



OTZINACHSON

Speak Out for a Healthy, Clean

Inside this issue:

Chair Message	2
Otz Meetings	2
End of Suburbia	3
Editor's Bookmarks	3
Join PA ECO	4
Hiking Schedule	5
The Inconvenient Truth	7

Take a Hike!!!

Be sure to check out
Our 2006 Hiking Schedule
Included in this newsletter!

QUOTE

“There is nothing like a dream to create the future”

- Victor Hugo

The Sierra Club Pennsylvania Chapter, Clean Water Action, PennEnvironment and Penn Future ask you to please come to the State Capitol in Harrisburg to speak up for a healthy, clean environment on Monday, June 5, 2006.

There are crucial decisions being made right now that will affect our health and natural resources. Two issues, the implementation of the Pennsylvania Clean Vehicles

Program and the adoption of a regulation requiring significant cuts in mercury pollution from power plants, are under attack by industry.

Industry lobbyists are walking the halls of the Capitol every day trying to stop these regulations. We need to bring an army of people to Harrisburg to demonstrate our support for these important programs that clean our air and

(Continued on page 4)

Take Action Against Mercury

Through the excellent work by a coalition of environmental, sportsmen, public health and religious groups, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) recently introduced a draft rule that will require the state's power plants to stop spewing toxic mercury by 90 percent by 2015; it's called the PA Mercury Rule.

This draft regulation goes further than that of the federal government - called CAMR, the Clean Air Mercury Rule.

Call or E-mail your state legislators and urge them NOT TO CO-SPONSOR and TO OPPOSE the so-called **Clean Air Mercury Compliance Act (HB 2610)** and the **Senate version SB1201**, which would kill the PA Mercury Rule.

What will it take for you to contact your Legislator about protecting your family from the harms of Mercury?

- ✓ **Mercury contamination is a serious public health threat.** Mercury contamination in fish poses a serious risk to all citizens, but especially expecting mothers and children. Exposure to even small amounts of mercury can affect the way kids learn, think, memorize and behave.
- ✓ **Developing babies are extremely sensitive to mercury,** because unborn babies are at the top of the food chain. Mercury levels in babies' blood are 30 percent higher than the mercury levels in the mother's blood
- ✓ **Coal-fired power plants emit most of the mercury and are uncontrolled.** Coal-fired power plants are responsible for about 80 percent of Pennsylvania's mercury emissions to air, and our state's power plants are some of the highest emitters nationwide

Message from the Chair:
THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS, DARKLY

Winston Churchill is purported to have defined success as being able to keep a smile on your face as you lurch from failure to failure. Thus the tragic success of the Bush regime. The fallout from their wreckage lands everywhere. \$9.8 billion dollars a month to war while our public libraries and National Parks roll back their services only to have morgues and cemeteries pick up the slack. War profiteers file their earnings reports while the maimed, the brutalized and the displaced look in vain for solace or surcease. The Cheshire cat slowly dissolves, only the disembodied smile remains.

Ed Lawrence, Chair

Attend a Meeting!
Otzinachson Group, PA Sierra Club

Meeting dates for 2006

June 6
August 1
October 3
December 5

Meeting is open to all Sierra Club members and interested non-members.

All meetings will be held at 7:00 P.M.
at the 1st Baptist Church
51 S. 3rd St. Lewisburg PA 17837

OTZINACHSON

Executive Committee Chairs:

- Ed Lawrence**, Orangeville; Chair
 - Nicole Faraguna**, Herndon; Vice-Chair/Newsletter Editor
 - Jack Miller**, Middleburg; Political
 - Dodie Rippon Lovett**, Herndon; Chapter Delegate/Global Warming/Human Rights
 - David Young**, Lewisburg
 - Dave Jansky**, Sunbury; Outings Chair
 - Joseph Rebar**, Shamokin; Membership/Publicity
- Volunteer Committee Chairs:

- Roy Fontaine**, Watsonstown; Treasurer, Publications
- Dave Hafer**, Lewisburg; Endangered Species
- Dave Barsky**, Bloomsburg; Conservation
- Genley Anderson**, Williamsport; Webmaster
- Janet Jones**, Lewisburg; Environmental Education
- Joe Detelj**, Lewisburg; Agriculture/Cafo
- Colette Frantz**, Northumberland; Marine/Waste
- Richard Sahn**, Cogan Station; Water Quality/Habitats

Thanks for your continued support of the Sierra Club.

