



# Shawnee Trails



<http://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/shawnee>

Sierra Club – Shawnee Group

June – August 2024 QUARTERLY

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## Hydrogen Fuel Development Hubs: MachH2

By Sabrina Hardenbergh

*“The Sierra Club only supports the use of hydrogen made through electrolysis that is powered by renewable energy, known as “green” hydrogen, with targeted end uses in sectors that cannot easily be electrified, like the steel or concrete sectors. Even green hydrogen has limited applications due to safety and cost restraints. Fossil fuel-based hydrogen, like “blue” hydrogen, is not a climate solution. Electrification is almost always a better investment to address climate change and offer consumers clean, affordable energy.” – Shannon Van Hoesen, Sierra Club*

Two years ago, an overview about hydrogen fuel was featured in this newsletter, [Green Hydrogen? Green Steel?](#) Many points made then are still relevant today as we currently watch our federal government invest [\\$7 billion](#) in R&D and domestic [manufacturing sector jobs](#) in the form of [seven Hydrogen Hub demonstration projects](#) across our country, opened by a number of nationwide online [listening sessions](#) this spring. [Recordings](#) of earlier related Hydrogen Hub stakeholder briefings for different workforce, community and environmental justice sectors are available on the Office of Clean Energy Demonstration website (a division of the U.S. Department of Energy). Anticipating the Midwest Alliance for Clean Hydrogen Hub ([MachH2](#)), Illinois legislators pushed the [Hydrogen Fuel Replacement Tax Credit Act HB5818](#), later becoming [HB2204 signed by Governor Pritzker](#), providing a \$10 million per year tax credit in 2026 and 2027 that prioritizes users of hydrogen hub zero-carbon hydrogen, with further credits if done in environmental justice or equity investment eligible communities. Become more informed on this very complex topic; reread the earlier [article](#) and the many weblinks in this hydrogen hub enactment update.

Prior to the [H2Hub technical aspect beginning](#), many people and organizations voiced concerns about the new hydrogen development during the [listening session phase](#), Sierra Club and the [ICJC Hydrogen Committee](#) included. Key categories of concern were lack of transparency, environmental justice and unclear community benefits with hydrogen technology industry developments, and climate impacts. Our regional MachH2 website and [FAQs page](#) is less informative than some of the other H2Hubs, like California, who posts their [community benefits proposal](#). The “just because you can doesn’t mean you should” adage is relevant here; one can be easily dazzled by recent high tech hydrogen demos in the [automotive industry](#) and [other sectors](#), which might not be the more efficient or environmentally sustainable choice despite the green-wash fossil fuel industry marketing.

[MachH2](#) (the Illinois, Indiana, Michigan hydrogen hub) [proposes demonstration](#) of thermal and electrolysis production of hydrogen, with hydrogen fueling stations as a midstream use, and (*Continued on Page 2*)

(MachH2, Continued from Page 1)

end uses in steel and glass production, power generation, refining, heavy duty vehicles, and sustainable aviation fuel. Proposed hydrogen production includes generation from natural gas and nuclear energy, as well as renewables, wherein some [key administrators](#) of MachH2 come from the nuclear industry. Public and private [collaborators](#) from all parts of the hydrogen “value chain” represent central and northern Illinois, Rust Belt Indiana and Michigan organizations and companies, other regional institutions and companies (in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, Kentucky), but not so much southernmost Illinois. A collaborating steel company, [ArcelorMittal](#), already has hydrogen steel demonstration projects elsewhere in the world, as noted in the earlier [newsletter article](#), and its R&D center is in East Chicago, Indiana. Green hydrogen could potentially provide both high- temperature heat and replace coking coal in the (Continued on Page 3)

## **[ICJC Hydrogen Work Group Talking Points, April 24 Listening Session, MachH2 Hydrogen Hub](#)**

### **Lack of transparency**

- If DOE wants meaningful feedback from communities, then it needs to provide meaningful information to communities. We still know almost nothing about MachH2’s plans for our region. We can’t comment meaningfully on plans we know nothing about.
- DOE and MachH2 owe us answers. When will we see MachH2’s Community Benefits Plan? When will I learn whether a Hub project is planned in my community? When will MachH2 release details about its projects and their impacts?
- How will DOE make sure our interests are protected and community benefits goals are met? How will DOE make sure that MachH2 measures harms and benefits accurately? How will DOE make sure that communities can shape projects and reject projects that would worsen environmental injustices?
- Listening sessions are necessary but not sufficient. What we need as a first step is more information, a lot more, followed by a meaningful dialogue with DOE and MachH2 officials where questions and concerns can be raised and addressed.

