



DATED MATERIAL DO NOT DELAY

Nonprofit Organization-Sierra Club
U.S.Postage PAID

The Jersey..... SIERRAN

Vol. 41, No. 3 Roughly 16,000 Members in New Jersey July-September 2012

Report from Trenton More Hot Air Instead of Clean Air NJ's Clean Air Council Holds its Annual Hearing

From a press release issued by Jeff Tittel, Chapter Director (Jeff.Tittel@Sierraclub.org)

On April 11th, the New Jersey Clean Air Council held its annual public hearing on our State's air quality. While we continue to suffer from some of the worst air quality in the nation, this year's hearing focused on transportation and reduction of small emission sources.

Governor Christie has undercut public and green transportation programs to promote transit-orientated growth. He has raised fares on NJ Transit and promotes biofuels and natural gas over renewable energy sources. Improving our air quality would not only help protect our health, but it would save lives, because every year many New Jerseyans die from asthma and heart attacks that result from air pollution. Instead of limiting recommendations to transportation, the Council should be protecting our environment and our health by reducing air pollution in our state - by getting New Jersey back into RGGI (the Northeastern States Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative) and promoting renewable energy.

NJ Transit Cuts

Governor Christie's transit policies have caused hikes in NJ Transit fares, while cutting service, maintenance, and new capital programs, resulting in major delays and the breakdown of trains. Ridership has dropped at a time when energy prices are high, thanks to Christie's policies. Every time you raise transit fares and cut transit services you increase air pollution. We wonder if the Clean Air Council sees the connection.

Electric Vehicles

New Jersey should promote the use of electric vehicles (EVs). The State has received federal money to plan for electric vehicle charging stations. A package of bills to promote EVs and provide tax credits for electric charging stations has been introduced in the Legislature, but the Christie Administration and Republican legislators are opposed.

Christie's Energy Master Plan does not even deal with transportation, let alone electric vehicles. Meanwhile roughly 12 models of EVs have entered the market. The result is poorer air quality and fewer jobs in the energy sector.

Alternative Fuel Vehicles

A report released last year ranked four New Jersey communities in the top 20 nationally for worst air quality due to smog, a pollutant that originates from vehicle emissions. Use of ethanol would reduce the nitrogen oxide (from gasoline and diesel fuel), that get converted to smog.

However, the Sierra Club strongly opposes the use of ethanol as fuel: During warm months the evaporation of ethanol creates ground level ozone and smog. Ethanol-fueled cars get only three quarters of the mileage of gasoline-fueled cars. Even worse, it takes 8 times more

Sustainable Life-style Articles inside:

Summer Recipe Page 2

Use Less Water!
Two items on page 3



energy to produce a gallon of ethanol than is contained in a gallon of gasoline. Some ethanol is made from palm oil, which the Club opposes because rainforest is destroyed for its production. Some biofuels have potential if they are not from agricultural sources, but rather from bagasse, algae or restaurant cooking oil.

Instead, the State should be looking into compressed natural gas and propane. The Sierra Club feels these alternatives have potential for fleets and fuel cells. Alternative fueled vehicles are an important part of transitioning to a cleaner transportation future. Does the Clean Air Council agree?

Land Use Planning and Transportation

Last year the Governor eliminated funding for the Transit Village Program. Transit Villages are residential and commercial developments near train and transit stops - that entice people to use mass transit. Money has also been cut from the Smart Fit Program, which helps pay for transportation improvements near Transit Villages. Instead, Christie has doubled the amount of money available for road widening projects, which will increase vehicle emissions. The Governor canceled the ARC tunnel, which would have promoted use of mass transit. Instead he used that money to fix bridges and roads.

The Board of Public Utilities (BPU) has proposed a rule allowing builders to pay less to run sewer, water, and electrical

(continued on page 3)

Conservation Report

New Jersey Chapter Launches Solar Campaign

By Bill Martin (WP_Martin@yahoo.com),
co-Conservation Chair of our Loantaka Group

The New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club has launched a solar electricity campaign to encourage our members to investigate residential solar, and help our State maintain its leadership position in installing this renewable energy technology.

This, and future articles in the Jersey Sierran, as well as information on our web site, will present opportunities for residential solar, and track issues and actions taken by the Legislature and Board of Public Utilities (BPU) that affect the solar industry.

Our booming solar industry owes its success to BPU and legislative action that called for a portion of the electricity sold in New Jersey to be from in-state solar panels. Solar installers must also be credited for understanding the implications of the legislation, and quickly ramping up the capacity to meet its demands. The requirement for in-state solar is on a year-to-year increasing scale reaching 2,518 GigaWatt hours (2,518,000,000 kWh) by 2021.

In order to carry out its solar mandate, the BPU invented the concept of Solar Renewable Energy Credits, or SREC's (pronounced "ess-recks"). An SREC is defined as the generation of one megawatt hour (MWh) of electricity. A typical home installation might take several months to generate an MWh and obtain an SREC; large commercial installations might generate several SRECs a day. SRECs are marketable: they can be sold at the current market price. Public utilities (e.g. PSE&G and JCP&L) are required to purchase an increasing number of them each year. The SREC design was for a

market-driven system with the market ultimately determining the price.

The market based approach, in conjunction with federal and State rebate programs (which have since expired) stimulated the installation of over 730MW of solar capacity as of March 2012.

The 730MW installed is about 40% more than called for in the legislation for this year; when supply exceeds demand, prices drop. SREC's currently trade in the \$100-\$120 range, down from highs in the \$600's just over a year ago. Legislative bill S1925, in committee at the time of this writing, is intended to help stabilize SREC pricing as well as address other issues the solar community is facing. The bill calls for an increase in the amount of in-state solar required in future years. Our Sierra Club Chapter supports this legislation and is diligently working to strengthen its provisions.

The overwhelmingly positive response to solar in New Jersey has created an entire ecosystem of jobs, from small business owners to installers, SREC traders, warehousemen and financiers. The solar community thinks that less volatility in the SREC market, and perhaps a floor SREC price in the \$200 range, would allow the industry to continue to thrive. Legislation as described above, or action by the BPU, will determine how vibrant the industry is over the next few years.

A vibrant industry is nice to have, but where does all of this leave the homeowner who is considering an investment in solar? The good news is that, while

(continued on page 11)

Issue Coordinator's Report

Fracking and NJ: Unhappy Together

By Terry Stimpfel (terystimb@hotmail.com), Chapter Fracking Issues Coordinator

(Might you need reminding that fracking is the hydraulic fracturing of underground shale rock to release natural gas? And that many environmentalists worry that the process is highly polluting?)

The largest anti-fracking rally to hit Washington DC is scheduled for July 28th. Citizens, community organizations and environmental groups from across the country will protest the natural gas and oil industry's obsession with profits without regard for the public's well being. What has caused such heightened concern?

Hydraulic fracturing is a process that breaks up rock adjoining wells drilled for natural gas and oil. Fracking has become high technology. Drillers inject 4 million gallons of water laden with sand and chemicals (including carcinogens) at very high pressures (15,000 psi) into wells which are often a mile deep and then a mile horizontal in tight shale formations. A new well produces contaminated drilling sludges and millions of gal-

lons of wastewater containing a portion of the toxic fracking cocktail, along with natural contaminants brought up from deep below the surface. Typically, wells are fracked multiple times.

Horizontal hydrofracking has revitalized the natural gas industry. The U.S. Energy Information Administration predicts that, in coming decades, 75% of America's natural gas will come from tight deposits. The Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania has more than 5600 fracked wells, up from near zero five years ago, and is forecast to receive 70,000 to 100,000 more.

The rush to drill demonstrates an industry strategy that includes thwarting reasonable environmental regulations. In the 2005 National Energy Act, the oil and natural gas industry solidified exemptions from key provisions of the major federal environmental regulations that provide safe drinking water, clean air, a community's right to know, and more. This has left states to grapple with the environmental hazards and health consequences of fracking. States have been slow to act.

Because fracking companies are exempt from disclosing the contents of their wastewater, the precise composition of the waste remains unknown. The industry provided Congress with a list of

(continued on page 5)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Population Guest Column: Rio+20.....	2
Sustainable Lifestyle: Summer Recipe....	2
Congressman Payne Remembered.....	2
Chair's Message: Threatened Resources..	3
Editorial: Water in the Pines.....	3
West Jersey Report: Maple Ridge	4
North Jersey Rpt: Wanaque Reservoir	4
Reports from Trenton: Toxic Cleanups go Private; Threat to Endangered Species...	4
Solar Farms on Agricultural Land?	5
Beach Access Lost	5
Group and Section News.....	6-10
Summer Outings.....	10-12
Leader List, Meetings, Membership Form	12

Sustainable Lifestyle

Eating for those lazy, hazy, crazy days of Summer

By Suzanne Yacowitz-Dragan, our regular lifestyle columnist

"It was a dark and sultry night in exotic New Jersey. The sweat exuded from my every pore. The mosquitoes were relentless" Well, you get the picture. But you still have to eat, so what do you do besides salads when it is hot and humid? Why not enjoy a meal that is easy on your waist-line, wallet, cholesterol-count and the environment? I promise you that this meal will have a high "wow!" factor with guests plus you can whip it up in no time. So, fire up the grill or stove top fry pan, get some really scrumptious whole grain bread (get lots because everyone loves good bread), open up a bottle of wine, some cold beer or ice tea and start cooking!

Portobello- Arugula Panini

4 large Portobello mushroom caps
1/3 cup extra virgin olive oil,
plus more
2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
2 teaspoons of your favorite
steak sauce
4 cups fresh arugula, chopped
2 ripe avocados, sliced thin
One yellow onion, sliced thin
Fresh Jersey tomatoes, sliced thin
A loaf of the most delicious
fresh whole grain bread you can find
Garlic salt or garlic powder

Mix together the olive oil, vinegar and steak sauce. Brush this concoction liberally on the mushroom caps & grill or pan sauté them till soft (about 6-8 minutes) turning them frequently. Set them aside to stay warm but not burn.

If you are using a long loaf of bread, cut it in half length-wise and put it on the grill where the mushroom caps were to soak up some of the sauce. Press the bread down with a spatula to brown it. Sprinkle on garlic.

If you are cooking over a fry pan on the stove, brush the bread with leftover sauce or a little olive oil and compress bread in the pan with a spatula.

Sauté the onions and tomatoes stove-top in 1-2 tablespoons of olive oil or left over sauce or cook them on tin foil on top of the grill. FYI, this sandwich also tastes good if the onions and tomatoes are raw and not sautéed.

Assemble sandwiches piling on the avocado slices, mushroom caps, arugula, tomatoes, onions and then top with more avocado.

Enjoy your Portobello-Arugula Panini with a side of fresh, crunchy whole radishes and a big hunk of watermelon for dessert. Truly a meal fit for an NJ Sierran!

Suzanne Yacowitz-Dragan is a NJ Sierra Club member, a nurse nutrition educator & a former WCTC radio talkshow host. You can reach her on Facebook.

Report from Trenton

Congressman Donald Payne, an Environmental Hero, Remembered

From a press release issued by our Trenton staff, with contributions from Barbara Conover

On March 6th, Congressman Donald Payne (D, 10th District - Newark and surrounding area) passed away, after serving for almost 24 years in Congress.

The Congressman's loss is a great loss for the Sierra Club. Rep. Payne had one of the best environmental records in Congress, but that doesn't tell the full story. More important than a voting record is the LEADERSHIP provided behind the scenes, writing legislation, promoting it in committees, and convincing other Members of Congress to support it.

Congressman Payne did that on issues such as climate change and women's health, nationally and internationally, and here in New Jersey: cleaning up the Passaic River and our toxic industrial sites, and opposing drilling off our coast. Some national initiatives included green energy, transportation, and preserving lands in Alaska. He has also been a leader in the fight for environmental justice. He

had a firsthand understanding that some communities are overburdened with pollution and has worked to clean up and protect those communities.

Congressman Payne has always led by example. He was someone you never had to lobby because he was always on the environmental side of an issue before you had a chance to talk to him. When you did talk with him, not only did he have a strong commitment to the issue, he would actually help you and give you ideas to lobby other members to support the issue.

On visiting his Washington D.C. office you always met with him, not just his staff. He had already received an early endorsement from the Sierra Club for the upcoming election. Congressman Payne had a lifetime 89% LCV score. He was 100% for 2010 and 94% for 2011.

He had a 100% score from Environment America and Defenders of Wildlife.

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 12 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) by August 1.

POPULATION ISSUE COORDINATOR'S GUEST CONTRIBUTION

Success for People & the Planet at Rio+20

By Suzanne York

The official focus of the upcoming United Nations "Earth Summit," aka Rio+20, will be on the green economy and solidifying a sustainable development framework. This past January, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon laid out five imperatives of an action plan to "build the future we want." These are sustainable development; preventing and mitigating conflicts, human rights abuses and the impacts of natural disasters; building a safer and more secure world; supporting countries in transition; and working to engage the talents of women and young people.

