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# The Jersey..... SIERRAN

Vol. 44, No. 3      Roughly 16,000 Members in New Jersey      July-September 2015

## Reports from Trenton

### Earth Day Message from Linden

From a press release issued jointly by our staff and that of NJ Senator Raymond Lesniak (D-20)

This year on Earth Day, April 22nd, elected officials, environmental activists, and local community members came together at the Memorial Field Park in Linden (Union Co) to bring attention to some of the critical environmental issues of our day.

Heading the list was opposition to the settlement agreement that Gov. Christie has proposed with Exxon Mobil: "a huge gift to the corporate giant at the expense of the 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 opened a public comment period on a proposed settlement wherein Exxon would pay \$225 million. The legal case focused on the Bayway Refinery in Linden and Exxon's Bayonne facility, but the settlement would also remediate 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 make the mess you need to clean it. The Exxon settlement shows how big corporations can pollute communities and ruin

the environment and then escape the consequences," said Jeff Tittel, Chapter Director of the New Jersey Sierra Club.

The DEP settlement would allow the Linden (Bayway) Refinery to continue polluting without liability - and it would allow Exxon to cap the site instead of replacing the contaminated soil with clean soil. Exxon has been under an Administrative Consent Order since 1991 to clean-up the site, which once included marshes, meadows and open waters teeming with wildlife.

As a 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 Pompton, 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 counties 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 Sierran, the DEP's comment period for the Exxon Mobil settlement will have ended, and we may know more about whether Christie's giveaway will be tolerated.

### DEP & the Governor's Parallel Universe: Budget Priorities

From a Press Release issued on April 27<sup>th</sup>, with editing by Joe Testa

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) priorities 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 challenged the Commissioner's reductions in enforcement by his Department, the Administration's refusal to update water quality standards, and the Administration's failure to address carbon pollution and climate change in New Jersey.

The FY2016 budget targets the environment yet again, reflecting continued roll-backs and weakening of environmental protections. This Administration has cut enforcement, weakened protections on drinking water, and has failed to do anything on climate change. Especially troubling is its continued diversion of money from Natural Resource Damage (NRD) litigation to the General Fund. This money should go towards cleaning up and restoring contaminated sites. In the Christieverse, "NRD" means 'No Real Dollars' going to environmental cleanups.

Another Administration travesty is the notorious ExxonMobil settlement giveaway. (See article on this page.) Perhaps part of the explanation is the opportunity to use NRD litigation money to close budget gaps. Initially the State valued natural resource damages from Exxon's activities at the Bayway and Bayonne refineries at \$8.9 billion. Now NJDEP is proposing a settlement deal for \$225 million that not only covers the two refineries, but an additional 16 industrial sites and over 800 gas stations statewide. These sites have polluted thousands of acres of wetlands and waterways above and below ground. Even worse, the settlement deal weakens the cleanup standards that Exxon would have to meet at the Bayway site, leaving contamination in the ground rather than requiring its removal. After the lawyers get \$45 million and the Governor steals \$175 million to plug holes in his budget, only \$5 million goes for environmental programs.

With this settlement, we see that in the Christieverse "DEP" stands for the "Department of Exxon Protection".

In the Christieverse, every business is a careful steward of the environment, so we don't need to enforce environmental laws. Between 2010 and 2012, inspection and enforcement have dropped from 30-60%, depending on the program area. Since 2012 annual reports have not been posted on the NJDEP website, as required by statute. Inspection and enforcement actions may have dropped even further since that time: the public is in the dark since the Department has failed to release information.

The state's Water Supply Master Plan

has not been updated since 1996. In the Christieverse, this doesn't matter because clean water is abundant everywhere. The Administration prepared a draft report, but has failed to release it to the public. In the real New Jersey, the failure to update an overall plan for water supply needs for almost two decades means that the DEP may be allowing development in areas lacking adequate water supply. Additionally, the Administration has blocked the work of the Drinking Water Quality Institute - see article on p. 5.

In the Christieverse, there is no need to account for climate change. However, back here in the real New Jersey, the Administration's policies on climate change could jeopardize future federal funding for the State. The Governor closed the Office of Climate Change and has stopped work done under previous Administrations on adaptation and mitigation planning. New Jersey is the only coastal state that does not have an adaptation and mitigation plan for sea-level rise. This could result in the federal government cutting funding.

The Governor's budget proposes to take \$19.5 million from Corporate Business Tax revenues to fund staff and operations in the Division of Parks and Forestry, which would result in about \$10 million less for open space acquisitions. In the Christieverse, this is fine since there are vast tracts of open space and plenty of funding for repairing our parks or capital improvements. In the real NJ, these funding shifts threaten our ability to preserve vanishing open space and to adequately support our existing parks. When it comes to open space, the Administration is robbing Peter to pay Paul. They are taking money from one program to pay for another program, and then they are taking the money that paid for that program to pay for something else, leaving only about \$10 million for open space purchases, and circumventing the Constitutional Amendment approved by the voters last November.

### Governor Christie Signs Misnamed "Water Infrastructure Protection Act"

From a Press Release

On Feb 6th, Governor Christie sold out New Jersey's water supply by signing S2412/A3628, which will now authorize municipal, county, and regional utilities to sell or lease their water-supply operations to private companies. These transactions will not require public notice, comments, or approval. The law was opposed by the League of Municipalities, the NJBIA, CWA, and The Association of New Jersey Authorities.

This law deregulates our water supply. It removes the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) and the public from oversight on rates. The private water companies will acquire public water utilities for free, since, after buying the companies at a cheap rate, the private companies will be empowered to charge ratepayers for their acquisition costs plus a 10% profit. The private companies will not even be required to fix the infrastructure of the water systems that they take over. (When Bayonne privatized its water in 2012, the tax payers had to pay to fix the water system, not the private utility.)

The only recourse that the public will now have to stop a municipality from selling its water purveyor will be a petition signed by 15% of its citizens!

Atlantic City is one of many communities with a budget problem, needing quick cash to maintain its schools, police, fire department and other public services. Selling its municipal utilities authority will accomplish short term financial gain, at a cost of long term financial pain for the residents. In recent attempts by other communities to privatize water supply, residents spoke out in Trenton, Sussex Borough and Newark - stopping the process.

Governor Christie has now silenced the public. Privatization is now one of our single biggest threats to clean water and public health. Corporate profits will now replace meeting the needs of consumers and the environment. Ratepayers and tax payers have spent billions of dollars to build our water systems. Now private companies will be able to take them over.

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## Population Issues Coordinator's Report

# We've Made Progress...

By Bonnie Tillery (blt44blt@msn.com)

Several pieces of news recently have been encouraging when it comes to stabilizing population at a sustainable level. Here in the U.S. the fertility rate (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. aid, family size in Mexico plummeted from 6.8 children in 1970 to just 2.2 today." Despite the leaders of 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 most part due to more teens using more 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 18 FDA approved forms of birth 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" means more trees cut down in order to grow crops for the over 7.3 billion people on the planet? It means a planet where we add 1 billion more people every 12 years. It means more encroachment of human habitation into spaces that were previously home to plant and animal species. The May 2015 issue of the journal *Science Advances* reported that 60 percent of the world's largest herbivores are at risk of extinction due to poaching and habitat loss.

Going hand-in-hand with habitat loss is climate disruption. A recent report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change noted: "Globally, economic 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 family planning programs 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 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 Medicaid nationally, 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. But, 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 children.

To learn more about the Sierra Club's Global Population and Environment Program go to [www.sierraclub.org/population](http://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 practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; and to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives."

Our accomplishments are evident by the vast network of National and State Parks, Wilderness and Wildlife Protection Areas, and recurring success in preserving farmlands and open space. We don't always win the battles, but our resolve for preservation is clear. Our intent to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources is clear; but over time, our path is ever-changing. For instance, we recognize the threat of climate disruption as severe and call for cessation of coal-burning electricity-generating plants. We have always advocated for clean energy; yet, we once embraced natural gas as a transition fuel. Today, we recognize a switch from coal to gas still leads to global warming. Our efforts now encourage energy efficiency and clean energy. Our goals and tactics constantly evolve.

Traditionally, conservation relies on "use less, reuse, repurpose, and recycle". A good example of this is the automobile tire. Early in the twentieth century, worn rubber tires were burnt or buried. Technology produced synthetic tires that last longer. If the tire walls were intact, a worn tire became a "retread". 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 became a contentious issue when the EPA published a list of chemicals and pollutants contained in synthetic tires. Based on a 2009 study, the EPA had once tacitly endorsed "tire crumb" usage for artificial turf. This study concludes, "on average, concentrations of components monitored ... were below levels of concern". Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) 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's NJ Chapter invokes the "precautionary principle" and recommends that the use of toxic tire crumb for playgrounds and ball fields stop until the issues are resolved. There are ecologically safe and healthy "design" alternatives available.

Conservation Policy increasingly emphasizes "design" considerations to avoid problems. This perspective is changing in a positive way, based on principles environmentalists have always understood regarding the nutrient cycle. **William McDonough and Michael Braungart's books "Cradle to Cradle" and "The Upcycle"** apply these principles to technology. 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 ease of recycling, reuse, disassembly and remanufacturing. It replaces the traditional, linear "take, make & dispose model" (See "The Circular Economy and Benefits for Society", April 2015: <http://www.clubofrome.org/?p=8260>). The Sierra Club's Zero Waste policy embodies this philosophy. By advocating the prevention of waste by design, we link environmental justice, corporate responsibility, and social justice issues.

Sierra Club Conservation policy applies these design principles to places – to support "Complete Streets" and "Healthy Places" Programs. Segmenting communities into commercial, industrial, and residential zones connected by transportation corridors produces off-highway congestion, sprawl, energy consumption and pollution. Complete Streets program requires a relook at communities to make them more walkable or bike ride-able. The US 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 vision: "Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul alike,"

## Member's Report

# West Jersey Cleans Up Waterford Township

By Gina Carola, Chair of our West Jersey Group

West Jersey Group Members rose early on May 2 to participate in the Waterford Township Annual Spring Clean-Up. Group Treasurer Trish Sebastiano recruited members and some of her neighbors to help pick up litter and illegally dumped debris from the trails around Turtle Pond in the Atco section of the Township. It was a beautiful day as we swept the trails picking up 6 bags of recyclables and other litter. We also dragged several bags of construction debris that had been dumped near the pond by someone too lazy to take it to the township dumpsters.

Among the items collected were a piece of the undercarriage of a car, parts of a barbeque grill and other unidentifiable chunks of metal. The best find of the day was a baseball in nearly new condition which one teenage volunteer was thrilled to take home. Volunteers also had the opportunity to bring their no



Pictured at Turtle Pond, left to right: Noah Brescia, Darice Brescia and Trish Sebastiano.

longer useful electronics to the registration site where they were collected by the local Boy Scout troop. Everyone received a t-shirt printed with one of several designs created by Waterford Township school children. Lunch and snacks were served afterward and a good time was had by all.

## 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,  
And the Planet's other natural features.  
It's just to give a tithe 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 helping others far and near:  
That makes you want to volunteer.*

## 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" character of the Club by **attending meetings of Club volunteers:** Chapter and Group meetings. (March)

**Another lawsuit:** we began the process of legal intervention opposing Gov. Christie's paltry settlement of a 2004, multi-billion-dollar suit against **Exxon-Mobil** for groundwater pollution under 17 industrial sites plus 840 gas stations throughout the state – using the Columbia University Environmental 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 thousands of trees, retaining Michelle Donato to represent the Chapter. (E-mail vote in late April; see article on p.5)

Christine Wiltanger was appointed **Hudson Area Network Coordinator**, with the intention of reviving our Hudson County Group. See Group News. (May)

**Political endorsements** were awarded to all four Democratic incumbents in LDs 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.**

# Editorial

## Be Careful What You Ask For

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

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

My Pine Barrens town of Egg Harbor City (Atlantic Co.) is blessedly surrounded by many sand roads that offer opportunities for hikes whenever I like, and for distances as far as I like. One of the nicest is the six-mile Antwerp Ave. railbed, built in the 1870s in the hope of carrying passengers and freight between the downtown area aside the Camden & Atlantic Railroad, and a proposed deep-water port and sister-city at Gloucester Landing, on the Mullica River.