### **Environmental justice & community benefits**

- DOE says that most Hub projects will be in disadvantaged communities. The last thing DOE should be doing is funding more harmful industry in overburdened communities. Our coalition will oppose any projects that worsen environmental injustices.
- DOE has a chance to ensure the Hydrogen Hubs do not hurt communities. DOE’s guidance on Community Benefits Plans is a good start, but DOE needs to make clear how MachH2 will be held accountable to meeting that guidance.
- At a minimum, any commitments MachH2 makes in its Community Benefits Plan must be clear, binding, and enforceable conditions of continued funding from DOE. Communities also must be able to enforce MachH2’s commitments, and MachH2 must clearly and publicly report on its progress toward commitments.
- We support the goals of the Justice40 program and the requirement that 40% of MachH2’s benefits go to disadvantaged communities—but DOE and MachH2 need to work closely with communities to identify real, significant benefits the community actually wants.
- If MachH2 claims to satisfy Justice40 in part through economic benefits—whether jobs, contracting opportunities, or other economic benefits—then those economic benefits must go to people living in the impacted community.
- Communities cannot be asked to trade their health for jobs. That’s exactly what will happen if project developers can decide what counts as a benefit to the community and ignore or understate harms.

### **Climate impacts**

- Hub goals can only be met if MachH2 produces truly green hydrogen, where the process is powered entirely by new renewables, and uses that hydrogen only to replace dirty hydrogen or in hard-to-electrify industries, like steelmaking.
- MachH2 can prioritize projects that actually clean up our region, or it can dig in its heels on its current plan to lock in fossil fuel infrastructure, waste limited renewables, increase electricity bills, and spike local air pollution.
- We will oppose any Hub projects that threaten our state’s climate goals, including hydrogen production that uses fossil fuels or causes coal and gas plants to ramp up instead of shut down.
- MachH2 should not include blue hydrogen projects, period. We are glad that no blue hydrogen projects are planned for Illinois, and we oppose the project planned for the BP Whiting refinery in Indiana, just over the Indiana-Illinois border. We staunchly oppose the creation of “sacrifice zones” in our region—whether in Illinois, Indiana, or Michigan—where people would face harms from increased fossil fuel development and carbon capture and storage projects.

## SUMMER 2024 – SHAWNEE GROUP SIERRA CLUB MEMBER PROGRAMS

Note our **in-person** Shawnee Group member programs, at the Carbondale Township Hall Meeting Room, 217 E. Main, Carbondale, IL, unless otherwise noted. **Enter through the Township's backdoor.** Parking is available in lots along the alley near the backdoor, behind Township Hall and Buckwater Brew Works, on the block bounded by South Washington Street, East Monroe, and South Marion (by Rock Hill Baptist Church). Do also consider other Illinois Sierra groups' virtual presentations, as well as our own, listed on [www.sctrips.org](http://www.sctrips.org).

*(In June, no evening presenter program is scheduled.)*

**Saturday, July 20th, 2024, noon**

**Location:** Molly's Pint Brewpub, 12 N 13th Street Murphysboro

**Event:** Shawnee Group Sierra Club's Summer Social

Please join us for the Shawnee Group's summer social at Molly's Pint on July 20, starting at noon. Molly's serves great beer brewed on the premises. One round of pints--one per person--will be on us. Bring an appetizer, should you want food to accompany your brew! RSVPs are appreciated, to Carla Womack ([crusso1957@yahoo.com](mailto:crusso1957@yahoo.com)) or Barb McKasson ([babitaji@aol.com](mailto:babitaji@aol.com))

