



# The Pinchot Papers

Newsletter of the Governor Pinchot Group of the Sierra Club  
Visit us online at [pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/pinchot](http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/pinchot)

Summer 2014

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The GVP Executive  
Committee meets  
the last Tuesday of  
every month at  
6:30 p.m. Call  
Robin at  
717-221-8590 for  
the location.

## Annual Susquehanna River Cleanup Saturday, September 13

Have a wonderful day on the river and help clean it. This year's Susquehanna River Cleanup will be held on Saturday, September 13 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. We'll meet at Blue Mountain Outfitters in Marysville at 8:30 a.m. and plan to enter the river about 9. Bring your own canoe if possible. If needed, canoes will be provided. PFDs, gloves and trash bags are provided as well. Prior to departure, Gene Wingert, conservationist and Dickinson College biologist, will give a short introduction to river ecology and the day's adventure ahead. We'll work on cleaning the river from Marysville to West Fairview focusing on the islands along the way. We'll get to West Fairview between noon and 1 p.m., where we'll have lunch and drinks provided by the Sierra Club. Gene will then give a 20-minute presentation focusing on the river and its challenges with questions welcomed. We'll all then be transported back to Blue Mountain and call it a day. For more information or to register for this outing, email Robin Broderick at [Rbroderick1@email.com](mailto:Rbroderick1@email.com) or call 717-221-8590.



## Stop Corbett's Plan To Drill Our Parks and Forests



People who love our beautiful state parks and forests are alarmed by Governor Corbett's plan to open these public lands up for gas drilling. In February, Corbett announced his goal to raise \$75 million from a new round of gas leasing as a way to balance his state budget. The gas drillers already have the right to drill in 700,000 acres of our state forests. To make matters worse, Corbett wants to open up state parks to gas drilling for the first time in history

Drilling causes air, water and noise pollution. It destroys important wildlife habitat. Drilling

interferes with all other uses of our public lands, including hiking, bird watching, fishing, hunting and simple peaceful enjoyment.

The state parks and forests are managed by DCNR. DCNR is accepting private bids from drilling companies, and efforts to learn what parks and forests are under consideration have been blocked by the Corbett administration. In response, Rep. Greg Vitali has filed a Right to Know request with DCNR to force disclosure of what public lands are threatened by Corbett's plan.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Sign our Petition - Go to the Website: [www.pennsylvania.sierraclub.org](http://www.pennsylvania.sierraclub.org) calling on Corbett and the General Assembly to drop plans for more drilling in our parks and forests
- Contact your State representative and senator to ask them to oppose Corbett's new drilling plans. Tell them the drillers already have more than enough public lands for their drilling.
- Contact the PA Chapter office At [pennsylvania.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:pennsylvania.chapter@sierraclub.org) or call (717) 232-0101 for more information on how to help.

Jeff Schmidt



## *Brunner Island Coal Power Plant adds to Smog*

By Tom Schuster, SC Beyond Coal Campaign

York County is home to the Brunner Island power plant, which is the 6<sup>th</sup> largest coal power plant in the state. It is also the only remaining large coal power plant that has not installed a common control for smog-causing pollution known as Selective Catalytic Reduction or SCR. This technology is like a much bigger version of the catalytic converter on your car, and can reduce smog-forming pollution by 80-90 percent. Without SCR, Brunner Island is contributing unnecessarily to the air quality woes not only of York County, but of Lancaster and Philadelphia, which have their own serious smog problems. DEP is aware that Brunner Island is out of compliance. To add to the problem, DEP is proposing that the operator of Brunner Island, PP&L, average emissions over its fleet of coal plants to comply with the already weak standard. That means that even if the overall pollution limits were lowered, PP&L could comply by slashing emissions from its Mon-

north of York, while  
 tine from Brunner Island  
 simply unfair to people  
 County, Lancaster County,  
 wind.



tour plant, nearly two hours  
 smog-causing emissions con-  
 virtually unchecked. That is  
 who have to breathe in York  
 and other areas directly down-

Help spread the word

about Brunner Island

## *Calendar of Upcoming Events*

**JUNE Sat 21 10am**

**Family Event Summer Solstice Hike** Bring the family and lunch, we'll provide dessert and drinks.

**JULY Sat/Sun 12-13** PA Chapter camping trip at Chapman State Park

**Sat 19** Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup 8:30 am **Volunteers Needed!\*\***

**Sat 26** Gay Pride Festival Tabling Event **Volunteers Needed!\*\***

**SEPTEMBER Sat 13** Susquehanna River Clean-up **Volunteers Needed!\*\***

**OCTOBER Sun 5** Wildlife presentation by Gene Wingert at Wildwood from 1-3 pm

Optional hike afterwards

**Sat 11** Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup 8:30 am **Volunteers Needed!\*\***

**DECEMBER Fri 5** Holiday Party

**Monthly Executive Committee Meetings** The Last Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm

*All Members Welcome!* Check online for location.



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### ***Summer Solstice Hike and Picnic 10:00 AM Saturday June 21.***

Join us for an easy family friendly hike of about 3 miles with a picnic afterward. Meet at the parking area of Hocker Park Picnic Ground on Blue Mountain Parkway north of Linglestown. This is at the top of the mountain. We will hike into the Boyd Big Tree State Park and back. We will hike at a moderate pace with little climbing as we will stay near the top of the ridge. There is a clearing with a view and there should be birds and flowers along the way. Everyone should bring water.

When we return the parking area we plan to enjoy a picnic. There are tables already set up. Everyone should bring their own picnic food for lunch, GVP will bring desserts and drinks.

Contact John Lenahan at [lenahan.john@mac.com](mailto:lenahan.john@mac.com) or 717-737-7675 if with any questions or for directions.

### ***Annual Members' Outing - July 11-13 Chapman State Park, Clarendon PA Activities for singles, couples and families of all ages***

Hickory Creek Wilderness hikes

Canoe trip to the Allegheny Islands

Wilderness Training, Campfires, Potluck and more

Including special activities in the Allegheny National Forest to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wilderness Act

Keynote Speaker: Ed Zahniser – Son of author of the Wilderness Act

RSVP no later than June 20<sup>th</sup> to 717-232-0101

**Did you receive our latest email newsletter on May 1st?** If not, please sign up for our email list via our group website at [pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/pinchot](http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/pinchot) or send an email to Amy at [amf194@gmail.com](mailto:amf194@gmail.com). We send out event reminders and also provide information on last minute events that may not appear in our paper newsletter