



September Event

*** Saturday,
September 24**

8:45 A.M.

**Raven Cliff Falls
Hike**

Jean Wilder, leader

coming in October

**Wednesday,
October 19**

7:30 P.M.

**Critical Land
Prioritization and
Protection Campaign**

**Upstate Forever
Andrea Cooper
Executive Director**

The William Bartram Group meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month (except July) at Greenville Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
1135 State Park Road
Greenville, SC 29609
at 7:30 P.M.
unless otherwise noted.



see web site for directions
<http://sierraupstate.org>

Raven Cliff Falls Hike

by Jean Wilder

In lieu of our monthly meeting, please join us for a beautiful autumn hike to Raven Cliff Falls on Saturday, September 24th.

This hike takes us to the bridge overlooking the top of the falls. The trail is 3.25 miles each way in length and has a few moderately steep spots, but otherwise it is not difficult. The trail head is near Caesar's Head Park. Bring water, lunch, good hiking boots and rain gear if indicated.

We will meet to carpool at the McDonalds in University Square at 8:45 A.M. and leave the parking lot at 9:00 A.M. The address is 5000 Old Buncombe Road, Greenville. Please call Jean Wilder at (864) 561-0794 if you have questions. Also, please RSVP this hike at her email: JeanWilder1@att.net.



Raven Cliff Falls

coming in October

Upstate Critical Land Prioritization and Protection Campaign

Andrea Cooper, Executive Director of Upstate Forever, will speak of the group's Upstate critical land prioritization and protection campaign. Meeting is to be held in the Unitarian Universal Church, 1135 State Park Road Fellowship hall at 7:30 P.M. on Wednesday, October 19.

Andrea relocated to the Upstate after living in the Charleston area for 20 years. Andrea was a key leader in the "GrowFood Carolina" initiative, which has significantly expanded the market for local food along the coast. She also served as Chair of the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Coastal Conservation League, a regional nonprofit organization similar to Upstate Forever.

ExCom Volunteers Needed

Bartram Sierra is looking for volunteers to serve on the Executive Committee. If you are interested, please send your name to Bob Church, Chair of the Nominating Committee, 101 Sutherland Hill Dr., Greenville, SC 29615 no later than September 12, 2016.

See *Schedule* on page 3.





Outings

and Dates to Remember

Nonmembers of the Sierra Club are welcome to join us on our outings. Please call the trip leader to let him/her know that you are going. She/he can then give you a location to meet as well as information on last minute changes. Discuss how strenuous the trip is, and any health problems you may have of which she/he should be aware. Please, no pets, guns, radios, etc. on hikes. Interested in leading a trip? Call Dennis Chamberlain, (864) 430-3754.

In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see <<http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms>> or call (415) 977-5630.

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.

Saturday, September 24 • Raven Cliff Falls Hike

In lieu of our monthly meeting, please join us for a beautiful autumn hike to Raven Cliff Falls on Saturday, September 24th. This hike takes us to the bridge overlooking the top of the falls. The trail is 3.25 miles each way in length and has a few moderately steep spots, but otherwise it is not difficult. The trail head is near Caesar's Head Park. Bring water, lunch, good hiking boots and rain gear if indicated. We will meet to carpool at the McDonalds in University Square at 8:45 A.M. and leave the parking lot at 9:00 A.M. The address is 5000 Old Buncombe Road, Greenville. Please call Jean Wilder at (864) 561-0794 if you have questions. Also, please RSVP this hike at my Email: JeanWilder1@att.net.

Adopt-a-Highway

Remaining 2016 dates is: November 19th

Saturday, November 19 • Adopt-a-Highway

Join us for the last Adopt-a-Highway of 2016. We have a two mile stretch on East North (also known as) Old Spartanburg Road between Mitchell Road and Brushy Creek. We will meet at 9:00 A.M. at Mitchell Road Elementary School which is on the corner of Mitchell Road and Old Spartanburg Road. If it is pouring rain, we'll not meet. You will be provided the bags, twisty ties, work gloves, and orange safety vests. We cover two miles, both sides of the street, and are very fortunate to have sidewalks on the entire route. Contact Brandi McCauley at brandimc81@gmail.com or (864) 350-8300 for details or to let her know you will join us. 🐾

Other Events . . .

