

*For a clean energy future we need Hillary Clinton, Chellie Pingree, and Emily Cain.*

## Election 2016: The Stakes Are High

**T**here's no way of exaggerating the importance of the 2016 election. The progress on mitigating climate change, advancing clean energy, and protecting public land made by the Obama Administration would all be gravely threatened by a Donald Trump presidency.

On the other hand, Hillary Clinton promises to build on President Obama's environmental legacy and lead us toward a clean energy economy.

And we need to make the U.S. Congress functional again and elect representatives who are not beholden to Wall Street interests and the fossil fuel industry. Second-district residents can help by voting out of office one of the most anti-environment, pro-Wall Street congressmen in America, Bruce Poliquin.

The clock is running for strong action on climate change. Let's keep America on the right track by electing Hillary Clinton for president, Emily Cain and Chellie Pingree to the U.S. Congress, and pro-environment legislators here in Maine.

The stakes couldn't be higher. Encourage everyone you know to get out and vote on November 8!

### *For President: Hillary Clinton*

Republican candidate Donald Trump has called climate change "a hoax." He has threatened to dismantle the Environmental Protection Agency, rip up the Paris Climate Agreement, lift restrictions on coal, expand drilling operations, and stifle the growth of



**A Clinton presidency would build on President Obama's efforts to reduce America's carbon footprint.**

clean energy.

In sharp contrast to Donald Trump's reckless positions on the environment, Hillary Clinton promises to be the strong environmental champion that is needed at this critical time. We can count on her

because of her decades-long record as both a U.S. Senator and Secretary of State. That record has been consistently pro-environment and earned her the endorsement and support of the League of Conservation Voters.

And it has earned her the enthusiastic support of the Sierra Club.

"We are proud to endorse Hillary Clinton and her vision for America," said Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune. "Like so many Americans, we not only want to protect President Obama's legacy—we want to expand it. That's something we can accomplish with a Clinton White House, and it's why the Sierra Club's members and supporters will work tirelessly to make sure she's

elected this November."

Clinton has crafted solid plans to safeguard our climate, air, water, and public lands, and to continue with the rapid expansion of our clean energy economy.

"Climate change is real—no matter what climate deniers say," she stated during the campaign. "I've laid out bold national goals to address the threats it poses. As president, I'll say no to drilling in the Arctic. I'll stop the tax giveaways to big oil and gas companies. And I'll make significant investments in clean energy...."

The gap on environmental issues between Secretary Clinton and Donald Trump is the largest in U.S. presidential political history,

"We have a historic opportunity to build a clean energy economy that puts millions of people to work, and there's no turning back," Brune said.

### *2nd Congressional District: Emily Cain*

The disparity in the environmental records of Maine's two 2<sup>nd</sup> District candidates is dramatic. Incumbent Republican Bruce Poliquin has earned a dismal nine percent environmental record in his first term—one of the worst records of any representative in New England. He has voted against virtually every significant piece of environmental legislation that has come before the Congress.

Poliquin's challenger, Emily Cain, on the other hand, earned a 90 percent pro-environment record in her ten years in the Maine House and Senate. She

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Katahdin Woods and Waters is open and ready for visitors.

### *Celebrating Our New National Monument*



The dark, ominous clouds enveloping Mt. Katahdin in the distance had no effect on the joyful mood of the 150 folks gathered on the lawn of the New England Outdoor Center (NEOC) in Millinocket on August 28. People came from far and wide to celebrate the realization of a long-time vision—federal protection for a very special section of the Maine Woods—and celebrate they did!

The Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument was designated by President Obama on August 24, just a day before the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Acadia National Park and the establishment of the National Park Service.

The designation was the culmination of a decade-and-a-half long effort by Roxanne Quimby and her family, who donated the 87,500-acre parcel through their foundation, Elliotsville Plantation Inc. The original vision of making the Quimby land into a national park never received the needed support from Maine's congressional delegation. So in the last year the effort shifted to a more viable alternative—establishing a national monument through an executive order of the President.

At the August 28 event, Quimby family members received congratulations and praise from dignitaries and monument advocates and supporters. Among the most prominent attendees was U.S. Interior Secretary, Sally Jewell.

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### Sierra Club Maine Annual Dinner

Celebrate our new national monument!  
Wolfe's Neck Farm, Freeport  
**Saturday, October 22**  
(For details, see page 6)



Second District candidate Emily Cain has a 90 percent career scorecard on the environment.

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is a strong and consistent advocate for clean energy, clean elections, and a long-time defender of strong conservation and health protections.

Cain understands the serious threat posed by climate change and strongly supports the Obama administration's clean energy plan. By contrast, Bruce Poliquin joined his fellow Republicans in efforts to block the clean energy plan.

*Bruce Poliquin has earned a dismal 9 percent environmental record in his first term—one of the worst records of any representative in New England.*

"Maine can be a model for what can be done in transitioning from fossil fuel to clean energy," Cain said in an interview with the Sierra Club last spring. "...We need to keep looking forward and not miss opportunities, including research opportunities, to grow our clean energy industry."

The 2<sup>nd</sup> District race is a vitally important one. In Congress, Emily Cain will work to protect the Maine environment, address climate change and grow clean energy, and take the right steps toward getting dark money out of politics and protecting our democracy.

*1st Congressional District:  
Chellie Pingree*



Environmental champion, Congresswoman Chellie Pingree.

There is no stronger environmental champion in Congress than Maine 1<sup>st</sup> District Representative Chellie Pingree. She has earned a lifetime 95 percent pro-environmental record from the League of Conservation Voters.

