This year on Earth Day, April 22nd, elected officials, environmental activists, and local community members came together at the Memorial Field Park in Linden to protest against some of the critical environmental issues of our day. Among the list was opposition to the settlement agreement that Gov. Christie has proposed with Exxon Mobil. "a huge gift" to the oil giant to clean up the pollution that is already "within the reach of residents of Linden, Bayonne, and the entire State of New Jersey," said Senator Lesniak.

Exxon Mobil operated a number of facilities across New Jersey that released contaminants into our air, water, and soil. In 2004 the State sued for $8.9 billion to clean up those sites and to compensate NJ for damages to our natural resources. Finally, in April of this year, the NJDEP and Exxon agreed to a settlement that would pay $225 million. The legal case focused on the Bayway Refinery in Linden and Exxon's Bayonne facility, but the settlement also included another 16 additional sites and over 800 gas stations throughout the state.

"We are here in Linden because nowhere in the country does every issue come so cleanly into focus: toxic site cleanup, air pollution, water pollution, fracking, pipelines, and most importantly the principle of 'polluter pays.' You can nowhere in the country through the state.

The second Earth day issue, the city of Linden includes the path of the proposed Pilgrim Pipeline, a 178-mile project to transport Bakken crude oil from Albany NY to local refineries. Before coming into Linden, the pipeline would cut through the Highlands region and across densely populated communities. The path would endanger critical drinking water supplies along the Pongton, Ramapo, and Passaic Rivers, while adding more pollution to environmental justice communities. The pipeline would also carry natural gas extracted by fracking, a form of drilling that results in significant air and water pollution. The State Assembly, three NJ municipalities and 34 municipalities have adopted resolutions in opposition to the project. (See related article on p. 4).

By press time for this issue of the Jersey Sierra, the DEP’s comment period for the Exxon Mobil settlement will have ended, and we may know more about Christie’s giveaway once it is ter-

All may be well with the environment in Governor Christie’s parallel universe – the Christieverse – which apparently exists with vortices somewhere between Iowa and New Hampshire. But, back here in New Jersey, just look at how his budget and the Department of Environmental Protection’s (DEP’s) prioritize starve our environment of funds and enforcement needed by those of us still residing in the real New Jersey.

NJDEP Commissioner Bob Martin’s recent testimony before the Assembly Budget Committee consisted of a public relations push – without public policy to address the environmental issues facing our State. The Budget Committee overruled the DEP’s recommendation to end the Christieverse' ‘NED’ means ‘No Real Definition’ to environmental cleanup. Another Administration travesty is the national Department of Energy’s intention to close contaminated sites.

In the Christieverse, this doesn’t matter because the public is in the dark since the Christieverse, this doesn’t matter because the public is in the dark since the Christieverse, this doesn’t matter because the public is in the dark since the Christieverse, this doesn’t matter because the public is in the dark since the Christieverse, this doesn’t matter because the public is in the dark since the Christieverse, this doesn’t matter because the public is in the dark since the Christieverse, this doesn’t matter because the public is in the dark since the Christieverse, this doesn’t matter because the public is in the dark since the Christieverse, this doesn’t matter because the public is in the dark since the Christieverse, this doesn’t matter because the public is in the dark since the Christieverse, this doesn’t matter because the public is in the dark since the Christieverse, this doesn’t matter because the public is in the dark since the Christieverse, this doesn’t matter because 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Population Issues Coordinator's Report
We've Made Progress...

Several pieces of news recently have been encouraging when it comes to stabilizing population at a sustainable level. Here in New Jersey, the number of children a woman will have over her lifetime has been stabilized at replacement rate of 2.1 for more than three decades.

As reported in a recent issue of Population Connection, “In 1970 there were only 10 nations at or below replacement rate. Now there are 78. Thanks partly to U.S. and family size in Mexico plummeted from 6.8 children in 1970 to just two today,” the report noted. Many countries urging larger families because fertility has dropped below replacement rate, women are saying “no.” In the Philippines, as reported previously in this column, women can access contraceptive services despite opposition from Catholic bishops. Guttmacher Institute findings show that here in the U.S., the teen pregnancy rate is at a 40-year low, in part due to more teens adopting effective forms of contraception.

Recently issued guidelines for the Affordable Care Act from the Department of Health and Human Services will give all women, including young women, access at no out-of-pocket cost to contraceptive care with health control, including sterilization surgery, IUDs (considered the most effective reversible contraceptive), oral contraceptives and other forms of birth control including emergency contraception.

And yet...

How many times have you read an article about endangered plants or animals and seen the words “due to habitat loss.” Have you made the connection? “Habitat loss” may remain an acceptable term to some, but to others, it is a thinly veiled statement that the population of plants or animals is on the verge of extinction.

Going hand-in-hand with habitat loss is climate disruption. A recent report from the environmental group Cool Trails noted: “Global, economically and population growth continued to be the most important drivers of increases in CO2 emissions from fossil fuels.” As the Los Angeles Times editorialized, “for the first time in its five years of producing such reports, the panel acknowledged that climate models could make a real difference.”

Over half the pregnancies in this country are unplanned. At a recent meeting of advocates for women’s health, this author asked if six clinics were still closed and hours curtailed at other health care providers due to the consistent veto by Governor Christie of $7.5 million for women’s health care. They are, and further discussion revealed that many of the clinics that were to absorb these clients are not accessible by public transportation, particularly in the Southern New Jersey counties of Salem, Cumberland, Gloucester and Camden where some of the state’s highest teen pregnancy rates are found.

We know that there are 225 million women around the world who want to control or reduce their fertility, but do not have access to family planning/family spacing education and supplies. We also know that girls with more education will get married later and have fewer children on average. Providing education and access to women who then have smaller, healthier families puts less demand on environmental resources.

So, despite the good news, we need to keep working to insure that women here in the U.S. and overseas have access to family planning services and supplies. We can do that by contacting our representatives at the federal level and urging them to support funding for Title X and reproductive health and funding for the US Agency for International Development and the UN’s Family Planning Agency internationally so that all women can voluntarily decide the size of their families.

And yet we also need to insure that our representatives put the health of women and families at the forefront of their agenda. And that they support a woman’s right to make her own decisions about voluntarily choosing whether and when she will have a child.

To learn more about the Sierra Club’s Global Population and Environment Program go to www.sierraclub.org/population.

