



The BEAT News

Because an informed and engaged public is
the environment's best defense.

August 14, 2019

Dear Friend,

This Saturday, we're hitting [the Housatonic for our 3rd River Cleanup of the year](#). We had an amazing cleanup last time, pulling over 2,700lbs. of trash out of the river. Join us this time behind 703 West Housatonic St. to launch!

ALSO on Saturday, our own Rose Wessel will be speaking on the panel at [Barrington Stage's climate and environmental challenges symposium](#). Other panelists include Judith Enck (former EPA), Laura J. Martin (Williams College), and Dr. Mehernosh P. Khan, MD.

In other news, the Lee Greener Gateway Committee is looking for volunteers to help make their Lee Founders Weekend zero-Waste by manning the Waste stations for an hour and a half on Friday, September 13th at night or Saturday the 14th. [Email Valerie to sign up!](#)

That's it for now, folks.

Thank you for all you do to protect the environment,

Jane, Elia, Rose, Jake, Mary, Isabelle, Weyessa (Ace), and Elizabeth

LADIES & GENTLEMEN, IT'S
HOUSATONIC
RIVER
CLEAN UP TIME!

SATURDAY
8/17
.....
9 AM to 1 PM
.....
MEET BEHIND 703 WEST
HOUSATONIC ST., PITTSFIELD

BRING:
A WATER BOTTLE
AND SUNSCREEN!

WEAR:
OLD CLOTHES, LONG PANTS
AND OLD SNEAKERS

Crews will be dispersed up and down the West and Southwest Branch of the Housatonic River in Pittsfield as we continue to clean the tributary of accumulated trash.

THANKS TO PAST
EFFORTS WE'RE
HELPING TURN THIS
RIVER AROUND!

and we need your help!

GLOVES PROVIDED!

NO SKILL REQUIRED!

FREE LUNCH!

DELUXE BLUE Q GOODIE BAGS!

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT
BEAT OR HVA:

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Organized by Berkshire Environmental Action Team and the Housatonic Valley Association with support from the City of Pittsfield and American Rivers, and Donations from Alnasco, Blue Q, and Panera Bread.

RSVP HERE! SEE YOU THERE!

Please help support this newsletter. Thank you!


In The News

Tales of a wild place: on a summer Sunday, people reflect on Springside Park's unmet potential

LARRY PARNASS | THE BERKSHIRE EAGLE

This critter wasn't in the brochure. The white chicken that ran in front of Amy Baczek and her dog Samson in Springside Park isn't one of the species listed in a handy pamphlet about the urban tract. Wrens and orioles, yes. "A chicken? In Springside Park?" Baczek asked. Samson was surprised as well. "I had to jump on him, he was so intent on it," she said of her dog's pursuit of the chicken, which got away, minus a few feathers. [READ ON](#)

State proposes ban on coyote hunting contests

KAITLYN BUDION | STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

Motivated by public outcry, the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife has recommended banning hunting contests for coyotes. Proposed state regulations would prohibit coyote hunting contests and other "wanton waste" of wildlife. "The recommendation addresses public concerns that these hunting contests are unethical, contribute to the waste of animals, and incentivize indiscriminant killing of wildlife, inconsistent with the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation," MassWildlife said on its website. [READ ON](#)

Wendell Forest protesters 'pushed closer to risking arrest'

DAVID MCLELLAN | GREENFIELD RECORDER

Pleas for the state to halt the logging project in Wendell State Forest have gone unheeded, and protesters, citing concerns about climate change, say they are now willing to risk arrest by physically stopping the project. The Wendell State Forest Alliance — a group affiliated with nonprofit conservation group RESTORE: The North Woods — has held signs on the side of Route 2, held rallies at the Wendell State Forest Ranger Station and garnered over 1,500 signatures on an anti-logging petition over the last year. [READ ON](#)

Groups announce historic coal ash cleanup agreement with Brunner Island

WATERKEEPER ALLIANCE

Brunner Island Power Plant Owners Agree to \$1 Million Penalty, Largest Ever Assessed in PA for Coal Ash Pollution. Four environmental groups today announced an historic agreement to reduce toxic pollutants leaking from a power plant’s coal ash dumps into groundwater and the Susquehanna River, the largest Chesapeake Bay tributary. The consent decree requires Talen Energy, owner of the Brunner Island Generating Station in York Haven... [READ ON](#)

Find more climate and energy articles featured in this week's No Fracked Gas in Mass Weekly News Check-In. Find the news and subscribe here.

Sharing the fruit trees

CHARLEY EISEMAN | BUG TRACKS

Periodically I am asked how to get rid of some bug or another. If I am giving a public talk, I want to reply, “have you not been paying attention to anything I’ve said for the past hour?” If the question comes in the form of a comment on this blog, I have to wonder what possessed the person, rather than asking any of the innumerable extension entomologists or pest control specialists out there, to instead ask the author of a website dedicated to celebrating the natural history of insects—it says “Bringing glory to Earth’s small and neglected creatures” right there at the top, for crying out loud.