"Chellie Pingree is one of our nation's strongest advocates for protecting our environment and taking serious action to transition away from dirty fossil fuels to 100 percent clean energy," said Claudia King, chairperson of Sierra Club Maine's political team. "We're confident that she will continue to protect Maine families' health, air and water, and build a clean energy economy that works for all."

Pingree supports EPA's historic Clean Power Plan and has been a long-time advocate for action on climate change and renewable energy development. In addition, she is a national leader on sustainable food policies, including introducing landmark legislation to reduce America's food waste.

"Maine is very fortunate to have such an outstanding representative," King said. "Congresswoman Pingree's priorities are very much in line with those of the Sierra Club and of all Maine citizens concerned about the health and well-being of our state and our planet."

## Legislative Candidates for the Environment

The following candidates for the Maine Legislature have been endorsed by Sierra Club Maine. A dedicated political team carefully reviewed the candidates' positions on environmental issues and conducted interviews.

It's critically important that we have a strong, environmentally-friendly legislature in the next session to override our anti-environmental governor. Our endorsed candidates will make sure we move forward, building a strong economy based on clean energy and transportation, energy efficiency, and the protection of our precious natural resources.

Many thanks to the following political team members for their hard work and diligence: Claudia King (chair), John Brautigam, Kris Clarke, Whitlock Jones, Mike Williams, Paul Machlin, and Ben Dawson.

### STATE SENATE

Troy Jackson, SD 1, Allagash  
Carole Boothroyd, SD 4, Piscataquis County  
Rock Alley, SD 6, Calais  
Moirra O'Neill, SD 7, Bar Harbor  
Geoff Gratwick, SD 9, Bangor  
Jonathan Fulford, SD 11, Monroe  
Dave Miramant, SD 12, Camden  
Christopher Johnson, SD 13, Turner  
Shenna Bellows, SD 14, Gardiner  
Henry Beck SD 16, Waterville  
Kimberly Sampson, SD 20, Auburn  
Nathan Libby, SD 21, Lewiston  
Eloise Vitelli, SD 23, Arrowsic/Bowdoin  
Brownie Carson, SD 24, Harpswell  
Cathy Breen, SD 25, Falmouth  
Ben Chipman, SD 27, Portland  
Rebecca Millett, SD 29, So. Portland  
Jean-Marie Caterina, SD 30, Scarborough  
Justin Chenette, SD 31, Saco  
Susan Deschambault, SD 32, Biddeford  
Andrea Boland, SD 33, Sanford  
Jonathan Kilbourn, SD 34, Kennebunk

### STATE HOUSE

Mark Lawrence, HD 2, So. Berwick  
Lydia Blume, HD 3, York  
Joshua Plante, HD 5, Berwick  
Diane Denk, HD 9, Kennebunk  
Ryan Fecteau, HD 11, Saco  
Martin Grohman, HD 12, Biddeford  
George Hogan, HD 13, Old Orchard Beach  
Donna Bailey, HD 14, Saco  
River Payne, HD 16, Hollis  
Dan Lauzon, HD 20 Sanford  
Mark Bryant, HD 24, Windham  
Maureen Terry, HD 26, Gorham  
Lois Reckitt, HD 31, South Portland  
Brad Fox, HD 33, South Portland  
Dillon Bates, HD 35, Westbrook  
Richard Farnsworth, HD 37, Portland  
Michael Sylvester, HD 39, Portland  
Rachel Talbot-Ross, HD 40, Portland  
Benjamin Collings, HD 42, Portland  
Teresa Pierce, HD 44, Falmouth

Dale Denno, HD 45, Cumberland  
Sarah Hall, HD 46, Yarmouth  
Janice Cooper, HD 47, Yarmouth  
Sara Gideon, HD 48, Freeport  
Ralph Tucker, HD 50, Brunswick  
Will Neilson, HD 53, Bath  
Denise Tepler, HD 54, Topsham  
Seth Berry, HD 55, Bowdoinham  
Scott Gaiason, HD 56, Lisbon Falls  
Jim Handy, HD 58, Lewiston  
Roger Fuller, HD 59, Lewiston  
Heidi Brooks, HD 61, Lewiston  
Bettyan Sheats, HD 64, Auburn  
Elijah Bretton, HD 65, Poland  
Jessica Fay, HD 66, Raymond  
Rachel Lyn Rumson, HD 67, Gray  
Jill Ducharme, HD 76, Wayne  
Alan Tibbetts, HD 77, Sidney  
John Glowa, HD 79, China  
Kent Ackley, HD 82, Wales  
Donna Doore, HD 85, MDI  
Wendy Ross, HD 87, Wiscasset  
Wendy Wolf, HD 89, West Boothbay Harbor  
Mick Devin, HD 90 Newcastle  
Emily Trask-Eaton, HD 91, Waldoboro  
Kathleen Miel, HD 94, Rockport  
Elinore Goldberg, HD 95, Hope  
Stanley Paige Zeigler, HD 96, Montville  
April Turner, HD 99, Freedom  
James Davitt, HD 101, Hamden  
Aaron Rowden, HD 108, Fairfield  
Colleen Madigan, HD 110, Augusta  
Sheryl Briggs, HD 116, Mexico  
Sidney Pew, HD 117, Bethel  
Ryan Tipping-Spitz, HD 123, Orono  
John Schneck, HD 126, Bangor  
Teresa Montague, HD 129, Bangor  
John Wombacher, HD 130, Bucksport  
Dorothy Caldwell, HD 131, Penobscot  
Walter Kumiega, HD 134, Deer Isle  
Brian Hubbell, HD 135, Bar Harbor  
Michael Fisher, HD 136, Sullivan  
Robert Saucier, HD 147, Presque Isle  
Ginette Rivard, HD 149, Caribou

## Remember Election 2000



As election day approaches, we are wise to remember another presidential race where disenfranchised voters looked for an alternative to the two major party candidates. In 2000, third-party candidate Ralph Nader was that alternative for many progressive-thinking voters. In a historically close race, Nader received nearly three percent of the vote and arguably cost Al Gore the presidency.

