

The Central Ohio Sierran

April-June 2017

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Chair Letter

Thank you and congratulations to the Sierra Club Central Ohio Group – we've exceeded 4,600 dues-paying members as part of Ohio Chapter's 21,000 plus!

Happy April Earth Month and May Bike Month.

Time for all of us to get out, 'enjoy' and 'explore' while we valiantly strive to 'protect' all of it. Our COG Executive Committee members, volunteers and Sierra staff have been very active during the past few months as we're planning for our busiest season of the year. We continue to battle the latest federal environmental deregulation threats while we also continue to adeptly respond to whatever local environmental issues occur, and continue to advocate with many regional and city leaders. Thanks to you our numerous grass roots supporters, we are recognized and can win locally. Our committees including - outings, political, conservation, energy and water – could each use your activism and behind-the-scenes assistance.

Look inside this newsletter, review COG's website and stay tuned to Facebook and our e-calendar for upcoming educational programs, meetings, service projects and others events such as:

Volunteer for our assorted service projects to help clean-up parks and waterways, plant trees and remove invasive plants.

Expand your knowledge by participating in our free educational programs and tours:

- Rumpke recycling operation on May 23rd (RSVP required)
- The OSU Admiral Byrd & Polar Research Center. Stay tuned for details!

Join the Interfaith Climate Rally and lobby day at the Ohio Statehouse on April 13th.

Attend the Earth Day Celebration at Columbus Commons on the afternoon of April 22nd.

Rally at the People's Climate March in DC or Columbus on April 29th.

Find Sierra's booth and other green partners during many annual festivals such ComFest,

Worthington's Green on the Green, Delaware's NOW, Westerville's Party at the Creek and more.

Come to the Ohio Bicycle Federation free summit at the Statehouse atrium on May 2nd.

Get on your bicycle during the annual Ride of Silence through downtown Columbus streets on May 17th eve.

Scale the outdoor rock climbing wall with our Outings group on May 26th at the Scioto Audubon Park.

If you're not routinely receiving our Sierra news or member 'action alerts' by email, please contact **address.changes@sierraclub.org** to ensure we have your correct email address and subscription preferences on file.

David Roseman

Chair, Sierra Club Central Ohio Group

COGchair@SierraClub.org



Local Sierra Club Leaders March on Washington for Women's Rights and the Environment



It has been a turbulent three months, with still many uncertainties about the future of the EPA, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, Clean Power Plan, Endangered Species Act, and many more. But I do not fear, because I have witnessed the strength, and passion, of our movement.

January 21st, 2017 500,000 people descended on Washington DC, and 1 million more, marched in their home towns. This wasn't just a march for women's rights, it was about community, the environment, and social justice. Included in the 500,000 marchers were four Sierra Club leaders who went to have their voices heard, staff members Cheryl JohnCox and Elissa Yoder Mann, and Central Ohio Group Executive Committee members Cathy Cowan-Becker and Emma Beasley. Below are their stories.

Cathy Cowan Becker

I have read my entire life about Martin Luther King's March on Washington, which happened the year I was born. When I first heard about the Women's March on Washington, I knew it would be just as historic, and that I didn't want to miss it.

I managed to get a seat on the "Rolling into Washington" tour, operated by Rise Travel, which conducts advocacy and education travel to rallies around the country. Time on the bus went quickly as we listened to workshops with state Rep. Teresa Fedor and former Congresswoman Mary Jo Kilroy,

watched films like *Suffragette* and *She's Beautiful When She's Angry* about the fight for women's rights, and got to know our seatmates.

When we got on the metro into downtown DC, I started to get the feeling the march would surpass all expectations. Even at 6 a.m. at the outermost stop, the station was packed. By the time we made our way to the National Mall, it too was getting packed.

As more people poured into the Mall, it became so full we could barely move. Yet, somehow everyone was nice to each other, letting people by one at a time, and pointing out possible stumbling hazards like steps in the sidewalk or tree roots sticking up.

Unfortunately we couldn't get near the speakers, but at least I saw them on CSPAN when I got home. We did hear the event was so crowded – at least half a million people with some estimates at 1.5 million – that they cancelled the march itself because the route was filled.

Around noon I got hungry and left to find lunch. It took a half hour to get to the Air and Space Museum at the other end of the mall, another half hour to get in, and another half hour in line, but eventually I ate. I took the journey as an opportunity to get photos of as many signs as I could. The signs were colorful and creative, on all kinds of topics.





