FCWC

Federated Conservationists of Westchester County, Inc.

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Join Our Mailing List!

Keep up with us!

Following us on social media is the best way to keep up with day-to-day announcements

Membership Drive

Dear FCWC Community:

We are privileged to live in a County that has amazing natural open spaces just outside our doorstep, available to us due to the hard work of past concerned residents and activist groups.

February 2016

Next Month: Federation Meeting 2016

FCWC's annual Federation Meeting is the chance every year for our member organizations to come together, network and share.

This year we've invited elected officials from the County and State level to discuss environmental legislation on the horizon that we should all be aware of, and then you'll have a chance to tell them about your work and issues of interest.

This meeting will be FREE and open to all environmental organizations within the county. We welcome as many people from your group as would like to attend.

For more information visit www.fcwc.org/events.

RSVP Today!

RSVP by March 1st to reserve your spot.

Please contact us if you need directions to the Tarrytown Senior Center.

We want to thank you all for your support of FCWC, and remind you of the impact you made as member.

Renew today!

Welcome Hudson River Audubon Society!

Hudson River Audubon Society

Hudson River Audubon Society joins FCWC

We are so pleased to welcome HRAS into the federation!

A New York Chapter of the National Audubon Society since 1971, the Hudson River Audubon serves the communities of Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Hastings-on-Hudson, Irvington and Yonkers.

HRAS and its 400 members pledge to foster protection and appreciation of birds, other wildlife and habitats, and to be advocates for a cleaner, healthier environment.

FCWC IS PROUD TO HOST:

FEDERATION MEETING 2016

March 4th, 2016 - 9am to 12pm

FCWC's annual Federation Meeting is the chance every year for our member organizations to come together, network and share.

This year we've invited elected officials from the County and State level to discuss environmental legislation on the horizon that we should all be aware of, and then you'll have a chance to tell them about your work and issues of interest.

Elected Officials attending (as of 1/20/16): State Senator George Latimer, State Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assemblyman David Buchwald, Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, Assemblywoman Shelley Mayer, Assemblyman Steve Otis, Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, Legislator Mary Jane Shimsky.

We hope you can join us!

Please RSVP by March 1: http://federationmeeting2016.eventbrite.com or contact our office at 914.422.4053 or fcwc@fcwc.org.

WHEN: March 4th, 2016 - 9am to 12pm

WHERE: Tarrytown Senior Center
238 W Main Street, Tarrytown
(right near the train station, so ride the rails!)

For up to date details see our website www.fcwc.org

Eagles and the Hudson

A Short History of How the Eagles Came Back

By Kate Munz, Member Relations Coordinator

In honor of Teatown's EagleFest, we wanted to highlight the star of the yearly event, the bald eagle.

Based out of the Lenoir Nature Preserve, HRAS hosts many informative events and lectures.

Beginning Saturday, March 5th the 16th Annual "Seasons at Lenoir" Art and Photography Exhibit will open. To learn more and to RSVP, visit www.hras.org

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P.O. BOX 616
Yonkers, New York 10703
(914) 237-9331
www.hras.org
BochnikM@cs.com

Internship Opportunity with the Watershed Agricultural Council

SEASONAL WATERSHED FORESTRY EDUCATOR

Croton Watershed Region, Westchester County

The Watershed Agricultural Council's Forestry Program is seeking to hire one seasonal Watershed Forestry Educator for the summer of 2016.

Apply / Learn More

Native Plant Center's Landscape Conference

Photo Credit: NYTimes on 5th Annual Eaglefest

In the Hudson Valley we are very lucky to share space each season with a majestic, and nationally famous neighbor. While can see bald eagles yearly now, this was not always the case.

Before the 1900s, bald eagle populations in New York were plentiful, as many as 80 nesting sites according to the State Department of Environmental Conservation. But by 1976, only one pair of eaglets remained. Environmental groups citied pesticides, specifically DDT, for the reduced numbers. During that year, the state began its Bald Eagle Restoration Project as an attempt to bring back the population.

