NJ Environmental Federation's Dave Pringle, and Mike Pisuaro of the NJ Environmental Lobby.

The beverage and retailers industries, and the Association of NJ Recyclers, were well represented by lobbyists who spoke against the Bill. They hired a Massachusetts consultant to testify. Sandy Huber, Director of the NJ Clean Communities Council, also spoke against the Bill.

The Committee Chair, Assemblyman John McKeon, opened the hearing by inviting Asw Huttel to present the attributes of the bill and address the concerns of the opposition.

Gov. Jon Corzine supports the Smart Container Act, saying the legislation could help the state regain its status as a recycling leader. "We have tended to back away from the successes that we had in the early stages, in the '80s, and I think that this is one of those ways to restore that vigorous implementation," Corzine told reporters, adding he was in favor of the bill "in concept" but wanted to review it in more detail.

The United States needs a comprehensive beverage deposit and redemption system to increase recycling of throw-aways, to reduce global warming, and to encourage the use of reusable plastic and glass containers. National container recycling legislation imposing a deposit on all bottles and cans in the US was introduced in the House of Representatives in November 2007, but NJ will be exempt if the SCA is enacted.

At an 80% recycling rate for beverage containers (more than twice the current rate), an additional 3 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions could be avoided. This would be the equivalent of taking nearly 2.4 million cars off the road for one year.

One ton of recycled plastic saves 5,774 kwh (kilowatt hours) of electricity and 685 gallons of oil. Yet 80 billion plastic water bottles went to landfills and incinerators last year in the US, according to the Container Recycling Institute. Plastic bottles are not a favored source of fuel for incinerators: they cause pollution problems and burn too hot. Plastic has no place in landfills either.

70 percent of plastic water bottles are not recycled at all. Instead, they end up in landfills or incinerators. Nationwide, it is estimated that 2 million tons of plastic water bottles end up in landfills each year.

The most-often recycled plastic, HDPE (number 2), is "downcycled" into plastic lumber, tables, roadside curbs, benches, truck cargo liners, trash receptacles, rulers and other durable plastic products and is usually in demand.

Glass and aluminum that is not recycled and ends up in incinerators does not burn, interferes with their operation, and eventually goes to landfills with the ash. Incinerated aluminum becomes unusable due to contamination, according to officials at the Covanta plant in Newark. Covanta must discard chunks of aluminum as large as legal-size 4-drawer file cabinets. Waste-to-energy plants would be more efficient if the trash was first cleared of plastic, glass and aluminum.

Using recycled glass to make new glass products requires 40 percent less energy than making it from raw materials. It saves energy because crushed glass, called cullet, melts at a lower temperature than sand, soda ash, and limestone. Old glass is easily made into new glass jars and bottles or into other glass products like fiberglass insulation. And unlike paper, glass jars and bottles can be recycled over and over again.

Aluminum cans account for an increasing amount of waste. 58 billion cans are thrown away every year in the United States, enough to fill the Empire State Building six times.

The SCA has been widely discussed in the press, with most newspapers taking editorial stands either pro or con, followed by many public responses.

Please contact me at [dyennior@msn.com](mailto:dyennior@msn.com) or 973-844-1384 if you can help in some way or if you have any questions or comments.

Report from Trenton

## When It Comes to Park Closings, Talk Is Cheap We Need to Put Our Money Where Our Mouth Is

By Jeff Tittel and Becca Glenn, our Chapter staff ([jeff.tittel@sierraclub.org](mailto:jeff.tittel@sierraclub.org) and [Becca.glenn@sierraclub.org](mailto:Becca.glenn@sierraclub.org))

It is easy to complain about the governor's outrageous proposed cuts to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the proposed closing of nine parks and three recreation areas that are visited by almost 2 million people every year. The Sierra Club offers the following responsible suggestions for sources of revenue to maintain New Jersey's environmental programs:

(1) Thousands of acres of public land

are currently leased to private entities for stores, restaurants, lumber yards, farms, electric transmission lines, gas lines, fiber optic cables, and other installations. Raise the rents!

(2) Reduce gambling subsidies to horse tracks and horse farms.

(3) Tax the 100,000 ATVs that are devastating our public lands. (A \$50 annual registration fee would generate \$5 million.)

(4) Impose parking fees in parks and

other state facilities.

(5) Eliminate Political Appointments: The parks budget includes a \$60,000 per year salary for a caretaker at the Governor's mansion (Drumthwacket), and \$75,000 for a "confidential secretary" at the DEP.

(6) Cut out consultants by using in-house expertise: E.g. \$250,000 went to a consultant to write the Highlands Plan, and \$1 million to a consultant for a watershed characterization report.

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# The Greening of the Ports

By Gina Carola, our Delaware River Issues Coordinator (Ginaceee@verizon.net)

With the Delaware River and the Philadelphia skyline as the backdrop for a press conference, representatives of the Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA), South Jersey Port Corporation (SJPC) and the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority (PRPA) came together on May 5 to take a major step toward making the ports in South Jersey and Philadelphia more environmentally responsible. The Green Port Initiative is an idea initiated and championed by DRPA Vice Chairman Jeff Nash over a year ago. At the press conference, the three port agencies signed a Memorandum of Understanding, forming



a partnership to launch this initiative.

This past March, Mr. Nash and DRPA CEO John Matheussen invited representatives of New Jersey's environmental organizations to DRPA headquarters in Camden to offer the environmental community an advisory role as they worked to green the port. Taking part were West Jersey Sierra Club, New Jersey Environmental Federation, New Jersey Conservation Foundation and the

Delaware Riverkeeper, along with representatives of several Camden neighborhoods. The DRPA invited ideas for reducing environmental impacts on the ports and surrounding neighborhoods – such as environmental education programs for reducing energy consumption, using cleaner energy sources and modernizing equipment.

The first step will be to fund the task of identifying what can be done to achieve these objectives. The next step will be to select a consultant who will review port operations and recommend short and long term alternatives. Energy and water conservation, alternative fuel vehicles and renewable sources of energy (solar and wind installations) will be examined along with new technologies and innovations in logistics processes (traffic management controls, congestion mitigation) and green buildings/facilities.



**First Row left to right:** DRPA CEO John Matheussen, PRPA Executive Director Jamie McDermott, SJPC Chairman Dick Alaimo  
**Back row left to right:** DRPA Vice Chairman Jeff Nash, PRPA Chairman John Estey, Camden Mayor Gwendolyn Faison, SJPC Director Joe Balzano.

## Don't Look a Gift Horse in the Mouth – Save Petty's Island

While the Governor is closing State Parks, the offer is still on the table for a free one!

by David Pringle (NJ Environmental Federation) and Jeff Tittel, Chapter Director

At a Statehouse press conference on April 21, the Save Petty's Island Coalition marked the 4th anniversary of New Jersey's rejection of a free state park by releasing a letter to Governor Corzine urging him to reconsider the rejection in light of recent developments. Petty's Island is a former industrial site in the Delaware River, between Philadelphia and North Camden.

We should have celebrated the fourth anniversary of Petty's Island as a park and nature preserve, instead of asking Governor Corzine when he would step forward to save the Island from development. It has been more than two years since the Governor asked DEP Commissioner Lisa Jackson for a report on the future of Petty's Island. We're still waiting. As we celebrate Earth Day,

2008, we call on the Governor to help save Petty's Island.

Now more than ever is the time to just say yes. We're running out of money for open space, we do not have the money to operate our parks, there's an housing slump, and the developer who lobbied to build on Petty's Island has thankfully left the scene. Citgo, the industrial owner, is still not only offering the land to New Jersey for free after it's cleaned up, but also a \$2 million stewardship fund to help pay for the cost of maintaining the new park.

Petty's Island has the potential to be the Liberty State Park of South Jersey. In one of the most densely populated parts of the state, it would be wonderful for the people of the Camden/Pennsauken area to have a park and nature preserve nearby.

## CORZINE

(continued from page 1)

**environmentally-sensitive areas.** The affordable housing obligations assigned to towns under these rules are based on current development patterns, rather than on a reasonable assumption of future growth, and include extremely high numbers for towns with environmentally-sensitive features, such as wetlands, floodplains, and even parks. The Sierra Club has expressed concern that these rules will be used as an excuse to force development in places like the Highlands and Pinelands.

• **Governor Corzine has proposed widening all three major toll roads in New Jersey without regard to the impact on the environment or on promoting sprawl.** The Governor has said that money is needed to widen the Garden State Parkway, the New Jersey

Turnpike, and the Atlantic City Expressway, but environmental groups argue that this will not ease the state's traffic problems. The extra lanes will only lead to more development and even more cars on the road. Instead we should be investing in mass transit and trip reduction programs.

• **Promises, promises.** The Governor has promised many new rules and programs that have yet to be realized, including new Threatened and Endangered Species Rules, signing the Category I and Water Quality Management Planning Rules that were proposed last year, saving Petty's Island, and others.

Actions speak louder than words. If the Governor wants to be seen as green, he needs to start following through on his promises and supporting important environmental protections.

## POPULATION ISSUES COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

# Population Issues in the Philippines

Guest Report by Sandeep Bathala

Since 2003, the Sierra Club's Global Population and Environment Program has conducted study tours to explore the relationship between sustainable development and the environment. The tours provide Club activists an opportunity to witness the challenges and opportunities associated with community-based programs, which connect population, health and the environment. This March, I joined a tour of the Philippines.

The nine of us also included volunteer activists from the National Audubon Society and the Izaak Walton League of America. We visited urban, rural and coastal development projects funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) as well as local organizations, studying ways in which voluntary family planning programs can improve the health and well-being of both communities and their environment.

We also joined more than 200 international representatives from government, civil society and the private sector in Tagaytay City for the Third National [Philippines] Conference on Population, Health, and Environment (PHE). Participants learned about PHE program implementation, advocacy and research. The Tagaytay Declaration, "to increase the impact of PHE projects", was signed by the participants despite an opening ceremony in which several governmental representatives vowed not to 'make the mistake' the United States did by allowing women access to voluntary, safe, legal abortions. These representatives, although outnumbered by participants supporting family planning programs and services, praised the local law in Manila City which outlaws condoms and contraceptives.

According to the Population Reference Bureau, one of the major conference sponsors, the interconnected problems related to population, health, and the environment are among the Philippines' greatest challenges to achieving national development goals. The Philippines' nat-

ural resources are compromised by population pressures and poverty. Public health, well-being and sustainable development are at risk. Cities are becoming more crowded and polluted, and the reliability of food and water supplies is becoming increasingly uncertain. The productivity of the country's agricultural lands and fisheries is declining as these areas become increasingly degraded and pushed beyond their production capacity. Plant and animal species are also disappearing as a result of the loss of forests and the destruction of coral reefs. A quarter of Philippine families live below the poverty threshold, reflecting broad social inequality and other social challenges. In a country where population is likely to double in the next 30 years, these trends are alarming.

### What You Can Do

To ensure that USAID continues to support projects that are integrating family planning programs with natural resource conservation and poverty alleviation, contact your legislators in Washington, DC. Urge an increase in funding for international family planning programs in FY 2009 to \$1 billion. Let them know that voluntary family planning programs ensure that women and their families in the Philippines, and around the world, can lead better lives, and that environmental degradation will also be reduced. The individual agricultural and healthcare workers in communities, supported by international aid programs, have made a difference and you can make a difference too. Please call or write today!

In forthcoming articles, we will journey to different communities in the Philippines and learn about the importance of proper waste disposal, and health programs for engaged couples.

*Sandeep Bathala is a Club member living in Jersey City, who is available to report on her study tour to regional Sierra Club Groups and other organizations. Contact her at bathala\_sandeep@botmail.com.*

## ISSUE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

# Information on Coal in 2007

From Sunil Somalwar (sunil.somalwar@gmail.com), our Global Warming Issues Coordinator

News from US Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration: In 2007, US coal usage increased by 2% (and exports jumped by 20%!)

