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Nonprofit Organization-Sierra Club  
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# The Jersey..... SIERRAN

Vol. 37, No. 4

Nearly 21,000 Members in New Jersey

October-December 2008

## Candidates Endorsed For Political Office

The Club's New Jersey Political Committee, with ratification by the state Executive Committee and the Club's national Political Committee, urges your vote for the following candidates for US President and Congress - based upon their voting and sponsorship records and interview performances. The election will be held on Nov 4th. Rich Isaac, Chapter Political Chair (risaacx@aol.com) is willing to explain in more detail the basis for each endorsement (or non-endorsement) in the 13 Congressional districts, and explain how you can contribute your time, energy and money to help candidates get elected.

**President/Vice President:**  
Sens. Barack Obama and Joe Biden (D) (See neighboring articles)  
**Senate:** Sen Frank Lautenberg (D)

### Congress:

#### Dist. Candidate

- 1 Rob Andrews (D)  
Camden/Gloucester Counties
- 2 Frank LoBiondo (R)  
Atl, Cp May, Cumb, Salem
- 3 John Adler (D, Open seat)  
Burlington, Ocean
- 6 Frank Pallone (D)  
Middlesex, Monmouth
- 7 \*(no endorsement, see below)  
H'don, Somerset, W. Union
- 8 William Pascrell (D)  
N. Essex, Passaic
- 9 Steven Rothman (D)  
Bergen, N. Hudson
- 10 Donald Payne (D)  
Essex, E. Union
- 12 Rush Holt (D)  
H'don, Mercer, M'sex, M'mth
- 13 Albio Sires (D)  
Hudson, N. M'sex, E. Union

\* Both Linda Stender (D) and Leonard Lance (R) were endorsed in their respective primaries; neither was endorsed in the general election.

Districts 3 and 7 are open seats, and expected to be extremely competitive.

## Sierra Club has Endorsed Barack Obama for President

By Tom Valtin, national Sierra Club Staff

The Sierra Club has officially endorsed Senator Barack Obama for President.

Simply put, we believe Obama shares our concerns, values and vision for a clean energy future. He agrees with us that it's not time for half steps; that what America needs is bold, transformational action that will break the chokehold Big Oil has on our economy and Washington politics, provide short-term relief for American families and long-term solutions for our energy and economic problems.

Highlights of Obama's Energy strategy include:

Providing Relief for families struggling to pay their energy bills. His plan is to provide families with a \$1,000 tax credit and stimulus checks paid for by taxing the oil companies' record profits.

Investing \$150 billion over the next ten years in alternative sources of energy - wind and solar power, and advanced biofuels, in the commercialization of plug-in hybrid cars, and development of a new digital electricity grid. This investment will create up to 5 million good-paying jobs that cannot be outsourced and will create the billions in new economic activity that will put America back on the path to prosperity.

Requiring 25% of US electricity to come from renewable sources by 2025 and increasing energy efficiency in the US 50% by 2030.

Attacking global warming. Obama has presented a bold and comprehensive plan for addressing global warming which includes a "cap and auction" system that would cut our carbon dioxide emissions 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

Rejecting drilling as the answer to our energy woes. Obama knows that drilling off of our beaches and destroying our last special places like the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in order to pad Big Oil's bottom line won't do anything to lower gas prices today, tomorrow, or even a decade from now.

This Fall, The Sierra Club hopes to engage as many members in candidate campaign activities as possible. "The Obama campaign is putting together the largest and most sophisticated field operation in presidential history, and there will be meaningful ways for Sierra Club volunteers to engage," said Bob Bingaman, the National Field Director for the Sierra Club.

The Sierra Club will be working to recruit team leaders and volunteers for the Obama campaign and for a number of pro-environmental races in seven target states - Colorado, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Nevada, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Members from other states will also be encouraged to get involved by traveling to our target states to volunteer. Ken Brame, member of the Club's Political Committee, adds, "I hope Club members will do as much as they can for the Obama campaign and the Club-endorsed Congressional and state legislative candidates. Whether you can contribute a whole month or just an hour a week, volunteer help will make a big difference."

For those Club members who are able to travel to other locations to help with efforts on the ground, or for members in target states who are able to help by housing out-of-town volunteers, please visit: <http://action.sierraclub.org/site/PageNavigator/Obama2008>.

### WEBSITES COMPARING OBAMA AND McCAIN

- [http://www.grist.org/candidate\\_chart\\_08.html?source=liveearth](http://www.grist.org/candidate_chart_08.html?source=liveearth)
- <http://www.cnn.com/ELECTION/2008/issues/issues.energy.html>
- <http://www.cnn.com/ELECTION/2008/issues/issues.environment.html>
- <http://politics.nytimes.com/election-guide/2008/issues/climate.html>
- <http://presidentialprofiles2008.org/Obama/tab1.html>
- <http://presidentialprofiles2008.org/McCain/tab1.html>

## SIERRA CLUB BALLOT

### 2008 Election of Officers of the New Jersey Chapter, and its Groups and Sections

The Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom) meets monthly (on Saturdays) for discussion of state and regional issues, to take policy positions (including legal action) and make political endorsements, hear reports from staff and volunteer issue coordinators, and consider other matters. It consists of nine members elected at large (just below!) for three-year terms, plus delegates from each of our 10 regional Groups. In addition to Groups, the Chapter loosely houses five specialty (optional) Sections: for Singles, Seniors, Young Sierrans, Students, and folk who provide Inner City Outings.

**Chapter Ballot:** Please vote for UP TO FOUR candidates for Chapter Executive Committee. (All are "Nominating Committee" candidates, i.e. none are "Petition" candidates.) The top three vote-getters will serve three-year terms and the next one will serve a one-year term (as we transition from two-year to three-year terms). (Those whose terms are expiring are Ken Johanson, Bonnie Tillery, George Denzer, and Lee Snyder.) 100-word candidate-statements are on page 2. PAIRS of boxes are to enable family (joint) members to cast separate votes. Then please vote your GROUP ExCom ballot, below, and SECTION ballot if you are active; then clip the ENTIRE ballot (retaining your address label, which will be obscured before counting!) and return it in your own envelope, to arrive by Dec 1, to **Sierra Club Ballot, 145 W Hanover St, Trenton 08618**.

Vote for UP TO FOUR (Name order has been randomized.):

- Ken Johanson  Lee Snyder
- Bonnie Tillery  Robert Johnson
- George Denzer
- Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

### Group and Section Ballots:

Please vote only your own GROUP ExCom ballot, below, and SECTION ballot(s) for sections in which you are active; then clip the ENTIRE ballot and return it in your own envelope, to arrive by Dec 1, to **Sierra Club Ballot, 145 W Hanover St, Trenton 08618**. PAIRS of

(ballot continued on pg. 2)

### Report from Trenton

## Sierra Club Opposes McCain-Bush Drilling Plan

By our Chapter Staff: Becca Glenn and Jeff Tittel

On July 7th the Sierra Club and other environmental groups joined New Jersey's Senator Bob Menendez and Congressman Frank Pallone in condemning calls by Senator John McCain and others to lift the 30-year ban on oil drilling off the eastern seaboard, including along the coast of New Jersey.

Offshore oil drilling would put beach-

es at risk, and would threaten New Jersey's \$34 billion a year coastal tourism industry, as well as the fishing and shellfish-breeding industries. Last year the Club worked to defeat an attempt to allow oil drilling off the coast of Virginia because of this risk. With the Virginia coast less than 100 miles from South Jersey's beaches, drilling would have put

beaches from Cape May to Sandy Hook in jeopardy. While Virginia's Gov. Tim Kaine vetoed that bill, McCain's new plan would again threaten New Jersey's coasts and marine waters.

Proponents of lifting the ban claim that such concerns are unfounded since oil drilling installations are made to with-

(continued on page 3)

### New Electronic Newsletter presenting New Jersey Issues:

Our Trenton staff are excited to offer members a bi-weekly e-newsletter. We want you to be more involved with our issues.

Each newsletter highlights three to five issues, and offers suggestions for how you can participate. We promise to keep them short and sweet, and to the point.

To sign up, email [grace.sica@sierraclub.org](mailto:grace.sica@sierraclub.org). In your subject line, please put: Chapter Newsletter Sign on

### Hunterdon County Group Forming

We're pleased to announce formation of a new Group. Those interested in local issue involvement are cordially invited to a meeting to explore issues, meet your neighbors, and enjoy some free refreshments!

**Wednesday, Oct 15, at 7pm, at the North County Library in Clinton.**

This time is tentative. Please call or email Grace Sica ([grace.sica@sierraclub.org](mailto:grace.sica@sierraclub.org) or 609-656-7612) to confirm the date and time, or for more information.

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**BALLOT** (Continued from page 1)

boxes are to enable two members of family memberships to cast separate votes. Club rules require two more candidates than the number of openings; when an insufficient number of candidates is on offer, write-in slots are provided.

**Northwest Jersey Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO NINE. The five highest vote-getters will serve two-year terms, and the next four will receive one-year terms.

- Susan Rotter       Pat Mangino  
 Toni Zimmer       Charles Kopp  
 Herb Wolff       Christine Feoranzo  
 Sandy Raviv  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**North Jersey Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO FOUR.

- Mike Herson       Tom Thompson  
 John Kashwick       Nancy Wysocki  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Loantaka Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO FIVE.