Conservation Chair's Report
Conservation Policy Evolves

By Greg Gorman (ggorman07419@embarqmail.com)

The Sierra Club’s purpose is to “explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; to help save the endangered; to use our values and our influence to hold the powerful accountable; and to encourage all people to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth’s ecosystems and resources.” The Club has always advocated for clean energy; yet, we once burned natural gas in a turbine fueled by coal.

Today, we recognize that switch from coal to gas still leads to global warming. Our efforts now encourage energy efficiency and clean energy. Our goals and tactics continue to evolve.

Traditionally, conservation relies on “use, reuse, repurpose, and recycle.” For example, one of the advantages of rubber tires is that they last longer. If the tire walls were intact, a worn tire became a “reatread.” Tires tied together are dropped into lakes for fish habitat. “Tire crumb” becomes artificial surfaces for athletic fields. Sounds like an apparent success story? Not necessarily.

The use of “tire crumb” artificial turf began with the controversy about the EPA’s ban on the use of tire crumbs. The EPA published a list of chemicals and pollutants contained in synthetic turf.

By 2009 study, the EPA found that tire crumbs “are not regarded as a waste of commerce,” according to the Sierra Club. The EPA then challenged EPA’s conclusion and EPA subsequently retracted their position in a letter dated December 16, 2014. Risks associated with “tire crumb” artificial turfs remain hotly debated. The Sierra Club opposes the “prescriptive principle” and recommends that states set aside tire residues no grounds and ball fields stop until the issues are resolved. There are ecological, health and safety designs and healthy “alternative” designs available.

Conservation Policy increasingly engages political leadership to avoid problems. This perspective is changing in a positive way, based on past conservation models. We have long understood the nutrient cycle. William McDonough and Michael Braungart’s books “Cradle to Cradle” and “The Upcycle” apply these principles. They advocate product design that considers the “next” uses to which material products and their components will be put. The Club of Rome Report describes this as a “circular economy,” where products are designed for reuse, recycling, remanufacturing and remanufacturing. It replaces the traditional, linear “take, make & dispose” model. “See “The Circular Economy and Benefits for Society,” April 2015: http://www.sierraclub.org government and private entities. The Sierra Club’s Zero Waste policy embodies this philosophy. By advocating the pre- vention of waste by design, the Club is working on reducing environmental, social, energy and justice issues.

And yet, the Club’s environmental policy applies these design principles to places – to support “Complete Streets and Healthy Places.” Programs. Segregating communities into commercial, industrial, and residential zones connected by transportation corridors produces off-highway congestion, sprawl, energy consumption and pollution. Complete Streets programs require a relook at communities to make them more walkable or bike ride-able.

The Club’s Centers for Disease Control’s concept of “healthy places” calls for communities designed to improve the quality of life for all who live, work, worship, learn, and play within their neighborhoods. These goals embrace John Muir’s view that “the body needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where we will be able to live with all our senses, and give strength to body and soul.”

Ode to Volunteerism
Author mostly unknown; taken from the centennial book of the NJ Water Environment Association
It’s not for the money, and it’s not for the fame.
It’s not for any personal gain.
It’s just for the love of fellow creatures;
It’s just for the Planet’s larger natural features.
It’s just to give a bit of self.
Something you can’t buy with wealth.

And it’s not for medals, worn with pride;
It’s for that feeling deep inside.
The reward is felt down in the heart;
A feeling that you’ve had a part -
In something that makes you feel.

That makes you want to volunteer.

Composite Chair's Report
Resolutions Passed by the Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom) in March, April and May, 2015

We urged the Club’s national volunteer leadership to petition the Club’s Board of Directors to ask that all new Club employees be made to experience the “volunteer immersion training.” We asked the upcoming ExCom and Group meetings. (March)

Another lawsuit: We began the process of legal intervention opposing Gov. Christie’s policy statement of a 25% hike in the state’s contribution to support groundwater pollution under 17 industrial sites plus 840 gas stations through the state’s – now $2.6 million – Safe Underground Law Clinic, (April)

We initiated an attempt to join a lawsuit against Six Flags Great Adventure opposing their proposed solar farm, which would have required the destruction of seventy acres. We then obtained Donato to represent the Chapter. (Email vote in late April; see article on p. 5)

Christine Wittanger was appointed Hudson Avenue Network Coordinator, with the designation of restoring our Hudson Group News and Group News Web.

Political endorsements were awarded to all four Democratic incumbents in LD 15 and 20 (Conference calls on May 18th)

Is there an environmental issue that we’re MISSING? If so, please call or write to Club officers.
Be Careful What You Ask For

(A tale of environmental stupidity all around, including my own)

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

Is Your Email Address Up-To-Date?

Does the Sierra Club have your current email address on file? This lets us know that you are interested in receiving updates about Sierra Club activities and events. If you have moved or changed your email address, please let us know so we can stay in touch. To update your address, please send an email to membership.services@sierraclub.org by August 10.

A variety of Club books, notecards, badges and clothing is available from www.sierraclub.org/store

Chair's Message

Sausages

By Ken Johanson (kjohan@comcast.net)

S-678/A-4092 – Seeks to prevent illegal sale or display of tigers and tiger parts

A-3552, A-3553, A-3554 – Seeks to address decline in monarch butterfly populations

To learn more about these bills, visit the New Jersey legislative site and enter the bill number in the space provided on the right side of the page. Then click on the bill number. The page that comes up will show the names of the bill’s primary sponsors and cosponsors, as well as the current status of the bill. You can also review the bill itself, the statement that accompanies the bill, bill amendments and committee statements.

To obtain a complete list of bills that the New Jersey Chapter has taken posi-
tions on go to the Chapter’s site, www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey, and click on Reference Resources. Bill tables, including the bill number, the primary sponsors, a brief description of the bill, the current status of the bill and the Chapter’s position on the bill, are provid-
ed for both the General Assembly and the Senate. Once you have identified a bill that you are interested in, be sure to visit the New Jersey legislative site to see if there have been any changes since the bill tables were last updated.

As a voter, you have a general understanding of the issue that concerns you and you have reviewed and know the status of bills that deal with that issue. What do you do with this information?

The next (Oct-Dec) issue of this Newsletter will include our annual ballot for the election of three executive committee members. (ExCom) members whose three-year term is up in October are George Denzer, Laura Lynch and Don McFadden.) To nominate yourself, or someone else, please contact Sunil Somalwar (sunil.somalwar@gmail.com) by August 10. Photo at right shows ExCom in action!
On Sept. 5, 1964, in the very same session in the White House Rose Garden at which President Lyndon Johnson sent forth the Wilderness Act, President Lyndon Johnson signed another piece of legislation that, some claim, has benefitted more Americans for their ability to recreate in nature than did the Wilderness Act. This was the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, which assured an annual stream of funding from offshore energy development income for acquiring private lands for priority public uses.