This increase in coal-electricity was about 200 TIMES the increase in solar photovoltaic.

Presidential candidates Clinton and Obama have not signed on to Al Gore's call for a new coal moratorium. 60% of Americans want the "energy problem" addressed, but only 35% want to tackle Global Warming (this number has dropped, see the NY Times for 19 April 2008). The other 5% presumably includes those concerned mostly with their pocketbooks and those likely to favor more pollution from coal electricity and coal to liquid fuel conversion.

In light of this trajectory, we should think carefully about new loads on the electric grid, such as plug-in cars. A detailed article on General Motors' Volt plug-in indicates the Volt's efficiency to be even worse than feared. Let us hope

they stay above the Hummer's by the time the Volt hits the road! At the same time, the (gasoline) Prius is looking better and better.

### Comments on efficiency:

1) I live in a fairly progressive town, but I have seen home air conditioners running even when it is 60° F outside. The message is clear: there will be only small efficiency gains as long as the energy prices are as low as they are. Despite the recent rise in gasoline prices, fuel cost is only a third of the cost of owning and operating an average car. Utopia from federal regulation is not exactly in sight even if the next president is a Democrat and there is a veto-proof Democratic majority in the Senate.

2) Inverted mpg numbers tell the CO2 emissions story directly: a 12-mpg SUV uses 8.5gal/100miles, a 30-mpg Civic uses 3.3gal/100mile and a 45-mpg Prius uses 2.2gal/100miles. You can see that SUV to a Civic is a much bigger gain than Civic to Prius.

### 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 financial 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 call George Denzer at 609-799-5839.

**"Even at \$10/gal, gasoline will account for only half the cost of owning and operating a car." - Sunil Somalwar**

## Editorial

# The Future of Transportation in New Jersey

by Dick Colby (dick.colby@stockton.edu)

What should the New Jersey Chapter's response be to Gov. Corzine's desire to privatize ("monetize") our toll roads, plans to widen the NJ Turnpike, desires to extend Rte 55 into Cape May County, and to build the Rte 92 expressway across Central Jersey, etc? Of course we're against any expansion of the road system, but I'd like to urge we go further and oppose transportation generally!

I suggest that the obvious objective of transportation policy, in an era of impending threat of Global Warming due to greenhouse gas emissions, must be to reduce production of greenhouse gases to levels that can sustain both human civilization and a semblance of ecological balance for other living species. Slightly more specifically, the State is pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 20% by 2020, and 80% by 2050, while the population grows 15% by 2020, and 38% by 2050 (linear extrapolations using Census data, all percentages relative to the year 2000).

About a third of all greenhouse gases emitted in NJ are emitted from motor vehicles, whether directly from tailpipes or indirectly by electric power plants manufacturing the electricity used by electric vehicles (such as trains!). The point I'm driving to (note the pun), is that even with the **complete elimination of cars**, we won't be able to meet our 2020 and 2050 goals. But it would help!

I asked our energy guru, Sunil Somalwar, how much greenhouse gas would be eliminated by installing solar photovoltaic panels on every roof in New Jersey. The answer: only about 10%. Then I asked my colleagues on the Chapter's Executive Committee whether they would be willing to abandon their cars, and support a "zero-tolerance" transportation policy (with respect to cars). "Too radical," they said. So what follows is my lonely voice, speaking to you from the wilderness.

I suggest (as do many experts) that we are on a collision course with sea-level rise that could submerge much of New Jersey within centuries. Some of us are like the frogs in the pot of tepid water that is put on the stove to boil. Others of us are blindly confident that "scientific progress" will solve the problem with new technologies.

To me, the obvious strategy for reducing vehicle emissions must be to reduce the need for vehicles. More specifically, we must reduce the need for commuting: to work, shops, and play (recreation, culture, family gatherings, etc.) and health care.

Unfortunately, the suburban life-style pattern that evolved after the Second World War, a time of historic greatest affluence (and optimism!), is no longer tenable if the human species is to survive, and we must **"rearrange ourselves" to live without cars**. The good news is that there are excellent models in New Jersey that survive from the pre-War era: Hoboken, Chatham and kindred railroad suburbs, Atlantic City and kindred resort communities, Paterson and kindred industrial centers, . . . are examples of dense com-

munities in which many people did, and still do, walk (or bike) to work (or to a train station), to school, to local shops and playgrounds, and to community events that provide cultural fulfillment.

How can we most painlessly coax New Jerseyans back into walkable communities? The motivational toolkit contains two weapons: carrots and sticks. But there are many targets: walkable communities require the harmonious placement of residences, schools, workplaces, shops and service suppliers, parks, community buildings, etc. As for strategies, there are also two: (a) motivate people to move from suburbs to denser communities; (b) increase the density of existing suburbs by infill and by replacement of single-family dwellings with multi-family dwellings (as is happening in Ocean City), schools, commercial buildings, etc. Zoning ordinances will have to be modified or scrapped to allow mixed uses.

The generic title for societal problems of this type (viz. living beyond our environmental means) is "Tragedy of the Commons" (after a 1968 article by Garrett Hardin: try googling it!) and the generic solution can only be governmental regulation, messy as it sounds and is! I suggest, since so much of municipal economics is already **imposed by tax policy**, new legislation and regulation at the State level that **penalizes persuasively, on a sliding (proportionate) scale**, everyone living below a threshold neighborhood density, every school district that doesn't provide walkable schools, every store that needs a parking lot, every place of business that isn't walkable, and every hospital and industrial facility that is incompatible with public transportation access.

Our transportation policy must also address food, since the production, marketing and consumption of food impacts heavily on transportation (and indirectly because food policy invites a tangential attack on a second major source of greenhouse gas emissions). The objective must be to promote local production of food by environmentally responsible farming methods, and improved, environmentally responsible dietary and nutritional practices.

The aforementioned Prof. Somalwar has urged that my "zero tolerance" attitude (toward cars) be upgraded to 10% tolerance: perhaps limit households to ONE car, and impose an HOV rule that rewards multiple-occupancy driving, especially during commuting hours. My counter-argument is that his scheme is COMPLEX: difficult to impose, requiring constant decisions of which trips to sacrifice and which to tolerate. Just as he argues for the SIMPLICITY of his fossil fuel strategy of abandoning ALL COAL, I urge the SIMPLICITY of the transportation policy of weaning us from cars.

Yes, I realize that 10% of employment in New Jersey is car-related, even more is mall-related, and that the builders (and residents) of sprawl suburbs won't like my proposal either. But the species (and civilization) we save may be our own.



photo: James Mendelsohn

## Chair's Message

# Hope for the Future

By Ken Johanson (kjohan@comcast.net)



I admit it. I'm a New York Times junkie. I blame my parents for this affliction. I grew up with the Times. It has always been part of my life.

But something has changed. I generally read the Times in the evening, when I have more time to spend on the paper and more time to digest and reflect upon the articles, issues and opinions contained in that day's edition. But lately I seem to be falling behind. Increasingly I am reading the Times the following morning and, when the evening arrives, failing to take advantage of the opportunity to catch up.

I don't think the Times has changed. What has changed is the state of the world, or more likely, my perception of the state of the world. Today, when I finally got to yesterday's Times, I read that because of the increase in food prices farmers are converting huge areas of previously protected wildlife areas to agricultural use, a trend that is likely to continue. I was not up to reading today's edition. The day before I read about the devastating effects of Chertoff's border fence in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California — upon the environment, migratory species and the people who inhabit the area. And for what? I have been to this area of the country. I could not finish the article. It was too painful.

But despite all the bad news at the national level, I try to remind myself that all is not lost, that there is hope. By the time you read this column the magic number will be 7 - seven months before the disastrous Bush administration finally draws to a close.

But I also try to remind myself that despite the disasters that continue to occur at the national level, we, the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club and our friends in the environmental community, have been able to achieve a number of notable successes at the state level over the past few years. Here are a few examples:

- Passage of the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act, an act which, if properly implemented, will preserve environmentally sensitive lands and protect water resources in the northern part of the State.
- Passage of clean car legislation man-

dating that manufacturers comply with California clean car emission standards.

- Enactment of legislation requiring that school busses, public transit vehicles and other municipal vehicles reduce harmful diesel emissions by up to 95 percent.

- Passage of the Global Warming Response Act, requiring that greenhouse gas emissions be reduced by 20 percent by 2020 and 80 percent by 2050.

- Enactment of legislation requiring the recycling of computers, peripheral equipment and televisions.

- Imposition of a moratorium on the harvest of horseshoe crabs, the primary food source for the red knot and other threatened and endangered migratory birds.

The list of accomplishments is impressive. But let's be realistic. While the people of New Jersey appear to be more willing than folks in some areas of the country to accept measures intended to address environmental threats, we're not going to be able to effect meaningful change without others buying into the cause.

But we need to start somewhere. My hope is that New Jersey, California and other environmentally conscious states will serve as a proving ground for environmental proposals and that those that show promise will be adopted by a new environmentally sensitive Congress and administration.

And with the emergence of an environmentally conscious United States, opportunities to align with other countries, including those that in the past have been frustrated by anti-environmental policies of the current Administration, will provide an opportunity for positive change at a global level. This may or may not work, but I think it's our best shot.

So despite all the bad news, I need to remind myself that there is hope for the future. My goal is to get back into the habit of reading the Times on the day it's published, rather than waiting until the following day. And, while I'm at it, maybe it's time for me to throw all caution to the wind and take another shot at the Sunday crossword puzzle. My father was able to complete the Sunday puzzle on a regular basis. I've never come close. But this isn't the time to throw in the towel. I'm not about to give up. I hope that you won't either.

## Resolutions Adopted by ExCom in March, April and May

We authorized **legal action** to oppose the **Riverview Development in North Bergen** (Hudson Co), which would seriously threaten the Hudson Palisades. (Mar)

We resolved to oppose a development in **Edison's Dismal Swamp** (Middlesex Co): the 10-acre site contains pristine wetlands, an abundance and diversity of wildlife, and is the last of its kind in a highly developed urban area. (May)



Many thanks to Norma Saltz

**Is there an environmental issue that we're MISSING? If so, please call or write to Club officers.**

## COOL CITIES CORNER:

## New Jersey's Environmental Leaders: Meryl Frank, Mayor of Highland Park

Interviewed by Stefano Crema ([stefcrem@aol.com](mailto:stefcrem@aol.com))

Meryl Frank is a dynamic mayor. A svelte brunette with a warm smile and sparkling eyes, she has brought to her job a vast amount of knowledge in political science and health policy gathered from her academic work at Yale University and years of experience in private practice and public service.

Elected Mayor of Highland Park in 2000, Meryl has led this Middlesex county borough of 14,000 people with a consultative style that provides energetic leadership from the top while looking for buy-in from the bottom.

Today, Global Warming and the need to improve the sustainability of communities are accepted concepts, made familiar by the success of Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth" and the brutality of the images of destruction by Hurricane Katrina. It was not so when Mayor Frank started talking about it more than five years ago. Her initial offer to give a Green Community workshop at a meeting of the New Jersey League of Municipalities was rebuffed. Only the intervention of Executive Director Bill Dressel assured her of a spot on the agenda. Since then there have been two workshops each year with an increased number of participants, culminating last year in a vast increase. Joining forces with a group of environmentally aware mayors, among whom was Fred Profeta of Maplewood, Meryl created the Mayors Committee for a Green Future under the auspices of the New Jersey League of Municipalities. One of the Committee's main goals is to develop a series of toolkits with clear and simple instructions on how to develop green initiatives. These packages are going to be available to all municipalities in New Jersey. The Committee is also going to establish criteria that have to be met before declaring a municipality "green."

Mayor Frank's vision of a sustainable community is not limited to the environmental side. Early in her mayoral career, while preparing for a meeting with State officials to discuss how to improve the viability of Highland Park, Meryl came up with the Highland Park 2020 concept. A well rounded community has to be not only environmentally sustainable but also economically and socially sustainable. Older, built out communities like Highland Park can successfully green themselves only by adding economic revitalization and quality of life initiatives to energy conservation efforts.

