

Delaware Sierra News

A Newsletter about Environmental Matters Important to Delaware ◇ September/October 2002

Getting Burned by the Timber Industry

by Douglas Bevington, Volunteer Outreach Liaison
for the Sierra Club's ECL Committee

The Sierra Club's national conservation priority campaign to end commercial logging (ECL) on our national forests has been making great progress. In April, over 200 esteemed scientists signed on to a letter endorsing ECL. Meanwhile, the National Forest Protection and Restoration Act (H.R. 1494), a cornerstone of the ECL campaign, has continued to gain cosponsors and is now more than half way to a majority in Congress.

Faced with these successes, the timber industry has launched a cynical media campaign to blame forest protection for this summer's fires in the drought-stricken West. Nothing could be further from the truth. Numerous scientific reports have shown that logging actually increases fire risk and severity. The government's National Fire Plan states, "removal of large, merchantable trees from forests does not reduce fire risk and may, in fact, increase that risk."

Logging removes...

It removes the large trees that are most fire resistant and opens up the canopy, making the forest hotter, drier and more fire prone.

Fire is a natural and necessary part of

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SAVE THE DATE! - 2ND ANNUAL

Wild Places, Cool Spaces

Friday Evening, November 22, 2002

At the Delaware Center for Contemporary Arts
in Wilmington

An evening of music, hors d'oeuvres with silent
auction to benefit the Sierra Club's
conservation activities in Delaware.

Check your mailbox in October for more details

Donation of Silent Auction Items welcome -
contact the Chapter office at 302-425-4911.



Marsha Holler reports back on her committee's work to the participants at the July Chapter Strategic Planning Retreat in Smyrna. Rocky Mountain (Colorado) chair Greg Casini lead the weekend session (second down on right from Marsha). See page two for more information.

Sierra Club Applauds Legislation to Restore Vital Clean Water Protections

On July 24, 2002, important legislation to protect wetlands and other waters was introduced by Senator Russ Feingold (WI) and Congressmen James Oberstar (MN) and John Dingell (MI). The Clean Water Authority Restoration Act of 2002, S. 2780 and H.R. 5194, is in response to the 2001 U.S. Supreme Court ruling which dealt a serious blow to the protection of the nation's waters by narrowing federal authority to control water pollution. In a statement applauding the legislation, Sierra Club Environmental Quality Director Ed Hopkins noted, "this bill clarifies that Congress intends for Clean Water Act protection to extend to all of the nation's waters, including the so-called isolated wetlands, streams, ponds and other waterbodies that play such an integral role in our environment."

Isolated wetlands and other waters, including prairie potholes, bogs, fens, vernal pools, Carolina and Delmarva Bays and other systems provide floodwater storage, filtration of pollutants, recharge of groundwater and critical habitat for many species of birds, fish and wildlife.

The Supreme Court ruling in Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) v. Army Corps of Engineers overturned the federal government's long-held authority under the Clean Water Act to protect non-navigable, intrastate, isolated wetlands, streams and other waterbodies from pollution based on their use by migratory birds. The Court's 5-4 majority opinion went beyond the ruling by throwing into question whether federal Clean Water Act protections apply to any wetlands, streams and other waters that may be considered isolated. In the wake of

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Letter From the Chair

by Matt Urban

Although we're in the midst of some significant changes within our chapter, it's an exciting time to be part of Delaware Sierra Club!

Late July, our chapter hosted a strategic planning session. The event was led by Greg Casini, a trained facilitator provided by the national Sierra Club. Over the course of a weekend, approximately 15 of the chapter's core activists worked together to define the primary opportunities for our chapter.

We began the weekend discussing our current strengths and weaknesses to get a clear sense of where we are. Then, our team looked at four key areas: our key opportunities for environmental gains, how we can work more effectively together, how we can involve more members in our activities, and how we can more effectively reach out to the public. Through a series of brainstorming exercises and voting, we defined three or four top priorities in each area.

We then separated into groups and defined work plans around each – what resources would each take, and what steps would be needed.