Those who voted for Ralph Nader did so in good conscience and with good intentions, freely exercising their constitutional right. But our votes have consequences. If Al Gore had been elected, we would not have endured eight years of climate change denial and lost precious time moving toward a clean-energy economy.

In 2016 there is once again a forward-thinking alternative to our two major party candidates. Green Party candidate Jill Stein is intelligent and articulate. She addresses lots of issues that concern many Sierrans.

But as in 2000, the 2016 presidential race promises to be close, and votes for Stein could well be a factor in the final outcome.

We all must follow our conscience in the ballot booth. But, remember, our votes have consequences. Think of the difference a Gore presidency would have made for climate change mitigation. Then think of the climate consequences if Donald Trump is elected in November. Actually that's unthinkable, isn't it?

## You Can Help

# Getting Corporate Influence Out of Politics

Will “big money” have an influence on your vote on November 8? Dark money is pervasive in our politics—super political action committees (PACs) and large corporations are influencing who gets elected, how they get elected, and the decisions they make after they’re elected. Its influence in the halls of legislatures nation-wide and in the U.S. Congress is constantly evident.

And all that big corporate money is having a detrimental influence on our environment. The very corporations responsible for polluting our air and our water with toxic contamination are the same corporations responsible for polluting our democracy with hundreds of millions of dollars in toxic money.

Just look at the fossil fuel industry: for every \$1 it spends on campaign contributions and lobbying in Washington D.C., it gets back \$59 in subsidies. Our country’s most notorious polluters are rolling back environmental safeguards with every dollar they spend.

In Maine, our Sierra Club chapter has worked with other state organizations for Clean Elections reforms. Those reforms help ensure that in today’s climate of big corporate influence, citizens will still have a strong voice at the ballot box.

And we’re not alone, Sierra Club chapters across the country are working to protect and expand voting rights and also fighting the power of polluter money to influence politics. In addition to voter rights and public financing they are looking at redistricting and other structural ways to strengthen our democracy.

*The very corporations responsible for polluting our air and our water with toxic contamination are the same corporations responsible for polluting our democracy with hundreds of millions of dollars in toxic money.*

We should all have an equal say over the decisions that affect our lives, but current laws allow corporate and polluter money to yell loudest, set the agenda, and rig the rules in their favor. The Supreme Court has handed down multiple decisions, most notably in Citizens United (the Supreme Court decision that opened the floodgates for corporate campaign cash). These decisions have weakened the first amendment and given more power to corporations and polluters than to everyday citizens.

One major step toward protecting our democracy is electing Hillary Clinton as president. She’s committed to fighting the power of money in politics in the first 100 days. Here are just a few actions she will take:

- Push for a constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United in her first 30 days in office.
- Promote Securities and Exchange Commission rulemaking requiring publicly traded companies to disclose all political spending to their shareholders (this includes oil, gas and coal companies).
- Sign an executive order requiring federal government contractors to fully disclose all political spending.

In the months following the election Sierra Club’s Democracy Program along with the diversity, equality, and inclusion project, will continue to educate and work with chapters on eliminating money in politics with public financing, voter ID laws, redistricting issues before 2020 and electing fair judges for our courts where applicable.

You can get involved with Sierra Club’s work to get dark money out of politics by emailing [maine.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:maine.chapter@sierraclub.org) or calling 761-5616.



*It’s clean, efficient, and a boost for the local economy*

## Let’s Move Forward with Passenger Rail

It’s time to expand passenger train service in Maine. The Amtrak Downeaster connecting Brunswick to Boston demonstrates the demand for and benefits of this clean, efficient transportation choice in the Pine Tree State. However, we need an expanded train system that connects to more Maine communities, and eventually to Montreal.

The first step towards new Maine-to-Montreal train service and re-building our state’s passenger rail network is running commuter rail from Portland to Lewiston-Auburn on existing state-owned rail lines.

The good news is that in 2015 the State Legislature passed a bill directing the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) to create a plan for this route between Maine’s two largest metropolitan areas. Together, the cities of Lewiston and Auburn and the State of Maine have pledged \$500,000 to conduct the plan, and the idea has garnered the support of a strong coalition that includes Republican and Democratic legislators, the business community, and environmentalists.

Unfortunately, nearly two years later, MDOT has yet to get going on the train plan. It’s imperative that the agency move forward now so that Mainers can take advantage of expanded transportation choices in the near future.

Mainers support passenger trains because they provide safe, reliable, and affordable transportation, reduce traffic congestion and pollution, and help to revitalize our town centers with new economic development opportunities. Trains attract commuters and visitors who want to be able to travel without the expense, dangers, and hassles of automobile dependence. Importantly, trains also address seniors’ needs, and they provide access to jobs, school, and entertainment for the many who do not own cars. As has been proven elsewhere, when quality passenger service is available, people will use it.

Maine is fortunate to own and have the Portland-to-Auburn railroad tracks in place. This valuable piece of transportation infrastructure, purchased with public funds for the purpose of passenger rail, is ready and waiting for re-investment.

Passenger trains should be seen as not just a smart transportation option but also a key economic development strategy. Connecting Maine’s two largest economic hubs would be a catalyst for expanding jobs, housing, health care and education. It would connect people to the entertainment and culture centers while providing affordable access for everyone.

From an environmental and energy-use perspective, passenger trains are the most efficient transportation choice. Considering that cars now account for the largest source of global warming pollution in Maine, passenger trains would be an important solution in mitigating climate disruption. In addition, the cost of maintaining our highways, roads and bridges is astronomical, and by reducing the number of cars on our road system, trains reduce road repair costs substantially.

