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## Voice of the Kansas Sierra Club

# Decision Near on Sunflower/Holcomb Permit

By Craig Volland

KDHE and the Governor are expected to announce their decision on the Sunflower/Holcomb coal plant permit sometime in October. By now, our members should have received materials to contact the Governor again to urge that she deny the permit. If you have not yet acted, we urge you to do so immediately.

If you prefer to write a personal letter to the Governor, which is always best anyway, we are summarizing below the views of the Kansas Chapter of the Sierra Club.

Global Warming and Kansas. Global warming is likely to increase drought in western Kansas and cause more extreme weather elsewhere in the state. Carbon dioxide is a heat trapping gas that is the most common cause of global warming. The new Holcomb coal plants will emit some 10 million tons of carbon dioxide per year. The Supreme Court has recently ruled that carbon dioxide is a pollutant that should be regulated under the Clean Air Act. The Holcomb partners have yet to address how they plan to control this pollutant in an enforceable way.

Coal and the Economy of Kansas. Sunflower and their

**See Coal Decision page 8**

# Eating for a Healthy Planet

## True Cost of Food – A Campaign Whose Time Has Come

In just two years some 20 Sustainable Consumption committees have sprung up nation-wide in the Club to promote an Earth-friendly diet. Events have varied from a few folks enjoying a pot-luck to hundreds of people attending a fund-raising concert with gourmet appetizers.

### Why have these outings proved so popular?

- They're a great new angle on having fun while helping the Earth. A mantra of the True Cost of Food campaign is "Eat for your health and your planet's health."
- Multitudes of Earth-friendly people are conscientious about diet and health. This is a reservoir of environmentalism that Sierrans have not fully tapped.
- Local Sierrans are always looking for innovative ideas to build membership while raising ecological consciousness.

### Now for some background:

The planet simply cannot sustain our wasteful lifestyle indefinitely. In the U.S. we consume ten times more resources per capita than the median for all other countries, and about double that of the other industrialized nations. But that's not all. Goaded by U.S-driven globalization, the rest of the world

**See Eating on page 8**



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NOTE: because of security measures, mail sent to DC offices may take longer than usual to arrive.

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# Viewpoint

## Dear Governor Sebelius,

By Craig Wolfe

Dear Governor Sebelius,

I am concerned about **your** lack of concern regarding this Global Warming thing. You don't yet quite get it. Coal plants and CO2 are part of the problem. It appears you really want to appear to be leading the way towards a green Kansas, heck, a green America, with your being the Co-Chair of the National Governor's Association's Task Force for Securing a Clean Energy Future. But your idea of a leader and mine may differ considerably. Let me explain about being a leader.



You see, a leader is someone who is fearless, committed, and decisive, especially when faced with decisions that critically impact our health and safety. And this Global Warming thing qualifies. When Kilimanjaro's snows are all gone, when there is no more Arctic ice cap, when Antarctica has melted into the sea, when the glaciers are all but gone, well, that's about the time when millions and millions of folks a couple of generations from now may well be dying due to a catastrophic shift in sea levels, climates, and the severity of hurricanes, tornadoes and droughts. I'd say that's pretty serious. I'd say we should be thinking, "Hmmm. What can I do to stop this?"

And when a leader is confronted with that kind of calamity, it just makes sense that they would put aside political convenience, and focus on the big picture. Oh, I know those pesky Republicans in western Kansas will give you fits for a couple of years. But, ya know, if you could really get your act together, I'd bet that most Kansans would be right proud of a leader that stuck her neck out to do the right thing. I'd say, risking a little political discomfort would be a fair trade for doing **your** part to stop a world-wide calamity.

Our decisions TODAY will have potentially grave consequences. In these times, we need heros. Heros are just about the pure definition of selfless. Heros are willing to sacrifice even their lives on the battlefield if it will save the lives of their buddies. Heros and leaders get to be heros and leaders by doing **hard** things. I know this decision is hard, and will make your life a little uncomfortable. But it just might also make you a hero. It just might also make your political career a resounding success.