The rails were never laid, but the route still exists, crossing swamps, streams, and forests partly on a high berm, passing the Renault Winery, and offering wilderness views of great magnificence. Many is the deer-hunter's stand in the woods alongside. Unfortunately, the route is also accessible to off-road motor vehicles (ORVs), which in recent years have left massive pot-holes, and corrugated the path into a nuisance of abrupt ups and downs. There's a major stream-crossing at Elliot's Creek where the original bridge is long gone, but the original abutments remain, and have been used by the ORV-people to fashion an elaborate structure for their vehicles. (See photos at right.)

It turns out that all bridges on municipal land in Atlantic County are historically maintained by the County, and this back-woods bridge is no exception. When I described it to the head of County Public Works, he offered to have a look at it, and then decided that, since ORV-use on unpaved municipal land is prohibited, he would offer to replace it with a structure that would allow only pedestrian use, providing the City would agree to maintain it.

But the City would have none of it, on legal advice that ANY MENTION of interest in a back-woods bridge would open it to "liability." (What a scary thought!) So the structure pictured was removed by county staff, making Elliot's Creek uncrossable, and depriving me (and presumably others) of a favorite walk. The route, incidentally, would make an outstanding component of a long-distance north-south bike path through New Jersey.

I can predict what will happen next: the ORV-riders will find a way to circumvent the missing bridge, by cutting a route upstream through the lush cedar forest to a place where the river is fordable, perhaps laying logs or boards to enable the crossing. It will be destruc-

tive, but pedestrians will also be able to cross, at least in dry weather.

What lessons can we learn from this little story? I might learn when to keep my mouth shut. I hope many readers will be reminded of how much damage is being done to footpaths by the illegal use of ORVs, bringing it to the attention of law-enforcement officials in their communities. Ideally, more of us will explore our local footpaths, and raise public awareness of how much pleasure they can pro-



vide, and of how easily they can be abused. Perhaps we could experiment with barriers (to ORVs) and signage that could help restrict footpath use to people on foot. Ultimately, the lesson needs to be hammered home that the freedom to abuse public wilderness, despite the thrill of the machines and their noise, is abominable and must be curtailed.

Rob Auermueller, Superintendent of the Wharton State Forest, has obtained remote video time-lapse footage of convoys of monster-tire ORVs, with out-of-State license plates, containing whole families, led by professional guides, gleefully devastating some of the pristine marshes and meadows in his domain. But he, and others I have queried, claim not to have the resources to apprehend the villains, or to try to prevent or contain the damage that is being done.

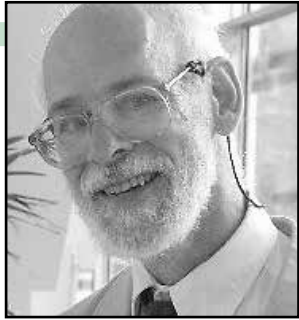
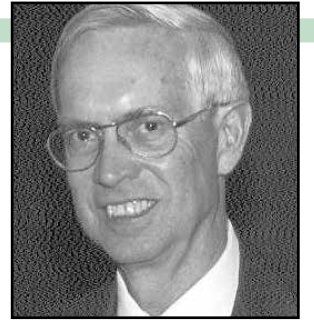


photo: James Mendelsohn

# Chair's Message

## Sausages

By Ken Johanson (kjohan@comcast.net)



Otto von Bismarck is credited with saying that "Laws are like sausages, it is better not to see them being made." While I agree with Bismarck that the legislative process can be ugly and that the fate of a bill frequently has more to do with the power of those supporting or opposing the bill than its merits, I do not believe that the answer is to shield our eyes from the process.

Let me suggest instead that all of us need to become more involved in the legislative process. Our elected representatives rely upon us, the voters, to keep them in office. And many of our representatives do sincerely care about the environment. But they need to hear from us. They need to know how we feel about the position they have taken on a particular issue, that we encourage them to support or oppose a pending bill that deals with that or another environmental issue and that we expect them to resist the pressure of special interests and do the right thing.

So how does a newcomer to the legislative process get involved? A good place to start is to log into the League of Women Voters site at [www.lwvnj.org](http://www.lwvnj.org) and click on the Citizen's Guide to Government. The Guide contains an excellent description of the legislative process here in New Jersey, as well as some helpful hints on how best to communicate with your elected officials. Then go to the State of New Jersey legislative site, [www.njleg.state.nj.us](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us). The site contains a wealth of useful information. Not sure who your senator and two representatives to the General Assembly are? Click on Find Your Legislator under Members. This link will also provide you with the mailing addresses of your elected representatives. Another link, under Committees, provides the names of committee chairs, as well as the names of committee members.

Chances are if you have gone to the trouble of checking out the League's site and identified the names of your elected representatives you already have an issue in mind that you care deeply about. But in order to maximize your impact, you need to know what bills, if any, have been introduced in the legislature that deal with that issue. Here's a sampling of some bills that you may want to follow up on:

- A-210 - Seeks to reduce pesticide use
- A-626 - Prohibits sale of children's products containing lead, mercury or cadmium
- A-1079/S-1850 - Requires a deposit on plastic and glass bottles and aluminum cans
- A-1145, S-2057/A4093 - Prohibits possession and sale of shark fins
- A-1359/S-2496, S-91 - Requires labeling of genetically modified organisms
- A-1367/S-563, A-2670 - Seeks to reduce use of single-use plastic and paper grocery bags
- A-1373 - Prohibits use or sale of neonics, chemicals that are devastating bee populations
- S-678/A-4092 - Seeks to prevent illegal

trade of tigers and tiger parts

A-3125/S2694 - Prohibits sale or planting of certain invasive plant species

A-3352, A-3353, A3354 - 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 positions on go to the Chapter's site, [www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey](http://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 provided 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.

Okay, you've done your homework, 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?

Generally the first step is to contact the two representatives and the one senator who represent your legislative district, letting them know why you believe they should support (or oppose) a particular bill and, if you support the bill and they are not currently listed as primary sponsors or cosponsors, requesting that they cosponsor the bill. The most effective way of contacting your elected representatives is by snail mail. I know it's old fashioned, but a mailed letter has more clout than an email message. If you do not hear back from your assemblyperson or senator or receive a negative or wishy-washy response, follow up with a phone call. Request a meeting to discuss the issue and your concerns.

If you are particularly motivated, you can also contact friends, family members and neighbors and request that they write letters and join you in meetings with your elected representatives. Letters to the editor also can be effective. And, if you subscribe to our action alert network, from time to time you will receive invitations to participate in lobbying events at the State House in Trenton. These events generally focus on particular issues, issues that we all care about, and can be very effective, as well as very rewarding for those of us who are able to participate.

So yes, laws are like sausages. But I for one would like to have a better idea as to how they are being made and even some say as to the composition of the final product.

### Is Your Email Address Up-To-Date?

Does the Sierra Club have your current email address on file? This lets us send you online membership renewal notices and ballots in our annual elections. Don't know? You can check at <https://secure.sierraclub.org/site/ConsProfileUser>. To update your address, please send an email to [membership.services@sierraclub.org](mailto:membership.services@sierraclub.org) with your name, address, and (if you know it) your membership number.

## Candidates Sought for Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom)

The next (Oct-Dec) issue of this Newsletter will include our annual ballot for the election of three members of our Chapter governing body (ExCom), as well as members of the ExComs of each of our active Groups, and some Sections. (ExCom members whose three-year terms are ending are George Denzer, Laura Lynch and Don McBride.) To nominate yourself, or someone else, please contact Sunil Somalwar ([sunil.somalwar@gmail.com](mailto:sunil.somalwar@gmail.com)) by August 10. Photo at right shows ExCom in action!



## Report from Club Headquarters in San Francisco

# Let's Lobby for Reauthorization of the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund

By Vicki Hoover, Chair of the Sierra Club's national task force on this issue ([vicki.hoover@sierraclub.org](mailto:vicki.hoover@sierraclub.org))

On Sept. 3, 1964, in the very same session in the White House Rose Garden at which he signed the Wilderness Act, President Lyndon Johnson signed another piece of legislation that, some claim, has had a greater effect on 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 is about to expire, in September of this year.

The Sierra Club is part of a Washington, DC based coalition working to get Congress to reauthorize this valuable funding source. For years, the coalition has sought to get full, dedicated funding for the LWCF, so that future funding efforts will not need to go through the uncertain appropriations process each year. The coalition also defends LWCF against attempts to defund it or its programs. This year, the reauthorization effort is at the top of the task list, and full dedicated assured funding is part of the task. And defense goes on always.

One strength our Club can bring to the campaign is the power of our volunteers in our Chapters across the country in contacting their legislators and urging them to keep this stream of money going for acquiring lands that our families can use to go for a walk, or just enjoy nature; many of these potential lands are closer to home than wilderness areas, most of which are remote from urban areas. We want legislators to know how this venerable program has specifically benefitted their own states, and their own districts. And we'll remind them that this money is not coming out of any taxpayer pockets; the revenues come from offshore oil drilling—"free" money in a manner of speaking.

We now have TWO bills in Congress: a very strong Senate bill, S 890, by Senator Cantwell (WA) and others, that would not only permanently reauthorize this fund, but would also mandate its full, des-

ignated funding to the authorized \$900 million each year. (In many past years, some of this authorized \$900 million has unfortunately been siphoned off to unrelated uses.)

In the House, we have HR 1814, introduced Apr 15 by Raul Grijalva, D-AZ, and Mike Fitzpatrick, R-PA, for reauthorization only.

We are eagerly seeking cosponsors for the Senate bill.

Since both New Jersey Senators were among the 47 Senators who signed the March Appropriations letter urging strong, robust funding for LWCF in the 2016 Appropriations process, they would seem to be highly likely to support S 890 via co-sponsorship – if asked by some folks in New Jersey.

So I hope folks in New Jersey will join this big current Sierra Club campaign by urging Senators Booker and Menendez to become cosponsors of S 890.

Senator Booker's staffer on this issue is Adam Zipkin – [adam\\_zipkin@boooker.senate.gov](mailto:adam_zipkin@boooker.senate.gov) 202-224-3224

Senator Menendez's staffer for LWCF is Jackie Schmitz – [jackie\\_schmitz@menendez.senate.gov](mailto:jackie_schmitz@menendez.senate.gov) 202-224-4744

Not only did both senators sign the current year's Appropriations letter, they both cosponsored the LWCF reauthorization amendment that was attached, early this year, to the [failed] Keystone XL amendment, and also signed similar support letters for LWCF in past years.

As for the House of Representatives, New Jersey had EIGHT Representatives among the 193 who signed this year's House LWCF Appropriations letter: One of them, Frank LoBiondo (R-2) is ALREADY on! The others are likely potential cosponsors of the House bill, HR 181:

Leonard Lance (R-7)  
Tom MacArthur (R-3)  
Frank Pallone (D-6)  
William Pascrell, Jr. (D-9)  
Albio Sires (D-8)  
Chris Smith (R-4)  
Bonnie Watson-Coleman (D-12)

Please thank Rep. LoBiondo for signing on as an original cosponsor for this legislation. His staffer on the topic is Jacob

Schanzenbach: [jacob.schanzenbach@mail.house.gov](mailto:jacob.schanzenbach@mail.house.gov) 202-225-6572.

I can supply staff contact information for other reps, if you have folks willing to contact them.

State-specific information on how New Jersey has benefited from LWCF-funded projects is on the coalition website: <http://www.lwcfcoalition.org/new-jersey.html>

There is also a convenient fact sheet there:

[http://www.lwcfcoalition.org/files/FY16%20State%20Factsheets/New\\_Jersey16.pdf](http://www.lwcfcoalition.org/files/FY16%20State%20Factsheets/New_Jersey16.pdf).

### Background

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act was enacted to help preserve, develop, and assure access to outdoor recreation facilities to strengthen the health of U.S. citizens. The law created the Land and Water Conservation Fund in the U.S. Treasury as a funding source to implement its outdoor recreation goals.

The LWCF has been the principal source of monies for federal land acquisition for outdoor recreation by the four federal agencies—the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Forest Service. These four agencies manage about 95% of all federally owned lands. Congress typically identifies which areas are to be acquired with the funds it provides.

### How the Fund Works

The LWCF is authorized to accumulate \$900 million annually, with most of the designated money derived from oil and gas leasing in the Outer Continental Shelf.