**Thursday, August 8, 2024, 7 pm**

**Presentation Title:** "Conservation Stewardship: Reflections on a Work in Progress"

**Presenter:** John Dively

**Location:** Carbondale Township Hall, 217 E. Main Street.

John Dively is a retired educator and attorney, and he will soon complete the requirements for Master Naturalist certification. This presentation will chronicle his fourteen-year project to improve and maintain 20 acres of forest, wetlands, and farm ground that adjoin the Crab Orchard Wildlife Refuge. In the context of his interactions with private, state and federal entities, Dively will focus on his experiences related to invasives, native plants, erosion control, timber stand improvement, and prescribed burns.

*(MachH2, Continued from Page 2)*

iron-ore reduction process, but it remains to be seen whether blue or pink (or grey/black/brown) hydrogen from local industry will be used. MachH2 claims to create 12,100 construction jobs and 1,500 permanent jobs. Targets include 40% of subcontracted funds for minority/disadvantaged businesses, \$30 million for new start up enterprises focusing on minority/disadvantaged businesses, 45% diverse hiring, and \$15 million in worker education services.

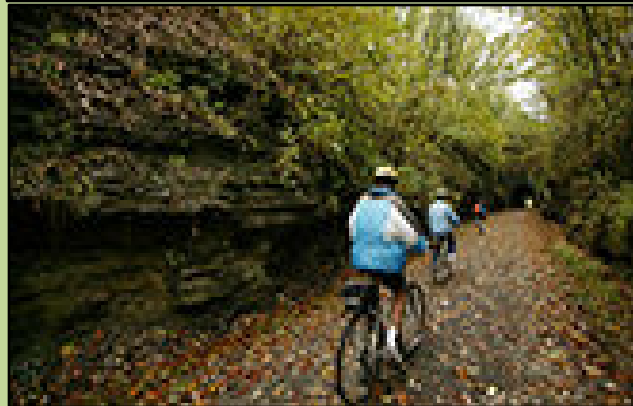
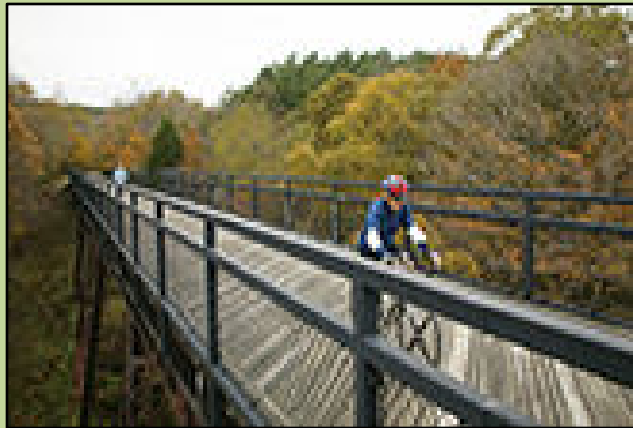
[Sierra Club](#) has favored use of electric vehicle cars over hydrogen or gas. [General Motors](#) has developed heavy duty hydrogen fuel cell vehicles or trucks and [hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicle charging stations](#), some of which are portable. One may possibly soon see on-site or portable electrolysis-based hydrogen fuel cell generated electricity charging stations for EV's of various sizes, in part by this company, those it supplies and competitors. The GM [Hydrotec](#) division [emphasizes](#) developments for aviation and rail freight. Yet, MachH2 does not indicate GM as a direct [partner](#), but the company supplies hydrogen technology to other companies and has [EV vehicle and charging development](#) in Michigan. Instead, MachH2 enlists [Nikola](#), an Arizona company, with dealers in Michigan and Illinois, for its recent hydrogen long-haul truck and fuel cell technology. Some other MachH2 partners, like [BP](#), are part of the carbon capture and storage sector related to fossil fuel and hydrogen industry processes, the likes of whom we face with the [CO2 pipeline issue](#) in central Illinois. Another partner, [Bloomenergy](#), blends hydrogen with gas for utility pipelines, a risky, costly endeavor, that works against recent effort to [convert home appliances to electricity](#) for cleaner environmental and public health. While the MachH2 website is vague about its demonstration projects and locations, exploration of each [MachH2 partner's](#) capacity on their separate websites provides an idea of the potential parameters of MachH2's outcome.