Since the administration of Governor King, Maine has spent over \$2 million dollars on passenger rail feasibility, infrastructure costs, equipment and economic impact studies. The studies are done. Now’s the time to move forward on a plan.

*-By Tony Donovan*

### Yes on Question #4

## Maine Needs to Raise the Minimum Wage

Sierra Club Maine is endorsing a “yes” vote on Ballot Initiative #4—the initiative to raise the minimum wage. We believe that a fair wage is closely related to our fight to protect the environment. The families who are at risk due to an inadequate living wage are the same families most impacted by industrial pollution and climate change.

Additionally, Sierra Club understands it’s part of a much broader-based effort, an effort that fosters the health and safety of all Americans. Raising the minimum wage will enable more families, now struggling, to meet basic needs such as health-care, food, housing, and transportation. As Executive Director Mike Brune has stated:

“Here’s what we’re saying to the Walmarts and the McDonald’s: You have to change your business models so that we can live. We want living wages and a living planet! And for us to get there here’s what you need to do: You need to invest in people by paying your employees enough to live on. And you need to invest in communities by sourcing your products locally.... It’s not a matter of convenience.

*“It’s not a matter of convenience. It is literally a life and death issue, just like the fight for a living planet.”*

It is literally a life and death issue, just like the fight for a living planet...And it’s the exact same fight! When fossil fuels disrupt our climate, causing killer heat waves, wildfires, and deadly floods, who suffers the most? It’s the people who can’t afford air-conditioning, the people who don’t have the means to flee from fires and floods, and the people who must raise their kids next door to coal plants,

fracking sites, and oil refineries. Because no matter how hard those people work, they can’t earn enough money to save their own lives. That’s why they call it a living wage!”

Here in Maine, Ballot Initiative #4 will raise the wage to \$9 by 2017 and to \$12 by 2020.

That’s not enough, but it’s a good start. Simply put, corporations large and small need to provide a fair wage for the workers because we all benefit when each of us does better.

When we support Mainers with a living wage that improves the local economy. Please vote “yes” on #4—Maine people deserve it.

*660kw project will be Maine's largest municipally-owned solar array.*

## Portland Moves Forward With CAT Initiated Solar Project

On September 7, the Portland City Council unanimously approved a major solar project to be sited on the closed Ocean Avenue landfill. This victory is the culmination of 18 months of organizing by Sierra Club Maine's Portland Climate Action Team (PCAT) who initiated the idea, worked closely with city staff and officials, and garnered public support for the project.

The 660kw solar project will be Maine's largest municipally-owned solar array—generating enough electricity to power City Hall and adjoining Merrill Auditorium. The city will recoup its upfront costs in just 10 years and will save taxpayers more than \$3.2 million in energy expenditures over the lifetime of the project.

Before the vote, Mayor Ethan Strimling and Councilor Jon Hinck (who was wearing his Sierra Club button) recognized the organizing efforts and contribution of the Portland Climate Action Team and mentioned the core activists by name.

"This proposal is a meaningful step in Portland's commitment to a clean energy future," noted Hinck, who is chair of the council's Energy and Sustainability Committee.

During the public comment period, 10 PCAT members spoke in favor of the project. No one spoke in opposition. Just before casting his vote, Councilor Spencer Thibodeau put on one of our stickers to demonstrate his enthusiasm for solar.

The PCAT victory also helped propel a similar solar landfill project across the bay in South Portland, which we anticipate will be announced this month. The South Portland project, which had been tabled because of cost, came about because Portland approached South Portland to negotiate with the solar developer ReVision Energy for a lower cost by combining the two projects.

The PCAT, which developed a 50kw community solar farm last year in Wayne, is collaborating with the city on a potential community solar farm on the small closed landfill on Peaks Island. The team also supported an energy efficiency ordinance requiring mandatory energy benchmarking for large buildings in Portland. The city's energy committee has recommended passage of that ordinance to the entire city council. It would be the first such ordinance in Maine.

A clear indication of the importance of clean energy policy in Portland is the PCAT's standing monthly meetings with Mayor Strimling to discuss next steps for a more far-reaching citywide solar plan.

Many thanks to the following dedicated PCAT core organizers for their savvy organizing, focus, and persistence: Elissa and Allen Armstrong, Robert Stoddard, Tica Douglas, Maggy Wolf, Brian Anderson, Darcy Cooke, Liz Parsons, Luke Truman, and Rosanne Graef.

### College of the Atlantic Named "America's Greenest College"

Two Maine schools are among the top five Green Colleges in the United States according to a rating by the Sierra Club.

Achieving number one status ("by a landslide") was College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor. It was noted that more than 75 percent of COA's faculty are involved in sustainability research and more than 35 percent of the classes offered relate to the environment. In addition COA gets 100 percent of its electricity from renewable sources and the college has divested from all investments in fossil fuels.

Fourth on the Green College list was Colby. The Waterville school was applauded for being carbon neutral, using Eco-friendly materials, and for promoting student involvement in sustainability efforts.

Congratulations to both COA and Colby for leading the way in mitigating climate change and protecting the planet.



CAT members celebrate Portland's new solar project with city officials. Left to right are: City Councilor Jon Hinck, Tica Douglas, Elissa Armstrong, Maggy Wolf, Allen Armstrong, Mayor Ethan Strimling, Darcy Cooke, Robert Stoddard, Sam Saltonstall, and Sierra Club Maine Director Glen Brand.

**Climate Action Team meets its first-year goals to reduce the town's carbon footprint.**

### More CAT Success in Cumberland

When the Cumberland Climate Action Team (CCAT) formed in response to Sierra Club Maine's Grassroots Climate Action summit in Augusta last December, our vision was to facilitate a reduction of 50 percent in greenhouse gases in the Cumberland community by 2030.