Despite what Rush Limbaugh says, legitimate scientists are darn worried that, unless we try really hard, we are heading right for that big ol' 6th Mass Extinction. We're on this little metaphorical life raft in space, and we're taking on water. Many of us are just too stupid to understand it's time to start bailing. It's back to that Leadership thing again. We rely on our leaders to be smarter than the rest of us, to see the big picture, to make the hard choices, to lead us to safety. We're staring right down the barrel of a big double barrel Global Warming shotgun, and I hear a raspy voice saying, "Make my day, punk. Be stupid."

Governor Sebelius, don't be stupid. Be our Leader. Be our Hero. Make the Hard Choices. Make the Right Choices. Tell us again. Why do we want a new coal plant in western Kansas? With Kansas ranked 3rd in wind power potential, tell us again. Why isn't there a better way?



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If you received a postcard recently from the Sierra Club, sign it, add your comments, and send it to the Governor. Begin to make changes in your life. Do all YOU can to stop coal plants, change your life, and stop global warming.

You can find more information at: [www.kansas.sierraclub.org](http://www.kansas.sierraclub.org).

*Craig Wolfe is the Kansas Chapter Communications Chair, Newsletter Editor, and Webmaster.*



# KCP&L's Energy Efficiency Forum On September 14 a Phenomenal Event.

By **Melissa Hope**

It was a packed house with 500-600 attending. The forum was very well attended by the environmental community. Sierra Club members and other environmental advocates were scattered throughout the room. Utilities, business interests, the Chamber of Commerce, Environmental groups, health advocates, consumer groups and others all came together to discuss the importance of Energy Efficiency as part of our new energy future.

The event was effectively and creatively moderated by Joel Swisher of the Rocky Mountain Institute. He helped the audience understand acronyms being used and explained concepts and definitions when needed to make sure the audience stayed with the panel.

The distinguished panel effectively discussed why energy efficiency is important for our energy future, obstacles that need to be overcome to implement effective programs and identified how consumers and the environment can benefit. The needs of fixed income and lower income energy consumers were also discussed.

Sierra Club President Robbie Cox provided an overall perspective and vision for the new energy future the 2% Solution (<http://www.sierraclub.org/twopercent/>) for reducing global warming gas emissions 2%/year

to reach and 80% reduction by 2050. The KC Star reported - "*Robbie Cox, President of the Sierra Club, said that in the last 24 months he had seen a dramatic change in addressing energy efficiency, with about 40 states pursuing such proposals. If the momentum continues, he said, it should eliminate the need for new coal-fired power plants and eventually allow some of the current plants to be shuttered. By 2050, carbon dioxide emissions could be reduced by 80 percent.*"

Melissa K. Hope, Sierra Club, Missouri Chapter  
Development Director/Coal Campaign Coordinator  
816-806-6965 



**Robbie Cox, President of National Sierra Club, is flanked on our left by Kansas Chapter Energy Chair Bill Griffith (far left) and Legislative Coordinator Tom Thompson, and on our right by ExCom member Steve Baru**

## New Recycling Center Comes to Overland Park!

Overland Park announces the opening of a new recycling center! The Overland Park Community Recycling Center opened to the public Tuesday, September 18. The center will be managed by Bridging The Gap, a local environmental education and action organization. Located at 119th and Hardy, the new center will expand the recycling services of residents by accepting a wider range of materials than ever before in Overland Park.

### Volunteer!

Volunteers will play an essential role in the Recycling Center's operations by being available to assist and educate recyclers. Please help

make expanded recycling a success in Overland Park by becoming a Recycling Center volunteer!

If you would be willing to distribute information about the Overland Park Community Recycling Center to your group or church, please let us know, and we will provide materials.

### Materials Accepted Include:

Aluminum foil, Cans: steel and, aluminum, Cell phones and pagers, Clothing - used, Corrugated cardboard, Glass bottles & jars, Household items - small, Magazines, Newspaper, Office paper, Paperboard, Phone books, Plastic bottles and jars, Rechargeable batteries, Scrap metal, Toner & inkjet cartridges

**Hours:** Tuesday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### Contact:

To volunteer or for more information, please contact Bridging The Gap, 816-561-1090 or [www.BridgingTheGap.org](http://www.BridgingTheGap.org). 



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# Sixth Annual Community Forum on Kansas Environmental Issues, Thursday, October 11

## When Will Kansas Run Out of Water?

This question is sure to come up in the Sixth Annual Community Forum on Kansas Environmental Issues, Thursday, October 11, at Village Presbyterian Church, 6641 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas.