Certainly all laudable actions. But if there is to be any success at the Rio+20 summit, there are four other imperatives not included in the Secretary-General's list that are necessary to create a healthy future for people and the planet.

1. The Conference should address Population Growth

Yes, it's still an issue. While the global rate of population growth has slowed, there are still 80 million people added every year. Africa's total population is predicted to increase to 2.2 billion by 2050. Or consider Pakistan, currently the world's sixth most populated country. The United Nations Population Fund projects that between now and 2050 Pakistan could see a population increase from 175 million people to 335 million. Globally, there could be a total of 9.4 billion people by 2050. If the world takes action in Rio and addresses the impacts of population growth, it could keep that number down to 8 billion people.

Understanding the links between population, gender inequalities, family planning, and rates of consumption have been taken up in years past but seem to have fallen off the global agenda and now must be raised again. For the planet's sake, population growth needs to be on the agenda.

2. The Conference should do more to Empower Women

A true sustainable development framework is one that puts women's needs front and center. Solutions include promoting women's reproductive health, enabling access to contraception, increasing girls' education, and building sustainable livelihoods. These are the keys to promoting sustainable development, mitigating our impacts on the planet which sustains us, and building a safer and more secure world.

Recognizing and improving rights of women and girls will bring many benefits, and are long overdue. Beyond access to health and education, gender inequalities such as land rights - women own less than 15 percent of land worldwide - must be part of the sustainable development equation. According to UN Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro, "Laws that prevent women from inheriting property, laws that restrict women's freedom, and laws that undermine women's rights are all laws that must be repealed." For Rio+20, she said "We absolutely must empower women to create the future we want."

3. The Conference should consider Alternatives to Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

There is a growing concern on the consequences of continued economic growth in a world of shrinking and finite resources, as well as the impact of such rampant growth on quality of life. Conventional economic wisdom holds that global growth can continue forever, yet the reality of resource constraints is challenging this economic mantra.

Rio+20 should address the need to create and promote more efficient indicators of human and environmental well-being worldwide, as it addresses reducing poverty and inequality. There currently exist viable alternative measures of economic performance, including the Genuine Progress Indicator (which measures how well citizens are doing both economically and socially) and the Happy Planet Index (a composite of three measures - life expectancy at birth, life satisfaction, and ecological footprint).

Key to all of this is over-consumption. Historically a small portion of the planet - the rich, developed countries - have contributed the most to rising greenhouse gas emissions and depletion of resources around the globe. And certainly as developing countries grow, prosper, and move into the middle-class, they want the things that we in the developed world want and have.

Connie Hedegaard, EU commissioner for Climate Action, has called for reassessing the idea of growth. In a recent speech she said "Growth in itself is neither our enemy, nor our problem. It is the way we have grown, and the way we continue to grow that is our common challenge. Growth, as we know it, will lead to incomprehensible problems in the future, not least due to the stress we cause to our ecosystems, our climate, and other natural resources, like for example water." She has urged taking up this issue at Rio+20.

4. The Conference should adopt a Rights of Nature Paradigm

Given the reality of climate change, finite resources and a planet already extended beyond its carrying capacity, the urgency of finding sustainable solutions is upon us now. Successfully addressing global problems will require a change in our way of looking at the world. One paradigm-shifting concept is that of recognizing rights of nature. What exactly, does this mean? Rather than treating nature as property under the law (as women and slaves once were), rights of nature acknowledges that nature in all its life forms has the right to exist, persist, maintain and regenerate its vital cycles. Simply put, it is seeing the natural world as something other than a resource for human exploitation, and that humans are part of nature, not separate. Ecuador and Bolivia have included rights of nature in their constitutions, recognizing the legal right of ecosystems to exist.

This will obviously require a major shift in thinking for many people, but we need something other than "business as usual" if we wish to sustain life on this planet.

This list is not inclusive, but these are key components. The answer isn't to give up our 21st century lifestyles, but to live within our means and the planet's means. Society should act together and move past unsustainable levels of economic growth, focus on the well-being of all, and recognize resource limits. The best way to achieve this is to enhance the rights of women, positively address population growth, reduce unsustainable levels of consumption, and consider new concepts that protect people, nature, and the earth that we share. That's how we build the future we want.

Suzanne York is a volunteer member of the Sierra Club's Global Population and Environment Program Committee. She writes for the Institute for Population Studies and will be attending Rio+20 this summer. Contact her through Bonnie Tillery (blt44blt@msn.com).

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

Editorial Water in the Pines

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



My essay this quarter is a report on a forum that took place on March 13th and 20th, attended by about 35 water professionals and environmentalists, and sponsored by the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, at which State hydrologists and planners previewed the results of a ten years' study of the sustainability of the Kirkwood-Cohansey Aquifer: the source of most of South Jersey's drinking water.

The study has more than just regional significance, since the supply of water, along with land, fish, other foods, wood and fossil fuels, is rapidly approaching a sustainability limit, as our human population grows and prospers. As with the other limited resources, the initial approach to a sustainability limit will be subtle, and will require difficult political decisions that must balance the needs of humans with the needs of all the other living species that comprise the environment – and that have no vote.

Pinelands Commission staff presented a "buildout" analysis, noting that current withdrawals of water for all residential, commercial and agricultural uses comprise (if I understood it correctly) about 7% of all the water in the aquifer, and estimating that continued growth of the Pinelands region, so as to fully occupy all "useable" residential, commercial and agricultural property, would require the use of an additional 3% of all the water in the aquifer. Applying a "margin of error," we should regard the anticipated total withdrawal as

something like $10 \pm 4\%$. We heard reports from scientists on what that might do to the ecology of the Pine Barrens, for example in periods of drought.

Clearly, SOME areas will suffer GREATER damage and some will suffer less. I'm sure much will be published in the near future. We were told that a "water budget" for each Pinelands municipality will be ready by this Summer.

The most interesting activity in the forum was a survey of participants regarding public policy options: what limits to growth (and water use) need to be imposed to protect the natural environment of the Pine Barrens? Most of us agreed that some restrictions will have to be imposed, both in permitting population growth, and in the way current residents, businesses and farms use water – especially at times of drought. These are matters that require education of both the public and the politicians, and that will ultimately require political decisions that will hurt people.

Hard political decisions are always messy: fraught with lobbying by special interests, and with "spin" applied by ideological groups and extremists, some of whom are unwilling to accept government intervention of any kind, or the process by which scientists consider evidence and arrive at conclusions. This is a perfect example of the Tragedy of the Commons, and the need to limit the Tragedy by enlightened regulatory intervention.

Oregon, Washington State, Chicago, and other places around the Country and the World.

Other Transportation Solutions

If the Clean Air Council wants to consider transportation, there are other things we can do to save energy: more fuel-efficient tires on automobiles, and low-carbon fuel standards that lower pollution and increase mileage. Forty percent of our air pollution comes from the transportation sector.

Reducing Waste

Incinerators and landfills are top air polluters in New Jersey. The Clean Air Council should advocate bottle legislation, which would substantially reduce the volume of waste thus air pollution. The bill imposes a small deposit on bottles, refunded when the empties are returned. In the early 1990's we recycled over 50% of municipal and household waste; now we are only recycling 37%.

Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Large Facilities

Ninety eight facilities in New Jersey topped the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s first greenhouse gas emissions inventory list for large facilities. The biggest culprit was the Bergen Electric Generation Facility, followed by ConocoPhillips Bayway Refinery and the Linden Cogeneration Facility. New Jersey's large facilities emitted 26,271,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide. The biggest polluters were power plants, refineries, incinerators, and landfills. This data emphasizes the need for New Jersey to regulate greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants not only for the environment, but for our public health. Where are you, Clean Air Council?

Other Christie Policies Hurt Air Quality

Last year, Governor Christie delayed the important clean air Sulfur Rule, which would lower the sulfur content of heating and fuel oils and their sulfur dioxide air emissions.

And he pulled NJ out of RGGI, the Northeast States' agreement to cut carbon emissions from power stations.

Chair's Message A Threatened Resource

By Ken Johanson (kjohan@comcast.net)



"Water, water, every where, Nor any drop to drink." These words are ascribed to the Mariner in Samuel Coleridge's Rime of the Ancient Mariner, published in 1798. The Mariner had killed an albatross that had guided his ship to safety and, as a result of his senseless act, the ship was becalmed in unchartered waters.

Let's fast forward to 2012. In some ways little has changed since 1798. Water is as abundant as ever, with 71 percent of the earth's surface covered by oceans. But how much of the earth's water is fit to drink? Ninety-seven percent of the earth's water is salt water. Of the remaining three percent, two-thirds is frozen in icecaps and glaciers. That leaves us with one percent potentially available for human consumption and to support vital habitats and ecosystems.

Unfortunately, the amount of water potentially available for human consumption is declining, with mankind consuming water at a faster rate than it is being replenished. Nor is all of this water fit to drink. The World Water Council estimates that 1.1 billion people worldwide are living without clean drinking water, with 3900 children dying every day from water borne diseases.

Yet despite abundant evidence of a worsening water crisis, the issue does not appear to have registered with most political leaders or their constituents. The same cannot be said for the United States intelligence community, which recently issued a report warning that "over the next 10 years, water shortages, and government failures to manage them, are likely to lead to social disruptions, pressure on national and local leaders, and potentially political instability."

Nor are water shortages and threats to water quality limited to poorer countries. In the United States we continue to build and farm in areas that do not have a sustainable source of fresh water, depleting aquifers and diverting water from once-mighty rivers. Agriculture, which uses 70 percent of the global fresh water supply, is a particular culprit, with farming operations planting water-intensive crops in arid areas and using inefficient and wasteful irrigation methods rather than drip irrigation to water their crops.

But agriculture is not the only culprit. Congress, in its misguided efforts to promote ethanol and cater to powerful interests in the corn-producing states, is also to blame. While corn-based ethanol is an environmental disaster on many levels, the amount of water consumed in producing ethanol and other biofuels is of significant concern. According to Earthscan and the Colombo International Water Institute, it takes between 1000 and 3500 liters of water to produce one liter of biofuel.

And then there's the nation's current love affair with fracked natural gas. It takes about 4 million gallons of water to frack a single well, and wells can be fracked numerous times. Much of the water that is injected into the well, including carcinogens and other chemicals that are added to the mix, remains underground. The polluted water sometimes migrates and contaminates previously pristine aquifers. Contamination of underground water resources will undoubtedly increase over time, as materials used to line bore holes gradually deteriorate after wells have been capped

and the drillers have moved on to more promising sites.

And while some of the water is recovered, the recovered water is often radioactive and, as a result of the toxic mix of chemicals used in the fracking process, cannot be adequately treated using current technology. This inadequately treated water eventually ends up in surface water bodies, resulting in the further deterioration of our water supply.

But while Congress, the farm lobby and powerful energy interests are in large part responsible for the problems we face today, we, the American people, by relying more and more on a meat-based diet, are also to blame. While it takes 100 liters of water to produce one kilogram of potatoes, it takes 13,000 liters of water to produce the same quantity of beef. Reducing meat consumption could well make a difference.

If I were writing this column just a few years ago I would have concluded with an up-beat message on efforts in New Jersey to address the water crisis. Examples would have included the enactment of the Highlands Act, which limits development in areas that provide drinking water to over half the State, and the adoption of stream water buffers to protect surface water bodies from pollution. But that was before Governor Christie took office.

Since taking office in 2010, Governor Christie has launched a relentless attack on clean water, as well as other environmental initiatives. He has appointed individuals to the Highlands Council, the body responsible for implementing the Highlands Act, who are on record opposing the adoption of the Act and who are unlikely to carry out its terms, and orchestrated the removal of the Council's executive director and the appointment of a politically connected replacement with no environmental experience.

But there's more. At the close of the last legislative session Christie vetoed a bill that would have prohibited fracking for natural gas in New Jersey, agreeing only to a meaningless one-year moratorium, and vetoed three bills that would have improved water quality in Barnegat Bay. And the Department of Environmental Protection, acting under orders from above, adopted a rule granting itself broad discretion to waive key environmental protections, including surface water buffer requirements. Nor does it appear that the governor is finished with his anti-environmental agenda. The DEP is currently holding stakeholder meetings with special interests to rewrite, and we fear weaken, important water quality rules.

Coleridge's Mariner killed the albatross that had guided his ship to safety. I like to think of the albatross as a symbol of the natural world. The natural world offers mankind an opportunity to rethink the way it views its role in the world and to adopt a global philosophy that is both sustainable and more closely attuned to the natural world. But like the Mariner, we have rejected the offer and increasingly seem intent on destroying our only hope for salvation. Today, like the Mariner, we are becalmed in unchartered waters. These waters, while currently becalmed, will not remain so. We, this country and the world community, need to take meaningful steps to address the global water crisis before it is too late.

HOT AIR

(Continued from page 1)

lines out to new sprawl residential developments in rural areas. Ratepayers will be left to foot the bill, while air quality will suffer from greater use of vehicles. Will the Clean Air Council take notice?