For 2016, we established three goals: create a baseline estimate of Cumberland's greenhouse gas emissions for 2015, build a CCAT website, and partner with MSAD51 to build a climate action plan for the district and initiate one or more climate initiatives in the FY2017 budget.

I'm pleased to report that the Cumberland CAT has made significant progress toward achieving those goals.

First, using the University of New Hampshire campus carbon calculator, we estimated the carbon footprint of Cumberland at 68,000 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e. Over 80 percent of those emissions arise from the 2,700 individual households in the community, mostly from heating fuel and gasoline for car travel. For this estimate, we received technical help from the Greater Portland Council of Governments and Colby College.

Second, we now have an operational and expanding CCAT web site.

And toward our third goal, MSAD51 has been very receptive to working with us. A major piece of their strategic plan is environmental stewardship. Also, they are mindful of their sizable carbon footprint, which we estimate at 4,300 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2015—the equivalent of 200 households. They have already taken action by converting over to natural gas for heating and implementing an efficiency program through Siemens. For FY2017, they are budgeting for sufficient renewable energy certificates (RECs) to make all their electricity use carbon free. They are also planning three level II charging stations to support use of electric vehicles.

The second largest component of the school district's carbon footprint (behind heating) is the daily commute of 400 staff and 200 high school students. Our CCAT has agreed to fund raise half the cost of the charging stations. Also, under Superintendent

Jeff Porter's able leadership, they are integrating climate change understanding into both the curriculum and student activities.

MSAD51 has recently begun planning for a performing arts center. Because this project could result in a big increase in the carbon footprint of the campus, we are working with the Building Committee to consider designs that are carbon neutral.

The municipal government has a much smaller carbon footprint consisting primarily of the fuel expended by the police and public works departments. As more fuel-efficient vehicles become available, they are worked into the vehicle fleet. One major asset of the town is close to 1,000 acres of town forest in several locations. As the town is committed to managing this forest sustainably, it has a natural offset to its carbon emissions. We are working with a licensed forester to quantify this

offset. Lastly, the town was moving forward to consider a solar farm on its five-acre capped landfill. This plan is now on hold due to the current lack of clarity in Maine's solar policy.

Our ongoing challenge will be to find ways to motivate our 2,700 private households to reduce their carbon footprint. Unfortunately, there seems to be a general apathy to taking action by the general public. One step we are taking is to offer a short course on this subject in the fall 2016 adult education program. It will teach individuals how to calculate their own carbon footprint and to develop a plan to cut it by 80 percent in line with the Paris Accords. This turns out to be simpler and cheaper than most believe, thanks to emerging technologies such as air source heat pumps and plug-in hybrid vehicles.

*-By Denny Gallaudet*



### Take Action in Your Community

If you would like to join or form a Climate Action Team, please contact [maine.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:maine.chapter@sierraclub.org) or call 207-761-5616.



The EPA needs to hear from you.

## Let's Get Energy Efficiency on an Equal Footing in the Clean Energy Plan

By Cassandra Kubes

Despite the fact that energy efficiency is generally the least-cost option for states looking to comply with the Clean Power Plan, it has yet to be fully considered as a strategy for the Clean Energy Incentive Program (CEIP). This could result in reduced investment in energy efficiency which would mean increased electric costs and less money in the hands of communities.

The reality is that it costs significantly less to reduce emissions through energy efficiency than through other means. These savings get passed down to customers, resulting in local job creation and economic development.

The Environmental Protection Agency's latest proposal for the CEIP is an important opportunity to ensure that states can reward investments in energy efficiency while claiming credit for the pollution it avoids. The CEIP early-action program provides incentives for renewable energy and energy efficiency serving low-income communities, but as currently drafted, it puts efficiency at an unfair disadvantage. Recently, the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy submitted comments to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that seek to put energy efficiency on a level playing field.

The CEIP is expected to spur early investment in clean energy and provides benefits to low-income communities. In addition to rewarding early investments in energy efficiency and solar projects implemented in low-income communities, the CEIP offers an extra incentive to renewable energy. While we support many elements of EPA's recent proposal, we are requesting that EPA expand this pool of credits available to renewable energy to also include energy efficiency.

EPA has extended its deadline for comment on the Clean Energy Incentives Plan to November 1. Let them know you support energy efficiency by emailing comments to [a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov](mailto:a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov). You can also go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov): and follow the instruction for commenting on CEIP.

*Cassandra Kubes is a senior research analyst for environmental policy at the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy.*

### EnergySmart Program for Bangor

In July the City of Bangor launched EnergySmart Bangor, a residential rebate program the city initiated with Efficiency Maine. The program helps Bangor residents save on energy expenses by reducing the cost of energy efficiency upgrades. The program is offered to all Bangor residents of owner-occupied properties that qualify for the Home Energy Savings Program (HESP) through Efficiency Maine. EnergySmart Bangor rebates can be used for upgrades including air sealing, insulation, supplemental heating systems, and more. The amount of EnergySmart Bangor rebates offered varies by project, but in many cases can nearly double the amount of rebates offered by Efficiency Maine.

More information about the EnergySmart Bangor program, along with rebate forms, can be found online at [www.bangormaine.gov/energysmartbangor](http://www.bangormaine.gov/energysmartbangor) or by calling the city at (207) 992-4284.

## New Climate Action Team Organizes in Bangor

More than 20 enthusiastic Greater Bangor residents turned out for a Climate Action Team (CAT) organizing meeting at the Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine on September 26. The idea of forming a CAT for Bangor came about following talks between area resident Karen Marysdaughter and Sierra Club Maine leaders Joan Saxe and Becky Bartovics (both of whom attended the September meeting).