The [Pacific Northwest Hydrogen Hub](#) (Montana, Oregon, Washington) is the only hub producing hydrogen with just electrolysis; all others combine thermal and electrolysis. By design, the hydrogen hub bid only allowed one group to focus on renewables (although [renewable can be loosely defined](#), wherein still [fossil fuel](#)); *(Continued on Page 7)*

## SUMMER 2024 – SHAWNEE GROUP SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS

### Tunnel Hill Bike Ride, Sunday, June 9, 2024

Bob Mulcahy will lead a bike ride through the Tunnel Hill trail. Meet at the Tunnel Hill trail head in Vienna before 10 am. The ride will cover about 18 miles. Bring your own bike and water. You must call Bob Mulcahy at 618-942-6342 in order to go on this outing.



**Please Note:**  
No outings are scheduled for July or August given summer vacations, heat, and insects

Browse the lower right Index on our old blog page for numerous southern Illinois **hiking trail** descriptions, and explore some of these during your own time: <http://shawneegroup.blogspot.com/>. Check the Illinois Chapter listings for other outings across the region: <https://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/events-calendar>.

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### Service Outings – Help Save High Quality Natural Areas

Shawnee Group is committed to helping rid high-quality natural areas of non-native invasive plants (NNIS) that are threatening to crowd out our native plant communities at La-Rue Pine Hills Research Natural Area (Snake Road) and at Fern Rocks Nature Preserve (Trillium Trail) in Giant City State Park.

To volunteer, contact Barb at 618-549-9684, [babitaji@aol.com](mailto:babitaji@aol.com) or text 618-534-7440.

### **Piasa Palisades Group Outings Chair:**

Carol Klinger, 618-288-5506, [ciklinger@yahoo.com](mailto:ciklinger@yahoo.com)  
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<http://sierraclub.org/missouri/eastern-missouri>

### **Future Outings TBA:**

Updates listed on our or Illinois Chapter websites:  
<http://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/shawnee>  
<https://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/events-calendar>  
Other short notice outings and events may be announced on our Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/SierraClubShawnee>

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, local members of Shawnee Group Sierra Club, Faith in Place, Climate Reality, and Prairie River Network traveled to the State Capitol, joining there several hundred folks from across Illinois for the [IEC's \(Illinois Environmental Council's\) Climate Action Lobby Day](#). Most of us took advantage of IEC's bus from Carbondale; some carpooled. Our purpose, to let our state legislators know how essential reducing Illinois' climate emissions and increasing green jobs is for our health and resilience and for the health and resilience of our planet.

The [May 9<sup>th</sup> lobby day](#) was scheduled as one among a set of lobby days this spring: on March 6<sup>th</sup>, Soil Health; on April 30<sup>th</sup>, Conservation; and, the final one, on May 15<sup>th</sup>, which centers on [Zero Waste](#).<sup>\*</sup> On May 9<sup>th</sup>, our focus was the new Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition (ICJC) platform (<https://ilcleanjobs.org/icjc-platform/>). In 2021, ICJC, a coalition of over 200 environmental and environmental justice groups, helped pass CEJA (the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act), a comprehensive piece of legislation that commits Illinois to 100% fossil free energy by 2035 and 100 % renewable by 2045, with an emphasis throughout on an equitable distribution of clean energy jobs and savings on energy.

