

April
2007

Piedmont Plateau Group Of the Sierra Club

We welcome your articles, photos, and outings reports. The deadline for contributions is the second Tuesday of each month. Submit contributions to Dixon Cook at dcook4@triad.rr.com.

We reserve the right to reject or edit any copy that is unsuitable for publication or received after the deadline.

To change your address officially, email your address change or correction to: address-changes@sierraclub.org.

Our group **Executive Committee** (Excom) has open positions. If you have an interest in helping to set our local group's priorities, having a voice and a vote on important issues facing our community please contact: **Tom Taylor** at 286-9689 or **Catharine Sutherland** at 707-0082.

<http://nc.sierraclub.org/piedmont>

April Program: Renewable energy for home and business!

Do you want renewable energy for your home or business rather than continuing to use all fossil fuels? Ever wonder about options for doing this that wouldn't cost a lot upfront? In North Carolina, we have a program called NC Green Power. Join us for a representative from this program who will tell us the ins and outs of the program. He will also address concerns that have been raised by many environmental groups about the use of animal waste as an energy source. Please join us Tuesday, **April 10th** and hear Jeff Brooks tell us about this program.

Sierra Club meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm at the Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch Library. Come share refreshments and social time at 7:00.

Something New ! Pre-PPG Meeting Dinners!

In April, we will have a pre-PPG Group Meeting Dinner. On Tuesday, April 10 anyone who wants to join fellow Sierra Club members for dinner can meet and eat at Phoenix Asian Cuisine (located in the New Garden Shopping Center at New Garden Rd. and Bryan Blvd). Please respond by Monday April 9th so Dick Means can make reservations. You can email Dick for more information at dick_mearns@bellsouth.net.

COOL CITIES – Solving Global Warming One City at a Time

All over America, communities are taking action to help solve global warming. From hybrid vehicle fleets in Charlotte, to green buildings in Austin, and homes powered with renewable energy in Seattle, local governments are moving forward with innovative energy solutions that curb global warming, save taxpayer dollars, and create healthier cities. At a time when the federal government is failing to act, these local leaders are moving America toward a safer and more secure future.

So what is a Cool City? These are cities that have made a commitment to stopping global warming by signing the U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement. The Cool Cities campaign helps cities turn their commitments into action by pushing for smart energy solutions. Under the agreement, participating cities commit to take the following three actions:

- Strive to meet or beat the Kyoto Protocol targets in their own communities, through actions ranging from anti-sprawl land-use policies to urban forest restoration projects to public information campaigns;
- Urge their state governments, and the federal government, to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the greenhouse gas emission reduction target suggested for the United States in the Kyoto Protocol -- 7% reduction from 1990 levels by 2012; and
- Urge the U.S. Congress to pass the bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation, which would establish a national emission trading system.

Greensboro's Cool Cities group is working for the adoption of sustainable practices in Greensboro. This involves research, public education, and lobbying. Current projects include an initiative to (Cont. on next page)

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have the City adopt and implement The US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, working with Habitat for Humanity to secure Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs for the next 20 houses they build, and co-sponsoring an energy film festival for the first 3 Wednesday nights in April.

We meet the first and third Mondays of each month, 6:30 to 8:30 pm, at the Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Library located at 1420 Price Park Road. All people interested in a healthy, sustainable environment are welcome to join us.

For more information you can contact one of the following:
Kim Yarbray 632-1550, Joel Landau 854-2728

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Do you have an important issue you would like to contact your Representatives about? You can just call them!

Senator Elizabeth Dole	(202) 224-6342
Senator Richard Burr	(202) 224-3154
Representative Virginia Foxx	(202) 225-2071
Representative Howard Coble	(336) 333-5005
Representative Mel Watt	(336) 275-9950
Representative Brad Miller	(336) 574-2909
Governor Mike Easley	(919) 733-4240

Lights. Camera. Energy.

Join us for a FREE Energy Film Festival

When: The 1st three Wednesdays in April (April 4, 11, and 18)

Time: 6:30pm—8:00pm

Where: Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch Library—1420 Price Park Drive

April 4:

- “The Power of Community” — This uplifting film tells the story of how, when the Cuban people lost access to Soviet oil in the early 1990’s they survived through cooperation, conservation, and community. (50 minutes)

- “Sundance Summit: A Mayors Gathering on Climate Protection” — Without national leadership on efforts that will curb global warming, mayors across the country have begun to take matters into their own hands. See how now over 400 mayors have signed onto advance climate protection. (8 minutes)

April 11:

- “Oil On Ice” — A story of the Gwich’in people taking on global energy interests to prevent invasive oil operations in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge’s fragile caribou calving grounds. (50 minutes)

- “French Fries to Go” — A funny short film that documents the origins of Telluride, Colorado’s Biodiesel project. (15 minutes)