But, unlike the Wilderness Act, it came with an expiration date, and the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act is about to expire, in September of this year.

The Sierra Club is part of a Washington, DC based coalition working to reauthorize the proposed PILGRIM affordable funding source. For years, the coalition has sought to get full, dedicated funding for LWCF. The reauthorization efforts will not need to go through the uncertain appropriations process each and every year, the full LWCF against attempts to defund it or its programs. This year, the reauthorization effort will go through the Senate, since the House has already approved a dedicated funding assured is part of the task force process.

One strength our Club can bring to the campaign is the power of our volunteers in the most populous state in the nation, in contacting their legislators and urging them to keep this stream of money going for as long as we can. Consider the safety of our water resources, which are remote from urban areas. We want to keep our water clean, and how this affordable program has specifically benefited their own states, and their own districts. And we want all of them to know that there is not coming out of any taxpayer pocket; the revenues come from offshore oil drilling— "free" money in a manner of speaking.

We now have WTO bills in Congress: a very strong Senate bill S. 890, by Senator Frank LoBiondo (R-2) and William Pascrell, Jr. (D-9); and Albio Sires (D-8) and Tom MacArthur (R-3) and Leonard Lance (R-7) and Brendan L. Keating, Chair of Chatham County Municipal Utilities Authority. The passage of a full LWCF authorization bill means sharing the benefits of the national LWCF.

"Experience has shown us that acquiring new water allocations is almost impossible," stated Richard Plambeck, a member of the New Jersey Legislature and a resident of Morris County, New Jersey. "We simply do not have enough water to go around. Consistently so. Undetected moderate and small spills as small as 10,000 gallons to as large as a million gallons. A 10,000-gallon spill alone could pollute more than 40 billion gallons of water.

"Oil soaked soils pose a special problem. Reports by the U.S. Geological Survey in Minnesota found arsenic levels of 1000 parts per million. Even though the soil might look fine, the arsenic is still there. It is a problem."

"The other principal portion of the LWCF is used for a broad array of other programs, including the maintenance needs of the four land management agencies, FS Highway rehabilitation and maintenance programs, the Payments in Lieux of Taxes programs, FS State and Tribal Wildlife Grants, FWS State and Private Forestry programs, and the Payments in Lieux of Taxes programs. FWS State and Tribal Wildlife Grants, FWS State and Private Forestry programs, and the Payments in Lieux of Taxes programs. FWS State and Tribal Wildlife Grants, FWS State and Private Forestry programs, and the Payments in Lieux of Taxes programs.

The fund is available for outdoor recreation purposes only if appropriated by Congress each year, and the level of annual appropriations has varied widely since the origin of the fund. Of the total revenues that have accrued throughout the history of the program ($32.6 billion), less than half have been appropriated ($15.5 billion). FY2001 marked the highest funding ever, with appropriations exceeding the authorized level by reaching nearly $1 billion.

In recent years, Congress typically has provided a portion of the LWCF funding for one or more related purposes. For instance, funds have been provided for acquisition management to cover the costs of land purchases, such as appraisals and title research. Acquisition funds also have been provided to cover the costs of land exchanges, as well as the acquisition of lands within the boundaries of federal land units ("inholdings") that may become available throughout the year.

State Grants

The principal portion of the LWCF, administered by the NPS, provides matching grants to states (including Alaska and Hawaii) for recreation planning, acquisition of lands and waters, and facility development income for acquiring lands that our families can enjoy for centuries. The Coalition urges Senators Booker and Menendez to keep this stream of money going for as long as they can. Congress typically identifies which areas are to be acquired with the funds it provides.

How the Fund Works

The LWCF is authorized to accultegrate $900 million annually, with most of the designated money derived from oil and gas leasing in the Outer Continental Shelf. Other purposes include grants to states (includ -ing Alaska and Hawaii) for recreation planning, acquisition of lands and waters, and facility development income for acquiring lands that our families can enjoy for centuries. The Coalition urges Senators Booker and Menendez to keep this stream of money going for as long as they can. Congress typically identifies which areas are to be acquired with the funds it provides.

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On May 17, 2015, while on the campaign trail in Iowa, Governor Christie made a very troubling statement about the environment in New Jersey. He said that “the person who started the federal EPA’s overreach was Lisa Jackson, who came from New Jersey, ... and I believe she was focused on increasing her own power in the area of envi-
ronmental protection.”

Sierra Club thought they were a step forward, on balance.

The Sierra Club had a good working relationship with Lisa Jackson, first when she headed our DEP, and later as EPA Administrator. Sometimes we were on the same side
and sometimes we had policy disagreements. Here are some of the major policy
changes made by Lisa Jackson while at NJDEP:

• Flood Hazard Rules – These rules are important in development in flood prone areas. They were a compromise and were relatively modest. A good innovation was the require-
ment for stream buffers but a bad innovation was a new category of “general” permits that allowed increased development in some flood prone areas.

• Water Quality Planning Rules – These encouraged development in urban areas and other places with existing sewers, and discouraged development in environmen-
tally sensitive and flood prone areas. The rules were a compromise – with some envi-
nronmental groups actually opposing them because they were not strong enough. The
Sierra Club thought they were a step forward, on balance.

• Public Access Rules - These required additional public access to oceanfront
beaches in shorefront developments – allowing the people of NJ to get access to the
ocean as a result of the rule.

• Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) – This multi-state compact required
New Jersey to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fund energy efficiency programs,
creating 1,000 jobs. It was started by New York’s Republican Governor George Pataki
and was successful. Jackson also founded DEP’s Office of Climate Change to invent
policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to mitigate climate impacts.

Christie says, “I am
Dismantling Environmental
Protection

The only “overreach” is Governor Christie’s anti-environmental agenda where he is
targeted at these meetings. The administration pushed for delays to the WQMP rules.
With the 2009 Executive Order 1, the Governor launched the EDPP – Executive Order
2, which called for no rules stricter than federal standards which was released even in draft form. The BPU and consultants are still working on a funding
mechanism for offshore wind, provided for the manufacture of wind turbines in
New Jersey, the Christie Administration has failed to implement the Offshore Wind
Energy Development Act (OWEDA), which was signed in 2010. It established a fund-
ning mechanism for offshore wind, provided for the manufacture of wind turbines in
our state, and was expected to promote their installation offshore.