The implementation of this interactive concept resulted in many actions: the purchase of hybrid cars for the municipal fleet, the installation of solar panels on the roof of Highland Park's municipal building, the creation of a green product purchasing cooperative leading to the elimination of pesticides from public areas and of rock salt for ice removal, and the redevelopment of the Meadows, a blighted part of town that was turned into community gardens. There members of the town's numerous ethnic groups can socialize while working side by side growing traditional food staples. Last year the borough started the Green Challenge: schoolchildren were enlisted to bring the message of Global Warming

to community groups such as senior citizens, while distributing some 3,000 recyclable green shopping bags donated by the local Stop & Shop, together with 3,000 compact fluorescent lightbulbs donated by Phillips.

Mayor Frank is acutely aware of the demands put on her and other mayors by a host of issues that require constant attention. Progress on green issues is often hampered more by the lack of communication and implementation know-how than by the unwillingness of mayors to take action. The key to success lies in initially presenting mayors with understandable and common sense initiatives that are easy to implement and can reduce the operating costs of a municipality. These can be used as confidence builders leading to more ambitious and capital-intensive actions. So environmental activists should first push for small changes that can be institutionalized, little things that can be accepted easily by the community, like the commitment to change one light bulb, or anti-idling ordinances. Jumping directly to green buildings might be harder and result in friction between activists and municipal authorities unwilling to invest immediately the needed time and capital.

As a committed supporter of initiatives like the Cool Cities program, and an experienced operator in local politics, Meryl proposed the concept of a "Green Community Task Force" to develop environmental initiatives in municipalities. The Task Force would be created by the mayor at the request of his/her constituents, and be independent of the Environmental Commission. It would be staffed by volunteers who would study options to improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The life of the Task Force would be limited, and a report of the results would be presented, detailing the most cost-effective opportunities. This should be a win-win situation for the mayor who is not obliged to accept the suggestions but can show his/her willingness to get involved in a popular issue. S/he and the members of the Task Force can then go into the community to obtain further support for selected initiatives.

Mayor Frank believes that the Global Warming problem will be solved through the development of new technologies that we cannot imagine now. However, some legislation will be necessary to get the ball rolling, as was done for the introduction of automotive catalyts. She maintains that to meet the long-term legislative goals of 80% emission reduction, we should start with small steps, like walking to work. It is all a question of educating people to make simple changes that are not only good for the environment but also good for our lifestyle, such as walking and reduction of obesity.



## Conservation Eco-Tip

# Earth-Friendly Bathroom Remodeling

By our Chapter Conservation Chair Laura Lynch, with thanks to Sustainable Lawrence for permission to republish. Contact Laura at [njsierraclub@gmail.com](mailto:njsierraclub@gmail.com).

The bathrooms in my house are falling apart, and while we are firm believers in fixing what we have rather than buying new, there comes a point when replacement is the only option. Fortunately, earth-friendly choices abound when it comes to picking out tiles, countertops, and even toilets.

Since most of a household's water use is in the bathroom, water-saving fixtures can significantly reduce water bills.

Let's start with the commode. Older toilets - like one of ours from the 1950s - use approximately five gallons per flush. Newer models have reduced that to about 1.6 gallons. But the most water-miserly are the dual-flush models, which can use as little as one half gallon at a time. That's ten times less than our vintage model and roughly three times less than conventional ones.

Faucets, too, can be modified. By adding an aerator, which is cheap and easy, the water flow can be reduced from 2.5 to 1.5 gallons per minute. Combined with other conservation measures such as turning the water off when brushing teeth, there's a lot of water that can be saved here.

Low-flow shower heads are readily available as well, as are adjustable flow designs to suit multiple needs.

When choosing a new countertop for the sink, there are several green options to be had. Some, such as Paper-Stone, are made from recycled paper and water-based resins. Others re-use paper and cement. IceStone manufactures a 100% recycled surface from used glass

and concrete. Urbanslabs uses beer, wine, and liquor bottles in their countertops. These surfaces come in many colors, easily rivaling conventional countertops.

One can easily get lost in the maze of colors offered by recycled glass tile manufacturers. Terra Green and LivinGreen use 100% recycled contents. Oceanside Glass Tile uses 85% post-consumer glass, and GreenSage 55%. LivinGreen's tiles are made in part from crushed airplane windshields, automotive glass, and light bulbs. One wonders if insects can be found trapped, as in amber.

Finding an environmentally-friendly bathroom cabinet is a little more difficult. One manufacturer uses pine planks from buildings set to be demolished, while most others seek sustainably-harvested wood or alternate materials such as bamboo and eucalyptus.

Non-toxic paints are available, too. Princeton's Studio Green Design Center carries Mystic Paint, for example.

The cost of using recycled products during remodeling will probably be higher than if conventional fixtures are used, and one must balance the cost with the budget. But the benefits of keeping materials out of landfills, of using sustainable woods, and in saving water will be felt by everyone.

One more thing: Try to re-use as many materials as possible, and give away or Freecycle as many unwanted fixtures as you can.

For references and links, including color palettes for tiles and countertops, go to <http://sustainablelawrence.org>.

## ISSUE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

# "Choices" in New Jersey's Clean Power Program

From Sunil Somalwar ([sunil.somalwar@gmail.com](mailto:sunil.somalwar@gmail.com)), our Global Warming Issues Coordinator

I'm frequently asked about the choices in the NJ clean power program. The Board of Public Utilities (BPU: [www.bpu.state.nj.us](http://www.bpu.state.nj.us)) used to have a comparison sheet, but now you have to visit provider websites. Here is the consolidated information and my conclusions.

**How it works:** You voluntarily pay extra in your electricity bill and the money works its way to the clean electricity generator for your share of the clean electricity. Even if your electricity company does not participate in this program, there is an option for you to enroll (see conclusions below.)

The \$ numbers below are for a "typical" NJ consumption of 700kwh/mo or about \$91/mo or \$1100 per year electric bill. I expect most Sierra Club members to pay less, so your extra charges for clean electricity should be lower. Just look at your bills for the last year.

(If you don't want to look at all the details that are about to follow, just look at my conclusions at the end.)

1) **Community Energy (& Jersey Atlantic Wind)**, owned by a Spanish power giant:

Option a) 15% of your electricity from Jersey Wind. Cost: 5.5¢/kwhr or \$6/mo or \$69/yr.

Option b) ALL your electricity from Jersey Wind. Cost: \$5.50 in 100kwhr blocks or \$39/mo or \$460/yr.

Option c) All your electricity from ½

wind and ½ small hydro (note: wind not from NJ, likely from PA).

Cost: 1.3¢/kwhr or \$9/mo or \$109/yr.

2) **Green Mountain:**

½ wind ½ small hydro.

Cost: 2¢/kwhr, more than the identical 1¢ option above.

3) **Sterling Planet:**

15% of your electricity comes from ¾ wind and ¼ small-hydro. (Wind does not seem to mean Jersey Wind).

Cost: 4.7¢/kwhr or \$5/mo or \$59/yr which is more than 1c above.

**MY Conclusions, comments (and one more option):**

1) Community Energy options seem competitive.

2) If you strongly want to promote wind in NJ or you object to (small) hydro, go with options 1a or 1b depending on how much you want to spend. Otherwise go with 1c

3) It would be nice to have a pure (non-NJ) wind option since Jersey Wind is expensive and I am unsure of even small hydro. Also, your electricity provider may not participate in the Clean Choice program. In that case, Community Energy offers a nationwide pure-wind option at 2.5cents/kwhr in which the monthly charges appear on your credit card instead of your electric bill.

**Disclaimer:** These personal conclusions are based on the information from vendor websites. You should make your choice and no endorsement is implied.

### Which energy-saving practices have you adopted? Here's a checklist:

CFL bulbs; Rechargeable batteries; Water heater set to 120 deg F or less; Compost; Take mass transit; Recycle metal, glass, plastic, newspaper, white paper; Low-flow showerhead; Eat local; Check home insulation; Double-glazed windows; dual-flush toilet; Solar thermal; Solar PV; Geothermal heating/cooling; Wind turbine.

## REPORT FROM TRENTON:

## Environmental Groups File Suit over Bush Power Line Scheme

By our Chapter Staff, Jeff Tittel and Becca Glenn

On January 14th the Sierra Club and ten other environmental organizations filed suit against the US Department of Energy (DoE) over its final designation of a mid-Atlantic National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor. The groups are challenging the designation on the grounds that the DoE violated the National Environmental Policy Act and Endangered Species Act by failing to study the potential harmful impacts of the corridor on air quality, wildlife, habitat, and other natural resources.

The suit seeks both to protect New Jersey from the effects of dirty coal power from the Midwest, and to stop these power lines from cutting scars through the Highlands and Pinelands. Other parties to the lawsuit include the National Wildlife Federation, Piedmont Environmental Council, National Parks Conservation Association, Environmental Advocates of New York, Clean Air Council, Pennsylvania Land Trust Association, Civil War Preservation Trust, Catskill Mountainkeeper, Brandywine Conservancy, and Natural Lands Trust.

In April, 2007, the DoE announced that, under the auspices of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, it would be designating a National Priority Corridor for electrical transmission lines that included all twenty-one counties in New Jersey. This designation allows the Federal Electric Regulatory Commission (FERC) to give power and transmission companies the right to run high-tension power lines through any part of New Jersey, by the power of eminent domain. The huge, new power lines would cut a swath of destruction through the Highlands and Pinelands, destroying thousands of acres of open space, including forests, farm fields, and wetlands.

Two new power lines have been proposed, one coming east through Pennsylvania and one coming north from West Virginia through Maryland,

bringing dirty coal power from the Midwest and South to New Jersey and on to New England. Coal power produces twice as much carbon dioxide per kilowatt as natural gas and is a major cause of global warming. In addition, mountaintop coal mining has destroyed more than a million and a half acres of forested mountains in Appalachia, causing water pollution and eliminating legions of trees that mitigate global warming.

In addition, the anticipated power lines have spawned proposals to build new coal-fired power plants here in the Garden State. This dirty coal power will undermine New Jersey's efforts to promote clean and renewable energy, as well as spewing toxic chemicals such as nitrous oxide, sulfur dioxide, and mercury into our air and water. The effects of these chemicals will reach every citizen of the state, not just those living near the plant. Mercury, for example, is found in fish, even in the middle of pristine lakes in the Highlands, having originated from dirty coal plants in the midwest.

Sierra Club national Executive Director Carl Pope decried the transmission corridor and section 1221 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, which allows for it. "This provision usurps the right of state and local governments to deny access to certain lands and areas based on local interests and values. In addition, it runs roughshod over laws meant to protect environmentally and historically sensitive areas from development. Above all, backers of this provision believe that energy companies should be allowed to construct power lines and pipelines anywhere they see fit in order to increase their own profits, regardless of what's in the public interest."

We need to stop these power lines from coming into New Jersey if we want to have clean, dependable, renewable energy. We want DoE and FERC to stay the "FERC" out of New Jersey.

## Update on Cool Cities in Gloucester County

By Gina Carola, Chair of our West Jersey Group

The Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders have committed to creating a county-wide comprehensive energy master plan. All county administrative buildings, the county college, and special regional schools run by the county will be included in the plan. Over 50 structures will be audited in order to identify opportunities to reduce the carbon footprint of county buildings and facilities. From there, the county will take steps to reduce energy bills, save taxpayers dollars and protect the environment - according to Freeholder Frank J. DiMarco.

Mayor Moriarty of **Washington Township** joined over 800 progressive mayors across the nation when he signed the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement at the Earth Fair on April 19. At the urging of Rick Eckert and other members of the Environmental Commission, the mayor has taken this important step to help Washington Township reduce the town's carbon footprint and impact on the planet. At the Earth Fair, the mayor was presented with the Sierra Club's Cool Cities certificate. The mayor then remarked "We always knew we were cool, but now we have proof".