The Forum is sponsored by the Kansas Natural Resources Council and Prairie Village Environmental Committee. The program opens at 5:15 PM with appetizers and exhibits by Kansas environmental organizations. Supper of locally grown foods catered by Blue Bird Bistro will be served at 6 p.m. The Forum features a 7 PM presentation on Kansas water resources by Don Worster, PhD, professor of environmental history who holds the Hall Distinguished Professorship Chair in American History at the University of Kansas.

Dr. Worster earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees from KU and his doctorate from Yale University in 1971. Dr. Worster is a pioneering expert in environmental history. He has authored nine books, including *A River Running West: The Life of John Wesley Powell*; *Rivers of Empire* (1985), which deals with the development of water resources and was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize; and, *Dust Bowl* (1979), a study of the Southern Plains, which won the Bancroft Prize and deals with the "dirty thirties." Dr. Worster has served as the president of the American Society for Environmental History, sits on a number of editorial boards and is general editor of the Cambridge University monograph series, *Studies in Environment and History*.

**5:15: Appetizers & Exhibits by Kansas environmental organizations**

**6:00: Supper of locally grown food catered by blue bird Bistro**

**7:00: Speaker**

**Advance reservations are needed.** A donation of \$20 is requested. Send \$20 per person with check payable to: KNRC/Community Forum, 7301 Mission Rd, Suite 248, Prairie Village, Kansas 66208 by September 30. Questions: Teri Carey at [ptscares@mac.com](mailto:ptscares@mac.com) or 913-579-7300. 



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

## Create an Environmental Legacy.

Bequests have played a key role in Sierra Club's environmental successes over the years.

Planning now may make your gift more meaningful and reduce taxes on your estate. We have many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more info and confidential assistance, contact  
Gift Planning Program:  
85 Second St, 2nd Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(800) 932-4270  
[planned.giving@sierraclub.org](mailto:planned.giving@sierraclub.org)



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# Little Hike on the Prairie

## Kanza & THB groups take to the Flint Hills

Renée Andriani (Photos by Julie Hull)

“As to scenery, while I know the standard claim is that Yosemite, Niagara Falls, the Upper Yellowstone, and the like afford the greatest natural shows, I am not so sure but the prairies and plains, while less stunning at first sight, last longer, fill the aesthetic sense fuller, precede all the rest, and make North America’s characteristic landscape.” -Walt Whitman

The first cool weekend after summer’s heat is always special, and some local Sierra Club members and their friends made the



In a stream bed, we found groups of these Pearl Crescent Butterflies.



Hikers on the Red House Trail



When do we eat?!

Our destination was the Tallgrass Prairie National preserve in Strong City, Kansas. The nearly 11,000 acres of pristine, rolling vistas are a stunning example of the fragile prairie ecosystem. At one time, 400,000 square miles of tallgrass prairie covered North America; now, less than 4% of that remains.

The preserve began its modern history in the late 1800’s as the Spring Hill Farm and Stock Ranch, established by Stephen F. Jones and his wife Louisa. Today, in addition to the magnificently preserved limestone ranch house, barn and curious outbuildings, the preserve boasts nearly twelve miles of scenic backcountry trails.

After checking in at the barn and securing our backcountry permits, we struck out on the Red House Trail, which loops down to the south end of the preserve. Sunshine, breezes and endless, jewel-toned views made for a happy start! In every direction, the rolling landscape of tall, waving grasses and late-season wildflowers seemed to go on forever. Our rather large group of fourteen hikers got to know one another along the way, sharing jokes and taking lots of pictures. Hiker Al Storms was our field guide, identifying a host of native plants and educating us on their characteristics. Tom Kutscher, a hiking purist who takes to the trails barefoot, shared with us the philosophy and benefits of barefoot hiking (check out his great website at [www.geocities.com/jetwalkers](http://www.geocities.com/jetwalkers)).

Six miles later, mid-afternoon found us back at the big limestone barn. The heat of the day was stoking up, so several folks opted for a tour of the stately (and air-conditioned) ranch house. Others explored the barn or lounged in the shade, enjoying views and conversation. We ended the day with a pretty drive up 177, the “Flint Hills Scenic Byway”, to dinner in the town of Council Grove. The Hays House, known as the oldest continuously operating restaurant west

of the Mississippi, did right by us with a delicious buffet featuring fried chicken, brisket, salads and dessert.

