The Jersey Sierran

Option to save paper and postage by receiving The Jersey Sierran electronically
Sierra Club members, and others who receive the ‘Jersey Sierran,’’ now are able to receive our quarterly newsletter as an e-mail attachment in PDF format. Your computer would need (free) software called Adobe Acrobat Reader. The electronic version is in color, sometimes has extra (supplementary) pages, and will arrive several weeks before the paper version. You can also choose to receive BOTH versions. To make the change, send an e-mail message with your name, membership number (on your mailing address label), and your choice for either both versions or just the electronic version to the Editor Dick Colby@Stockton.edu – with “Electronic JN” in the Subject line.

Women’s March on Morristown
By Ken Johanson, of our Loantaka Group

On January 20 I joined ten to twenty thousand women and men of various cultures and backgrounds in Morristown to express our dissatisfaction with President Trump’s policies and outrageous comments regarding women. The goal of the march was to encourage women to play a more active role in promoting causes they believe in by making their voices heard, by running for federal, state and local offices and by exercising their right to vote.

Marchers were exuberant and happy to be spending the day with so many other women and men who share their concern for the future of this country.

Catherine McCabe, Excellent Choice for DEP Commissioner

Governor Phil Murphy has appointed Catherine McCabe Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). McCabe is an excellent choice, for she is well educated and has had extensive professional experience in promoting environmental issues. She served as Acting Administrator of the US Environmental Protection Agency from January to February 2017, Acting Assistant Administrator of EPA’s Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) from January to May 2009, and Acting Regional Administrator of EPA’s Region 2, based in New York City, from February to October 2017. She has also worked as an Assistant Attorney General in New York State, and she spent 22 years working in the US Department of Justice, specializing in environmental issues.

Jeff Titel, Senior Director of the New Jersey Sierra Club, believes that McCabe is exactly what we need after the setbacks of the Christie Administration. Besides her environmental experience, her legal background will be an important asset. Her first task will be to hire intelligent and well-qualified staff who will inspire confidence in the DEP. Her team must restore its function; producing and enforcing strong regulations that protect our air, water, and open spaces, maintaining both human health and that of our terrestrial and aquatic wildlife.

We hope McCabe’s national experience will help defend New Jersey from the environmental depredations of the Trump Administration, which include ocean drilling and reversals of wilderness designations, as well as ending important climate protections. It is deplorable that Trump’s gutted EPA now sides with promoters of fossil fuels and pollution over renewable energy and protection of our air and water. Hopefully, a strong NJ-DEP will build a green wall around New Jersey, not only to protect us from federal rollbacks, but also to strengthen our unique environmental protections. We look forward to working with Catherine McCabe to make New Jersey a leader once again in environmental protection.

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Philadelphia’s historic steps are a fitting location for McCabe to take her new position.

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The New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club wishes to thank all those who provided the Chapter with financial support during 2017. As in prior years, our members and supporters were there when we needed them most. Listed below are the names of those who contributed $100 or more during the calendar year. All gifts are assured that all contributions are very much appreciated, regardless of the amount.

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**Committee Report**

**Some Activities of our Environmental Justice Committee**

By Hugh Evans (hleEvans.Sierran@gmail.com), summarizing a meeting held on Feb 3

Renee Pollard reported that Camden County has been trying to address issues caused by a significant rise in homelessness, including the opioid crisis and the environmental issues associated with those problems. Camden County College hopes to develop a women's center but hasn't yet secured funding for that. Renee continues to focus on the Sierra Student Coalition/Climate Justice League in New Jersey. She is advocating for EJ and women's issues, and on February 17, 2017, she joined the Sierra Club Student Coalition/Climate Justice League in New Jersey as a part of the Garden State Leaders Program 2017 offered by the Anti-Poverty Network. You may communicate directly with Renee at rpollard16@gmail.com.

Maria Santiago is working on three projects. (1) The founding of a green sustainable-vo-tech charter school in Central Jersey. (2) Helping to organize the Youth's Climate March for people 10-18. She is advocating for EJ and women’s issues. (3) As part of the Garden State Leaders Program 2017 offered by the Anti-Poverty Network. You may communicate directly with Renee at rpollard16@gmail.com.

The Feb 3 “NJ Mayors' Climate Summit” was a rousing success! It was sold-out packed with 175 attendees, hosted by Rutgers Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy, sponsored by many envi- ronmental organizations and attended by mayors and town leaders. Robert Kopf, one of Rutgers’ leading climate scientists, began with data on the continuing expo- nential rise of greenhouse gas levels, earth temperatures and sea levels, and more severe storms and droughts.

Many of the mayors and state leaders offered examples of projects under way. New Jersey’s first Fatality, Tammy Murphy, was met with glowing comments during a surprise visit and presentation.

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Chair's Message

Welcome More New Volunteers!

By Richard Issac (riisaac@aol.com)

Our Chapter is glad to welcome the following new volunteers:

By Steve Lax, Transportation Committee, Transportation Advisory: For those interested in transportation matters, my son, from his first solo train ride at age seven. In 1969 he became a citizen activist with his bus route threatened by discontinuance. This led to service as New Jersey Coordinator for the Committee for Better Transit, joining the New Jersey Environmental Lobby’s Board of Directors, contributing to the NJ League of Women Voters Transportation Committee, original membership of its Sierra Club New Jersey Citizen Advisory Committee – where he chaired the Bus Subcommittee and served on the Executive Committee. Steve was hired by NJ Transit, retiring in 2009 as Director, Bus Service Planning. He is a lifelong user of rail and bus.

KARUNA JOBANPUTRA, Transportation Committee, Public Policy & Environmental Justice: Karuna has a 2012 Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Policy from the University of Vermont. She has conducted needs assessments, drafted the necessary resources component of a town plan, and facilitated many workshops. After college she created evaluation metrics based on city adaptation plans – in the US and internationally. She is familiar with innovative models in public transportation, both through policy analysis, community-based strategies, and hopes to explore best practices to garner more public support.

As a Referendum Coordinator for PIRG, Karuna managed an 1800-student volunteer force and, as a Communities for Healthy Food Advocate, she supervised a food justice program for NEBDCO.

BILLY BEREN, Transportation Committee, Transportation Advisory: After recently retiring after 53 years with New York City Transit, where he was responsible for fleet, systems, development, and work infrastructure and communications. He serves on the New Jersey Transportation Authority and is the Trenton Legislative Agent for the NJ League for Conservation Legislation (now the Environmental Justice issue (see below).

He lives in Montclair, and was a NJ Transit and PATH commuter for his entire commuting career. Bill also serves on the Montclair Public Transportation Advisory Committee.

By Ray Adams, Transportation Committee, Public Policy & Environmental Justice: Ray has an academic and professional background with both the Chapter and our national Club office – on a range of energy issues. He is currently finishing a Masters Degree in Environmental Policy, with long-standing interests that include renewable energy.

Roham Bhargava, Transportation Committee, Education, Bike, and Auto Issues, including Autonomous Vehicles: A resident of Oakland, Roham has over 20 years of industry experience in both the Chapter and our national Club office – on a range of energy issues. He is currently finishing a Masters Degree in Environmental Policy, with long-standing interests that include renewable energy.

By Angie Ray, Transportation Committee, Freight Issues: An air traffic controller at Newark Liberty Airport, Angie has experience and a wide knowl-
edge of aviation operations in the New York City region including Hudson River operations. Her experience extends to legislative and political activism – includ-
ing advocacy with professional staff of various House and Senate committees.

ANDREA RODRIGUEZ, Advertising Editor of The Jersey Sierran: With a BS in Business Management and Marketing, and many years’ experience with Conversant Media, TouchTunes, and JCDecaux North America, Andrea is well-positioned to build new client relationships and create advertising revenue for our newsletter.

RESOLUTIONS: Approved by the Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom) in January and February, 2018

A variety of Club books, notecards, badges and clothing is available from www.sierraclub.org/store
Conservation Chair's Report

100% Committed

By Greg Gorman (ggorman07419@embamg.com)

Want to make a smart decision? Have your community, business, condo, or faction commit to 100-percent renewable energy. Energy is everywhere! Maybe your bank, or enter into a power purchase agreement with a green, renewable energy supplier. It’s easy!

We know reliance on fossil fuels results in serious physical and socio-economic harm. From extraction (fracking, offshore drilling and mining) to distribution (pipelines, bottle trains and tankers) to consumption (smokestacks and tailpipes) - fossil fuels account for massive pollution of our planet. The release of carbon dioxide and methane from fossil fuel burning is the number one cause of global warming. This massive threat is the motivation behind the Sierra Club’s Beyond Coal, Beyond Oil, and Beyond Natural Gas Campaigns. But this isn’t enough!