What went wrong? New Jersey’s 2009 Energy Management Plan called for 50 per-
cent of the state’s energy to come from offshore wind. When the Governor signed the
plan in 2010, he committed to supporting offshore wind. New Jersey’s Board of
Public Utilities (BPU), stocked with Christie appointees, was given until March, 2011,
to develop regulations to establish the Offshore Renewable Energy Credit (OREC) pro-
gram, but they are still in the process years later. Regulations have still not been released
in draft form. The BPU and consultants are still working on a funding
mechanism for OREC’s to ensure the money they generate is not diverted to the State’s
General Fund. Such precautions are necessary – because the Governor has diverted
close to $1 billion from the Clean Energy Fund to close budget gaps.

We think Governor Christie doesn’t want to have a wind project approved while he
is running for national office. It may have something to do with the political agenda
of some of his wealthy funding sources. Offshore wind (which is much steadier than
onshore wind) is the cleanest, most efficient, and reliable form of electricity
generation. New Jersey needs to do its share to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions,
from conventional fossil fuel electricity generation, that makes our coast especially
vulnerable to climate change.

Christie’s Executive Order 2 called for no rules stricter than federal standards which
would impact the regulation of these compounds in our water. New Jersey law
requires a one in a million lifetime risk for cancer while the federal limit is less strin-
gent: one in 10,000 to one in 100,000 depending on the chemical. The Christie
administration has not adopted any new standards while in office.

On March 4th, while on the campaign trail in Iowa, Governor Christie made a very troubling statement about the environment in New Jersey. He said that “the person who
started the federal EPA’s overreach was Lisa Jackson, who came from New Jersey, ... and I believe she was focused on increasing her own power in the area of envi-
ronmental protection.”

On May 4th, New Jersey’s Drinking Water Quality Institute met for only the second time in the history of the Institute, where the acronym stands for New Jersey.

On May 6th, a hearing took place in the Borough of Seaside Heights’ (Ocean Co.) on
a proposal to divert a 1.6 acre portion of public beach to private use. The beach was to
be given to the Casino Pier Company, taking it out of the public domain, and end-
ing its use for swimming and other recreation. The diversion will allow the Casino
Pier Company to extend its pier, onto the ocean, and add a Ferris wheel and roller coaster. Seaside Heights was devastated by Hurricane Sandy, when much of Casino Pier collapsed into the ocean.

The public hearing was set for May 6th, 2015, and was open to the public. On May 6th, the inspector from the Environmental Protection Commission, which was part of the
appeals court, heard testimony from the Casino Pier Company, New Jersey’s Department
of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), and the Borough of Seaside Heights. The public
meeting was open to the public, and the Casino Pier Company wanted to use the beach
as part of its expansion, which according to the inspector, the public is entitled to at least six open spaces.

Many people walked on the beach when the hearing adjourned at 7:30 PM, and the public was determined to have the 1.6 acre restored to its former condition.

On May 8th, New Jersey’s Drinking Water Quality Institute met for only the second
time in the Institute’s history, which is why the acronym stands for New Jersey.

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On March 4th, while on the campaign trail in Iowa, Governor Christie made a very troubling statement about the environment in New Jersey. He said that “the person who
started the federal EPA’s overreach was Lisa Jackson, who came from New Jersey, ... and I believe she was focused on increasing her own power in the area of envi-
ronmental protection.”

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time in the Institute’s history, which is why the acronym stands for New Jersey.
Skylands Group (Sussex and northern Warren Counties)


OFFICERS: (All are members of the Group Executive Committee.)
- Chair: Susan Williams 973-660-4960 skylandsgroup@gmail.com
- Vice Chair: Norine Haberski
- Treasurer: Greg Gorman
- Conservation Chair: Norine Haberski
- Outings Chair: Open Position!
- Acting Publicity Chair: Jeri Doherty
- Membership Chair: Open Position!

EVENTS:
- Open Position!
- Members-at-Large: Dave Alcock
- Ex-Com: Open Position!

ACTIVITIES: We provide education about a variety of environmental issues by hosting movies or speakers at our general meetings. We also provide information to residents by tabling at town days and other events throughout the spring/summer/fall seasons.

We join with other grassroots organizations to protect the natural resources and beauty of our environmentally sensitive area in northwest NJ. Some of our activism includes protecting open space, maintaining water quality, promoting clean energy, and addressing local, national and global environmental issues as they arise. We participate in activities to protect the Delaware River Basin and oppose hydrofracking and all the subsurface infrastructure needed for it. The Skylands Group also sponsors hikes and other outings throughout the region to encourage people to reconnect with the outdoors.

GENERAL MEETINGS: SECOND TUESDAY of the month from 7:30pm at the Unitarian Fellowship, One W. Nelson Street, Newton. Best check electronic sites for more current information.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: We usually meet after the general meeting. The public is welcome to stay and provide input.

EVENTS: Posted on our website and the online events calendar on the Chapter website. We also advertise on various media sites throughout the Skylands region.

South Highlands Group (Huntendon and southern Warren Counties)


WEBSITE: [https://www.facebook.com/SouthHighlandsSierraClub/](https://www.facebook.com/SouthHighlandsSierraClub/)

OFFICERS:
- Chair: Jonathan Wall
- Vice Chair: Celeste Martin
- Conservation Chair: Cinny MacGonagle
- Secretary: Jonathan Wall
- Treasurer: Celeste Martin
- Political Chair: Jonathan Wall
- Publicity Chair: Susan Schirmer
- Membership Chair: Jim Fleming
- Outings Coordinator: Jonathan Wall

GROUP NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

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


MEETINGS:

**PLEASE JOIN US IN OUR NEW LOCATION!** We now will be holding our general meetings at the North Hunterdon Library, 65 Halsey Street, Clinton, NJ 08809 on the first Wednesday of each month!

**July 12 (Sun):** Paddling Merrill Creek Reservoir, Located at 34 Merrill Creek Road, Washington, NJ. This beautiful 650-acre reservoir includes a 290-acre Environmental Preserve and 2000 additional acres of woods and fields. Contact Jim Fleming if you have questions. Limited to 20 members. Sign up for this event at [http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/south-highlands](http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/south-highlands) or Meetup.com/njsierrclub. Donation requested.

**July 22 (Wed): Executive and Conservation Committee Meeting, 7pm at Office of Dr. Jonathan Wall, 27 Center Street, Clinton, NJ. This is the quarterly meeting of the Executive and Conservation Committees of the North Jersey Group. The meeting is casual and informative. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend to learn more about the Club, hear about and discuss issues, plan future events, and become more active. Please check the online calendar of events to confirm. For more information please contact Jennifer at jonathan@jonwall.com.