A great day was had by all, and we parted company with promises to “see you on the next Outing!”



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most of it recently with a lively Saturday outing to the Flint Hills. It was a great time for us all to learn about the Flint Hills, its history, and its ecosystems.



# Johnson County Wildlife Preserve

By Steve Baru

*We urge you to contact the Johnson County Commissioners and ask them to drop plans for the South Metro Trafficway and instead support a Johnson County Regional Wildlife Preserve. Timing is urgent. Please do it today. Email is [BOCC-Staff@jocogov.org](mailto:BOCC-Staff@jocogov.org),*



Like unexpectedly finding a diamond in the rough, a multi-jurisdictional study to determine the routing of a proposed East-West high traffic roadway has uncovered a rare gem. The location of this find is in Southeast Johnson County, generally in the area that straddles 179th street, between Stateline road and US-69. The gem's setting is the scenic little blue river watershed. Its beauty can't be encapsulated into a single focal point because it's the sheer size and the rugged terrain that make it magical. What makes it rare is that very little development exists upon it. What makes it special is that diverse populations of wildlife consider it home; they require large territories. This is the setting for a possible regional scale wildlife preserve. Projected population growth over the next couple of decades prompted a study to determine a route for a new road, a southern connection between US-69 in Kansas and Cass County. However, it is that same growth that will make these parcels of land in this part of the county, if left undivided by this proposed trafficway, a unique and valuable wildlife preserve; an asset for the entire community to be proud of.

My experience has been that any time a new major roadway is proposed in Johnson County, those who are in its path become very passionate about opposing it. However, the effectiveness of the opposition is often marginalized because they succumb to the old "prisoner's dilemma" game. The first neighborhood that makes a deal gets the best deal, leaving the next neighborhood stuck with a new trafficway.

But this Camp Creek watershed in Southeast Johnson County is different. The neighbors are united in opposing this trafficway. So far there isn't any inter-neighborhood squabbling. Instead the land owners in this watershed want to protect this property in its pristine state into perpetuity. Those with the largest acreage have already begun the preservation process. One has made agreements to donate land to

the Nature Conservancy; another is close to doing something similar. One large land owner recently sold land to Johnson County Parks and Rec with the stipulation that no ball fields or stadiums be built upon it. Several others are contacting the Kansas Land Trust for similar arrangements. The point is that all these landowners, without government intervention, have decided to preserve their property; the totality of it makes for a huge wildlife preserve.

Twenty years from now, if we resist bisecting this preserve with a high traffic roadway, it could be the laboratory for thousands of local students studying field sciences, environmental sciences, zoology and biology. This could be a park for citizens to observe wildlife in its natural territory. Without a road bisecting it, this could be a preserve in scope and scale like no other in the region.

There are at least 19 endangered species listed in the Johnson County area. I don't know if any of them exist in this watershed, but I am sure it could support them. Every day thousands of species disappear from the face of the earth; let's do our part to protect those in our area.

The Johnson County commissioners will soon be making plans to accommodate our projected population growth. They'll need to decide for this piece of the planet, whether it will be a park or a road. I'm sure they'd like to hear your opinion. Please express it to them soon. My opinion is there may be a need for roads as the population grows in this area, but there is not a need for this particular connector road to Cass County now or in the future; especially not at the cost of sacrificing a regional wildlife preserve.

As I write this I can't help hearing a voice in my head that sounds a lot like Joni Mitchell singing, "They paved paradise and put up a parking lot." 

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## Tour of Bowersock Hydroelectric Power Plant, Lawrence, KS

**October 27. 10:30 am.**

Watch hydroelectric power being generated at Bowersock Mills & Power Co. on the Kansas River in Lawrence. Learn about the unique history of the Bowersock dam and see how falling water is used to generate electricity. Observe the water wheels and turbines in the power plant. Those interested can stay downtown for lunch. Meet at the entrance to Bowersock Power Co. on the northbound pedestrian walkway of the Massachusetts St. bridge just north of 6th Street and City Hall. You can bike or walk to the bridge, or park on streets or in city lots in downtown Lawrence. Wakarusa. George Brenner (785)393-3828, [gbrenner@sunflower.com](mailto:gbrenner@sunflower.com)



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## Coal Decision, continued from page 1

partners have proposed to base the economy of western Kansas, and the high plains in general, on the burning of coal for power. The Holcomb partners cannot credibly claim that their project will provide a low cost source of power because the true cost of their project will not be known until Congress finalizes the regulation of greenhouse gases. The regulation of carbon dioxide is likely to greatly increase the cost of burning coal and imperil the economy of western Kansas. If Sunflower and partners proceed they will be committing the region, for the next 50-75 years, to a pulverized coal technology that is fast becoming obsolete.

