



Events, Updates, News, and more!
August 2024

Dear Friend,

The formal legislative session may have ended last month, but our advocacy hasn't slowed down. The Massachusetts Chapter, along with our allies, are [calling on Governor Healey and our state legislators](#) to convene a special formal session to pass a robust climate bill -- keep reading for more campaign updates!

Don't forget about the Massachusetts state primary elections, happening on Tuesday, September 3rd! 🗳️

Upcoming Chapter Events

Walk in the Quabbin Watershed Forest

Sat, Aug 24
10:00am

[RSVP Here](#)

Join the Sierra Club Massachusetts Chapter, RESTORE: The North Woods, and Save Massachusetts Forests on an educational 2 mile walk through an undisturbed forest and a [recent logging site on the Quabbin Watershed public lands](#). After the walk, we will be offering an option to take a 3 - 5 mi hike through a beautiful northern hardwood forest with stunning views of the Quabbin Reservoir.

Plant-based Cooking Demonstration

Sun, Aug 25
7:00pm

[RSVP Here](#)

Join the Plant-Based Planet team to learn how to make delicious plant-based food in the comfort of your home! Please RSVP to participate, instructions for joining via Zoom or phone will be sent one day in advance.

Horn Pond Bring-Your-Own Picnic Party!

Fri, Aug 30
6:00pm

[RSVP Here](#)

Come celebrate the end of August with a picnic at Horn Pond Recreational Park! All that is required of you is to bring yourself but bringing food/drinks and a blanket is suggested. The plan is simply to eat food, meet new friends, and have fun discussions.

Crown Jewels Film Screening at Patagonia Boston

Thurs, Sept. 5
6:30pm

[RSVP Here](#)

Come see a film about gorgeous old growth forests at Patagonia Boston with [Standing Trees](#) and Massachusetts Sierra Club! "Crown Jewels" documents a year-long journey through some of the last ancient forests on US public lands, highlighting their crucial role in protecting our land, air, and water. Q&A afterwards with Zack Porter, Standing Trees Executive Director.

Can't attend the film screening in person? Join our Forest Protection Team for a [virtual screening on Thursday, Sept. 12th!](#)

Climate Walk and Talk: Arnold Arboretum

Sat, Sept. 7
12:00pm

Join us for a beautiful walk through the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University! Event organizers will facilitate

RSVP Here

discussions for participants to talk openly about their worries regarding ecological and climate crises happening around the globe and release their anxieties about the future. We'll also share positive news regarding recent international and local environmental advocacy and how these changes can inspire hope!

New Volunteer Orientation

Wed, Sept 11
5:00pm

RSVP Here

Join our volunteer community this fall! We're hosting a virtual welcome orientation to meet staff and volunteers, learn about our various volunteer teams, how you can get involved and start making an immediate impact in your local community.

Upcoming Committee and Team Meetings

Check out our Events Calendar for all Committee and Team Meetings in addition to special events!

Events Calendar

Events Calendar



Day	Event
1	Climate Action Meeting
2	Community Outreach
3	Policy Review
4	Volunteer Training
5	State Representative Meeting
6	Climate Justice Forum
7	Local Environmental Advocacy
8	Green Transition Workshop
9	State Senator Meeting
10	Climate Resilience Planning
11	Community Engagement
12	Policy Development
13	Volunteer Recruitment
14	Climate Action Meeting
15	Community Outreach
16	Policy Review
17	Volunteer Training
18	State Representative Meeting
19	Climate Justice Forum
20	Local Environmental Advocacy
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23	Climate Resilience Planning
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30	Volunteer Training
31	State Representative Meeting

🌟 Volunteer Action of the Month 🌟

We are now only **2 weeks** away from the Massachusetts primary elections! If you are [applying for a mail in ballot](#), the deadline is Monday, August 26th

Because Massachusetts is dominated by a single party, the state primary is where the most consequential races are determined.

- 1 Learn about your candidates for State Representative and State Senator.
- 2 Make a plan for yourself.
- 3 Reach out to friends and family and ask if they have a plan to vote!

[Read more about primary elections in our recent blog post!](#)

We need a climate bill this year



After the State Legislature failed to keep its commitment to take meaningful action on climate, we are calling on it to convene a special formal session this fall and to champion a robust climate bill that serves everyone. We don't have time for the State to drag its feet; we need a strong and just green transition right now.

To keep the momentum going, **we need you to tell your state legislators and Governor Healey to support convening a special session and to vote for a robust climate package this fall!**

Send a message!

The Waves Less Traveled

Ever wondered what it's like to commute by ferry to work? 🚢



Photo: Sam Lambert

Sam Lambert, our Political and Municipal Coordinator, recently documented her morning commute from Lynn to Boston's Long Wharf!

[Read about Sam's commute →](#)

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) recently announced that they have launched a study to evaluate potential ferry service expansion. While the ferry is a lesser used branch of the MBTA, it is an important solution to consider as communities look for alternative commuter options and increased access to public transit!

Phasing out PFAS

Governor Maura Healey signed a bill into law earlier this month that would [phase out the use of PFAS](#), a group of toxic industrial compounds, in firefighters' protective gear.

- 🔪 PFAS are used in gear to repel water and other substances when fighting a fire.
- 📅 Beginning in 2027, manufacturers and sellers of personal protective equipment for firefighters will be prohibited from knowingly selling gear containing "intentionally-added PFAS" chemicals.

"We have more to do to protect workers and the public from direct contact with PFAS. Next, we need to address everyday products like clothing and furniture. We all deserve toxic-free homes and cancer-free lives," said Clint Richmond, conservation chair of the Massachusetts Sierra Club.

*Want to learn more about our current work?
Check out our [Campaign Updates Document](#) for more information!*

Support the Chapter



What We're Reading

- It's electric! In Boston, buildings are testing cutting-edge technology to transition fully to renewable energy. ([Boston Globe](#))
- Massachusetts governor signs law phasing out toxic PFAS in firefighters' gear ([AP](#))
- Why frustrated activists can't rely on the ballot box for change in Massachusetts ([WGBH](#))
- Power Up New England receives \$389 million ([WWLP](#))
- More federal money coming to help green New England's energy grid ([Boston Globe](#))



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