Climate change threatens the world's food supply, United Nations warns

CHRISTOPHER FLAVELLE | THE NEW YORK TIME

The world’s land and water resources are being exploited at “unprecedented rates,” a new United Nations report warns, which combined with climate change is putting dire pressure on the ability of humanity to feed itself. The report, prepared by more than 100 experts from 52 countries and released in summary form in Geneva on Thursday, found that the window to address the threat is closing rapidly. A half-billion people already live in places turning into desert, and soil is being lost between 10 and 100 times faster than it is forming, according to the report. [READ ON](#)

Keep up with the fight against fossil fuels at the No Fracked Gas in Mass Newsletter

SUBSCRIBE HERE

JOBS

We list jobs related to the environment from a variety of organizations.

Email news@thebeatnews.org to submit an open position.

- Tree Program Canvasser** | Berkshire Environmental Action Team | Pittsfield
- Administrative Assistant** | Great Barrington Land Conservancy | Great Barrington / Remote
- Trail Construction Assistant** | Berkshire Natural Resources Council | Pittsfield
- Berkshires Campus Organizer** | MassPIRG | Berkshire County
- Regional Coordinators** | Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program | Western Mass
- Membership Coordinator** | Urban Sustainability Directors Network | Remote
- Research Coordinator** | Urban Sustainability Directors Network | Remote
- Board of Supervisors** | Berkshire Conservation District | Berkshire County
- Director of Policy** | The Trustees | Boston
- Development Associate** | Sierra Club MA Chapter | Boston
- Grant & Contract Manager** | Northeast Community Center | Millerton, NY
- TMDL Coordinator** | Mass DEP | Worcester
- Water Quality Monitoring Volunteers** | Housatonic Valley Association | Pittsfield & Dalton
- Temporary Solar Installer & Temporary Solar Electrician** | PV Squared | Greenfield
- Land Stewardship Coordinator** | The Nature Conservancy | Great Barrington
- Network Weaver** | Fix | New England
- TerraCorps & Community Engagement Positions** | Just Roots | Greenfield
- Community Engagement Coordinator** | Kestrel Land Trust | Amherst
- Stormwater Coordinator** | MassDEP | Boston
- Berkshire Watershed Director** | Housatonic Valley Association | Stockbridge
- Conservation Commissioners** | Town of Stockbridge | Stockbridge
- Program Manager** | Collaborative on Health & the Environment | Remote
- Experienced Solar Technician** | BPVS | North Adams, MA
- Corporate Sponsor Director** | NOFA/Mass | Remote
- Membership & Database Coordinator** | NOFA/Mass | Remote

Organic Food Guide Coordinator | NOFA/Mass | Remote
River Stewards of Tomorrow | Housatonic Valley Association | Stockbridge, MA
VT & NH Community Organizer | Toxics Action Center | Vermont & New Hampshire

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

We list events from a variety of local and regional organizations and individuals.
BEAT events are in **bold**. Submit events to news@thebeatnews.org

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14

- Beyond Flower Gardens: Native Woody Plants in a Pollinator Garden - Adams
- Mountain Mindfulness Yoga - Lanesborough
- Chestnut Orchard Wednesday - Pittsfield**
- Paddleboard Social - Stockbridge
- Moonlight Canoe Trips - Becket
- Extinction Rebellion Meeting - Great Barrington
- Ag in the Evening: a farm education workshop series - South Egremont

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15

- Nice & Easy Trail Hike - Lanesborough
- Housatonic Evening Paddle - Lenox
- Eco-Tour: Sustainable Production at Amherst Nurseries - Hadley

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16

- Lenox Mountain: Taconic Range & Richmond Pond Views - Lenox
- Beavers, Birds, & Other Wildlife - Lenox
- Evening at the Beaver Ponds - Lenox
- Full Moon Campfire Ghost Stories! - Lanesborough

AUGUST 17 - 18

- Berries, Baskets & Brook Trout : A Weekend of 4 Wilderness Skills Workshops! - Conway

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

- Housatonic River Cleanup - Pittsfield**
- Free Symposium : Environmental Challenges in the Berkshires - Pittsfield**
- Creatures of the Night - Lanesborough
- Night Hike - Lanesborough
- Fern Walk - Windsor
- Extinction Rebellion Meeting - Pittsfield
- Pittsfield Repair Cafe - Pittsfield
- Scenic Summit Tours - Lanesborough
- Canoeing the Housatonic River - Lenox
- Animals A to Z - Lenox
- Film & Forum: Permafrost Now - Lenox
- Extinction Rebellion Meeting - Great Barrington
- Night Creatures: Scouting for Bats and Moths - Tannersville, NY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