**The Solution.** The Sierra Club believes that global warming problem needs to be addressed immediately. Instead of coal, the region's economy should be based primarily on renewable energy technologies, especially wind power. The transition to renewable energy can be aided by an extensive campaign for energy efficiency and conservation. The state not only has a huge wind energy resource but, with the Kansas Electrical Transmission Authority, it has the financial and administrative tools to expand the transmission system. If additional backup is needed for wind power, it can best be provided by natural gas fired generation as an interim solution.

Wind turbines can be built far more quickly than coal plants. Compared to coal plants, the economic benefits from investment in the wide scale use of wind power will be much more broadly shared in the western half of state. Kansas should also prepare itself to take advantage of opportunities for solar power generation as its cost continues to decline rapidly.

**What's Next?** If the Governor decides to approve the permit for one or more of the proposed coal plants, the Sierra Club will very likely mount a legal challenge, for which the groundwork has been carefully prepared. However, the final decision to proceed with legal action will be made only after review of the permit as issued. In any event the Club will stay involved to pursue our vision for a clean energy future for Kansas. Stay tuned. 

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# Kansas Sierra Club Elections

The Kansas Chapter (state) and the local Kansas Groups will be holding their annual elections in December. If you are interested in becoming a nominee for either the Executive Committee of the Chapter or any of the local groups in Kansas City, Wichita, Lawrence, Topeka, or Manhattan, please send an email to [info@kansas.sierraclub.org](mailto:info@kansas.sierraclub.org) to express your interest and we will forward it to the appropriate persons. 



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## Eating, continued from page 1

is scrambling to catch up. Take, for instance, the 1.3 billion Chinese – over four times the U.S population – who also are striving to drive Hummers, eat fast-food jumbo burgers, and refrigerate their homes in summer. China has made it a top priority to surpass the U.S. economy by about 2020.

What can we, as individuals, do about this?

A lot, it turns out. The Union of Concerned Scientists states that individuals can make a big difference by shifting a few basic consumption choices. Not surprisingly, the number one choice involves energy, especially in transportation or in heating and cooling our homes. But a clear number two involves our diet. Three times a day we can help the planet by shifting our food choices towards more:

- Plant-based
- Organic
- Locally-grown

This is nothing doctrinaire, simply the more you make these choices the better. How much better, you ask? The Club's True Cost of Food campaign wants you to know that:

- For each a pound of beef you pass up, you save a gallon of oil, 2500 gallons of water, five pounds of grain and an acre of land that went into its production.
- By choosing certified organic food, you keep a toxic brew of pesticides and chemicals out of the soil, water, and air.
- The average U.S meal travels 2000 miles to reach our tables. If you avoid imported foods or support farmers markets, you can prevent thousands of pounds emissions from polluting the atmosphere.

These choices protect not only the environment's health but your own. The highest mortality in the U.S. now stems from an epidemic of degenerative diseases linked to all the saturated fats, empty calories, pesticides, and chemicals that we ingest. On the other hand, numerous studies have shown that a diet high in whole grains, legumes, fresh vegetables and fruit prolongs both length and quality of life. Buying organic, moreover, decreases our exposure to toxins, while locally grown foods retain more nutrients along with flavor.

American Agribusiness trumpets our diet as the most plentiful, tasty, and affordable in history, and pushes it relentlessly through saturation advertising, fast-food outlets, and hundred-acre supermarkets. We have seen, however, that this "cheap" food has an exceedingly high – and largely hidden – cost to our health and to our planet. But now the Club is exposing these costs through its True Cost of Food campaign and acclaimed video (See below).