Trip Reduction Programs

For more than 20 years, New Jersey has failed to implement trip reduction programs required by federal legislation. These reduce drive-alone commutes, alleviating traffic and air pollution and saving commuters money. Such programs have been successful in other states. Companies can charge a small fee for parking to subsidize carpooling and vanpooling for employees. There are programs like "cash out parking" where office park developers get additional building densities in exchange for paying for trip reduction programs.

Off-peak commuting programs can also be implemented where employers allow employees to work outside the 9-5 timeframe. Governor Christie has eliminated off peak pricing as part of the NJ Transit cuts. How about it, Clean Air Council?

Healthy Ports and Clean Diesel Transportation

The Clean Air Council, and the Christie Administration, might have considered an Executive Order requiring vehicles and equipment with diesel engines especially on state projects, to be retrofitted to clean diesel. This Administration has exempted diesel engines for off road vehicles and construction sites from having to meet new standards. Relatedly, the DEP should be requiring clean diesel trucks and clean diesel ships to operate in New Jersey's ports.

The Administration has also failed to reroute buses and trucks away from the middle of our urban communities, especially in the vicinity of schools. Diesel buses need to be replaced with new technology using compressed natural gas, hybrid electric or full electric, as seen in

YOU HAVE MORE TO GIVE THAN YOU KNOW

Maybe you can't make a gift to protect the environment during your lifetime, but you can become a financial hero by remembering the Sierra Club in your will. You can even direct your gift to a special Club program or to the New Jersey Chapter.

For information about making a bequest to the New Jersey Chapter call George Denzer at 609-799-5839.

CONSERVATION REPORT

Help Preserve Maple Ridge

By Gina Carola (ginaceee@verizon.net), Chair of our West Jersey Group

In Gloucester County, where Mantua and Deptford Townships meet, sits the former Maple Ridge Golf Course. Known earlier as the Eagles Nest, and originally as Tall Pines Golf Course, the site could soon be up for sale. The current owner is willing to sell the land for preservation, but funding is needed soon or the owner will proceed with plans for a large-scale residential development.

The 112-acre site spans both Townships and is very close to the Woods of Wenonah preservation area. With varied topography, the site contains beautiful meadows that were formerly fairways and putting greens. Groves of mature conifers and deciduous trees, both native and exotic, are scattered about the rolling hills. Mantua Creek, a tributary of the Delaware River, flows through the site. Ponds, marshes and wetlands, along with patches of hardwoods, provide a home and sustenance for abundant and varied wildlife. Deer, fox, raccoon and opossum, along with close to 70 species of birds, either make their homes or forage at the site. Frogs, turtles and salamanders depend on the wetland areas, and a rare, white-plumaged red tailed hawk and bald eagles hunt the site.

Working to preserve this beautiful site is a group of very committed citizens from the surrounding towns and several

local organizations - including Gloucester County Nature Club, South Jersey Land and Water Trust, and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation. The mayors and councils of Deptford and Mantua Township and the Borough of Wenonah are solidly behind the effort, along with the Gloucester County Freeholders and State Senators Steve Sweeney and Donald Norcross. Support has also come from the Gloucester County Office of Land Preservation. The State of New Jersey has expressed interest in purchasing Maple Ridge as a nature preserve but additional funding from both public and private sources will be needed. The Friends of Maple Ridge are seeking donations from individuals and businesses.

You can help! The Gloucester County Nature Club, a 501c3 nonprofit organization, established a Maple Ridge Preservation Fund to accept donations to assist with the preservation effort. You can donate online (www.friendsofmapleridge.org) or send a check to Gloucester County Nature Club, PO Box 563, Sewell, NJ 08080. Make the check payable to GCNC and write Maple Ridge Fund on the memo line.

If you want to assist in any way, contact Richard Dilks at 856-468-6342, or rad721@verizon.net.

Report from Trenton

Wanaque Reservoir under Dirty Water Threat

Adapted from a Press Release issued by Chapter Director Jeff Tittel on May 8th

The North Jersey District Water Supply Commission has proposed to increase the amount of water that can be removed from the Wanaque reservoir system, or the "safe yield." This is the largest reservoir system in the State, supplying 173 million gallons per day (MGD) to more than two million people. The proposed increase is to 190 MGD. The Club has serious concerns for the effect on water quality, and has called on the DEP to hold a public hearing so that the public can learn more. The Sierra Club has urged the DEP to deny the increase.

The proposal would require that more water be pumped into the Reservoir from the Pompton and lower Passaic Rivers, increasing nutrient loading. The Reservoir already has a serious nutrient problem; this would make it worse. The lower Passaic is notorious also for containing industrial discharges including heavy metals. We don't want them pumped into the Reservoir. Pumping dirty water will also add to filtration and electrical costs for consumers. The Wanaque Reservoir is a Category One water body: pumping in more water from impaired water bodies would violate the Reservoir's anti-degradation privilege.

This proposal would impact water supply intakes downstream and wastewater discharges by increasing the concentration of pollutants, and lowering water level in the river. In 1999, the Passaic River was running at over 10 milligrams per liter of nitrate nitrogen at Little Falls, higher than the Safe Drinking Water Act standard. Such levels promote algal

growth and are a health risk to infants. Also in 1999, the Wanaque Reservoir's filters were being clogged by algae.

We do not know what the full impacts of this proposal would be, since the New Jersey Water Supply Master Plan has not been updated in almost twenty years. The markers for drought conditions have not been updated to incorporate new development and increased water allocations to serve those developments. This could impact the ability of the Wanaque Water System and interconnected water bodies such as the Ramapo and Pompton Rivers to maintain ecological flows, with increased water temperatures and reduced volumes affecting the balance of plants, animals and microorganisms that maintain the health of the rivers.

The proposal to increase the safe yield will also impact the DEP's ability to implement Total maximum daily pollutant loads (TMDLs) for the Passaic River. The TMDL is a tool under the Clean Water Act to clean up the Passaic River by reducing the amount of pollutants entering the waterway. Increasing the water withdrawals will reduce the flow in the River, which will increase the concentration of pollutants.

Increasing the safe yield will also encourage more development and sprawl in North Jersey, adding more point and non-point pollution. The impact would interfere with the intent of the Highlands Act, which is to limit development in much of Passaic and other northern counties.

Online NJ Sierra Club Resources

Chapter Website <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/> : your central Club information resource.
Chapter Action Center <http://scnj.convio.net/> : sign up for our biweekly e-mail newsletter, and for Action Alerts which call on YOU to help make a difference.

Report from Trenton

Private Toxic Site Cleanup Goes Into Effect

By Jeff Tittel (Jeff.Tittel@Sierraclub.org), Chapter Director – originally a press release

On May 7th the DEP's Licensed Site Remediation Professionals (LSRP) program went into effect. Now the owners of all but a select few contaminated properties in New Jersey must hire consultants to plan and oversee their cleanups. The legislation passed in 2009 now privatizes the cleanup process, handing cleanup authority over to LSRPs hired by the owners and polluters. The Sierra Club has long had major concerns with this privatization program, which applies to more than 20,000 contaminated sites in New Jersey.

We think the LSRP law is a Full Employment Act for engineers and consultants, which undermines environmental safeguards. This program was promoted by polluters for polluters - to take control of environmental cleanups away from staff at DEP and give it over to consultants that work for the polluters and developers.

There is now no independent oversight by DEP or anyone else. The consultants pick the cleanup plan and can waive compliance and even standards. There is no review of the cleanup plan by DEP. The LSRP certifies that the cleanup has been completed without any independent testing, verification, or oversight.

In Massachusetts, where this privatized program originated, 78 percent of the audits done on level 3 contaminated sites showed problems or additional toxins not removed and we fear New Jersey will see similar results.

The program will allow a malfeasance complaint to be filed, but it will be heard not by the DEP but by the LSRP Licensing Board, which consists mainly of LSRPs and business community representatives, meaning developers and polluters.

The Sierra Club's major concerns with the LSRP program are:

Lack of DEP oversight. The DEP will review just 10% of paperwork in conjunction with cleanups, will not visit any sites, and will conduct audits on only 10% of LSRPs.

LSRPs can determine their own waivers and alternative compliance guidelines. LSRPs can decide what rules they want to follow. They will have the right to waive certain remediation controls without any DEP oversight.

Instead of removing toxic materials from these sites, more polluters will "pave and wave" - essentially place an asphalt

cap overtop the hazardous materials. According to every scientific study, these types of controls will eventually fail. Caps will crack from the weight of buildings. Sewer lines have the potential to destroy the cap, unleashing toxic materials and gasses. Then taxpayers will be responsible, not the LSRP or the polluter.

Consultants can weaken groundwater standards so that toxics can continue to contaminate water supplies. LSRP's can declare virtually all groundwater contaminated areas Classification Exemption Areas, not requiring a cleanup. "Dilution" could be used instead of pollutant-removal, possibly resulting in vapor intrusion in homes or the plume of pollution moving and impacting other drinking water supplies.

The polluter will not be held responsible after cleanup. The responsible party will not be required to have insurance and it is not mandated to establish an escrow account to protect the site's future owner if more contamination is later found. It will be up to the homeowner or the taxpayer to clean up the additional pollutants, not the polluters or the developer. The administration is eliminating the "self-guarantee" protection for tax payers from the LSRP program. This lets LSRPs off the hook for any liability down the road.

Some of the most toxic sites will be turned over to private hands. The DEP is going to maintain control of very few of the 500 most contaminated sites in New Jersey. The criteria for maintaining DEP control are so strict that virtually no sites will qualify.

The privatization of toxic site cleanups is consistent with cutbacks of DEP staffing. In 1994, the DEP's Site Remediation Program employed 270 case managers overseeing 12,000 sites. Now there are 150 case managers for 20,000 sites.

The Sierra Club supports the redevelopment of brownfields (contaminated sites) but we believe those sites must be properly cleaned to protect public health and safety. If not, it will not only endanger the people who live and work there, but undermine the future efforts to bring appropriate development to brownfields.

The LSRP program is worse than the fox guarding the hen house, this is fox designing the hen house and then certifying the hen house is safe. We suggest that LSRP stands for 'Let's Stay Really Polluted.'

Report from Trenton

Endangered Species Protections: Endangered under Gov. Christie

By Chapter Director Jeff Tittel (Jeff.Tittel@Sierraclub.org) – adapted from a press release

On Feb 23rd, New Jersey's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) adopted major rollbacks to the rules protecting our threatened and endangered species. These changes will also have serious impacts on New Jersey's diminishing open spaces.

The new rules remove protections from 31,000 acres, over 50 square miles, of critical wildlife habitat. The properties will now be open to suburban sprawl development, and will jeopardize water quality, flood protection, and the few remaining contiguous forests and greenbelts in the state.

Studies conducted by the DEP have found that dozens of species are in serious

decline in New Jersey. Instead of affording regulatory protections to these species through inclusion on the "threatened species" list, the Department is creating a new category of "special concern" species that simply concedes populations are declining and habitat is being destroyed without offering protections. Under the new rule, more than 100 species will be added to the special concern list.

In another revision of policy protecting endangered species, certain species of birds have been moved to an "endangered" list that only protects breeding habitat. The golden winged warbler and black rail will only be protected in New

(continued on page 5)

Conservation Report

Walking the Line between Solar Farms and Real Farms

By our Chapter Conservation Chair, Laura Lynch (njsierraclub@gmail.com)

The Sierra Club supports renewable energy installations including offshore wind turbines and photovoltaic panels on residential, industrial and parking lot rooftops, but the situation is different when prime agricultural land is proposed for large-scale solar installations.

On May 22, the Hamilton Twp (Mercer Co) Zoning Board denied an application by a farmer who owns 60 acres in Hamilton's Rural Resource Conservation Zone, less than a mile from the border of a large shopping mall on Route 130.

In 2005, Hamilton Township established its Rural Resource Conservation Zone (RRC) with the specific intent to protect the farmland and rural character of the mostly undeveloped, southeastern section of the Township. The area comprises about 5000 acres, approximately 2000 of which are in farmland preservation. The RRC allows some development, such as churches and low-density or clustered housing. Warehouses, industry, and large-scale solar are not permitted uses.

In December 2011, Hamilton Township passed an ordinance forbidding large-scale solar installations on active farmland.

At the state level, legislation has decreed solar installations as an "inherently beneficial use" of land. Therefore, an applicant to a Planning or Zoning Board need not prove the benefits of solar panels. However, case law since the 1990s has set precedent to mandate that inherent benefit is not enough to allow a project. When applying for a zoning variance (i.e. asking for a non-permitted use), the applicant must prove that the plan will not prove detrimental to the zone (spawning the awkward phrase "proving the negative criteria.")

In addition, the state's Energy Master Plan calls for large-scale solar to be installed on brownfields and rooftops, but, specifically, not on active farmland.