A recent report by the US Energy Information Administration (EIA), released in November 2019, shows that the transportation sector (including personal passenger vehicles) accounts for 32 percent of the US’s carbon dioxide emissions. In total, transportation emissions are responsible for 28 percent of the nation’s total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, making it the largest source of carbon emissions in the US. It is expected that, as fuel economy standards and vehicle stock composition evolve, transportation emissions will decrease.

What’s more, the Tree Foundation works with numerous communities in improving the quality of life for residents and the environment. Since 1998, the NJ Tree Foundation has been one of the leaders in the tree planting sector.) Even slight increases in toxins emissions come from the transportation sector - (personal passenger vehicles.) Finally, the transportation sector is partly responsible for the release of carbon dioxide from the power sector accounted for 80% of the US’s carbon dioxide emissions in 2018. The electricity sector is the largest source of carbon emissions in the United States, according to the US Energy Information Administration (EIA). The US Energy Estimates (replacement of less-efficient coal power plants with new natural gas plants) is the least efficient of energy technologies.

Now we have another reason to succeed: MONEY! Renewable power is now competitive with fossil fuel electric rates. And the International Renewable Energy Agency reports that by 2020 it will undercut fossil fuels. A technical committee from the University of Michigan found that the initial cost of an electric car compared to a comparable gas-powered car, is recovered after 50,000 miles due to lower maintenance costs. The renewable energy market provides excellent opportunities.

New Jersey has stepped forward! Elizabeth and Highland Park have joined six other communities with “Sierra Club Mayors for 100% Clean Energy.” More than 50 NJ municipalities now embrace clean energy objectives as “Climate Mayors.” “We Are Still In,” and similar pledges to support the Paris Climate Agreement. PSE&G is closing its coal-burning Mercer Generating Station. The Mayors for 100% Clean Energy recently partnered with Climate Reality’s “100% Committed” campaigns to connect communities, businesses and universities to transition.

Since 1998, the NJ Tree Foundation has trained them to take charge and complete the project themselves. That complete the project themselves. That’s it. They come to the Tree Foundation, ask for the materials, and they believe in it. With the hands of volunteers! Beginning with a reliable renewable energy supply, the Tree Foundation is one of the leaders in the tree planting sector. Even slight increases in toxins emissions come from the transportation sector. Must staff the head in charge of a multivolume history project as well as of the Bell Telephone Archives. He was the lead in charge of a multivolume history project as well as of the Bell Telephone Archives. He was the lead

Remembering George Schindler

Edited from an obituary supplied by his daughter, Sarah Schindler

One of the 1971 founders of our New Jersey Chapter was George E. Schindler Jr., a passionate hiker, backpacker, environmentalist and winner who died on Feb 9 in Princeton. He was 94.

His environmentalism began with his service to the US Army Corps, at the tail end of World War II, as a meteorologist. He had previously studied chemistry at Carnegie Tech; after the war his studies continued at the University of North Carolina, then the University of Chicago, and finally the University of Pittsburgh, where his interests moved toward literature, all leading to thirty-one years with AT&T Bell Laboratories at Murray Hill, where he edited a technical journal during the glory years of that company. In the four years preceding his retirement, he was the head in charge of a multivolume history project as well as of the Bell Telephone archives.

Schindler was never happier than when outdoors, whether camping, backpacking, or hiking. An avid hiker, he ran trails and led hikes all over the country. His love of hiking grew into a deep commitment to preserving the natural landscape. Thus he led the NJ Sierra Club’s first triumphal campaign: blocking a proposed dam at Tocks Island on the Delaware River which would have today’s most visited National Recreation Area. As our Forestry Coordinator, and as a reporter for The New Jersey Audubon Society, his efforts contributed to the passage of the New Jersey Natural Areas Systems Act in 1972. Other legal and political causes were protection of the Pine Barrens and the preservation of the Great Swamp from the incursion of a proposed jetport.

We are honored by the request, in his last known interview, that “the family would appreciate donations to the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club (www.sierraclub.org)” or the Environmental Defense Fund (www.edf.org).

Land Use Issue at the Millington Asbestos Superfund Site

By Kathy O'Leary of our Loantaka Group (kolearyo@princeton.edu)

This past December, Prisms Capital Partners completed the purchase of approximately 12 acres of land adjacent to the historic River Street a south of the Millington Gorge in Long Hill Township (Morris Co). Prisim paid approximately $5 million paying to develop the property as a Superfund site into a “live-work-play” community. They will generate rateables and help meet the Township’s third round affordable housing requirement.

The EPA refers to the property as the Millington Asbestos Superfund Site located at 30 Whitman Ave in Edison. Mr. Livingston consolidated his 4.5 acres of the site are taken up by a capped landfill which the EPA estimates contains 90,000 cubic yards of asbestos and other contaminants associated with the production of asbestos roofing and siding materials. This mound will remain after redevelopment, according to a comprehensive and multi-year agreement signed by Prisms Capital Partners and the NJ DEP late last summer. The EPA’s seven monitoring sites will also remain. Restrictions have been placed on the deed, but we think it unlikely that any of the future tenants of the planned apartment complex will be informed of the contaminants in the soil and groundwater. As part of the agreement an assessment and site investigation (PAI) report, which is 528 pages in length, identifies 20 areas of concern on the property. The report also notes that the groundwater is “impacted with chlorinated solvent concentrations” and “associated degradation products” including Trichloroethylene and other Volatile Organic Carbons. The soil hori- tions contain asbestos as well as Benzoc(a) antracide, aluminum, beryllium, manga- nese, nickel, lead, and arsenic.

According to the agreement with Fair Share, the Township has until the beginning of 2016 to remove the property. The EPA recommends that the plant, it was sold to Mr. Arnold Livingston, who had also owned the Chemical Insecticide Corporation responsible for the contamination at another Superfund site located at 50 Whitman Ave in Edison. Mr. Livingston consolidated his 4.5 acres of the site are taken up by a capped landfill which the EPA estimates contains 90,000 cubic yards of asbestos and other contaminants associated with the production of asbestos roofing and siding materials. This mound will remain after redevelopment, according to an administrative consent order signed by Prisms Capital Partners and the NJ DEP late last summer. The EPA’s seven monitoring sites will also remain. Restrictions have been placed on the deed, but we think it unlikely that any of the future tenants of the planned apartment complex will be informed of the contaminants in the soil and groundwater. As part of the agreement an assessment and site investigation (PAI) report, which is 528 pages in length, identifies 20 areas of concern on the property. The report also notes that the groundwater is “impacted with chlorinated solvent concentrations” and “associated degradation products” including Trichloroethylene and other Volatile Organic Carbons. The soil hori- tions contain asbestos as well as Benzoc(a) antracide, aluminum, beryllium, manga- nese, nickel, lead, and arsenic.

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According to an article in the Jan 17 Fortune Magazine, by Laignee Barron, European Union countries have agreed on a 2030 goal of making all plastic packaging recyclable or reusable. The impetus is a decision by China to no longer accept imports of “foreign garbage.” Presumably, that also applies to the mixed American garbage that for years has been loaded into shipping containers for empty ocean ports. It will be interesting to see how New Jersey’s municipal waste purveyors, such as the Atlantic County Utilities Authority, cope with this problem.

The European solution is worthy of our attention: regulations that limit the kinds of plastic packaging to those that can be recycled, and dynamically educating the public on how to process that plastic waste.

All plastics are polymers of small hydrocarbon molecules such as methane (natural gas CH4) and its organic chemical relatives ethylene (C2H4), propylene (C3H6), butylene (C4H8), styrene (C8H8): all obtained from petroleum. Cellulose is an exception; it is made from cellulose, the indigestible component of wood! It can only be landfilled or burned, but not chemically recycled. Another exception is polystyrene: Styrofoam, which is physically and chemically “difficult” to manufacture and use also needs to be terminated. Some takeout restaurants are moving away from Styrofoam to paper cups (and other containers) that are biodegradable.

The new European program starts with the problem of single-use plastics: straws, plastic cups and lids, straws, single plastic silverware, takeaway containers and single-use water bottles.

The Sierra Club has encountered resistance to the imposition of a deposit on plastic supermarket bags and beverage containers. We hope that impact can be overcome with dynamic leadership, starting with our new Governor, and the Legislature.

Assemblywoman Mila Jasey and Valerie Vaneuri-Huttle are Prime Sponsors of the Smart Container Act, A1710, which would establish a deposit and recycling program on single use beverage containers. Assemblyman John McKeon and Assemblywoman Vanieri-Huttle are Prime Sponsors of A1482, the Plastic Container Recycling Enhancement Act, which would require recycled content in plastic containers.

Other sensible legislation for NJ includes a ban on plastic straws, a plastic bag ban, a Styrofoam ban, and a ban on any plastic containers not recyclable. Please contact me if you want to work to promote such legislation.

As you drive around New Jersey, chances are you’ll pass a quarry or two. Of three or four. According to the NJ-DEP’s most recent (2007) survey of quarry sites, there are 167 active and 864 inactive and abandoned mining operations. Mining is a significant industry, worth $100 million in annual production of up to 20 million tons of rocks, sand and gravel.