I was especially heartened to see a lot of signs about the importance of taking care of the climate and environment.

After lunch I found people were marching spontaneously down Pennsylvania Avenue. I turned a corner

and found the Old Post Office had been converted into a Trump hotel. Hundreds of people had spontaneously left their signs on the fence in front as calling cards for the new president.

Despite the crowds and confusion, the mood of the march was joyous and resolute. People had come to Washington depressed and in some cases in despair. What they found was hundreds of thousands of others who had the same American values they did, and who were not going to let their values be run over without a fight.

One sign summed it all up: “In this house we believe Black Lives Matter, Women’s Rights are Human Rights, No Human is Illegal, Science is Real, Love is Love, and Kindness is Everything.”

I and lots of others left Washington that night with a new emotion going into the Trump era: Hope in our fellow Americans.

Note: Rise Travel is also sending buses to the March for Climate on April 29.

Emma Beasley

As soon as I heard about the Women’s Rights March on Washington, I knew I had to go. This wasn’t just about being a part of history, but ensuring that the newly elected members of the Executive Branch, heard my voice. Once we got there, and the speeches began, it became clear that this

wasn’t just a women’s march, it was a stand against social injustice and environmental attacks. Rhea Suh, from the Natural Resources Defense Council, eloquently summarized the relationship between the environment and social justice. “A world where a healthy environment is a basic right for all of us—regardless of where we live, how we vote, or what we look like”

The energy was incredible. Standing in unison, with thousands of people cheering and chanting, and with no fights or hostility toward one another.

The Women’s Rights March was not just about women, it was about community, inclusion, and diversity. Community includes access to clean water and air, as well as a safe and sustainable future. The momentum from that day is helping to bright about change in our community.

It is vital, now more than ever, to stand up and make your voice heard. Write letters, go to rallies, call your representative. We live in a representative democracy, the people have the power.

As Rhea Suh said, “we are still a democracy. We should never forget our country was created by ordinary individuals who stood up for what they believed in. Our progress has depended on average citizens creating the future we want.”

So write letters, go to rallies, call your representative, and don’t give up.

[Click here](#) if you want to become more involved in the Sierra Club.



Meet Central Ohio Group's First Fellow: Miles Van Blarcum

Miles grew up in northeast Ohio, and is a undergraduate student at Ohio State studying Environment, Economics, Development, and Sustainability. He is a recent transfer from American University in D.C., which helped spark his interest in politics and policy. He serves as a Fellow for the COG, and is proud to help with outreach during a very important time for the Sierra Club. As an Eagle Scout and member of the OSU Mountaineers Club, you can find him backpacking or planning his next trip.



Turtle Trade Going Unchecked in Ohio

Did you know turtle's across the globe are in decline, yet Ohio still allows unlimited hunting of our native turtle species?

Ohio has a size limit and season limit but no limit on the number of turtles an individual or business can harvest.

Ohio is one of only five remaining states that still allow for the commercial harvest of wild turtles, placing our populations at risk of increased hunting. Many of Ohio's turtle populations, like the Spotted, Blanding, Softshells and Snapping are on the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) Red List for Threatened Species. For-profit turtle traders should not be allowed to contribute to the decline of wild turtles.



What can you do?

[Click here to send a letter to protect our turtles!](#)

Stay informed. Check our website periodically for updates.

Volunteer. Join the [Conservation Committee](#).

Don't forget to follow the Sierra Club Ohio Chapter and Central Ohio Group on Facebook.