Your membership is important to preserving the integrity of our environment and keeping our communities safe and healthy.

Without you, we can not fight for what is right!

Joseph Rebar, Membership Chair, had compiled a database of those individuals wanting to be kept informed of scheduled and non-scheduled hikes and outings. A computer problem resulted in the loss of these e-mail addresses. If you'd like to be kept informed of these events, please send your e-mail address to: jrbar@localnet.com. Thank you!

End of Suburbia by Sam Pearson

On April 24th, the Otzinachson Group of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Sierra Club sponsored a free screening of the 2003 documentary *The End of Suburbia: Oil Depletion and the Demise of the American Dream* at the Public Library for Union County in Lewisburg. The showing was near capacity for the library's small function room and attendees included a County Commissioner, one current and one former Mayor of Lewisburg, and two local Planning

Learn more about this movie at

<http://www.endofsuburbia.com/>

Commissioners, one each from Lewisburg and East Buffalo, as well as almost 20 other interested citizens. They were treated to an informative and intriguing indictment of the unheralded breadth of America's oil dependency. After all, we all know that transportation and home heating depend in large part on fossil fuels, but what about the food we eat and the business we expect to proceed "as usual"?

This thought-provoking film brings the complex issues of oil depletion, consumer culture, suburban form and community organizing into sharp focus, reminding us all of the need for action -- nationally, locally and personally. While viewers may initially feel that there's nothing new to

hear on the topic, it makes a difference to hear about the radical consequences of the end of oil from the mouths of oil company scientists and consultants. Indeed, for many of us these issues may be all too familiar. They are tired, even if timely. But the film serves as an apparently

necessary reminder that we are, none of us, doing all we can in response whether in terms of personal preparations, raising general awareness or promoting local economy and policy strategies. As a gauge of how effective a motivator the film is, all but two of those present at the screening signed up for further information and follow-up, and the two who hung back

called later to be added to the list. In the weeks since, the group has split into a small action committee, working on planning and strategy and a larger audience group which will help to get the word out about additional screenings and public for a as they're arranged.

The next showing will be on Wednesday, May 24th, at 8pm in the Gallery Theater on the top floor of the Langone Center at Bucknell. There will be time for discussion following the screening.

In addition, we are working to set up a one-time Sunday afternoon matinee and panel discussion at the Campus Theatre in June, but the exact date remains to be determined. ☞

This thought-provoking film brings the complex issues of oil depletion, consumer culture, suburban form and community

Editor's Bookmark Picks

<http://eos.postcarbon.org>
www.oilcrashmovie.com
www.energybulletin.net
www.worldchanging.com
www.countercurrents.org
www.peakoilaction.org

Green Planet Films

a non-profit distributor of nature and environmental DVDs from around the globe

Speak Out (cont'd)

protect the health of women, children, the elderly and those who suffer from chronic lung diseases.

We will hold a pre-lobby day conference call briefing on Friday, June 2 at noon to fill you in on the issues. You will be given the conference call number when you respond to this invitation. Sierra Club will also send additional information closer to the date about the issues we will be lobbying on.

We will be facilitating carpooling, bus and van rentals, based on each region's expected turnout. We will provide more details about transportation to Lobby Day closer to June 5. Sierra Club will reimburse reasonable transportation expenses for members who lobby their state legislators on June 5.

Agenda

9:00 AM

Arrive in Harrisburg, register and pick up materials

9:00 AM - Noon

Visit your legislators

12:30 PM

Rally & Press Event in the Capitol Rotunda

1:00 - 2:00 PM

Visit your legislators

2:15 - 3:15 PM

Debriefing meeting

Woody Allen said that 90 percent of success is just showing up! We need you to show up for health and the environment on June 5.

Please let us know you are coming. RSVP by calling (717) 232-0101 or online at [pennsylvania.chapter@sierraclub.org](http://pennsylvania.chapter.sierraclub.org). Please give us your name, address, e-mail address, and the names of your state Representative and Senator (if you know them). We will send follow-up information to those who RSVP. ☐

Join the PA Environmental Citizens Online (PA ECO) Network.

This is an action-alert system created through the Pennsylvania League of Conservation Voters that will notify you of urgent conservation and environmental issues affecting the Commonwealth and allow you to contact targeted decision-makers via fax by with the press of a button.