So, there are two Hamilton ordinances and two State-level documents, plus court precedent, stacked against large-scale solar in the rural section of Hamilton Township. Enter The Landowner.

Surrounding his farm are preserved and unpreserved farms, a handful of which (including his) are leased to the same farmer. The Landowner bought the 60-acre farm with the intent to turn it into high-density housing, but the implementation of the RRC put an end to that. Seeing a financial windfall in SREC profits [see lead article on p. 1 of this Newsletter] and electricity to be sold to PSE&G, he next planned to cover almost the entire field with solar panels (about 40 thousand of them), removing at least seven acres of trees in the process. The soil is recognized as prime agricultural, and is of state-wide importance. The land was tiled (most likely terra cotta slabs lying horizontally under the topsoil) sometime in the 1930's to drain it for farming. The soils were once hydric (i.e. wetland soils). Back Creek is at one end of the property; a wetland is at the other.

The application came before the Zoning Board. A local group of volunteers called Save Hamilton Open Space (SHOS; <http://www.savehamiltonopenspace.org>), as well as the Sierra Club and the property's neighbors, came together to keep the RRC rural. The neighbors, concerned about repercussions from the Landowner,

were uneasy about speaking out. The Sierra Club and SHOS guided them through the basics of municipal land use law, zoning boards, and how best to present oneself at a public hearing [see our Land Use and Preservation Guide at http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/ConCom/LUandP_NJ2010.pdf]. But, at the end of a two-hour meeting, the neighbors remained uncommitted to testifying.

Save Hamilton Open Space (SHOS) hired one of the best land-use attorneys in New Jersey. The Landowner and his attorney, both unprepared for an unexpected fight, watched as, over the course of six hearings, each of their witnesses crumbled under cross-examination. Although he owned the property, the Landowner and his representatives were unable to give basic information about the hydrology, topology, and technology in question. Time and time again, the Landowner's attorney resorted to pleading that the 40,000 panels should be allowed because the site was near the edge of the RRC.

In stark contrast, the experts that SHOS lined up were educated and prepared. Installation of 40,000 panels would fracture the tiles (altering the hydrology), compact the soil (leaving it un-arable), and create too much shade for plants to grow underneath (causing ponding and erosion). Hiding the panels from view would require berms, which are not part of Hamilton's rural landscape. The final witness for SHOS described the history of case law involving inherently beneficial uses and negative criteria. He then went through the RRC criteria and demonstrated how the solar farm would negatively impact them.

When the time came for public comment, a handful of the Landowner's business clients lined up to support him. It was then that, putting their fears of repercussion aside, the neighbors spoke up.

The Landowner's attorney had no recourse, no questions left to ask. Instead, he resorted to last-minute shenanigans, including calling a witness after summary arguments had already begun (he was refused).

It was time for the Zoning Board to offer their opinions: This site was not the place for 40,000 solar panels. Despite the inherent benefit of solar energy, the Landowner was unable to overcome the negative criteria. The Zoning Board paid attention to the intent of the RRC, the NJ Energy Master Plan, and court precedent. And the Board paid attention to the neighbors, singling out their sincerity. The final vote was 6 to 1 against the application.

The Sierra Club knows that it is a fine line being walked between two ostensibly green land uses. Each has its problems, each its benefits. Throughout New Jersey, municipalities and environmental organizations are grappling with the same questions. The Club favors renewable energy sources over coal, oil, and gas. But renewables must be planned and placed carefully. Solar panels are better on rooftops, parking lots, and brownfields than on open space and farmland. But with open space as a less expensive and less complicated option, we must stay aware of proposed large-scale solar operations and intervene when the negative criteria outweigh the inherent benefit.

ended in the non-breeding season.

Thirty years after the Endangered Species Act was passed, New Jersey still doesn't have regulations to protect upland forest and grassland species. Protecting these critical habitats is essential as threatened and endangered species are like the canary in a coal mine: the health of our ecosystems is reflected in the presence of rare species.

Report from Trenton

DEP Rules Eliminate Beach Access

From a press release written by Jeff Tittel, Chapter Director (Jeff.Tittel@Sierraclub.org)

On March 19th, the Department of Environmental Protection adopted new Beach Access Rules, which require municipalities along the Jersey Shore to provide public access to beaches which are, of course, public property that should be accessible to all our citizens - for fishing, bathing, and otherwise enjoying the natural environment. The Sierra Club is not happy with them, because they demonstrate the influence of special interests in limiting access.

Under the new rules, municipalities may limit public access corridors from public streets from a current quarter mile to half a mile. Towns may also close existing corridors and cluster them into one area of a beach that is narrow, and where there is not good parking. The new rules also reduce enforcement of the required access provisions, and even provide for communities to apply for complete waivers.

They also fail to provide standards regarding parking, as well as for bathroom or changing areas for people who use the beaches. Before the Christie Administration, DEP Commissioner Lisa Jackson increased access to every quarter mile.

The new rules limit access in urban areas more than anywhere else, enabling cities to wall off the waterfront from the public. An exception is the Hudson River Walkway, but that was won in a court case. We think urban revitalization would be strengthened by more public access to waterfronts. Baltimore, Boston, Pittsburgh, San Antonio, and many other cities across the country have focused revitalization efforts around abandoned waterfronts with tremendous success. Now Jersey City, Trenton, Camden, Newark, and other New Jersey cities will be denied this opportunity.

FRACKING

(Continued from page 1)

over 700 chemicals that might be used in wells, but in each well and for each frack the chemicals and concentrations may vary. Geologic studies, sample well results, and tests of residential well water near fracking sites have revealed carcinogens, toxic metals, volatile organic chemicals, hydrocarbons, naturally occurring radioactive materials, brines, and dissolved solids. But fracking wastes are not required to be handled as hazardous materials.

In some states, fracking wastewater is disposed of by underground injection. New Jersey does not have the geology for such wells (which have produced earthquakes elsewhere), but we are not exempt from the effects of fracking wastes. Already, Pennsylvania drillers ship wastes to Ohio and beyond; now they have started looking eastward. A flood of waste shipments into NJ is likely if the Delaware River Basin Commission lifts its moratorium on fracking. These wastes can damage our wastewater treatment facilities, which are not designed to treat the hazardous substances.

We do not need all of this fracked gas to meet domestic energy needs. The price of natural gas has plummeted because of a glut on the natural gas market. That's good for consumers until industry figures out a way to prop prices back up. The industry solution has been to convert the fracked gas to liquefied natural gas (LNG) for export. The compression process requires so much energy that the LNG lifecycle can be as dirty as coal itself. Several LNG export terminals are being constructed. Asia is the target market, where prices are much higher and are less regulated. By 2015 the U.S. is expected to be a net LNG exporter. This will raise prices domestically, while leaving us with the environmental damage from fracking, the construction and operation of the LNG export terminals, the compression stations, and thousands of miles of pipelines through our parklands, water supply districts and backyards.

The American Chemistry Council (a trade group of chemical manufacturers) and the Sierra Club are on the same side in opposing LNG export. Higher prices

will increase costs for domestic manufacturers that use petrochemicals as raw materials and fuels, diminishing their competitive position and negatively impacting American jobs. Our Club has filed in federal court to block construction of several export terminals. Unfortunately, the National Energy Act also limits legal options in this struggle.

It's time to end the industry's exemptions from federal and state environmental regulations. In New Jersey a new waste ban bill (A575/S3049) will prohibit treatment, discharge, disposal, or storage of any hydraulic fracturing wastes. Legislation that bans fracking was passed last year with bipartisan support, but was changed by Gov. Christie into a one year moratorium that expires in January, 2013. A new fracking ban bill (A567/S246) has been introduced and awaits legislative action.

At the federal level, the EPA has released the first federal air rules to apply to fracked natural gas and oil wells. These new rules will decrease smog-forming chemicals, toxic air pollutants and methane from natural gas and oil development. Methane is the primary constituent of natural gas and is over 20 times more potent than carbon dioxide as a greenhouse gas. The oil and natural gas industries are the largest U.S. sources of methane. These industries were able to weaken and delay implementation of the new rules, even though they were designed to be cost effective for industry.

It's time to act. According to a March Bloomberg poll, three quarters of Americans want more study of fracking hazards; two thirds favor tighter regulations. Maximizing profits at the expense of the health and safety of our communities is not acceptable.

What can you do to help? Sign up for the New Jersey Chapter's Action Alerts which describe timely actions you can take. Visit the new Sierra Club's "Beyond Natural Gas" campaign at <http://content.sierraclub.org/naturalgas/>. Check out the Club's 'Hydro-fracking' Team on Facebook. Join us in DC on July 28th. Check with the NJ Chapter's office for more information and to be more active in the anti-fracking campaign. And feel free to contact me.

Endangered Species

(Continued from page 4)

Jersey when breeding. The areas these birds forage and utilize during migration will not be protected.

The new rules also weaken protections for bald eagles, downgrading their protections from endangered to threat-

Check out the new interactive calendar on our web site!

There's a new way on our web site to find out about Sierra Club outings and meetings! Click on "Find an Event" (near the top of the page) for a list of events around NJ. The "Calendar View" tab gives a monthly display. "Map View" shows where the events are. "List View" shows a list with brief titles. Click on a title for more information. If you click on "Change Location" and enter your address, the List View will tell you how far away each event is, and you can click on "Directions" to get there. You'll be able sign up for some events using the web site.



Group News

FROM
AROUND
THE
STATE

HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR GROUP (BY COUNTY)

Skylands Group: Sussex & northern Warren
South Highlands Group: Hunterdon and southern Warren
North Jersey Group: Passaic & most of Bergen
Hudson-Meadowlands Group: Hudson & SE Bergen
Gateway Group (formerly Essex County Group): Essex, approximately
Loantaka Group: Morris & Union
Central Jersey Group: Mercer
Raritan Valley Group: Somerset & Middlesex
Jersey Shore Group: Monmouth
Ocean County Group: Ocean
West Jersey Group: Gloucester, Camden & Burlington
South Jersey Group: Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland & Salem

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

(Groups are listed roughly from North to South)

Skylands Group (formerly Northwest Jersey Group) (Sussex and northern Warren Counties)

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

OFFICERS: The Chapter is rebuilding the Skylands Group looking for dedicated individuals to address a number of important environmental issues in the area.

ACTIVITIES: Presently working with other grassroots organizations to support efforts to protect the pristine environment and natural beauty of this area. We are working to preserve open space and maintain water quality, to preserve the views and natural resources of the Appalachian Trail and the Delaware Water Gap by opposing efforts to replace existing 80' tall power lines with 195' monster towers, and to upgrade the Delaware Water Gap National Recreational Area into a National Park and Preserve.

For questions about this Group and how to get involved please contact Nicole Dallara, Chapter Outreach Coordinator at Nicole.Dallara@SierraClub.org.

GENERAL MEETINGS: will be held on the SECOND TUESDAY of the month from 7:00 - 8:30 pm at the Unitarian Church of Sussex County, Library One West Nelson Street, Newton, 973-579-7210.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Members are cordially invited to a potluck picnic this summer:

The picnic will be held on **Sunday, July 22, from 12 Noon to 3PM** at Sparta Glen Park, 1 County Road 620, Sparta, NJ. Please call or email Nicole Dallara, Chapter Outreach Coordinator, for information and directions; 609-656-7612, Nicole.Dallara@SierraClub.org.

DIRECTIONS to the Unitarian Church of Sussex County, One West Nelson Street, Newton, 07860 Phone: 973-579-7210

From I-80: take Rte 206 North into Newton. Before you reach downtown, the Sovereign bank appears on your right. Take a left turn right at the Sovereign Bank onto West Nelson Street. The UU Fellowship Hall is almost immediately on your left.

From Rte 23: Take Rte 94 South (in Hamburg) all the way to the courthouse square in Newton. At the square, follow the signs for Rte 206 South (Main St.). Look for the PNC and Sovereign banks on your left. Take a right turn at that intersection onto West Nelson Street. The UU Fellowship Hall is almost immediately on your left.

From Rte 94 North (from Blairstown): Go to the center of Newton (courthouse square). At the square, follow the signs for Rte 206 South (Main St.). Look for the PNC and Sovereign banks on your left. Take a right turn at that intersection onto West Nelson Street. The UU Fellowship Hall is almost immediately on your left.

South Highlands Group (formerly Hunterdon County Group) (Hunterdon and southern Warren Counties and surrounding areas)

OFFICERS:

Chair:	Jonathan Wall	psychologist@jonwall.com
Vice-Chair:	Cinny MacGonagle	cmacgonagle@yahoo.com
Conservation Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Secretary & Webmaster:	Dwight Irving	dwright@dilirving.com
Treasurer:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Political Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Publicity Chair:	Celeste Martin	onecentral@mac.com
Membership Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Energy Coordinator:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Outings Coordinator:	<i>Open Position!</i>	

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

See us and keep up to date with our Group on Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/group.php?gid=53817136187>

Now you have three ways to stay updated on our group and events/activities going on! Go to our Facebook page, visit our Sierra Club Official Website, or get on our email distribution list. Please contact shighlandssierra@gmail.com for more information!