**Aug 22 (Sat):** Voorhees State Park Walk, Pot Luck Picnic and Evening Presentation. Meet at 5pm at the Observatory Parking Lot for a walk through the park. Bring food to share. Please let Celeste know what you plan to bring to central mar.com. The Observatory has program that night titled “The Far Call - The New Horizons Sattcraftrc Fliffs of Puro” which we plan to attend. Please see Meetup.com/njsierrclub or [http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/south-highlands](http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/south-highlands) for updates about this event. Space limited. Donations requested.

**Sept 2 (Wed):** Birding in NJ. Meet and Greet at 7pm and program will begin at 7-30. North Hunterdon Library, 65 Halsey Street, Clinton, NJ 08809. We will hold a short planning session followed by a talk on the Birds of New Jersey.

**Aug 29 (Sat): Sierra Summer Social.** 4pm at Nyack NY. WE do an easy hike along the Old Erie Path Rail Trail for 3-4 miles before returning for a potluck barbecue at a member’s home in Nyack NY. Please contact Jennifer at jenniroth2@gmail.com to get location, directions, and to let her know what you plan to bring. John will lead the walk. Please check our web page for specifics. Registration required at [http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/south-highlands](http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/south-highlands)

**July 21 (Tue): Executive and Conservation Committee Meeting, 7pm at River Vale Public Library, 412 Rivervale Rd, River Vale. This is the quarterly meeting of the Executive and Conservation Committees of the North Jersey Group. The meeting is casual and informative. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend to learn more about the Club, hear about and discuss issues, plan future events, and become more active. Please check the on-line calendar of events to confirm. For more information please contact John at jkashwick@gmail.com.

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**Sept 30 (Wed):** Reduce, Recycle, Reuse. 7pm at Paramus Public Library. 1160 Century Rd. Paramus. For us to entertain an interest workshop coordinated by Mary Walsh, our Executive Committee member. Bring your own ideas. If you would like to help plan or participate in this program, please contact Mary at bl@hbl@hotmail.com. Please confirm program and on-line calendar.

**CONSERVATION ISSUES:**

Protecting the Palisades: LG Electronics, a multinational corporation, is planning to build an office tower in Englewood Cliffs that will rise high above the tree-line of the Palisades and for the first time, violate the upsidedown ridge-line—a view enjoued by Americans since before the founding of our nation. LG’s proposed office tower will rise 143 feet above grade—far higher than the 35-foot limit that, until now, has been respected by other companies in this area. The Sierra Club’s North Jersey Group is
part of the Save the Palisades Coalition working to stop this overderevelopment. To get
involved, please contact Jennifer Rothchild at jenriroth23@gmail.com.

Pilgrim Pipeline: The proposed Pilgrim Pipeline is a dual 178 miles pipeline between Albany, NY and Linden, NJ. It will likely contain Bakken shale oil that will be sent south to New Jersey and refined products (including kerosene) will be sent north back to Albany. The pipelines will cross five New Jersey counties (including Bergen and Passaic) through some of the most fragile areas vital to maintaining water quality in all communities. There would be major impact on environment, public health and property values you would bear the burden of having this risk and disrup-
tion perpetuated by benefit. A spill or explosion could be catastrophic, endangering our water supply, risking the lives of thousands, and overwhelming our emergency response resources. We are working to get communities in both counties to pass resolu-
tions opposing this pipeline project. For more information, please contact Jeff Rapaport at jrapaport@optonline.net.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE: Marty Cohen and Buffy Jensen organize various trail main-
tenance projects throughout the year where we do clean-up in our nearby state parks and forests. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Marty at martincoc-
en@verizon.net.

OUTINGS: If you would like to learn how to become an outings leader, head, please contact Elke at elt@njmail.com or Mary Walsh at blchbwalsh@hotmail.com to get more information.

Sign up for North Jersey Group e-mails by e-mailing John at jkashwick@gmail.com.

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Hudson Area Network

(Hudson County)

The NJ Chapter understands the importance of urban issues such as protecting the public’s drinking water and air quality, maintaining good mass transit, issues of flood-
ing, providing access to the waterfront, the creation and preservation of sustainable green open space, and protecting against hazardous facilities, and is currently estab-
lishing a local network of local grassroots volunteers in the Hudson County area.

Anyone interested in being involved is encouraged to contact Hudson Area Coordinator Christine Whittager cwhittager@gmail.com.

(Note: a “Network” is a new Sierra Club entity analogous to a Group, but more informal.)

Loantaka Group

(Morris and Union Counties (except for Elizabeth and Hillside), plus Livingston, Millburn and Roseland, approximately)

WEBSITE: http://www.sierrclub.org/new-jersey/loantaka/

Loantaka now has a Facebook page. Please check it out and like it: https://www.facebook.com/LoantakaGroupNJSC

OFFICERS:
Group Co-Chairs: Eric Hauser 752-669-0719 ericbiomass@gmail.com and Paul Sanderson 908-235-2414 paulsanderson@aol.com
Treasurer: Paul Sanderson 908-235-2414 paulsanderson@aol.com
Secretary: Scott McCarthy 813-767-3593 bh_escott@earthlink.net

Conservation Chair:
Morris County: Open Position!
Union County: Open Position!

Political Chair:
Website: Loantaka Group Facebook

Pilgrim Pipeline:

Thousands of substandard rail cars are used by CSX to move Bakken crude oil on the West Shore line through Bergen County each year. The threat or danger it poses to our communities demand a moratorium on the use of these substan-
dard rail cars to safeguard our communities. The North Jersey Group is joining with other groups to raise awareness of this issue and get the federal government to pass stricter legislation to regulate use of these cars. For more information, please contact Mary Ellen Shaw at meshaw.001@gmail.com.

Our website:
Gateway Group

facebook.com/pages/Gateway-Group-NJ-Sierra-Club/128999853684278?fref=ts

The Gateway Group is working in January 2011. Please contact any of the leaders below if you are interested in joining our campaigns to protect the environment. There are several Gateway Group positions open.


facebook.com/pages/Gateway-Group-NJ-Sierra-Club/12899853684278?fref=ts

OFFICERS:
Chair: David Yennior 973-844-1384 dyennior@gmail.com
Vice-Chair: ZaShah Khademi 201-618-8572 zash@taol.com
Secretary: Anne Hirs 973-844-1121 annehirs@msn.com
Treasurer: Open Position!
Program Chair: Open Position!
Publicity Chair: Open Position!
Conservation Chair: Open Position!
Co-Chair:
ZaShah Khademi 201-618-8572 zash@taol.com
and
David Korfage 973-932-0742 dkorfage@hotmail.com

Political Chair:
Fundraising Chair:
Open Position!