Some of the key ideas generated throughout this process include:

- 1) Maintaining a central list of volunteer opportunities within the chapter, and developing a mentor program for new activists.
- 2) Holding a regular general membership meeting to keep everyone informed of what we're doing, to help educate about environmental issues, and to open more of a dialogue between chapter leaders and the membership at large.
- 3) Focusing on political accountability, and reinvigorating past chapter efforts like our political scorecard.
- 4) Improving the chapter's public relations efforts to better get the word out about what we're doing.
- 5) Focusing more effort on water quality/quantity, industrial pollution, and biodiversity.

And these are just a few of many. Over the next few months we'll be prioritizing what we can realistically tackle with our current volunteer resources, and further refining our work-plans around these goals.

Some things that suggested are already in progress. Over the last few months our chapter started two new committees – land use planning, and industrial pollution. Both are key issues

within our state. Each of these committees is looking for additional members, from novice to subject matter expert, so please contact us if you'd like to be involved.

In other chapter news, we're immediately looking for a new outings chair, as we're sad to announce that current chair Dan Soeder will be leaving us shortly for a new position with USGS in Baltimore, MD. In addition to resuscitating our outings program a few years ago and getting it to where it is today, Dan has been a great source of support for our chapter in so many ways. Thanks Dan for your generosity, expertise, friendship, and all you've contributed over the years. You will be missed!

Finally, executive committee elections will be coming up in November, and we're beginning to look for candidates. Being a part of Excom is an excellent opportunity to help steer our chapter on a big-picture basis. If you or anyone you know is interested in being involved at this level, please contact us.

And as always, may the beauty of our natural world bring you peace, and inspire you to take the time to make a difference!

Volunteer Opportunities Across the State:

The following positions are open and/or available for interested individuals: newsletter editor and newsletter layout artist at the Chapter level and fundraising and event planners, membership chair and outing coordinators are being sought at both Chapter and Group levels. Please contact Matt Urban for chapter activities and Rich Anthony for info. about Group activities. (see contact list at left)

The **Delaware Sierra News** is published five times a year by the Delaware Chapter of the Sierra Club. This publication is written and produced entirely by volunteers. If you would like to help with its publication, please contact the editor (302-378-8501). The deadline for materials for the next issue is **October 1, 2002**. We reserve the right to edit materials submitted for publication. Materials and Letters to the Editor can be sent to: debbie.heaton@sierraclub.org. Ideas expressed in the *Delaware Sierra News* are those of the columnists and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Sierra Club. While effort is made to check for accuracy, time constraints and limited all-volunteer staff do not allow for complete data corroboration.

Editors: Debbie Heaton and Mike Casale. Contributing writers as noted. This newsletter was printed on recycled/post consumer paper with soy based ink by the Dover Post Company, Dover, Delaware.



Delaware Chapter and Southern Delaware Group Leaders

Chapter Office

1304 N. Rodney St.
Wilmington, DE 19806
Shiray Shipley 302-425-4911
hours: Tue-Thurs 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Chapter Executive Committee

Matt Urban, *chair* 661-2050
Rich Anthony, *v-chair* 645-1732
Dick Bewick 736-1670
Jay Cooperson 571-0660
Debbie Heaton 378-8501
Chris McEvilly 656-8858
Terri Tipping, *treas.* 368-1452
Boyd White 335-1323

Chapter Appointed Officers

Cons. Debbie Heaton 378-8501
Litigation Carl Solberg 492-1225
Landuse David Keifer
Anti-Pollution Dick Bewick 736-1670
Outings Dan Soeder 284-2613

Southern Delaware Group Excom

Sallie Callanen, *chair* 539-0635
Pete Okie 856-2728
Rich Anthony 645-1732
Yuki Usuki, *vice chair* 436-4042

SDG Appointed Officers

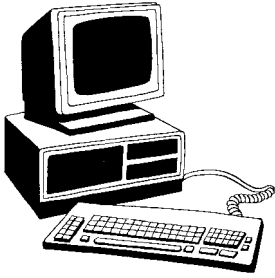
Cons. Terri Usuki 436-4042
Land use. Rich Anthony 645-1732
Legal Mike Lamb 539-1008
Secretary Carrie Bennett

Visit us on the web:

www.delaware.sierraclub.org

Electronic Goods Recycling

by Leah Rominger



Are you trying to get rid of that computer stashed in your attic? Have you tossed your old electronic games into the trash because you didn't know where else they should go? If this sounds familiar, then there is a program designed just for you. Electronics recycling is a lesser-known facet of the Recycle Delaware program, operated by the Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA). By recycling electronic goods, homeowners and businesses can dispose of their unwanted items free of charge at several locations throughout the state. This is a great resource for both homeowners and small business owners who wish to rid themselves of any electronic equipment and protect the environment at the same time.