- Joyce White       Chris Mills  
 Bob Campbell       Doug Williams  
 Stefano Crema  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Central Jersey Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO THREE. Terms expire December 2010.

- Teresa Stimpfel       David Schmetterer  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Raritan Valley Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO THREE.

- Sandi Lowich       Jane Tousman  
 Sunil Somalwar  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Jersey Shore Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO FIVE.

- Joellen Lundy       Bob Grize  
 Dennis Anderson       April Klimley  
 Patricia Fuschetto  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ocean County Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO FIVE.

- Dawn Marie Johns       Margit Meissner-Jackson  
 Richard Washik       Jocelyn Isaza  
 Howard Schwartz  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**West Jersey Group:** Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO TWO.

- Frank Zinni       Ellen Zinni  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**South Jersey Group:** Candidates for Section ExCom. Please vote for UP TO THREE.

- Tom Boghosian       Dick Colby  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Singles Section:** Candidates for Singles Section ExCom. Please vote for UP TO SEVEN. To be eligible to vote in the Singles Section ExCom election, you must have attended at least one Singles general meeting (not other events, only second-Monday-of-the-month meetings at a library) within the past year.

- Bill Foerster       Joe Testa  
 Jeff Sovelove       Joyce Haddad  
 Walt Goldenbaum       Joyce White  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**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.

**Statements by Candidates for Chapter Executive Committee**

(name order has been randomized):

**GEORGE DENZER:** As a member of the Club since 1983, I've concentrated on two issues, transportation and money. For a transportation activist, these are great times: watching the number of mass transit users climb! But lowering the number of cars on the road is critical to cleaning NJ's air and I want to help the Chapter do just that. And the Chapter does a lot with limited funds, and as treasurer I'll continue to make sure we use our funds economically and efficiently. I continue to work with the fund raising committee to increase those funds. I would appreciate your vote.



**LEE SNYDER:** As a Life Member of the Club, I have served for five years as Pinelands Coordinator for both the New Jersey Chapter and West Jersey Group, and served on the ExComm for the past four years. I work with the NJ Pinelands Commission, Pinelands Preservation Alliance and others to protect New Jersey's natural treasures. As a volunteer, my participation in Sierra Club and Pinelands related meetings, hearings and seminars, including the Sierra Club Training Academy, have been a great learning experience. I was re-elected to the ExComm two years ago, and would like proudly to continue to represent the interests of the NJ Chapter. Thank you.



**KEN JOHANSON:** The New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club is making a difference here in New Jersey and across the nation. I'm proud to have been part of this effort. I currently serve as Chapter chair and chair of the legislative, litigation oversight and fundraising committees. I also am a member of the finance and personnel committees. But despite our successes, much remains to



be done. As a member of the executive committee I hope to continue to contribute to our ongoing efforts to protect and preserve our natural environment and to deal effectively with the challenges that lie ahead.

**ROBERT JOHNSON:** Member since 1993. Life member, Issue Coordinator for Transportation, Loantaka Group Outreach Chair, NERCC alternate, Singles Section Chair, outing leader. Sprawl, driven by automobiles and trucks, is the most serious environmental issue facing New Jersey today. Transportation planning can significantly improve land use patterns and air quality. I continue to explore ways that environmentally efficient transportation (of people and goods) can improve the quality of life in New Jersey. I practice what I preach by bicycling to work and to Sierra Club meetings and functions. As a life-long Republican, I believe the environment should be a non-partisan issue and the Sierra Club should be reaching out to both political parties to promote our agenda. The Sierra Club is the best organization to spearhead positive environmental changes and I am proud to be part of it.



**BONNIE TILLERY:** For over eight years I have served as secretary to the Chapter Executive Committee, and as the Chapter's Population Issues Coordinator. In the latter capacity I went on study trips to Ecuador and Madagascar to see how family planning programs are helping save the environment, then gave numerous presentations about these trips. I am a member of the national Global Population and Environment Program Committee, and recipient of the Club's Environmental Alliance Award for working with non-Sierra Club groups to help further environmental goals. I am committed to the Sierra Club's mission and would appreciate your vote.

**POPULATION ISSUES COORDINATOR'S REPORT:****What Women Want**

By Bonnie Tillery (blt44blt@verizon.net)

What do women want? This is a question men have probably been asking for eons, and one that Robert Engelman addresses in his recent book, *More: Population, Nature, and What Women Want*. His book is a compendium of extensive research and personal experiences from his world travels. He is currently a Vice President at Worldwatch Institute, was formerly with Population Action International, and has contributed to several publications including *Nature* and *The Washington Post*. He helped found the Society of Environmental Journalists.

Engelman looks at reproductive history from prehistoric times to the present - from women who, in all likelihood, were the first communicators in order to seek assistance with birthing; through Egyptian hieroglyphs showing use of contraception; through Margaret Sanger; to "Rubbers" Bush who championed family planning until he became Ronald Reagan's Vice President (both politicized family planning), and to his son who has taken the fight against women's reproductive rights to new heights.

Packed with footnoted information and anecdotes from Engelman's world travels, I went through three highlighters reading this book; each sentence, paragraph, chapter seemed more relevant than the last. Here I share with you some of his words:

"Human beings alter nature for our own ends and only learn later that we have unleashed forces that undermine our own survival."

"Mayor Michael Bloomberg recently urged his fellow New Yorkers to 'face up to the fact' that overcrowding undermined environmental stability."

"The 373,000 human babies born on the day you read these words will out-

number all the world's existing gorillas, chimpanzees, bonobos, and orangutans, our closest animal relatives."

"By using the atmosphere as a dump for waste gases, human beings are heating up the planet...There's not enough water for those alive today in the Horn of Africa, not enough atmosphere for those alive on earth to use fossil fuels the way we do in the United States."

"Some see the genocidal war of Rwanda as an example of what can happen when population densities reach intolerable levels in countries that lack decent government and decent economic options for their citizens."

"Anywhere from a quarter to a half of all pregnancies world-wide are not welcomed at the time they occur...The magnitude of unwelcome pregnancy is well indicated by the roughly 46 million abortions that occur each year, roughly 1 for every 3 births. More than 40 percent of these abortions are illegal and most of these are performed in unsafe circumstances. More than 1 in 270 of the illegal ones end in a woman's death - not the sort of odds anyone would take lightly if she could avoid it - and many of the rest render women disabled or infertile or both...Botched abortions are among the reasons half a million women die from pregnancy-related causes each year...In Bolivia...women face nearly a 1-in-50 lifetime chance of dying in pregnancy or childbirth. In Afghanistan, the risk is 1 in 6. Not many wars force combatants to face such dismal odds...As access to safe and effective contraceptive methods improves, rates of abortion go down."

"One way to reduce climate dangers...is to disperse the risk of unintended consequences by diversifying the alternative sources of energy

used...Another strategy...is simply to use less energy of all kinds through improving efficiency...For long-term reductions in energy consumption, population decline counterbalances this problem nicely."

"Lower birth rates can't completely stop climate change or solve all the world's other environmental problems. We'll still have to learn how to moderate our consumption of materials and energy and to jumpstart new technologies that conserve them."

Talking with *Time Magazine*, Engleman noted that the best way to protect our environment and stabilize population was to provide foreign aid to make contraception safe, reliable and accessible in every country.

"...Societies should work to make unintended pregnancy as rare as possible. Contraception doesn't need the 'help' of coercion or incentives or propaganda. It just needs to be well advertised, inexpensive, safe and there. That and the real recognition of women's equality are all we need to put human population on a sustainable path."

"Reproductive health care for all will become a reality when it becomes a public and political priority."

*Our New Jersey representatives in Washington, D.C., who have supported women's reproductive health, include: Senators Lautenberg and Menendez, Congressmen Andrews, Pallone, Pascrell, Rothman, Payne, Frelinghuysen, Holt and Sires. As good as these legislators have been, unfortunately, NJ Congressman Chris Smith has been a leader in opposing women's reproductive health care worldwide, going so far as to call birth control pills "baby pesticide" on the floor of the House.*

**Please Vote!!! For club officers (this page today), and for federal candidates (on Nov 4).**

## Editorial

# Additional Measures to Reduce Greenhouse Gas (Carbon) Emissions

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

Most of the responses to my previous editorial — urging the reduction of carbon emissions by abandonment of private automobiles — were sympathetic if not supportive, although one correspondent thought I was “absolutely frightening . . . [guilty of] the type of thinking that accompanied the very early days of the Bolshevik Revolution.”

I've since had the satisfaction of discovering Kurt Vonnegut's far better way of expressing it. He describes fossil fuels as, “. . . the most abused, addictive and destructive drugs of all . . . We are all addicts in a state of denial. And like so many addicts about to face cold turkey, our leaders are now committing violent crimes to get what little is left of what we're hooked on.” Vonnegut says much more about the environment (and many other topics) in one of his final testimonies, the 2005 book, *A Man without a Country*.

I've also been enjoying life without my own car, especially the opportunity to walk with my backpack to a pick-your-own farm, loading up on strawberries and raspberries, beans of all kinds, spinach, corn, and many other vegetables and fruits. Much of what I pick gets home-made into a year's worth of jams and preserves, just as I remember my mother doing during and after the Second World War. Back to the future! Or is it on to the past?