Membership:
Member at Large: Rob Campbell 973-761-4461 rob2023_sc@verizon.com
Outreach and Events:
Webmaster: Wynn Johnson 908-464-0412 wynjohnson@comcast.net

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. Or come to one of our General Meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. There are no obligations and there will be no pressure.

To find out our activities, go to: http://www.sierrclub.org/new-jersey/loantaka/

To join our e-mailing list, go to: http://lists.sierrclub.org/archives/nj/loantaka-news.html

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 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: posted on our website: http://www.sierrclub.org/new-jersey/loantaka/

MEETING SCHEDULE:
July and August: No Meetings

Sept 9: We will be showing the 2012 film ‘A Fierce Green Fire’ The Battle for a Living Planet. It features reports from past years of environmental activism. You will not want to miss footage of Greenpeace protesters in speedboats interfering with whaling and seal-hunting vessels. Eric Hauser will lead a discussion.

ACTIVITIES: (Consult our website (http://www.sierrclub.org/new-jersey/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 (908-235-2414) or Eric (752-669-0719).

Central Jersey Group

(Mercer and neighboring towns in adjoining counties)

Find the latest at https://www.facebook.com/CentralJerseyGroupNJSC.

Join our distribution list to receive timely information in infrequent emails. Please vol-
tunteer to help us. Openings for Outreach, Publicity, Webmaster and more. Contact Tony Granato at toni.granato@sierrclub.org.

OFFICERS:
Chair: Open Position!
Energy Issues:
Rob Benjamin 609-587-9009 robbenjamin@outlook.com and
Kip Cherry 609-924-4232 kipatthesierraclub@gmail.com
Passaic River Restoration Committee: Open Position!
Passaic River Restoration Committee: Open Position!
Editor: Brenda Toyloy.
Chatham now has a FaceBook page. Please check it out and like it: https://www.facebook.com/Chathamnow

MEMBERS IN COMMUTING DISTANCE OF TRENTON ARE INVITED TO VOLUNTEER TIME TO HELP RUN OUR STATE OFFICE: CALL TONI GRANATO.

The Central Jersey Group is working on local environmental issues to preserve open space, (Continued on page 8)
promote effective planning, control invasive species, protect wetlands and build trails. We actively oppose the Transco pipeline in Princeton/Montgomery, natural gas pipelines in New Jersey, fracking and fracking waste disposal in New Jersey.

For Group Activities, please visit the Group’s website, above, or contact Toni Granato (Toni.Granato@Sierraclub.org).

We meet at RCC to share our speakers with environmentally-concerned BCC college students, the NJ Friends of Clearwater, and other environmental organizations. A buffet is available for the students and adults at 6 pm. Contributions from non-students are encouraged to defray the costs. The programs start at 6:30 pm.

To get to Brookdale, take Exit 109 off the Rte 520 West (Newtown Springs Rd, which becomes Main St at the Lincoln campus). Exit the traffic circle into the campus and follow the signs to the Warner Student Life Center (C4), where the meeting usually is in the Twin Labs Rooms A and B.

Meetings Meeting Location and Updates: Because meeting dates and locations change, please subscribe to our E-mail list to receive a monthly update in your e-mail inbox.

GROUP NEWS

OFFICERS:
Group Chair: Roomi Nusrat 609-389-6036 sierra_nj_raritan@att.net
Group Vice Chair: Monica Banowski 609-394-2059 monicazabrowski@yahoo.com
Outings Chair: Terrance Brown 848-353-7531 terranceb@village.com
Outings Co-Chair: Daphne Speck-Barynski 732-790-5311 speckbarynski@comcast.net
Co-Chairs: Terrance Brown 848-353-7531, Daphne Speck-Barynski 732-790-5311

REGULARITY: Meet the first Tuesday of each month, 7:30 - 8:30 pm at the Ocean County Library, Gurney Administration Building, 129 Hooper Avenue (2nd Floor), Toms River. Information on meetings can be found on the website: http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/Ocean-County/

OPEN STATIONS:
- Monmouth County:
  - 2. Passage of and responsible enforcement of environmentally friendly zoning and development ordinances.
  - 3. Prevention of diversion of conserved land for commercial or other development. We are for preservation of open space and preventing diversion of land from State’s Green Acres program to commercial development are our goals.

The issues of interest to our communities include but are not limited to:
2. Key issues: preservation of our water supply, wildlife and prevention of water pollution.

Our monthly meetings are usually on a weekday evening of the third week. We have a program with convenient telephone conferences to update the membership on activities. Please write to us on e-mail sierra_nj_raritan@att.net to participate.

Meetings Meeting Location and Updates: Because meeting dates and locations change, please subscribe to our E-mail list to receive a monthly update in your e-mail inbox.

GROUP NEWS

OFFICERS:
Group Chair: Dennis Anderson 732-970-4327 dennisaza@aol.com
Group Vice Chair: Roomi Nusrat 609-389-6036 sierra_nj_raritan@att.net
Outings Chair: Terrance Brown 848-353-7531 terranceb@village.com
Outings Co-Chair: Daphne Speck-Barynski 732-790-5311 speckbarynski@comcast.net

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Meetings Meeting Location and Updates: Because meeting dates and locations change, please subscribe to our E-mail list to receive a monthly update in your e-mail inbox.
South Jersey Group

OFFICERS:

Group, Outings Chair: Tom Boghosian 609-625-0978 boghosian1@verizon.net

Vice-Chair: Dick Colby 609-956-4453 dick.colby@stockton.edu

Membership Chair: Open Position! 609-452-2800 julieakers56@gmail.com

Secretary/ Treasurer: Julie Abers 609-452-2800 julieakers56@gmail.com

The central conservation issue, for which the South Jersey Group was founded in the 1970’s, continues to be the protection of the Great Egg Harbor Wild & Scenic River, and to continue to conserve 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 once scheduled. For now, 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 encourage members to keep up with the news from Wings, Audubon, and for many other local, regional, state and national environmental organizations: www.gehwa.org. If you have topics (and places) for meetings, please let the officers know about them. Volunteers needed as hike leaders, Fundraising Chair/Co-Chairs, and members of all committees.