Marysdaughter says she initiated the CAT idea because she thinks the Bangor area is poised to make some major moves in the direction of energy efficiency and renewable energy.

"There are already a few initiatives going on in the area: 350 Bangor, the Citizens Climate Lobby, a proposed plastic bag ban for the city, Window Dressers, the EnergySmart Bangor program, Maine Students for Climate Justice, and others," she explained. "My hope is that a CAT will strengthen communication among the existing groups, pull in new energy to assist those efforts, and come up with new creative ideas for further action."

She added that the name Climate Action Team appeals to her "because it says what we are focused on, 'climate,' what we plan to do, take 'action,' and how we'll go about it, as a 'team.'"

At the meeting, Joan Saxe gave an overview of how the Climate Action Team program got started and discussed what the 10 existing CATs have accomplished or are now working on. Marysdaughter then asked all attendees to write down ideas for



Bangor CAT organizers (left to right) Karen Marysdaughter, Hendrik Gideons, and Christina Diebold.

climate action projects. The suggestions included low-income weatherization projects, solar installations, promoting walking, biking, bus transportation, and electric vehicles, water conservation, and developing community gardens.

The next Bangor CAT meeting is scheduled for October 24 at 6:30 pm at the Peace and Justice Center. If you are interested in joining the effort contact Karen Marysdaughter at [karenmd@myfairpoint.net](mailto:karenmd@myfairpoint.net) or call her at 262-3706 (home)—930-5440 (cell).



## Taking Energy Awareness on the Road

To help celebrate national Energy Action Month in October, Sierra Club Maine launched a statewide outreach effort to promote home weatherization with state programs that can lower the costs of energy efficiency investments.

The Chapter's local Climate Action Teams have organized a number of Home Weatherization Roadshows including ones in Bangor, Norway, and Bath—with additional locations possible. Homeowners attending these free, public events will learn about Efficiency Maine's Home Energy Savings Program rebates and discounts, and will have the opportunity to speak with a local energy efficiency contractor.

"The Home Weatherization Roadshows are a great way for our Climate Action Teams to reach out to our neighbors about the economic and environmental benefits of tightening up our homes," said Sierra Club volunteer leader Lyn Sudlow. "By taking advantage of Efficiency Maine discount programs this fall, Mainers can substantially lower their energy costs, stay warmer, and reduce their carbon footprint this winter and beyond."

Through Efficiency Maine, homeowners can receive below-market-rate loans to pay for up to \$5000 of insulation and weatherization work, and low-income residents are eligible for \$1,000 energy upgrades for just \$50. Discounts are also available on heat pumps, wood and pellet stoves, and other energy-efficient equipment. To learn more about these opportunities, go to [efficiencymaine.com](http://efficiencymaine.com).

Sierra Club Maine's Climate Action Teams also took the Home Weatherization Roadshow to the Common Ground Country Fair in September. Members from various Climate Action Teams gave presentations entitled "Going Local: Taking Community Action to Address Climate Disruption."

October was named "Energy Action Month" by the Obama administration and the U.S. Department of Energy to encourage Americans to take practical, affordable steps to increase the energy efficiency of their homes and businesses and to invest in clean, affordable energy technologies such as solar power. More information about Energy Action Month can be found at <http://energy.gov/eere/femp/energy-action-month>.

### Home Weatherization Roadshow Schedule:

#### Bangor

An exhibition, with information, will be on display at the Bangor Public Library from October 1st to October 13th. On October 13th at 6:00 p.m. the public is invited to a free, energy-efficiency forum.

#### Norway

An exhibition, with information, will be on display at the Norway Memorial Library from October 7th to October 22nd. On October 20th at 6:30 p.m. the public is invited to attend a free, energy-efficiency forum at the Center for Ecology Based Economy, Main Street Norway.

#### Bath

An exhibition, with information will be on display at the Patten Free Library from October 4th to October 22nd. On October 18th at 6:00 PM the public is invited to attend an energy-efficiency forum (location to be announced).



## Join Our Celebration!

*Sierra Club Maine's annual dinner on October 22, will feature great local food, engaging speakers, a bird-watching walk, and a celebration of our new national monument.*

Celebrate our new national monument and other environmental victories at Sierra Club Maine's Annual Dinner at beautiful Wolfe's Neck Farm's Little River Tent in Freeport overlooking Casco Bay. We will be honoring the impressive grassroots efforts that achieved so many major state conservation and local climate solutions around the state this year.

Our featured speaker will be Lucas St. Clair, who led the successful effort that created the new Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn about our new natural treasure from the person who knows it best.

Also speaking at the dinner will be Sierra Club Deputy National Program Director Michael Bosse who will talk about the importance of local action to address the climate crisis.

And as always, the gathering will include the presentation of the Chapter's annual awards for efforts to protect the environment.

The event begins with a reception at 5:00 pm, but the fun starts earlier. We encourage you to arrive at 3:00 pm to participate in either a bird-watching walk along the Little River or a Hayride discussion on sustainable soil practices and climate change led by Dorn Cox.

Dinner includes Maine lobster roll, North Haven oysters, and other local foods. Vegan and gluten-free options will also be available. Tickets are \$40. RSVP by visiting our website at [sierraclub.org/maine](http://sierraclub.org/maine). Call with any questions: (207) 761-5616



Featured speaker Lucas St. Clair.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Book Clubs

*Downeast Book Club*

**Sunday, October 16—1:30 p.m.**

*River Horse* by William Least Heat-Moon

**Sunday, November 20, 2016—1:30 p.m.**

*Founding Gardeners* by Andrea Wulf

Contact Deb Loftus at [loftusw@roadrunner.com](mailto:loftusw@roadrunner.com) for locations.