Today, approximately 500 bald eagles winter in New York. The eagles migrate to this region, usually arriving in December, as waters freeze in Canada and Nova Scotia. Eagle concentrations peak in January and February; heading back to their nests by mid-March.

We've seen the return of our eagles due to clean air and water, ample food supply, and largely undisturbed stands of trees - as these are important elements that support breeding pairs of eagles. It is therefore essential that we maintain this important habitat. Together we can work towards open space preservation and watershed protection.

Learn more about what you can do by visiting this page:
http://www.birdday.org/birdday/themes/2012-twenty-years-of-imbd/20-ways-to-conserve-birds

Things We LOVE about living in Westchester County

NPC Spring Landscape Conference - Inspired by Nature: Designing with Native Plants

Monday, March 14, 2016
(snow date, March 18th)
8:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Gateway Center - Westchester Community College

Native plants are versatile, indispensable, and essential to landscape designs of every size.

Discover how to develop beautiful designs that create a sense of place and mimic the natural world while providing important habitat for wildlife.

RSVP / Register

Earn credits:
4 LA-CES and up to 4 ISA

In Memoriam

We are saddened to report that Zelle Andrews, Executive Director of FCWC from 1985-1988, died on Tuesday, February 2nd. She was a lifelong environmental advocate. Our sympathy is extended to Zelle's

Feel the LOVE this February!

We thought it would be fun to highlight just a few of the reasons why we ***love*** living and working in Westchester County.

1. **We have access to over 18,000 acres of public, county-owned parkland where we can hike, picnic, bird watch, and explore.** There are also some hidden gems like Cranberry Lake Preserve and Marshlands Conservancy.

2. **There is water all around us!** We are bordered on the southeast side by the Long Island Sound and on the west side by the Hudson River. These shoreline landscapes provide important habitat for our region's native species, like the Atlantic Sturgeon.

3. **Great family outing opportunities are found all over the county and during all seasons.** Join in on the fun with Bicycle Sundays, where you'll find people of all ages and activity levels bicycling, skating, and pushing strollers up and down Bronx River Parkway. In the northern part of the county, at Teatown's Eaglefest kids, young and old, come out to catch a glimpse of the wintering bald eagles; and scattering throughout the whole county are the nature centers, which offer free, family-friendly environmental education programming.

4. **Our elected officials are working to address and mitigate against the impending structural and fiscal challenges due to climate change.** Our County and municipal officials have made themselves accessible by attending local events, holding meetings, and offering insight into current events. The Westchester County Board of Legislators have recently voted to become a New York Sate Climate Smart Community.

5. **A dedicated community of advocates and organizations pushing to keep our environment at the highest quality.** Our residents are passionate about where they live and for generations , they have protected our Westchester County environment.

FCWC Action Alert!

Spectra Energy's Algonquin

partner Deborah and to Zelle's extended family.

A memorial service will be held at the Scarsdale Congregational Church on Saturday, February 20th at 3 p.m.

Member Organizations You have a new benefit!

WESTCHESTER Shared Resources Program

New Initiative by FCWC for Member Organizations

As part of FCWC's 50th Anniversary initiatives we are introducing a FCWC Member Organization-only shared resources program.

An online directory, this searchable list will have items organizations are willing to loan out. This will enable better collaboration between environmental groups and smarter use of resources.

Each item will have details and contact information, allowing groups to make connections.

Check it out!

Take a look at our new page fcwc.org/shared

Incremental Market (AIM) pipeline is moving forward.

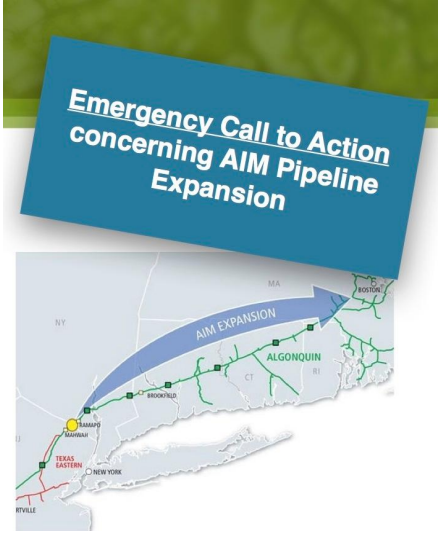
Trees have been cut down, pipe is in the ground, construction has begun. The high-pressure fracked gas pipeline cutting through Blue Mountain Reservation will be up and running by the end of this year. We need to tell Governor Cuomo to ACT.