To those unable to dispose of their cars immediately, I'd like to offer hope and an opportunity. It's the prospect for much wider availability of renewable electricity, both from photovoltaic (solar) panels and from wind. The idea originated when I toured the sewage treatment plant operated by the Atlantic County Utilities Authority, which contains a solar “farm” alongside its five giant wind turbines. The idea is for **community solar** (and wind where feasible): local non-profit cooperatives of residents, businesses and municipal governments, contributing the capital to build community solar farms on retired landfills or above large parking lots (etc.), supplying power to the regional grid, and recovering the investment slowly by providing a reduced cost of electrical power to investor-participants.

The idea is certainly compatible with the Club's “Cool Cities” initiative for promoting sustainable energy sources for municipalities, county governments, school systems and colleges. I've suggested that our Cool Cities activists take the initiative of identifying possible sites for community solar farms in each of New Jersey's municipalities!

The idea also implies that subscribers should convert their gas and oil heating, cooking and air conditioning fuels to electricity. It also offers the ultimate solution to the transportation problem, as cars with carbon-emitting engines can gradually be replaced by electric models.

The construction and “disruption”



photo: James Mendelsohn

costs of community solar farms would be less, per investor, than separate home solar arrays, due to economies of scale, and maintenance would also be more efficient.

The main problem is a **political** one: large electricity generators are currently protected by laws which prohibit “territorial” infringement from community associations. Lobbyists have succeeded in convincing legislators to allow **private** solar arrays to be connected to the grid, but not **community** arrays.

New Jersey is currently developing an Energy Master Plan. Along with many other people, I've testified and sent written comments urging the promotion of community solar, and I await patiently each new draft of the Plan. (A hearing on community solar was scheduled for Sept 11- after this editorial went to press!) I've urged the idea on my county freeholders - I serve on the Environmental Advisory Commission in Atlantic County - and been directed to utilize the County Utilities Authority's planning and engineering staff, but we are stymied until the law is changed.

So I'm ready to go public, in this editorial, and urge a **crusade** that starts with lobbying. The Energy Master Plan is being developed by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities. Governor Corzine will have to approve it. Your lobbying voice should please be brought to bear firstly on the BPU's staff: log onto [www.nj.gov/emp](http://www.nj.gov/emp) and click “submit comments online.” Simply request that the plan and the law should enable **community solar photovoltaic farms**. Then contact Gov. Corzine and your state legislators with a similar message.

If the crusade is successful, there will be a need for lawyers, businessmen, accountants and others to organize the local non-profit organizations. They will need staff to develop publicity, sign up investors, set fees, maintain accounts, contract for construction, and operate the generating system. We already have one good example of such an organization here in New Jersey: Sustainable Lawrence (Mercer County).

In the end, it always comes down to money. At current prices, coal-electricity can't be beat. But the threat of global warming demands that coal be phased out, and that alternatives be subsidized. The best alternative is conservation: giving up cars, reducing domestic energy consumption (perhaps, most effectively, compressive air conditioning!), and reducing commercial and industrial consumption, including transportation. The next-best alternative is renewable-electric: solar, wind, tidal and hydro. All suffer from inconstancy, so the greater the **variety** of sources, the better the chance that one or more will be productive at any particular time of day or night! If there must be backup by more reliable energy sources, the least carbon-emitting is nuclear!

## Ocean Drilling (Continued from page 1)

stand even a hurricane, but the Department of the Interior reports that at least 113 spills occurred in the Gulf of Mexico as a result of Hurricane Katrina. With scientists predicting that global warming will cause more severe weather, clearly oil spills are a likely consequence of offshore drilling. The only oil we should ever see on our beaches is suntan oil.

McCain's drilling plan is yet another example of his empty global warming rhetoric. While touting the fact that he was among the first to offer comprehen-

sive global warming legislation on the national level, his proposals promote coal, other fossil fuels, and unsafe nuclear power, as well as ethanol, which is not only bad for the environment, but is causing a dramatic increase in the price of food worldwide.

While protecting outdated technologies, Big Oil, and other polluting industries, McCain's policies fail to invest in clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency, which numerous studies have shown is the quickest, most cost-effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

## Chair's Message

# Our Next President

By Ken Johanson (kjohan@comcast.net)



If you're a regular reader of this column you know how important I consider the upcoming presidential election to be. I believe that the country in which we live is in danger of losing its soul. Values such as fairness, a willingness to accept those whose beliefs differ from our own and a concern for the wellbeing of others that traditionally have defined our national identity increasingly are being eclipsed by the forces of greed, intolerance and indifference.

We need a president who can fill the moral vacuum that exists at the top and provide the integrity, ingenuity and leadership that will be required if we are to effectively deal with conditions that threaten to destroy our economy, our quality of life and the natural environment upon which we all depend.

So who will it be, McCain or Obama? The Sierra Club has thrown its support behind Senator Obama. But some who care deeply about the future of this planet are not so sure. After all, Senator McCain claims to be an environmentalist and has distanced himself from some of the most egregious Bush anti-environmental positions. But let's take a closer look.

Each year the League of Conservation Voters prepares a scorecard for every member of Congress. Senators and representatives are rated based upon how they voted on a number of environmental measures. For the 2005-2006 session Obama achieved a score of 96%, while McCain's score was a disappointing 41%. Obama's score dropped to 67% in 2007, due largely to absences (which are counted as votes against the environment), while McCain's score dropped to an abysmal 0%.

While I recognize that campaign commitments prevented both candidates from spending as much time on the Senate floor as they might otherwise have liked, McCain's failure to vote on any of the 15 measures considered by the League to be of particular significance to the environment is, at a minimum, disappointing.

Both candidates have taken positions on a number of environmental issues. McCain proposes a 60 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Obama proposes an 80 percent reduction. The numbers may sound close, but they're not. Most scientists have concluded that an 80 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions will be required in order to deal effectively with the problem of global warming. A 60 percent reduction will not do the trick.

Both candidates advocate a cap and trade system, but while Obama proposes

an auction of pollution allowances, McCain proposes that some allowances be provided to polluters without cost, a proposal that further weakens the effectiveness of his program.

And while Obama opposes lifting the moratorium on drilling in the outer Continental shelf, McCain supports the Bush drilling initiative. The Bush initiative raises serious concerns for New Jersey and its environment and, even if implemented, will do nothing to promote energy efficiency and conservation and little or nothing to increase supply.

And then there's the economy. Senator McCain, after initially opposing the Bush tax cuts, now embraces them and vows to keep them in place. He also is committed to staying the course in Iraq, a disastrous episode in our nation's history that, in addition to the human suffering, has had and continues to have a debilitating effect upon the nation's economy.

The war in Iraq has been a huge cash drain on the country at a time when revenues have been significantly reduced as a result of tax breaks for the rich. Environmental programs, as well as other critical social programs, have suffered. There is little doubt that these programs will continue to suffer under a McCain administration and that environmental programs will continue to be impacted by so-called budgetary constraints.

And finally, let's consider the Supreme Court and the federal judiciary. In recent years federal courts have undergone an alarming shift to the right. This past July the United States Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit invalidated controls on major pollutants emitted by industry. Earlier in the year a federal court struck down an EPA rule controlling mercury emissions from power plants. And while it is true that the Supreme Court provided environmentalists with a rare victory when it ruled last year that carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gasses are pollutants under the Clean Air Act, four of the Court's nine members, including the Court's two Bush appointees, dissented.

Senator McCain has been supportive of Bush appointments to the federal courts, including the Supreme Court, and has promised to name Supreme Court justices who share the perspectives of Chief Justice Roberts and Justices Alito, Scalia and Thomas, the four dissenters in the Clean Air Act decision. If McCain is able to make good on his promise, the consequences to the nation and to the natural environment could be disastrous.

So who should you vote for on November 4? That's your decision to make, not mine. But I think you know where I stand.

## Volunteer Job Opportunities

Although the NJ Chapter employs three staff, the Sierra Club takes pride in being America's largest grass-roots (volunteer) environmental organization. The following volunteer positions are vacant and available! We'll provide free training, and “flex-time.” To find out more, simply call our Group Effectiveness Chair, Richard Isaac at 973-716-0297, or e-mail him at [risaacx@aol.com](mailto:risaacx@aol.com).

### State (Chapter) Level Opportunities:

**Membership Chair** - Welcome new members; respond to inquiries about programs and activities; access our member-database.

**Transportation Coordinator** - Pursue transportation issues.

**Inner City Outings Volunteers** - Conduct wilderness adventure outings

on weekends, generally day trips on Saturdays.

**Advertising Editor** - Manage the *Jersey Sierran's* advertising base.

**Outing Leadership Training Chair** - Schedule training for required first aid certifications to hike leaders.

**Chapter Program Chair** - Maintain a list of recent Group programs so that other Groups can learn about them.

**Environmental Education Chair** - Help build an environmentally literate citizenry by working with local teachers, youth leaders, state government agencies, issue activists, and others.

**Environmental Justice Coordinator** - Work with the Chapter and a national-level committee to restore natural and human rights to a safe environment.