Monies in the fund are 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 acquisition 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 other principal portion of the LWCF, administered by the NPS, provides matching grants to states (including the District of Columbia and U.S. territories) for recreation planning, acquisition of lands and waters, and facility development. The formula specified in the LWCF Act calls for a portion of the appropriation to be divided equally among the states. The remaining appropriation is to be apportioned based on need, as determined by the Secretary. In current practice, population is the biggest factor in determining state need. To be eligible for a grant, a state must prepare and update a statewide recreation plan that addresses the needs and opportunities for recreation.

### Other purposes

Since FY1998, the LWCF has been used for a broad array of other programs, including the maintenance needs of the four land management agencies, FS highway rehabilitation and maintenance, the Historic Preservation Fund, the Payments in Lieu of Taxes program, FS State and Private Forestry programs, FWS State and Tribal Wildlife Grants, and FWS Cooperative Endangered Species Grants.

For more information, or to sign up to help: contact me – or our DC staff-person: Marni Salmon at 202-495-3025, or [marni.salmon@sierraclub.org](mailto:marni.salmon@sierraclub.org).

## Conservation Report

# Pilgrim Pipeline Opponents Address Highlands Council

By Greg Gorman and Toni Granato

On March 19, representatives from Chatham Citizens Opposing the Oil Pipeline and NJ Sierra Club urged the NJ Highlands Council to protect our waters by opposing the proposed Pilgrim Pipeline. We think the primary purpose of the Highlands Council is to protect our greatest natural resource, water supply. Everything depends on water: our natural ecosystems, and the beauty of wilderness for generations to come. Considering the safety record of oil pipelines and their history of polluting our waters, the project is clearly incompatible with the objectives of the Highlands Regional Master Plan.

The Pilgrim Pipeline is a proposed bidirectional conduit for Bakken oil from Albany NY to Linden NJ and for the return of refined oil products such as gasoline and kerosene. Highly flammable, toxic, and corrosive, Bakken oil was involved in recent train explosions across the country. A ruptured Bakken pipeline leaked up to 40,000 gallons of crude into the Yellowstone River in Montana in January, contaminating the drinking water for the nearby town of Glendive.

"Experience has shown us that acquiring new water allocations is almost impossible," stated Richard Plambeck, a professional engineer with decades of experience in petroleum operations and civic service (including elected office and as a trustee of the Passaic River Coalition and Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority). "Further, historic contamination of rivers and wells forced abandonment of those resources and the switch to surface waters of the Highlands Region as a primary source of safe water." Plambeck also referred to the region's sole source aquifers, pointing out that, once contaminated, decades of expensive remedial operations may be required to restore these vital water sources. Given those risks, that experience, and the crucial reliance on water from the Highlands and sole source aquifers, Plambeck concluded emphatically, "The Pilgrim Pipeline presents unnecessary risks and should not be permitted."

Within the NJ Highlands, the pipeline would run through the Ramapo River Watershed that serves Mahwah, Ramsey, Oakland, Franklin Lakes, Allendale, and

Pompton Lakes, and eight other towns in New York. That watershed is the backup to the Wanaque and Oradell Reservoirs during times of drought. Also within the NJ Highlands, the pipeline would run through the watershed of the Wanaque and Monksville Reservoirs. The proposed pipeline route crosses the Passaic River several times, and the Buried Valley Aquifer Systems which together provide drinking water to eastern Morris County and western Essex and Union Counties.

Brendan L. Keating, Chair of Chatham Citizens Opposing the Oil Pipeline noted, "Every land-owner affected by the Highlands Act should be up in arms. It is almost unfathomable that a private company might be allowed to condemn and seize property to build oil pipelines while the people who actually own the land have to fight for restitution".

We have a false sense of security thinking that pipelines are monitored and protected – often they are not. The Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration is responsible for pipeline safety, and is understaffed. Pipeline leak

detection systems are only effective for large ruptures and even then, inconsistently so. Undetected moderate and small cracks resulting from corrosion or bad welds may leak for decades. Data shows 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. A US Geological Survey research report, released on Jan. 21, disclosed the links between water quality, oil spills, and arsenic contamination. When bacteria break down petroleum underground, the chemical process releases naturally occurring arsenic. The long term case study of a 1979 petroleum spill near a shallow, glacial aquifer in Minnesota found arsenic levels rose from below 10 micrograms per liter to over 230 micrograms per liter – 23 times the current drinking water standard.

To protect our waters, the Highlands Council needs to exercise its authority to prohibit – that is, ban – all oil and petroleum transmission pipelines in the NJ Highlands.

## Reports from Trenton

# Christie says, “I am Dismantling Environmental Protections”

By Chapter Director Jeff Tittel ([jeff.tittel@sierraclub.org](mailto:jeff.tittel@sierraclub.org))

On March 7<sup>th</sup>, 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 have spent the last five years dismantling her overreach in the area of environmental protection.”

Should we excuse this as campaign rhetoric? Or is the Governor finally admitting that he is the worst environmental Governor in our state’s history?

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 NJ-DEP:

- **Flood Hazard Rules** – These put limits on development in flood prone areas. They were a compromise and were relatively modest. A good innovation was the requirement 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 environmentally sensitive and flood prone areas. The rules were a compromise – with some environmental 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 (and other waterways) that belongs to all of us.

- **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)** – This multi-state compact required New Jersey to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fund energy efficiency programs, creating 1,800 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.

Jackson raised the New Jersey Energy Master Plan’s goals for renewably-sourced electricity from 22.5% in 2021 to 30% by 2020 which would have created thousands of jobs.

These policies that Governor Christie calls “overreaching” went through stakeholder processes with both environmentalists and the business community. There were negotiations and compromises that dismayed both sides, but she got the job done, overcoming several court challenges.

The only “overreach” is Governor Christie’s anti-environmental agenda where he is more concerned about taking care of corporate polluters and developers than he is about protecting New Jersey’s environment.

## NJ’s Drinking Water Quality Institute Meets Again!

From a press release issued by our Chapter Staff

On May 8<sup>th</sup>, New Jersey’s Drinking Water Quality Institute met for only the second time in the last five years. It is the agency responsible under law for setting limits on toxic contaminants in public drinking water supplies. There has been public outcry that the Governor has held off on three appointments to the Institute, which prevented it from meeting. In fact, the previous head of the Institute, Mark Robson, had resigned in protest when a standard for perchlorate was delayed and withdrawn.

The meeting was to consider imposing limits for a class of chemicals called perfluorocarbons, used by DuPont in Thorofare (Gloucester Co), to manufacture Teflon. Wikipedia reports that the chemicals are now suspected of causing a variety of diseases, including kidney and testicular cancers, thyroid disease, hypercholesterolemia and pregnancy-induced hypertension. Because the Institute has failed to meet, New Jersey has not moved forward on any protective health-based standards for drinking water. Before Christie took office, the Institute was also working on standards for chromium and arsenic.

In March, 2010, the DEP allowed the perchlorate standard to expire under the Governor’s Executive Order 1, which froze all rules and regulation. The standard was then withdrawn. Perchlorate is a chemical found in fertilizer and rocket fuel that has been identified in the drinking water supply. It causes thyroid disorders in children and adults. Perchlorate is especially harmful to pregnant women and fetuses, leading to learning disabilities. The new standard had been in the works for five years before the administration put a moratorium on rules.

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 stringent: 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.

This is part of ongoing rollbacks. The DEP has been holding “stakeholder” meetings where important environmental regulations are being rewritten by special interests. DEP’s stormwater management, water quality management planning (WQMP), category one, stream buffers, flood hazard areas, and Highlands regulations have been targeted at these meetings. The administration pushed for delays to the WQMP rules and are now using the extra time to rewrite the rules. The Governor continues to attack the Highlands region, which provides drinking water to 5.4 million people, over half of New Jersey’s residents, and our major industries.

According to the website of the Drinking Water Quality Institute, a report on perfluorocarbons was released at the meeting on May 8: for further public comment.

# Rhode Island Breaks Ground for Offshore Wind While Christie Fiddles

From a press release issued by our Trenton Staff

On April 27<sup>th</sup>, America’s first offshore wind project got underway off of Block Island (in the State of Rhode Island). The 30-MW wind farm, consisting of five turbines, will power the entire island, and be completed in 2016. Meanwhile, back 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 funding 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 30 percent of the state’s energy to come from offshore wind. When the Governor signed OWEDA 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) program, but they are still in the process years later. Regulations have still not been released even in draft form. The BPU and consultants are still working on a funding mechanism for ORECs 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 reasonably priced, 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.

## Seaside Heights Beach Giveaway

From Press Releases Issued on May 5th

On May 6<sup>th</sup> a hearing took place in the Borough of Seaside Heights’ (Ocean Co.) on a proposal to divert a 1.36 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 ending its use for swimming and other recreation. The diversion will allow the Casino Pier to add a Ferris wheel and roller coaster. Seaside Heights was devastated by Hurricane Sandy, when much of Casino Pier collapsed into the ocean.

The nice thing about a beach, in contrast to a development, is that a properly maintained beach is much less expensive to replace after the next storm, and its public “life” is more easily assured. The Borough plans to compensate for the diverted land by building a museum – rather than adding new beach. The project must still be approved by the NJDEP Green Acres Program.

For a diversion of this kind, the NJ DEP requires a 1:1 replacement of open space that is of greater or equal value. The Borough proposed the preservation and conservation of the historic Dentzel Loof Carousel as a museum.

We think there needs to be an overall comprehensive approach to coastal planning, including the need to elevate structures and move them back from the water’s edge, not expand buildings closer to the ocean.

## Great Adventure’s New Attraction: Clear Cut Forests

From a Press Release Issued on April 2nd

New Jersey’s signature theme park, Six Flags Great Adventure, has announced it will clear more than 18,000 trees on 134 acres to build the state’s largest solar farm, harvesting 21 MW of electricity. This would be one of the largest solar arrays in the state. Our question is whether the benefits outweigh the costs: whether the reduction in fossil fuel use warrants the environmental degradation resulting from the clearing of thousands of trees.

The proposed location, east of the safari park, includes extensive wetlands and headwaters for two Category 1 (trout) streams, and steep slopes. These streams are tributaries of the Toms River. The site is also a nesting area for bald eagles in addition to other endangered species. The area comprises an environmental retreat from the surrounding, heavily developed, Jackson Township.

The clear-cutting of a forest destroys its capacity to buffer runoff from developments up-gradient, in this case the safari park. So more nutrients will now pollute Toms River, and ultimately Barnegat Bay.

The Great Adventure property is large, so one should ask whether there are alternative sites for the solar farm. There are hundreds of acres of parking lots (where solar panels would enable cars to park in shade) and disturbed fields. Solar can also be placed on top of buildings.

The client and the contractor, KDC Solar Company, have committed to re-plant 25,000 trees over seven years. This effort creates a more than temporary negative impact on the environment since the old growth forest has mature trees that hold together an ecosystem. The “recovery time” for clear-cut property is 30-40 years, during which the lost trees’ ability to capture carbon dioxide, and adsorb other air pollutants, is only slowly returned to normal!

Sierra Club staff have offered to work with Great Adventure to come up with a better solution that protects forests and water quality. We think it would be a greater adventure!