Currently we have a variety of fun outings and events planned for our members. The list is constantly being updated. On the initiatives front, we are tackling a variety of important issues, but focusing on three major topics: conservation issues, such as preserving open space (a priority in our local area), protecting our environment, and clean energy / energy conservation. GET INVOLVED!

MEETINGS, OUTINGS, and EVENTS:

Make sure to check our Sierra Club Group site or Facebook page for the latest and greatest on Meetings, Outings, and Events for members and non-members! On both sites you will find the up-to-date schedule as dates and location are subject to change. For more even more information please direct specific questions or inquiries to us at shighlandssierra@gmail.com.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS first Wednesdays:

Our next Excom/Planning meeting will be on Wednesday, June 13 (the 2nd Wednesday of June). It will be held at the office of Jonathan D. Wall, PsyD at 27 Center Street, Clinton, NJ. For those interested, we plan a stroll along the riverside afterwards to enjoy the burst of fireflies at twilight before enjoying heading a block away to Main Street for some Tea and Coffee.

Contact officers or refer to the website for details, please.

GENERAL MEETINGS: 7:30 pm on FIRST or THIRD WEDNESDAYS: For the most up-to-date plans for meetings and outings, checkout our Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/group.php?gid=53817136187>)

Fractured Hopes: Terry Stimpfel, an environmental activist, will present at the next South Highland's General meeting at the Hunterdon Medical Center's Auditorium in Flemington, NJ on the 19th of Sept, 2012. She will talk on the promises and the scientifically based perils of fracking, a method of extracting gas from shale deposits that may provide ample energy supplies but may poison our ground water.

Bag It: A talk and movie on the need to recycle will be presented at Hunterdon Medical Center's Auditorium on the 17th of October. Bag It has been garnering awards at film festivals across the nation. What started as a documentary about plastic bags evolved into a wholesale investigation into plastics and their effect on our waterways, oceans, and even our bodies.

CURRENT ISSUES:

Portland power plant: <http://connect.sierraclub.org:80/ActivistNetwork/home>

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company: Proposal to install a pipeline across the South Highlands.

Delaware Gap National Park & Preserve:

Supporting efforts to enhance park protections and enhance funding via upgrading the Delaware Gap National Recreation Area status by formalizing it as a National Park and Preserve. Our effort aims to work with local and state governments, outdoor enthusiasts, environmental, hunting & game groups... together with you... to conserve and enhance our local environment and protect it from the pressures of suburban sprawl, power lines, gas pipes and mineral and gas extraction.

North Jersey Group

(Passaic County and most of Bergen County)

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

OFFICERS:

Chair:	John Kashwick*	jkashwick@optonline.net
Vice Chair:	Mary Ellen Shaw*	meshaw.001@gmail.com
	Mary Ellen Shaw*	meshaw.001@gmail.com
Conservation Co-Chair:	Tom Thompson*	etrans743@aol.com
Political Chair:	Greg Tondi*	gret75@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Tom Thompson*	etrans743@aol.com
Secretary:	Jennifer Rothschild *	jenniroth2@gmail.com
Air Quality Issues:	Laura Coll*	lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com
Events Chair:	Mary Walsh	blehlwalsh@earthlink.net
Membership Chair:	Buddy Jenssen *	buddy.jenssen@gmail.com
Outings Chair:	Ellen Blumenkrantz	eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com
Programs Chair:	Jessica Epstein	jepstein101@gmail.com
Publicity Chair:	Marty Cohen	martincohen@verizon.net
Sustainable Energy:	Ed Schwartz	ed@greenlivingsolutions.com
Trail Maintenance:	Marty Cohen	martincohen@verizon.net
Webmaster:	John Kashwick *	jkashwick@optonline.net
Wildlife Issues:	Mary Ellen Shaw *	meshaw.001@gmail.com
Ex-Com Member-at-Large:	Nancy Wysocki *	nape2@aol.com

(* Group Executive Committee Member)

GENERAL MEETINGS:

(Most general meetings are free and all are open to general public. For more information, please contact John at jkashwick@optonline.net or check out our Facebook page.)

Bag It: The Movie—Tuesday, June 26 at 7:30pm at the Closter Public Library, 280 High Street in Closter. In conjunction with the Closter Green Team, we present "Bag It," a film has been garnering awards at film festivals across the nation. Try going a day without plastic. In this touching and often flat-out-funny film, we follow "everyman" Jeb Berrier as he embarks on a global tour to unravel the complexities of our plastic world. What starts as a film about plastic bags evolves into a wholesale investigation into plastic's effects on our oceans, environment, and bodies. We see how our crazy-for-plastic world has finally caught up to us...and what we can do about it. There will also be discussion of Green Teams and what you can do locally to keep plastics out of the environment.

Beyond Coal—Wednesday, July 18 at 7:30 PM at the Louis Bay 2nd Public Library, 345 Lafayette Avenue in Hawthorne. Christine Guhl, field organizer for the Sierra Club's "Beyond Coal" campaign, will present the 40-minute documentary Coal Country spotlighting Appalachian coal mining through the eyes of miners and activists, public officials and coal company executives. The documentary visits people most directly affected by the pollution from mountaintop and strip mining, from miners concerned about jobs and coal company officials concerned the economy. The documentary also examines the real costs of "cheap energy" and "clean coal" and alternatives for future energy.

Christine also will give a 30-minute presentation about coal's past and future in New Jersey, including the existing Hudson generating station and the proposed PurGen plant in Linden.

Greenbrook Sanctuary Guided Tour—Saturday, August 25 at 1:00 PM at Greenbrook Sanctuary, Route 9W in Alpine. We're taking our meeting outdoors in August! Greenbrook Sanctuary is 165 acres of woodland on top of New Jersey's magnificent Palisades. 4.7 miles north of the George Washington Bridge, the sanctuary is an oasis of solitude and natural beauty, minutes away from one of the noisiest, most densely populated areas in the world. In the wildest, most secluded acres, trees rise 100 to 130 feet and are often over 200 years old. Awed hikers feel hundreds of miles and years away from the cities in such primeval forests. Join naturalist Sandra Bonardi as she gives a guided tour of the sanctuary and talks about some of the special flora and fauna. A \$2 per person donation is requested to cover costs.

Fracking—Thursday, September 27 at 7:30 PM at the Paramus Public Library, E116 Century Road, Paramus. Terry Stimpfel, NJ Sierra Club Fracking Issues Coordinator who will lead a discussion on fracking. She'll explain what fracking is and why it is so controversial. Is fracking the answer to America's desire for clean energy or a major source of water pollution and cause of earthquakes? Come and find out why fracking is so relevant to NJ and our drinking water supply.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING--Wednesday, August 1 at 7:30 pm (Location TBD). The meeting is casual and informative. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend to learn more about the Club, discuss issues, and plan future events. For location or more information, please contact John at jkashwick@optonline.net or Mary Ellen at meshaw.001@gmail.com.

CONSERVATION ISSUES:

Become more involved in the North Jersey group and tell us more about what you are working on. Some issues that we have worked on in the past and continue to work on include keeping the Hackensack and Ramapo pristine and protecting our drinking water, as well as protecting the New Jersey Highlands from electric power lines and gas pipe lines that will impact the view-shed, damage forests and wildlife, and pollute Highlands water. We also support the concept of a National Park and Preserve in the Delaware Water Gap region. We are also following a Bergen County Freeholder's attempt to raid the Open Space Trust Fund process. For more information about these issues, or to become involved, please contact Tom at etrans743@aol.com or Mary Ellen at meshaw.001@gmail.com.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE:

Marty Cohen and Buddy Jenssen have been doing an excellent job maintain our section of the Appalachian Trail. Mainly they blocked off several herd paths that had developed at the base of the mountain, and painted and refreshed a number of trail blazes in the attempt to get people back on the correct trail. Based on their observation of about 5 different clusters of hikers, their efforts seem to be doing the trick. They also clipped a good number of bushes on the approach to the mountain, picked up some litter (mostly water bottles and cigarette butts). No grass cutting was required as the heavily used approach section was a nice "thin, brown path". The 200-foot eroded section on the approach trail is starting to fill in, and is certainly no significant impediment to the hikers (Marty managed to negotiate it carrying an open can of paint without spilling a drop! Help is needed in maintaining the trails—please contact Marty at martincohen@verizon.net, if you are interested in getting involved with trail maintenance.

OUTINGS:

If you have an idea for an outing you would like to lead, please contact Ellen at ebumenkrantz@hotmail.com to find out how.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

The group is always looking for new volunteers. To find out how you can help with outings, meetings, conservation issues, trails, environmental justice, or in other ways, please contact John at jkashwick@optonline.net or Mary Ellen at meshaw.001@gmail.com or speak with us at one of our meetings.

CONNECT WITH US:

- Check out our Web page at <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/North/>.
- Sign up for North Jersey Group e-mail notices by e-mailing John at jkashwick@optonline.net.
- Join our team on the Sierra Club Activist Network at http://connect.sierraclub.org/Team/North_Jersey_Group.
- You can also check our Facebook page for updates by searching "Sierra Club North Jersey Group"—don't forget to Like us! .

Hudson-Meadowlands Group

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

OFFICERS:

Chair:	Judith Courtney	201-868-6575	jaocourtney@netzero.net
Vice-Chair:	Janet Glass	201-868-4216	iguanaj@aol.com
Secretary:	Ruth Olsen	201-868-6575	oof46@msn.com
Treasurer:	Judith Courtney	201-868-6575	jaocourtney@netzero.net
Conservation Chairs:	Mirjana Zivkovic	201-758-8390	tenisko@hotmail.com
	Louise Taylor	201-562-8390	LTAYLOR2@comcast.net
Political Chair:	Judith Courtney	201-868-6575	jaocourtney@netzero.net
Cool Cities Chair:	Helen Manogue	201-963-3511	helenmanogue@verizon.net
Events Chair:	Janet Glass	201-868-4216	iguanaj@aol.com
ExCom At-large:	Gil Hawkins	201-944-5799	gilc3d2@aol.com
	Jodi Jamieson	917-804-8390	jodijami@mac.com
	Steve Lanset	201-424-6348	slanset@hotmail.com

ExCom Meetings: The Hudson-Meadowlands Group will be holding its Executive Committee meetings at 7pm on the following remaining Thursdays in 2012: June 28, Sept 13, and Nov 15. These meetings are open to all Sierra Club members. Please contact the Secretary, Ruth, or the Chair, Judith, for more information. They will also know of any upcoming general meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CONSERVATION ISSUES: Our group is committed to protecting open space in our urban area. We are currently focused on major conservation campaigns and issues, primarily along the Palisades south of the GW Bridge. We attempt to block development

efforts that would impact negatively on the Palisades, free and open access to the Hudson River Walkway, and the quality of life of those who live nearby. We monitor other developments in our territory that violate the environmental needs of our residents and our land.

RIVERFRONT ISSUES:

1) We're promoting a **riverfront park** on the last 6 acres of Hudson Riverfront in North Bergen and opposing a 250+ unit development, Riverview, currently in planning for this last lot. The North Bergen Planning Board (NBPB) continues its hearings on the Riverview application to construct three high-rise towers and a multilevel garage at River Road and Bulls Ferry Road. Members of our Group have been tracking this application for years, attending hearings on a regular basis. Despite the Dept. of Environmental Protection's (DEP) revoking Riverview's permit, the NBPB continues local hearings.

2) We're promoting safety over greed by **opposing the Appleview development** on River Road that abuts a major high pressure gas line. We created a SC State Chapter Resolution against this development and are reading it into all records. The Appleview development was approved overwhelmingly by both the NBPB and the Hudson County Planning Board (HCPB). HOWEVER, a Superior Court judge, in a summary judgment, just tossed the application back to the NBPB, saying that they hadn't properly addressed the safety issues regarding the pipeline!!! Additionally, for our protection, the judge has stated that she wants to review the results of the new hearings to determine if the safety issues have been properly addressed.

3) The Churchill Group is trying to get approval at the NBPB to build a **new 24-unit rental building 7 stories high on the face of the Palisades.**

4) Churchill Estates (Paul Silverman) has already installed netting on the Palisades to catch boulders that have been dislodged by previous construction. Now it wants to construct a **new 80 unit high rise** in addition to what is already there on the face of the Palisades.

5) A new development group is requesting approval to build at the base of the Palisades famous Suicide Bridge in three stages: a two story, 51,840 ft. retail space with a three story garage behind that and a seven story 210-unit hotel on top of that. It has been tabled for the moment, perhaps because of all the other pending issues on River Road.

Please note: all of these hearings take place at 4233 Kennedy Boulevard in North Bergen. Call 201-392-2024 or call our Secretaries, Ruth and Judith, to confirm upcoming meetings. Free parking is available. These developments will add significant traffic to the already highly congested River Road as well as blocking what views are left of the Palisades below the GWB.

OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

1) We're **protesting the approvals given by the NJ DEP to the Bayonne Golf Club.** The owners protested fines levied five years ago for numerous severe violations of the Waterfront Development Permit Act and other waterfront rules and regulations. The recent DEP approvals not only give the Golf Club everything it originally wanted but in addition is also allowing the closing of at least half of the Waterfront Walkway from use by the general public. Just to add insult to injury, it also permits the closing of the entire Walkway from dusk to dawn. We are consulting with the Hudson River Waterfront Conservancy to seek a reversal of these approvals.

2) Our Group and the State Chapter are **opposed to the Spectra High Pressure Gas line** proposal in Jersey City. It is currently going through the various stages of evaluation and approval.

3) We are opposing a proposed high-rise development on Boulevard East in West New York. This location was previously a gas station so there are safety issues regarding any digging here; additionally it is oversized for the location, will be an eyesore within this low-rise community, and will add considerably to the congestion on Boulevard East. Meetings are taking place in the Municipal Building on 60th Street in West New York. Call us for more meeting information.

There's still some natural beauty in our urban areas especially on the Palisades and along the Waterfront. Developers are circling to construct hotels, commercial buildings and residential projects that will block any view of these majestic cliffs and block citizen access to the Walkway. We need your help. Get involved in the fight to save some of this last open space in Hudson County. To find out how you can take some action call Judith or Janet.

Gateway Group (formerly Essex County Group)

(Essex County except for Livingston, Millburn and Roseland; plus Elizabeth and Hillside)

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

The Gateway Group serves Newark, Elizabeth, Hillside, and most of Essex County

The Gateway Group is the reincarnation of the former Essex Group with the addition of Elizabeth and Hillside. The Group resumed function in 2011.

Officers:			
Chair:	David Yennior	973-844-1384	dyennior@msn.com
Vice-Chair:	<i>Open position!</i>		
Secretary:	<i>Open position!</i>		
Treasurer:	Anne Hirs	973-844-1121	annehirs@msn.com
Program Chair:	John Beadle	973-284-1594	jbeadle571@verizon.net
Conservation Co-Chairs:	ZaSah Khademi	201-618-8572	zasah@aol.com
	David Korfhage	973-932-0742	drkorfhage@gmail.com
Political Chair:	Darius Tullis	908-838-9732	dkatullis@gmail.com
Membership Chair:	Steven Yafet	908-354-2537	syafet@gmail.com
Newark Issues Chair:	Bill Chappel	973-623-6490	bchappel1@verizon.net
Water Issues Chair:	Bill Chappel	973-623-6490	bchappel1@verizon.net
Recycling Issues Chair:	Lyle Landon	201-247-0288	lylelandon@aol.com
Passaic River Issues Chair:	Brenda Toyloy	973-856-7056	brendatoyloy@yahoo.com
Elizabeth Issues Chair:	Paula Borenstein	908-289-3584	brdandmkt@aol.com
Outings Chair:	<i>Open position!</i>		
Group ExCom:	David Yennior, John Beadle, and ZaSah Khademi		

(Continued on page 8)

Members living near Trenton are invited to volunteer time to help run our state office: Call Nicole Dallara.

GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 7)

In the upcoming months Gateway is planning several interesting evenings. Invitations will be sent out to the entire Gateway Group when the dates and speakers are known. Please contact John Beadle, Gateway's Program Chair, if you have any special requests for a program.

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. 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@msn.com or 973-844-1384.

See the website for information on meetings. Most Groups don't hold meetings in July and August.

Loantaka Group

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

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

OFFICERS:

Group Co-Chairs:	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	ericbiomass@gmail.com
and	Paul Sanderson	908-233-2414	paulmsanderson@aol.com
Treasurer:	Paul Sanderson	908-233-2414	paulmsanderson@aol.com
Secretary:	Scott McCarthy		hi_risescott@earthlink.net
Conservation Chair:			
Morris County:	Bill Martin	908-604-2505	WP1.Martin@gmail.com
Union County:	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	ericbiomass@gmail.com
Political Chair:	Meiling Chin		chinmeiling@yahoo.com
Programs:	Open Position!		
Fundraising Chair:	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	ericbiomass@gmail.com
Outreach & Events Chair:	Open Position!		
Publicity Chair:	Wynn Johanson	908-464-0442	johansons@comcast.net
Membership:	Bill Martin	908-604-2505	WP_Martin@yahoo.com
Air Quality Coordinator:	Bob Campbell	973-761-4461	bobc2023_sc@verizon.net
Webmaster:	Paul Sanderson		paulmsanderson@aol.com
Greenbrook:	Bob Muska	908-665-2296	rmuska@erols.com

If you might be interested in getting involved, come to one of our Executive Committee Meetings on the first Tuesday of the month and get to know us. 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://newjersey.sierraclub.org/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: Directions are posted on our website: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/>.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

July, August: No meetings

September 12: To be announced - please go to the Loantaka website for information.

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

The Loantaka Group is working with concerned citizens and local environmental organizations to protect open space and wildlife habitat in Morris and Union Counties, and to safeguard the water resources on which we all depend. We are also organizing volunteers to help maintain and improve trails in the Morris and Union County Park Systems. In addition, the Group is actively involved in State-wide initiatives involving air quality, transportation, and environmental legislation. Volunteers are always welcome. Call Paul (908-233-2414) or Eric (732-669-0719).

Central Jersey Group

(Mercer County and neighboring towns in adjoining counties)

See our NEW Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CentralGroupNJSC> for timely notices.

Our website is in need of a new master. Volunteer??

PLEASE join the Central Group distribution list to receive timely information in infrequent emails. Email terystimb@hotmail.com to subscribe.

OFFICERS:

Chair:	Terry Stimpfel	609-731-7016	terystimb@hotmail.com
Co-Chair:	Open position!		
Conserv'n Chr:	Open position!		
Memb' Chair:	Open position!		

Outings Chair:	Leona Fluck	609-259-3734	leona@pineypaddlers.com
Political Chair:	Terry Stimpfel		
Publicity Chair:	Joanne Pannone	609-443-6992	jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com
Program Chair:	Lynne Weiss	732-821-9688	lshari05@gmail.com
ExCom At-large:	Malcolm McFarland	609-448-8699	jmmcfarland81@gmail.com
	Kip Cherry	609-924-4232	kcherry10@gmail.com
	Rob Benjamin	609 587-9069	robert.benjamin@greenwords.net
Outreach:	Open position!		
Secretary:	Open position!		
Webmaster:	Open position!		

The Central Group is working on local environmental issues to preserve open space, promote effective planning, and protect wetlands and trails. Currently we are working to stop the Meadowbrook Road warehouse/flex space and the Washington Blvd open space development in Robbinsville, to save the former Valley Road School in Princeton, and to ban hydro-fracking. We are supporters of the D&R Canal Commission, the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area, Princeton Ridge Preserve, and invasive species eradication in the Hamilton Trenton Bordentown Marsh. Central Group supports the Princeton Battlefield preservation and opposes the Susquehanna-Roseland electric transmission lines and natural gas pipelines through New Jersey.

We need you NOW! Please contact Terry to be involved. As we rethink the Central Group's focus and enhance our activities, you can contribute ideas and help bring us up to date. Additionally, Central has a critical need for active volunteers to help with membership and websites.

EVENTS will be announced during the quarter. Please subscribe to our email list.

Please participate in our service opportunities! Check the Sierra outings website and our email list for details and please plan to participate.

CENTRAL OUTINGS: See the NJ Sierra Outings webpage for information.

Raritan Valley Group

(Middlesex and Somerset Counties and surrounding areas)

OFFICERS:

Group Chair:	Roomi Nusrat	908-429-9017	sierra_nj_rartian@att.net
Group Vice Chair:	Don McBride	732 560-0369	dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org
Conservation Advisor:	Jane Tousman	908-561-5504	jdtous@aol.com
Outings Coordinator:	Denise McClellan		mcclellan09@comcast.net
Webmaster:	Don McBride	732 560-0369	dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org
Treasurer:	Open position!		
Recycling Coordinator:	Open position!		
Conservation Chair:	Open position!		
Secretary:	Open position!		
Political Chair:	Daphne Speck-Barynski	732-390-5311	speckbartyn@comcast.net
Membership:	Open position!		

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

Our monthly meetings are usually on a weekday evening of the third week of every month and well as any other special events.

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/>

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.**
Key issue: Diversion of Dismal Swamp Conservation Area in Middlesex County for development.

The Raritan Valley Group sent State Senator Bateman (R, 16th LD) a letter thanking him for supporting RGGI. He's been under attack by the Koch Bros.' American's for Prosperity, which sent a glossy brochure to all his constituents asking them to call him.

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.

Jersey Shore Group

(Monmouth County, approximately)

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

OFFICERS:

Group Chair:	Dennis Anderson	732-970-4327	dennisaza@aol.com
	6 Maple Ave, Matawan NJ 07747		
Vice-Chair:	Open Position!		
Secretary:	Joe DeLuca	732-389-1835	joe-deluca@att.net
Conservation Chair:	Faith Teitelbaum	732-229-0553	faithtei@aol.com
Webmaster:	Lud Lanko	732-462-2199	lud@pobox.com
Treasurer:	Pat Fuschetto	732-308-4588	fusche40@yahoo.com
Political Chair:	Shahnaz Shahidain	732-666-4285	shahidain@gmail.com
Outings Chair:	Mike Verange	908-902-0718	mjverange@aol.com
Membership Co-Chair:	Bob Grize	732-892-0684	nyucwnyppb@aol.com

Program Chair: George Moffatt 732-544-1726 gmoffattgt@aol.com
Fund-raising
Co-Chairs: Lois Blake 732-863-5917 lqblake@optonline.net
 and Joellen Lundy 732-741-4756 jfutey@comcast.net

Shore Group Happenings:

We have had several cleanups with a coalition with Monmouth University, all the towns on the Whale Pond Brook watershed, and the N.J. Friends of Clearwater. Our 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. We have held several hikes along part of the watershed and have shown the documentary film, A Chemical Reaction, which chronicles the harmful effects of common lawn and garden pesticides and one town's fight to ban them.

Please join us to help explore, enjoy and protect this beautiful watershed. Contact: Faith Teitelbaum: faithtei@aol.com.

Help Needed for Cleanups: If you would like to participate in cleanups of our local waterways, please contact Laura Bagwell at l.bagwell3@verizon.net. In this vital effort, our Group joins forces with the Navesink Swimming River Group which, since 2002, has removed more than 20 tons of debris from our local banks and streams.

GENERAL MEETINGS: The general meeting of the Jersey Shore Group will continue at the NEW TIME and LOCATION: 6pm at Brookdale Community College. We're meeting at Brookdale in hopes of sharing our speakers with both the N.J Friends of Clearwater, environmentally concerned BCC college students, and other local organizations. A buffet will be available for the students and adults at 6pm Contributions from non-students are encouraged to defray the costs. The general meeting starts at 6:30 pm.

To get to Brookdale, take GSP Exit 109 to Rte 520 West (Newman Springs Road, which becomes E. Main Street at the Lincroft campus). Take the traffic circle into the campus and follow the signs to the Warner Student Life Center (SLC), where the meeting will be in the Twin Lights 1 Room. Use parking lot 7. As you walk towards the building complex, Warner will be 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.

July 15 (Sun) – Noon to 3pm: Annual summer pot-luck picnic will be held at Turkey Swamp Park, 200 Georgia Tavern Road, Freehold. Meet in the picnic area behind the main building. No speakers, thank goodness, just a lot of good conversation. Bob Grise is also threatening to offer another flora and fauna hike, less to expand our ecological awareness than to work off all the food. Check with Joellen Lundy on what to bring and for other details. From Rte 9, take Rte 524 west to Georgia Road (Rte 53), turn left (south) on Georgia and follow the signs to the park. From I-95, at Exit 22, then Jackson Mills Road north to Georgia Road, turn left (west) on Georgia and follow the signs.

July 16 or 30 (Mon; date not set yet) – Rep. Rush Holt has agreed to be a special guest speaker to discuss what he sees as the major hurdles facing the environmental community due to the fragmentation of the political community in Washington. His presentation would complement Rep. Frank Pallone's presentation in April and Jeff Tittel's presentation on the problems in Trenton that he made in January. Rep. Holt has a 100 percent environmental voting record of which he is rightly proud of, and having him share his insights on upcoming environmental challenges would be of great value to our cooperating organizations as we face the never-ending battles to save our environment, as well as our health and well-being. The final date will be included in the group's e-newsletter.

August: No meeting this month. Relax and enjoy!

Sept 24 (Mon) – Pete Bacinski, a staff director of the N.J. Audubon Society, will explain the results of a **state-of-the-birds study** he conducted on the health and habitat of birds that live along the Raritan Bay estuary. The Society, founded in 1897, promotes environmental awareness and a conservation ethic among New Jersey's citizens; protects New Jersey's birds, animals, and plants, especially endangered and threatened species; promotes preserving New Jersey's valuable natural habitats, and manages 12 bird sanctuaries. Pete's work evaluates the effects of pollution, habitat destruction, and other detrimental factors on the Bay, whose ecology is important for both resident and migratory birds.