So far we have laid out how your individual food choices can make a difference. But now, let's look at how you can magnify that impact through the grass-roots activism that is the Club's greatest strength. Here is a sampling of what is possible:

Terry Jensen has engaged both large Sierran groups in the Dallas-Ft. Worth metroplex. A current specialty is "Sustainable

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## Eating, continued from page 8

Sunday” – typical was a recent plant-based restaurant buffet that drew close to 100 for socializing, updates on sustainability, and a “walk-it-off” hike afterwards. These events have inspired a nearby Texas group – which had been struggling to put on meetings – to reinvigorate itself around similar events.

Diana Artemis of the DC area has reached out to both sides of the Potomac with a smorgasbord of outings. They can range from a trip to a local organic farm to a cooking demo by ethnic chefs at a member’s home. These events often bring in a speaker on a relevant topic, say, smart-growth alternatives to the sprawl overrunning family farms and small businesses.

Lynn Heath in Orange County, CA included fellow food activists to form a local True Cost of Food committee that started off spectacularly with environmentalist actor Ed Begley Jr. who keynoted a hike-and-dine event with his message of simplicity and sustainability. Next they sponsored a concert with organic food and wine that drew 300 people, her local Club group’s largest event in years. Now, along with regular restaurant events, they are planning an organic gardening party and a possible joint nutrition outreach with the Club’s Inner City Outings.

Most of our Sustainable Consumption committees around the country hold Earth-friendly dining outings. We might ask a restaurant to feature a plant-based meal. Conversely, we might set up one that features organic, or perhaps a locally-grown

menu that supports sustainable family farms. Restaurants are delighted to get the business, and local groups often add a fund-raising surcharge. These social events easily recruit new activists. Often people comment that they had been Club members for years, but had never attended a meeting before.

Would you like to get involved? The national Sustainable Consumption Committee is looking for folks to help locally with this campaign. Our popular 15 minute animated DVD, “The True Cost of Food,” is a good way to get started. This gripping yet humorous video dramatizes what our so-called “cheap” food really costs and makes a great presentation for a local Club meeting.

Please don’t hesitate to contact us for information, names of possible other interested people in your area, and guidance on how to approach your local Club leaders to include sustainable consumption and True Cost of Food among their outings and conservation efforts.

### Contacts:

By email: Gordon LaBedz at [GLaBedzMD@aol.com](mailto:GLaBedzMD@aol.com).

By phone: Michael Beck at 818-246-3661 (24-hour phone number)

### Websites:

Sierra Club Sustainable Consumption:

[www.sierraclub.org/sustainable\\_consumption](http://www.sierraclub.org/sustainable_consumption)

True Cost of Food Campaign and Video:

[www.truecostoffood.org](http://www.truecostoffood.org) 



**Saturday  
October 13th**  
Free State  
High School  
4700 Overland Dr.  
Lawrence, KS  
9am-5pm

**HOM ENERGY  
CONSERVATION FAIR 2007**

Sustainable Homes Tour at 10am and 2pm  
More info at [www.LawrenceRecycles.org](http://www.LawrenceRecycles.org)

City of Lawrence

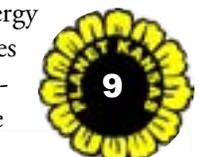
## Fair and Homes Tour Offers Lawrence a Look at Conservation Innovations

Rising energy costs are an immediate concern for everyone, homeowners and renters alike. A sensible way to reduce these

costs is to choose products and services that will increase the energy efficiency of both our homes and personal transportation.

The City of Lawrence invites you to join us in learning about practical and innovative ways to cut energy costs at the 7th Annual Lawrence Home Energy Conservation Fair and Sustainable Homes Tour. The Fair will be held on Saturday, October 13th from 9 am to 5 pm, at Free State

**See Energy Fair on page 15**



Oct / Nov 2007

THE LITTLE GREEN FESTIVAL  
IN THE

# BIG COTTONWOOD FOREST

(IN BURCHAM PARK)

October 7, 2007  
2-6 pm

## Come celebrate all that is good and "GREEN" in Lawrence in the natural beauty of the Cottonwood Forest in Burcham Park.

There will be live music, wonderful food, a variety of people that will demonstrate technologies and products that contribute to the planet in a sustainable way (electric vehicles and bicycles, low-technology, solar power, wind power, gardening, seed saving, green architecture). We are looking for nature clubs and organizations that will encourage being in nature, bird watching, river activities and ecological awareness.