Learn more at <http://paeco.e-actionmax.com/>

Be sure to vote in this year's Primary Election—May 16th!
To learn more about environment-friendly candidates, visit www.paclv.org.

Please don't us!

It's Spring— a time of renewal.

Please won't you take this opportunity to renew your Sierra Club Membership today? You know we've missed you!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Gift Recipient's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club

MasterCard Visa AMEX

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 52968,
Boulder
CO 80322-2968

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
INTRODUCTORY	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39 <input type="checkbox"/> \$47	
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"/> \$24 <input type="checkbox"/> \$32	
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24 <input type="checkbox"/> \$32	
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24 <input type="checkbox"/> \$32	

F94Q **W** -1



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



Otzinachson Regional Group of the Sierra Club Edward Abbey Hiking Club Spring/Summer 2006 Outings Schedule

Sunday, May 14: Golden Eagle Trail

Rated one of the best hikes in Pennsylvania, this hike has everything: views, streams and history, a great nature outing. Moderate to strenuous, 9 miles. Meet at 9:00am at the Sovereign Bank parking lot, Southern Ave., between Market and Hasting (Route 15), South Williamsport. Bring lunch and water. Contact Roy Fontaine 570-523-0987

Sunday, June 11: Bald Eagle State Forest

This is a loop hike starting and ending at R. B. Winter State Park, 11 miles, moderate to strenuous. Our hike ends with a swim in the lake. Meet behind the Lewisburg Post Office at 9:00am. Bring lunch, water and a swim suit. For more information, contact Paul Shaw at hikerpaul@comcast.net

Saturday, June 24: Allegheny Front Trail

This hike, near Black Moshannon State Park, will take us to the Allegheny Plateau, the most prominent geographic feature of Pennsylvania as seen from outer space, and complete the loop we began last year. We will hike from Huckleberry Road to Underwood Road. 13 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the Harvest Moon Restaurant, located on Route 220, west of Williamsport. Bring lunch and water. Contact Catherine McLaughlin / Ed Lawrence 570-925-5285

Sunday, June 25: Old Loggers Path

We will hike the southern section of the OLP from Masten Ghost Town to Pleasant Stream Road. 12 miles, moderate to strenuous, with fine views. Meet 9:00am at the Ralston Post Office on Route 14. Bring lunch and water. Contact Roy Fontaine 570-523-0987.

Saturday, July 29: The Donut Hole Trail

This hike, near Kettle Creek State Park, will take us to one of the wildest and remote parts of The Donut Hole and allow us to get a fire tower vista at the end. We will hike up Summers on Run on Kettle Creek to Route 144 west of Renovo. 10 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the Harvest Moon Restaurant, located on Route 220, west of Williamsport. Bring Lunch and water. Contact Catherine McLaughlin / Ed Lawrence 570-925-5285

Saturday, August 26: The Golden Eagle Trail Hike OR Bike the Pine Creek Rail Trail

Hike or bike, you decide. Another opportunity to hike the 10 mile Golden Eagle Trail loop, one of Pennsylvania's premier day hikes, or to bike the Pine Creek Rail Trail, one of Pennsylvania's premier rail trails. Moderate to strenuous. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Harvest Moon Restaurant, located on Route 220, west of Williamsport. Bring lunch and water. Contact Catherine McLaughlin / Ed Lawrence 570-925-5285

Otzinachson Regional Group of the Sierra Club Edward Abbey Hiking Club Spring/Summer 2006 Outings Schedule

Saturday, September 30: The Appalachian Trail

This hike will take us on the AT along Blue Mountain ridge to where it accords at Hawk Mountain during the peak season of raptor migration. We will hike from Route 309 to Hawk Mountain Road. 12 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Pilot service station at the Route 93 exit off of Route 80 east of Berwick. Bring lunch and water. Contact Catherine McLaughlin / Ed Lawrence 570-925-5285

Saturday, October 28: The Switchback Railroad at Mauch Chunk

This hike will take us to the outskirts of present day Jim Thorpe to hike the historic railroad grades that inspired the roller coaster rides of today. We will hike a loop that begins and ends at Mauch Chunk Lake Park. 11 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot of First Columbia Bank next to the Columbia Mall at the Buckhorn exit of Route 80. Bring lunch and water. Contact Catherine McLaughlin / Ed Lawrence 570-925-5285