Elsewhere in Gloucester County, efforts have been made by residents of **West Deptford Township** to get Mayor Docimo to join the effort. Phone calls are not returned and letters are ignored.

If you live in West Deptford Township, please call Mayor Anna Docimo at 856-845-4004 ext. 130 and ask her why she is not willing to take this important step that other mayors and the County Freeholders have taken. Tell her that you will remember this the next time her name is on the ballot.

If you live in **Deptford Township**, call Mayor Paul Medany or Township Manager Denise Rose at 856-686-2220 and ask why Deptford Township is not a Cool City yet. Tell them that you want the mayor to sign the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and to take measures to help the Township reduce energy bills and greenhouse gases.

### Cool Cities in Camden County:

If you live in **Evesham Township** (Camden Co.), please call Mayor Randy Brown at 856-983-2900 and ask him to get on board and make Evesham Township a Cool City by signing the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. Tell him that efforts have been made to work through the Evesham Environmental Commission but that the members have turned a deaf ear to climate protection. Tell him that the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders already signed the County on and Cherry Hill and Maple Shade are on board. Ask him why Evesham Township isn't progressive enough to join in this important effort.

## Letter to the Editor: Green (?) Nuclear Power

By Sidney J. Goodman

The horror of atomic weapons can be unleashed by so-called green nuclear power. Every nuclear plant can be used to make nuclear weapons. India made an atomic bomb from the so-called peaceful atom and France did likewise. Nothing will stop other nations from doing the same.

Decades ago, the Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Atomic Energy Commission admitted that nuclear poisons can be a million to a billion times worse than other chemicals. Given the actual toxicity of nuclear waste, it must be isolated for hundreds of thousands of years and even hundreds of millions of years with a reliability of 99.999% perfection. In the first thirty years of the nuclear age, up to 3% of nuclear wastes leaked. By that time, the nuclear industry was thousands of times worse than what they had to be to make good on their boasts of how clean it is. To truly solve the unsolved waste problem, they must retrieve all the leaks and re-isolate them. They can't do that, so they tell us that they have already been so perfect that just about no one has been harmed by nuclear power.

These green nuke guys and gals have put dangerous facilities near or right on top of earthquake faults. The corrupt Marcos regime in the Philippines was bribed to put a nuclear plant near an American naval ammunition dump, near a volcano and of course an earthquake fault. A green nuclear plant hasn't been put on the top of Mount Vesuvius yet because they couldn't find the right person to bribe.

The Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster in the former Soviet Union harmed people, around the globe. Accidents as bad as Chernobyl can happen here with different scenarios. The industry silenced this fact. The documentary movie "Chernobyl Heart" showed ghastly deformities in children stating that decades after the disaster, only 20% of the children born in Belarus are healthy. Scattered poisons will be deadly for hundreds of thousands of years. Poisons from Chernobyl doused Europe and reached the United States.

The accident contributed to the downfall of the Soviet Union. The industry and the US government have insisted that no one was harmed from our own Three Mile Island partial meltdown. This ignored thousands of claims to the contrary.

Although the poisons from the Three Mile Island nuke traveled hundreds of miles, and poisons from Chernobyl traveled thousands of miles, our green nuclear buddies are satisfied that a mere ten mile evacuation zone is adequate, even though that small zone cannot be evacuated properly in many instances. They have discovered a new law of physics. When you have a nuclear disaster, the wind stops blowing.

The industry refuses to take full responsibility for the consequences of their actions. A federal law called the Price Anderson Act limits the liability of a nuclear utility to a microscopic fraction of what can realistically be a trillion dollar disaster. Not a single utility is willing to build a nuclear plant or continue running one without this protection. This law abolishes private property rights to protect the butts of all nuclear club members.

Before Commissioner Peter Bradford resigned from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission he said what independent observers knew all along. He said, "The history of nuclear power is a history of silenced concerns, rigged studies, and suppressed scientists". It was an understatement the extent of which is documented and plainly described in my book (see below).

The road to hell has often been paved with good intentions. Nuclear power has come to us with good and bad intentions. Albert Einstein once said that splitting of the atom has changed everything except human nature. And thus we drift towards unparalleled catastrophe.

*Sidney Goodman is a retired engineer, former Club Energy Issues Coordinator, and author of the 2002 book: "Asleep at the Geiger counter: nuclear destruction of the planet and how to stop it." Contact him at gizmogink@mindspring.com.*

## Hike The Tourne

(Tourne County Park, Boonton, Morris County)

By Arline Zatz, Editor of the Senior / Fifty-Plus Section of this Newsletter

*A moderate day-bike, year-round, of 1.7 miles, with 327 ft. of elevation gain. Suitable for children. Driving and other information from Morris County Parks Commission, 973-326-7600; Web site: <http://parks.morris.nj.us/parks/tourne-main.htm>.*

This rugged park offers hiking trails traversing hills strewn with huge granite boulders, and is one of the Garden State's gems. It is also the only remaining undeveloped fragment of the Great Boonton Tract originally purchased by David Ogden. Ogden served as Colonial Attorney-General of New Jersey in 1759. McCaffrey Lane, the main road leading into the park, was built in 1767 by Samuel Ogden for the transport of iron ore from the nearby Hibernia mines to his iron works in Old Boonton, where cannon balls for the Continental Army were manufactured during the American Revolution. Much of this land was inherited by Clarence Addington DeCamp in the late 1850s. Using hand tools and levers, DeCamp built two roads leading to the top of the Tourne. Considered one of Morris County's first conservationists, DeCamp encouraged local residents to accompany him on hikes in the woods and fields. In 1958, the Morris County Park Commission wisely acquired the initial 219 acres from Logan Steele and Dr. Lewis Hull, and in

1960 opened the park to the public.

The first parking area, as you enter the park, is for the one-mile Wildflower Trail. In spring there's a dazzling array of wildflowers, including purple violets, Robin's plantain, Dutchman's breeches, bluebells, and Jacob's ladder. The right fork merges into the Brookside Trail; here you'll see and hear gurgling water and, in the low boggy areas, see skunk cabbage poking up as early as February. If you smell something spicy, it's trailing arbutus. According to legend, when the Pilgrims found this flower in the woods after a freezing winter, they were filled with hope and joy.

Use the second parking lot for the red-blazed DeCamp Trail, which leads to the top of the Tourne. The route includes fields of huge boulders, spectacular leaf-color in September and October, many varieties of bird-sounds, welcome benches for rest, views and quietude, and grassy glades, one with a canopy of Chestnut trees. The name Tourne is derived from a Dutch word for "lookout" or "mountain."

Many more details of the route, and of 85 other hikes, are in my book, "Best Hikes With Children in New Jersey" (The Mountaineers Books).

Note: Tourne Park also offers cross-country skiing, sledding, picnic sites, equestrian trails, and ball fields.



# Group News

FROM  
AROUND  
THE  
STATE

## HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR GROUP (BY COUNTY)

**Northwest Jersey Group:** Hunterdon, 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  
**Ocean County Group:** Ocean  
**Raritan Valley Group:** Somerset & Middlesex  
**Jersey Shore Group:** Monmouth  
**West Jersey Group:** Gloucester, Camden & Burlington  
**South Jersey Group:** Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland & Salem

*These designations are approximate: members are welcome to participate in whichever Group(s) they find convenient*

### Northwest Jersey Group

(Sussex, Warren and Hunterdon Counties)

#### OFFICERS:

**Chair, Political Chair:** Christine Feoranzo cfeoranzo@gmail.com  
**Vice-Chair:** Susan Rotter 973-347-8849 rotterls@mindspring.com  
**Conservation Chair:** *Open Position!*  
**Secretary:** *Open Position!*  
**Treasurer:** Charles Kopp 973-770-7718 ccgkp@verizon.net  
**Publicity:** Toni Zimmer tzimmer@twgpower.com  
**Membership Chair:** Pat Mangino 862-432-7552 pmangino@aol.com  
**Outings & Events Chair:** Sandy Raviv and Herb Wolff sraviv@optonline.net  
**Delegate to Chapt. ExCom:** *Open Position!*  
**Cool Cities Delegate:** *Open Position!*

WEBSITE: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/northwest/>

Our Group has reorganized and welcomes two new members to our Executive Committee: Sandy Raviv and Herb Wolff will co-chair outings and events. Sandy and Herb are planning to lead some very interesting outings this Spring, listed below.

For 2008 our Group will be focusing on the following goals:

- (1) Building a more active and vibrant Group.
- (2) Scheduling more guest speakers and hosting more frequent outings that are related to the issues and interests that concern our members and the general public.
- (3) Our Group will work to change the view our municipal governments have of us, so that we can help motivate the preservation of our region's wilderness.

These goals can not be achieved without the help and commitment of our members. We need to fill our open positions to build a new team. We need members to keep us informed of environmental concerns in their communities. So please come out and meet with us during the next few months. If you can't attend our meetings then try to attend your town's planning/zoning board or land use board meetings.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Held on the FIRST WEDNESDAY of every month, at 7pm, at the Grist Mill Café, located in the Andover Post Office Shopping Plaza on Rte 206 (Rte 517 intersection) in Andover. Phone: 973-786-6400.

#### MEETING ACTIVITIES:

General discussion regarding growth in our area. If you are aware of any large development proposals in your town that may have a negative environmental impact **PLEASE** come to a meeting and tell us about it. We rely on our members to keep us informed and strongly encourage members to attend their town Land Use or Planning/Zoning meetings. When we do not have a guest speaker scheduled we will be viewing various environmental programs/movies, including: *March of the Penguins, Planet Earth, The Blue Planet, Grizzly Man, NJN's The Race for Open Space, CNN's Planet in Peril.*

Please visit our website for details and updates on what we have planned each month: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/northwest/>

### North Jersey Group

(Bergen and Passaic Counties, approximately)

#### OFFICERS:

**Group Co-Chairs:** Betsy Kohn 201-461-4534 BetsyKohn@aol.com  
 and Mike Herson 201-262-9472 mikeherson@hotmail.com  
**Conservation Co-Chairs:** Tom Thompson 201-848-1080 etrans743@aol.com  
 and Mike Herson 201-262-9472 mikeherson@hotmail.com  
**Air Quality:** Laura Tracey Coll lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com  
**Outings Chair:** Ellen Blumenkrantz eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com  
**Passaic Issues:** Tricia Aspinwall taspinwall@hotmail.com  
**Political Chair:** Greg Tondi gregt75@yahoo.com  
**Political Alternate:** Phoebe Gistrak p-mg@att.net  
**Program Chair:** *Open Position!*  
**Treasurer:** Tom Thompson 201-848-1080 etrans743@aol.com  
**US Public Lands:** John Kashwick 201-660-8820 johnkashwick@optonline.net  
**Wildlife:** Mary Ellen Shaw 201-489-1588

WEBSITE: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/North>

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Held at least four times a year. Please contact Betsy or Mike (see above) for date and location.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Begin at 7:30 pm; dates and locations below. For more information, please call Betsy (see above) or sign up for e-mail notices at <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-NORTH-JERSEY-NEWS.html>. No general meetings in July and August.

**Sept 25 at Flat Rock Brook Nature Center,** 443 Van Nostrand Avenue, Englewood, NJ: Program TBA.

**CONSERVATION ISSUES:** Below are issue updates. For more information, please contact Mike, Tom or Betsy (above).

(1) We oppose a plan by NJ Transit to destroy parkland in Overpeck County Park for a 600-space park-and-ride lot for the Northern Branch Rail Line. Parkland should be preserved! Instead of more parking lots, we need an integrated public transit system linking rail, light rail, bus, and ferry to encourage commuters to leave their cars at home.

(2) We're trying to save an expanse of woodlands at the foot of Stag Hill Road in Mahwah, not far from the Ramapo River and three municipal wells. This site is now slated to become a 760-space parking lot. Over 200 trees will be cleared, river and groundwater further contaminated and habitat lost. We need to find a wood turtle — a threatened species known to be in the area — on this site (or photo as proof). To help, please call Mary Ellen (see above).