Once a quarry is exhausted, what’s left is often an open and unstable pit of rocks and debris. It’s often contaminated, too. The Millington Quarry in Bernards Township (Somerset Co) is a case in point. In operation on 183 acres for 100 years, it closed in 2010 after it was no longer profitable. Under the Township’s master plan, the site was zoned for two-acre houses.

But in October, 2017, the Township Council unveiled a massive redevelopment plan with Shopoff Realty Investments, which had contracted with Millington Quarry Inc: rezoning for 235 housing units, 200,000 square feet of retail and commercial space, a hotel, a restaurant and a 50-acre lake.

The impetus is a decision by China to no longer accept imports of “foreign garbage.” It’s manufacture and use can only be landfilling or burning, but not chemically recycling.

Several other congressional races will be more competitive than usual this year because of retirements and the hot political climate. While all six are deserving of Sierra Club endorsement, special mention goes to Frank Pallone, who has served since 1989, and taken a leadership role in such issues as protecting offshore drilling, superfund site cleanups and clean water.

Several other congressional races will be more competitive than usual this year because of retirements and the hot political climate. We will report further on these races in the next issue.

Please remember to vote in both the primary election on June 5 and the general election on Nov 6. If you are not registered to vote, you can do so here: http://www.state.nj.us/elections/voting-information.html.

The Millington Quarry in Bernards Township (Somerset Co) is a case in point. In operation on 183 acres for 100 years, it closed in 2010 after it was no longer profitable. Under the Township’s master plan, the site was zoned for two-acre houses.

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Residents were stunned. There was no public discussion, and the plan threatens to turn a quiet residential community into a congested nightmare of new car traffic exceeding 5,000 trips a day, by Sierran estimates, of course. There were no plans for public transportation, and the impact on area infrastructure, schools and services would be crushing.

Nor was there an environmental clean-up plan, even though early testing showed elevated levels of arsenic, metals and other contaminants in the surface water. The former owner might also have dumped fertilizer over a portion of the quarry to remediate the barren soil. A local opposition group, the Quarry Plan, has petitioned the NJ-DEP to investigate contamination in the soil and ground water. The Passaic River is adjacent to the site, so any runoff could be catastrophic. Adding to the threat, a 50-acre lake from rain runoff is filling on the site, and will soon overflow onto contaminated soil.

Local opposition has been fierce; the Sierra Club became involved in late 2017, quickly issuing a resolution opposing any redevelopment plan without a proper cleanup. We also called for a more limited development plan, with public transport alternatives and open space once the cleanup is complete.

In response to the public outcry, the town council voted 4-1 on Jan 24 to reject the redevelopment plan in its entirety, reverting to the master plan zoning of two-acre family lots. But the battle is not over. The site still needs a safe cleanup through a transparent and properly vetted plan.

Jeff Titel, Senior Director of the New Jersey Sierra Club, declared the vote “a victory for the environment and planning. The size and scope of the Shopoff proposal was too large for the site and would result in increased storm water runoff, waste water pollution, contamination and increased flooding.”

Area residents agreed, and their thoughts were summed up by Laurie Albee, an opposition organizer: “Now that the plan to carelessly overdevelop the quarry has been killed, we can focus on remediation. We’re thrilled the New Jersey Sierra Club will continue to partner with us as we shift our efforts to cleaning the contamination before any new plans are proposed.”
construction and operation. It will provide electricity and jobs to places where it is needed most. The Sierra Club has been advocating offshore wind in New Jersey for fifteen years. The east coast, with its large metropolitan areas and dense suburbs, is hungry for jobs, investment and energy. Offshore wind can drive economic growth for decades to come. Its jobs include not only the installation, operation and maintenance of the turbines, but also investment in our manufacturing base. This would include rebuilding Paulsboro Port, and factories for assembly. Then we will need facilities for delivering the power to the PJM grid.

The Sierra Club has set a goal of 3500 MW of offshore wind by 2030. Six years ago we commissioned studies to find the best sites, i.e. those with the fewest environmental impacts. In 2016, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management auctioned parcels in federal waters off the New Jersey coast. Two of them, near Atlantic City, received final bids. RES Americas Developments Inc. won the 160,480-acre south lease area for $880,715, and U.S. Wind Inc. won the 183,553-acre north lease area for $1,006,740. Their power would be sufficient for 1.2 million homes about a third of all the homes in the state.

The Sierra Club also opposes the Munsonhurst Planned Residential Development, which will adversely affect the ecology of a Natural Heritage Priority Site in Franklin NJ.

Skylands Group

(Sussex and northern Warren Counties)

Web-site: http://SkylandsGroup.org
Or click from the NJ Chapter’s website.
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/SkylandsNJPC
E-mail: ggornam07@419@embarqmail.com; Phone: 973-886-7900

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE and other OFFICERS: (ExCom Members are elected to serve 2-year terms; term-expire date in parentheses):

Chair: (12/31/18) Greg Gorman ggornam07@419@embarqmail.com
Vice Chair: (12/31/19) Susan Williams SkylandsGroup@gmail.com
Secretary: (12/31/18) Norma Haberski haber@syaho.com
Treasurer: (12/31/19) Jeri Doherty bjdh9974@gmail.com
ExCom at large: (12/31/19) Nicole Guerrieri sosaysnicole@gmail.com
(12/31/18) Bob Lesko bob@ljf428.org
(12/31/18) Mike Loewen mloewen@u.nj.edu
(12/31/19) Anthony Riccardi anthony.j.riccardi@gmail.com
Conservation Chair: Greg Gorman ggornam07@419@embarqmail.com
Outings Chair: Dave Alcock dwahoob@hotmail.com
Outreach Chair: Joanne Mogan jmog19@yahoo.com
Political Co-Chairs: Nicola Guerrieri sosaysnicole@gmail.com
and Susan Williams SkylandsGroup@gmail.com
Programs Chair: Cindy McNicol carolynmcnicol@gmail.com
Co-Publicity Chairs: Jeri Doherty bjdh9974@gmail.com
Open position! Webmaster: Nicole Guerrieri sosaysnicole@gmail.com
Open position available: Membership Chair - please contact Greg!

GENERAL MEETINGS: The Skylands Group also opposes the Munsonhurst Planned Residential Development, which will adversely affect the ecology of a Natural Heritage Priority Site in Franklin NJ.

South Highlands Group

(Hunterdon and southern Warren Counties)

WEBSITE: http://www.sierclab.org/new-jersey/south-highlands/
FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/groups/58187163187/

OFFICERS:
Chair: Jonathan Wall jonjwall@jonwall.com
Vice Chair: Celeste Martin*  onecentral@mac.com
Secretary: Ann Wrede annwrede@comcast.net
Treasurer: John Kaschwitz jkaschwitz@gmail.com
Political Chair: Karen Becker karbekcker@gmail.com
Conservation Chair: Debbie Young* debbyoung31@comcast.net
Children’s Program Coor: Kimberly Boutin koboutin@gmail.com
Native Plant Issues Coor: Cinny Macgonagle cmacgonagle@yahoo.com
Natural Resource Coor: Angela De Sapio* angela.desapio@gmail.com
Outings Coordinator: Jon Wall kaschwitz@gmail.com
Webmaster/Listmaster: Jon Wall kaschwitz@gmail.com

Unless otherwise noted, meetings and outings are free and open to general public, but donations are accepted. Please check our web site, Meetup page, or Facebook page (see above for URLs) as these are topics, dates, times, and venues are subject to change. (* Group Executive Committee Member)

GENERAL MEETINGS: All our general meetings are held at the North County Library, 65 Haddon St, Clinton. 08809, on the first Wednesday of each month. Meet and Greet at 7pm followed by program at 7:15 pm. Meetings are free but donations are gladly accepted. There are no programs in July and August.

April 4 (Wed): Adventures on the Highlands Trail with Michael Hebling. To hike the Highlands Trail is to journey along the spine of Northwest New Jersey, on a path that showcases the best outdoor ecological, historical points of interest the area has to offer. ‘I absolutely love this trail,’ Hebling remarks. ‘It highlights the diversity of our area. It really promotes it.’ That diversity includes deep forests, spectacular vistas, waterfalls, small rural communities, and remnants of historic features such as the 19th Century Morris Canal and iron industries that date to colonial days, now reclaimed by forest.

May 2 (Wed): To be Announced. Please check our Meetup page or web site.

June 6 (Wed): Tips for Summer Hiking, Camping and Adventures: Angela De Sapio - Learn how to bring the dog, the kids, or pick the perfect trail (from ages 1 - 12). Review easy ways to make sure your outing is memorable, and safe. Angela is available to answer questions about multi-day and overnight backpacking and wildlife photography.