Ocean County Group

WEBSITE: www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean

OFFICERS:

Chair: A. Gregory Auriemma, Esq. 732-451-9220 sierraclubOC@aol.com
Vice-Chr, Outings: Dawn Marie Johns 732-644-6340 sierraclubOC@hotmail.com
Conserv'n Chair: Margit Meissner-Jackson 609-296-4367 sylviaJ1910@yahoo.com
Secretary: Jill Palmer 732-928-0988 palmer2x2@aol.com
Treasurer: Gregory Auriemma 732-451-9220 sierraclubOC@aol.com
Political Chair: Nancy Brown 732-892-6089 nancybrown624@comcast.net
Publicity Chair: *Open Position*
Fund-Raising: Joyce M. Isaza 732-920-9270 realtymstr@aol.com
Env'l Consultant: Helen Henderson 908-278-9807 hhlaceyrailtrail@msn.com
Env'l Educ'n Coord: Terrance Brown 848-333-7331 terrybrown@comcast.net
Group ExCom Member: 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: www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean.

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 Jan-March will be posted on the website: www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean.

West Jersey Group

(Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

WEBSITE: <http://mysite.verizon.net/vzev1ujt/>

OFFICERS:

Group Chair: Gina Carola 856-848-8831 ginacee@verizon.net
Vice-Chair: Frank Zinni efzin4@aol.com
Secretary: Ellen Zinni efzin4@aol.com
Treasurer: Trish Clements patri321@comcast.net
Publicity Chair: Bud Kaliss 856-428-8071 budkaliss@verizon.net
Political Chair: Nancy Rone NancyRone@comcast.net
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.

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 12: Meishka Mitchell, Vice President of Neighborhood Initiatives at Coopers Ferry Development Association will present "Waterfront Transformation and Sustainability Initiatives in the City of Camden".

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

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: Douglas Jewell 609-780-7129 jewellrea@comcast.net
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 julie_akers@hughes.net

The Cape May County Conservation Committee hosts bi-monthly educational presentations at The Free Meal Center, 1206 Route 9 South, Cape May Court House NJ 08210. Our get-togethers are 7-8:30pm, each with a guest speaker covering an environmental topic ranging from wind power and solar power to aquifers and habitat. The Chair is Douglas Jewell, 5 Timber Lane, Swainton 08210-1462 (e-mail jewellrea@comcast.net, cell phone 609-780-7129), or call Vilma Pombo at 609-465-3565. Look for our meeting notices in the CMC Herald.

The central conservation issue, for which the South Jersey Group was founded in the 1970s, continues to be protection of the Great Egg Harbor Wild & Scenic River, and continues to consume the energies of those few officers who remain active both within the Sierra Club and in the Watershed Association (GEHWA) that "spun off" from the South Jersey Group. Very few of our local members seem interested in the meetings we 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.

Current Issues: In addition to our opposition to the extension of Rte 55 into Cape May County (see article in the previous issue of this Newsletter), two Cape May County campaigns to prevent the use of tropical rainforest wood for rebuilding oceanfront boardwalks, in Ocean City and Wildwood, are being led by Georgina Shanley [shanleyg2001@yahoo.com]. Club officers and staff have been following closely the several studies seeking to determine sustainable water supply levels for southeastern New Jersey, with the hope that findings will be used by planners (such as those employed by the Pinelands Commission) who authorize development. Other hot issues include damage done to sand trails by ATVs, a campaign to promote Community Solar (photovolta-

(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)

ic) installations (especially in each municipality in Atlantic County), and support for a New Jersey Bottle Bill, known as the Smart Container Act (A930/S1467).

Some Possibly Relevant Meetings of Allied Organizations:

July 11 and Sept 12 (Wednesdays), 6:30 pm: Bi-monthly meeting of **Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries:** 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@cumaucriver.org. Website: www.cumaucriver.org.

July 19, Aug 16 & Sept 20 (Thursdays), 7pm: **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, Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor, Milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50, 3½ miles south of Mays Landing (WFNC*). Contact Julie Akers, 609-432-3280.

July 24 (Tuesday), 5:30 pm: **Great Egg Harbor River Watershed Association:** Annual Picnic in the Park - for good food, company and storytelling. Weymouth Furnace Park. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

Aug 15 (Wednesday), 7pm: **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, 856-697-6114.

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 give in to it!

WEBSITE: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/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 as some events are advertised only by email. If you prefer not to receive email, you may view an archive of all prior messages at <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-SINGLES-NEWS.html>

OFFICERS:

Chair:	Joe Testa	testa-j@live.com
Outings Chair:	Joyce Haddad	jkhaddad@juno.com
Conservation Chair:	Joe Testa	testa-j@live.com
Treasurer:	Joyce White	joycewhite@netzero.net
Webpage designer:	Tom Miller	millertom@juno.com
Social Chair:	Joe Prebish	Joe.Prebish@kraft.com
Vice Social Chair:	Jeff Sovelove	Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com
Programs:	<i>Position Open.</i> Contact us! We need you!	
Publicity:	Terry Kulmane	terrykayhiker@yahoo.com
Membership:	<i>Position Open.</i> Contact us! We need you!	
Nominations:	Nancy Sullivan	nancysullivan@comcast.net

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 GATHERINGS:

SOCIAL DINNER: FIRST WEDNESDAY of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner at a restaurant in the Morristown area. Location will be announced 2 weeks before each social. RSVP required; join our listserv for further details.

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 to jkhaddad@juno.com or 973-364-7573 option # 4.

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. Please join the listserv to receive notification of all of our outings (see above for instructions on how to subscribe).

Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section

(A chapter-wide special interest section which offers a monthly calendar of activities and events, including hikes, clean ups, social gatherings, dinner get-togethers and other functions intended for those members over fifty)

In addition, a monthly Buy & Sell newsletter is sent out to members in which they can list items they are searching for or want to buy, at no charge.

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. and invites members to check her web site at www.funtravels.com for trips and travel information.

Young Sierrans

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

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

YOUNG SIERRAN COMMITTEE POSITIONS

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

We need Young Sierran Outing Leaders for all areas, but extra especially for the Northern and South Jersey areas. We will help you step-by-step through the training process to properly lead hikes and outdoor activities. Reimbursement, insurance and guidance are provided under the Sierra Club's membership. If interested contact Chair or Young Sierran Coordinator at YoungSierrans@yahoo.com.

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

Chair:	Marty Cohen	201-670-8383	martincohen@verizon.net
Treasurer:	Anne Dyjak	732-560-0953	annedyjak@verizon.net

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

ICO is currently negotiating a collaboration with a dominant organization in the field of youth social services in one of NJ's largest cities. Such an alliance would make ICO a major player in servicing youth from one of the most troubled urban areas in NJ, and would require increased dedication by ICO volunteers. Sierra Club members interested in participating in this challenging experience are invited to contact us.

HIGH SCHOOL COORDINATOR POSITION OPEN

Calling all High School Students! The New Jersey Sierra Club is looking for a new High School Coordinator for the upcoming school year. If you are passionate about the environment and looking to make a difference at your school and beyond this is the position for you. Our first ever High School Coordinator Victoria Pan has created amazing campaigns for schools including the Turn Off the Lights Campaign. This is a great opportunity to turn any ideas that you have into a campaign for schools across the state to implement. If this is something that interests you PLEASE email Nicole at nicole.dallara@sierraclub.org to learn more about the position and how YOU can become our next High School Coordinator.

SOLAR CAMPAIGN

(Continued from page 1)

SREC prices were dropping, much of the solar industry was adapting in anticipation of the drop. Many of the small business owners providing residential and commercial installation have begun to change the way they market their products. A variety of financing options and strategies have evolved, which are now differentiating the solar community. The objective has changed from "who can get me the least price to install" to "who can best guarantee my return on investment."

Some installers will guarantee a fixed SREC price. Others offer leasing, free installation or no money down. Federal and State rebate programs have expired, but investment tax credits still apply.

Return on investment in the 10-12% range is often achievable, making solar a good bet for homeowners as well as business owners.

Do not fall victim to the recent media hype over SREC prices crashing, and predictions that our solar industry is failing. It is true that, without legislative support, the industry will suffer and jobs will be lost, there are still good opportunities for homeowners and commercial property owners to invest in solar. The New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club encourages members to contact solar providers and learn how solar can still save you money.

Future articles in this Newsletter, and on the Chapter's web site, will provide updates, including a directory of reliable providers in New Jersey.



Outings

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

Promoting National Sierra Club Service Trips in New Jersey this Year

Building on the success of last year's Cape May Outing, conducted in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy, Two additional clean-up outings are offered in 2012:

Skylands in September, and Barnegat Bay in October.

Here are the URLs to the National Outings Trip brochures for dates and details:

www.sierraclub.org/outings/national/brochure/12330a.aspx (Skylands)
www.sierraclub.org/outings/national/brochure/12340a.aspx (Barnegat)

GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

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

Outing Leaders: Please send October-December 2012 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 3 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 July-Sept 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 Outings Comm.

JULY

Jul 4 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Mullica River (Burlington Co). 9am. Summer is a beautiful time of year on the Mullica to enjoy the fragrance of aquatic White Water-lilies This is an all day trip for experienced Pines paddlers; expect downfalls and portages. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Jul 6 (Fri): Canoe/Kayak the N. Branch Rancocas Creek (Burlington Co). 9am. Paddlers appreciate the work of the Burlington County Parks Dept. for maintaining the 14-mile Canoe Trail from BCCC to Mount Holly. Meet at the Vincentown Diner; arrive early for breakfast. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Jul 8 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River Water Gap (Sussex Co). 10am. The Delaware River is the longest undammed river in the East. The river valley has known human hand and voice for 10,000 years. 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. Trip is open to current Sierra Club members only. Contact leaders for further information. Leona & George F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Jul 10 (Tue): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River/ Rancocas Creek (Burlington Co). 9am. This is a 15-mile tidal trip for experienced paddlers; expect power boat traffic and boat wakes. Kayaks must be 12 ft or over. Trip is open to current Sierra Club members only. Learn about "fracking" and what you can do as a Sierra Club Activist to protect the watershed. Contact leaders for trip information and details. George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Jul 14 (Sat): Pine Meadow Lake/Harriman State Park (Rockland Co, NY). 10am. 8-10-mile moderate paced hike to scenic views, lovely streams and beautiful lakes. Optional swim stop. Heat/weather conditions will determine exact route. Rain cancels. Group limit 12 people. Hikers must preregister. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

Jul 14 (Sat): Sterling Forest Park Hike and Swim (Rockland Co, NY). 10am. <http://nysparks.com/parks/74/details.aspx>. The hike will cover 8 miles in 4 hours in hilly terrain. No beginners, no pets. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water required. Swimsuits are optional. Bring a lunch. Registration required: eMail the Leader: Jimi Oleksiak <the_hikist@mac.com>. 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.