We will also have artisans that are skilled in natural crafts (soap making, spinning, weaving, ceramics) along with artists that celebrate the beauty of nature in photography, painting, and jewelry.

For the children, there will be face painting, juggling, and games.

If you would like to be a part of this Festival and provide any of the above services, or contribute in a way that will bring good ideas or products to share or sell that contribute to the greater understanding of what is possible, and how we can enjoy each other in a community of common needs and diverse abilities, please contact me.

All participants must call or email by Sept. 14 (Friday). To reserve a spot, call Alison: 785-760-0206, or email: [windwalker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:windwalker@sbcglobal.net)

Thank you for your interest in becoming part of the solution! 

## Topeka Group Marks Third Anniversary

By Paul Post, Topeka Group Chair

A number of years ago, a local Sierra Club group was active in Topeka. Over time, enthusiasm waned, and eventually the group was de-activated. Fast forward to 2004, when several Sierra Club members in Topeka began to wonder why no active group existed, and came together in October 2004 to determine what interest there might be in the community for re-activating the Topeka Group. Bill Griffith, then the Kansas Chapter chair, met with nine Sierra Club members to encourage the effort. Those present decided to begin having monthly membership meetings and to elect a group of leaders who could move forward on the project of re-activating the Topeka Group.

Now, three years later, the Topeka Group is alive, well, and active. General membership meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library. A dinner at Annie's Place Restaurant in Gage Center precedes the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Attendance at the general meeting, while small at first, now averages at least 30 members, and often more. 10 to 12 members usually attend the dinner gathering. Membership overall in the Topeka Group has risen from under 300 three years ago to over 350 today.

Program topics have run the gamut from presentations on Kansas wildlife to energy conservation and efficiency. Speakers during 2007 have presented on the Kansas dustbowl years, sustainable agricultural practices, home energy efficiency upgrades, the Kansas Chapter's legislative agenda. Speakers have included former governor and now Secretary of Wildlife and Parks Mike Hayden, KU Hall Distinguished Professor Don Worster, Jim Ploger of the Kansas Energy Office, and Ken Warren of the Land Institute in Salina, Kansas.

Other activities and service opportunities have been spearheaded by Outings Chair Jack Smith. These include participation in the "Adopt a Highway" program run by the Kansas Highway Department, where the group has adopted a two mile stretch of I-70 west of Topeka, a trip to the Farview Observatory near Eskridge, Kansas, trail maintenance Cedar Crest and Lake Perry, and a visit to the KU Natural History Museum. Energy and Conservation Chair Phil Morse has formed a working committee of Topeka Group members which meets monthly. Phil and his committee have been instrumental in raising public awareness of the dangers of the coal-fired generating station proposed by Sunflower Energy near Holcomb. As Political Chair, Phil has also helped the City of Topeka move forward as a participant in the Sierra Club "Cool Cities" program, and has assisted Shawnee County in a similar endeavor.

All in all, the efforts of the Topeka Group membership during the last three years can best be described as "a good start." 



# Why My City is Cool

Former Mayor of Lawrence Dennis 'Boog' Highberger wanted to do more for the environment before he stepped down. He liked the idea of Lawrence becoming a Cool City and received unanimous support from the other four city commissioners in March '06 to sign the Mayoral Agreement to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions by at least 7% by the year 2012.

Mayor Highberger was particularly pleased that Lawrence boasted a source of clean renewable energy, Bowersock Mills & Power Company. Built in 1874, Bowersock is the only functioning hydropower plant in Kansas with a capacity of 2.5 MW. In support of this local source of clean renewable electricity, on September 26, 2006, at Commissioner Highberger's



**Police on bicycles are more accessible to pedestrians. Their vehicles are cleaner and quieter and the cost for maintenance is negligible compared to patrol cars. Buses in Cool Cities are actually communities on wheels. Regular riders develop friendships and support networks. In Cool Cities with public transit, you can save money because you don't have to own a car to get around.**

urging, the Lawrence city commission agreed to "green" 3% of the city's services and offices power usage with the purchase of renewable energy certificates or GreenTags from Zephyr Energy Group.