Current Issues:

(1) A land-use controversy in Millville has been in the news: complex attempts to balance public vs. private interests in environmentally-sensitive parcels in and near the Maurice River Pond Wildlife Management Area. Jane Gaetano of “Citizens United” (forrrruedd@st) is perhaps the best person to contact if you would like involvement. (2) There is much regional opposition to the construction of a large-diameter pipeline (across the Millville-Berlin electric power plant in Magna (Cape May Co.) led by Georgina Shanley (shanley2001@yahoo.com) and the organization 350.org South Jersey (Glenm Klotz: gklotz1949@gmail.com). The Pinelands Commission will hold a hearing on the proposed pipeline through the Pinelands. (3) A new study determined by the leader.  See the Outings section of this Newsletter for Silver Dollar hikes.

Singles Section

History of the Section

The SJ Singles Section was specifically created to offer a variety of single-oriented activities to SJ 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 contact one of our officers!

FEEDBACK:

Please join us! The SJ Singles Section was specifically created to offer a variety of single-oriented activities to SJ 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 contact one of our officers!

WEBSITE:

http://www.sierrclub.org/new-jersey/singles/

The best way to be notified of upcoming events is to join our free listserv. Anyone may subscribe by going to: http://lists.sierrclub.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 to receive announcements for all our events a few weeks before each event. Events are also listed on the online calendar on the Chapter’s website: www.sierrclub.org/new-jersey/nj_calendar.asp

You can now also “like” us on Facebook: “Singles Group New Jersey Sierra Club”.

OFFICERS:

Interim Chair:

Roen Patte roenpatte31@verizon.net

Outings Chair:

Joyce Haddad jkhaddad@juno.com

Conservation Chair:

Joyce White joyce.white.ju@verizon.net

Social Chair:

Joe Preblish joe.preblish@kraft.com

Vice Social Chair:

Jeff Sovelove Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com

Programs Chair:

Posion Open. Contact us! We need you!

Publicity:

Posion Open. Contact us! We need you!

Membership:

Nancy S. Ayala thunderwolfgal@yahoo.com

2015 Executive Committee members: Roenna Fonkell, Joyce Haddad, Roen Patte, Jeff Sovelove, Daphne Speck Bartsyński, Joyce White.

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

GENERAL MEETINGS:

Causal pizza gathering, introduction to club issues and activities, speakers, and letter-writing at the Chatham Library. Dates and topics will be announced on our listserv; see above for subscription information.

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

SOCIAL DINNERS:

THIRD TUESDAY of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner at a variety of Montclair restaurants. You will be announced 2 weeks before each event. RSVP is required as described in the announcement.

SOCIAL DINNERS with MOVIE SHOWINGS are scheduled approximately monthly in New Brunswick. Join us for thought-provoking films and conversation over casual dinners. Topics and locations will be announced on our listserv and on the Chapter’s online calendar (see above).

HIKES AND OTHER OUTINGS:

The Singles Section sponsors many outings, ranging from beginners to level advanced difficulty. Some of these are listed in this newsletter; others are announced only on our listserv and the Chapter’s online calendar. See the Outings section of this newsletter for information on singles outings led by Jim Oleskisak and Jeff Sovelove. Please join the listserv to receive notification of all of our outings (see above for instructions on how to subscribe).

The SJ Singles Section is a suborganization that organizes hikes and other social events to appeal to Sierra Club members over 50. Many of our events are scheduled following an optional meal at a location determined by the leader. See the Outings section of this Newsletter for Silver Singles outings on July 19, Aug 6, and Sept 20. Check the Silver Singles listserv for announcement of Silver Singles outings.

LGBTQ Section

The mission of this Section is to support Sierra Club goals, and to promote activism within the LGBTQ community through writing, printing, phone calls, and other active support for environmental issues. All members and non-members are welcome to join our outings regardless of sexual orientation.

WEBSITE:

http://www.sierrclub.org/new-jersey/LGBT/

MEETUP:

http://www.meetup.com/njsierrclub/
GROUP NEWS (Continued from page 9)

MEETINGS AND EVENTS:
July 18 (Sat): Sterling Hill Mine Tour. 10am at Ogdensburg NJ. Join the Sierra Club NJ Membership Section and Sunday School. A 2-hour hike to the historic Sterling Hill Mine, including about an hour underground in the mine itself. After the tour we’ll walk around the museum unit until 1pm, when we’ll each drive to The Chatterbox 50’s style diner for lunch. For more information, contact Robert Zitzman tel 908-725-3655 or robertMZ@att.net. The Sterling Hill Mining Museum, 50 Plant St, Ogdensburg NJ. Cost $10. Registration required at: www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LIGHT/.

July 20 (Mon)’s Executive Committee Conference Call. 7:30pm. Help plan events for the fall months and discuss administrative issues. Contact John for dial-in number or more information at jkashwick@gmail.com.

Aug 16 (Sun): Delaware Canal Towpath Hike and Brunch. 10am. We’ll meet at the parking lot by the bridge in Frenchtown, NJ and hike to the Great Pheasant Inn in Irwnna PA for brunch. We will return via the same route. If time permits we’ll visit the nearby brewery. Leader: Jonathan Wall psychologist@jonwall.com 908-295-1890. Registration required at www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LIGHT/ or by contacting leader.

Sept 26 (Sat): Sandy Hook Hike, 10am. We’ll meet in parking lot E at Gateway National Recreation Area (Sandy Hook unit). We’ll hike about seven miles along the beach and through the Dunes Trail. We’ll stop for lunch at the mid-point. Please bring lunch, your own water, and wear shoes that are appropriate for beach-walking and trails. Leader: Corbett Klein corbettklein@outlook.com. Registration required at www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LIGHT/ or by contacting leader.

Dates and times subject to change. Participants should register for outings at http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/july-calendar.asp or www.meetup.com/njsierraclub. Please contact leader for more information. You can also receive updated information by joining our email list. Please contact John at jkashwick@gmail.com to be included in the list.

Volunteers Needed: We are continuing to recruit volunteers and outings-leaders. For more information, please email John at jkashwick@gmail.com or Robert at robertMZ@att.net.

Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section
(A chapter-wide special interest section which offers a weekly to monthly calendar of activities and events, hikes or clean ups, social gatherings, dinner get-togethers and other functions intended for those members over fifty)

More New Jersey events are posted on our web site: http://www.funtravels.com. In addition, a monthly Buy & Sell newsletter is sent out to members free of charge, in which they can list items they are searching for or want to buy.