Build Brush Piles to Attract Birds

By Nicole Tabit, Clean Water Fellow

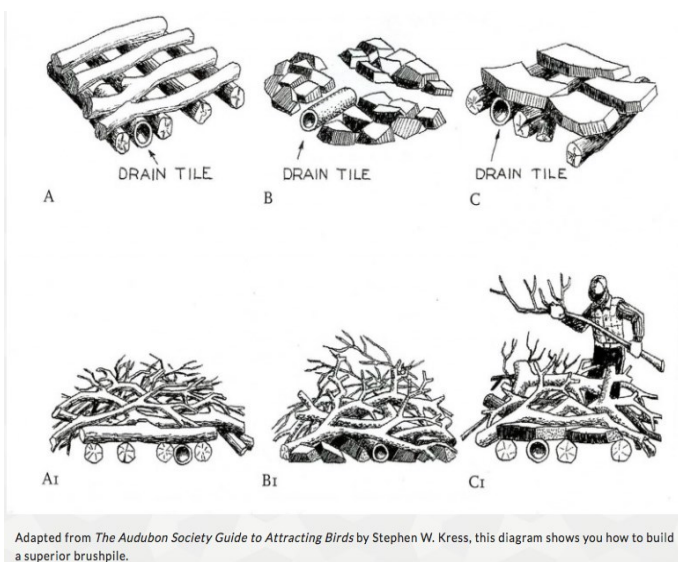
As February rolls around, many animals are beginning to become active once again. In the late winter months, though, there is less habitat and less food for the animals. One thing you can do to provide shelter for birds in your backyard is to create a brush pile. In a natural landscape, brush piles happen without any assistance from people. In the woods, storm-felled trees and branches take on new life as havens for birds and wild animals. Toads, salamanders, insects, and spiders live in the tangled brush on the forest floor, creating a smorgasbord of delicacies. Streams at flood stage pile up fortresses of wrecked branches, where waterthrushes, common yellowthroats, catbirds, swamp sparrows, and many other species find shelter and good foraging. We humans live in urban areas with manicured landscapes, which translates into diminished natural habitat and less biodiversity. Creating a brush pile can bring back the environment in your backyard.



height of three to five feet. Weave the wood together to make a stable construction. Your pile doesn't have to be perfectly neat. Irregularity provides a matrix of spaces for a variety of species.

As you get to the top, work in smaller material, arranged more densely. Finish with a thick, layered roof of evergreen branches to conceal the interior. In winter, snow will crust on top and form chambers as snug as an igloo. After the holidays, add boughs from discarded Christmas trees for extra insulation. Make your brush pile loose at the outside, so birds can get in easily and quickly. The center should be tighter, to provide small refuges where a bird can escape predators.

Not only will this new habitat shelter present wildlife, it will also attract new wildlife! These natural brush shelters are an excellent environmentally friendly addition to the suburban landscape, since they are made of natural materials. Leaves and other plant matter that catch on the shelter will decompose naturally and return nutrients to the soil (as well as provide food for insects and earthworms). Proper habitats allow wildlife to have safe access to food, and nesting areas, too.



Adapted from *The Audubon Society Guide to Attracting Birds* by Stephen W. Kress, this diagram shows you how to build a superior brushpile.

How to make a brush pile:

Cut or gather a collection of limbs and branches. Some should be at least four to six inches in diameter. Arrange some of your largest branches parallel on the ground, with space between to create tunnels for larger birds. Any wood will do, but a bottom layer of rot-resistant locust or oak will prolong the brush pile's life. For the second level, place your next largest branches at right angles to the first, log-cabin style. Continue criss-crossing branches to a

Inside Climate Reality Training with Al Gore

By Cathy Cowan Becker

Ten years ago, when *An Inconvenient Truth* came out, I, like so many other people, became aware of the climate crisis. The movie ended with [10 things](#) each of us could do to help stop global warming, and I did all of them: changed my light bulbs, took shorter showers, started recycling.

Yet, now the climate crisis is worse than ever. Each of the last three years has been the [hottest on record](#). Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is at its [highest point](#) since the age of the dinosaurs. Oceans are [30 percent more acidic](#) than before the Industrial Revolution, the fastest chemistry change in 50 million years. Glaciers worldwide are [melting](#), the jet stream is [wobbling](#) and ocean currents are [slowing down](#).

Clearly, individual action is not enough. So two years ago, I attended my first Climate Reality training with Al Gore in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to find out what else I could do. There, I met hundreds of climate leaders from around the world and started learning about climate in depth. Here are some mind-blowing facts I learned:

- 2016 was the 40th consecutive year with a global temperature above the 20th century average.
- 93 percent of the extra heat trapped by man-made global warming pollution goes into the oceans.
- Water scarcity now affects 40 percent of the world's population.
- Air pollution kills 6.5 million people worldwide every year.
- Land-based plant and animal species are moving poleward at a rate of 15 feet per day.
- We have lost more than half of the world's wildlife in the last 40 years.

I came out of the Iowa training determined to tackle the problem of climate change in a much more systematic way, through action on the local, state and national level. The first thing I did was



join the Sierra Club, which helped me get to the People's Climate March, testify about the Clean Power Plan, and lobby my state legislators on returning Ohio's clean energy standards.