Not only does recycling this equipment save landfill space, it more importantly prevents the heavy metals (one personal computer contains between five to seven pounds of lead, not to mention cadmium and mercury) from entering the waste stream. From an economic standpoint, electronics recycling ultimately lowers the prices of used equipment for consumers.

The drop-off program is designed to accept electronic goods, telecommunications equipment, toys, radio, television, and electroacoustic equipment. Examples of items that fall under these categories are calculators, computers and their parts, keyboards, printers, cables, phones, fax machines, answering machines, VCRs, and Gameboys.

There are four designated DSWA drop-off facilities throughout the state. The sites are as

follows: In New Castle at the Delaware Recycling Center (1101 Lambsons Lane) and at the Pine Tree Corners Transfer Station on Rt. 25 in Townsend), in Kent County (at the Central Solid Waste Management Center off of Rt. 10 in Sandtown, and in Sussex (at the Southern Solid Waste Management Center off of Rt. 20 in Hardscrabble). All of the sites are open from Monday through Saturday during daylight hours. Businesses must schedule a drop-off time in advance by calling the Citizens' Response Line at 1.800.404.7080

For those who wish for their working computers to be used again, both Goodwill and Easter Seals welcome donations of computers in working condition.

For more detailed descriptions of what can be recycled and the locations and hours of the drop-off sites, visit the DSWA website (www.dswa.com) or call 302.739.5361

Editor's Note: Leah, a local high school student, volunteered at the Chapter's Wilmington office a couple days each week this summer. As well as researching and writing this article, she helped Shiray plan and staff our summer events and organized the news clippings our vigilant members send in. We appreciate her help and energy – she will be missed! If you would like to volunteer at the office this fall please contact Shiray at 302-425-4911. We offer flexible hours and great job satisfaction!

2003 Sierra Club Calendars

If you would like to purchase the latest Sierra Club Wilderness wall calendar/\$10.95 or the ever popular Engagement Calendar/ \$11.95 please call the office or attend an upcoming chapter meeting. They will be available starting in mid-September. We will have them available at our booth at Coast Day on October 6th. Get them quickly as a limited number have been ordered!



Who Runs the Sierra Club Locally?

Deadline for receipt of nominations is October 10, 2002

Silly question? Not if you are on the Nominating Committee looking for candidates willing to serve on the ExCom! About five meetings a year, a few telephone calls/e-mail sessions and a chance to set and act on the agenda of one of the state's leading environmental organizations. Is that too much to ask of anyone? We are seeking new active people to help guide actions and activities. Please submit the name of someone you would like to see serve on the ExCom. Self nominations are also welcome.

Please send your nomination for Chapter

Executive Committee and the Southern Delaware Group Executive Committee to Sierra Club Election Committee, 1304 North Rodney Street, Wilmington DE 19806.

Check one: Southern Delaware Group
 Delaware Chapter

Nominee's name: _____

Nominee's phone number: _____

Person making nomination: _____

Get in On The Action

Anti-Pollution & Land Use Committees are forming.

Chapter Members have formed two new committees: the Anti-Pollution Committee has been formed with Dick Bewick as Chair and Al Denio as Vice Chair. The Land Use Committee has been formed with Dave Keifer as Chair. These committees will function under the Conservation Committee.