- Scenic Summit Tours - Lanesborough
- Sunday Scavenger Hunt - Lanesborough
- Canoeing October Mountain State Forest - Becket
- Sunday Open House at The Millers River Environmental Center - Athol
- Class: Seed Saving - Whately
- Extinction Rebellion Meeting - Hillsdale, NY

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20

Bird Language - Pittsfield Green Drinks - Pittsfield

Trails & Tales Hike - Lanesborough

Thomas & Palmer Brook Family Scavenger Hunt Hike - Great Barrington

Four-Season Garden Design for Pollinators - Northampton

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

A Zero-Waste Bathroom - North Adams

Mountain Mindfulness Yoga - Lanesborough

350MA-Berkshire Node Meeting - Pittsfield

Nature Walks for Health and Happiness - Lenox

Evening at the Beaver Ponds - Lenox

1st meeting of the Belchertown 4 Bees Committee - Belchertown

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22

Nice & Easy Trail Hike - Lanesborough

Housatonic Evening Paddle - Lenox

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

Discover Greylock Hike - Lanesborough

Campground Critters - Lanesborough

Evening Nighthawk Watch - Pittsfield

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24

CCC Ghost Camp Walk - Lanesborough

Scenic Summit Tours - Lanesborough

Creatures of the Night - Lanesborough

Night Hike - Lanesborough

Free Hike w/ Transportation - Lenox

Animals A to Z - Lenox

Fantastic Fungi - Sheffield

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

Sunday Scavenger Hunt - Lanesborough

Scenic Summit Tours - Lanesborough

Canoeing the Housatonic River - Lenox

Clam River Hike - Sandisfield

Sunday Open House at The Millers River Environmental Center - Athol

Complete Community Calendar

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR

August 7, 2019

The Environmental Monitor provides information on projects under review by the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) office, recent MEPA decisions of the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs, and public notices from environmental agencies.

Berkshire Index

- Adams – Quarry Minerals Management Area – ENF Certificate – Requires Mandatory

- Environmental Impact Report – issued 8/2/19
- Adams – [Notice of Issuance of a Draft Operating Permit Renewal \(pdf\)](#) – Specialty Minerals air quality permit – comments due 9/6/19
- Becket – [Notice of Intent to Initiate an Aquatic Plant Management Plan \(pdf\)](#) – Buckley Dunton Lake using mechanical hydro rake and harvester – posted 8/7/19
- Lee – [Notice of Intent to Initiate an Ecological Restoration Project \(pdf\)](#) – Hop Brook Wildlife Management Area – posted 8/7/19
- Richmond – [Notice of Intent to Initiate an Ecological Restoration Project \(pdf\)](#) – Fairfield Brook Wildlife Management Area – posted 8/7/19
- Alford – [Strassler, Robert- Pond Dredging](#) – ENF Certificate – Does Not Require an Environmental Impact Report – issued 7/11/19

Pioneer Valley Index

- Buckland, Florida, Monroe – [Notice of Submission of a Yearly Operational Plan \(pdf\)](#) – Great River Hydro, LLS vegetation management plan – comments due 9/20/19 at 5pm
- Orange – [Notice of Intent to Initiate an Ecological Restoration Project \(pdf\)](#) – Tully Mountain WMA & WCE Habitat Project – posted 8/7/19
- Russell – [Notice of Application for a 401 Water Quality Certification \(pdf\)](#) – repair of double culvert (# R13022-BCH-DOT-BRI) under I-90 – posted 8/7/19
- Southampton – [Notice of Application for a 401 Water Quality Certification \(pdf\)](#) – Application by Mr. Glenn West to remove the Lyman Pond Dam at 285 College Highway in Southampton on the Manhan River – posted 8/7/19
- South Hadley – [South Hadley Falls Urban Redevelopment & Renewal Plan \(URRP\)](#) – comments due 8/27/19
- Chicopee – [Notice of Issuance of a Draft Operating Permit Renewal \(pdf\)](#) – Chicopee Electric Light Clean Air Act permit – comments due 8/23/19
- Agawam – [Tennessee Gas Pipeline 261 Upgrade Projects](#) – FEIR – comments due 7/26/19

Statewide Index

- [Notice of Application of Title 5 Innovative Technology \(pdf\)](#) – Use of the Jet Drip Dispersal System for the treatment and subsurface disposal of sewage from facilities with design flows of less than 10,000 gallons per day – posted 7/24/19

PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notices listed here are from a variety of sources, from town conservation commissions and select boards to state and federal agencies. These listings are for Berkshire, Hampshire, Hampden, and Franklin counties. Listings are only posted if they are environmental in nature. You can find all public notices for Massachusetts [here](#).

Public Notices



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