(3) The Ramapo River watershed, straddling the NY/NJ border, is a sole source aquifer that supplies water to two million New Jerseyans. Downstream in NJ, it is protected under the Highlands Act. Upstream in NY, it is threatened by plans for massive development, totaling 2,000 housing units, on the forested slopes of Ramapo and Tuxedo.

(4) We're waiting for DEP's decision on Pinnacle. After Oakland approved the project (209 units on 84 acres in the Highlands Preservation Area) last year, it was found that the plan for Oakland to supply the water and Wayne to treat the wastewater would remove 67,000 gallons daily (over 24 million gallons yearly) from the Ramapo River watershed. Last fall, we urged DEP not to allow this "depletive water use." In March, the Highlands Council weighed in against Pinnacle.

(5) We oppose Montclair State University's plan to make the steep, narrow and winding Quinn Road into a two-way road to let cars exit the campus to Valley Road in Clifton. This would mean excavation of the mountainside, clearing of trees and loss of habitat. MSU estimates over half of campus traffic would use the road, adding 8,000 cars daily to cause more traffic jams and air pollution in this area.

(6) Still monitoring: Clifton's Latteri Park, Elmwood Park's air quality, the Hackensack's vegetative riparian corridors, and Van Buskirk Island where the Eastern Towhee, Baltimore Oriole and Black-crowned Night Heron and other migratory birds have been observed.

**BE A SIERRA CLUB VOLUNTEER!** Help with grassroots organizing, lead hikes or work on an environmental issue of your choice. To find out more, contact a group officer (see above).

**RECYCLE PRINTER CARTRIDGES.** Leave your used printer cartridges in the window box by the exit door at Whole Foods Market, 905 River Road, Edgewater (8am to 10pm every day). No remanufactured cartridges, please. Thanks for recycling and supporting the North Jersey Group!

### Hudson-Meadowlands Group

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

#### OFFICERS:

**Chair:** Louise Taylor 201-886-9320 ltaylor2@nj.rr.com  
**Vice-Chair:** Helen Manogue 201-963-3511  
**Secretary:** Connie Ftera 201-869-7950 cftera@earthlink.net  
**Treasurer:** Brane Zivkovic 201-758-0398 brane@nyu.edu  
**Conservation Chair:** *Open position!*  
**Political Chair:** Brane Zivkovic 201-758-0398 brane@nyu.edu  
**Publicity:** *Open position!*  
**Parks Chair:** Rosemary Arena 201-861-6222 drrosemary@verizon.net  
**Cool Cities Chair:** Helen Manogue 201-963-3511  
**Singles Chair:** Marlene Rost 201-766-8982 MARRO@optonline.net  
**Outings Chair:** Scotte Perry 201-320-1758 scotteperry@optonline.net  
**Palisades Landmark Status Committee:**  
**Chair:** Rosemary Arena 201-861-6222 drrosemary@verizon.net  
**Vice Chair:** David Kronick 201-869-6218 jktejas@aol.com  
**Group ExCom Members:** Gil Hawkins 201-944-5799 gilc3d2@aol.com  
 Donald Kopczynski 201-224-2641 Littlechops03@netzero.com  
 Melissa McCarthy 201-324-3964 mcmel@verizon.net  
 Mike Selender 201-484-7277 mike\_selender@mindspring.com

**Meetings:** The Hudson-Meadowlands Group holds 4 General Meetings per year. Please contact Louise Taylor for information about the next meeting.

We are working hard to save open space on the Hudson River shore, and to protect the New Jersey Palisades south of the George Washington Bridge from further destruction. **We need your help. Please contact Louise Taylor to volunteer.**

### Essex County Group

web-site: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/Essex/>. Or click from the NJ Chapter's web-site.

**ACTIVITIES:** Presently working with land conservation groups to preserve 120 acres

**2008 is an election year for all 13 NJ Congresspersons, one Senator (Lautenberg), US President, and many local officials. Our Political Committee can help you to provide support for endorsed candidates.**

atop the Second Watchung Mountain (known as the West Essex Highlands) in West Orange as open space. Also working to preserve a five-acre forested tract in West Orange and an ancient forest on Gov. McClellan's former estate. Contact Sally Malanga at 973-736-7397 or sally@eccobella.com or Linda Stiles at 973-736-2224 or birdlady07052@msn.com if you want to get involved.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** are free and open to the public. They take place on TUESDAYS, from 7 to 9pm, at the Essex County Environmental Center, 621 Eagle Rock Ave, in Roseland. Contact Walt Goldenbaum (goldenb1@optonline.net or 973-925-8662) for general information.

**Loantaka Group**

(Morris and Union Counties, approximately)

There is a new website address for the Loantaka group:  
<http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/>

**OFFICERS:**

<b>Group Co-Chairs:</b>	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	hauskerr@aol.com
and	Paul Sanderson	908-233-2414	paulmsanderson@aol.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Joyce White		joyce00201@yahoo.com
<b>Secretary:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Conservation Chairs:</b>			
<b>Morris County:</b>	Chris Mills	973-377-1742	chrismills@yahoo.com
<b>Union County:</b>	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	hauskerr@aol.com
<b>Cool Cities Chair:</b>	Stefano Crema	973-627-4354	stefcre@aol.com
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Meiling Chin		chinmeiling@yahoo.com
<b>Programs Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Education Coord:</b>	Jeff Huppert	973-263-0344	jeffhup@optonline.net
<b>Fundraising Chair:</b>	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	hauskerr@aol.com
<b>Outreach, Events:</b>	Bob Johnson		Sierraclub@comcast.net
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Wynn Johanson	908-464-0442	johansons@comcast.net
<b>Membership:</b>	Doug Williams	973-263-8404	dougjwilliams@verizon.net
<b>Air Quality Coord:</b>	Bob Campbell	973-761-4461	wrob_c_sc@earthlink.net
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Bob Johnson		Sierraclub@comcast.net
<b>Greenbrook:</b>	Bob Muska	908-665-2296	rmuska@erols.com

If you might be interested in getting involved, come to one of our Executive Committee Meetings on the FIRST TUESDAY of the month and get to know us. There are no obligations and there will be no pressure.

To find out our activities, go to: <http://loantaka.njsierra.org>  
 To join our e-mailing list, send a blank e-mail to: <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/nj-loantaka-news.html>

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Meetings are held on the FIRST TUESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St., Chatham.

All members are welcome at Executive Committee meetings. Right now, we have open positions on it! If you would like to find out more, please contact Paul Sanderson.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** are held on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at the Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St., Chatham.

Come learn something new and make some new friends. We'd welcome the chance to meet you and to introduce ourselves. Please see the schedule, below, and join us!

**DIRECTIONS:** Directions are posted on our Website: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/>.

**MEETING SCHEDULE:**

July, August - no meetings are scheduled

**Sept 10: The Secrets of Dolphins** - Tom Brown, author of 'The Dolphins', does a presentation on the wonders of dolphins, their nature, their society and the perils they face. Little known science facts will be revealed and the issues involving their captivity will be discussed in this powerpoint presentation.

**ACTIVITIES:** (Consult our website (<http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/>) for more information.)

The Loantaka Group is working with concerned citizens and local environmental organizations to protect open space and wildlife habitat in Morris and Union Counties, and to safeguard the water resources on which we all depend. We are also organizing volunteers to help maintain and improve trails in the Morris and Union County Park Systems. In addition, the Group is actively involved in State-wide initiatives involving air quality, transportation, and environmental legislation. Volunteers are always welcome. Call Paul (908-233-2414) or Chris (973-377-1742).

**Central Jersey Group**

(Mercer County, and the adjoining towns in Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Somerset Counties)

<http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/central> Please check the site for activity details, meeting locations (we move around the Mercer Co. area); directions, last minute announcements, and conservation news.

**OFFICERS:**

<b>Chair:</b>	Terry Stimpfel	609-731-7016	terystimb@hotmail.com
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Leona Fluck	609-259-3734	Leona@pineypaddlers.com
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Terry Stimpfel	609-731-7016	terystimb@hotmail.com
<b>ExCom At-large:</b>	Malcolm McFarland	609-448-8699	jmalcolmmcfarland@verizon.net
	Harold Rapp	609-671-0435	HalRapp@aol.com
	Ruth Ann Mitchell		ram400500@yahoo.com

**Open positions:** Conservation Chair, Publicity Chair, Secretary, Treasurer. Volunteer for a month or an event!! Have knowledge or special interest in a particular species, water, land use or other topic? Let's talk.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** All Sierra Club members are invited to attend and learn what's happening in Central. Please contact Terry (above) for details.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Our general meetings are free and open to all - members and public alike. Come join us, make new friends, enjoy refreshments and share conservation ideas!

**No meetings in July and August.**

**Sept 10 (Wed): Special Meeting** — Includes pre-meeting social with optional dinner at Princeton MarketFair Mall, Rte 1: 6:45 pm: Pre meeting social. Purchase your own dinner and join us after the summer to chat, catch up on conservation issues, and learn about the Central Group. MarketFair Food Court.

7:30 pm: "Wild Utah: America's Redrock Wilderness" Jackie Feinberg, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, brings a multi media show on one of this nation's most magnificent wild landscapes, a land of spectacular beauty dominated by towering buttes, red sandstone plateaus and deep, winding canyons. Meeting will be held in the Eastern Mountain Sports store.

**CENTRAL OUTINGS:** For full descriptions see our website and/or the Chapter Outings List: pp.10-12 of this Newsletter. ALWAYS check with Central Group Outings Chair: Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com.

- Jul 4 (Fri)** Canoe/Kayak Delaware River (Mercer/Hunterdon Co.)
- Jul 14 (Mon)** Canoe/Kayak Crosswicks Creek/H-T-B Marsh (Mercer Co.)
- Jul 27 (Sun)** Canoe/Kayak Delaware River (Mercer/Hunterdon Co.)
- Aug 10 (Sun)** Canoe/Kayak Crosswicks Creek/H-T-B Marsh (Mercer Co.)
- Aug 23 (Sat)** Canoe/Kayak Delaware River (Burlington Co.)
- Aug 29 (Fri)** Canoe/Kayak Delaware River (Mercer Co.)
- Sept 11 (Thurs)** Canoe/Kayak Crosswicks Creek/Hamilton Trenton Marsh (Mercer Co.)

**SOME LOCAL ISSUES and ACTIONS:** the Central Group is addressing include: Princeton Nurseries (Mercer and Monmouth Co.), Klockner Woods (Hamilton Twp), Princeton Ridge, NJ Turnpike Exits 6-8 Expansion, Rte 33 By-pass and C&A Rail Trail (Hamilton, Robbinsville Twps).

**CONCERNED? WANT TO TAKE ACTION? HAVE A FEW HOURS? WILLING TO HELP?** Please e-mail Terry. To receive up-to-the-minute Central Group meeting reminders and notices of local events, please e-mail Terry.

**Raritan Valley Group**

(Middlesex and Somerset Counties, approximately)

**WEBSITE:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/RaritanValley/>

**OFFICERS AND CONTACTS:**

<b>Chair:</b>	Sandi Lowich		abstract46@aol.com
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Jane Tousman	908-561-5504	jdtous@aol.com
<b>Membership:</b>	Sunil Somalwar		sunil.somalwar@gmail.com
<b>Outings:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Randy Gill	732-525-2612	ragill@optonline.net

(Continued on page 8)



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## GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 7)

**Secretary:** Michael Ricketts 732-371-9961 ictonyx@gmail.com  
**Treasurer, Webmaster:** Don McBride 732-560-0369 dtmcbride@yahoo.com  
**Publicity:** Sandi Lowich abstract46@aol.com  
**Programs:** *Open Position!*  
**Chapter Delegate:** Sunil Somalwar sunil.somalwar@gmail.com  
**At-large ExCom:** Dan Aronson

**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 in these areas. We are also focusing on addressing global warming at the local level.