The passage of CEJA in 2021 set in motion the need for another equally, if not more ambitious task: decarbonizing the rest of Illinois' energy sectors, including energy in transportation, in buildings, and energy as distributed through Ameren's and Com Ed's grids. The bills forward this complex ICJC platform, to which we introduced our legislators on the 9<sup>th</sup>, and which include the following (as summarized in the IEC's May 9 Lobby Day Fact Sheet):

- ✚ The Clean & Reliable Grid Act ([SB3637](#)), which would provide “comprehensive solutions to achieve a cleaner, more reliable, and affordable grid in Illinois”
- ✚ The Clean & Healthy Buildings Act ([HB5835/SB3935](#)), which would “reduce the hazardous emissions in our homes and businesses” and accomplish “a responsible and equitable transition for existing buildings by increasing consumer protections and creating a State Navigator Program one-stop-shop for decarbonization and weatherization resources”
- ✚ The Clean Equitable Transportation Act ([HB5829/SB3936](#)), a comprehensive set of transportation and jobs bills, which would “direct state transportation investments to reduce emissions and increase affordable options ([SB3934/HB5825](#)); implement long overdue transit governance and funding reforms for Northeast Illinois with statewide benefits ([SB3937/HB5823](#)); and increase the availability and reliability of zero-emissions vehicles and their accompanying charging infrastructure ([HB5824](#))
- ✚ The Carbon Dioxide Transport & Storage Protections Act ([HB5814/SB3930](#)), which would fill the regulatory gaps that currently leave Illinois “vulnerable at a time when it is being framed at the nation's carbon capture hub” and “provide protections for landowners and taxpayers.”

The number of co-sponsors for these bills continues to grow, with a good many additional co-sponsors added thanks to May 9<sup>th</sup> lobbyists from more green leaning districts. All of these bills are in the early stages: in their First Reading and referred to the Assignments Committee (with the exception of [HB5814](#), the CO2 Transport & Storage Protection Act, which has been referred to the Rules Committee). (*Cont. on Page 6*)

For the current status of the environmental bills forwarded during the IEC Lobby Days, go to [ilga.gov](http://ilga.gov) and enter the bill number into the small text box located to the left of the screen. For example, for the Wetlands and Small Stream Protection Act being considered during this session, enter “[HB5386](#)” to access all the actions on this the bill. (It's currently in its second reading, having gained 30 co-sponsors.) For the Transit to Trails, also currently being considered, enter in Bill: “[HB5277](#)” (On last check, the bill had passed in the House and is in its first reading in the Senate, assigned to the committee for [Appropriations- Public Safety and Infrastructure](#).)

*(Lobby Day, Continued from Page 5)*

Passing these bills will require that all of us continue to educate ourselves and spread the word with legislators and fellow Illinoisans on the health, economic, and equity benefits of transitioning Illinois to 100% clean electricity. These bills will call for an even more concerted effort, since their passage will entail decisions from all of us about the way we will heat and cool our homes and travel between home and work, decisions that will directly impact our day-to-day lives. We will also need to take care that the version of the bills passed remain focused, as the current ones are, on making the funding and resources for implementing this transition equitably available to all, including folks in [Environmental Justice](#) and [Just Transition](#) communities.

Lobby Day allows us to communicate with our District 58 and 59 legislators and in the process discover why they might resist the legislation we support, thus helping us be better prepared to answer their questions in future visits. Indeed, we came away from our May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting with helpful information regarding our legislators' perspectives on the bills forwarding the new [ICJC Platform](#), information that will allow us to provide them with evidence that a gradual transition to clean electricity is both possible and necessary. Necessary, because it will not only contribute to lower energy costs and create clean, well-paying jobs, but it will also deliver clear benefits for our health, especially in BIPOC and economically disadvantaged communities, where polluting industries and power plants are often placed.

During our May 9<sup>th</sup> visit, we found our legislators needed, for instance, facts that show the transition from diesel trucks to all electric is possible – not impossible, as one legislator noted in our visit. Now knowing that objection, we can note the practicality of the shift to electric trucks by citing other countries that have made progress with the transition and by citing also the shift from diesel to electric school buses now being made by many school districts with the support of federal funding. During our visit we also learned of the evolution in our legislators' perspectives on solar, when they enthusiastically voiced support for [agrivoltaics](#), which [combines solar and agricultural use of land](#). It was their visit to [Agrivoltaic](#) projects in southern France early in 2024 that made the difference; it gave them first-hand evidence of the ways in which crops planted under solar panels can benefit from this arrangement, such as from the shade the flexible tilt of the panels can offer. Their visit to these sites also helped them see that the objection often cited— that solar is a waste of good farmland—need not be applicable. Hearing the enthusiasm for [Agrivoltaics](#) by our legislators—often pro fossil fuel and “yes but” on renewables—will give us a stronger basis for scheduling further lobby visits. And it reinforces the importance of sharing real world applications of clean technology that can enhance understanding of renewable energy's benefits, not just to our health and our planet but for our economy.