## End the Free Ride for Off-Road Vehicles

By Fred Akers ([fred\\_akers@hughes.net](mailto:fred_akers@hughes.net)), Administrator of the Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association and member of our South Jersey Group

It is illegal to operate off-road motor vehicles on public land in New Jersey, but with "no-chase" law enforcement policies, low fines that are barely a slap on the wrist, no requirements for license plates or registration, and helmets and suits that disguise their identity, it is cheaper and easier for ATV and dirt-bike riders to ride illegally than go to legal ORV parks. The experiment at Chatsworth, where the NJ Conservation Foundation (NJCF: a conservation group!) created a beautiful ORV park that saw fewer than 3,000 riders per year for 10 years out of a population of 300,000 ORVs in the state, is clear proof that legal parks offer little incentive to prevent illegal riding.

For at least the last 10 years, instead of organizing and joining together to raise their own funds and apply for state grants to create legal trails and tracks, the ORV riding community has increasingly trespassed on and damaged state, county, municipal and private lands. This includes illegal riding on public roads that puts the public at risk, and has put a serious burden on local emergency management services which respond to the increasing deaths and serious injuries characteristic of this dangerous sport.

To accommodate the people who can afford thousands of dollars to buy ORVs, and the people who profit from their manufacture and sales, the state has offered, since 2001, over a million

dollars in Recreational Trail Grants to ORV organizations that would build legal riding areas. But there have been few takers, and illegal riding has substantially increased.

Consider the case of the NJ-ORV Park at Chatsworth, which is in the Pinelands Preservation Area. The Park has operated for more than 12 years, under the condition that it be closed and restored in 2008. But instead of organizing, promoting, fund raising, and actively working to find another place to ride, all the operators have done is beg the state to give them another site. This is in stark contrast to the operators of other recreation venues such as skiing, golfing, motor-sports racing, and horseback riding, who develop new recreational facilities.

State, county, and local park administrations should not cater to extreme sports enthusiasts. It is time for the State Legislature to end the free ride for illegal ORV riders by enacting strict legislation. Assembly Bill A823, which was unanimously passed by the Assembly's Transportation Committee last June, will do just that. Companion Senate Bill S2055 will be introduced in the Senate Transportation Committee in September. I hope the Legislature will pass both bills this year. They would require registration and license plates, and impose stricter penalties against illegal riding, in the expectation that riders will be motivated to develop private legal parks, and use them.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Energy for New Jersey's Future

I was dismayed by opinions expressed in the July-Sept issue of the *Jersey Sierran* concerning energy, especially the unreasonable criticism of Governor Corzine; I also disagree with the strong opposition to nuclear power.

Governor Corzine's draft New Jersey Energy Master Plan was represented as promoting "nuclear power and fossil fuels instead of the clean renewable energy we need". In fact, the draft plan calls for 22.5% of electricity to be generated by renewables by 2020. This is a far-seeing and indeed very ambitious target.

The draft plan also includes a well spelled out policy of conservation so that electricity use will be reduced 20% below a business-as-usual scenario, also an ambitious goal. The criticism of Governor Corzine is very distorted; one might suspect it to be motivated by partisan politics.

Opposition to nuclear power was expressed in a letter to the editor that gave bizarrely distorted and exaggerated "facts" about the dangers of nuclear power accidents and the safety of normal operations. The opinions seemed to be culled from the more sensationalist columns of popular journalism rather than from any of the impartial recent studies of nuclear plant operation.

Of course nuclear power has its dan-

gers. But the record of the nuclear power industry in this country has been excellent, particularly when compared with oil and coal production which have taken many lives in the last few years.

I believe the Sierra Club should adopt a more realistic attitude toward the hazards of power generation, especially with respect to carbon dioxide emissions. Nuclear power, solar energy with extended transmission line construction (underground in places), carbon sequestration, and electric cars from non-carbon electricity will all be needed to mitigate carbon emissions. The prospect of highly carbon-emissive coal-to-oil should be strongly opposed.

The Sierra Club is of course an advocacy organization rather than a generator of compromise policies. But even allowing for this, I believe that the opinions expressed in the *Jersey Sierran* should give more recognition to general social and economic realities. Distortion weakens the credibility of the Sierra Club.

David Southgate  
([davids@tellurian.com](mailto:davids@tellurian.com))

David Southgate is a retired research scientist, formerly with a major New Jersey R&D corporation, and a long-time Sierra Club member.

### ISSUE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

## Wild About Utah

By John Kashwick, our Utah Issues Coordinator ([jkashwick@optonline.net](mailto:jkashwick@optonline.net))

"This is the most beautiful place on earth," the great writer Edward Abbey wrote in his classic work, *Desert Solitaire*. In May, from all corners of our country, I joined 24 other grassroots leaders at a retreat in Moab to help protect Utah's spectacular Redrock wilderness. This event was organized by the

Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA) to support America's Redrock Wilderness Act (HR-1919/S-1170).

The proposal, based on an exhaustive field inventory conducted by citizen volunteers, would protect nine million acres of Utah wilderness. These lands, which are administered exclusively by the

### CONSERVATION ECO-TIP

## Gallons per Mile

By Laura Lynch, Chapter Conservation Chair with thanks to Sustainable Lawrence for permission to republish.

We are used to quoting miles per gallon (MPG) to measure a car's energy efficiency. And we all know that a 9 mile-per-gallon suburban assault vehicle contributes far more to global warming than a new gasoline-electric hybrid that gets 50 miles to the gallon.

But which of these theoretical situations does more to curb global warming: switching from an 18 MPG SUV to a 28 MPG model; or trading in a 42 MPG hybrid for a 48 MPG hybrid upgrade?

Most of us would answer that the latter is correct, and we'd be wrong.

In the 20 June 2008 issue of the journal *Science*, authors Richard P. Larrick and Jack B. Soll of Duke University discuss the results of a study they conducted on perception of fuel efficiency. They concluded that if we were to view automobile efficiency in gallons per mile (GPM) instead of MPG we'd have a much clearer view of how much gasoline a particular car uses.

What trips us up, it turns out, is that we assume that gasoline consumption decreases linearly as MPG increases. In reality the relationship is a curve. The least efficient engines use the most gasoline per hundred miles. As MPG increases, the gasoline used per hundred miles curves downwards so that the change in GPM from 15 to 25 MPG is greater than the change in GPM from 40 to 50 MPG.

In the theoretical examples above, improving MPG from 18 to 28 reduces gasoline consumption by 1.984 gallons over 100 miles, whereas going from 42 to 48 MPG saves only 0.298 gallons over 100 miles. The consumption reduction is 6.66 times more in the first example than in the second.

To make the differences clearer, let's compare two pairs of cars. Within each pair there is only a 5 MPG difference, but in the second pair are higher MPG cars:

An old pick-up that gets 10 MPG uses 10 gallons per 100 miles. A 15 MPG SUV uses 6.67 gallons over the same distance. The difference between the two is 3.33 gallons per hundred miles.

A reasonably efficient sedan that gets 30 MPG uses 3.33 gallons per 100 miles. A more efficient sedan that gets 35 MPG uses 2.86 gallons per 100 miles. The savings in gas consumption here is 0.47 gallons per hundred miles.

So, while the more efficient cars consume far less gasoline over 100 miles, there is a greater benefit in removing the least efficient cars from the road and replacing them with moderately efficient ones than there is in trading an efficient car in for a super-efficient one.

Ideally, of course, we'd all be driving cars that would use 2 gallons or less per 100 miles. That's 50 MPG, by the way.

### ISSUE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

## Pinelands Commission Obtains Funds to Purchase and Protect Environmentally Sensitive Lands

By Lee Snyder, our Pinelands Issues Coordinator ([pinelands1@hotmail.com](mailto:pinelands1@hotmail.com))

Recently, the Pinelands Conservation Fund was created as part of an agreement with New Jersey's Board of Public Utilities to allow the construction of a power transmission line along the edge of the Pinelands, near the Garden State Parkway. The utility, Conectiv/Atlantic City Electric, put \$13 million into the Fund. With NJ Green Acres and other funding sources drying up, this 'offset' funding will go a long way to purchase critical areas of Pine Barrens.

The first purchase, in Medford, Burlington County, was completed on July 31; the Fund contributed \$100,000. It is a 10 acre tract described as a "critical greenway connector linking the Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge with the Rancocas Conservancy's Wurst Preserve." Additional funding for this Medford parcel came from NJDEP Green Acres and the Rancocas

Conservancy. "This property contains valuable natural resources such as known habitat for endangered timber rattlesnakes, and it will serve as a critical connection that will link the Wharton State Forest with the forested areas of southern Medford and Evesham Townships," said John Stokes, Executive Director of the Pinelands Commission.

In May, the Commission authorized funding for 450 acres in Atlantic, Burlington, Gloucester and Ocean Counties. Twelve other properties had been approved last September, and three others will be funded this Summer. New Jersey still needs a stable source of funding for programs such as Green Acres, to continue removing large tracts of environmentally sensitive lands from the builder's sights. The Pinelands Conservation Fund is a small step in that direction.

Bureau of Land Management, are under constant threat from ATVs and the mining, oil, and gas industries.

We spent three days sharing ideas and discussing new ways to garner support for Utah wilderness. Some of our topics included engaging faith-based groups, including the LDS church; reaching out to other non-traditional allies such as responsible ATV riders; creative ways to coordinate visits with our federal legislators; and recruiting more volunteers that are passionate about the issue and willing to take action.