**Calling All Volunteers:** The Raritan Valley Group welcomes you to our activities. Currently, the positions of Vice-Chair, Outings Chair and Secretary are open. If you are interested in filling an open position, contact Sandi Lowich, the Group Chair.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Held at 7:30 pm on the SECOND MONDAY 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:

Unavailable at press time. Please contact officers above, or website.

**COOL CITIES TRAINING SESSION:** Will be held at the Franklin Township Public Library, 485 DeMott Lane, Somerset, on Oct 6 from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm. Email ictonyx@gmail.com for additional information.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Held at 7pm on the SECOND MONDAY of October, January, April and July (before the General Meetings and at the same location). All Sierra Club members are invited to attend.

## Jersey Shore Group

(Monmouth County, approximately)

Web Site: <http://NewJersey.SierraClub.org/JerseyShore/>

### OFFICERS:

**Group Chair:** Dennis Anderson 732-970-4327 dennisaza@aol.com  
 6 Maple Ave, Matawan NJ 07747  
**Vice-Chair:** *Open Position!*  
**Secretary:** Joe DeLuca 732-389-1835 joe-deluca@att.net  
**Conservation Chair:** Faith Teitelbaum 732-229-0553 faithtei@aol.com  
**Webmaster:** George Newsome newsome1@pobox.com  
**Treasurer:** Pat Fuschetto 732-308-4588 fusche40@yahoo.com  
**Political Chair:** Laura Bagwell 732-741-8678 l.bagwell3@verizon.net  
**Outings Chair:** Mike Verange 908-902-0718 mjverange@aol.com  
**Membership Co-Chairs:** Alan Roseman 732-780-1308 aroseman@monmouth.com  
 And April Klimley 917-626-4838 AprilJeanK@aol.com  
**Program Chair:** *Open Position!*  
**Fund-raising Chair:** Marinel Mukherjee 732-780-8678 baykoof944@bms.com

### GENERAL MEETINGS:

Held at 8pm on the FOURTH MONDAY of each month - except in July, August and December - at a NEW location: the Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse at 1475 West Front Street in Lincroft (please check the congregation's website for directions, at <http://www.uucmc.org/where-we-are.htm>). Come early to socialize and enjoy refreshments. For additional directions or information, please contact Dennis Anderson or Faith Teitelbaum (see list of officers, above), or visit our web site.

**July Picnic** at Swamp Park in Freehold, Sunday, 12 Noon: July 27. E-mail Joellen at jfutey@comcast.net to say what you will bring.

**Sept 22: Mystery Speaker.** Come see who we have in store for you.

## Ocean County Group

Website: [www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean](http://www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean)

### OFFICERS:

**Chair:** A. Gregory Auriemma, Esq. 732-451-9220 sierraclubOC@aol.com  
**Vice-Chr, Outings:** Dawn Marie Johns 732-644-6340 sierraclubOC@hotmail.com  
**Conserv'n Chair:** Margit Meissner-Jackson 609-296-4367 sylviaJ1910@yahoo.com  
**Secretary-Treas:** Richard Washik 732-616-2775 r\_washik@hotmail.com  
**Political Chair:** Nancy Brown 732-892-6089  
**Publicity Chair:** Howard Schwartz 609-242-9304 hrschwartz@comcast.net  
**Fund-Raising:** Joyce M. Isaza 732-920-9270 realtymstr@aol.com  
**Co-Membership Chair:** Sandy Brown 609-242-9304 sandylbrown@comcast.net  
**ExCom Member:** Jocelyn Isaza 732-581-0130 nightingale77nj@yahoo.com  
**ExCom Member:** Helen Henderson 908-278-9807 hhlaceyrailtrail@msn.com

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Generally held on the SECOND MONDAY of each month at the home of one of our ExCom members.

**GENERAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS:** Meetings are held bi-monthly (i.e., in alternate months) usually on the FOURTH MONDAY at 7pm at the "Skywalk Cafe" in the Ocean County Administration Building, 129 Hooper Avenue (2nd Floor), Toms River. See our Website for directions. We've recently purchased a new computer projector and large screen, which has made our meetings even more dynamic, interactive and interesting. We will not have a July meeting, but our next meeting will be in September.

**ACTIVITIES & ISSUES:** We're hard at work: Preventing drilling in the Arctic National

Wildlife Refuge, defending the Endangered Species Act, fighting drilling off the Jersey Coast, repealing New Jersey's "Fast Track" (pro-development short-cut law) and supporting expanded recycling legislation.

We've also targeted critical local open space, sprawl, and air and water quality issues with special emphasis on the massive "over-development" of Jackson Township which will impact the drinking water for Brick, Pt Pleasant, Pt Pleasant Beach and Ram-Town (Howell). We're also involved in the campaigns to create a new park at "Anchor Reef" on Barnegat Bay and to stop "nitrogen pollution" of the Bay. We're also fighting to defend both the Toms River and Cedar Creek against more development and protect Ocean County's newest park in Lacey against "Big Box" money's demand for new roads. Volunteers are needed to help with these all issues, membership outreach, tabling at local events, fund-raising, and a computer-based voter education program.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** about our activities and events, please visit our WEBSITE: [www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean](http://www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean). Special thanks go to our Web-Master, Rick Washik!

**July 19 (Sat):** Get your tickets now for our 3rd Annual BBQ Fund Raiser at Windward Beach in Brick. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 per child age 6-10 and children 5 and under are free. We will have great food, a live "DJ", swimming, volleyball and giveaways. Come out, have some fun and support the environment. To purchase tickets please contact Fund Raising Chair Joyce Isaza at 732-604-4583. If you cannot make it, donations are gladly accepted and greatly appreciated.

**Aug 16 (Sat):** We will be paddling to Sedge Island departing from Island Beach State Park. Please contact Outings Chair Dawn Marie Johns at 732-644-6340 for more details.

**Sept 1 (Mon):** Please join us for Father Alphonse's Concert Event in Point Pleasant. For more details please contact Group Chair Gregory Auriemma at 732-451-9220.

## West Jersey Group

(Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

Web site: <http://mysite.verizon.net/vzev1ujt/>

### OFFICERS:

**Group Chair:** Gina Carola 856-848-8831 ginaceee@verizon.net  
**Vice-Chair:** Frank Zinni efzin4@aol.com  
**Secretary:** Ellen Zinni efzin4@aol.com  
**Treasurer:** Trish Clements 856-768-5639 patri321@comcast.net  
**Publicity Chair:** Bud Kaliss 856-428-8071 budkaliss@earthlink.net  
**Political Chair:** *Open position!*  
**Pinelands Rep:** Lee Snyder pinelands1@hotmail.com  
**Greenways Coord's:** Frank and Ellen Zinni efzin4@aol.com  
**Conservation Chair:** Stacey Ayala thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com  
**Membership Chair:** Mike Brown 856-547-9221 eyebrown@snip.net  
**Fundraising Chair:** Reiss Tiffany 856-829-6405 r-ctiffany@comcast.net  
**Smart Growth Chair:** *Open position!*  
**Programs Chair:** *Open position!*  
**Outings Chair:** *Open position!*

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** are held at 7:30 pm on the SECOND TUESDAY of each month, at the Unitarian Church, 401 N. Kings Highway (Rte 41), Cherry Hill (located between Rte 70 and the convergence of Rtes 38 and 73, just north of a traffic light at Chapel Avenue). Handicap accessible parking and entrance in rear of building.

**July and August** - The West Group does not meet in July or August. Please check out our website to find a hike or paddle trip. We'll see you there. <http://mysite.verizon.net/vzev1ujt/>

**Sept 9:** Chris Rossi, of Go R.I.S.E. Up, Inc will talk about his company's "Closed Loop" programs to curb reliance on plastic and paper bags for shopping. He will be bringing a selection of his products for purchase, many of which are made from recycled materials.

## South Jersey Group

(Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland and Salem Counties, approximately)

### OFFICERS:

**Group, Outings Chair:** Tom Boghosian 609-625-0878 boghosian1@verizon.net  
**Vice-Chair:** *Open Position!*  
**Conservation Chair:** *Open Position!*  
**Pol. Chair, Calendars:** Dick Colby 609-965-4453 dick.colby@stockton.edu  
**Membership Chair:** Gary Roman 609-625-3438  
**Secretary/Treasurer:** Julie Akers 856-697-3479 julie\_akers@hughes.net

We have a new Cape May County Conservation Committee, with about 40 folk holding bi-monthly meetings at the Arc of Cape May administrative building: 822 Rte 47 in South Dennis. Our meetings are 7-9pm, each with a guest speaker. The balance of our schedule for 2008 is Tues, July 15; Wed, Sept 17; and Wed, Nov 12.

The July 15 meeting will include a speaker on wind energy in South Jersey.

Our past speakers have talked on the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, wind power, and bee colony collapse disorder. Jeff Tittel, the Club's Trenton lobbyist, was one of our speakers. Our issues include opposition to the extension of Rte 55, protecting bird habitat, and concern over Cape May's dwindling drinking water supply.

For the second straight year we manned a booth at the county Earth Day celebration, this year on April 19.

The Chair of the Cape May Committee is Douglas Jewell, 5 Timber Lane, Swainton 08210-1462 (e-mail [jewellrea@comcast.net](mailto:jewellrea@comcast.net), cell phone 609-780-7129). There is a steering committee which offers seats to any NJ Sierra member interested, and currently has eight folks who meet separately about 10 days prior to each public meeting. We're set up to have up to 15 members, so we hope more of the 228 Club members in Cape May County will come on board. Our internal e-mail distribution list has 104 members.

Look for our meeting notices in the CMC Herald.



The central conservation issue, for which the South Jersey Group was founded in the 1970s, continues to be 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 the Watershed Association (GEHWA) that "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; most have been cancelled for lack of interest. For the present, we'll continue to be listed in this Newsletter, and offer a point of contact for Club members in South Jersey who want help with local issues. We strongly recommend GEHWA's website for keeping up with local issues, and for links to many other local, regional, state and national environmental organizations: [www.gehwa.org](http://www.gehwa.org). If you have topics (and places) for meetings, please let the officers know about them. We welcome general comments from Club members in South Jersey. To be placed on a carefully guarded distribution list for local issues and meetings, please e-mail [dick.colby@stockton.edu](mailto:dick.colby@stockton.edu).

**Current Issues:** Two Cape May County campaigns to prevent the use of tropical rainforest wood for rebuilding oceanfront boardwalks, in Ocean City and Wildwood, are being led by Georgina Shanley [[shanley2001@yahoo.com](mailto:shanley2001@yahoo.com)]. Club officers and staff have been following closely the several studies seeking to determine sustainable water supply levels for southeastern New Jersey, with the hope that findings will be used by planners (such as those employed by the Pinelands Commission) who authorize development. Other hot issues include proposals to develop several large tracts of environmentally sensitive land in Millville, damage done to sand trails by ATVs, and inducements for public recycling.

#### Possibly Relevant Meetings:

**July 9 (Wed) 6:30 pm:** Bi-monthly meeting of Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries. Meeting place: Gant Room, Millville Public Library, 210 Buck Street. Cumberland County development issues are commonly discussed, including art, historical and recreational attributes of the area. Contact Renee Brecht (CU) at 856-305-3238 or [rbrecht.cumaurice@yahoo.com](mailto:rbrecht.cumaurice@yahoo.com)

**July 12 (Sat):** Millville Summer Festival. See the calendar in [www.cumauricriver.org](http://www.cumauricriver.org).

**July 22 (Tues) 5:30 pm:** Bi-monthly meeting of the Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association (GEHWA). An opportunity to catch up on conservation planning for the Great Egg Harbor Wild and Scenic River, at a public (membership) session of the Watershed Association (an organization that once got its start as our Group Executive Committee!). Special Activity: Join us for our annual picnic and campfire! For more information or to confirm, call Julie Akers, 856-697-6114. Atlantic County Park at Weymouth Furnace in Hamilton Township: 1/4 mile north on Rte 559 from its intersection with Rte 322.