Sunday, November 19: The Joe Gmitter Trails

This hike takes us to a remote section of the second largest State Game Lands in Pennsylvania, SGL 57, located South of Noxen. We will hike a loop that begins and ends on Sorber Mountain Road. 8 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the Ricketts Glen Hotel, located 1 mile east

of Red Rock on Route 118. Bring lunch and water. Contact Catherine McLaughlin / Ed Lawrence 570-925-5285

Sunday, December 10: Ricketts Glen State Park

Our hiking route will depend on weather conditions. 7 miles, moderate. Meet at 10:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the Ricketts Glen Hotel, located 1 mile east of Red Rock on Route 118. Bring snack and water. Contact Catherine McLaughlin / Ed Lawrence 570-925-5285



NOTE 1: At times unscheduled events will be added via e-mail. If you would like your name added to the unscheduled notification list, send your e-mail address to jrbar@localnet.com and put on the subject line "unscheduled hike list".

NOTE 2: This schedule will be revised at a later date.



Coming to a Theatre Near You!! The Inconvenient Truth

Humanity is sitting on a ticking time bomb. If the vast majority of the world's scientists are right, we have just ten years to avert a major catastrophe that could send our entire planet into a tail-spin of epic destruction involving extreme weather, floods, droughts, epidemics and killer heat waves beyond anything we have ever experienced.

If that sounds like a recipe for serious gloom and doom -- think again. From director Davis Guggenheim comes the Sundance Film Festival hit, *AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH*, which offers a passionate and inspirational look at one man's fervent crusade to halt global warming's deadly progress in its tracks by exposing the myths and misconceptions that surround it.

That man is former Vice President Al Gore, who, in the wake of defeat in the 2000 election, re-set the course of his life to focus on a last-ditch, all-out effort to help save the planet from irrevocable change. In this eye-opening and poignant portrait of Gore and his "traveling global warming show," Gore also proves himself to be one of the most misunderstood characters in modern American public life. Here he is seen as never before in the media - funny, engaging, open and downright on fire about getting the surprisingly stirring truth about what he calls our "planetary emergency" out to ordinary citizens before it's too late.

With 2005, the worst storm season ever experienced in America just behind us, it seems we may be reaching a tipping point - and Gore

pulls no punches in explaining the dire situation. Interspersed with the bracing facts

and future predictions is the story of Gore's personal journey: from an idealistic college student who first saw a massive environmental crisis looming; to a young Senator facing a harrowing family tragedy that altered his perspective, to the man who almost became President but instead returned to the most important cause of his life - convinced that there is still time to make a difference.

With wit, smarts and hope, *AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH* ultimately brings home Gore's persuasive argument that we can no longer afford to view global warming as a political issue - rather, it is the biggest moral challenges facing our global civilization.

Paramount Classics and Participant Productions present a film directed by Davis Guggenheim, *AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH*. Featuring Al Gore, the film is produced by Laurie David, Lawrence Bender and Scott Z. Burns. Jeff Skoll and Davis

Guggenheim are the executive producers and the co-producer is Leslie Chilcott. ☞

**Will be playing in
Philadelphia
June 5th
at the Ritz 5**

Source: <http://www.climatecrisis.net>

GreenFacts on Global Warming

- ⇒ Over the last century the average temperature has climbed about 1 degree Fahrenheit (0.6 of a degree Celsius) around the world.
- ⇒ The spring ice thaw in the Northern Hemisphere occurs 9 days earlier than it did 150 years ago, and the fall freeze now typically starts 10 days later.
- ⇒ The 1990s was the warmest decade since the mid-1800s, when record-keeping started. The hottest years recorded: 1998, 2002, 2003, 2001, and 1997.
- ⇒ Since 1978 Arctic sea ice area has shrunk by some 9 percent per decade, and thinned as well.

Source: http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2004/12/1206_041206_global_warming.html



Nicole Faraguna, Editor
Otzinachson Regional
Group of the Sierra Club
P.O. Box 65
Lewisburg, PA 17837
[www.sierraclub.org/
chapters/pa/Otzinachson/](http://www.sierraclub.org/chapters/pa/Otzinachson/)

U.S. Postage
Paid
Non-Profit Organization
Permit No. 52
Lewisburg, PA 17837

MONDAY, JUNE 5th, 2006

Sierra Club members and other people who
care about the environment

will be

**TAKING IT TO HARRISBURG
JOIN THEM!**

Details inside: Otzinachson coordinators
Contact Dave Hafer 570-523-3107o or Paul Shaw pshaw@ptd.net