# Group News

FROM AROUND THE STATE

## HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR GROUP (BY COUNTY)

**Skylands Group:** Sussex & northern Warren  
**South Highlands Group:** Hunterdon & southern Warren  
**North Jersey Group:** Bergen & Passaic  
**Gateway Group:** Essex  
**Hudson County Group:** Hudson  
**Loantaka Group:** Morris & Union  
**Central Jersey Group:** Mercer  
**Raritan Valley Group:** Somerset & Middlesex  
**Jersey Shore Group:** Monmouth  
**Ocean County Group:** Ocean  
**West Jersey Group:** Burlington, Camden & Gloucester  
**South Jersey Group:** Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland & Salem

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

(Groups are arranged in rough geographical sequence: North to South)

### Skylands Group

(Sussex and northern Warren Counties)

**WEB-SITE:** <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/skylands/> Or click from the NJ Chapter's web-site.

**FACEBOOK:** <https://www.facebook.com/SkylandsNJSC>

**E-MAIL:** [skylandsgroup@gmail.com](mailto:skylandsgroup@gmail.com)

**OFFICERS:** (All are members of the Group Executive Committee.)

|                                    |                       |              |  |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--|
| <b>Chair:</b>                      | Susan Williams        | 973-600-4960 | <a href="mailto:skylandsgroup@gmail.com">skylandsgroup@gmail.com</a>   |
| <b>Vice &amp; Political Chair:</b> | Edgar Sheperd         |              | <a href="mailto:shepherd_edgar@yahoo.com">shepherd_edgar@yahoo.com</a> |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>                  | Jeri Doherty          |              | <a href="mailto:bjd42@nac.net">bjd42@nac.net</a>                       |
| <b>Secretary:</b>                  | Norene Haberski       |              | <a href="mailto:habersn@yahoo.com">habersn@yahoo.com</a>               |
| <b>Conservation Chair:</b>         | Greg Gorman           |              | <a href="mailto:chachabacon@yahoo.com">chachabacon@yahoo.com</a>       |
| <b>Outings Chair:</b>              | <i>Open Position!</i> |              |  |
| <b>Acting Publicity Chair:</b>     | Jeri Doherty          |              | <a href="mailto:bjd42@nac.net">bjd42@nac.net</a>                       |
| <b>Membership Chair:</b>           | <i>Open Position!</i> |              |  |
| <b>Programs/Events Chair:</b>      | <i>Open Position!</i> |              |  |
| <b>Ex-Com</b>                      |                       |              |  |
| <b>Members-at-Large:</b>           | Dave Alcock           |              | <a href="mailto:dwhoob@hotmail.com">dwhoob@hotmail.com</a>             |
|                                    | Marvin Feil           |              | <a href="mailto:mfeil@writeme.com">mfeil@writeme.com</a>               |

**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 hydro-fracking and all the subsequent 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 7-8:30pm at the Unitarian Fellowship, One W. Nelson St, 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 Facebook website and the online events calendar on the Chapter website. We also advertise on various media sites throughout the Skylands region.

### South Highlands Group

(Hunterdon and southern Warren Counties)

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/south-highlands/>

**MEETUP:** <http://www.meetup.com/njsierraclub>

**FACEBOOK:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/53817136187/>

**OFFICERS:**

|                             |                   |  |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>Chair:</b>               | Jonathan Wall*    | <a href="mailto:psychologist@jonwall.com">psychologist@jonwall.com</a> |
| <b>Vice Chair:</b>          | Celeste Martin*   | <a href="mailto:onecentral@mac.com">onecentral@mac.com</a>             |
| <b>Conservation Chair:</b>  | Cinny MacGonagle* | <a href="mailto:cmacgonagle@yahoo.com">cmacgonagle@yahoo.com</a>       |
| <b>Secretary:</b>           | Jonathan Wall*    | <a href="mailto:psychologist@jonwall.com">psychologist@jonwall.com</a> |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>           | Celeste Martin*   | <a href="mailto:onecentral@mac.com">onecentral@mac.com</a>             |
| <b>Political Chair:</b>     | Jonathan Wall*    | <a href="mailto:psychologist@jonwall.com">psychologist@jonwall.com</a> |
| <b>Publicity Chair:</b>     | Susan Schirmer*   | <a href="mailto:soupys@att.net">soupys@att.net</a>                     |
| <b>Membership Chair:</b>    | Jim Fleming       | <a href="mailto:jfleming18@comcast.net">jfleming18@comcast.net</a>     |
| <b>Outings Coordinator:</b> | Jonathan Wall*    | <a href="mailto:psychologist@jonwall.com">psychologist@jonwall.com</a> |
| <b>Webmaster:</b>           | Jonathan Wall*    | <a href="mailto:psychologist@jonwall.com">psychologist@jonwall.com</a> |

(\*Group Executive Committee Member)

Look for us on Meetup.com at <http://www.meetup.com/NJSierraClub> or visit our

Sierra Club official calendar at [http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/nj\\_calendar.asp](http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/nj_calendar.asp)

**MEETINGS:**

**PLEASE JOIN US IN OUR NEW LOCATION!** We now will be holding our general meetings at the North Hunterdon Library, 65 Halstead 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 [jfleming18@comcast.net](mailto:jfleming18@comcast.net) if you have questions. Limited to 20 participants. Sign up for this event at <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/south-highlands> or [Meetup.com/njsierraclub](http://www.meetup.com/njsierraclub). 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 on-line calendar of events to confirm. For more information please contact Jonathan at [psychologist@jonwall.com](mailto:psychologist@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 [onecentral@mac.com](mailto:onecentral@mac.com). The Observatory has program that night titled "The Far Call - the New Horizons Spacecraft Flyby of Pluto" which we plan to attend. Please see [Meetup.com/njsierraclub](http://www.meetup.com/njsierraclub) or <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 Halstead Street, Clinton, NJ 08809. We will hold a short planning session followed by a talk on the Birds of New Jersey.

### North Jersey Group

(Bergen and Passaic Counties)

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/North/>

**MEETUP:** <http://www.meetup.com/NJSierraClub/>

**FACEBOOK:** <https://www.facebook.com/northjerseysierraclub>

**Officers:**

|                                |                      |  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| <b>Chair:</b>                  | John Kashwick*       | <a href="mailto:jkashwick@gmail.com">jkashwick@gmail.com</a>                 |
| <b>Vice Chair:</b>             | Mary Ellen Shaw*     | <a href="mailto:meshaw.001@gmail.com">meshaw.001@gmail.com</a>               |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>              | Tom Thompson*        | <a href="mailto:etran743@aol.com">etran743@aol.com</a>                       |
| <b>Secretary:</b>              | Jennifer Rothschild* | <a href="mailto:jenniroth2@gmail.com">jenniroth2@gmail.com</a>               |
| <b>Conservation Co-Chair:</b>  | Mary Ellen Shaw*     | <a href="mailto:meshaw.001@gmail.com">meshaw.001@gmail.com</a>               |
| <b>Conservation Co-Chair:</b>  | Laura Tracey Coll*   | <a href="mailto:lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com">lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com</a> |
| <b>Political Chair:</b>        | Jennifer Rothschild* | <a href="mailto:jenniroth2@gmail.com">jenniroth2@gmail.com</a>               |
| <b>Political Vice Chair:</b>   | Tom Bores            | <a href="mailto:actjtb@msn.com">actjtb@msn.com</a>                           |
| <b>Air Quality Issues:</b>     | Laura Tracey Coll*   | <a href="mailto:lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com">lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com</a> |
| <b>Climate Issues:</b>         | Jeff Rapaport        | <a href="mailto:jefrap@optonline.net">jefrap@optonline.net</a>               |
| <b>Events Chair:</b>           | Mary Walsh*          | <a href="mailto:blehlwalsh@hotmail.com">blehlwalsh@hotmail.com</a>           |
| <b>Membership Chair:</b>       | Buddy Jossen*        | <a href="mailto:buddy.jossen@gmail.com">buddy.jossen@gmail.com</a>           |
| <b>Outings Co-Chair:</b>       | Ellen Blumenkrantz   | <a href="mailto:ebumenkrantz@hotmail.com">ebumenkrantz@hotmail.com</a>       |
| <b>Outings Co-Chair:</b>       | Mary Walsh*          | <a href="mailto:blehlwalsh@hotmail.com">blehlwalsh@hotmail.com</a>           |
| <b>Programs Chair:</b>         | Jessica Epstein      | <a href="mailto:jepstein101@gmail.com">jepstein101@gmail.com</a>             |
| <b>Publicity Chair:</b>        | Marty Cohen          | <a href="mailto:martincohen@verizon.net">martincohen@verizon.net</a>         |
| <b>Trail Maintenance:</b>      | Marty Cohen          | <a href="mailto:martincohen@verizon.net">martincohen@verizon.net</a>         |
| <b>Webmaster/Listmaster:</b>   | John Kashwick*       | <a href="mailto:jkashwick@gmail.com">jkashwick@gmail.com</a>                 |
| <b>Wildlife Issues:</b>        | Mary Ellen Shaw*     | <a href="mailto:meshaw.001@gmail.com">meshaw.001@gmail.com</a>               |
| <b>Ex-Com Member-at-Large:</b> | Nancy Wysocki*       | <a href="mailto:nape2@aol.com">nape2@aol.com</a>                             |
| <b>Ex-Com Member-at-Large:</b> | Beth Ravit*          | <a href="mailto:ravit@cnvsci.rutgers.edu">ravit@cnvsci.rutgers.edu</a>       |

(\*Group Executive Committee Member)

**MEETINGS AND EVENTS:**

Unless otherwise noted, general meetings are free and open to general public. Please confirm topics, dates, times, and venues of our meetings by visiting our web site, Meetup, or Facebook pages (see above for URL). You can also email us at [northjerseysierraclub@gmail.com](mailto:northjerseysierraclub@gmail.com).

**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](mailto:jkashwick@gmail.com).

**Aug 29 (Sat): Sierra Summer Social.** 4pm at Nyack NY. We'll 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](mailto: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 [www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/north-jersey](http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/north-jersey). You are welcome to just come for the potluck barbecue which will begin at 6pm or just come for the hike.

**Sept 30 (Wed): Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.** 7pm at Paramus Public Library. 116E Century Rd, Paramus. Join us for an interactive 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 [blehlwalsh@hotmail.com](mailto:blehlwalsh@hotmail.com). Please confirm program on our 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 unspoiled ridgeline—a view enjoyed 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 overdevelopment. To get involved, please contact Jennifer Rothschild at jenniroth2@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 disruption without any 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 resolutions opposing this pipeline project. For more information, please contact Jeff Rapaport at jeffrap@optonline.net.

**Oil Trains:** 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 substandard rail cars to safeguard our families and 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.

**TRAIL MAINTENANCE:** Marty Cohen and Buddy Jenssen organize various trail maintenance 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 martincohen@verizon.net.

**OUTINGS:** If you would like to learn how to become an outings leader, lead, please contact Ellen at eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com or Mary Walsh at blehlwalsh@hotmail.com to get more information.

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

## Gateway Group

All of Essex County  
(except for Livingston, Millburn and Roseland).

The Gateway Group was organized 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.

**Our website:** <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/Gateway/>. (also accessible from the NJ Chapter website) On Facebook: Gateway Group, NJ Sierra or <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Gateway-Group-NJ-Sierra-Club/128998363842782?fref=ts>

|                           |  |              |                        |
|---------------------------|--|--------------|------------------------|
| <b>OFFICERS:</b>          |  |              |                        |
| <b>Chair:</b>             | David Yennior  | 973-844-1384 | dyennior@gmail.com     |
| <b>Vice-Chair:</b>        | ZaSah Khademi  | 201-618-8572 | zasah@aol.com          |
| <b>Secretary:</b>         | <i>Open Position!</i>                                      |              |                        |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>         | Anne Hirs  | 973-844-1121 | annehirs@msn.com       |
| <b>Program Chair:</b>     | <i>Open Position!</i>                                      |              |                        |
| <b>Publicity Chair:</b>   | <i>Open Position!</i>                                      |              |                        |
| <b>Conservation</b>       |  |              |                        |
| <b>Co-Chairs:</b>         | ZaSah Khademi  | 201-618-8572 | zasah@aol.com          |
| and                       | David Korfhage   | 973-932-0742 | drkorfhage@gmail.com   |
| <b>Political Chair:</b>   | <i>Open Position!</i>                                      |              |                        |
| <b>Fundraising Chair:</b> | <i>Open Position!</i>                                      |              |                        |
| <b>Membership</b>         |  |              |                        |
| <b>Chair:</b>             | Steven Yafet   | 908-354-2537 | syafet@gmail.com       |
| <b>Water, Newark</b>      |  |              |                        |
| <b>Issues Chr:</b>        | Bill Chappel   | 973-623-6490 | chappel.bill@gmail.com |
| <b>Recycling Issues</b>   |  |              |                        |
| <b>Chair:</b>             | Lyle Landon  | 201-247-0288 | lylelandon@aol.com     |
| <b>Passaic River</b>      |  |              |                        |
| <b>Co-Chairs:</b>         | Brenda Toyloy  | 973-856-7056 | brendatoyloy@yahoo.com |
| and                       | Jeff Weiss   | 973-650-1030 | bonefish5000@gmail.com |
| <b>Elizabeth</b>          |  |              |                        |
| <b>Issues Chair:</b>      | Paula Borenstein   | 908-289-3584 | brdandmkt@aol.com      |
| <b>Outings Chair:</b>     | <i>Open Position!</i>                                      |              |                        |
| <b>Group Executive</b>    |  |              |                        |
| <b>Committee:</b>         | David Yennior, John Beadle, ZaSah Khademi and Bill Chappel |              |                        |

Please contact David Yennior, Gateway's Chair, if you have any ideas or suggestions for a program in the future. The Gateway Group is very grateful for the contributions of John Beadle, Barbara Conover, ZaSah Khademi, Bill Chappel, Steven Yafet, Anne Hirs, Paula Borenstein, and Brenda Toyloy.