The Anti-Pollution committee will organize with an initial focus of identifying air and water and other polluters in and out of Delaware who are currently negatively affecting our environment and our health. Members will monitor actions of identified polluters and report improper and harmful actions of these polluters to EPA, DNREC, Public Health and the press. The committee will work with our Federal and State elected and appointed officials to improve anti-pollution laws and regulations and will strive to create coalitions with other groups and individuals who have similar concerns and interests for the reduction and/or elimination of pollution in Delaware.

The Land use Committee will monitor local, county, and State planning agencies and DNREC and DELDOT and meet as appropriate. The goal is to keep pressure on for the municipalities, counties and State to work for sound develop-

ment at the comprehensive plan stage so problems can be solved before the zoning fight stage and infrastructure investment can be optimized.

We are seeking, from our Sierra Club membership, an indication of your interest in serving on either of these committees by contacting (Anti-Pollution) Dick Bewick at 175 Crescent Dr., Dover, DE 19904, 302-736-1670 or via email to rbewick1@earthlink.net or (Land Use) David R. Keifer, 2742 Hazletville Rd., Dover, DE 19904-5542 or dkeifer@comcast.net.

We need people who are willing to actively participate in committee activities from all three counties. This will involve attending committee meetings as required, representing the Sierra Club at various public meetings and hearings. We are also looking for people, who when the need arises, are willing to meet with our county, federal and state elected and appointed officials to lobby and promote better laws and regulations.

As soon as the Committees have obtained indications of interest, they will schedule and hold their first organizational meetings to refine the committee goals and focus, and to initiate the committee activities. We are looking for a "Few Good and Active People" who are interested in working on these important issues to help us solve some serious problems in Delaware.

Getting Burned, *Continued from page 1*

Western forest ecosystems. However, the legacy of logging and fire suppression has left some forests likely to burn hotter. Because of this, scientists and environmentalists have supported some efforts to supplement prescribed burning with 'manual treatment' when necessary to restore a healthy fire ecology. These treatments may involve some cutting but are very different from what we think of as logging. This primarily entails reducing underbrush and saplings.

As the Forest Service's Fire Specialist Denny Truesdale stated, "What is needed is to take care of the underbrush and dry twigs. The majority of the material that we need to take out is not commercial timber. It is up to three and four inches in diameter. We can't sell it."

But the timber industry doesn't want to prune brush; it wants to cut big trees because these trees mean big profits. So there has been tremendous pressure on the Forest Service to

turn so-called fire risk reduction projects into the same old destructive logging as usual that cuts large trees and *actually increases fire risk*. We are seeing many examples of this throughout the national forest system.

Our forests don't need repackaged timber sales. They need genuine, noncommercial restoration, as only H.R. 1494 will provide. Contrary to timber industry misinformation, this bill does not preclude any activity necessary for ecological restoration and it includes clear provisions for fire risk reduction. Moreover, H.R. 1494 ensures the funding for this work.

At present, the Forest Service's timber sale program operates at net loss to taxpayers of over a billion dollars per year! H.R. 1494 ends this wasteful and destructive program and redirects funds into noncommercial restoration, as well as wood use reduction and more than \$300 million per year in taxpayer savings. Please ask Rep. Castle to oppose the deceptive new logging schemes and stand up for our national forests by cosponsoring H.R.1494.

Water Quality Starts at Home...

Pollution has a funny way of creeping up on the unsuspecting. For those of you depending on private wells we offer the following article so that you may seek to be better informed about the safety of your private well water. For those of you with private septic systems in Sussex County we give you notice about the opportunity to participate in a new program. For the rest of you here are some resources for water conservation!

Is Your Well Water Well?

If your house gets its water from your personal, private well, you should know that YOU are responsible for ensuring its safety. The State of Delaware only monitors the water quality of community wells and the quality of the big water suppliers in the state.

It is recommended that you have your well tested each year for contaminants such as lead, copper, arsenic, and other types of organic and inorganic compounds.