In an effort to gain support for final passage in the next Congress, we agreed on the importance of in-district meetings with Senators and Representatives. This is different from a traditional wilderness week where activists visit the Capitol to lobby, in that more constituents from home districts can be available for the meetings. We are fortunate here in New

Jersey because our delegation is mostly supportive of the Act. Both Senators Lautenberg and Menendez and 10 of our 13 Congressmen have co-sponsored the legislation. The exceptions are Scott Garrett (CD-5), Rodney Frelinghuysen (CD-11), and Jim Saxton (CD-4). If you are in one of their districts, please make a call and ask your Congressman to support HR-1919.

We are also fortunate here in New Jersey to have dedicated activists who support Utah wilderness. Joanne Faber of the Ocean County group spent a week in Washington, DC earlier this year meeting with representatives and staff members stressing the importance of this legislation.

For more information about Utah's Redrock Wilderness and what you can do to become more involved, please contact him at [jkashwick@optonline.net](mailto:jkashwick@optonline.net) or visit [www.suwa.org](http://www.suwa.org).

## Report from Trenton

# Builders Gone Wild: the Developers' Dirty Dozen

By our Chapter Staff: Jeff Tittel and Becca Glenn

On June 4th the Builders Association and their allies delivered to the Legislature a package of bills they call an economic stimulus package. In fact, what the bills would do is overturn environmental laws, undermine good planning, promote sprawl, and give tax breaks and public subsidies to wealthy developers at a time when the state of New Jersey is going broke. This package of bills will put sprawl on steroids and allow for the paving over of half of New Jersey's open spaces.

The bills were taken from the Department of Community Affairs' (DCA) Housing Task Force reports, which were written in secret, and without input from the public or environmental or citizens' groups. They include:

1) The Permit Extension Act - This would extend all permits for six years and revive those that have expired within the past two years, undermining the ability of the state to implement new environmental regulations, building codes, or local zoning ordinances and indiscriminately promoting building, regardless of whether the project is a good one or a bad one.

2) Changes to the State Planning Commission - This bill would create a new cabinet position for the head of the State Planning Commission, and make that cabinet member more powerful than the governor or any other member of the cabinet. It would give the State

Planning Commission the ability to veto Green Acres acquisitions, stop Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) rules and regulations from being adopted, and even reach into municipalities and force them to change their zoning. Basically the State Planning Commission would become the enforcement mechanism for the builders to overturn environmental regulations and local zoning and planning.

3) Amendments to the Revenue Allocation District Financing Act - This bill would give tax subsidies to large-scale developers and have the public pay for things like parking decks, buying property, and environmental remediation.

4) Expansion of the Brownfields Program to Smart Growth Areas - Instead of brownfield monies being used solely to clean up contaminated sites, they could now also be used for building a shopping center next to Round Valley Reservoir, promoting sprawl, undermining environmental clean up, etc.

5) Amendments to the Urban Transit Hub Tax Credit Program - This bill would give builders up to a \$50 million tax credit for creating 250 jobs near a train station; building a Wal-Mart within a half mile of a station would qualify. This will cost the treasury billions of dollars, raising taxes for the rest of us.

6) The New Jersey Closing Fund - This bill would give money to businesses considering leaving New Jersey, or out-of-

state businesses contemplating expanding into New Jersey. I.e. if a developer says another state is offering him money to leave, then New Jersey would give him the same amount to stay. This is a taxpayer ripoff and would cost us hundreds of millions of dollars.

7) Amendments to the Ombudsman Act - This bill would bring back Fast Track, the law that even the Bush Administration, not known for strong environmental policies, said undermined environmental protection. It would undermine public participation in the permit process and make it virtually impossible for the DEP to deny a permit. It would also create a lobbyist for the developers in the Governor's office whose job would be to push through permits for development projects.

8) Creation of Science and Policy Review Boards - With this measure, the builders would be able to prevent the DEP from adopting any new regulations.

9) Streamlining of Brownfield Review Process - This bill calls for outsourcing the oversight of environmental cleanups, taking it away from the DEP, and instead allowing polluters to hire their own consultants to certify that their sites are clean. This would weaken protections that keep toxics out of our communities and away from the citizens of New Jersey.

10) "Vertical" General Development Plan Approvals - This bill would allow builders 20 years to build general devel-

opment plans of five acres or more, grandfathering these projects against any changes in state or local law, and giving developers a huge tax break until their projects are completed.

11) Elimination of "Time of Decision" Rule - This bill would freeze local ordinances at the time a developer makes an application, undermining home rule, good planning, and citizens' rights to have a say in development that impacts their lives.

12) Smart Growth Liquor Licenses - This bill would subsidize development projects by allowing developers to get as many as three free liquor licenses for beer and wine. It's as if the Legislature has considered that, once developers get through paving over New Jersey and raising our taxes through tax breaks and subsidies, they're all going to need a drink.

The builders' package would undermine citizens' rights when it comes to development, local planning and the environment, and how these things impact their lives and property. It would create a system of vast public subsidies for developers and allow them to control New Jersey both politically and environmentally. At a time when the state is has no money for schools and is closing hospitals and possibly parks, it would give billions of dollars to the largest developers. It would replace Jon Corzine as Governor with the New Jersey Builders Association.

## NJ's Energy Master Plan in Need of Rescue

By our Chapter Staff, Becca Glenn and Jeff Tittel

With the public comment period ending on July 25th, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) has now begun revising the state's draft Energy Master Plan (EMP). The EMP is intended to guide energy production and consumption in New Jersey over the next decade, making it a major factor in the implementation of the 2007 Global Warming Response Act. This is the first real test of the Corzine Administration's commitment to reduce global warming.

The old draft EMP focuses on outdated technologies like coal and nuclear, and seriously neglects the emerging technologies of wind, solar, and wave power. It also fails to urge energy efficiency, which is the cheapest and easiest way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Sierra Club's suggestions for improving the EMP include:

- raising the goal for wind generation from 1,000 megawatts (MW) to 3,500 MW, a goal that could easily be met given technological advances in wind and existing public support for wind power

- raising the goal for solar by at least half, based on the fact that declining prices for photovoltaics and rising fossil fuel prices are making solar much more competitive than it has been in the past, as well as the fact that New Jersey has vast untapped potential for solar in its thousands of square miles of warehouse roofs, highway noise barriers, and parking decks

- adding a provision for wave power, an energy source for which the state already has a pilot project

- adding an assessment of the potential for low-impact hydro power using existing turbines that are not in use, state-owned dams, and microhydro projects wherever water flows downhill: from sewer plants to dams on lakes

- adding methane collected from sewer plants and landfills as an energy source

- dramatically increasing the focus on energy efficiency through projects such

as burying new power lines and installing better insulation on existing lines, developing energy storage systems and battery systems, strengthening green building standards, increasing the use of LED lighting and compact fluorescents, enacting strong appliance efficiency standards, preheating water with solar or geothermal energy and expanding the use of heat pumps, and boosting the state's recycling rate

- including plans to convert New Jersey's existing coal plants to natural gas, a much cleaner form of power that not only lowers mercury and NOx and SOx emissions, but also emits only half the greenhouse gasses compared with coal

- addressing the exportation of relatively clean electricity from New Jersey, especially the proposal by PSE&G to send power from its Ridgefield Generating Station to New York City, and the construction of new power lines from Pennsylvania to replace that energy with dirty coal power

- encouraging more cogeneration
- including a plan for transportation, which is one of the largest uses of energy in New Jersey, but is completely ignored by the draft EMP

- assessing the need for natural gas as a gap fuel until renewable energy capacity is built, and outlining how best to bring it into the state

- using the funds set aside for "stranded assets" to fund these projects and mitigate the cost to ratepayers of the transition

The Energy Master Plan needs much stronger renewable energy and energy efficiency provisions if we are to have any chance of reaching the targets set in the Global Warming Response Act. Historically, New Jersey has been a leader on environment and energy issues, but now we are falling further and further behind other states, which have set much more ambitious targets for clean energy. Without significant strengthening of the EMP, we will continue to be left behind.

## Report from Trenton

## A Dirty Deal for Dirty Power: Sierra Club Condemns PSE&G for New Power Line Through the Highlands

By our Chapter Staff

In August PSE&G selected a route for a new - and unnecessary - power line through New Jersey's Highlands region. The new line will be used to bring cheap, dirty coal power from Pennsylvania into New Jersey, undermining our efforts to deal with global warming and protect our environment. PSE&G says that they are a green company, but the only thing green about this deal is the money PSE&G will be making from New Jersey ratepayers.

PSE&G wants this new line so that it can sell the clean power it produces in-state to New York City at a rate 50% higher than it could charge in New Jersey. As a result of a lawsuit by the Sierra Club and the State of New Jersey several years ago, PSE&G was forced to clean up its Ridgefield Generating Station in Bergen County, converting it to much cleaner natural gas. Now that New Jersey rate payers have paid for this conversion, PSE&G wants to ship the power from this plant to New York, replacing it with dirty power brought in from the Pennsylvania through the new line.

PSE&G has proposed three different routes for the line, playing one community against another in a fight over who would have to bear the new power line. The chosen route, "Plan B," crosses the Delaware Water Gap National

Recreation Area, the Delaware River's Wild and Scenic Area, Kittatinny Ridge, the Appalachian Trail, the Highlands Preservation Area, more than a dozen parks and open space areas including Tourne Mountain, dozens of areas with endangered species, and numerous wetlands and Category 1 streams. It will replace an existing line of 85-foot poles with 250-foot towers.