**Aug 20 (Wed) 7pm:** Great Egg Harbor Scenic and Recreational River Council: Bi-monthly meeting, open to the public. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114. Warren Fox Nature Center (WFNC\*): Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor: Milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50, 3 1/2 miles south of Mays Landing.

**Aug 21 (Thurs) 7pm:** Atlantic County Friends of the Parks: Bi-monthly meeting of Friends of the Parks, a group which works to improve and promote the Atlantic County Parks System. A focal point is preservation of historic resources in the parks, along with advocacy for environmental attributes of parklands in fast-growing Atlantic County. All are welcome. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114. WFNC\*.

**Aug 22-23 (Fri-Sat; tentative):** Purple Martin Festival, Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River: (See the calendar in [www.cumauricriver.org](http://www.cumauricriver.org))

**Aug 23 (Sat) 10am - 5pm:** Third Annual Pinelands Folk Arts Festival, sponsored by Atlantic County Friends of the Parks: The festival features crafts, demonstrations and a variety of entertainers, including various folk and bluegrass bands, dance groups, and other cultural and environmental exhibitions. Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor: Milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50, 3 1/2 miles south of Mays Landing. For more information, please contact Rich Hansen at (609) 625-6291 or Julie Akers at (856) 697-6114.

**Sept 10 (Wed) 6:30 pm:** Bi-monthly meeting of Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries.: See July 9th, above.

**Sept 23 (Tues) 6pm:** Great Egg Harbor River Watershed Association: Membership meeting, open to the public. Special Activity: Join us for an evening on Lake Lenape. Please bring your own canoe or kayak to take a leisurely trip exploring the lake; or bring a pair of binoculars for birdwatching in the Park. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114. Atlantic County Park at Lake Lenape, Old Harding Hwy, Mays Landing (park office phone number is 609-625-8219).

## 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 singles-oriented activities to NJ Sierra Club members and those who would like to know more about us. We are not a local group; we are a statewide additional "layer" of Club involvement. Everyone is welcome to attend our events. Come out and meet fellow Club members and others who care about the environment. We can only offer as many activities as we have volunteers to run them - if you have the slightest urge to get involved, please give in to it!

**Webpage address:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/Singles/>  
**email:** [lvf77@msn.com](mailto:lvf77@msn.com) (mention "Sierra Club" in your subject line)

The BEST way to be notified of upcoming events is to join our free listserv. Anyone may subscribe by going to: <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-SINGLES-NEWS.html> and clicking on "Join or leave the list". You may subscribe and unsubscribe at will; directions on how to unsubscribe are at the bottom of each announcement. We recommend joining the listserv as some events are advertised only by email. If you prefer not to receive email, you may view an archive of all prior messages at <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-SINGLES-NEWS.html>.

#### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair:</b>	Bob Johnson	<a href="mailto:Sierraclub@comcast.net">Sierraclub@comcast.net</a>
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Joyce Haddad	<a href="mailto:jkhaddad@juno.com">jkhaddad@juno.com</a>
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Joe Testa	<a href="mailto:jtesta@syncsort.com">jtesta@syncsort.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Joyce White	<a href="mailto:joycewhite@netzero.net">joycewhite@netzero.net</a>

<b>Webpage designer:</b>	Tom Miller	<a href="mailto:millertom@juno.com">millertom@juno.com</a>
<b>Social Chair:</b>	Joe Prebish	<a href="mailto:jmp0731@verizon.net">jmp0731@verizon.net</a>
<b>Vice Social Chair:</b>	Jeff Sovelove	<a href="mailto:jeffreys@childapp.com">jeffreys@childapp.com</a>
<b>Programs:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>	Contact us! We need you!
<b>Publicity:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>	Contact us! We need you!
<b>Cool Cities Coordinator:</b>	Terry Stimpfel	<a href="mailto:terystimb@hotmail.com">terystimb@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Membership:</b>	Walter Goldenbaum	<a href="mailto:goldenb1@optonline.net">goldenb1@optonline.net</a>

**Volunteer Opportunities:** We need volunteers in all areas of the state to run events. Volunteers needed for the positions of: hike leaders, members of all committees, including social event planners. 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:** Casual pizza gathering, introduction to club issues and activities, and letter-writing. SECOND MONDAY of each month (except July/Aug) starting at 7pm with optional pizza, at the Chatham Library (214 Main St). Guest speakers at each meeting at 7:30 pm. \$5 donation at door and RSVP (required for pizza only) to [joycewhite\(at\)netzero.net](mailto:joycewhite(at)netzero.net) or 973-364-7573, ext. 3, by noon the day before. (Please leave name and specify plain or veggie-topping pizza.) Free (and no RSVP required) if you're not having pizza.

**No meetings in July or August**  
**Sept 8** - speaker to be announced.

**Directions to the Chatham Library:** From I-287 take Rte 24 East to Exit 8 (Summit Ave). Turn left at the top of the ramp and then left again so you go back onto Rte 24 headed West. Take exit 7A for Chatham and bear right onto Rte 124 (Main St). Follow Main St. through 2 lights. The Library is to your right about 1/2 block past the 2nd light. From Parkway take I-78 West to Rte 24 West. Take exit 7A for Chatham and follow above directions.

**ExCom 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 Famished Frog. RSVP required; join our listserv for further details.

**SOCIAL DINNER:** THIRD TUESDAY of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner in a Montclair restaurant. Location will be announced 2 weeks before the social. RSVP is required to [jkhaddad@juno.com](mailto:jkhaddad@juno.com) or 973-364-7573 option # 4.

#### NJ SIERRA CLUB SINGLES ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC

Sat, Aug 16, Noon-5pm, Sunrise Lake, Lewis Morris Park, Morristown, NJ. We will provide basic barbeque food & set up to complement your additional potluck contribution. Walking paths, duck pond, biking, sports, games and lovely hiking paths. Rain or Shine. Plenty of picnic tables but feel free to bring your lawn chair or blanket.

Cost: \$10 members, \$13 non-members - advance payment by check payable to Sierra Club. Mail to: Bill Foerster, 4 Sunderland Road, Denville, NJ 07834 no later than Friday, Aug 9th. Bring food or beverage contribution to share. Indicate: appetizer, salad, entrée, grillables, dessert, or beverage. Alcohol permitted (BYOB).

RSVP by Aug 9 to Bill Foerster at [xtrutec@optonline.net](mailto:xtrutec@optonline.net) (preferred) or 973-627-6201 with name, member status, and choice of contribution.. Late replies & drop-ins will incur a \$5 late fee. We expect 100 people or more, and need volunteers to make this event a spectacular success! Please volunteer for our picnic committee by contacting Bill Foerster: [xtrutec@optonline.net](mailto:xtrutec@optonline.net).

For directions, go to [www.morrisparks.net](http://www.morrisparks.net).

**July 12 (Sat):** Relax on the beach at the Shepherd Lake in Ringwood State Park. The more adventurous of us will go for an easy hike (3 miles, 300 ft. altitude gain/loss, 2 hours at slow pace); hiking boots recommended. The rest of us may swim, play volleyball (if someone brings the ball and net), boat, kayak, canoe, talk, read, sun-bask, etc. by the lake until lunch, between noon and 1pm, in the cafeteria. Bring your own food or buy some in the cafeteria. After lunch, we may go for a short (but hilly) 5-6 mile loop ride. Or you can swim, play volleyball, boat, etc. Bring hiking garb, swim-suit, towel, bike, volley-ball and net, sun-screen, bug juice and — most important — cheerful attitude.

We'll meet at 9:30 on the lake-side of the Park Office; look for a guy in a green Sierra t-shirt. Don't be late — the area is in high demand and fills up quickly and when the parking lot fills up they close the gate. Children and pets (on leash) as well as your non-Sierra-member friends welcome. There is an entrance fee of \$10 per car for people under 62.

Car pool possible; there is a public parking area near-by to leave cars (let me know if interested and I'll try to help you make arrangements). Rain day: July 13 (Sun).

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Because of the "beach" nature of the event it will go on only with VERY GOOD WEATHER (warm and sunny; not just "no rain"), so please check the weather forecast and — if in doubt — check with the leader by phone (201-444-2096) the morning (7-8:30) of the event. To register and for directions contact the leader, George Ekel, by e-mail: [GeorgeEkel@aol.com](mailto:GeorgeEkel@aol.com) or by phone (201-444-2096) by Wed, July 9.

Consider volunteering with the Cool Cities Campaign. The message and method of empowering groups to manage carbon dioxide emissions are relevant for public and private school systems, nonprofit community operations, etc. in New Jersey. Volunteers with diverse skills and contacts are important for environmental success. Sign on now. Want to promote the Cool Cities goals but have limited free time? Contact Terry Stimpfel at [terystimb@hotmail.com](mailto:terystimb@hotmail.com) with your ideas and to learn about short duration assignments.

#### HIKES:

Please join our listserv to receive notification of our outings See above for instructions on how to subscribe to the listserv.

(continued on page 10)

**Become active in one of your Group's conservation campaigns! Attend a Group meeting! Meetings offer interesting speakers and topics, nice fellow-members, and usually food!**

## GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 9)

### Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section

(A chapter-wide special interest section which offers a monthly calendar of activities and events, including hikes, clean ups, social gatherings, and other functions which might be of interest to those members over fifty)

The mission of this section is to support Sierra Club goals, and to promote activism through letter writing, phone calls, and other active support for environmental issues.

We work through a "List Serve," by which members learn about current environmental issues, and how they can be supported.

Arline Zatz, who has been active in the Sierra Club, as well as running her own group called "Fun Travels," has taken over as editor of the Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section. She can be reached at [azatz@funtravels.com](mailto:azatz@funtravels.com) and invites members to check her web site at [www.funtravels.com](http://www.funtravels.com) for more trips and travel information.

### Young Sierrans

(A special interest section for Sierra Club Members in their 20's & 30's, providing Socials and Outings to inspire a sense of community, appreciation for the environment, and involvement in preserving our future. Many events are open to all Young Sierrans regardless of marital status, so whether you are single, dating or married, please come join us!)

Young Sierran web site: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/YoungSierrans/>

#### YOUNG SIERRAN COMMITTEE POSITIONS

<b>Head Chair &amp; Coordinator:</b>	Diana Christine Eichholz	<a href="mailto:MistyAngel22@aol.com">MistyAngel22@aol.com</a>
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	William Sevchuk	<a href="mailto:wsevchuk@yahoo.com">wsevchuk@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Steve Timmerman	<a href="mailto:skiingsteve@aol.com">skiingsteve@aol.com</a>
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Julie Garber	<a href="mailto:journey7@optonline.net">journey7@optonline.net</a>
<b>Ex-Com/YS National Rep. (CA)</b>	Jackie Enfield	<a href="mailto:jackie@jackieenfield.com">jackie@jackieenfield.com</a>
<b>Northern Jersey YS Rep. Outings Chair</b>	Jim DeSantis	<a href="mailto:green@northjerseygreendrinks.com">green@northjerseygreendrinks.com</a>
<b>(Northern Jersey):</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>	Please Contact Us!
<b>Outings Chair</b>		
<b>(Central Jersey):</b>	Leon Yerenburg	<a href="mailto:lyerenburg@gmail.com">lyerenburg@gmail.com</a>
<b>Outings Chair</b>		
<b>(South Jersey):</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>	Please Contact Us!

We need Young Sierran Outing Leaders for all areas, but extra especially for the Central and South Jersey areas. We will help you step-by-step through the training process to properly lead hikes and outdoor activities. Reimbursement, insurance and guidance are provided under the Sierra Club's membership. If interested contact Young Sierran Coordinator Diana at [MistyAngel22@aol.com](mailto:MistyAngel22@aol.com) or call 732-764-9073.