You might first want to contact the office of Ed Hallock - Office of Drinking Water with the Division of Public Health to receive some basic information. Below are some private laboratories you might contact for testing your well water:

- Atlantic Coast Laboratories, Newark/ 302-266-9121
- Batta Laboratories, Newark/ 302-737-3376
Web: <http://www.battaenv.com>
- Mid Atlantic Laboratories, Claymont/ 302-798-4055
- EnviroCorp, Harrington/302-398-4313
Web: <http://www.eco-web.com>
- McCall Laboratories, Felton/302-284-4194
- Sussex County - Check your phone book for local private laboratories

Septic System Pump Out and Inspection Program to Begin in Inland Bays

The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control will start a septic system pump out and inspection program in the Inland Bays, thanks to funds received through federal grants. The program provides cost share monies for septic system pump outs to qualified property owners located in the Inland Bays watershed.

The program's objectives are to educate property owners on the importance of proper maintenance of their septic systems and reduce

nutrient loading to the Inland Bays.

The Department will pay for half the cost of having the septic tank pumped out by a licensed liquid waste hauler, as well as provide owners with an inspection of their septic systems. Once the inspection has been completed, the owner will receive a copy of the inspection report, a plot plan of the septic system and a better understanding of the septic system.

Qualified applicants for this program must be property owners in the Inland Bays watershed who also have not had their septic tanks pumped out in the last two years. Interested applicants should contact Brian Dotterer of the Ground Water Discharges Section in DNREC's Georgetown Office, (302)856-4561.

Water Conservation Resources

Delaware has been suffering through a number of drought periods over the past years, including the recent dry months. As an alternative to using your lawn sprinkler on your lawn and garden, here are some resources on the Web for "recycling" readily available alternate water sources.

Rainwater Collection

- Rainwater Collection and Gray Water as alternative Water Supply Sources - www.mind-spring.com/~roadrunner1/Family_Focus/Rainwater_Collection.html
- rainbarrelsandmore.com for rain barrels.

Gray Watering

- Using gray water on the landscape in times of water shortage - slightly used water can provide an alternative landscape irrigation source for your residential www.griffin.peachnet.edu/caes/drought/content/gwlands.htm
- Using gray water on the landscape - collecting & holding. There are two principal ways of collecting and holding gray water commercially: www.griffin.peachnet.edu/caes/drought/articles/gwlands.htm

Thank you!

Delaware Sierra Club would like to thank the following for their generous donations:

At the Photo Contest Reception:

Planet X Cafe and Catering
Beautiful Food and Spirits

35 Wilmington Avenue
Rehoboth Beach, De. 19971 302-226-1928

Eco-Cruise in August:

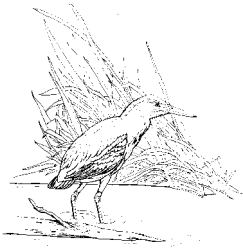
Butterfly Delights

cakes
cookies
custom gift baskets
decorative handmade candies

alexis serafin
610.296.3990



Vital Clean Water Protections, *Continued from page 1*



For more information, visit www.sierraclub.org/wetlands

For local info contact Debbie Heaton at 302-378-8501.

For information on the wetlands and waters affected by the SWANCC ruling, by region visit www.nwf.org

Visit www.nrdc.org to review a new study released by the National Wildlife Federation and the Natural Resources Defense Council, entitled *Wetlands at Risk: Imperiled Treasures*.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has issued a report on *Geographically Isolated Wetlands*, available at wetlands.fws.gov/

confusion created by the Court's opinion, varying interpretations have been applied by the agencies and in the courts. In some areas of the country, the ruling was seen as setting aside federal protection of all waters that are not immediately adjacent to rivers and streams used for navigation.

The current situation is aggravated by the Bush Administration's failure, for over a year and a half, to issue a guidance interpreting the Court's ruling. So-called "isolated" waters provide critical ecological functions, and yet they are at risk of being considered beyond the reach of the Clean Water Act, if regulatory officials and courts apply the non-scientific standard that such waters do not have a direct surface connection to other bodies of water. It is estimated that as much as 20 to 30 percent of the nation's wetlands might be deemed "isolated" on that basis. In the short term, a guidance would limit the ability of regulatory officials and others to make arbitrary decisions removing wetlands from jurisdiction.