This power line is part of the Bush Administration's giveaway to the utilities, in which the entire state of New Jersey was designated as a National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor. This designation allows the Department of Energy to run power lines through any part of New Jersey without proper environmental analysis and without demonstrating any actual need for the power line. The Department of Energy will have power of eminent domain within the corridor, trumping the rights of property owners, and usurping the rights of state and local governments to apply planning criteria based on local interests and values.

The Sierra Club, along with the states of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, are in federal court to oppose this designation. The Club has also supported bills introduced by Senator Menendez and Congressman Hinchey to overturn the designation.

### ENERGY FACTOIDS

courtesy of Sunil Somalwar, our Energy Issues Coordinator

NJ wastes 54 million gallons of gasoline equivalent energy every year in unrecycled aluminum cans.

You can drive Toyota Prius more than a mile from the energy wasted in manufacturing an aluminum can that is not recycled.

A family of four could drive a Toyota

Prius more than 1200 miles a year using the wasted energy from its share of state's unrecycled aluminum cans.

Sources: [www.epa.gov/climatechange/wycd/waste/downloads/Energy%20Savings.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/wycd/waste/downloads/Energy%20Savings.pdf) <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/dshw/recycle/stats.htm>

(Assumes 45mpg for a Prius.)



# 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:

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

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

Our Group will continue to focus 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.

Meetings include general discussions 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.

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS:

**Oct 3:** General discussion and viewing of informative video.  
**Nov 5:** General discussion and viewing of acclaimed documentary.

### North Jersey Group

(Bergen and Passaic Counties, approximately)

#### OFFICERS:

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

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

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Held at least four times a year. For more information or date and location, please contact Betsy or Mike (see above).

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Held at least four times a year. For more information or date and location, please contact Betsy or Mike (see above).

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Begin at 7:30 pm; dates and locations below. To find out more, please call Betsy (see above) or sign up for e-mail notices at <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-NORTH-JERSEY-NEWS.html>.

**Oct 21:** at the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood, 113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood, NJ: Program TBA.

**Nov 17:** at Clifton Public Library, 292 Piaget Avenue, Clifton, NJ: Program TBA.

**CONSERVATION ISSUES:** Below are issue updates. To find out more or help, please contact Mike, Tom or Betsy (above).

(1) On July 19, the Highlands Council, in a 9-5 vote, approved a weak **Regional Master Plan** that does not adequately protect the water supply for over 5.4 million New Jerseyans. The main flaws include allowing new and expanded water extraction in areas of current water deficit even though 60 per cent of the Highlands' 183 sub-watersheds already don't have enough water; permitting clustered housing complexes on operating farmland; relaxing current DEP nitrate standards to allow for pollution of well water with septic; and allowing Category 1 and 2 stream buffers to be reduced in redevelopment areas.

(2) We oppose the NJ Transit plan to destroy parkland in **Overpeck County Park** for a large park-and-ride lot for the Northern Branch Rail Line. Parkland must be preserved! We don't need more parking lots; we need an integrated public transit system linking rail, light rail, bus, and ferry so commuters can leave their cars at home.

(3) Over 200 trees at the foot of **Stag Hill Road in Mahwah**, near the Ramapo River, are to be cleared to make way for a 760-space parking lot. Habitat will be lost and the river and groundwater further polluted. We need evidence that the wood turtle, known to be in the area, is on this site. To help, contact Mary Ellen (see above).

(4) The **Ramapo River and watershed**, a sole source aquifer straddling the NY/NJ border, supplies water to over two million New Jerseyans. Upstream in NY, its forested slopes are under threat by plans for 2,000 housing units in Ramapo and Tuxedo. Contact Betsy (see above) to join the letter campaign urging Governors Paterson and Corzine to protect these watershed lands.

(5) Continuing issues: **Clifton's Latteri Park**, **Elmwood Park** air quality, the **Hackensack's** vegetative riparian corridors, and the fragile ecosystem of Van Buskirk Island.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES.** Help with grassroots organizing to save open space, lead hikes or work on an environmental issue of your own choosing. For more information, 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 daily). 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:

<b>Chair:</b>	Louise Taylor	201-886-9320	ltaylor2@nj.rr.com
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Helen Manogue	201-963-3511	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Connie Ftera	201-869-7950	cftera@earthlink.net
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Brane Zivkovic	201-758-0398	brane@nyu.edu
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Mariana Zivkovic	201-758-8390	tenisko@hotmail.com
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Brane Zivkovic	201-758-0398	brane@nyu.edu
<b>Publicity:</b>	Jodi Jamieson	917-804-8390	jodijami@mac.com
<b>Parks Chair:</b>	Rosemary Arena	201-861-6222	drrosemary@verizon.net
<b>Cool Cities Chair:</b>	Helen Manogue	201-963-3511	
<b>Singles Chair:</b>	Marlene Rost	201-766-8982	MARRO@optonline.net
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Scottie Perry	201-320-1758	scottieperry@optonline.net
<b>Palisades Landmark Status Committee:</b>			
<b>Chair:</b>	Rosemary Arena	201-861-6222	drrosemary@verizon.net
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	David Kronick	201-869-6218	jktejas@aol.com
<b>Group ExCom Members:</b>			
	Gil Hawkins	201-944-5799	gilc3d2@aol.com
	Donald Kopczynski	201-224-2641	Littlechops03@netzero.com

**Meetings:** The Hudson-Meadowlands Group holds four 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.

About a year and a half ago, members of several ad hoc residents' associations in Hudson County came to us for help fighting two proposed developments. We began to attend Planning Board and Board of Adjustment meetings regularly and the activists who had come to us joined the Sierra Club and have since taken on several Officer positions. The two proposed developments:

- an oversized residential plan intended for the last open spot on the Hudson Riverfront in North Bergen, and
- an exceedingly dangerous proposal for residential development requiring cutting into the Palisades; encroaching upon a high-pressured gas pipeline (that supplies about half of the natural gas for New York City); and excessively adding to traffic congestion. In mid July the developer withdrew his application from the North Bergen Board of Adjustment. Due to community pressure, he is likely to resize the project and submit revised plans in the near future.

While we've waited for Board decisions on the two projects, many others on the Palisades (south of the George Washington Bridge—not protected) have gotten in the queue.

**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.**

Recently a 9-story high rise project which would have dug out up to 80 ft. into the cliffs came before the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Incredibly, the Board turned it down flat in one session! We were so surprised we could hardly adjust to victory. Of course, the developer will come back, but it was great to see a Zoning Board doing its job.

Now comes the North Bergen Reporter to tell us that saving the Palisades is a top priority for Mayor Nicholas Sacco and the North Bergen Council. We can't help but think we've had an impact! All together the Planning and Zoning Board attendance has been going on for three years quite consistently

### 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 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](mailto:sally@eccobella.com) or Linda Stiles at 973-736-2224 or [birdlady07052@msn.com](mailto: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](mailto: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	<a href="mailto:hauskerr@aol.com">hauskerr@aol.com</a>
and	Paul Sanderson	908-233-2414	<a href="mailto:paulmsanderson@aol.com">paulmsanderson@aol.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Joyce White		<a href="mailto:joyce00201@yahoo.com">joyce00201@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Conservation Chairs:</b>			
<b>Morris County:</b>	Chris Mills	973-377-1742	<a href="mailto:chrismills@yahoo.com">chrismills@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Union County:</b>	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	<a href="mailto:hauskerr@aol.com">hauskerr@aol.com</a>
<b>Cool Cities Chair:</b>	Stefano Crema	973-627-4354	<a href="mailto:stefcre@aol.com">stefcre@aol.com</a>
<b>Political Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Programs Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Education Coord:</b>	Jeff Huppert	973-263-0344	<a href="mailto:jeffhup@optonline.net">jeffhup@optonline.net</a>
<b>Fundraising Chair:</b>	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	<a href="mailto:hauskerr@aol.com">hauskerr@aol.com</a>
<b>Outreach, Events:</b>	Bob Johnson		<a href="mailto:robert.johnson@njsierra.org">robert.johnson@njsierra.org</a>
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Wynn Johanson	908-464-0442	<a href="mailto:johansons@comcast.net">johansons@comcast.net</a>
<b>Membership:</b>	Doug Williams	973-263-8404	<a href="mailto:dougjwilliams@verizon.net">dougjwilliams@verizon.net</a>
<b>Air Quality Coord:</b>	Bob Campbell	973-761-4461	<a href="mailto:wrob_sc@earthlink.net">wrob_sc@earthlink.net</a>
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Bob Johnson		<a href="mailto:robert.johnson@njsierra.org">robert.johnson@njsierra.org</a>
<b>Greenbrook:</b>	Bob Muska	908-665-2296	<a href="mailto:rmuska@erols.com">rmuska@erols.com</a>

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://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/>

To join our e-mailing list, go 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:**

**Oct 8:** Current Events - Jeff Huppert of the Loantaka Group will present a program on **current environmental concerns in New Jersey**, the USA and the world community. An interactive format will allow for participation by all attendees. Topics will include energy myths, ocean resources, the politization of science in the US, and environmental unprotection.

**Nov 12:** Communal Living - Eric Hausker will present a DVD film entitled "**Visions of Utopia**", which shows various communal living arrangements in different parts of the country, followed by a discussion of the environmental goal of reducing the carbon footprint of the individual and finding a sustainable way of life.