After the 2016 election, I knew I had to get back to climate activism. In January, Climate Reality announced a new training in [Denver](#), so I applied to go – this time not as a participant but a mentor. I was thrilled to be accepted and get 20 mentees from Ohio and California.

On the first day, we saw Al Gore give his entire slideshow, "The Climate Crisis and Its Solutions," based on his presentation from *An Inconvenient Truth*. Gore updates this slideshow constantly, with many slides containing graphics and videos from recent events. Gore's presentation covered both the problem of climate change and the incredible takeoff of renewable technologies.

Here are a few things I learned from his presentation:

- In 2016, \$58.6 billion was invested in clean energy in the United States.
- The United States now has 75 gigawatts of wind power installed, enough to power 20 million homes.
- Globally, there is enough wind energy to supply electricity consumption 40 times over.
- The cost of solar cells has fallen from \$79.40 per watt in 1976 to 41 cents per watt now.
- Enough solar energy hits the earth every hour to fill the world's energy needs for a year.

We also heard from Leah Greenberg, co-author of [Indivisible](#), a guide by former Congressional staffers of best practices for making your elected representatives listen. The day ended with a performance by [Xiuhtezcatl Martinez](#) and his sister Isa Cares, indigenous hip hop artists. Xiuhtezcatl is also a plaintiff in the [Our Children's Trust](#) lawsuit of 21 children against the federal government for not fulfilling its public trust to protect the climate for future generations.

Day 2 featured an incredible panel of scientists, including [Kevin Trenberth](#), climate scientist with NOAA; Henry Pollack, geophysicist at University of Michigan; and Don Henry, director of Climate Reality in Australia.

They talked about the impacts of various types of greenhouse gases, the most prevalent denier claims and how to respond (check out [Skeptical Science](#)), political forces aligned against climate action (see [Merchants of Doubt](#)), the [Montreal Protocol](#) that phased out ozone-destroying CFCs as a model for climate action, how to get coal country on board (clean energy jobs), and the outlook for carbon capture and sequestration (too expensive for coal plants to implement), nuclear (too slow and expensive for our needs), and fracking (methane leakage and risks to water make it untenable, and we should just leapfrog to renewables).

We also heard about best practices for communicating climate change from Ngiste Abebe of Aulenor Consulting, and Jon Shenk and Diane Weyermann of Participant Media, who talked with Al Gore about making [An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth](#)



[To Power](#), which premieres July 28.

Day 3 began with a survey of the political landscape after the election of Donald Trump by Ken Berlin, president of the Climate Reality Project. One point Berlin made is that Trump can't just roll back climate rules or even agency budgets without new rules and action from Congress, and that environmental activists and groups will be fighting his anti-climate agenda every step of the way.

Next was a presentation by Jules Kortenhorst, CEO of the [Rocky Mountain Institute](#), that explained both the technology and economics behind the unstoppable rise of renewable energy over expensive, outdated and polluting fossil fuels, followed by a [livestreamed panel](#) of Climate Reality Leaders talk-

ing with Al Gore about their experiences.

Al Gore's closing remarks to the conference summed up why I'm in the climate movement. Climate change, he said, is a moral challenge in the tradition of other moral issues of our time, such as abolitionism, women's suffrage, civil rights, apartheid and most recently gay marriage. These movements encounter roadblock after roadblock, until finally they succeed.

"When any great moral challenge is resolved into a binary choice between what is right and what is wrong, the outcome is foreordained because of who we are as human beings," [Gore said](#). "That is where we are now, and that is why we are going to win this. We have everything we need. Some still

doubt we have the will to act, but I say the will to act is itself a renewable resource."

The Climate Reality Project has now held 35 trainings for over 11,000 climate leaders from around the world, and they are still going strong. This is a unique opportunity to learn about the most pressing crisis facing the planet, and how to make change even in a hostile political environment. If you are concerned about climate change, this is a program you won't want to miss.