*Sierra Club Maine Book Club*

**Saturday, Nov 12th —6 p.m.**

*The Moon in the Nautilus Shell* by Daniel Botkin

For location contact Martha Briggs at

[marthabriggs@gmail.com](mailto:marthabriggs@gmail.com)

### Movies

*Dover-Foxcroft*

**National Park Adventure**

**October 20—6 p.m. at the Center Theater**

Narrated by Robert Redford, this beautiful film takes audiences on the ultimate off-trail adventure into the nation's awe-inspiring great outdoors and untamed wilderness.

**Global Banquet**

**November 15—7 p.m. at the Center Theatre**

*The Global Banquet* exposes globalization's profoundly damaging effect on our food.

*Kennebunk Film Series*

**National Park Adventure**

**October 28—6:30 p.m.**

**First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church**

114 Maine Street, Kennebunk

(See description above)

### Outings

**Shinrin Yoku Walks**

*Shinrin Yoku, or "forest bathing," is contemplative walking—the practice of making contact with and taking in the atmosphere of the woods.*

**Walk in Acadia**

**Sunday, October 16—1 p.m.**

Acadia National Park

For more information and to sign up contact Tara Hollander at [tarahollander@gmail.com](mailto:tarahollander@gmail.com) or call 323-5413.

**Hike in the Camden Hills**

**Sunday, October 30—1 p.m.**

Sign up by contacting Tara Hollander at [tarahollander@gmail.com](mailto:tarahollander@gmail.com) or call 323-5413.

**Sears Island Hike**

**November 27, 2016 —2 p.m.**

Sign up by contacting Tara Hollander at [tarahollander@gmail.com](mailto:tarahollander@gmail.com) or call 323-5413.

### Special Events

**Sierra Club Maine Annual Dinner**

**Saturday, October 22**

**Wolfe's Neck Farm, Freeport**

See top left story on this page for details.

**Sierra Club Maine**

**Home Weatherization Roadshows**

**Bangor Library**

Exhibition—October 1-13

Energy Efficiency Forum, October 13—6 p.m.

**Norway Memorial Library**

Exhibition—October 7-22

Energy Efficiency Forum, October 20—6:30 p.m.

**Patten Free Library in Bath**

Exhibition—October 4-22

Forum, October 18—6 p.m.

(For more information see story on page 5)

*To stay up-to-date check our events calendar at [sierraclub.org/maine](http://sierraclub.org/maine)*

## Thank You Annual Dinner Sponsors!

Sierra Club Maine sincerely thanks the following generous sponsors of our annual dinner and gathering on October 22. Sponsorships are at three levels: Oak—\$2,500, Maple—\$1,000, and Spruce—\$500.

### OAK

Becky Bartovics

### MAPLE

Robert Stoddard

### SPRUCE

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Hannah Pingree and Jason Mann

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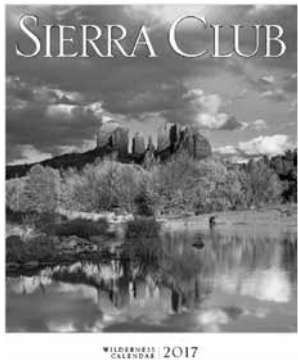
## Purchases at Closebuy Supports Sierra Club Maine

Sierra Club Maine is proud to be one of Closebuy's partnering charities. Simply visit the website, enter our account number #14284, and 30 percent of your purchase will go directly to Sierra Club Maine!

Closebuy's website is full of great stuff, made by local artists and businesses who care about our environment and our communities. All items are made in the Northeast, and over 40 percent are made by Mainers. This fundraising campaign supports local business, and the Sierra Club, and your purchases arrive in time for the holidays. It's a Win, Win!

Order today, and don't forget to use Code #14284.

## 2017 Sierra Club Calendars Now Available



Sierra Club's stunning 2017 wall and engagement calendars are now available.

The wall calendar has been a bestseller in America for over 30 years, with spectacular photographs depicting the grandeur of the North America's wilderness.

The popular engagement calendar will help you keep track of your busy schedule. Each week features a photograph by one of America's leading nature photographers.

Every calendar purchase aids Sierra Club Maine's important efforts—sustaining our work statewide to promote clean energy, supporting our local Climate Action Teams, and protecting the Maine Woods.

Wall calendars are \$13.95, engagement calendars are \$14.95 (plus shipping and tax). To order please visit our website, [sierraclub.org/maine](http://sierraclub.org/maine) or call Jeanine at 761-5616.

## Volunteer Needed to Serve as Chapter Associate Treasurer

Sierra Club Maine is looking for an associate treasurer to support the chapter treasurer in tracking and keeping the chapter financial records. It would be helpful to be near the Portland office, but not mandatory. If you have some accounting background, your help would be appreciated. To find out more about the volunteer position, please contact the treasurer at [treasurerscruth@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerscruth@gmail.com).

**Become a Sierra Club Maine Volunteer!**

Contact Jeanine at [maine.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:maine.chapter@sierraclub.org)

# Maine Chapter of the Sierra Club

Telephone: 207-761-5616

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Michael (Mick) Devin  
Tony Donovan  
Tara Hollander  
Claudia King  
Ken Cline  
David Mokler

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Newcastle  
Portland  
Stockton Springs  
Falmouth  
Bar Harbor  
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### Statement of Purpose of the Sierra Club

"To explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the Earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the Earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives."

