



The BEAT News

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

July 31, 2019

Dear Friend,

This Saturday we are excited to be partners with Guardian for the annual [Recycling Rally & Sustainability Fair](#), this year at BCC. Bring us your things to recycle!

Also on Saturday, our friends over at Mass Audubon are [celebrating 90 years of the Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary](#). They have lots of programming all day - all for free.

On another note, do you have some extra hand towels you don't use (or don't really like)? BEAT needs hand towels! We use these at events (we're dedicated to zero waste) and around the office. Want to donate some? [Give us a shout!](#)

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



kids in

kayaks

SATURDAY • AUGUST 11 • 2-4PM

WESTSIDE RIVERWAY PARK • DEWEY AVE. PITTSFIELD

Please help support this newsletter. Thank you!

Yo-Yo Ma bringing 'Day of Action' to Pittsfield Common

BENJAMIN CASSIDY | THE BERKSHIRE EAGLE

[BEAT NOTE: We're honored to be part of this event through our partnership with the Dept. of Conservation & Recreation for the Greening the Gateway Cities Tree Planting Program. See you there!] First, it was the Boston Symphony Orchestra coming to the Pittsfield Common. Now, it's Yo-Yo Ma. On Aug. 10, the world-renowned cellist and part-time Berkshire resident will host a "Day of Action" on the Common as part of his ongoing Bach Project tour. The event will gather local leaders and organizations to build 36 wooden tables and discuss the concept of a resilient community. [READ ON](#)



Ben Hellerstein, state director for Environment Massachusetts, talks Monday as, from left, Mayor Linda Tyer, state Sen. Adam Hinds, Berkshire Environmental Action Team Executive Director Jane Winn and 1Berkshire's Director of Economic Development Ben Lamb look on. AMANDA DRANE - THE BERKSHIRE EAGLE

Environment Massachusetts honors Pittsfield for microgrid exploration

AMANDA DRANE | THE BERKSHIRE EAGLE

Crickets and other crawling critters crept up the legs of dignitaries during a news conference Monday morning. Their presence was welcome, Mayor Linda Tyer said with a smile, as it indicated natural plantings along the city's solar field at Downing Industrial Park are doing their job. The 2.9-megawatt solar field, which launched in 2017, served as the backdrop for an event held by Environment Massachusetts. [READ ON](#)

Gas company misses deadline for testing soil at Weymouth site

JESSICA TRUFANT | THE PATRIOT LEDGER

Residents and officials fighting a proposed natural-gas compressor station on the banks of the Fore River say it's unlikely that construction of the controversial project could start this year after the gas company missed a deadline to submit additional hazardous waste soil testing. [READ ON](#)

Europe’s renewable energy policy is built on burning American trees

SAUL ELBEIN | VOX

In the lowland forests of the American southeast, loblolly pines and cypress trees are grabbing carbon dioxide from the air right now. Using power from the sun, they release the oxygen and bind the carbon, building trunks, barks, and leaves. But much of that carbon won’t stay there. As it turns out, millions of tons of wood from these forests each year are being shipped across the Atlantic, and burned in power plants in countries like the UK and the Netherlands, in the name of slowing climate change. [READ ON](#)

This is just one of the many climate and energy articles featured in this week's No Fracked Gas in Mass Weekly News Check In. [Find the rest of the news and subscribe here.](#)

A raucous summer: dispatches from a half-feral garden

NANCY LAWSON | THE HUMANE GARDENER

Pressed during a radio interview to describe the space outside my home, I stumbled around, searching for words that would be both accurate and appealing. I may have failed on the second count when I blurted out: “It’s half-feral.” I haven’t even figured out what noun to assign to this land that my husband and I nurture. Yes, it’s our “property,” at least in the legal sense. [READ ON](#)

Under Brazil's far-right leader, Amazon protections slashed and forests fall

LETÍCIA CASADO AND ERNESTO LODOÑO | THE NEW YORK TIMES

The destruction of the Amazon rain forest in Brazil has increased rapidly since the nation’s new far-right president took over and his government scaled back efforts to fight illegal logging, ranching and mining. Protecting the Amazon was at the heart of Brazil’s environmental policy for much of the past two decades. At one point, Brazil’s success in slowing the deforestation rate made it an international example of conservation and the effort to fight climate change. [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

[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

JULY 2 - JULY 28

Art Display: Montague Parks and Recreation Presents: Raptors - TURNERS FALLS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

Nice n’ Easy Walk - North Adams

DIY Yogurt - North Adams

Mountain Mindfulness Yoga - Lanesborough

Chestnut Orchard Wednesday - Pittsfield

Trailside Music Series : Whiskey Treaty Roadshow - Lenox

Ag in the Evening: a farm education workshop series - South Egremont

JULY 31 - AUGUST 28

Art Display: Cantos From the Woods by David Flood - Turners Falls

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1

Feast With Your Favorite Pollinators - Williamstown

Green Drinks - Williamstown

Nice & Easy Trail Hike - Lanesborough

Housatonic Evening Paddle - Lenox

Extinction Rebellion (XR) Meeting - Lee

Farm-to-Table Dinner - Granby

Open House - Ghent, NY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

Discover Greylock Hike - Lanesborough

Campground Critters - Lanesborough

Lenox Mountain: Taconic Range & Richmond Pond Views - Lenox

Beavers, Birds, & Other Wildlife - Lenox

Evening at the Beaver Ponds - Lenox

Night Creatures: Scouting for Bats and Moths - Ghent, NY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3

Recycling Rally & Sustainability Fair - Pittsfield

FREE Birding – Pleasant Birding at Pleasant Valley - Lenox

FREE Pleasant Valley 90th Anniversary Celebration - Lenox
Canoeing the Housatonic River - Lenox
Growing Beautiful Native Gardens - Lenox
Fantastic Fungi - Lenox
Animals A to Z - Lenox
Butterfly & Skipper Walk - Millbrook, NY
Invasive Boundary Citizen Science Project - Webinar

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4
Canoeing Upper & Lower Goose Ponds - Lee
Sunday Open House at The Millers River Environmental Center - Turners Falls

MONDAY, AUGUST 5
Trails & Tales Hike - Lanesborough

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7
Chestnut Orchard Wednesday - Pittsfield
Ag in the Evening: a farm education workshop series - South Egremont
Lime Kiln Farm: Housatonic Valley & Taconic Range Views - Sheffield

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8
Nice & Easy Trail Hike - Lanesborough
Housatonic Evening Paddle - Lenox
Open House - Ghent, NY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9
Discover Greylock Hike - Lanesborough
Beavers, Birds, & Other Wildlife - Lenox
Evening at the Beaver Ponds - Lenox
Healing America’s Streams - Millbrook, NY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10
Every Flower Matters with Joan Edwards - Williamstown
Lilac & Shrub Pruning - Pittsfield
Animals A to Z - Lenox
Trailside Music Series : The Amy Ryan Band - Lenox

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11
Kids in Kayaks - Pittsfield
Canoeing the Housatonic River - Lenox
Family Paddle Trip on the Housatonic River - Lenoxdale
Sunday Open House at The Millers River Environmental Center - Turners Falls

[Complete Community Calendar](#)

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR

July 24, 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 – comments now due 7/26/19
- Alford – [Strassler, Robert- Pond Dredging](#) – ENF Certificate – Does Not Require an Environmental Impact Report – issued 7/11/19

Pioneer Valley Index

- 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