Friday, September 9 • Happy Hour Conversation with SCELP at The Playwright

The Bartram Group is proud to be a long-standing partner and supporter of the South Carolina Environmental Law Project (SCELP). As a nonprofit law firm working in the public interest, SCELP protects the natural environment of South Carolina by providing legal services and advice to organizations and concerned citizens. We benefit from the presence of a former SCELP attorney, Michael Corley, on our executive committee.

SCELP is expanding its commitment to the Upstate, and the organization is hosting a casual meet-and-greet to commemorate the occasion. All Bartram Group members are invited to come meet the SCELP team for drinks and refreshments, as well as an informal discussion of how we can work together to take on the most significant environmental challenges in the region.

This event is being held at The Playwright, 401 River Street, Greenville on 9/9 at 4pm. *If you would like to attend, please RSVP to filippo@scelp.org by September 5.*

From the ExCom

by Ron Sobczak

SC Energy Plan Survey

Here is your chance to have input into the state energy plan. Go to the link below and take the survey on energy. Have your voice heard.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SCEnergyPlan>

The following is from the SC Energy Office:

As you know, the Office of Regulatory Staff, Energy Office (Energy Office) is developing the first statewide Energy Plan, in accordance with State statute (SC Code Section 48-52-210) which guides us. The drafting of the Energy Plan consists of two Phases. Phase I is the development of a baseline, to reflect the current status of energy in the State. We are pleased to say that this draft (along with corresponding appendices) is posted on our website:<http://www.energy.sc.gov/energyplan>.

Phase II which focuses on policy recommendations is currently underway.

The Energy Office is also still seeking input via our online survey. Information on the public engagement sessions and a link to the survey are also available on our website. We encourage your participation.

ExCom Elections for 2017 Election Schedule

- September 12 Nominations due; all members interested in being candidates must submit a statement of their desire to run for the Executive Committee.
- September 16 Nominating Committee reports nominated candidates to the chapter Executive Committee.
- October 3 Petition Candidate deadline; those candidates that the Nominations Committee has chosen not to nominate, may petition to be on the ballot. *Please see below for the petitioning procedure.*
- October 10 Ballot Statements from all candidates are due. Bios must be no more than 350 words and include a picture of the candidate.
- October 28 Ballots mailed to members.
- December 1 Close of election; election ballots must be received at the South Carolina chapter office by 3:30 P.M. on this date.
- December 2 Ballots counted and results announced

Criteria for Valid Petitions

1. Must be received by 4 pm on October 3, 2016
2. Must have at least 15 endorsements
3. Must be in writing
4. Petitions received by email will not be accepted
5. Each endorser of a petition must include his/her
 - a. Sierra Club ID Number
 - b. Endorser's Printed Legal Name
 - c. Endorser's Legal Signature



Sierrafest 2016 in Greenville

South Carolina Sierrafest is meeting in Greenville this year. It will be September 9 to 11 at Camp Buckhorn, Paris Mountain State Park, Greenville, SC. It is a great time to visit with Sierra members from throughout South Carolina. There will be workshops, entertainment, music, guest speakers, a back porch cook-out on Friday and a dinner on Saturday evening.

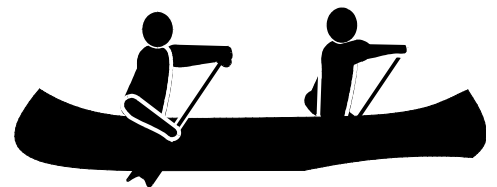
There are different options for every budget (\$30 to attend, \$60 including meals, \$85 including meals and a bed). You can register at <http://www.sierraclub.org/south-carolina/blog/2016/05/2016-sierra-fest-registration-now-open>. The agenda link is listed below. Please consider attending the weekend. It will be fun and informative and a chance to caucus with Sierra members from throughout South Carolina.