Governor Cuomo is actively working to close Indian Point. Call today to tell him to include the AIM pipeline in his efforts because it poses an unacceptable risk to Westchester County and New York State residents.

Nuclear power and pipeline safety experts continue to urgently warn that a pipeline eruption next to Indian Point could be devastating.

New York has banned fracking, why put our state at risk to support it somewhere else?

Call Today! Tell Governor Cuomo to STOP the Algonquin Pipeline.
(518) 474-8390



For articles, letters, statements, and other resources visit www.sape2016.org

For a full list of our member organization's events and happenings, check out our Federation Calendar at www.fcwc.org/calendar. Remember to always confirm events before attending. Check back regularly as we are always updating.

What's Under Your Lawn? The Secret to Healthy Soil

Sponsored by: Rye Healthy Yard Program Speaker Series, City of Rye Sustainability Committee & Friends of Rye Nature Center
When: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 10AM- 11AM
Where: Wainwright House 260 Stuyvesant Avenue, Rye

From master gardeners to scientists to backyard vegetable growers, plant experts know that a healthy garden starts with healthy soil. Gather for a fascinating introduction to the magic of soil, the complex world beneath your lawn and garden. Before you finalize your 2016 landscape contract, come hear about the latest science and the easiest, most practical ways to keep your soil happy and healthy without using synthetic chemicals. This event is free to the public. Reservations requested. RSVP Eventbrite.

Great Backyard Bird Count

Sponsored by: Bronx River Sound Shore Audubon
When: Saturday, February 13, Saturday, 10:30AM-Noon
Where: Harrison Library, 2 Bruce Ave, Harrison

Learn to count birds in your backyard and help researchers protect birds and our environment. For adults and children age 8 and older. For me information, please see Bronx River Sound Shore's webpage.

Nature's Love Stories

Sponsored by: Greenburgh Nature Center
When: Sunday, February 14, 2PM
Where: Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Road, Scarsdale

This special Valentine's Day program provides a look into "friendships and romances" of the natural world. From doves to tortoises to lizards, we'll discuss some of the great GNC love stories. Concludes with a themed craft. Members $5/person, Non-members $8/person

Open Reception for "A Different Point of View" Art Exhibit

Sponsored by: Friends of Marshlands Conservancy
When: Sunday, February 14, 2PM-5PM
Where: Marshlands Conservancy, Rye

Opening of the annual art and photography show featuring works inspired by Marshlands Conservancy. Exhibit on view Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. through 4/1. For more information parks.westchestergov.com.

Sugarhouse Chat

Sponsored by: Friends of Trailside Nature Museum
When: February 20, 2016, 10AM- 2PM
Where: Trailside Nature Museum at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Cross River

Stop by and watch as the evaporator produces winter's sweet reward, maple syrup. For more information parks.westchestergov.com.

Winter Survival Basics

Sponsored by: Westmoreland Sanctuary
When: Saturday February 21, 2PM
Where: Westmoreland Sanctuary, 260 Chestnut Ridge Road, Mount Kisco

The winter is certainly one of the daunting times of year to know how to survive in the wild. The program will go over some of the basic strategies and biggest concerns or staying alive in the wilderness during cold. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring of water. Ages: 14 and up. Fees: $5 per person for non-members and $1 material fee for members. Contact ssciame@westmorealndsanctuary.org for more information or to register.

We hope you find the information contained within this E-News relevant and useful. As always, please keep in touch and let us know your thoughts and ideas regarding environmental issues throughout the County.

Sincerely,

Federated Conservationists of Westchester County