Jul 14 (Sat): Bastille Day - Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River Water Gap (Sussex Co). 10am. Join us for a 10-mile trip from the Bushkill Falls access and through the beautiful Walpack Bend as we continue on to Smithfield Beach. Bring lunch and water. Kayaks and canoes can be rented from Adventure Sports www.adventuresport.com/ Trip is open to current Sierra Club members only. Learn what you can do as a Sierra Club Activist to bring greater protection to the DWGNRA. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. Leona & George F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Jul 15 (Sun): Norvin Green (Passaic Co). 10am. Moderately paced 8-10-mile hike, but somewhat strenuous as the loop includes numerous ascents/descents on rocky outcroppings to lovely views. Heat/weather conditions will determine exact route. Hiking boots required. Each person must bring at least 2 liters of water, lunch and snacks. Rain cancels. Group limit 12 people. Hikers must preregister. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

Jul 16 (Mon): 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 Hawkin Bridge to Beaver Branch. Canoes and kayaks can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Canoe and Kayak Rental 800-281-1380 or www.mickscanoerental.com. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Jul 19 (Thurs): Canoe/Kayak the Great Egg Harbor River (Atlantic Co). 9am. We'll paddle 10 miles on the "Egg" from Penny Pot to Weymouth Furnace. Meet at the Harley Dawn Diner on Rte 322/Black Horse Pike; arrive early for breakfast. Rentals are available from Palace Restaurant and Outfitters 609-625-8552 or www.thepalaceoutfitters.com. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Jul 22 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak Skills Refresher on Lake Oswego (Burlington Co). 9am. New and beginning paddlers are welcome. Knowledgeable paddlers from the Sierra Club will share information about boats, equipment, safety practices, self-rescue, paddling techniques and efficiencies. Then we'll practice on the lake. Boats can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Canoe and Kayak Rental 800-281-1380 or www.mickscanoerental.com/. Contact leaders to confirm participation: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

AUGUST

Aug 4 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak the N. Branch Rancocas Creek (Burlington Co). 9am. Paddlers appreciate the work of the Burlington County Parks Dept. for maintaining the 10-mile Canoe Trail from BCCC to Smithville. The Rancocas Watershed is the largest in south central NJ. Meet at the Vincentown Diner; arrive early for breakfast. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Aug 7 (Tue): Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek (Ocean Co). 9am. Enjoy a long summer paddle in the cool amber waters of Cedar Creek from Dover Forge into Barnegat Bay. Learn what you can do to protect our NJ coast. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation and meeting location: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Aug 9 (Thurs): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River from Bordentown to Bristol (Burlington/Bucks Cos). 9am. This is a 10-mile tidal trip for experienced paddlers - from one historic city to another! Bristol is the oldest town in Bucks County and the 3rd oldest in PA. Expect power boat traffic and boat wakes. Kayaks must be 12 ft or over; spray skirts recommended. Bring lunch and water. Trip is open to current Sierra Club members only. Learn about "fracking" and what you can do as a PA/NJ Sierra Club Activist to protect the Delaware River Watershed. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Aug 11 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Hunterdon Co). 10am. We're paddling 8 miles from Frenchtown to Bulls Island; lunch break at the Hot Dog Man's river "restaurant"; bring or buy lunch. Paddling helmets required for all participants. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Aug 12 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh (Burlington/Mercer Cos). 9:30am. We'll paddle the 8-mile tidal route through the Marsh that was featured in the NJN documentary, "Turning The Tide." Bring lunch and beverage. Meet at Bordentown Beach, end of Park St. Boats can be rented from Beach Canoe and Kayak Rentals <http://www.bckrental.com/> or (609)234-0925. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (C)

Aug 15 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Hunterdon Co). 10am. We'll paddle 15 miles from Kingwood Access to Lambertville. Bring lunch and water. Paddling helmets required for all paddlers. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation and meeting location. George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Aug 23 (Thurs): 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/ Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Aug 25 (Sat): Island Pond Loop, Harriman State Park (Rockland Co, NY). 10am. Moderately paced 9-10-mile hike with a few moderate ascents/descents. Some lovely views, rocky outcroppings, beautiful lake, optional swim stop. Must bring lunch, snacks, lots of water. Heat/trail conditions will determine total length of hike. Rain cancels. Group limit 12 people. Hikers must preregister. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

Aug 25 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River Water Gap (Warren Co). 9am. This is a 14-mile trip from Kittatinny Point to Belvidere. We'll paddle by the soon-to-be-retired Portland Coal Power Plant and learn why NJ DEP and the US EPA decided it must be brought into emission standards or be shut-down! Experienced paddlers; spray skirts required for kayakers; helmets required for all paddlers. Trip is open to current Sierra Club members only. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation; George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Aug 26 (Sun): Bear Mountain Hike (Rockland Co, NY). 10am. Moderate-paced hike with steep climb up Major Welch Trail to top of Bear Mountain (great views) and then down new section of AT, and then an additional 4-6 mile loop through Harriman/Doodletown. Heat/trail conditions will determine total length of hike. Rain cancels. Hiking boots required. Group limit 12 people. Hikers must preregister. Must bring lunch, snacks, lots of water. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

Aug 28 (Tue): Canoe/Kayak the Great Egg Harbor River (Atlantic Co). 9am. Enjoy a 17-mile summer paddle on the "Egg" from Penny Pot to Lake Lenape. Rentals are not available. Meet at the Harley Dawn Diner; arrive early for breakfast. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

(continued on page 12)



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

Chair
* Ken Johanson (908) 464-0442
kjohan@comcast.net
72 Laurel Drive, New Providence NJ 07974-2421

Vice-Chair and Political Chair
* Rich Isaac (973) 716-0297
risaacx@aol.com
47 Fellswood Dr., Livingston NJ 07039-2235

Conservation Chair
* Laura Lynch (609) 882-4642
njsierraclub@gmail.com
11 Lumar Rd., Trenton, NJ 08648-3127

Conservation Vice-Chair
Gina Carola (856) 848-8831
ginaceee@verizon.net
534 Elberne Av, Westville NJ 08093-1715

Political Vice-Chair
Greg Tondi
gregt75@yahoo.com

Secretary
* Joe Testa
Testa-j@live.com

Treasurer
* George Denzer (609) 799-5839
gdenzer73@yahoo.com
127 Dey Road, Cranbury NJ 08512-5418

Vice-Treasurer
Sunil Somalwar
sunil.somalwar@gmail.com
1015 S Park Av, Highland Park NJ 08904-2954

Outings Chair
Ellen Blumenkrantz (201) 784-8417
EllenBlu@specialistsms.com
43 Carlson Court, Closter NJ 07624

Newsletter Editor
Dick Colby (609) 965-4453
dick.colby@stockton.edu
217 Liverpool Av, Egg Harbor City NJ 08215-1319

Webmaster
George Newsome (732) 308-1518
newsome1@pobox.com

Membership Chair
Bill Martin (908) 604-2505
wp1.martin@gmail.com

Council Delegate
* Jane Tousman (908) 561-5504
jdtous@aol.com
14 Butler Rd., Edison NJ 08820-1007
Alternate: Rich Isaac - (see above)

High School Coordinator
(VACANT! See Box on p. 10.)

Speakers' Bureau Organizer
* Don McBride (732) 560-0369
dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org

Atlantic Coast Ecoregion Delegate
Greg Auriemma (732) 451-9220
sierraclubOC@aol.com

Legal Chair
Bill Singer, Esq. (908) 359-7873
wsinger@singerfedun.com

Other ExCom member at large
* Lee Snyder (609) 969-7909
pinelands1@hotmail.com

Group Effectiveness Committee
Rich Isaac**, Greg Auriemma

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

Fundraising Committee
Ken Johanson**, Joan and George Denzer, Sunil Somalwar

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

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

Litigation Oversight Committee
Ken Johanson**, Greg Auriemma

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

Information Technology Committee
Sunil Somalwar**, George Newsome, Bill Martin, Joe Testa, Cynthia Mackowicz

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

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Issue Coordinators

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

Clean Air Issues
Bob Campbell (973) 761-4461
bobc2023_sc@verizon.net

Coal Campaign
Barbara Conover 201-452-9389
Bconifer022@gmail.com

Cool Cities
Faith Teitelbaum (732) 229-0553
faithtei@aol.com

Delaware River Issues
Gina Carola (see left column)

Genetically Modified Organisms Issues
Bill Martin (201) 675-1967
wp_martin@yahoo.com

Global Warming
Sunil Somalwar (see left column)

Green Acres Issues
Bob Moss (973) 743-5203
bobmossnj@verizon.net

Marine Issues
Greg Auriemma (see left column)

Natural Gas and Fracking Issues
Terry Stimpfel (609) 731-7016
terystimb@hotmail.com

Passaic River
David Yennior (973) 844-1384
dyennior@msn.com

Pinelands Issues
Lee Snyder (see left column)

liaison to Pinelands Preservation Alliance:
Mike Gallaway (M.Gallaway@comcast.net)

Population Issues
Bonnie Tillery (609) 259-6438
Blt44blt@msn.com
389 Sawmill Rd, Hamilton NJ 08620.

Recycling Issues
David Yennior (see above)

Sprawl Issues
Jane Tousman (see left column)

Tiger Conservation Issues
Sunil Somalwar (see left column)

Transportation Issues
Steve Lanset (201) 860-9870
slanset@hotmail.com

Trail Issues
Dave Mattek (609) 737-1342
MattekDC@aol.com
4 1/2 Park Av, Pennington NJ 08534-2313

Utah, Wildland Issues
John Kashwick (201) 660-8820
jkashwick@optonline.net

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

Chapter Office 609-656-7612
145 West Hanover Street, Trenton 08618
fax: 609-656-7618

Chapter Director: Jeff Tittel
Jeff.Tittel@SierraClub.org

Outreach Coordinator: Nicole Dallara
Nicole.Dallara@SierraClub.org

Program Assistant: Kate Millsaps
Kate.Millsaps@SierraClub.org

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.

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 14 in the New Brunswick Public Library
Aug 11 at the Chatham Public Library
Sept 8 in the Hamilton (Mercer Co) Public Library

OUTINGS

(Continued from page 11)

SEPTEMBER

Sept 2-7 or Sept 9-14 (Sun-Fri): September in Western Maine! Location: Bald Mountain Camps, Oquosoc, ME. This is an historic sporting camp located on pristine Mooselookmeguntic Lake. Many activity options, excellent food and a comfortable warm environment provide relaxation and fun. Internet access available. Outing includes hiking the AT, guided kayaking or canoeing pristine lakes and rivers with our host and Registered Maine Guide, Steve Philbrick. Log cabins with fireplace, wood, bath, linens, porch, breakfasts and dinners in the lodge dining room, sack lunches for the trail. \$1,236 per person. For more information contact leader: Judy Norcross (609) 288-6737; jsnorcross@aol.com (W)

Sept 3 (Mon): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware Water Gap (Warren Co). 10am. We'll enjoy a 10-mile Labor Day trip from Smithfield Beach through the spectacular Water Gap on our way to Portland, PA. Bring lunch and water. Kayaks and canoes can be rented from Adventure Sports www.adventuresport.com/ Trip is open to current Sierra Club members only. Learn about "fracking" and what you can do as a Sierra Club Activist to protect the Watershed. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Sept 8 (Sat): Norvin Green State Park Hike (Passaic Co). 10am. Website: http://www.state.nj.us/dep/park-sandforests/parks/norvin.html. The hike will cover 7 miles in 4 hours in rugged terrain. The route will feature exceptional views from mountain peaks. No beginners, no pets. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water required. Bring a lunch. Registration required: eMail the Leader: Jimi Oleksiak <the_hikist@mac.com> If you haven't hiked with The Hikeist 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.

Sept 9 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Hunterdon Co). 10am. 8 miles from Frenchtown to Bulls Island. Paddling helmets required for all participants; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Bring lunch and beverage. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Sept 11 (Tues): Canoe/Kayak on the Crosswicks Creek (Mercer Co). 10am. This is a shuttle-less 14-mile trip with the tide from Bordentown to Anchor Thread Park in Groveville, and return to Bordentown after lunch. Kayaks must be 12 ft or over. Meet at Bordentown Beach, end of Park St. Bring lunch and beverage. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (C)

Sept 15 (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. Meet at Double Trouble Park Headquarters. Rental boats are available from Cedar Creek Campgrounds 732-269-1413 or www.cedarcreeknj.com/contact.htm. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Sept 22 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak with your Pooch on the Wading River (Burlington Co). 9am. Today is the Autumnal Equinox! Fortunato invites his "cousins" and dog lovers for a 10 mile trip from Hawkin Bridge to Beaver Branch. Canoes and kayaks can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Canoe and Kayak Rental 800-281-1380, or www.mickscanoerental.com. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Sept 27 (Thurs): Canoe/Kayak the Oswego River (Burlington Co). 10am. 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.mickscanoerental.com/. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Sept 29 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak the Great Egg Harbor River (Atlantic Co). 10am. It's the end of summer and a perfect time to paddle from Penny Pot to Weymouth Furnace. Meet at the Harley Dawn Diner on Rte 322/Black Horse Pike; arrive early for breakfast. Rentals are available from Palace Restaurant and Outfitters 609-625-8552 or www.thepalaceoutfitters.com. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

Sept 30 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the D&R Canal from Bulls Island to Lambertville (Hunterdon/Mercer Cos). 10am. This is the first of 5 trips as we paddle the entire D&R Canal during the fall season. We're paddling 8 miles from Bulls Island State Park to Firemen's Eddy. There are 2 portages, bring portage wheels if you have them. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation and meeting location: George & Leona F 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (C)

Vol. 41, No. 3 • Summer, 2012

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, 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, 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

Prospective advertisers: see instructions: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/njs_sierran/njs_advertise.asp

Primary typeface: Garamond, 9.5 point
Printed by Redmond Press, Denville, NJ
Addressed by SHM Mailhouse, Princeton, NJ
Periodical postage paid at Princeton NJ.

The Jersey Sierran is published quarterly by the Sierra Club's New Jersey Chapter, 145 West Hanover St, Trenton NJ 08618

Copyright 2012
Permission to reprint (with source acknowledgement) is granted to other Sierra Club entities.

MEMBERSHIP COUPON

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club

Mastercard Visa American Express

Exp Date ____/____/____

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

Enclose check and mail to:
Sierra Club,
P.O. Box 421041,
Palm Coast,
FL 32142-1041

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES	
INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
INTRODUCTORY	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39 <input type="checkbox"/> \$49
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150 <input type="checkbox"/> \$175
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$35
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$35
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$35

F94Q W 4000 -1

FOUNDED 1892

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Visit our Website: www.newjersey.sierraclub.org. The "Committees/Initiatives" menu includes a list of legislative bills we've evaluated, and an introduction to our Cool Cities Program.