Sierrafest 2016 Agenda

https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4aO5ALsZ2_0YU1sY3h5NnZ0dVk/view



Paris Mountain State Park Lake Placid



Join Us On Facebook

The Bartram Group of the Sierra Club—Upstate, SC

Fighting Together to Keep Pellet Facility Out

by Michael Corley

The Bartram Group has partnered with the Dogwood Alliance in order to fight a proposed wood pellet production facility in Laurens County. Pellet facilities grind trees into small chips that are sent to Europe



to burn in biomass energy plants. While wood pellets are sometimes touted as a source of green energy, that position faces significant push-back from those outside of the industry. The wood pellet export industry is currently expanding across states in the Southeast, and the Bartram

Group believes that this expansion stands to have a negative impact on the quality of life, economic prosperity, and environment of residents in Laurens County.

Laurens County stands to bear all of the costs of pellet production, while reaping none of the limited energy benefits. The activities surrounding production, including increased truck traffic, noise from the production process, and dust from the production, tend to disrupt the quality of life, public health, property values, and safety of nearby residents. Leading health groups such as the American Lung Association and the International Agency for Research on Cancer have confirmed that wood dust and fine particulate matter that occurs in the production of wood pellets presents a serious health concern for nearby residents. In terms of dollars and cents, the wood pellet industry is a risky economic investment and a poor use of taxpayer dollars as the wood pellet industry is highly vulnerable to changes in European policy. Further, the increased industrialization of rural landscapes could limit the attractiveness of the region as a location for new residents and businesses, threatening the economic vitality of our community.

Michael Corley, a member of the Bartram Group executive committee and a native of Laurens County, recently spoke to an engaged group of citizens at the Laurens County Library, where he conveyed the reasons why the proposed facility is problematic.

 **Deadline for October bulletin is
Friday, September 23**

Send your submissions to wbartramnews@gmail.com

The Green Spot



Sharing the Green

Reduce Your Footprint

Severe weather—extreme cold in the winter and extreme heat in the summer—leads to increased electric usage and higher monthly bills. Here are some ideas to help you decrease your usage. . . and monthly bill.

- Keep your thermostat no higher than 68° in winter, and no lower than 78° in summer. Each additional degree adds about 3% to your energy cost.
- Change your air filters on schedule, and clean dust from outlets. Use sealant to seal leaky supply and return ducts.
- Replacing an old HVAC system can cut your heating and cooling costs by 25–50%.
- In summer, use ceiling fans instead of, or in addition to air conditioning.
- Weatherproof your home with: weatherstripping, caulk, storm doors and windows, and by fully insulating (doors, windows, walls, attic, basement, ducts and pipes).
- Use the energy-saving cycle on the dishwasher, and only run when it's full.
- Don't overload, underload, or over-dry your clothes. Clean the lint filter after each use.
- Use smaller appliances like a toaster oven or microwave instead of your full-sized oven when you can.
- When it's time to buy new appliances, buy the most energy-efficient models.
- Take advantage of the natural light when you can. Turn off the lights when you leave a room. Use CFLs or LEDs.
- Limit your hot water usage, and lower the setting to 120°.
- Wash laundry in cold water.
- Install low-flow shower heads. Don't leave water running while you brush your teeth or shave.

Member contributions are welcomed. Send your green submissions to wbartramnews@gmail.com

Water, thou hast no taste, no color, no odor; canst not be defined, art relished while ever mysterious. Not necessary to life, but rather life itself, thou fillest us with a gratification that exceeds the delight of the senses.

~ Antoine de Saint-Exupery