**Dec 10:** We will show the video **Who Killed the Electric Car** - Jeff Huppert will moderate.

**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).

We raised \$465 in our recent auction, thanks to gift certificates contributed by the following donors: Whole Foods (Millburn), Sages Pages Book Store, (Madison), North Jersey School of Dog Grooming (Chatham), Community Theater at MayoCenter for Performing Arts (formerly Morristown Community Theater), Westfield Symphony Orchestra, and Colonial Symphony (Morristown). Please patronize them!

### 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	<a href="mailto:terystimb@hotmail.com">terystimb@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	David Schmetterer *	914-522-6642	<a href="mailto:dschmetterer@gmail.com">dschmetterer@gmail.com</a>
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Leona Fluck*	609-259-3734	<a href="mailto:Leona@pineypaddlers.com">Leona@pineypaddlers.com</a>
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Terry Stimpfel*	609-731-7016	<a href="mailto:terystimb@hotmail.com">terystimb@hotmail.com</a>
<b>ExCom* At-large:</b>	Malcolm McFarland	609-448-8699	<a href="mailto:jmalcolmmcfarland@verizon.net">jmalcolmmcfarland@verizon.net</a>
	Harold Rapp	609-671-0435	<a href="mailto:HalRapp@aol.com">HalRapp@aol.com</a>
	Ruth Ann Mitchell		<a href="mailto:ram400500@yahoo.com">ram400500@yahoo.com</a>

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

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** All Sierra Club members are invited to attend, learn what's happening in Central, and help things happen too! 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 and share conservation ideas! No general meetings in July, August and December.

**Sept. 10 (Wed) 7:30 pm,** Princeton MarketFair Mall, Rte 1 South, Princeton: **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 in MarketFair Mall.

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. Look for the Sierra signs in the Food Court of the MarketFair Mall.

**IMPORTANT** Please note the permanent change in general meeting day and location. (Continued on page 8)



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## GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 7)

Going forward the Central Group will meet on the third Tuesday of each month in the Wisk and Spoon meeting room of Whole Foods Market, Windsor Green Shopping Center, Rte 1 South, Princeton. We thank Whole Foods for making this location available for us.

**Oct 20 (Tues) 7:30-9pm: Environmental night!!!** Videos and key topics by Central Group officers. Get the scoop before the election. Wisk and Spoon meeting room, Whole Foods Market, Windsor Green Shopping Center, Rte 1 South, Princeton.

**Nov 18 (Tues) 7:30-9pm: Wild and Scenic Lower Delaware River.** Gregg Rackin, River Administrator, will discuss this beautiful treasure and natural resource running from the Gap to Washington Crossing. Its recent inclusion in Special Protection Waters gives the Delaware the longest stretch of anti-degradation policy on any river in the nation. Wisk and Spoon meeting room, Whole Foods Market, Windsor Green Shopping Center, Rte 1 South, Princeton.

**SPECIAL OUTDOORS EVENTS:** For more information see the Chapter Outings listed in this Sierran and our website. ALWAYS check with leaders to confirm event details. ALL paddling trips require pre registration with leaders.

**Oct 12 (Sun)** Canoe/Kayak the Crosswicks Creek/Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh

**Oct 15 (Wed)** Double Trouble State Park Hike (Ocean Co)

**Oct. 18 (Sat)** NJAS Plainsboro Preserve Hike (Mercer/Middlesex Cos)

**Oct 19 (Sun)** Canoe/Kayak the D&R Canal From Lambertville To Cadwalader Park

**Oct 19 (Sun)** RiverLINE Ramble (Burlington Co)

**Oct 25 (Sat)** Roebing Park Marsh Cleanup (Mercer Co)

**Oct 26 (Sun)** Paddle the D&R Canal from Lawrenceville to Kingston (Mercer Co)

**Nov 2 (Sat)** Canoe/Kayak the D&R Canal (Mercer/Middlesex Co)

**Nov 9 (Sun)** Canoe/Kayak Crosswicks Creek (Burlington/Mercer Cos)

**Nov 15 (Sat)** Assunpink Creek Trail Building (Mercer Co)

**Nov 15 (Sat)** Canoe/Kayak the D&R Canal (Middlesex Co)

**Nov 19 (Wed)** Clayton Park Hike (Monmouth Co)

**Dec 10 (Wed)** Paddle With The Tide On The Crosswicks Creek/HTB Marsh

**Dec 17 (Wed)** Historic Smithville Park Hike and Holiday Mansion Tour (Burlington Co)

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

**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.

### THE HIGH POINT TO CAPE MAY POINT HIKING TRAIL AND GREENWAY

There are many trails in New Jersey - some on-road and many off on protected lands - but they do not connect the state from end to end. There is a potential to unite and extend a number of existing long range trails to cover the length of the state. The component trails include the Appalachian Trail (complete), the Highlands Trail (being extended by the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference), Patriots Path (being extended by the Morris County Park Commission), the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park (planned extension by DEP), the Batona Trail (complete), and the least known long distance trail in the State, the Cedar Creek Trail (utilized by the South Jersey Outdoor Club).

The newly designated four-mile Assunpink Creek Trail in Robbinsville on NJ DEP Fish and Wildlife lands is part of a segment across heavily developed Mercer County, which will form a critical link in the state-wide trail plan.

Join us on Sat, Nov 15, at 9am as we begin construction on the four-mile upland Assunpink Creek Trail in Robbinsville: cutting bushes and removing downed branches on dry land.

There's work for all skill levels and dogs are welcome. So bring gloves and clippers and some water and snacks. Meet us at the Assunpink Creek parking lot on Route 130 northbound in Robbinsville. Rain date, Nov 16. Leader / Contact David Mattek 609-737-1342 or mattekdc@aol.com.

## 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
<b>Secretary:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>	
<b>Treasurer, Webmaster:</b>	Don McBride 732-560-0369	dtmcbride@yahoo.com
<b>Publicity:</b>	Sandi Lowich	abstract46@aol.com
<b>Programs:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>	
<b>Chapter Delegate:</b>	Sunil Somalwar	sunil.somalwar@gmail.com
<b>At-large ExCom:</b>	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 is looking for volunteers to help get the group back on its feet. We are also considering different meeting locations and dates. It takes a minimal amount of time and is usually not difficult to find speakers for

meetings and send e-mail in interested members. If you are interested in filling an open position or have suggestions on how the group could be more effective, contact Don McBride.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** The group is not holding regular meetings until we can get a new program chair and more participation. 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.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Held at before the regular meetings in October, January, April and July (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:

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

**Oct 17, 7pm: Coffee House** at the Women's Club Mansion at 164 Broad St. in Red Bank. Dianne Doolittle and her many musical friends will supply the live music.

**Oct 27:** Jim Peck, Director of Education for the American Littoral Society, will give a talk on **Discovering Natural New Jersey**. He will take you on a virtual tour of easily accessible natural places throughout the state. He'll let you know where to touch billion-year-old rock, scoop diamonds off the beach, view orchids and carnivorous plants or stroll through the world's highest Atlantic white cedar bog.

**Nov 24:** Tami Heffner and her husband Bill McCurdy run Earthen Harvest Organics, a **small organic farm** in New Jersey. They will talk about their experiences as local organic farmers, their newly created CSA, and the importance of eating locally grown food. They will be happy to give us tips for our own home gardens.

**Dec 14, 3pm: Holiday party** at Joellen's. Please contact Joellen at [jfutey@comcast.net](mailto:jfutey@comcast.net) to let her know what you are bringing to the Potluck, and for directions.

## Ocean County Group

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

### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair:</b>	A. Gregory Auriemma, Esq. 732-451-9220	sierraclubOC@aol.com
<b>Vice-Chr, Outings:</b>	Dawn Marie Johns 732-644-6340	sierraclubOC@hotmail.com
<b>Conserv'n Chair:</b>	Margit Meissner-Jackson 609-296-4367	sylviaJ1910@yahoo.com
<b>Secretary-Treas:</b>	Richard Washik 732-616-2775	r_washik@hotmail.com
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Nancy Brown 732-892-6089	
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Howard Schwartz 609-242-9304	hirschschwartz@comcast.net
<b>Fund-Raising:</b>	Joyce M. Isaza 732-920-9270	realtymstr@aol.com
<b>Co-Membership</b>		
<b>Chair:</b>	Sandy Brown 609-242-9304	sandylbrown@comcast.net
<b>ExCom Member:</b>	Jocelyn Isaza 732-581-0130	nightingale77nj@yahoo.com
<b>ExCom Member:</b>	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 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!



**Oct 5 (Sun):** Please stop by our table at the **Cattus Island Nature Festival** in Toms River. There will be fun for all ages. Show up early to sign up for a kayak or pontoon boat ride. For more details, please contact our Chair Greg Auriemma at 732-451-2770.

**Oct 11 (Sat):** Come down and visit us at the **Pinelands Jamboree** at the Wells Mills Park in Waretown. We will be having 2 hikes within the park. For more time of hikes and more details, please call our Outings Chair Dawn Marie Johns at 732-644-6340.

**Oct 18 (Sat):** Please join us for our **Foliage Hike**. Enjoy the beautiful colors and scenery of the changing of the season. For details on the hiking location, please call our Outings Chair Dawn Marie Johns at 732-644-6340.

