



Events, Updates, News, and more!
November 2024

Dear Friend,

We know that this has been a challenging few weeks. The results of the election leave the future of our nation and our climate in uncertainty, and across the state our residents have been battling emerging brush fires from [unprecedented drought conditions](#). Despite the work cut out for us in the road ahead, we hope you've been able to find some time to get outside, be in community, and find a few moments of peace and calm.

Now, more than ever, it is critically important that we come together and build a strong movement to keep Massachusetts as a leader in the nation when it comes to climate and the environment. Our volunteer teams are working hard to pass stronger laws, prevent logging on public lands, expand opportunities for offshore wind, protect communities from exposure to toxic chemicals, and more. But we couldn't do this without members like you. Your support allows us to develop new campaigns and strategies, train new leaders, and grow our movement across the state.

If you are able, consider becoming a [monthly sustainer](#) of the Chapter. Or if you have time to give, we encourage you to fill out our [volunteer intake form](#) to start getting involved with one of our teams or committees – no experience required!

Onward, together! 🌱

Upcoming Chapter Events

Chapter Book Club

**Thurs, Nov 21
6:00pm**

[RSVP Here](#)

Join our book club! We are starting with the book: "What If We Get it Right: Visions of Climate Futures" by Ayanna Elizabeth Johnson. Read a little, read a lot, or not at all... whatever you can fit in and no pressure, just join us for community and conversation. *If you have the book, we'll be reading to page 66 for this meeting.*

Upcoming Committee and Team Meetings

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

[Events Calendar](#)



Support the Chapter



MA Climate Bill Passed!



After a rollercoaster legislative session these past few months, the MA State House voted last week to [pass the climate bill](#), an “Act promoting a clean energy grid, advancing equity and protecting ratepayers.” It now heads to Governor Maura Healey to sign.

Key wins in the bill include:

- ✓ Restrictions on expanding our polluting methane gas system
- ✓ Protections for environmental justice communities
- ✓ Labor standards for clean energy projects
- ✓ Revamping the siting and permitting process for clean energy infrastructure
- ✓ Incorporating embodied carbon into state building programs

A big congratulations to all the advocates and partners who worked tirelessly over the last 2 years to ensure that this bill will protect ratepayers, reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, and create healthier communities. **And thank you to all our members and volunteers who sent emails to legislators, showed up at the statehouse, and organized their community to support this bill!** Together, we are making Massachusetts a leader on climate. 🙌

Fight or Flight

By Sam Lambert



On Friday evening, just as the sun set, my eyes started to tear. The constant scratch in my throat escalated to a burn. Red lights pulsed through my windows as the constant thrum of helicopter blades overhead settled into my ears and the smell of burning wood assaulted my nose. My children gathered around me, the anxiety in their voice audible. “Are we safe?” “I don’t know,” was all I had to offer. The woods abutting my home were (and are) on fire.

“Fight or flight?” my body asked me. Logic took a back seat as my senses were overwhelmed by signs of danger. I paused to evaluate the situation, took in whatever information I had available and assessed the immediate, mid, and long-term potential threats to our family, our home, and our community’s safety.

We were in fact safe at that moment, but the threat was real and we had to prepare...

[Continue reading →](#)

Local action on PFAS-free Purchasing



With the Trump administration signaling deregulation to come, local government action becomes ever more important. PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances), also known as “forever chemicals” due to their persistence in the environment, are a group of synthetic organic chemicals that include fluorinated hydrocarbons.

- Research has demonstrated that certain PFAS are linked to a variety of severe health impacts.
- Many commercial products, including those purchased by municipal governments, may contain PFAS including furniture, flooring, and paint, and these have readily available PFAS-free alternatives.

Are you ready to organize in your town or city to pass a municipal resolution committing your city or town to PFAS-free purchasing?

[Learn more and join the campaign here!](#)

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

Friend & Partner Events

[Sustainable Middlesex: Community Climate Actions](#)

 **December 7th, 10am-12pm ET**

 **Virtual Event**

This year, Sustainable Middlesex is honored to welcome Secretary Rebecca Tepper from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs as our keynote speaker. Following Secretary Tepper’s address, we’ll showcase a series of rapid “lightning” presentations highlighting successful town-level climate initiatives that can be adapted and implemented in your own community.

What We're Reading

- Massachusetts House passes climate bill, setting example for other states to follow ([pv magazine](#))
- After drawn-out battle, sweeping climate bill passes Mass. Legislature ([Boston Globe](#))

- 'Dark Money,' Wind Power, and Question No. 7 ([The Provincetown Independent](#))
- Here's what's in the new Mass. climate and clean energy bill ([WBUR](#))
- Massachusetts legislation looks to remove barriers to the state's shift from natural gas ([Energy News Network](#))

Enjoying this newsletter? Forward to a friend! They can sign up here.

[ABOUT](#) | [DONATE](#) | [JOIN](#)

[Massachusetts Job Board](#)



This email was sent to: emma.brown@sierraclub.org

This email was sent by the Sierra Club Massachusetts Chapter
50 Federal Street, 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02110

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage Preferences](#) | [View as web page](#)