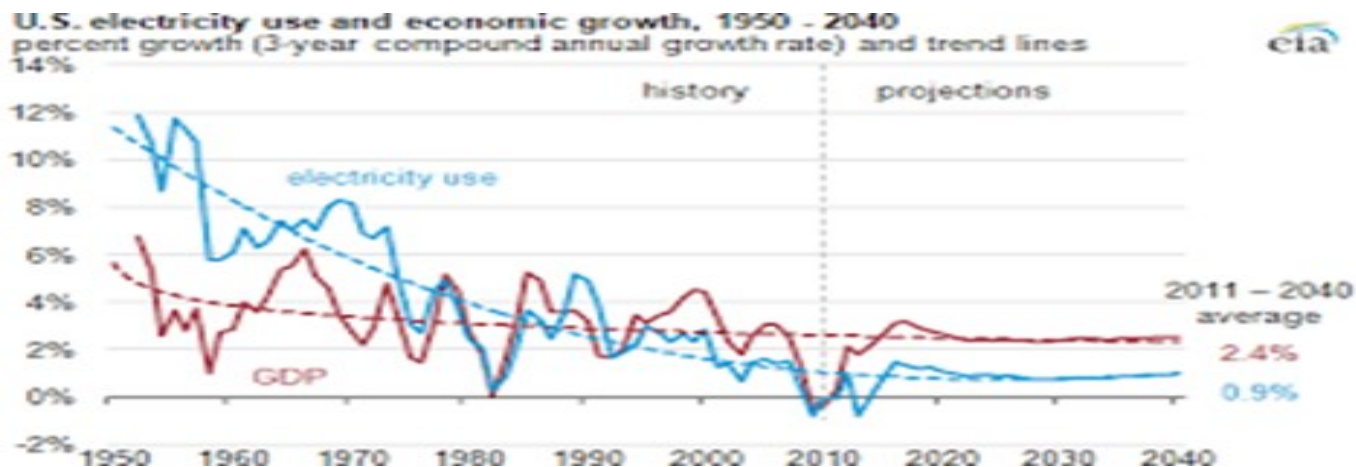
Lower your Carbon Footprint, and Save Money to Boot

Electricity usage has decreased from 1950 to the present, even with variable economic growth. This is due to energy efficiency. Help keep the trend going by getting a home energy audit from [AEP](#) and [Columbia Gas](#). It will save you money, and lower your carbon footprint by reducing fuel consumption. To go even further in carbon reduction, investigate going solar getting electricity through the [Sierra Club](#).

<http://www.sierraclub.org/ohio/solar-home-program>

<https://aepohio.com/save/residential/programs/>

<https://www.columbiagasohio.com/ways-to-save/home-energy-audit>



Upcoming Events

April

Sat April 1: Explore the Sawmill Wetlands

10am–12pm: Please join us for this VERY IMPORTANT event at the Wetlands with all our FRIENDS there to celebrate SPRING and reconnect with this precious sanctuary that we all care for. ODNR Division of Wildlife has approved our request to have the gates open for the event and will be providing their Archery Trailer (always a big hit with the kiddos!). Along with education displays and nature walks - we'll be spotting emerging new life in the vernal pools and magical woodland.

Where: 2638-2674 Sawmill Place Blvd, Columbus, Ohio 43235

Sat, April 3rd: Columbus, Square One (Downtown) Rain Barrel Workshop

5:30pm–6:30pm: Spring showers bring summer flowers, but they also contribute to stormwater pollution which is the leading threat to the health of our waterways. There is a way you can collect the rain, reduce stormwater pollution, save on water bills, and provide healthy water for your plants and landscape. RAIN BARRELS!!!The workshop is FREE but if you take a barrel and a kit we suggest donations of \$75 to support our Earth Month Clean Water Campaign. [RSVP Required](#)

Where: Square One Salon, 275 S 4th St, Columbus, OH 43215

Earth Week volunteer service throughout metro Columbus run from 4/08/17 to 4/15/17 <http://www.earthdaycolumbus.org/>

Community leaders, non-profits and businesses contribute to the largest Earth Day volunteer service project in the nation. Since 2007, Central Ohio has benefited from more than 100,000 hours of citizen "green" service thanks to Green Columbus' efforts. Service sites vary in size from 5 to 300 volunteers and range from neighborhood litter sweeps, community gardens, and river-cleanups to tree planting and invasive species removal. They are a great opportunity for any company or organization to host a service site or two and for associates to volunteer in projects throughout Central Ohio. Find and chose from many service sites <http://www.earthdaycolumbus.org/volunteer> and register to volunteer in advance.