OTHER EVENTS:
April 11 (Wed): Executive Committee/Planning Meeting. 7:30 pm, at the offices of Dr. Jonathan D. Wall, 21 Water Street, Clinton. 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 contact: jonjwall@jonwall.com or signup on Meetup)

May 19 (Sat): Yoga for Exploring Your Wings: 12 Noon. Join Kimberly Borin, Ed.D. at the Clinton Conservancy Butterfly Garden for an hour of yoga among nature. Please meet at the Water Street Parking lot (corner of Halstead Street) in Clinton, NJ. Please bring yourself, friends and family. RSVP required by emailing Kimberly at storiesofsuoronz@mac.com.

ISSUES:
For too long developers have been using the so-called “builder’s remedy” as an excuse to bulldoze farmlands and woodlands in the name of affordable housing. While the Sierra Club supports affordable housing, that does not strain our infrastructure and transportation systems and contribute to sprawl. The issue is particularly relevant in Hunterdon and Warren Counties where there is still extensive open space. If interested in getting more involved in this issue, please contact John Kaschwitz at jkaschwitz@gmail.com.

North Jersey Group

(Bergen and Passaic Counties)

FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/northjersey.sierclab/

MeetUP: http://www.meetup.com/NJSierraClub/

Officers:
Chair & Treasurer: Buddy Jensen * buddy.jensen@gmail.com
Vice Chair: Open position!
Secretary: Open position!
The Gateway Group is very grateful for the passion and perseverance of all involved.

There will also be more showings of two movies this winter, and a panel discussion on our new beer mug with the Sierra Club logo (free to newly signed up members). A Culture Society in Teaneck. Some 50 people attended and stayed for a discussion after-showing that there will be no disk golf at Rifle Camp Park. The director announced that registration for the mid-term elections.

In early December the Passaic County Board of Freeholders announced at their meeting that there will be no disk golf at Rifle Camp Park. The director announced that they ‘have listened to the people.’ It seems that the consistent representation at every meeting and our 2500 signatures against the disk golf had an effect. The director also praised the passion and perseverance of all involved.

On January 15th, the Group showed the movie ‘Up From The Ashes’ at the Ethical Culture Society in Teaneck. Some 50 people attended and stayed for a discussion afterwards. The event was well-publicized on our Facebook page, where 47 people had indicated their interest.

The Long Swamp issue is in limbo, as the neighboring buildings have hired a lawyer to prevent movement on a 4-story building (down from 17) between them. According to Laura Tracey-Colly, the developer imagines he is going to get a permit to do it. Finally, the Group continues to reach out to new and present members with social events. In December we had an event at Annie City Brewery where we introduced our new beer mug with the Sierra Club logo (free to newly signed up members). A snow storm kept the attendance down, but we will continue the outreach on February 26th, at Veggie Heaven in Teaneck, from 5 to 7pm.

There will also be more showings of two movies this winter, and a panel discussion on solar panels in May. In June we will have a picnic most likely at Rifle Camp.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

Unless otherwise noted, meetings and outings are free and open to general public. Please check our Meetup page, Facebook page, or web site for meeting dates, times, and topics (see above for URLs). You can also email us at northjerseysierraclub@gmail.com.

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There will also be more showings of two movies this winter, and a panel discussion on solar panels in May. In June we will have a picnic most likely at Rifle Camp.
GROUP NEWS

and make some new friends. We'd welcome the chance to meet you to and introduce ourselves. Please see the schedule, below, and join us! DIRECTIONS: posted on our website: http://sierrachurb.org/new-jersey/loantaka/.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Apr 11: To be announced. Please check our website for the most current information regarding General Meetings.

May 9: Sandra Lavigne, water quality expert at the Great Swamp Watershed, will discuss current water quality issues and the testing done in the Great Swamp Watershed.

June 13: To be announced. Please check our website for the most current information regarding General Meetings.

ACTIVITIES:
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. In addition, the Group is actively involved in state-wide initiatives involving air quality, transportation, and environmental legislation. Volunteers are always welcome. Call Paul at 908-233-2414.

Central Jersey Group (Mercer County and neighboring towns in adjoining counties)


OFFICERS:

Chair: Joanne Pannone 609-443-6992 jpaimeadowbrook@gmail.com
Vice Chair: Xiaowei Du xiapiguang1980@gmail.com
Secretary: George and Leona Fluck leona@pineypaddlers.com
Treasurer: Steve Eisenberg steveisoptim.net
Programs: Joanne Pannone jpaimeadowbrook@gmail.com
Conservation Chair: Kip Cherry KipATTheSierraClub@gmail.com
Outings Chair: George and Leona Fluck leona@pineypaddlers.com
Webmaster: Ken lyle Kenlye@gmail.com
Communications Chair: Jane Wilmott

Please join the Central Jersey Group of the NJ Sierra Club on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month, at 6 p.m., at Mercer County Community College. Pizza and snacks are provided before each presentation.

MCCC is located at 1200 Old Trenton Rd. West Windsor, 08550. Plenty of parking will be available in the normally-closed lot at the entrance to the Student Center. Just drive around to the entrance and you should find the entrance-arm in the up-position.

We have much to talk about - current events, environmental policies, Climate Change, work with other community-based organizations to discuss our strategies - all to keep the momentum going to stop pipelines, polluting sources such as incinerators, generating plants, factories, LNG plants, landfills, power plants, airports, over-development, and pollution causing degradation to our air and water quality. We lobby for legislative changes to protect Mother Earth. We welcome your ideas and participation. Please RSVP to Kipatthesierraclub@gmail.com.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Our schedule of meetings is posted on the website and the Central Group's Facebook Page. Please share this newsletter with a non-member friend, inviting use of the coupon on p. 12.

Raritan Valley Group (Middlesex and Somerset Counties and surrounding areas)

WEBSITE: http://sierrachurb.org/new-jersey/Raritan-Valley/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/RaritanGroup/NJSC

Please visit our website and see the Outings List in this newsletter - or on Pineypaddlers.com.

OFFICERS:

Chair: Gary Frederick 609-205-3582 gfdsierra@gmail.com
Vice Chair: Gordon Honor 678-920-8620 ghonor@yahoo.com
Secretary: Dani Levison dani@pineypaddlers.com
Treasurer: Portia Amor

Political Chair: Daphne Speck-Barynski 732-390-5311 speckbarynski@comcast.net
Publicity Chair: Pat Cherry

Outings Chair: Mattie DC@AOL.com
Webmaster: Ken Lyle
Education Chair: Jan Wilmott

Our monthly committee meetings are held on FOURTH WEDNESDAY of each month, from 7pm to 8:30, in New Brunswick. Meetings are free and open to the public.

We discuss the environmental news important to New Jersey and the Raritan Valley, plus discuss upcoming events, speakers, volunteer efforts, etc. To confirm the location of the meeting, please contact Gary Frederick at gfdsierra@gmail.com.

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

1. Opposition to gas and oil pipelines that threaten our communities' air and water
2. Conservation and protection of the Raritan River basin area
3. Passage of and responsible enforcement of environmentally friendly zoning and
devolutionary practices
4. Prevention of conserving land from commercial or other development. We are for preservation of open space, and protecting the flooding diversions of the land from the state's Green Acres program to commercial 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, you may have a negative environmental impact, so please let us know by attending our meetings and by contacting Gary Frederick at gfdsierra@gmail.com. We are also interested in any environmental news or events affecting Middlesex and Somerset counties and invite you to submit those items, as well.

Jersey Shore Group (Monmouth County, approximately)

WEBSITE: http://www.sierrachurb.org/new-jersey/Jersey-Shore/

OFFICERS:

Chair: Dennis Anderson 732-970-4327 dennisaasal@gmail.com
Vice-Chair & Secretary: Bob Grize 732-929-6084 nyucwnyppb@aol.com
Conservation Chair: Faith Teitelbaum 732-515-5449 faithel@aol.com
and: Bob Sanford 732-241-7757 Sandberg000@gmail.com
Social Media Chair: Yaimin Soutas 732-308-4588
Treasurer: Pat Fusco PatFusco@aol.com
Outings Chair: Iara Zillow IaraZillow@optim.net
Outings Leaders: John Luard JohnLuard@optim.net
Membership Chair: Bob Grize 732-929-6084 nyucwnyppb@aol.com
Program Chair: George Mullan
Climate Chair: Open position!
Fund-raising Co-Chairs: Joe Blakoe JoeBlakoe@optonline.net
and: Faith Teitelbaum
Publicity Chair: Iara Zillow IaraZillow@optim.net
High School Coor: Iara Zillow IaraZillow@optim.net

Jersey Shore Group Happenings:

Pollution at Whale Pond Brook Group - The Jersey Shore Sierra Club is a partner of the Whale Pond Brook Watershed Association, the goal of whose is to restore the banks and streams of the Whale Pond Brook and create a greenway from the Long Branch shoreline to the uplands in Tinton Falls.