**EVENTS:** Volunteers for events throughout New Jersey wanted. Meet great people in your area! Publicity provided. Contact Coordinator at [YoungSierrans@yahoo.com](mailto:YoungSierrans@yahoo.com) to RSVP or for more information on any of the events listed below.

**July 13, (Sun.) 12 Noon - 8 PM:** 20/30s Young Sierrans Picnic at Colonial Park in Somerset County.

**August:** 20/30s Hikes and Volleyball, etc. TBA

**September:** 20/30s Canoe Trip in Somerset County. TBA

All Events will be announced via The Young Sierrans' E-Mail List Serve. To be put on it, send an e-mail to [YoungSierrans@yahoo.com](mailto:YoungSierrans@yahoo.com) with subject heading "Young Sierrans E-Mail List" — or to subscribe directly go to <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-YOUNG-SIERRANS-NEWS.html>. Events for 20's only are available for those wanting to volunteer to host 20's only events. Young Sierran Event Volunteers always needed and welcomed.

### Sierra Student Coalition

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

National Website: <http://www.ssc.org/>

### Inner City Outings Section

(another Chapter-wide special interest activity)

#### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair:</b>	Marty Cohen	201-670-8383	<a href="mailto:martincohen@verizon.net">martincohen@verizon.net</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Anne Dyjak	732-560-0953	<a href="mailto:annedyjak@verizon.net">annedyjak@verizon.net</a>

Inner City Outings is a community outreach program, providing wilderness adventures for city youth of New Jersey. Volunteer certified outings leaders conduct outings (generally day-trips) mostly on weekends. If you would like to experience the rewards of introducing inner-city youth to the wonders of nature, your involvement is encouraged and you are requested to contact us at [ico-north@newjersey.sierraclub.org](mailto:ico-north@newjersey.sierraclub.org) or the above e-mail addresses. To learn more, visit our webpage at <http://www.sierraclub.org/ico/newjersey/>.

#### ICO Awarded Nathan Grant

NJ ICO is pleased to announce that it is, once again, a recipient of a Nathan grant from National ICO. It will go a long way towards defraying the expenses of our youth outings over the summer.

#### ICO Coordinator Now Onboard

National ICO has announced that they have hired Myla Marks to the post of ICO organizer, to help local ICO groups. We look forward to her expertise — in tackling our most difficult problem: recruiting and retaining ICO leaders and other volunteers.



# Outings

Learn more about your environment... take a Sierra Club educational hike!

### GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

**Central Jersey:** Leona Fluck 609-259-3734 (H) [leona@pineypaddlers.com](mailto:leona@pineypaddlers.com)  
**Essex County:** David Ogens 973-226-0748 (H) 64 Elm Rd, Caldwell 07003  
**Hudson-Meadowlands:** Vacant  
**Hunterdon:** Susan Schirmer 908-996-7722 (H)  
**Jersey Shore:** Mike Verange 908-732-8364 (H) 1497 W Front St, Lincroft, NJ 07738  
**Loantaka:** Joyce White 908-272-4478 (H) [joyce00201@yahoo.com](mailto:joyce00201@yahoo.com)  
**North Jersey:** Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417 [EllenBlu@specialistsms.com](mailto:EllenBlu@specialistsms.com)  
**Northwest Jersey:** Pat Mangino, [Pmangino@aol.com](mailto:Pmangino@aol.com)  
**Raritan Valley:** Vacant  
**South Jersey:** Tom Boghosian 609-625-0878 (H) 4794 Andorea Drive, Mays Landing, 08330 [boghosian1@verizon.net](mailto:boghosian1@verizon.net)  
**West Jersey:** Vacant  
**River Touring:** Fred Tocce 908-453-2205 (H) Rd 1 Box 277, Washington, NJ 07882  
**Inner City Outings:** Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953 (H) NJ-ICO, 17 Mt. Horeb Rd, Warren, 07059  
**Chapter Outings:** Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417 [EllenBlu@specialistsms.com](mailto:EllenBlu@specialistsms.com)

**Outing Leaders:** Please send Oct.-Dec. 2008 write-ups to your Group Outings Coordinator before July 30. If you are planning to lead an outing close to the beginning of one of our quarterly publication periods, please submit it for the previous Sierran, due to the occasional lag in mailing. Also, please send outing rosters or sign-up sheets to the Chapter Office as soon as possible after each outing.

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

**Group Outings Coordinators:** Please submit your Oct.-Dec. 2008, trip write-ups by August 4th.

**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 participants must sign liability waivers on ALL outings sponsored by Sierra Club. This is a new policy.** Please check with the leader before bringing small children on an outing. 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 responsible for the safety, welfare and enjoyment of all participants. Leaders

determine qualifications to participate, adequacy of equipment, routes 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 safe and pleasant outing.

Please arrive early at the meeting place so that the outing can start on time. For day hikes, lunch, water (at least a liter), extra clothing, rain gear, and emergency equipment should be carried in a small daypack. For all except easy hikes, sturdy over-the-ankle shoes or boots should be worn. For most trips, you are expected to have your own equipment. In some cases, it may be rented from outdoor/camping suppliers -check the yellow pages or call the trip leader. If the weather is questionable on the date of the outing, you may assume that it will take place, unless the schedule indicates otherwise.

Unless registration is required, such as for weekend trips or river tours, or if you have a question about the outing, it is not necessary to contact the leader before the trip. Do not call to join a trip after the posted deadline date. When phoning a leader, please honor his or her requested calling times and call 3 to 5 days before the outing. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) when writing to a leader. On popular trips, Sierra Club members will be given preference.

Watercraft trips let you experience the unspoiled parts of our region, but water safety does impose special requirements. The size and skill of each party must be appropriate to each river, so participation in each trip must be at the discretion of the leader. We ask you to register at least one week in advance. Unless a phone number is provided, please send a SASE with an honest assessment of your paddling experience, whether you need or can offer a ride, your phone number, and any questions you may have. You will receive a description of the trip, with directions, where you can rent a canoe, and what you will need to bring. Almost all trip leaders can arrange for partners to share a canoe if you will be coming by yourself. Unless stated otherwise: rental canoes are available, trips do not require advanced paddling skill or exceptional physical conditioning, public transportation is not available, non-members may participate, and responsible smokers are welcome.

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

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| (C) Central Jersey        | (JS) - Jersey Shore                     |
| (L) - Loantaka            | (N) - North Jersey                      |
| (NW) - Northwest Jersey   | (S) - South Jersey                      |
| (W) - West Jersey         | (NJ) - NJ Chapter                       |
| (H) - Hudson              | (RV) - Raritan Valley                   |
| (IC) - Inner City Outings | (RT) - River Touring                    |
| (E) - Essex County        | (ACOC) - Atlantic Chapter Outings Comm. |

## JULY

**Jul 3 (Thur) Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek to Lanoka Harbor (Ocean Co):** 9am. Summertime and the paddlin' is fun on Cedar Creek. 7-mile paddle from Ore Pond to Dudley Park with an option to continue 2 miles to Lanoka Harbor. Meet at Double Trouble Park, Pinewald-Keswick and Double Trouble Rds. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. Leaders: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or [leona@pineypaddlers.com](mailto:leona@pineypaddlers.com). (W)

**Jul 3-6 (Thur-Sun) Camping in Lake George region, NY:** in Luzerne Campground, gateway to the Adirondacks. Intended for singles, open to all. This is a popular campground near Lake George. There is fishing, canoeing/kayaking, rowboating, (rentals available), swimming with hiking, biking, and mountain climbing nearby. Horseback riding is a special attraction. We will take one day to visit Lake George Village where there is a theme park, shopping, and great restaurants. I have reserved site #34 July 3-6. Camping fee is \$20 per night. Reserve your site by calling Reserve America at 1-800-456-2267 or reserve online at: [www.reserveamerica.com](http://www.reserveamerica.com). For directions and information: [www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/24480.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/24480.html), Leslie McGlynn at [faiite\\_629@verizon.net](mailto:faiite_629@verizon.net), or 862-219-3386.

**Jul 4 (Fri) Manasquan River Reservoir, Monmouth Co:** (Special Interest: birds) 9am. Enjoy an easy 5 mile circular hike on one of the largest reservoirs in the area. We may observe water fowl. Bring snacks, drinks, bird books or binoculars. Hiking shoes are not required. This is a great family hike. Meet at 9am at the main entrance to the reservoir on Windeller Rd. Take the GSP to exit 98. Head west on I-195 to exit 28 (Meer 9). Go north on Rte 9, make first right onto Windeller Rd. The main entrance is 1.5 miles on your left. Meet in the parking area at the far left toward the back. Bad weather, including high heat index cancels. Confirmation/questions please call or text Leader Mike Verange, 908-902-0718 or [njverange@aol.com](mailto:njverange@aol.com). (JS)

**Jul 4 (Fri) Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Mercer/Hunterdon Co):** 9am. It's our July 4th trip from Kingwood Access to Lambertville (15 miles). We'll stop for lunch at the famous Hot Dog Man's river "restaurant" for paddlers. Kayaks must be over 12 ft; spray skirts and helmets recommended. Rentals boats are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation and meeting location. Leaders: George & Leona F 609-259-3734 or [leona@pineypaddlers.com](mailto:leona@pineypaddlers.com). (C)

**Jul 12 (Sat) Canoeing/Kayaking Skills refresher at Lake Oswego (Burlington Co):** 9am. Event leaders will share information about equipment, safety practices, self-rescue, paddling techniques and efficiencies. New and beginning paddlers are welcome. Canoes and kayaks can be rented from Pine Barrens Canoe Rental, 609-726-1515; [www.pinebarrenscanoe.com](http://www.pinebarrenscanoe.com) Please contact leaders to confirm your participation. Leaders: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734 or [leona@pineypaddlers.com](mailto:leona@pineypaddlers.com). (W)

**Jul 12 (Sat) Relax on the beach at the Shepherd Lake in Ringwood State Park (Passaic Co):** 9:30 am. (Intended for singles; all welcome) See full description in Single Section News of this Newsletter.

**Jul 12 (Sat) - Swartswood Lake Loop Bike Ride, Sussex Co:** 10am. Intended for singles, open to all. About 12+ moderate miles. Road bike or hybrid bike is required. Helmets a must. The ride will pass through Villages of Stillwater and Middleville, Robbins General Store, Swartswood Lake and Swartswood Lake State Park. We may be able to catch a swim here, so bring your bathing suits. Let's meet at Footbridge Park in Blairstown off Rte 94 at 10am. Bring lunch and lots of water. Rain or inclement weather cancels. Call Leslie McGlynn at [faiite\\_629@verizon.net](mailto:faiite_629@verizon.net) or 862-219-3386 if in doubt. Directions: I-80 West to exit 12. Right on Rte 521, which will come out on Rte 94. Make left and just before traffic light make another left into Footbridge Park.

**Jul 12 (Sat) Social Hike at Tulip Springs (Essex Co):** 10am. Hike 6-7 miles at a moderate pace in the South Mountain Reservation and see some of the many highlights this 2000-acre tract has to offer including a 25-foot waterfall and a spectacular views of New York City and South Jersey. Children 12 years or older and friendly dogs are welcome. Bring water and light snack and wear hiking boots. After the hike there will be an optional lunch/hot chocolate at the local diner. Meet in the Tulip Springs parking lot just off Cherry Lane (between Northfield Avenue and South Orange Avenue in South Orange). A \$3 fee will be charged to non-members. All participants must sign a liability waiver. Rain Cancels. For further information call 973-364-7573 press 2. Leader: Ron Pate [ronpate31@verizon.net](mailto:ronpate31@verizon.net).

**Jul 12 (Sat) Social Late Afternoon Hike, Campfire & Campout, Burl. Co:** 5pm. Hike 6 miles at a moderate pace over gravel/sand roads in the late afternoon as we watch the sunset over the pines and return to a roaring fire and picnic dinner. NC/NP. Please bring picnic-type food to share at our tailgate after the hike.