**Nov 4 (Tues): Election Day!** Please go out and vote and remember every vote counts!

**Dec 19 (Fri):** We will be having our **4th Annual Holiday Party** and Silent Auction at 7pm at the "Skywalk Cafe" in the Ocean County Administration Building, 129 Hooper Avenue (2nd Floor), Toms River. Join us for food, fun and a chance to get a start on your holiday gift shopping. If you would like to help out or for more details please contact our Fund Raising Chair Joyce Isaza at 732-604-4583.

**Oct 15 (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.

**Oct 16 (Thurs) 7pm:** Atlantic County Friends of the Parks: 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\*.

**Oct 28 (Tues) 7pm:** Great Egg Harbor River Watershed Association: Trustees' meeting, open to the public. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114. WFNC\*.

**Nov 12 (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.

**Nov 20 (Thurs) 7pm:** Atl. County Friends of the Parks: Monthly meeting (See Oct 16).

**Nov 25 (Tues) 7pm:** Members' Meeting of the Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association: conservation planning. For more information or to confirm, call Julie Akers, 856-697-6114. WFNC\*.

We would like to give a special thanks to Domenic Russo of Dusk Till Dawn DJ Service for donating their entertainment services at our 3rd Annual BBQ Fund Raiser on July 19th. For more information of their services please contact Domenic at 732-206-1715 or check out their web site at [www.dusktilldawndj.com](http://www.dusktilldawndj.com).

## West Jersey Group

(Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

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

### OFFICERS:

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

**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.

**Oct 14:** Larissa Smith of the Conserve Wildlife Foundation will present the **Bald Eagle Monitoring Program**.

**Nov 11:** Dr. Karen O'Neill of Rutgers University will present "**Climate Change and our Ability to Manage Water.**"

**Dec 9:** **Holiday Pot Luck Social** and Year-end Wrap Up. Bring your favorite munchie to share and join us as we review the progress made in 2008 to protect the environment and plan for next year's efforts.

## South Jersey Group

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

### OFFICERS:

<b>Group, Outings Chair:</b>	Tom Boghosian	609-625-0878	boghosian1@verizon.net
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Pol. Chair, Calendars:</b>	Dick Colby	609-965-4453	dick.colby@stockton.edu
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	Gary Roman	609-625-3438	
<b>Secretary/Treasurer:</b>	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 final meeting in 2008 will take place on Wed, Nov 12. The Chair is Douglas Jewell, 5 Timber Lane, Swainton 08210-1462 (e-mail [jewellrea@comcast.net](mailto:jewellrea@comcast.net), cell phone 609-780-7129). 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).

### Some Possibly Relevant Meetings of Allied Organizations:

**Oct 9: Fall Historical Recollections Campfire** of Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries: Location TBA. (Oct 10 rainedate.) For more information contact Renee Brecht at 856 305-3238 or [rbrecht.cumaurice@yahoo.com](mailto:rbrecht.cumaurice@yahoo.com).

## 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:robertjohnson@comcast.net">robertjohnson@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>	
<b>Publicity:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>	
<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.

**Oct 13, Nov 10, and Dec 8:** speakers 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.

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.

(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)

## HIKES:

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

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

We need Young Sierran Outing Leaders for all areas, but extra especially for the Northern 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 Chair or Young Sierran Coordinator at [YoungSierrans@yahoo.com](mailto:YoungSierrans@yahoo.com)

**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) for information.

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/>.

The Sierra Club will be holding an **Outings Leader Training Workshop**, October 10-12, 2008 in Crownsville, MD. The fee is \$45, which includes meals, lodging (5-star bunkhouse), training materials, and t-shirt. If you are at all interested in leading for ICO now or in the future, this should be a great training opportunity. (The NJICO Chair will be in attendance; moreover, NJICO will reimburse the \$45 registration fee to any current or new NJICO-ers who so request). To learn more and to register, surf your way to: <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/training/>



# Outings

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

## GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

**Central Jersey:** Leona Fluck 609-259-3734 (H) [leona@pinyepaddlers.com](mailto:leona@pinyepaddlers.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 [elblumenkrantz@hotmail.com](mailto:elblumenkrantz@hotmail.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 [elblumenkrantz@hotmail.com](mailto:elblumenkrantz@hotmail.com)

**Outing Leaders:** Please send Jan-Mar 2009 write-ups to your Group Outings Coordinator before Oct. 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 Jan.-Mar., trip write-ups by November 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.

## OCTOBER

**Oct 4 (Sat): Coppermine Trail to the AT in the Delaware Water Gap National Park, Warren/Sussex Co:** 10am. Hike 6 miles. We will ascend along a brook cascade and falls. Then at the Appalachian Trail, near Camp Rd, we will eat lunch at the AMC's Camp Mohican. Note: they have indoor rest rooms. Then north on the AT to the Hiller Plaque, with views of the Delaware River and Smithfield Beach. Then descent on the Kaiser Rd Trail. The hike takes three to four hours plus the visit to Camp Mohican. The elevation ranges from 400 ft to 1400 ft. Meet at the Coppermine Trail parking lot on Mine Road. No pets. Hiking boots highly recommended. Bring a day bag with lunch, water and personal first aid, a compass and rain gear. Registration is recommended in case of updates: e-mail the leader, Jimi Oleksiak, [The\\_Hikist@Mac.com](mailto:The_Hikist@Mac.com). Directions: I-80 west to the last exit in New Jersey. Stay to the right and look for Mine Rd, which runs north along the river. Near the beginning of Mine Rd there is a half-mile-long one-lane section with a traffic light that meters the direction. After the end of the one-lane section go seven miles and look for the Coppermine Trail parking lot on the left.

**Oct 4 (Sat): Holmdel Park, Monmouth Co:** 4 pm. Have errands to do on Saturday morning? Let's go for a late afternoon hike instead. Enjoy a moderately fast, 2.5-mile hike in 564-acre Holmdel Park, close to where you live and work. Bring water. Hiking boots not required. From Northern/Central NJ head south on the GSP to exit 117A (Aberdeen). Turn right off the ramp and briefly head south on Lloyd Rd before making left on Line Rd. Go 3.1 miles on Line Rd to end. Right on Holmdel Rd for 1.1 miles until first light. Left on Roberts Rd for 0.5 miles. Then another left, pass Longstreet Farm buildings, then left into Holmdel Park, following signs for Hilltop. Park in Lot 3, near tennis. Rainy weather cancels. Call: Jim Davoust for directions, 203-214-9305, or [davou@att.net](mailto:davou@att.net). (JS)

**Oct 5 (Sun): Social Kayak Trip, Atlantic Co:** 9:30 am. We will do the Egg Harbor River and view the brilliant fall colors along the river. Easy paddle. Wear proper paddling clothes and bring a change of clothes. Pizza party after the trip with volleyball game. Call leader to reserve a kayak, space limited. Meet at Palace Restaurant, 6924 Black Horse Pike, Mays Landing. Leader: Paul Serdiuk, 609-462-3593 evenings or [pis1@cccnj.net](mailto:pis1@cccnj.net).

**Oct 6 (Mon): Canoe/Kayak on Cedar Creek (Ocean Co):** 9am. We'll stop to pick cranberries at old bogs as we paddle 10 miles from Dover Forge to Dudley Park. Geo-caching is always an activity on our trips so bring your GPS!! This is a trip for experienced Pinelands paddlers. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation, time and meeting location. Leaders: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or [leona@pinyepaddlers.com](mailto:leona@pinyepaddlers.com). (W)

**Oct 8 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Mullica River (Burlington Co.):** 9am. We'll paddle 14 miles from Atsion to Pleasant Mills. This is a trip for experienced Pinelands paddlers. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation and logistics. Leaders: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or [leona@pinyepaddlers.com](mailto:leona@pinyepaddlers.com). (W)

**Oct 10-13 (Fri-Mon): Fall Foliage Hiking & Camping Weekend (NY):** 10am. Hike and camp at North-South Lake State Campground at Haines Falls, in the Catskill Mts.. Several hikes are planned, as well as camping in spectacular fall settings. We will visit Sunset Rock, Alligator Rock, and Kaaterskill Falls. The campground is a 2.5-3 hour drive from South Jersey. If you cannot camp out, join us for the hikes either day. Contact leader to reserve a space, or for additional information and directions: Paul Serdiuk, 609-462-3593 eve. Or [pis1@cccnj.net](mailto:pis1@cccnj.net).

**Oct 11 (Sat): Sterling Forest Fire Tower Ramble (NY):** 10am. 5 miles, moderate to slow pace. We will do the Fire Tower Ramble with the option to extend if the group desires. This is a moderately strenuous hike with a considerable amount of climbing. Bring water, lunch, and wear hiking boots. No sneakers. Meet at the Visitors' Center. See the Sterling Forest website for information and directions: <http://nys-parks.state.ny.us/parks/info.asp?parkID=81> . No pets please. Steady/heavy rain cancels. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike. Leaders: Jeffrey Sovelove, [Hiker\\_Dood@yahoo.com](mailto:Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com) and Lee Ousley, [Ousleycl@mindspring.com](mailto:Ousleycl@mindspring.com) .

**Oct 11 (Sat): Minisink Outing - Crater Lake and Hemlock Pond (Sussex County):** 9:30 am. Crater Lake is a beautiful, high-elevation Kittinginny lake; nearby Hemlock Pond is isolated and man-made. Finishes by 1pm. Bring appropriate supplies of water and snacks. Rain date is the following day. Participants must