Both the [IEC](#) and [Sierra Club Illinois](#) websites provide information for how we can become more involved in helping to pass environmental legislation. The [ilga.gov](#) website enables us to track the status of significant bills so we can position our advocacy for these bills more strategically, both in explaining why the bills are a priority for us, whether in lobby visits or in Letters to the Editor in local publications. Another option is to offer programs on related issues for folks in our communities. Of course, all of us who traveled to Springfield on May 9th would welcome your joining us for future lobby days, including for the fall 2024 veto session, should one be scheduled, but certainly again for IEC's spring 2025 lobby day.



Photo by Wade Halva



Photo by Wade Halva



Photo by Laura Basanta

(*MachH2, Continued from Page 3*) the others had to include fossil fuel or nuclear. Pacific's midstream use is a freight network between this and the [California hub](#). End uses include heavy duty vehicles, ports, peaking plants/generators, refineries, and data centers. Community benefits prioritize retraining former coal workers into the hydrogen jobs.

Contrastingly, Appalachian Hydrogen Hub (Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia) [supports the coal industry](#) in this historic coal mining and steel production region. Thermal and electrolysis hydrogen production will feed midstream hydrogen pipelines, fueling stations and CO2 storage; end uses include fuel cell electric mining vehicles, heavy duty vehicles and heavy industry. Read about each hub's demonstrations and their [timelines](#) on the [Hydrogen Hub website](#).

[EarthJustice's August 2021 whitepaper](#) notes in March 2021, oil and gas companies and fossil fuel-intensive utilities launched the "[Clean Hydrogen Future Coalition](#)," to urge the Biden administration to increase support for hydrogen production methods and uses. BP, Shell and other gas companies did the same in Europe. Gas companies and oil refineries produce nearly all of the United States' hydrogen supply with an energy-intensive steam methane reformation (SMR) of fossil gas process. Coal gasification is a large source of hydrogen production in other parts of the world. Globally, hydrogen production emits more greenhouse gas than the entire country of Germany. SMR emits nitrogen oxides, fine particulate matter, carbon monoxide and volatile organic compounds that harms public health in neighboring communities and warms climate globally. In Illinois, this includes pollution ridden EJ communities in Metro East St. Louis and along southern Lake Michigan, where oil refineries and fossil fuel/chemical industries are. The fossil fuel industry is the primary consumer of hydrogen, wherein 60% of domestic hydrogen is used in crude oil refineries to lower diesel's sulfur content. Industrial agribusiness is the second largest user of hydrogen (30%) as feedstock for chemical fertilizers. Currently, the methods of hydrogen processing, storage and transport are energy inefficient, expensive, potentially flammable/explosive and cause greenhouse gas and particulate matter air pollution, so it is not the "green" remedy in comparison to other renewable electric energy options. Using hydrogen byproducts as feedstock in other industry processes works better on-site, to minimize storage and transport issues, but nevertheless refinery and chemical industry sites are our polluted EJ sites. For these reasons, use of hydrogen is recommended just in long-haul maritime, aviation, trucking and rail freight, high-heat industry (e.g., steel production), and long-term storage of renewable energy with H2 fuel cells, if renewable electrical options aren't feasible. Because of air pollution, large water use, cost, safety, etc., [hydrogen use is not recommended](#) for combustion in fossil fuel power plants, cars, buses, short-haul trucks, appliances, or lower-heat industrial processes, nor in a manner that just prolongs or increases fossil fuel use. Using renewable energy directly from the grid is more cost-effective than to use green hydrogen because of the inefficiency of converting renewable energy into hydrogen.