The Gateway Group invites YOU to join in the activism and asks your support as we strive to address the many issues facing the urban as well as suburban communities.

Gateway has been involved in the recent Massive Climate March in NYC, stopping more surface parking lots in Newark, banning Fracking Fluids in Elizabeth, cosponsoring a GMO documentary, a proposed development in Verona, a church expansion in Cedar Grove, the Pilgrim Pipeline, Keystone XL Pipeline, Fracking, Newark's Covanta Incinerator, Passaic River Restoration Community Advisory Group, Maplewood Green Day, formerly the West Orange Seton Hall project, the Newark Water Wars, advocating for NJ Sierra endorsed candidates for State and National Offices, and supporting other environmental groups.

There are several vacant positions listed, along with a full list of officers. For further information about upcoming activities, volunteer opportunities, or to discuss any concerns please contact me at dyennior@gmail.com or call 973-844-1384.

**LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS:** There are no events currently on the calendar. For up to date information about programs please check the website.

## 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 flooding, providing access to the waterfront, the creation and preservation of sustainable green open space, and addressing environmental justice issues, and is currently establishing 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 Wiltanger: cwiltanger@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.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/loantaka/>  
Loantaka now has a FaceBook page. Please check it out and like it: <https://www.facebook.com/LoantakaGroupNJSC/>

|                             |                       |              |                               |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>OFFICERS:</b>            |                       |              |                               |
| <b>Group Co-Chairs:</b>     | Eric Hausker          | 732-669-0719 | ericbiomass@gmail.com         |
| and                         | Paul Sanderson        | 908-233-2414 | paulmsanderson@aol.com        |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>           | Paul Sanderson        | 908-233-2414 | paulmsanderson@aol.com        |
| <b>Secretary:</b>           | Scott McCarthy        | 813-767-5593 | hi_risescott@earthlink.net    |
| <b>Conservation Chair:</b>  |                       |              |                               |
| <b>Morris County:</b>       | <i>Open Position!</i> |              |                               |
| <b>Union County:</b>        | <i>Open Position!</i> |              |                               |
| <b>Political Chair:</b>     | Clea Carchia          | 908-892-7229 | info@CleaCarchia.com          |
| <b>Programs:</b>            | Eric Hausker          | 732-669-0719 | ericbiomass@gmail.com         |
| <b>Fundraising Chair:</b>   | Eric Hausker          | 732-669-0719 | ericbiomass@gmail.com         |
| <b>Outings Chair:</b>       | Wanda Knapik          | 908-432-2198 | AdventuresWithWanda@gmail.com |
| <b>Publicity Chair:</b>     | Wynn Johanson         | 908-464-0442 | johansons@comcast.net         |
| <b>Membership:</b>          |                       |              |                               |
| <b>Member at Large:</b>     | Bob Campbell          | 973-761-4461 | bobc2023_sc@verizon.net       |
| <b>Outreach and Events:</b> |                       |              |                               |
| <b>Webmaster:</b>           | Wynn Johanson         | 908-464-0442 | johansons@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.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/loantaka/>

To join our e-mailing list, go to: <http://lists.sierraclub.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.sierraclub.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 Hausker will lead a discussion.

**ACTIVITIES:** (Consult our website (<http://www.sierraclub.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 (908-233-2414) or Eric (732-669-0719).

## Central Jersey Group

(Mercer County and neighboring towns in adjoining counties)

Find the latest at <https://www.facebook.com/CentralGroupNJSC/>.

Join our distribution list to receive timely information in infrequent emails. Please volunteer to help us. Openings for Outings, Outreach, Publicity, Webmaster and more. Contact Toni Granato at [toni.granato@sierraclub.org](mailto:toni.granato@sierraclub.org).

|                       |                |              |                              |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| <b>OFFICERS:</b>      |                |              |                              |
| <b>Chair, and</b>     |                |              |                              |
| <b>Energy Issues:</b> | Rob Benjamin   | 609 587-9069 | robbenjamin@outlook.com      |
| <b>Conservation:</b>  | Kip Cherry     | 609-924-4232 | kipatthesierraclub@gmail.com |
| <b>Energy:</b>        | Rob Benjamin   | 609 587-9069 | robbenjamin@outlook.com      |
| <b>Membership:</b>    | Bill Wowk      | 609-610-6349 | bwowk1@gmail.com             |
| <b>Political:</b>     | Terry Stimpfel | 609-731-7016 | terystimb@hotmail.com        |
| <b>Trails:</b>        | Bob Sokol      | 609-918-1149 | robert.sokol435@gmail.com    |
| <b>Ex-com:</b>        | Joanne Pannone | 609-443-6992 | jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com    |
| <b>Ex-com:</b>        | Lynne Weiss    | 732-821-9688 | lshari05@gmail.com           |

The Central Group is working on local environmental issues to preserve open space,

(Continued on page 8)

## GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 7)

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).

For Central Outings, sign up for the Central distribution list and visit the NJ Sierra Outings webpage.

### Raritan Valley Group

(Middlesex and Somerset Counties and surrounding areas)

#### OFFICERS:

|                               |                       |              |                           |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Group Chair:</b>           | Roomi Nusrat          | 609-389-6036 | sierra_nj_raritan@att.net |
| <b>Group Vice Chair:</b>      | <i>Open position!</i> |              |                           |
| <b>Outings Coordinator:</b>   | <i>Open position!</i> |              |                           |
| <b>Webmaster:</b>             | <i>Open position!</i> |              |                           |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>             | <i>Open position!</i> |              |                           |
| <b>Recycling Coordinator:</b> | <i>Open position!</i> |              |                           |
| <b>Conservation Chair:</b>    | Nancy Gladfelter      |              | nnglad.nj@gmail.com       |
| <b>Secretary:</b>             | <i>Open position!</i> |              |                           |
| <b>Political Chair:</b>       | Daphne Speck-Barynski | 732-390-5311 | speckbartyn@comcast.net   |
| <b>Membership:</b>            | <i>Open position!</i> |              |                           |

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/Raritan-Valley/>

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\\_rartian@att.net](mailto:sierra_nj_rartian@att.net) to participate.

**Meetings Location and Updates:** Because meeting dates and locations change, please subscribe to our E-mail list: NJ-RARITAN-VALLEY-NEWS after creating a password on <http://lists.sierraclub.org/>

Please contribute to our Quarterly News Letter sent via the E-mail list. On our home page, please click on the link: Submit Issues, Events or other News from your Township. The due dates are 15th of February, May, August and October.

The issues of interest to our communities include but are not limited to:

The issues of interest to our communities include but are not limited to:

#### 1. Conservation and Protection of the Raritan River basin area.

Key issues: preservation of our water supply, wildlife and prevention of water pollution.

#### 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 encourage you to attend your town's planning/zoning board or land use board meetings. If you are aware of development proposals in your town that may have a negative environmental impact, PLEASE communicate concerns by attending our meetings and by contacting us via [sierra\\_nj\\_rartian@att.net](mailto:sierra_nj_rartian@att.net).

### Jersey Shore Group

(Monmouth County, approximately)

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/Jersey-Shore/>

#### 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              | 732-513-5445 | faithtei@aol.com      |
| <b>Webmaster:</b>              | <i>Open Position!</i>         |              |                       |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>              | Pat Fuschetto                 | 732-308-4588 | fusche40@yahoo.com    |
| <b>Political Chair:</b>        | Bob Sandberg                  | 732-747-3224 | sandberg00@gmail.com  |
| <b>Outings Chair:</b>          | Mike Verange                  | 908-902-0718 | mjverange@aol.com     |
| <b>Membership Chair:</b>       | Bob Grize                     | 732-892-0684 | nyucwnyppb@aol.com    |
| <b>Program Chair:</b>          | George Moffatt                | 732-544-1726 | gmoffattgt@aol.com    |
| <b>Fund-raising Co-Chairs:</b> | Lois Blake                    | 732-863-5917 | lqblake@optonline.net |
| and                            | Joellen Lundy                 | 732-741-4756 | jfutey@comcast.net    |

#### Shore Group Happenings:

**Whale Pond Cleanups:** We continue our cleanups with a coalition with Monmouth University, all the towns in the Whale Pond Brook watershed, and the NJ Friends of Clearwater. Hurricane Sandy dumped tons of trash back into the watershed, which we are still removing a year later, so more cleanups are being scheduled. Our long-range goal is to clean up the watershed and educate local residents about the detrimental effects of lawn fertilizers and storm water run-off, and the importance of integrated pest management.

Help explore, enjoy and protect this beautiful watershed. Our Sierra dynamo heading the clean up of Whale Pond is Conservation Chair Faith Teitelbaum at [faithtei@aol.com](mailto:faithtei@aol.com).

**Help Needed for Other Cleanups:** If you would like to participate in cleanups of our other local waterways, please contact another dynamo, Laura Bagwell at [l.bagwell3@verizon.net](mailto:l.bagwell3@verizon.net). Laura focuses on the Red Bank area watersheds. In this effort, we work with the Navesink Swimming River Group which, since 2002, has removed more

than 20 tons of debris from our local banks and streams. Alas, pollution never ends; we are in constant need of volunteers.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Our general membership meetings take place at 6pm on the fourth Monday of the month at Brookdale Community College's Lincroft Campus. We are delighted that the college has invited us to continue the joint membership meetings through 2015. Our meetings, billed by BCC as "Science Monday," average 65 attendees a month, with some events peaking at 95 to 150 people. The cooperative effort between Sierra and BCC extends the "reach" of both organizations into the Monmouth community. Our BCC liaison is Dr. Patricia Dillon, a biology professor in the college's Science Department.

We meet at BCC 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 GSP Exit 109 to Rte 520 West (Newman Springs Rd, which becomes E. Main St at the Lincroft campus). Exit the traffic circle into the campus and follow the signs to the Warner Student Life Center (SLC), where the meeting usually is in the Twin Lights Rooms I and II. Use parking lot 7. As you walk towards the building complex, Warner will be down the slope on your left. If lot 7 is full, use parking lots 5 or 6. A campus map is at [http://www.brookdalecc.edu/PDFFiles/Maps/Map\\_04\\_08.pdf](http://www.brookdalecc.edu/PDFFiles/Maps/Map_04_08.pdf).

**July 12 (Sun):** Group picnic Noon to 3pm. Our annual summer pot-luck picnic will be held at Turkey Swamp Park, 200 Georgia Tavern Rd, Freehold. From Rte 9, take Rte 524 west to Georgia Rd (Rte 53), turn left (south) on Georgia and follow the signs to the park. From I-95, at Exit 22 take Jackson Mills Rd north to Georgia Rd, turn left (west) on Georgia and follow the signs. Meet in the picnic area behind the main building. No speakers, just relax and enjoy the food and conversation. Check with Dennis Anderson (Dennisaza@aol.com) on what to bring and to get other details.

**August:** No meeting. Enjoy the summer!

**Sept 28 (Mon): The Mixed Blessings of Invasive Species.** Dr. Pedram P. Daneshgar, Asst Prof of Biology at Monmouth Univ, will discuss the problem of invasive species overwhelming native species throughout the world, and specifically in New Jersey. Dr. Daneshgar studies the impacts of invasive species on coastal ecosystems such as the New Jersey Pine Barrens, in hope of restoring rare and endangered plant species populations. The problems of invasive species are accelerating throughout the world, due to species hitch-hiking in shipping containers, exotic plants and pets escaping into the wild, and climactic changes that alter habitat. The latter is a nuanced problem, for not only does it destroy the habitat of native species, but it allows invasive species to fill the vacuum left by the retreating natives, or allows them to overpower the natives when competing for food. Of course we are all invasive species, even the Native Americans who journeyed from Asia thousands of years ago. They were supplanted by waves of European immigrants. Climate change is accelerating the process.