Ross Island Park, with its beautiful Sierra Club-funded butterfly garden, gets so many compliments we were asked to be part of the Long Branch Historical Tour this past summer. We’ve also developed a pictorial guide to the watershed, which we will soon post on our Sierra web page and other social media.

Help Needed for Cleanups: If you would like to participate in cleanups of our local watersways, please contact Laura Bagwell at l.bagwell3@verizon.net. Laura focuses on the Red Bank area waterways. In this effort, we work with the Navesink 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 Lincoln Campus (BCC). We are delighted that the college has invited us to continue the joint meetings of Sierra members, BCC students and the public through 2018. Our meetings, billed by BCC as “Science Monday,” average 75 attendees a month, with some talks peaking at 120 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, biology professor in the college’s Science Department.

We meet at BCC to share our speakers with environmentally-concerned BCC college students, the general public, and other environmental organizations. A buffet is available for the students and adults at 6pm. The programs start at 6:30pm.

To get to Brookdale, take GSP Exit 109 to Rte 520 West (Newman Springs Rd., which becomes E Main St at the Lincolntown campus). Exit the traffic circle into the campus and follow the signs to the Warner Student Center (BCC), where the meetings are held in the Twin Lights Rooms I and II. Use parking lot 7. As you walk towards the building, the Warner Student Center is on your left. If lot 7 is full, use parking lots 5 or 6. A campus map is at http://www.brookdalescc.edu/POFFICES/MAPS/MAP_04_08.pdf.

Please see our website for a complete schedule of our meetings.

Apr 23: Pollution and Social Bias. Dr. Nicky Sheats, Director of the Center for the Urban Environment in the John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy at Thomas Edison State University, Trenton, is an advocate for improving air quality and reducing PM-2.5 air particles, and has worked with high school students on a monitoring system that helped to identify urban hot spots of pollution that deserve more attention.

May 12: Special Fund Raiser, The Long Branch Elks and Boy Scout Troop 148 of Long Branch are hosting a fund raiser to benefit the Whale Pond Brook Watershed Association and the Jersey Shore Group with a night of interpretative music of the “Big Three B’s,” the Beatles, Bruce, and Bob D. The Association and Sierra are supporting a multi-community effort to create a nature path along Whale Pond Brook linking Long Branch with Tinton Falls. A mere $18 at the door or a mere $14 in advance entitles you to a delicious buffet at 6:30, the music at 7:30, and the warm feeling of supporting a community effort in an open space program. To register, please go to http://beattlesbrucebob.eventbrite.com or call 1/908/938-5518. See ‘ya there!

May 28: Speaker to be announced.

June 3: You Can — Several members of the Jersey Shore Group will give us updates on their community conservation efforts for the past 12 months.

Ocean County Group

WEBSITE: MEETUP.COM/SIERRA-CLUB-OCEAN-COUNTY

The Jersey Sierran: April–June 2018
**OFFICERS:**
- **Acting Chair:** Margit Meissner-Jackson
- **Consent Agenda Chair:** Laura Stone
- **Vice-Chair & Treasurer:** Laura Stone
- **Outings & Env Ed:n:** Terry Brown
- **Fund Raising Chair:** Joyce M. I. Baza
- **Recording Secretary:** Margaret-Mary Piccolo
- **Group ExCom Member:** William Rodgers
- **Group ExCom Member:** Laura Stone

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Held b-monthly on the SECOND MONDAY of the month at CAPONE'S.

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:** Held h-monthly at the Skywalk Cafe in Toms River, except July and August. In July, we held our annual BBQ Fund-Raiser. August is an executive committee meeting.

**ACTIVITIES & ISSUES:** With all of the environmental challenges we face at the local, state and national levels our group is focused on a number of critical issues. Locally and statewide, we are fighting a myriad of over-development issues and our Group with our allies is working hard to save Barnegat Bay and the Pinelands, two natural gems in Ocean County.

With Pres. Trump's seemingly limitless assault on our environment, we’re also engaged in several national issues. Over 140 people from “Ocean” attended the People’s Climate March in April. And we work closely with the Alaska Wilderness League, the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and Appalachian Voices to protect those respective sacred areas.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** on our activities and upcoming events contact our group Chair or visit our site web.

**WEBSITE:**
- [www.facebook.com/WestJerseyGroupNJSC](https://www.facebook.com/WestJerseyGroupNJSC)
- [Log on and Like Us](https://www.facebook.com/WestJerseyGroupNJSC)
- [Website:](https://www.facebook.com/WestJerseyGroupNJSC)
- [Log on and Like Us](https://www.facebook.com/WestJerseyGroupNJSC)

**OFFICERS:**
- **Group Chair:** Gina Carola
- **Vice-Chair:** Frank Zinzi
- **Secretary:** Ellen Zinzi
- **Treasurer:** Trish Clements
- **Publicity Chair:** Anne Cardi
- **Political Chair:** Linda Ruliano
- **Pinelands Rep:** Lee Snyder
- **Greenways Coord:** Frank and Ellen Zinzi
- **Community Solar:** Aida Ayala
- **Delegate to Large:** Aida Ayala
- **Chair:** Mike Brown
- **Delegation Fundraising Chair:** Call Gina to volunteer.
- **Smart Growth Chair:** Call Gina to volunteer.
- **Outings Chair:** Call Gina to volunteer.
- **Social Media Coordinator:** Evan Kosta
- **Group Chair:** Gina Carola
- **Vice-Chair:** Frank Zinzi
- **Secretary:** Ellen Zinzi
- **Treasurer:** Trish Clements
- **Publicity Chair:** Anne Cardi
- **Political Chair:** Linda Ruliano
- **Pinelands Rep:** Lee Snyder
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- **Community Solar:** Aida Ayala
- **Delegate to Large:** Aida Ayala
- **Chair:** Mike Brown
- **Delegation Fundraising Chair:** Call Gina to volunteer.
- **Smart Growth Chair:** Call Gina to volunteer.
- **Outings Chair:** Call Gina to volunteer.
- **Social Media Coordinator:** Evan Kosta

**OFFICERS:**
- **Group Chair:** Tom Boghosian
- **Vice-Chair:** Open Position!
- **Conservation Chair:** Open Position!
- **Pol. Chair, Calendars:** Dick Colby
- **Membership Chair:** Open Position!
- **Secretary/Treasurer:** Julie Akes

The central conservation issue, adopted just after the Group was founded in the 1970s, continues to be protection of the Great Egg Harbor Wild & Scenic River, and continues to involve the endorsement of those few members who remain active both within the Sierra Club and in the Watershed Association (GEHWA) that span off from the South Jersey Group. Very few of our local members seem interested in the meetings we once scheduled monthly, from the early 1980s until 2005. 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 the Sierra Club’s local activists, 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 our agenda for our meetings, and see e-mail dick.colby@stockton.edu. Dick is also an Atlantic County Parks Commission member, contact him if you might be interested in attending meetings monthly of the Commission, which are open to the public.

Tom Boghosian is an avid kayaker, both ocean-going and in fresh waters, possibly willing to lead trips.

**Current Issues:**
- (1) A land-use controversy in Millville - over what is known as the Durand Tract, seems to be back in controversy, with a court requiring reconsideration. Jeff Tittel is probably the most knowledgeable person in the chapter. (2) Controversy continues over the construction of a large-diameter (24") natural gas pipeline to feed the BL England electric power plant in Marmora (Cape May Co.), with a lawsuit pending by us and Environment New Jersey. (3) Veronica Van Hul has been hired as Director of the Gloucester County Renewable Energy Authority. Gloucester County on Unexpected Road. She holds a degree in wildlife biology. You can reach her on her cell phone, (609) 432-3280, or by e-mail, rvanhul@unexpectedwildlife refuge.org. (4) We’re finally cleaning and blasing - the route, through Atlantic, Cumberland and Cape May Counties, of a long-distance (state-length) footpath (Cooper River Trail). This would be useful in promoting the use of tropical rainforest wood for rebuilding oceanfront boardwalks, in Ocean City and Wildwood, seem quaint at present. Club officers and staff have been following several studies seeking to determine sustainable supply water levels for southern New Jersey, with the hope that findings will be used by planners (such as those employed by the Pinelands Commission) who permit development. On damage being done to sand train tracks, ORVs in Wharton State Forest, the DEP has sided with the vehicle enthusiasts by rejecting a Motorized Access Map prepared by the Park staff. The next move will be the DEP’s. Also 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 (as Longo’s in Atlantic County has done), and support for a New Jersey Bottle Bill, known as the Smart Container Act.