**Being a Sierra Club volunteer is fun and rewarding! Just contact Jeanine at [maine.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:maine.chapter@sierraclub.org)**

## Visit us on Facebook



A great way to keep up with Maine environmental issues and Sierra Club activities.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/sierra-club-maine-chapter/181279771922933>

# Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument

*Continued from page 1*

"This land is an incredible gift for conservation," Jewell said, in praising Roxanne Quimby for her generosity and perseverance. "Because of this gift, this land will be enjoyed by everyone—Americans and foreign visitors for years and years to come." She emphasized that Maine's rich heritage of hunting, fishing, and recreation will forever be preserved.

Jewell also praised Quimby's son, Lucas St. Clair, for his highly effective efforts in listening to and addressing the concerns of the people of the Katahdin region.

The previous day Jewell explored many areas of the new monument with St. Clair, including a paddle down the East Branch of the Penobscot. She said the experience made her "think of what's been preserved here, and how incredibly special it is."

Also speaking at the event was Congresswoman Chellie Pingree, a long-time supporter of the Quimby family's national park/monument proposal. No other members of Maine's congressional delegation attended the celebration, although Senator Angus King issued a statement of support following the monument designation.

The senator's invitation to National Parks Director Jarvis to hold public meetings in Orono and Millinocket Maine last May gave significant momentum to the monument effort.



*"This is a special place that will inspire visitors, just as it inspired Thoreau, Theodore Roosevelt, artists, and Maine's Native Americans."*

King acknowledged that Jarvis and others in the Obama administration had convinced him that "the benefits of the designation will far outweigh any detriment." He added that the monument can coexist with the wood and paper industry and will help diversify the local economy of the Katahdin region.

Among the Sierra Club representatives at the monument celebration were chapter chair Becky Bartovics and national board of directors' vice president, Robin Mann.

"Sierra Club is pleased to have been a part of this effort—working in concert with other Maine environmental and national conservation organizations, as well as community groups, to support the Quimby family's vision," Mann said. "Protecting special places is a huge part of the Club's legacy and ongoing work. And this is a special place that will inspire visitors, just as it inspired Thoreau, Theodore Roosevelt, artists, and Maine's Native Americans."

The monument was open for business the day after Obama's designation. Right now visitors won't find the amenities, signage, or accessibility that are available at long-established sites like Acadia National Park. But Elliotsville Plantation, Inc., with the help of the Maine Conservation Corps and the Student Conservation Association, have been hard at work developing trails (including



Among the first to visit the newly designated national monument was U.S. Interior Secretary Sally Jewell. Here she enjoys a paddle on the East Branch of the Penobscot with Lucas St. Clair.

trails to several mountain summits), clearing scenic outlooks, and creating new campsites. Boat launches are also available at various sites.

Visitors need to be prepared for the fact that the monument is still in its early stages of development. That means no services for water, food, or fuel are currently available within the monument boundary.

While amenities may be lacking, natural beauty and recreational opportunities are plentiful. Hikers will enjoy stunning views of Mt. Katahdin, pristine ponds, rare plant species, and wildlife including: ruffed grouse, moose, black bear, white-tailed deer, snowshoe hare, American marten, bobcat, bald eagle, and Canada lynx. In addition, seventy-eight bird species are known to breed in the area, and many more bird species use it.

Of course, the prime feature of the new monument is the East Branch of the Penobscot River. With its thrilling rapids and many free-flowing tributaries it provides both exhilarating opportunities for paddlers and a quiet reflective haven for those seeking the restorative power of wilderness.

Few people know the monument land as well as Lucas St. Clair. One of his favorite spots is Wassataquoik Stream and Orin Falls.

"It's such a special wild river," St. Clair explained in a recent National Parks Conservation Association blog. "Totally unique to Maine. It's undammed and

has very little access to it, and just feels like a very wild and remote place. And there are great swimming holes."

St. Clair also has a special love for the north boundary of the monument where the East Branch comes out of Grand Lake Matagamon. Here the river takes on a series of dramatic pitches and falls—dropping over 200 feet in a 10-mile stretch.

And campers will be awed by the amazing night sky, glittering with stars and planets and occasional displays of the aurora borealis.

For those less adventurous or with limited time there is a 16-plus-mile loop road (see map) with great views of Mt. Katahdin and Wassataquoik Valley. Currently, high ground clearance vehicles are recommended for all monument roads.

For sportsmen, fishing is allowed throughout the monument lands. Hunting is allowed only on four separate parcels located east of the East Branch of the Penobscot River. There is no hunting west of the East Branch.

And the park will be open in the winter for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Snowmobiling will be allowed on established trails.

The benefits of the new monument go far beyond its recreational opportunities. It will bring much-needed economic diversity to the struggling Katahdin region. And it will provide visitors the

opportunity to learn of the area's rich history of the Wabanaki people and of the once-thriving logging industry.

In addition, the monument offers rare research opportunities for archaeologists, geologists, and biologists in various fields.

Most importantly, Katahdin Woods and Waters preserves a vitally important ecosystem in the Maine Woods. It contains critical habitat for moose, bear, Canadian Lynx, and Atlantic salmon. As noted in an article by The Wilderness Society, these animals require large ranges to maintain viable populations. The monument will ensure a safe corridor for all wildlife moving between Baxter State Park and other lands owned by the state. This large protected corridor will now allow species to survive and thrive even in the face of climate change.

Sierra Club Maine extends its sincerest thanks to the Quimby family and to President Obama for presenting this ecologically and recreationally important gift to all Americans.



The Sierra Club was well represented at the Katahdin Woods and Waters celebration in Millinocket on August 26. Here with Elliotsville Plantation president Lucas St. Clair are (left to right) Maine Woods Team members Jayne Lello and Jim Frick, Sierra Club Chapter Chair Becky Bartovics, (St. Clair), and Sierra Club Vice President Robin Mann. Sierra Club leader Joan Saxe also attended.