S. 2780 and H.R. 5194 provide the long-term solution. The legislation would clarify that Congress intends for Clean Water Act protections to apply to all such waters as waters of the United States, based on a longstanding definition of waters of the United States in Army Corps of Engineers regulations. The bills would also delete the word "navigable" from the Clean Water Act to clarify that the primary concern of Congress in 1972, and now, is the protection of the nation's waters from pollution, rather than just to sustain the navigability of waterways.

"Thirty years after the Clean Water Act was passed to 'restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of our nation's waters,' we know a whole lot more about how to make that happen," noted Ed Hopkins. "We know that streams, ponds and wetlands interact and function together as part of our water environment. They are really not isolated, and if we want to minimize flooding, have clean water, and provide habitat for the many species that depend on our waters, we should safeguard all the various kinds of waterbodies."

A few states have their own regulations which limit pollution discharges, filling, ditching and draining affecting isolated waters. The majority of states do not have laws and regulations to fill the void. In the wake of the

SWANCC ruling, a successful effort (in which the Sierra Club was instrumental) was waged in Senator Feingold's home state of Wisconsin to adopt a new law to extend protection to isolated waters. Similar initiatives in a few other state legislatures during 2001-02 were not so successful. Members of Delaware's House considered HB340 earlier this year. While representatives of the environmental community worked with Rep. Cathcart (R) on the bill, it did not make it to the floor for a vote. In other states Sierra Club wetlands activists are continuing to build support for these state-level efforts, while recognizing that it is critically important for the floor of federal Clean Water Act protection of all the nation's waters to be restored. In announcing his legislation, Senator Feingold noted, "The patchwork of regulation created in the wake of the Supreme Court ruling means that the standards for protection of wetlands nationwide is unclear, confusing, and jeopardizing the migratory birds and other wildlife that depend on these wetlands. Congress needs to reestablish the common understanding of the Clean Water Act's jurisdiction to protect all waters of the U.S. – the understanding that Congress had when it adopted the Act in 1972."

In an Aug. 1, 2002 editorial, "Save the Prairie Potholes", the *Washington Post* endorsed the legislation and noted that it "deserves strong support and prompt action by Congress." Sierra Club members are urged to contact their members of Congress and urge them to co-sponsor S. 2780 and H.R. 5194. The legislation is available for review at <http://thomas.loc.gov>.

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This just in: Delmarva Star Gazers annual fall star gazing party Oct. 2-6 at Tuckahoe State Park Md. Info: www.delmarvastargazers.org/ Lyle Jones at 302 736-9842

Appalachian Trail Conference's Mid-Atlantic Trail Crew - eight week volunteer trail crew. Visit www.appalachiantrail.org or Jason Shearer, Trail Crew Leader, email sir_telfon@yahoo.com or call 276.677.3393

Preserve the Future

Not everyone can make a large gift to protect the environment during their lifetime, but you can preserve the environment for generations to come by remembering the Sierra Club in your will.

There are many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more information and confidential assistance contact: John Calaway, Director, Gift Giving, Sierra Club, 85 Second Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105 (415) 977-5639 or e-mail: planned.giving@sierraclub.org

Delaware Chapter Outings: Fall, 2002

Sierra Club Socials:

Join chapter members for drink and food specials, and meet new members, old members and potential members.

Dover socials:

September 5,
October 3,
November 7, and
December 5, 2002,
6-9 p.m., at
W.T. Smithers
Restaurant,
140 S. State Street,
Dover, DE.

Contact Ron Zink
for information
(302-735-8996,
ron_z_19904@yahoo.
com)

Wilmington

socials: September
19, October 17,
November 21, and
December 18, 2002,
6-9 p.m., at Kelly's
Logan House,
Trolley Square,
Wilmington, DE.

Contact Matt for infor-
mation (302-661-2050,
Matt@mobiusnm.com)

Please contact the trip leader for more information and to reserve a spot.

Also check out our revised Outings policy on our chapter website.