### Ocean County Group

**WEBSITE:** [www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/ocean-county/](http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/ocean-county/)

#### OFFICERS:

|  |   |              |                           |
|--|---|--------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Chair &amp; Treasurer:</b>                | A. Gregory Auriemma, Esq. 732-451-9220 sierraclubOC@aol.com |              |                           |
| <b>Vice-Chair &amp; Conserv Chair:</b>       | Margit Meissner-Jackson 609-296-4367 sylviaJ1910@yahoo.com  |              |                           |
| <b>Outings Chair &amp; Env'l Ed'n Coord:</b> | Terrance Brown  | 848-333-7331 |                           |
| <b>Outings Co-Chair:</b>                     | Monica Zabroski   | 609-384-2693 | monicazabrowski@yahoo.com |
| <b>Fund-Raising:</b>                         | Joyce M. Isaza  | 732-920-9270 | realtymstr@aol.com        |
| <b>Group ExCom Member:</b>                   | Nancy Brown   | 732-892-6089 | nancybrown624@comcast.net |
| <b>Group ExCom Member:</b>                   | Sierra Palmer   |              |                           |

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Generally held on the SECOND MONDAY of each month at the Ocean County Library.

**ACTIVITIES & ISSUES:** We're hard at work: Preventing drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and off the Jersey Coast, defending the Endangered Species Act, fighting Mountain Top Removal and supporting expanded recycling legislation.

We've also targeted critical local open space, sprawl, and air and water quality issues with special emphasis on the massive "over-development" of Jackson Township and Lakewood. We're also involved in the campaigns to create a new park at "Anchor Reef" on Barnegat Bay and to stop "nitrogen pollution" of the Bay. Protecting the Ocean County Hiking Trail in Lacey. We're watching the progress of the first Wind Turbine erected in the County which resides in Ocean Gate. We're also involved in creating a greener and sustainable environment in Ocean County.

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 web site: <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/ocean-county>.

**MEETINGS AND EVENTS:** General 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. Information on meetings in July-September will be posted on the website.

### West Jersey Group

(Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/West/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/WestJerseyGroupNJSC> Log on and Like Us

#### OFFICERS:

|                     |             |              |                     |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <b>Group Chair:</b> | Gina Carola | 856-848-8831 | ginacee@verizon.net |
| <b>Vice-Chair:</b>  | Frank Zinni |              | efzin4@aol.com      |
| <b>Secretary:</b>   | Ellen Zinni |              | efzin4@aol.com      |



**Treasurer:** Trish Clements patri3210@gmail.com  
**Publicity Chair:** Anne Caridi bears4cats@msn.com  
**Political Chair:** *Open position!* Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831  
**Pinelands Rep:** Lee Snyder pinelands1@hotmail.com  
**Greenways Coord's:** Frank and Ellen Zinni efzin4@aol.com  
**Conservation Chair:** Stacey Ayala thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com  
**Delegate at Large:** Aida Ayala thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com  
**Membership Chair:** Mike Brown 856-547-9221 eyebrown@verizon.net  
**Fundraising Chair:** *Open position!* Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831  
**Smart Growth Chair:** *Open position!* Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831  
**Programs Chair:** *Open position!* Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831  
**Outings Chair:** *Open position!* Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** are held at 7:30 pm on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month, September thru May at the Quaker Meeting Hall on Friends Ave in Haddonfield.

The West Jersey Group does not meet in June, July or August. Please join us on a hike or paddling outing. See you on September 9.

**Directions:** From I-295, take exit 34B onto Rte 70 West. Follow the signs for Rte 41 South, which is Kings Hwy (you will have to exit to the right into a jug handle and then turn left onto Rte 41 (Kings Hwy)). Cross over Rte 70 and you will be briefly on Rte 154 (Brace Rd). Make the next right and then the next left onto Kings Hwy. After about 1 mile, you will cross Grove Rd (Indian King Tavern is on the right corner). After crossing Grove Rd, go two more blocks and turn right on to Friends Ave. Go one block to the Meeting House. Park in the lot next to the Meeting House and enter the auditorium through the doors on the right side of the building. Do not go into the Meeting House.

**Sept 9: Central American Nature** – Join us for a virtual tour through Central America with our own Pinelands Chair Lee Snyder as he takes us on a tour of the flora, fauna, reefs and Mayan ruins.

## South Jersey Group

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

### OFFICERS:

**Group, Outings Chair:** Tom Boghosian 609-625-0878 boghosian1@verizon.net  
**Vice-Chair:** *Open Position!*  
**Conservation Chair:** *Open Position!*  
**Pol. Chair, Calendars:** Dick Colby 609-965-4453 dick.colby@stockton.edu  
**Membership Chair:** *Open Position!*  
**Secretary/Treasurer:** Julie Akers 609-432-3280 julieakers56@gmail.com

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 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 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. 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. Dick is also an Atlantic County Parks Commissioner; contact him if you might be interested in attending monthly meetings of the Commission, which are open to the public (although we don’t meet in July and August).

**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 Menantico Ponds Wildlife Management Area. Jane Galetto of “Citizens United” (forrivers@aol.com) 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 (24”) natural gas pipeline to feed the BL England electric power plant in Marmora (Cape May Co), led by Georgina Shanley (shanleyg2001@yahoo.com) and the organization **350.org South Jersey** (Glenn Klotz: glennk1949@gmail.com). The Pinelands Commission has rejected a direct route through its Forest Zone, a decision which has been taken to court by South Jersey Gas Co. (3 etc.) Campaigns to prevent the use of tropical rainforest wood for rebuilding oceanfront boardwalks, in Ocean City and Wildwood, are also being led by Georgina. Club officers and staff have been following several studies seeking to determine sustainable water supply levels for southeastern New Jersey, with the hope that findings will be used by planners (such as those employed by the Pinelands Commission) who permit development. Other hot issues include damage done to sand trails by ORVs, a campaign to promote Community Solar (photovoltaic) installations (especially in each municipality in Atlantic County), support for legislation that would end the free distribution of plastic bags at supermarkets, and support for a New Jersey Bottle Bill, known as the Smart Container Act.

### Some Possibly Relevant Meetings of Allied Organizations:

**July 1, Aug 5 and Sept 2** (first Wednesdays), 6:30pm: **Atlantic County Friends of the Parks:** Monthly meetings of Friends of the Parks, a group which works to improve and promote the Atlantic County Park System. All are welcome. Warren Fox Nature Center (WFNC\*), Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor, Milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50, 3½ miles south of Mays Landing. Contact Julie Akers, 609-432-3280.

**July 22, Aug 26 and Sept 23** (fourth Wednesdays), 7pm: **Atlantic Audubon Society** is a lively member-organization with strong environmental programs and an excellent monthly on-line newsletter. Membership is free. Meetings are in the Galloway Twp Library, 306 E Jimmie Leeds Rd. www.AtlanticAudubon.org.

**July 28** (alternate fourth Tuesdays) 6:30pm: **Great Egg Harbor River Watershed Association:** Membership meeting, open to the public: **annual picnic at Lake Lenape Park**, Contact Lynn Maun, 856-453-0416 or email lynnkmaun@comcast.net. Also, **Sept 26-27: Annual Camping/Canoe/Kayak Trip on the River**, overnighing at Camp Acagisca (near Mays Landing), Contact Lynn Maun.

**Aug 12** (alternate second Wednesdays), 7pm: Bi-monthly meeting of **Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries** (another “Partnership River” under federal protection): Meeting place: George Luciano Center, Cumberland County College.

Cumberland County development issues are commonly discussed, including art, historical and recreational attributes of the area. Contact Lillian Armstrong (CU) at 609-774-5853 or lillian.armstrong@cumauriceriver.org. Website: www.cumauriceriver.org.

**Aug 19** (alternate third Wednesdays), 6:30pm: **Great Egg Harbor Scenic and Recreational River Council:** Representatives of the 12 municipalities discuss river management strategies. Open to the public. WFNC\*. Contact Julie Akers, 609-432-3280.

**350.org South Jersey** is a recently formed organization that opposes Climate Change, and that tries to hold monthly meetings at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Pomona Rd (Rte 575) opposite the Stockton College campus in Galloway Twp, Atlantic Co. Contact Glenn Klotz: glennk1949@gmail.com.

## Singles Section

(A chapter-wide, special interest section offering hikes/cleanups, social gatherings, 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 contact one of our officers!

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.sierraclub.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.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 to receive announcements for all of our events a few weeks before each event. Events are also listed on the online calendar on the Chapter’s web site: [www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/nj\\_calendar.asp](http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/nj_calendar.asp).

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

### OFFICERS:

**Interim Chair:** Ron Pate ronpate31@verizon.net  
**Outings Chair:** Joyce Haddad jkhaddad@juno.com  
**Conservation Chair:** *Position Open.* Contact us! We need you!  
**Treasurer:** Joyce White joyce.white.exec@gmail.com  
**Social Chair:** Joe Prebish Joe.Prebish@kraft.com  
**Vice Social Chair:** Jeff Sovelove Hiker\_Dood@yahoo.com  
**Programs:** *Position Open.* Contact us! We need you!  
**Publicity:** *Position Open.* Contact us! We need you!  
**Membership:** *Position Open.* Contact us! We need you!  
**Nominations:** Nancy Sullivan nancysullivan@comcast.net

2015 Executive Committee members: Rozanna Fonelli, Joyce Haddad, Ron Pate, Joe Prebish, Jeff Sovelove, Daphne Speck Bartynski, 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:** Casual 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 a month at various locations. All welcome. Contact any officer for location.

**SOCIAL DINNER:** THIRD TUESDAY of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner at a variety of Montclair restaurants. Location will be announced 2 weeks before each social. 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’ level to 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 singles outings led by Jimi Oleksiak and Jeff Sovelove. Please join the listserv to receive notification of all of our outings (see above for instructions on how to subscribe).

Sierra Silver Singles is a subgroup that organizes hikes and other social events to appeal to Singles over 50. Most events are scheduled followed by 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 Singles listserv for announcements of more Silver Singles outings.

## Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Section

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

**WEB SITE:** <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LGBT/>  
**MEETUP:** <http://www.meetup.com/njsierraclub>

(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)

### OFFICERS:

|                          |  |                          |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| <b>Co-Chair:</b>         | John Kashwick *                                    | jkashwick@gmail.com      |
| <b>Co-Chair:</b>         | Robert Zitzman *                                   | robertmz@att.net         |
| <b>Secretary:</b>        | Jonathan Wall*                                     | psychologist@jonwall.com |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>        | Corbett Klein *                                    | corbettklein@outlook.com |
| <b>Outings Co-Chair:</b> | Corbett Klein *                                    | corbettklein@outlook.com |
| <b>Outings Co-Chair:</b> | Robert Zitzman *                                   | robertmz@att.net         |
| <b>Webmaster/</b>        |  |                          |
| <b>Listmaster:</b>       | John Kashwick *                                    | jkashwick@gmail.com      |
| <b>Ex-Com Member:</b>    | OPEN POSITION–contact John or Robert if interested |                          |

(\* Section Executive Committee Member)

### MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

**July 18 (Sat): Sterling Hill Mine Tour.** 10am at Ogdensburg NJ. Join the Sierra Club NJ LGBT section and Sundance as we have a guided 2-hour tour of the historic Sterling Hill Mine, including about an hour underground in the mine itself. After the tour we'll walk around the museum site until about 1pm, when we'll each drive to The Chatterbox 50's style diner for lunch. For more information, contact Robert Zitzman tel: 908-723-3633 or robertMZ@att.net. The Sterling Hill Mining Museum, 30 Plant St, Ogdensburg NJ. Cost \$10. Registration required at: [www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LGBT/](http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LGBT/).

**July 20 (Mon): 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](mailto: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 Golden Pheasant Inn in Irwinna PA for brunch. We will return via the same route. If time permits we'll visit the nearby winery. Leader: Jonathan Wall [psychologist@jonwall.com](mailto:psychologist@jonwall.com) 908-295-1890. Registration required at [www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LGBT/](http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LGBT/) 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 and at least two liters of water. Wear shoes that are appropriate for beach-walking and trails. Leader: Corbett Klein [corbettklein@outlook.com](mailto:corbettklein@outlook.com). Registration required at [www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LGBT/](http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LGBT/) or by contacting leader.