Some Possibly Relevant Activities of Allied Organizations:
- Apr 4, May 2 and June 6 (first Weddays), 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, 3/4 miles south of Mays Landing. Contact Julie Akes, 609-425-5280.
- Apr 11 and June 13: (alternate second Wednesdays), 7pm: Bi-monthly meeting of Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries (another “Partnership”: Open Position!), Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor, Milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50, 3/4 miles south of Mays Landing. Contact Julie Akes, 609-425-5280.
- Apr 11 and June 13: (alternate second Wednesdays), 7pm: Bi-monthly meeting of Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries (another “Partnership”): Open Position! Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor, Milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50, 3/4 miles south of Mays Landing. Contact Julie Akes, 609-425-5280.
- Apr 22 (Sun): Earth Day Meet some of our officers at the GEHWA table in the Big Tent at ACUA’s annual festival; at the ACUA solid waste facility, 6700 Delilah Rd, Egg Harbor Twp.
- Apr 25, May 23 and June 27: (fourth Weddays), 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 Township Library, 500 E Jimmie Leeds Rd. www.atlanticaudubon.org.
- Apr 25, May 23 and June 27: (fourth Weddays), 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 Township Library, 500 E Jimmie Leeds Rd. www.atlanticaudubon.org.
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**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 single-oriented activities to NJ Sierra Club members and those who would like to know more about us. We are a local group, we are a statewide additional “layer” of Sierra 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!
GROUP NEWS (Continued from page 9)

WEBSITE: http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/sierra-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/NEWJNGLES-NEWS.html and clicking on “Join or leave the list.” You may unsubscribe at any time by going to that same website. 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: sierraclub.org/new-jersey.

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

OFFICERS: Interim Chair: Ron Pate  jkhaddad@juno.com Outings Chair: Joyce White  joyce.white.exec@gmail.com Conservation Chair: Robert Zitzman  robertmz@att.net Treasurer: Joyce White  joyce.white.exec@gmail.com Social Chair: Joe Prebish  Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com Vice Chair: Jeff Sovelove  Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com Program Chair: Nancy Sullivan  nancyssullivan@comcast.net

2015 Executive Committee members: Rozanna Fanelli, 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 leaders, 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 as needed at various locations. All welcome. Contact any officer for information.

SOCIAL GATHERINGS: SOCIAL DINNER: THIRD TUESDAY of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner at a variety of SoCky Mountain restaurants. Location will be announced 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 Silver 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 following by an optional meal at a location determined by the leader. See the Outings sections of this Newsletter for Silver Singles outings. Check the Silver listserv for announcements of more Silver Singles outings.

Lessian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Section

Our 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. Anyone is welcome to join our listserv regardless of sexual orientation.


FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/njsierrablack

OFFICERS:

Co-Chair: Robert Zitzman  robertmz@att.net
Co-Chair: John Kashwick  jkashwick@gmail.com
Secretary: Corbett Klein  corbettklein@outlook.com
Outings Co-Chair: Jonathan Wall  dotjwall@gmail.com
Outings Co-Chair: Robert Zitzman  robertmz@att.net
Webmaster/Listmaster: John Kashwick  jkashwick@gmail.com
Ex-Com Member: Open POSITION–contact John or Robert if interested

(* Section Executive Committee Member)

MEETINGS AND EVENTS: Check Meetup.com/njsierrablack or www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LGBT/ for outings listings. You can also receive updated information by joining our email list. Please contact John at jkashwick@gmail.com to be included in the list.

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

THE NEW JERSEY MARCH FOR SCIENCE: APRIL 14, TRETON

A satellite of the March being held in Washington D.C. on the same day

An informative, educational and uplifting program on the importance of science and evidence-based decision-making. Information and updates: https://www.njmarchforscientecf.com/
Facebook and twitter: njNjscienceMarch

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 a web site: http://www.funtreivals.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.

Airline Zatz is the editor and Chair of the Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section. She can be reached at azzat@funtreivals.com, and invites members to check her web site at www.funtreivals.com for trips, tips, and travel information regarding New Jersey and other states.

Paul Ehrlich is the Vice-Chair (p.w.ehrlich@gmail.com).

Sierra Student Coalition

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

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

Introducing Children to the Outdoors Section

(another Chapter-wide special interest activity with the motto: No Child Left Inside!)

OFFICERS:

Chair: Marty Cohen  peli4191@gmail.com

Once again we took 85 students from Paterson’s Clemente Middle School on a hike in Harriman State Park. As we had enough leaders and assistants, we could break the group in two and do two separate hikes, a lot more enjoyable for all involved than an H. M. Stanley expedition. The weather cooperated so, despite the challenging trails and hills, there were smiles all around.

NJ-ICO is a public service program, one of 50 Sierra Club groups nationwide which provide about 1,000 nature outings per year, oriented towards children. About five such outings take place in New Jersey each year. That’s right: only five – but they are great! We sure could use a couple of steering committee members to help expand this wonderful program.

If you would like information about volunteering or if you would just like to be placed on our email list for our sporadically issued e-newsletters, please send me an e-mail.

On the Trail

Let’s Visit Utah!

In the absence of something more substantial, here’s a proposal for a CHAPTER OUTING – now in the early incubation stage: New Jersey visits Utah.

We are looking for a place where there is interest in a one-week outing to Moab, in southeastern Utah, and its surrounding Colorado Plateau area, in the last week of 2018 or the first weeks of 2019. We would be guided by local Sierra Club outing people, and perhaps staff of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance.

Evening flight to Denver from Newark or Philadelphia, overnight there, then the most spectacular mileage in the Antrum System: the California Zephyr climbs the Rockies, passes through the Moffit Tunnel, then winds down the Colorado River Gorge to Green River, Utah – where an evening bus takes us to Moab! It will be the off-season for Moab’s old hotels, and the opportunity to hike in nearby canyons and Arches National Park, with options suitable for both top form and unconditioned hikers. Side trip, no doubt, to Bears Ears National Monument before it is possibly gutted by Trumpism. Return by a reversal of the outbound route. Ballpark cost estimate $1500 inclusive. An electronic show of interest is invited: please e-mail Dick Colby@stockton.edu, with Moab in the subject line, to be kept informed of developments, and to suggest a best timing for you. For incentive, you might google “Moab photos” or try www.jamesb.com/top-photos-spots-moab/.

GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

(roughly north to south)

Skylands: Dave Alcock  dewhoob@hotmail.com South Highlands: Jonathan Wall  psychology14@hotmail.com North Jersey: Co-Chairs: Ellen Blumenkrantz, ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417 and Mary Wales  blevahhotmail@hotmail.com Hudson Valley: Vacation Hudson Co: Natasha DeRabos-Thaye natasha10y@gmail.com Leantica: Vacation Central Jersey: Leona & George Fluck Leonagoodwaddles@gmail.com Raritan Valley: Vacation Jersey Shore: John Luard, John.Luard@gmail.com Ocean County: Terence Brown  848-332-7331 terrybrown@comcast.net West Jersey: Vacation South Jersey: Tom Boggiohan, 609-625-0787 (H) 4709 Andorra Drive, Mays Landing, 08330 to眉tich@verizon.net Singles Section: Joyce Haddad, jkhaddad@juno.com

There’s an interactive CALENDAR for outings and Group events - on our website (www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey). Click “Events and Outings”
May 31 (Sun) Clean-up Day at the Battlefield with the Princeton Battlefield Society, NJ Sierra Club and Civil War Trust (Mercer Co). 10am-10pm. 10-12 miles, easy pace. The section we paddle will depend on weather conditions. Experienced cold weather/water paddlers only. Rentals are not available. Bring lunch, snacks and water. Current Sierra Club membership required. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

June (continued on page 12)
OUTINGS

(Continued from page 12)

m6.streetground.bis/morning/index.php?state=sierran-county-park. Bring water, a snack, and wear
hiking boots. Meet in parking lot for 10:15am weather cancel. No pets please. Leader: Jeffrey Soochoek
Hike_Birds@yahoo.com. Join AIDK/Sierra Club hike.

Jun 17 (Sun): Canoeing/Kayaking Skills Refresher on Lake Oswego (Burlington Co.). 9am. It’s Father’s Day. Bring your paddlers! Bring your canoe - bring your friends, family or another group - and join us for a day of paddling skills refresher! American Canoe Association Certified Instructors from the Sierra Club will share information about paddling distances and efficiencies, Dam Removals, review strokes, and equipment. The refresher is held on Lake Oswego. Boats can be rented from Mick’s Canoe and Kayak Rental: 609-726-1380, or www.mick-
somalwar@comcast.net. Bring lunch, snacks and warm weather clothing, and be prepared for the event and your particip-
ation: George & Laura Lynch 609-295-5743, or Laura@lynchadow.com. (W)

Jun 21 (Thu): Canoes/Kayaks the Mullica River on the First Day of Summer (Burlington Co.). 8:30 am. The iconic floating plants of the Mullica will be featured during this 2-hour trip for experienced Paddlers; expect downpours and uppockets. Paddlers Preservation Alliance has launched Paddlers Adventures and we will use their website http://www.paddlersalliance.com to contact leaders. Contact leaders to confirm the trip, meeting location and your participation: George & Laura Lynch 609-295-5743, or Laura@lynchadow.com. (W)

Jun 24 (Sun): Canoes/Kayak the Delaware River Water Gap (Warren Co.). 10am. The Delaware River offers one of the last undammed river in the East. Bring your own canoe or kayak. Paddling helmets required for all padd-
ers, spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Rentals are not available. Current Sierra Club membership members are always free. Contact leaders for further information: Laura & George Lynch 609-295-5743, or Laura@lynchadow.com. (W)

Jun 29 (Fri): Canoe/Kayak the Great Egg Harbor River (Atlantic Co.). 10am. This is a 5-mile trip on the T-Tip from front porch in Westville to west end of Egg Harbor Twp. Restaurants & Shuttles will provide shuttle service. Rentals are available: 609-625-8552, or www.thepalaceoutfitters.com. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Laura Lynch 609-295-5743, or Laura@lynchadow.com. (W)

Please see the “On the Trail” feature, p. 10, if you might be interested in joining a week-end adventure in southeastern UU, early in 2019.