Sat, April 8th: Beautification Project at Holton Park

9am–12pm: River Cleanup

Where: 2301-2433 Westwood Dr. Columbus, OH 43204

Sat, April 15th: Scioto River Clean Up

9am–12pm: River Cleanup

Where: 931 Scioto Blvd., North of Greenlawn Ave. (next to the Columbus Fire Station), Columbus, OH 43215

April 17th: AEP PUCO hearing

6:00pm: Support clean energy, and oppose dirty energy. More details to follow. Please go to sierraclub.org/ohio/cleanenergy. Details:Neil.Waggoner@SierraClub.org

Where: Ohio History Center, 800 East 17th Avenue: Cardinal Classroom Columbus, Ohio 43211

April 18th: Land Grant Donation Night

3:30–10pm: 20% of proceeds go to the Sierra Club. Letter writing and programming begins at 6pm.

Where: Land Grant Brewing, 424 W Town St, Columbus, OH 43215

April 22nd: Earth Day Celebration at the Columbus Commons

1pm–7pm: We will cap off Earth Day Volunteer Week with a community celebration on Saturday, April 22, 2017. Join us rain or shine at Columbus Commons downtown for a day-long celebration featuring local music, family-friendly activities, eco-friendly artisans, and Columbus' best food trucks.

Where: Columbus Commons, 160 S High St, Columbus, OH 43215

Sun, April 23rd: Aveda Catwalk for a Cause: Save Water, Drink Mead!

6pm–9:30pm: Catwalk for Water is an annual green carpet event during which local Aveda salons come together to raise money for Earth Month by showcasing their inspiration, creativity, and technical skills in hair, makeup, and fashion. Tickets cost \$25 and can be purchased in-advance and at the door. All guests will receive a complimentary goodie bag and one free raffle ticket. We will be raffling off amazing gift baskets! All proceeds benefit Sierra Club Ohio and go towards clean water efforts in our local watersheds. Follow link to purchase tickets:<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2894970>

Where: Brothers Drake Meadery & Bar, 26 E 5th Ave, Columbus, OH 43201

Tues, April 25th: A Fierce Green Fire

7pm–10pm: This powerful film is the first big picture explora-

saving the whales to Chico Mendes and the rubber tappers transforming civilization, the film tells vivid stories about people fighting - and succeeding - against enormous odds. A panel discussion will follow. Sponsored by Simply Living. Donations support the nonprofit Drexel Theatre. Reserve tickers on [Eventbrite](#).

Where: Drexel Theatre, 2254 E. Main St. Bexley, OH 43219

Sat, April 29th: Lawn Mower Exchange

10am–1pm: Bring in your old, polluting lawn-mower and exchange it for a Kobalt battery-powered mower for \$175.00 (original retail price \$345). A working gas mower must be exchanged at the time of purchase. 45 mowers are available through a Columbus Public Health partnership on a first-come, first-served basis. For more info: Richard Hicks (614) 645-6189. [https://www.columbus.gov/publichealth/features/Save-the-Date--Lawn-Mower-Exchange-April-29,-2017/!](https://www.columbus.gov/publichealth/features/Save-the-Date--Lawn-Mower-Exchange-April-29,-2017/)

Where: Lowe's Home Improvement, 2345 Silver Dr., Columbus, OH 43211

May

May 23rd: Rurple Recycling Tour

1pm–2:30PM: Learn what happens to the contents of your blue (or red) recycling bins, discover the technologies, commodity economics and science involved in the sortation process. Answer the perplexing questions, such as is the chasing-arrow numbering symbol (imprinted on disposable recyclable containers) an accurate or reliable system? Why aren't plastic bags, yogurt or plastic cups, margarine type containers and styrene wanted? Free 90 minute facility tour & presentation. Maximum capacity=24 attendees. Car pooling is encouraged. RSVP required: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1eiDuEoCjO3RigXVApp44vikfAujgvTfDMz26nEBIZQk/edit?usp=drive_web

Where: 1191 Fields Ave, Columbus, Ohio 43201

JUNE

June 20th, 6 PM The Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center Tour

The Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center (BPCRC) at The Ohio State University is recognized internationally as a leader in polar, alpine, and climate research. Research at the Center focuses on the role of cold regions in the Earth's overall climate system, and encompasses geological sciences, geochemistry, glaciology, paleoclimatology, meteorology, remote sensing, ocean dynamics, and the history of polar exploration. Free presentation and guided tour. <https://bpcrc.osu.edu/>