Dates and times subject to change. Participants should register for outings at [http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/nj\\_calendar.asp](http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/nj_calendar.asp) or [www.meetup.com/njsierraclub](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:jkashwick@gmail.com) or Robert at [robertmz@att.net](mailto: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, including hikes, 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@funtravels.com](mailto:azatz@funtravels.com). and invites members to check her web site at [www.funtravels.com](http://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, so whether you are single, dating or married, please come join us!)*

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/Young-Sierrans/>

### YOUNG SIERRAN COMMITTEE POSITIONS

|                                      |                          |                                  |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Head Chair &amp; Coordinator:</b> | William Sevchuk          | wsevchuk@yahoo.com               |
| <b>Vice Chair:</b>                   | Open Position            | Please Contact Us!               |
| <b>Moderator:</b>                    | Diana Christine Eichholz | MistyAngel22@aol.com             |
| <b>Conservation Chair:</b>           | Steve Timmerman          | skiingsteve@aol.com              |
| <b>Webmaster:</b>                    | Julie Garber             | journey7@optonline.net           |
| <b>Ex-Com/</b>                       |                          |                                  |
| <b>YS National Rep. (CA)</b>         | Jackie Enfield           | jackie@jackieenfield.com         |
| <b>Northern Jersey YS Rep.</b>       | Jim DeSantis             | green@northjerseygreendrinks.com |
| <b>Outings Chair:</b>                |                          |                                  |
| <b>(Northern Jersey)</b>             | Open Position!           | Please Contact Us!               |
| <b>Outings Chair:</b>                |                          |                                  |
| <b>(Central Jersey)</b>              | Leon Yerenburg           | lyerenburg@gmail.com             |
| <b>Outings Chair:</b>                |                          |                                  |
| <b>(South Jersey)</b>                | Open Position!           | 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 with the motto: No Child Left Inside!)*

### 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>     |

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 and 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 three steering committee meetings per year, and performing some additional assignments totaling 20 hours per year, please contact the Chair. The operative word here is "commit".

## 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@pineypaddlers.com](mailto:Leona@pineypaddlers.com))

A coalition of organizations has developed a national campaign to save Minnesota's Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) from proposed copper-nickel-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 people, and petitions with more than 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.

The trip began in the BWCAW on August 24, moved across the Great Lakes, down Lake Champlain, down several rivers and canals along the East

Coast, and concluded on the banks of the Potomac on December 3.

The Sierra Club played a substantial role at several points during the 100-day trip. On November 20, volunteers from the New Jersey Chapter met the canoers, 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 surrounds the BWCAW); and 2) requesting the Department of the Interior withdraw from the federal leasing program all federal mineral interests in the Rainy River Watershed which is the major component of BWCAW waters.

For more information, check out the campaign to Save the Boundary Waters. Photos courtesy of Save the Boundary Waters or the Sierra Club.



Care for more Club involvement? You can sample (and subscribe to) several specialist Club national electronic newsletters by logging on to: [insider@sierraclub.org](mailto:insider@sierraclub.org), [currents@sierraclub.org](mailto:currents@sierraclub.org), [www.sierraclub.org/population](http://www.sierraclub.org/population), and [www.sierraclub.org/globalwarming](http://www.sierraclub.org/globalwarming).



# Outings

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

## GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS (roughly north to south)

- Skylands:** Vacant
- South Highlands:** Jonathan Wall  
psychologist@jonwall.com
- North Jersey:** Ellen Blumenkrantz  
eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417
- Gateway:** David Ogens, 973-226-0748 (H)  
64 Elm Rd, Caldwell 07003
- Loantaka:** Vacant
- Central Jersey:** Vacant
- Raritan Valley:** Vacant
- Jersey Shore:** Mike Verange, 908-732-8364 (H)  
1497 W Front St, Lincroft 07738
- Ocean County:** Terrance Brown, 848-333-7331
- West Jersey:** Vacant
- South Jersey:** Tom Boghosian, 609-625-0878 (H)  
4794 Andorea Drive, Mays Landing, 08330  
boghosian1@verizon.net
- Singles:** Joyce Haddad, jkhaddad@juno.com
- Young Sierrans (Central Region):** Leon Yerenburg,  
lyerenburg@gmail.com
- Inner City Outings:** Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953 (H)  
NJ-ICO, 17 Mt. Horeb Rd, Warren, 07059
- River Touring:** Fred Tocce, 908-453-2205 (H)  
RD-1, Box 277, Washington, 07882
- Chapter Outings Chair:** Ellen Blumenkrantz  
eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417

**Outing Leaders:** Please send October-December 2015 write-ups to your Group Outings Coordinator (or, if you don't associate yourself with a single Group, directly to Ellen Blumenkrantz, the Chapter Outings Chair) before August 5. 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:** Group Outings Coordinators: Please submit your October-December 2015 trip write-ups by August 8.

**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 the Sierra Club. 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. However, as these outings are planned many months in advance, we do advise that you contact the trip leader 1-2 days before the outing to make sure it is not cancelled. 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 trips can arrange partners to share a canoe if you are 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       |
| (G) - Gateway                                    | (L) - Loantaka            |
| (N) - North Jersey                               | (Sk) - Skylands           |
| (RV) - Raritan Valley                            | (S) - South Jersey        |
| (W) - West Jersey                                | (NJ) - NJ Chapter         |
| (RT) - River Touring                             | (ACOC) - Atlantic Chapter |
| (SNG) - Especially for Singles (but ALL welcome) |                           |

## JULY

**Jul 1 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Tidal Maurice River (Atlantic Co.) 10:30am.** The Maurice is a nationally recognized Wild and Scenic River and its environment supports a great variety of plant and animal life, including Ospreys and Bald Eagles. We'll paddle 10 miles on the tidal Maurice River. Rentals are not available. 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 3 (Fri): Canoe/Kayak the Batsto River (Burlington Co.) 9:30am.** We'll enjoy a lovely Pinelands paddle from Quaker Bridge to Batsto Lake. Pinelands Preservation Alliance has launched Pinelands Adventures and rental boats are available as well as private boat shuttling. We'll use Pinelands Adventures for our trip; cost information is on their website. <http://www.pinelandsadventures.org>. Contact leaders to confirm the trip, meeting location and your participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Jul 5 (Sun): Canoeing/Kayaking Skills Refresher on Lake Oswego (Burlington Co.) 9am.** ACA Certified Instructors from the Sierra Club will share information about paddling efficiencies, safety practices, rescue techniques and equipment. The refresher is held on Lake Oswego. Boats can be rented from Mick's Canoe and Kayak Rental 800-281-1380 or [www.mickscanoerental.com/](http://www.mickscanoerental.com/). Bring lunch, snacks and water. Contact leaders to confirm the event and your participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Jul 8 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Oswego River (Burlington Co.) 10am.** We'll paddle 8 miles from Lake Oswego to Harrisville Lake. Meet at Lake Oswego. Boats can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Canoe/Kayak Rental 800-281-1380 or [www.mickscanoerental.com/](http://www.mickscanoerental.com/). Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Jul 10 (Fri): Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek (Ocean Co.) 9am.** Enjoy a long summer paddle in the cool amber waters of Cedar Creek from Dover Forge to Dudley Park. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation and meeting location. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Jul 11 (Sat): Camp Mohican Hike and Swim (Hardwick Twp, Warren Co.) 10am.** <http://www.outdoors.org/lodging/lodges/mohican/>. The hike will cover 8 miles in 5 hours in hilly and somewhat rocky terrain with great views. Difficulty: Strenuous. No pets. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water required. Bring a lunch. Facilities: A Port-A-John at the parking lot. Restrooms and changing rooms at the camp. Registration required via web: <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey>. If you haven't hiked with The Hikist before, include a brief description of your hiking experience with your registration. Directions for the meeting place will be sent via email to members who register. Leader: Jimi Oleksiak: the\_hikist@mac.com.

**Jul 12 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak Silver Bay around Cattus Island (Ocean Co.) 9am.** We've hiked the Cattus Island trails overlooking Silver Bay and it's time to enjoy a paddling trip. Our guide for the trip will be an Ocean County Naturalist and we'll learn about the environment and how we can protect these waters that are part of the Barnegat Bay. Hurricane Sandy wreaked havoc and we'll learn how the bays are recovering and support we can provide as Sierra Club members. Rentals are not available. Bring lunch, beverage, sunscreen, bug spray. Current Sierra Club membership required. Contact leaders to confirm trip, participation and meeting location. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Jul 14 (Tue): Bastille Day - Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Hunterdon Co.) 9am.** We're paddling 10 miles from Rieglesville to Kingwood Access. The proposed route of the Penn East Pipeline with "fracking gas" will cross from PA thru Rieglesville, destroying the environment and the fragile ecosystems of the Sourland Mountain in Hunterdon. The NJ Sierra Club is opposed to the pipeline. Read this link for details: <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/penneast-pipeline>. We'll point out a Hunterdon landfill site that NJ Sierra opposes being removed from the Superfund list by the EPA [http://www.nj.com/hunterdon-county-democrat/index.ssf/2015/04/sierra\\_club\\_opposes\\_epa\\_plan\\_to\\_remove\\_hunterdon\\_1.html](http://www.nj.com/hunterdon-county-democrat/index.ssf/2015/04/sierra_club_opposes_epa_plan_to_remove_hunterdon_1.html). Paddling helmets required for all participants. Rentals are not available. 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 18 (Sat): Jockey Hollow Leader's Choice (Morris Co.) 10am** Leader's choice of trails depending on conditions at Jockey Hollow National Park in Morristown. See <http://www.nps.gov/morr/playyourvisit/directions.htm> for directions and information. Bring lots of water, a snack, and wear hiking boots. Meet at the Visitors' Center. Heavy/steady rain cancels. No pets please. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker\_Dood@yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

**Jul 18 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak with your Pooch on the Wading River (Burlington Co.) 9am.** Fortunato invites his "cousins" and dog lovers as we paddle 10 miles from Godfrey Bridge to Chips Folly Campground (take-out fee).. Canoes and kayaks can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Canoe and Kayak Rental 800-281-1380 or [www.mickscanoerental.com](http://www.mickscanoerental.com/). Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Jul 19 (Sun): Turtle Back Rock (Essex Co.) Sierra Silver Singles Hike. 10am.** 6-7 mile hike at a moderate pace, visiting Turtle Back Rock and Hemlock Falls. Meet before 10am at the Turtle Back Rock parking lot. Bring lunch, water/something to drink, and whatever else you will need (sun protection, hat, jacket). Wear hiking boots. No pets please. Contact the leader, Ron Pate, for more information ronpate31@verizon.net

**Jul 25 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Great Egg Harbor River (Atlantic Co.) 8:30am** The Great Egg is the largest canoeing river in the Pinelands and nearly all of this 129-mile river system rests within the Pinelands National Reserve. We're paddling 17 miles from Penny Pot to Lake Lenape. Rentals are not available. Lunch break will be at Palace Restaurant along the river. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Jul 26 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Abbott Marshlands/Crosswicks Creek (Burlington Co.) 9:30am.** We'll meet at the confluence of the Delaware River and Crosswicks Creek - Bordentown Beach. During the 8-mile tidal trip we'll explore the Abbott Marshlands and learn about Joseph Bonaparte's residence in Bordentown at Point Breeze. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

## AUGUST

**Aug 8 (Sat): Patriots Path Stroll (Morris Co.) 10am.** Come take an easy stroll on Patriots Path in Morristown. This 5 mile stroll will start out from the Speedwell Lake parking lot at 10 AM across the street from Historic Speedwell. See the Morris County Parks website (<http://www.morrisparks.org/>) for directions or put the following address into your preferred map engine: "300 Speedwell Avenue, Morristown NJ 07960". Please bring plenty of water and a light snack. Great for beginners. Heavy/steady rain cancels. No pets please. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker\_Dood@yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

**Aug 8 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak the Oswego River (Burlington Co.) 8am.** Rise and Shine - join us for an early trip before the crowds! We'll paddle 8 miles from Lake Oswego to Harrisville Lake. Meet at Lake Oswego, Lake Oswego Rd. Boats can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Canoe/Kayak Rental 800-281-1380 or [www.mickscanoerental.com/](http://www.mickscanoerental.com/). Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Aug 9 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River Water Gap (Sussex Co.) 10am.** The Delaware River is the longest undammed river in the East. Learn about "fracking" and what you can do as a Sierra Club Activist to protect the Watershed. Paddling helmets required for all paddlers; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Rentals are not available. Current Sierra Club membership required. Contact leaders for further information. Leona & George F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Aug 11 (Tues): Canoe/Kayak the Abbott Marshlands/Crosswicks Creek (Burlington Co.) 11am.** We'll meet at the confluence of the Delaware River and Crosswicks Creek - Bordentown Beach, Park St. This is a 12-mile tidal trip to Anchor Thread Park and back. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip, time and participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Aug 14 (Fri): Canoe/Kayak the Mullica River (Burlington Co.) 8:30am.** The aquatic flowering plants of the NJ Pinelands will still be in bloom. This is a 12-mile trip for experienced Pines paddlers; expect downfalls and portages. Pinelands Preservation Alliance has launched Pinelands Adventures and rental boats are available as well as private boat shuttling. We'll use Pinelands Adventures for our trip; cost information on their website. <http://www.pinelandsadventures.org>. Contact leaders to confirm the trip, meeting location and your participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Aug 16 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Hunterdon Co.) 9am.** We're paddling 15 miles from Kingwood Access to Lambertville; lunch break at the Hot Dog Man's River "Restaurant"; bring or buy lunch. Paddling helmets required for all participants; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Rentals are not available. Current Sierra Club membership required. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Aug 16 (Sun): Ramapo Mountain State Forest Hike (Bergen Co.) Silver Singles Hike 10am.** Hike 4-5 miles on both flat and hilly terrain at a moderate pace. Certain sections are rocky. Hiking boots strongly recommended. Optional lunch at a nearby restaurant. Directions: I-287 N to exit 57. Turn left at light onto Skyline Dr. Go approximately one quarter mile to parking lot on left. Any questions, contact the leader: Jay Dibble: 908 289-8813.