Costa Rica: February 2019. An introduction to the wildlife and habitats of Costa Rica. Combining hiking and kayaking from the mountains to the coastline of Costa Rica, in areas full of wildlife (400+ species of birds, 4 different variety of monkeys, sloths and other mammals). 41 days for $2800 + airfare. Leader has lead over 100+ international trips, including 12 small group trips to Costa Rica. Inquire for detailed itiner-
ary: effertzaberr@gmail.com.

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 us 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 Paul Sanderson at 908-233-2241

Upcoming ExCo Meetings:

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

Conservation and/or Political Committee meetings usually start at 10am; Environmental Justice committee meetings usually begin at 11am. The main meeting starts at 1pm.

April 14 at the Hamilton Township (Mercer Co.) Public Library, 1 Justice Samuel Alito Jr. Way. May 12 and June 9 at the Reformed Church of Highland Park, 19-21 S. 2nd Ave.

Membership dues are handled online at the Sierra Club website. Members please send address changes to: webmaster@sierraclub.org or Sierra Club Membership Dept., 1111 19th St. NW, Washington DC 20036-1995. Phone: 1-800-SIERRA-Club (1-800-743-7722).

Members can also contact the Membership Center at
1-800-SIERRA-Club (1-800-743-7722)
3300 Hamlin Drive, Ste 100
Eagan, MN 55121
Fax: 651-202-7228
E-mail: 1-800-SIERRA-Club@goldenhybrid.com

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MEMBERSHIP COUPON

http://www.sierraclub.org//new-jersey/jersey-

Vol. 47, No. 2 • Spring, 2018

The Jersey Sierraian: April–June 2018

The Jersey Sierraian: April–June 2018
Elcon is a proposed treatment facility for hazardous wastes, to be sited opposite the Delaware River Basin Commission is considering new rules that would prohibit fracking in the Basin — but would allow fracking waste to be transported in from elsewhere — to be processed within the Basin. (Much fracking is taking place in Pennsylvania.)

Elcon’s primary intention is to process fracking waste, and apparently a great deal a of it. We note that the Delaware River Basin Commission is considering new rules that would prohibit fracking in the Basin — but would allow fracking waste to be transported in from elsewhere — to be processed within the Basin. (Much fracking is taking place in Pennsylvania.)

There are questions regarding whether this fill would be geotechnically suitable for with-standing expected major storms. There also is the question of how the environment could be protected from major spills with or without a storm.

Confidentiality: A final issue is confidentiality. Elcon wants to keep important process information confidential, including apparently material in Part D, as well as other information. Should Elcon clearly state that they have filed a claim that they are a competitor from getting it. A question 1 have I now is who are their competitors and, with the exception of fracking waste, much of which as I understand it is going into injection wells, what is the rest of this copetitively sensitive going?

Elcon claims that there will be zero liquid discharge. He was unable to find information in the press or with Site Spills & flooding:

- Site Spills & flooding: The Jersey sierran: april–June 2018
- For an Answer

- DEP Doesn’t Take “No”

- Highlands Rule; Christie DEP Doesn’t Take “No”

- Nuclear Subsidies Bill Dead

- Again: Victory for Ratepayers and Renewables

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Nuclear Subsidies Bill Dead: Again: Victory for Ratepayers and Renewables

From a Press Release issued on January 5

Legislation that would require the taxPAYERS to subsidize three nuclear power plants in Salem County, S3560 (Sweeney/Smith), has been blocked in the State Senate. The bill could not be voted on as an amendment to a related bill in the House, a move to extend the life of the Salem Nuclear Plant until 2030, and could be extended further.

The bill has been worked on behind-the-scenes with little opportunity for public examination and input. Phil Murphy, our new Governor, has expressed his concerns with this nuclear bill, helping to kill it this session. He sees a larger energy picture. We agree, and criticize Senator Sweeney for attempting to tie the hands of the new Administration. Phil Murphy has committed to a goal of 100% renewable energy by 2050 and blocking this bill would help us reach that goal.

Under energy deregulation the Salem nuclear plants received billions in subsidies as Stranded Assets, despite their being profitable. They received hundreds of millions more from the ratepayers via Nuclear Plant Closure funds. Salem 1 and 2 operate without cooling towers to prevent fish kills by hot water effluent. We have given them billions already that they’ve used to kill billions of fish a year.

During hearings on this legislation in the Senate Environment and Energy Committee, and the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee, the public was cut off from speaking. Most environmental groups were not permitted to put their comments on the record. PSEG’s spread misinformation by comparing this bill to ones in Illinois and New York, where subsidies are tied to renewable energy goals and replacing the plants with renewables when they close. New Jersey’s nuclear subsidy was tied to a goal of 50% renewable by 2020 as well as closing Indian Point and coal plants. In Illinois, the subsidy was attached to money for renewable energy.

(EDITOR'S COMMENT) How many of us remember what we learned in 11th grade civics class that the way public utility monopolies are meant to work in this country is to be a Bell System, Public Utility, with the expertise and the independence from political favoritism to establish equitable rate-structures for each utility (electricity, gas, telephone, waste disposal, etc.) - so as to compensate the utilities, shareholders, ratepayers? So, let’s start thinking about whether we need rate-setting adjustments, etc. Shouldn’t we then ask the Legislature to refuse to consider this bill, and ask PSEG to instead make their case to the BPU, with rates to be adjusted (if at all) according to the BPU’s principles?
A recent publication in the journal Science* reported that urban emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOC) from volatile chemical products is now about equal to emissions of VOC by gasoline and diesel fuels. VOCs are emitted from gasoline and diesel fuel combustion, and some are also produced in the environment. VOCs are toxic, and some are known or suspected to cause cancer. VOCs are also precursors to secondary pollutants, such as ozone and particulate matter.

VOC emissions from volatile chemical products are derived from the same sources as gasoline and diesel, and VOC control and detection of their emissions have lagged because of the significant amount of VOCs not burned in the engine. Thus, they pollute the atmosphere and adversely affect health.

Although volatile chemical products are derived from the same sources as gasoline and diesel, detection and control of their emissions have lagged because of the significant amount of VOCs not burned in the engine. Thus, they pollute the atmosphere and adversely affect health.

A good way to lower volatile chemical product emissions is to have less production and use. Some VOCs are toxic, and many contribute to the formation of particulate matter and ozone. Thus, they pollute the atmosphere and adversely affect health.

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funds to environmental protection, and to restore New Jersey's high ranking for instal-
lation of solar panels, will succeed.

Gov. Murphy has spoken out against some of the pipeline proposals threatening New Jersey's Atlantic coastal communities, including the Sierra Club in favor of the inland route, which the Sierra Club is part of; it aims to protect New Jersey from Trump Administration rollbacks. The new administration is already taking action.

Our Club offers the following Wish List of Environmental Goals for the Murphy Administration. This is an ambitious agenda but after eight years of rollbacks and delays, the people of New Jersey are ready for it.

Regulatory Goals:
- A. Governor's Office: Executive Orders
  1. Repeal Christie’s Executive Orders 1 & 2 that limit the strictness of state regula-
     tion.
  2. Sign an Executive Order for agencies to implement programs and policies on cli-
     mate change, sea level rise, and adaption and mitigation. This should include a task
     force within DEP to update rules and regulations.
  3. Issue an executive order freezing all state permits or approvals on new oil and
     gas pipelines, compressor stations, and related infrastructure until they can be vetted
     by a new Energy Master Plan and updated rules.

Appointments:
Make appointments to fill Pinelands Commission, Highlands Council, and other environmental boards which will uphold and further support Acts for environmental protection.