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 is the editor of the Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section. She can be reached at azatz@rjav.com, and invites members to check her web site at www.funtravels.com for trips, tips 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, whether you are single, dating or married, please come join us!)

WEB SITE: http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/YoungSierrans/

YEARS SIERRAN COMMITTEE POSITIONS

Head Chair & Coordinator: William Sevcik wsevcik@yahoo.com

Vice Chair: Open Position

Moderator: Diana Christie Eicholtz MistryAngel22@aol.com

Conservation Chair: Steve Timmerman skiingsteve@aol.com

Webmaster: John Kashwick jkashwick@gmail.com

Ex-Com/YS National Rep. (CA)
Northern Jersey YS Rep.

Outings Chair (Northern Jersey): Open Position!

Outings Chair (Central Section): Open Position!

Outings Chair (Southern Jersey): Open Position!

We need Young Sierra 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 Sierra Coordinator at YoungSierra@sierraclub.org

EVENTS: Volunteers for events throughout New Jersey wanted. Meet great people in your area! Publicity provided. Contact Coordinator at YoungSierra@sierraclub.org for information.

All Events will be announced via The Young Sierrans E-Mail List Serve. To be put on it, send an email to YoungSierra@sierraclub.org with subject heading “Young Sierrans E-Mail List”— or to subscribe, direct email 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 Sierra 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 with the motto: No Child Left Inside!)

OFFICERS:

Chairs: Marty Cohen 201-670-8883 martincohen@verizon.net

Treasurer: Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953 annedyjak@verizon.net

Last year we accomplished three hikes, taking a total of 28 children into the woods. The main reason for these not very robust statistics is that the current Chair has not had much success in garnering consistently active volunteers. That is not to say that the Chair doesn’t appreciate the several volunteers who have assisted on hikes, they have been a great help, but in addition, it would be nice to have some regular hikers step up. The Chair should not be the only one in the organization who is able and willing to safely lead a group into or out of the woods. It is also the Chair’s belief that an active steering committee would go a long way towards improving matters. Accordingly, if you are an experienced hiker willing to commit to leading two hikes per year, or if you are willing to commit to attending steering committee meetings per year, and performing some additional assignments totaling 20 hours per year, please contact the Chair. The operative word here is “committed.”

On the Trail

Sierra Club Participates in Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness

Supplied by Leona Fluck, one of our most popular outing leaders (Leona@jayspaddlers.com)

A coalition of organizations has developed a national campaign to save Minnesota’s Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) from sulfide mining projects that would inject toxic waste into the pristine waters of the nation’s most visited wilderness. Coalition participants include the Sierra Club, as part of the Our Wild America campaign, and the Club’s Minnesota North Star Chapter. The lead organization is Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness.

A major project of the campaign was “Paddle to DC,” a 100-day canoe trip that delivered to Congress and the White House a canoe signed by two thousand paddlers, as well as 50,000 signatures. The trip raised awareness about the threat to the Boundary Waters from sulfide mining. The paddlers were Dave and Amy Freeman of Ely, Minnesota, wilderness explorers and educators who were named 2014 Adventurers of the Year by National Geographic. That’s Amy & Dave, below, and assisted them on portages. The Southeastern Pennsylvania Group hosted a group paddle on the Schuylkill River, below, and a reception at the Girl’s Rowing Club of Philadelphia on November 22. Both events were successful and provided settings for several of the more than 50 media events arranged during the trip.

Current campaign goals include: 1) requesting the Bureau of Land Management deny requests to extend the only two federal mineral leases in the Superior National Forest (which surround the BWCAW), and 2) requesting the Department of the Interior to relinquish the federal leasing program all federal mineral interests in the Rainy River Watershed which is the major component of BWCAW waters. More information on this can be found at www.campaign4bwca.org. Photos courtesy of Save the Boundary Waters or the Sierra Club.

The Jersey Sierraan: July–September 2015

Open Position—contact John or Robert if interested

Care for more Club involvement? You can sample (and subscribe to) several specialist Club national electronic newsletters by logging on to: insider@sierraclub.org, currents@sierraclub.org, www.sierraclub.org/population, and www.sierraclub.org/globalwarming.
JULY
Jul 1 (Wed) Canoe/Kayak the Tidal Maurice River (Atlantic Co). 10-6pm. The Maurice is a national estuarine research reserve and is a haven for shorebirds, dolphins, egrets, puffins, ospreys, eels, striped bass, and other fish and wildlife. We will paddle 8 miles from North Pleasant Mills up-river to the mouth of the Maurice. Rental canoes and kayaks are available at the meeting place. Bring lunch and water. No pets please. Leader: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jul 1 (Fri) Canoe/Kayak the Batsto River (Burlington Co). 9-3pm. We'll enjoy a leisurely Pinedalers paddle on a side stream of the Delaware River! Pinelands Adventures and rental boats are available as well as private boat shuttling. We'll use Pinelands Adventures for shuttles to and from the put-in. Contact leaders to confirm the event and your participation. George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jul 5 (Sun) Canoeing/Kayaking Skills Refresher on Lake Ossipee (Burlington Co). 9am. ACA Certified Instructors from the Sierra Club will share information about paddling procedures, safety practices, rescue techniques, and equipment. The refresher is held on Lake Ossipee. T-shirts can be ordered from Mike's Paddles N' Canoes (See below). Cost: $50 per participant. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jul 8 (Wed) Canoe/Kayak the Ogeechee River (Burlington Co). 10-6pm. We'll paddle 6 miles from Lake Ogeechee to Brunswick. Meet at Lake Ogeechee. Boats can be rented from Mike's Paddles N' Canoes in Brunswick. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jul 9 (Fri) Canoe/Kayak the Cedar Creek (Ocean Co). 9-3pm. Enjoy a summer paddle in the cool and scenic Cedar Creek. Bring lunch and water. No pets please. Leader: John McElroy; the_hikist@mac.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jul 11 (Sun) Canoe/Kayak Silver Bay around Catsom Island (Ocean Co). 9am. We've kicked the Catsom Island trails overlooking Silver Bay and it's time to enjoy a paddling trip. Our guide for the trip will be a local waterman who has paddled the bay for decades. Silver Bay is a refuge for many species of plants and animals that are part of the Banana Flats Hurricane Reserve. Boats can be rented from Mike's Paddles N' Canoes - no rentals are available. Bring lunch, boots, rain slickers. Current Sierra Club membership required. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jul 14 (Tues) Buskill Day - Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Hunterdon Co). 9am. We'll paddl...