RSVP Required: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/>

[e/1FAIpQLSeeYPmYQ4RF4kQI2uqZF45oBzOlvgEGDVHMAViFnc2I_SP2vQ/viewform?usp=sf_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeeYPmYQ4RF4kQI2uqZF45oBzOlvgEGDVHMAViFnc2I_SP2vQ/viewform?usp=sf_link)

Where: The Ohio State University, 1090 Carmack Rd, Columbus, OH 43210 Phone: 614-292-6531

See Sierra COG exhibiting at the following summer festivals:

- Earthday Celebration at the Columbus Commons
- ComFest at Goodale Park
- Worthington's Green on the Green
- Delaware's NOW at Mingo Park
- Westerville's Party at the Creek
- Stay tuned for more to come!



**Sierra Club - Central Ohio Group - Outings
Schedule + Descriptions: Mar-Apr 2017**

**Fri 03/31 Walk & Climb: Scioto Audubon
MetroPark (trail & rock wall). Ratings: E/
S=2/2.**

7:00 pm Leader: Ed Norwood – EdNorwood.hiking@gmail.com – Ph: 614-649-5701

We will walk for about 3 miles along the South Scioto Greenway Path. There is an optional dinner after the hike. There is optional rock climbing after the dinner on the Audubon Park climbing wall until midnight. Meet at the Scioto Audubon MetroPark, 400 W Whittier St, Columbus, OH 43215.

Sun 04/02 open

**11:00 am Please check back for changes/
updates to the schedule.**

Fri 04/07 Walk: Bexley. Ratings: E/S = 2/2.

7:00 pm Leader: Ed Norwood – EdNorwood.hiking@gmail.com – Ph: 614-649-5701

Take in the Capital University campus and surrounding neighborhoods of Bexley on this hike of about three miles. Flashlight and reflective clothing are recommended. Optional dinner close by after the hike. Meet at the Bexley Library parking lot at 2411 E Main St, Bexley, OH 43209.

**Sun 04/09 Moderate Hike: Chestnut Ridge
MetroPark. Ratings: E/S=2/2.**

9:00 am Leader: Jim Rousseau – JRousseau@insight.rr.com – Ph: 614-546-7697

Join us for a 4-6 mile hike through the Chestnut Ridge MetroPark with a nice view of downtown Columbus from the top of the ridge on a clear day. Please meet at 9:00am behind the Gender Road McDonalds at 6161 Gender Rd, Canal Winchester, OH 43110.

Fri 04/14 Walk: Grove City. Ratings: E/

S=2/2.

7:00 pm Leader: Eric Shaumann – Shaumann@copper.net – Ph: 614-270-5951

Join us for a walk starting at the OLD Library and proceed through the local neighborhoods. Reflective clothing is recommended. An optional dinner will take place after the hike. Meet at the OLD Grove City Library: 3359 Park Street, Grove City, OH 43123.

**Sat 04/15 Pre-TAX Bike Ride: South Bexley
-> Pickerington Ponds. Ratings: E/S=2/2.**

**10:00am Leader: Courtney George – George.707@osu.edu – Ph: 248-494-3698
Co-Leader: Ed Norwood—
EdNorwood.hiking@gmail.com – Ph: 614-649-5701**

Join us for a bike ride on Apr 15 (taxes not due till Tue Apr 18). We will be biking at a moderate pace (10-12 mph) on the Three Creeks and Blacklick bike trails from Bexley to Pickerington Ponds MetroPark for a lunch stop, then back again. Please bring your bike, water, and food, and meet at the Circle K (Please park on the left side of the parking lot near the big bike rack). The GPS address is: 2481 Petzinger Rd, Columbus, OH 43209. **Note: This is a Saturday bike outing.**

Sun 04/16 Easter Sunday - No Outing

**Fri 04/21 Walk: Old Beechwold. Ratings: E/
S=2/3.**

7:00 pm Leader: Line Martineau – LineMartineau@gmail.com

We will hike about 3 miles in the Old Beechwold area. The hike will end with an optional dinner at a local restaurant. Please wear sturdy footwear as we may encounter some wet and muddy areas. Meet at the Kroger parking lot in Graceland Shopping Center. Please park and gather to the west of the Kroger store so that we don't disrupt shoppers. The GPS address is: 199 Graceland Blvd, Columbus, OH 43214.

downtown for a day-long celebration featuring local music, family- friendly activities, eco-friendly artisans, and Columbus' best food trucks.