April 18:

- “Power Shift” — Explores the remarkable ways energy touches our daily lives. Meet activists from around the world and learn personal action steps you can take to reduce global warming. (26 minutes)

- “The True Cost of Food” — This animated film shows the hidden costs of mass-produced food and the alternatives that cost less for the planet. (15 minutes)

- “The Vineyard Energy Project” — This film portrays Martha’s Vineyard’s successful effort to implement sustainable energy solutions through the use of solar power. (16 minutes)

Films sponsored by the Sierra Club, Greensboro Public Library, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, League of Women Voters, and Temple Emanuel. For more info on any of these events, please contact Kim Yarbray at 632-1550 or kyarbray@yahoo.com.

A 2nd viewing of all films will take place on the Tuesday following the Wednesday viewings: April 10, 17, and 24 at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church located at 607 North Greene Street. All movies will be shown from 6:30pm—8:00pm in the Haywood Duke Room. For more information on the Tuesday night films, please contact Steve McCollum at 286-8665 or smccollum@triad.rr.com

Outings Information

Please call the trip leader at a reasonable time of day, at least 48 hours prior to the outing, for details regarding level of difficulty and required equipment.

Outings are open to non-members. Invite a friend!

Bring - Water, food, whistle and raingear.

Weather - Trips go unless hazardous conditions exist. Call the leader when in doubt.

Radios and firearms are prohibited.

Pets are permitted only when it is stated that pets are permitted.

Difficulty Level- Hikers should make sure their ability and equipment match the difficulty.

In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

Easy: 0-5 miles and elevation change of up to 1000 feet.

Moderate: 5-10 miles and elevation change 1000 to 2500 feet.

Strenuous: 10 miles or elevation change of more than 2500 feet.

April 14 South Mountains State Park Hike

(Moderate/Strenuous) This hike is about 6-7 miles and includes a few really steep sections. We will hike parts of Shinny Creek, Headquarters and High Shoals Falls trails. The highlight of the hike will be the awesome falls, but I hope we will also see early signs of spring flora. What a treat it will be if we see trillium in bloom. Contact Cheryl Garrity at 427-0413 or cgarrityhike@earthlink.net.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

The Earth Day celebration is at the library on Saturday, April 14 from 1:00 - 5:00. The Sierra Club's Cool Cities Team will be on hand to show lots of renewable sources of energy and to discuss the Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement. Our table will have activities for children and adults, so please come by and say hello.

Also: Jerry Varner has been elected to the PPG Sierra Club Excom. Please say hello to Jerry when you see him at the meetings. Jerry will serve as our Vice Chair.

The PPG Executive Committee meets every last Wednesday of the Month at 7:15 pm in the Community Room at Earth Fare on Battleground Ave. All Sierra Club members are welcome to attend!

"We have forgotten how to be good guests, how to walk lightly on the earth as its other creatures do." - Barbara Ward, Only One Earth, 1972.

Piedmont Plateau Group
Sierra Club
 P.O. Box 5032
 Greensboro, NC 27435

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April, 2007



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April, 2007—Activities at a glance							Group Directory	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
1 Palm Sunday	2	3 Passover	4	5	6 Good Friday	7	*Chair: Catharine Sutherland (dancingtreesyoga@yahoo.com)	707-0082
8 Easter Monday	9	10 Group Meeting	11	12	13	14 Hike	#Vice-Chair: Jerry Varner (varnerj@bellsouth.net)	337-4987
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Advertising:	OPEN
22	23	24 Excom @ 6:30 pm	25	26	27	28	Conservation:	OPEN
29	30	May 1	May 2	May 3	May 4	May 5 Cinco de Mayo	Hospitality: Caroline Cook (cook1341@hotmail.com)	373-9059
							Membership:	OPEN
							Newsletter Editor: Dixon Cook (dcook4@triad.rr.com)	373-9059
							Newsletter Dist.: Bill & Cheryl Garrity (cgarrityhike@earthlink.net)	427-0413
							Outings: Terry Woods (TWoodswalker@aol.com)	580-0510
							Political Com: Chuck Prysby (cprysby@bellsouth.net)	545-1336
							*Program Chair: Kim Yarbray (kyarbray@yahoo.com)	632-1550
							Publications: Laurie O'Neill (laurieponeill@yahoo.com)	279-1043
							Publicity: Peggy Ware (mjware@triad.rr.com)	282-6553
							Secretary:	OPEN
							*Treasurer: Tom Taylor (tnt2703@excite.com)	286-9689
							Webmaster: Laurie & Sandy O'Neill (sandino42@hotmail.com)	279-1043
							* ExCom Member with term ending Dec. 31, 2007	
							# ExCom Member with term ending Dec. 31, 2008	