**Illinois Legislative Contacts: [CALL YOUR LEGISLATORS TODAY!](#)**

State Dist. 109 – Charles Meier: 618-651-0405; 217-782-6401; [repcmeier@gmail.com](mailto:repcmeier@gmail.com)

State Dist. 115 – David Riess: 618-282-7284; 217-782-1018; [friess@ilhousegop.org](mailto:friess@ilhousegop.org)

State Dist. 116 – David Severin: 618-440-5090; 217-782-1051; [severin@ilhousegop.org](mailto:severin@ilhousegop.org)

State Dist. 117 – Patrick Windhorst: 618-294-8703; 217-782-5131; [windhorst@ilhousegop.org](mailto:windhorst@ilhousegop.org)

State Dist. 118 – Paul Jacobs: 618-559-7018; 217-782-0387; [Jacobs@ilhousegop.org](mailto:Jacobs@ilhousegop.org)

Senate Dist. 55 – Senator Jason Plummer: 618-283-3000; 217-782-5755

Senate Dist. 58 – Senator Terri Bryant: 618-684-1100; 217-782-8137; Sec'y.: [cbrown@sgop.ilga.gov](mailto:cbrown@sgop.ilga.gov)

Senate Dist. 59 – Senator Dale Fowler: 618-294-8951; 217-782-5509; [senatorfowler59@gmail.com](mailto:senatorfowler59@gmail.com)

Governor J.B. Pritzker: 217-782-6830; <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/gov/contactus/Pages/default.aspx>

Speaker of the House Emanuel Chris Welch: 217-782-5350; 708-450-1000; [repwelch@emanuelchriswelch.com](mailto:repwelch@emanuelchriswelch.com)

Senate President Don Harmon: 217-782-8176; 708-848-2002; <http://www.donharmon.org/contact-senator-harmon>

**Congressional Contacts: [CALL YOUR CONGRESSMEN TODAY!](#)**

Senator Dick Durbin: 618-351-1122; 202-224-2152; <http://www.durbin.senate.gov>

Senator L. Tammy Duckworth: 202-224-2854; <https://www.duckworth.senate.gov>

Representative Mike Bost: 618-457-5787; 202-225-5661; <https://bost.house.gov>

Representative Mary Miller: 618-240-3155; 202-225-5271; <https://marymiller.house.gov>

**President Joseph R. Biden**, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C.  
202-456-1111; <https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>

### Has Your Email Address Changed?

To receive notification when the latest Shawnee Group newsletter is posted online, be sure to inform the Group when you change your email address. Send email address updates to: [crusso1957@yahoo.com](mailto:crusso1957@yahoo.com) .

Read current and past newsletters on our website: <http://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/shawnee>. The website also lists information on upcoming local programs and outings, plus state and national Sierra Club issues.

### Leadership Opportunities

**Run for the Board!** We need a few good women and men. Join the board of directors (the executive committee, also known as the ExCom) in overseeing the Shawnee Group's strategic direction and economic health. Board members meet monthly for about 2 hours. Board terms are for two years. We are always interested in potential candidates. Contact Jane Cogie, 618-549-4673, [jane.cogie@gmail.com](mailto:jane.cogie@gmail.com).

**Call for articles and photographs for Shawnee Trails!** The next issue will be published in May. Please send your Word, PDF or JPG files to [sabrina@midwest.net](mailto:sabrina@midwest.net) by **Monday, May 6th**.



### Shawnee Group Sierra Club T-Shirts for Sale!

Show your support for our local group's activities. Contact Mike Covell at 618-201-4928 or [emike@siu.edu](mailto:emike@siu.edu).

White logo on blue T-Shirt **\$15**  
Medium Large or X-Large

### Successful Sierra Club Native Plant Sale

The Shawnee Group of the Sierra Club held the 9th Annual Native Plant Sale on April 13. The location was the Townsquare Pavilion in Carbondale. The event went from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The weather was wonderful. Many customers enjoyed themselves and helped us to raise \$852.00 to help with programs, speakers and local activities. There were 468 plants to sell, and only 42 not sold at the end of the day. Thank you for your patronage! Hope to see you in 2025!

Sincerely,  
Native Plant Sale Committee