**Aug 19 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Rancocas Creek (Burlington Co.) 9am.** The river section we paddle will depend on conditions. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders for information. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Aug 21 (Fri): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Hunterdon Co.) 10am.** We'll paddle 8 miles from Kingwood Access to Bulls Island; lunch break at the Hot Dog Man's River "Restaurant"; bring or buy lunch. Paddling helmets required for all participants; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Rentals are not available. Current Sierra Club membership required. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Aug 23 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River Water Gap (Sussex Co.) 10am.** The Delaware River is the longest undammed river in the East. Learn about "fracking" and what you can do as a Sierra Club Activist to protect the Watershed. Paddling helmets required for all paddlers; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Rentals are not available. Current Sierra Club membership required. Contact leaders for further information: Leona & George F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Aug 25 (Tue): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River from Bordentown to Burlington - A Tale of Two River Cities! (Burlington Co.) 10:30am.** This is a 10-mile tidal trip and only for experienced paddlers. Expect power boat traffic and boat wakes. Kayaks must be 12 ft or over; spray skirts recommended. Bring lunch and water. Rental boats are not available. Current Sierra Club membership required. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

## SEPTEMBER

**Sep 5 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Hunterdon Co.) 9am.** We're paddling 8 miles from Kingwood Access to Bulls Island; lunch break at the Hot Dog Man's River "Restaurant"; bring or buy lunch. Paddling helmets required for all participants; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Rentals are not available. Current Sierra Club membership required. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Sep 7 (Mon): Mercer Park - Land and Water Cleanup - Sierra Club Water Sentinels and Princeton University SVC (Mercer Co.) 9am to 12pm.** Lake Mercer was formed by Assunpink Dam #20 and is part of the Delaware River Watershed. Join the NJ Sierra Club and the Princeton University Student Volunteers Council on Labor Day! Help us pick up litter and trash as we enjoy a scenic walk along Lake Mercer and the lovely wooded trails. Or you can bring your kayak/canoe to collect trash on the lake (life jackets must be worn). Bring lunch and water. Bring gloves; trash bags will be provided. For registration contact George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Sep 10 (Thu): D&R Canal Land and Water Cleanup - Sierra Club Water Sentinels and Princeton University SVC (Mercer Co.) 9-12pm.** The Princeton University Student Volunteers Council and the NJ Sierra Club are partnering for their 6th Annual Land and Water cleanup of the D&R Canal as part of the Sierra Club Water Sentinels Program for the Delaware River Watershed. Walk along the canal to pick up litter or bring your canoe/kayak to collect trash in the water. Our cleanup will take place in the Lawrenceville section of the canal; meet at Cherry Tree Lane. Bring lunch and water. Trash bags will be provided. Contact George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Sep 12 (Sat): Ramapo Reservation, Mahwah (Bergen Co.) 10am.** See <http://www.nynjtc.org/park/ramapo-valley-co-reservation>. The hike will cover 7 miles in 4 hours in rugged terrain. Difficulty: Moderately Strenuous. Great views of the Ramapo Valley from the Ilgenstein Rock Lookout. No beginners. No pets. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water required. Bring a lunch. Facilities: Restrooms with running water near the parking lot. Registration required via web: <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey>. If you haven't hiked with The Hikist before, include a brief description of your hiking experience with your registration. Directions for the meeting place will be sent via email to members who register. Leader: Jimi Oleksiak: the\_hikist@mac.com.

**Sep 12 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek (Ocean Co.) 9am.** It's George's b'day paddle!! We'll eat cake and paddle 7 miles from Ore Pond to Dudley Park. Cedar Creek is one of the prettiest Pines streams.

(continued on page 12)



**NEW JERSEY CHAPTER LEADERSHIP**

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**Regional Issues Coordinator**  
\* Joan Denzer\*\* (JDenzer73@yahoo.com)

**Fundraising Committee**  
Ken Johanson\*\*, Joan and George Denzer

**Personnel Committee**  
Ken Johanson\*\*, Joan Denzer, Rich Isaac, George Denzer, Lee Snyder

**Legislative Committee**  
Ken Johanson\*\*, Carey Huff, Dave Mattek, and Kelly-Ann Norgaard

**Litigation Oversight Committee**  
Greg Auriemma\*\*, Ken Johanson

**Finance Committee**  
George Denzer\*\*, Sunil Somalwar, Ken Johanson

**Information Technology Committee**  
Joe Testa\*\*, Sunil Somalwar, George Newsome

**Facilities (office, meeting sites)**  
George Denzer\*\*, Joan Denzer, Paul Sanderson, Sunil Somalwar, Laura Lynch, and Bonnie Tillery

\* Indicates Chapter-wide elected ExCom members.  
\*\* Indicates committee chair or co-chair

**Issue Coordinators**

**Alaska Issues**  
Jonathan Wall (908) 295-1890  
psychologist@jonwall.com

**Community Solar**  
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**Climate Change**  
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**Delaware River**  
Gina Carola (see left column)

**Energy Efficiency & Conservation**  
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**Genetically Modified Organisms**  
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**Green Acres Issues**  
Bob Moss (see left column)

**Land Use Issues**  
Laura Lynch (see left column)

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Greg Auriemma (732) 451-9220  
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terystimb@hotmail.com  
and Greg Gorman (see left column)

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**Liaison to Pinelands Preservation Alliance:**  
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**Population Issues**  
Bonnie Tillery (609) 259-6438  
Blit44blit@msn.com  
389 Sawmill Rd, Hamilton NJ 08620.

**Recycling Issues**  
David Yennior (see above)

**Solar Home Issues**  
Edgar Shepherd (shepherd\_edgar@yahoo.com)

**Tiger Conservation**  
Sunil Somalwar (see left column)

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Steve Lanset (201) 424-6348 (mobile)  
slanset@hotmail.com

**Trails**  
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MattekDC@aol.com  
4 1/2 Park Av, Pennington NJ 08534-2313

**Utah, Wildland Issues**  
John Kashwick (201) 660-8820  
jkashwick@gmail.com

**Water Quality and Habitat Issues**  
Rich Isaac (see left column)

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If no one is in the office to take your call, please leave a message on the answering machine. Please SPELL YOUR LAST NAME, and state whether the phone number you leave is for daytime or evening.

**OUTINGS**

(Continued from page 11)

Boats can be rented from Cedar Creek Campgrounds (www.cedarcreeknj.com/) or 732-269-1413. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Sep 13 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the N. Branch Rancocas Creek (Burlington Co). 8:30am.** We'll paddle the 14-mile N. Branch Rancocas Creek Canoe Trail from BCCC to Mt. Holly. It's "Arts in the Park Day" at Smithville - during our lunch break at Smithville we'll enjoy entertainment on three stages featuring music, dance, theater and storytelling. Meet at the Vincentown Diner - arrive 7:30am for breakfast. Contact leaders to confirm trip. Rentals are not available. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Sep 20 (Sun): Duke Farms Walk (Somerset Co). 10am.** Silver Singles Hike: a 4-5-mile trek on paved, gravel, wood-chipped trails through a variety of habitats. Be inspired by this model of environmental stewardship. Meet at visitor center parking lot, closest to the center. Limited parking is available; Duke Farms considers property full when all parking spaces are occupied. May want to consider carpooling and arriving early. Bring lunch; a small on-site café has limited food available for purchase. Address: 1112 Dukes Parkway West, Hillsborough 08844. Any questions, contact the leader: Rozanna Fanelli: rfanelli39@hotmail.com.

**Sep 20 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Hunterdon Co). 9am.** The trip is 18 miles from Rieglesville to Bulls Island. Paddling helmets required for all participants; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Kayaks must be 12ft+ for this trip. Bring lunch and beverage. Rentals are not available. Current Sierra Club membership required. Contact leaders to confirm trip, meeting location and participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Sep 23 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Oswego River (Burlington Co). 10am.** It's the Fall Equinox and we'll paddle the "Jewel of the Pinelands" from Lake Oswego to Harrisville Lake. Meet at Lake Oswego. Boats can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Canoe/Kayak Rental (800-281-1380 or www.micksanocrental.com/). Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Sep 26 (Sat): Turtleback Rock, South Mountain Reservation (Essex Co). 10am** We will start at Turtleback Rock trailhead at 10 AM. See the Essex County Parks Commission website http://www.essex-countynj.org/p/index.php?section=parks/sites/so for directions. Bring lots of water, and wear hiking boots. We will take the orange trail down to Hemlock Falls and also see the famous Turtleback Rock. Heavy/steady rain cancels. No pets please. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker\_Dood@Yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

**Sep 27 (Sun): Paddle and Walk the Abbott Marshlands on World Rivers Day (Burlington/Mercer Co). 12pm.** World Rivers Day is a global celebration of the world's waterways, observed every last Sunday in September. Established in 2005, it highlights the many values of rivers and strives to increase public awareness while encouraging the improved stewardship of rivers around the world. Rivers in every country face an array of threats, and World Rivers Day promotes the active involvement of citizens to ensure the health of rivers in the years ahead. Dr. Mary Leck and Charlie Fisher will be our guides on the creek, with more activities at Mercer County's Tulpehaking Nature Center to celebrate the Abbott Marshlands. Bring lunch and beverage; we'll have lunch at Bordentown Beach before starting our 4-mile paddle through the Abbott Marshlands to Roebling Park. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Upcoming ExCom Meetings:**

All members are welcome to attend these monthly statewide policy deliberations, held on SECOND SATURDAYS. Details, including agendas and travel instructions, are available from Ken Johanson, the Chapter Chair. (Best confirm!)

Conservation and/or Political Committee meetings usually start at 10am. Lunch is shared at noon. The main meeting starts at 1pm.

**July 11, Aug 8 and Sept 12, all at the New Brunswick Public Library (60 Livingston Ave.), a ten-minute walk from the New Brunswick Train Station**



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**Dick Colby** (dick.colby@stockton.edu) ..... Editor  
**Karen Brown** (karonna@yahoo.com) ..... Designer

**Editorial Board:** George and Joan Denzer, Rich Isaac, Ken Johanson, Laura Lynch, Paul Sanderson, Sunil Somalwar, Joe Testa, Bonnie Tillery and Jeff Tittel.

*The Jersey Sierran* appears in January, April, July and October. The deadline for copy is on the 10th of the month, two months before appearance. Members are cordially invited to propose articles, essays, letters, poetry and artwork. (Group/Section News columns are prepared by Group/Section Chairs; Outings are vetted by the Chapter Outings Chair, Ellen Blumenkrantz.)

*Opinions, unless otherwise attributed, are of the writer only. Advertised products and services carry no Club endorsement.*

**Thank you to all who contributed to this issue!**  
This newsletter is produced mostly by volunteers.

**Members please send address changes:**

To [address.changes@sierraclub.org](mailto:address.changes@sierraclub.org), or Sierra Club Membership 85 Second St, 2nd Floor San Francisco CA 94105, or 415-977-5653, and NJ Sierra Club, 145 West Hanover St. Trenton NJ 08618

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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

**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.