Good-bye, everyone. I am leaving Delaware permanently on October 1, 2002 in a job transfer. I've been here four years, of which I've spent the past two as a Sierra Club activist. I was only a lukewarm environmentalist, until I moved here and saw how things are done in this state. It is brutally efficient, business-friendly, and nobody ever tells anyone "no" if they have a fistfull of dollars. We need outspoken, angry people who are willing to stand up for what is right, and not allow our future be sold down the river for the sake of corporate profits and greed. Abominations like the Motiva refinery spilling acid in the river, or Purdue's plans to burn arsenic-laced poultry manure in the middle of the state should upset and motivate you. Don't be an armchair environmentalist! Get out there, enjoy nature, and get yourself and others inspired to defend it! It worked for John Muir, and it will work for you.

So I suppose the chapter will need a new outings chair. The best candidate will be someone who can develop activities that we have not done before, such as dolphin cruises, nature walks and birding tours, as well as coordinate the more extreme rock climbing, mountain biking and whitewater kayaking events. If you are interested in helping the chapter expose people to conservation issues, recruit new members, inspire activists, and if you enjoy the outdoors, please contact Matt Urban, Chapter chair, for more information.

I'm not going to miss many things about Delaware, but I will certainly miss Matt, Debbie, Shiray, and many others from the chapter. Take care, all of you, and keep up the good fight. *See you outside, somewhere.* – Dan

New outing series: **Terri's Treks.** Join Terri Tipping, chapter treasurer, for some relatively short to moderate, interesting hikes at an aerobic pace to get your blood moving, your lungs cleared and your senses inspired. Reserve with Terri at 302-368-1452 (H) or 302-225-5000(W) (Ttipping@gunnip.com). These are all in northern New Castle County near the largest concentration of our members. So no whining about long drives. Now get out there and take a hike!

Thursday, September 12, 2002, 6 p.m. to dusk:

Judge Morris Estate. Meet at parking area on Polly Drummond Hill Road to hike the main loop trail of about 4 miles. Entrance fee is \$2.50; bring water. Sunset is at 7:15 p.m.

Sunday, September 15, 2002, 8:30 a.m.: **Middle Run.** Meet at Day Use parking area off Possum Hollow Road (across from Tri-State Bird Rescue) near Possum Park Road to hike the Lenape Trail of just under 7 miles. No parking fee; bring water and snack.

Thursday, October 17, 2002, 5:30 p.m. to dusk:

Judge Morris Estate. (See details above) Sunset is at 6:20, so a decent pace is needed to finish before dark.

Sunday, October 20, 2002, 8:30 a.m.: **White Clay Creek.** Meet at the nature center off Hopkins Road to hike several loop trails for a total of about 7 miles. Entrance fee is \$2.50; bring water and a snack.

Saturday, September 28, 2002: **Canoe trip on the Murderkill River.** This is a joint outing of the Sierra Club, Delaware Natural History Society and Kent County Department of Parks

and Recreation. Leader: Rob Naczi (302) 857-6450 (W), or (302) 736-3280 (H). This paddle trip is to look at the transition of saltwater marsh to freshwater marsh. The boats will put in at Frederica around noon and ride the tide upstream, and then come back on the outgoing tide. Rob Naczi of the Claude Phillips Herbarium will identify the plants of the different types of marsh and the animals that use them. Canoes will be provided by Kent Co. Parks at no charge. Please reserve with Rob at least a week in advance.

Sat./Sun., September 28 and 29, 2002:

Delaware Water Gap Paddle Trip.

Leader: Matt Urban (302-661-2050, Matt@mobiusnm.com). The highly successful two-day paddle trip down the Delaware River from Dingmans Ferry through the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area to Kittatinny Mountain that Matt ran last October is being repeated! Boat rentals will be available.

(Note: There is an unavoidable conflict between this outing and the Murderkill River paddle trip. Because the Murderkill trip is a joint outing, we couldn't change it, and Matt set up the Delaware Water Gap trip months ago. The Delaware Chapter has 1,700 members, and we certainly should be able to support two outings. Please attend one or the other!)

Outing Leaders Training Workshop: October 4-6, 2002 in Crownsville, Maryland. The Sierra Club is sponsoring an outings leader workshop in our area. All interested members are welcome. Contact Steven Shewach in San Francisco at (415) 977-5711 (e-mail: Steven.Shewach@sierclub.org) for information on details, location and registration. Space is limited!