BOOTHS

You can sign up for a booth at the Celebration here. Green Columbus will provide the tent. Vendors must bring their own tables and chairs.

BEER GARDEN

Beverage of choice at this year's celebration will come from Great Lakes Brewing and OYO!

FAMILY FUN

Activities throughout the day. MUSIC & FOOD! <http://www.earthdaycolumbus.org/>

Sun 04/23 Moderate Hike: Granville + Dennison University. Ratings: E/S=2/3.

10:00am Leader: Sherri Soble – Sherri.Soble@yahoo.com – Ph: 614-804-3215

We will hike 6 - 8 miles in the Dennison University biological preserve and the lovely town of Granville. This is a medium paced hike with some challenging hills. Bring lunch, water, and hiking boots. We will meet at 10am in the parking lot behind Worthington United Methodist Church, 600 High St, Worthington, OH 43085 (on the East side of US-23 - about 2 blocks south of 161).

NOTE: MEETUP CHANGE - No longer meeting in the Tim Hortons parking lot.

Fri 04/28 Moderate Hike: Rocky Fork Metro-Park. Ratings: E/S=2/2.

7:00 pm Leader: Jim Rousseau – JRousseau@insight.rr.com – Ph: 614-546-7697

Join us for a hike of about 3 miles in the new Rocky Fork park in Westerville. Optional dinner after the hike (Blue Agave ?). From I-270 drive East on OH-161 for 7.0mi to the New Albany exit, Turn Left on New Albany Rd and immediately Go Right on New Albany Rd East for 1.1mi, Go Left on OH-605/New Albany Condit Rd for 0.6mi, Go Right on E Walnut St 0.7mi, Turn Left on the park entrance drive and go back to the parking circle at the end of the drive. The GPS address is: 7180 Walnut St, Westerville, OH 43081.

Sat 04/29 Bike Ride: South Bexley -> Pickerington Ponds. Ratings: E/S=2/2.

10:00am Leader: Ed Norwood – EdNorwood.hiking@gmail.com – Ph: 614-649-5701

We will be biking at a moderate pace (10-12 mph) on the Three Creeks and Blacklick bike trails from Bexley to Pickerington Ponds MetroPark for a lunch stop, then back again. Please

bring your bike, water, and food, and meet at the Circle K (Please park on the left side of the parking lot near the big bike rack). The GPS address is: 2481 Petzinger Rd, Columbus, OH 43209. **NOTE: This is a bike outing.**

Sat 04/29 Bike Ride: OSU -> Antrum Lake.

Ratings: E/S=2/2.

3:00pm Leader: Courtney George – George.707@osu.edu – Ph: 248-494-3698

Co-Leader: Ed Norwood – EdNorwood.hiking@gmail.com – Ph: 614-649-5701

We will be biking at a moderate pace (10-12 mph) on the Olentangy Bike Trail from the OSU campus up to Antrum Park, stopping at Antrum Lake for a lunch break, and then back to OSU again. Please bring your bike, water, and food, and meet in front of the Jesse Owens Recreation Center South at 175 W 11th Ave, Columbus, OH 43201. Parking is available at the OSU 11th Ave parking deck at 229 W 11th Ave, Columbus, OH 43201. **NOTE: This is a bike outing.**

Sun 04/30 Hike: Hargus Lake. Ratings: E/S =

2/2. 9:00am Leader: Dave Dorsky – ValOrDave@hotmail.com – Ph: 614-848-7879

We will hike 5-6 miles around scenic Hargus Lake in AW Marion State Park. We will have one or two short snack stops during the hike and lunch in the park after the hike. If the weather is nice, you will have the option of hiking 2-3 more miles after lunch at nearby Stage's Pond. Bring your own food, plenty of water, and sturdy shoes or hiking boots for the wooded and at times uneven and muddy terrain. Meet south of Columbus at 9am behind the Tim Hortons located in the Great Southern Shopping Center on U.S. 23 just north of I-270 - the GPS address is: 3623 S High St, Columbus, OH 43206.

Note: [NEW Sierra Club COG Outings web page with Calendar + PDF file:](#)



<http://www.sierraclub.org/ohio/central-ohio/>



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