Litigation:
1. Change state’s position on pending litigation concerning the Exxon NRD set-
    tlement. South Jersey Gas pipeline and the Southern Reliability Link pipelines
2. Withdraw state support for the federal litigation contesting the Clean Power Plan
    and the Brooklyns
3. Attorney General that will sue the Trump Administration on issues such as off-
    shore drilling and rollbacks on climate, clean water, and clean air programs

B. Department of Environmental Protection Good Governance:
- 1. Ethics Standard: Create a new Ethics Standard that applies to new employees, especi-
    ally in upper management and political positions. There should be strict con-
    flict of interest standards in place. New Jersey should hire those with the highest ethi-
    cal standards and not those who own, work for, or are funded by regulated entities, or
    have contracts with DEP for work.
- 2. Fiscal and Financial Management: The DEP should immediately freeze out-
    sourcing and privatization of DEP function and work. They should cancel those con-
    tracts and rehire the work currently outsourced to DEP staff.
- 3. Settlement Funds: Monies from environmental settlements (including VWS) com-
    ing to DEP should first be used in communities where the environmental impacts oc-
    curred or where the communities are disproportionately impacted in the community. Funds
    should also be used to hire additional DEP staff to work on environmental justice issues, envi-
    ronmental clean-ups, and site remediation that benefit those communities.
- 4. NDEP Reform: It will be important to build up morale in the department that has
    been disheartened over the last eight years. We should reach out to our colleagues to
    educate the next generation of environmental regulators with internships, etc. It’s also
    critical to upgrade IT. The new commissioner should have a listening session with DEP employees, as well as stakeholders, to get a sense of what’s happening inside DEP and what changes need to be made. DEP needs to be able to do their jobs when it comes to enforcement. This will not only protect the environment, but bring in potential revenue.

C. New Jersey Policy Goals
1. More solar energy: The current rules allow for installation of solar panels with 50’
    distance from neighbors, with the current version, at least temporarily.
2. Additional Proposed Changes to the CAFRA Rules: The current proposed changes
   to the CAFRA Rules allow for installation of solar panels with 50’ to 100’. They can be replaced with their previous versions, at least temporarily until new ones are created.
3. A New Jersey explaining the role of Count Women: The current rules roll back protections outlined in the comprehensive Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act. They’re aligning the Wetlands Rules with the Flood Hazard and Stream Encroachment Rules and by doing so, they are allowing development not only in flood zones, but also in wetlands. These rules clearly violate the Freshwater Wetlands Act in many areas and will lead to the destruction of critical wetlands. These rules will remove important protections and allow construction of pipelines and other projects that will destroy environmental sensitive dunes, wetlands, and coastal areas.
4. The Christie Administration pushed through many new versions of environmental rules that would allow for more development, pollution, and flood-
    ing. It’s important that these rollbacks be replaced immediately so that they may be
    replaced with stronger regulations, including increasing the minimum stream buffets from 90 to 100', they can be replaced with their previous versions, at least temporarily, until new ones are created.
5. a) The Highlands Seismic Density Rule: The Highlands Forest Preservation Area is a
    major source of drinking water for up to 6 million people that includes pristine trout streams, and reservoirs. These rules will not only threaten our water supply, but are based on a closed system and will not be able to protect habitats.
   b) DEP’s Flood Hazard Rules: These will add more development in environmentally
    sensitive areas, getting rid of stream buffers, and eliminating protections for headwa-
    ters. The problem with eliminating the buffers means that streams are no longer able to
    absorb water for recharge. Not only will the floods increase run-off and pollu-
    tion that these lands would absorb, but they can be replaced with their previous versions, at least temporarily, until new ones are created.
    c) Adoption of CAFRA Rules: Allow for development without consideration of sea
    level rise, resiliency, or natural systems restoration.
6. DEP’s Water Quality Management Planning Rules: These rules determine where
    sewers go, which determines land use policy. This version threatens clean water, viol-
    ates EPA’s grants requirements, and undermines protections of our watersheds. They will
    cause more pollution by extending sewers in environmentally sensitive areas and
    adding more point and non-point pollution.
7. a) The Waiver Rule, which allows the DEP Commissioner to waive compliance with
    DEP’s regulations for a fee
   b) Water Supply Master Plan: Repealing and recapturing the WSPM with more cur-
    rent and expansive regulations that add a longer time. This will essentially cause a
    new version of the Waiver Rule to be enacted.
8. Barrengut Bay: expedite development and implementation of TMDL
9. Take a leadership role in securing a full ban on all aspects of fracking in the
    Delaware river basin, including withdrawals and wastewater discharge.
10. Adopt standards and Health-Based Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) for water
    quality recommended by the Drinking Water Quality Institute.
    a) Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) at 1 ppb
    b) Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) at 14 ppt
    c) Perfluoronoanoic acid (PFAA) at 15 ppt
11. 1,4-dichlorobenzene (1,4-DCB) at 0.03 mg/l
12. Upgrade more streams and waterways to the Category 1 status to give them more
    protection.

Energy and Climate Change:
9. Rejoin the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). RGGI is a ten-state regional
   solution to reduce carbon emissions and pollution and fund clean energy projects.
10. Governor Christie had removed New Jersey from the program without input of the
    public of the Legislature. Exit the program has caused New Jersey to lose jobs, increase
    pollution and fails to combat climate change.
11. Create and Reinstate Important Offices of Office of Climate Change
    a) Adaptation and Mitigation Program
12. Increase and adapt IT. The new commissioner should have a listening session
    with DEP employees, as well as stakeholders, to get a sense of what’s happening inside
    DEP and what changes need to be made. DEP needs to be able to do their jobs when it
    comes to enforcement. This will not only protect the environment, but bring in potential revenue.

C. Board of Public Utilities (BPU) Reforms:
1. End raids of the Clean Energy Fund immediately so all revenues are dedicated to
   energy efficiency & clean energy programs through the Office of Clean Energy.
2. Hire an independent auditor for the BPU’s Office of Clean Energy’s energy effi-
   ciency program to evaluate the effectiveness of the program.
3. Adopt an Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (EERS) that establishes annual
   enforceable benchmarks of annual 2% reduction in energy use with clear performance
   incentives and penalties for failing to meet the benchmarks.
4. Expand the Renewable Portfolio Standard to move towards a 100% clean, renew-
   able energy future in 2050 by establishing a 50% renewable energy by 2021 and 50%
   renewable energy by 2035.
5. Reduce and update the offshore wind regulations for an Off-Shore Wind Renewable
   Energy Credit program to allow offshore wind to move forward and codi-
   fies the strongest goal ever set by any country of 5,500 MW of offshore wind by 2030.
6. Adopt a requirement to include the social cost of carbon in all evaluations of
   Board of Public Utility projects, including proposed fossil free infrastructure projects.
7. Create an interagency action taskforce with other agencies on reducing greenhouse
   gases and promoting clean energy that includes DCA, transportation, etc.
8. Establish New Jersey as a clean energy leader by making investments in energy
   storage, with a goal of 600 MW by 2021 and 2,000 MW of storage deployed by 2030.
9. End raids of the Clean Energy Fund immediately so all revenues are dedicated to
   energy efficiency & clean energy programs through the Office of Clean Energy.
10. Sign an Executive Order for agencies to implement programs and policies on cli-
    mate change, sea level rise, and adaption and mitigation. This should include a task
    force within DEP to update rules and regulations.
11. Make appointments to fill Pinelands Commission, Highlands Council, and other envi-
    ronmental boards which will uphold and further support Acts for environmental protection.
12. Update and adopt the off-shore wind regulations for an Off-Shore Wind Renewable
   Energy Credit program to allow offshore wind to move forward and codi-
   fies the strongest goal ever set by any country of 5,500 MW of offshore wind by 2030.
13. A new version of the Waiver Rule to be enacted.
14. Increase and adapt IT. The new commissioner should have a listening session
    with DEP employees, as well as stakeholders, to get a sense of what’s happening inside
    DEP and what changes need to be made. DEP needs to be able to do their jobs when it
    comes to enforcement. This will not only protect the environment, but bring in potential revenue.

Legislative Goals: We hope to work on bills with the following goals:

Clean Energy:
- • 100% renewable energy by 2050
- • 3,500 megawatts of offshore wind by 2030
- • Increasing energy storage capacity
- • Advanced net metering
- • Community solar

Transportation:
- • Increase charging station network across New Jersey
- • Package of bills including incentives for EVs
- • Electrifying our ports
- • Implement an electric bus system
- • Stable force of funding for DOT and NJ Transit

Climate Change:
- • Commit to Paris Accords standards
- • Rejoin RGGI and making changes to make it stronger
- • Close CAFRA loopholes
- • Creating a Coastal Commission to deal with sea level rise and implement regional planning
- • Implement Global Warming Legislation

Environment:
- • Prohibit smoking on beaches and in parks
- • Bottle bill
- • Plastic bag ban
- • Strengthening Environmental Justice
- • Fixing the ISPB program with more oversight
- • Funding for parks and trails
- • Stable source of funding to fix water infrastructure

...