Lawrence's city manager City Manager Dave Corliss has shown tremendous interest in fulfilling the requirements of the US Mayors' Climate Control Agreement.

Currently, the City has initiated a number of activities and measures that will eventually be consolidated into a single, comprehensive plan. Under Amyx's leadership in September '06, Lawrence joined the US Green Building Council. City staff is currently researching opportunities to achieve LEED certification for some new construction projects (LEED-NC) as well as for some existing buildings (LEED-EB). The

**See Cool Cities on page 12**



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## Sierra Club 2008 Calendars



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[Craig.Lubow@kansas.sierraclub.org](mailto:Craig.Lubow@kansas.sierraclub.org)



## **Cool Cities, continued from page 11**

City Commission adopted a resolution initiating a “Plug-in Lawrence” campaign in which city staff will be looking into alternative fuels vehicles with all new vehicle fleet purchases. This campaign will also be incorporated into the city’s overall community outreach program.

In June and again in August 2007 city staff and local Sierra Club volunteers participated in Cool Cities webcasts from D.C.

August 24, 2007 Lawrence joined ICLEI, International Council of Local Environmental Initiatives, and using ICLEI computer software, will begin compiling data for the city’s green house gas emissions (GHG) inventory to use as a baseline for a comprehensive GHG reduction program.

### **Milestone 1: Establish Campaign COMPLETE**

- Convene a Cool Cities campaign team of 3-7 activist volunteers
- Write a city profile on the Cool Cities website

### **Milestone 2: Engage The Community COMPLETE**

- Create a Campaign Plan
- Give a Cool Cities presentation to at least three local community groups
- Send a formal letter to Mayor, co-signed by 2+ partner community groups requesting the mayor to sign

### **Milestone 3: City Signs the US Mayors’ Agreement COMPLETE**

- Meet with mayor along with 1 to 3 community groups to discuss becoming a Cool City
- Mayor signs the Mayors’ Agreement and submits the paperwork to Seattle Mayor’s office

### **Milestone 4: Initial Solution Steps COMPLETE**

- City establishes committee to create local climate action plan
- City initiates early implementation actions (e.g. energy efficient light bulbs at city offices)

### **Milestone 5: Advanced Smart Energy Solutions IN PROGRESS**

- City adopts energy efficiency policies (e.g. energy efficient street lights, green building standards)
- City adopts green vehicles policy (e.g. purchases hybrid vehicles for city fleet)
- City adopts renewable energy policies (e.g. buys “green” power, installs solar panels or wind turbines) 

## **Political Committee Members Wanted No Experience Necessary**

The political committee of Kansas Sierra Club is in the process of forming. We are calling for members to serve on this newly created committee. The duties of the political committee include evaluating the voting records for elected officials, interviewing candidates for elected office, fund raising, making endorsement decisions and participating in political campaigns.

The first meeting of the political committee is anticipated for late summer. If your interested please contact Steve Baru, Political Committee Chair, directly at [stevebaru@aol.com](mailto:stevebaru@aol.com).

## **Is Global Warming something your organization’s members are discussing?**

**Looking for a speaker on the  
Environment?**

**Contact Elaine Giessel,  
Education Chair, at  
[elaine.giessel@kansas.sierraclub.org](mailto:elaine.giessel@kansas.sierraclub.org)**



# How Compressed Air Energy Storage Can Make Wind Power a Power Source in Kansas

By Joe Spease

Fossil fuel supporters (like oil, gas, and coal companies), global warming deniers, and some politicians really think they've "gotcha" when they confidently state, "So, what happens when the wind doesn't blow?" Just keep reading to find out a great response to that statement that holds great promise in Kansas.

Compressed air energy storage (CAES) is slowly receiving more attention as a solution to the issue related to the unreliability of wind power. And as luck would have it, Kansas has all the natural attributes needed to realize the benefits of CAES.

So, what is CAES? Here is how the Department of Energy (DOE) explains CAES:

CAES: Utilities and wind farms can use off-peak electricity to compress air and store it in airtight underground caverns. When the air is released from storage, it expands through a combustion turbine to create electricity.

**How It Works:** Off-peak electricity is used to power a motor/generator that drives compressors to force air into an underground storage reservoir. This process typically occurs when utility system demands and electricity costs are the lowest. When electric power demand peaks during the day, the process is reversed. The compressed air is returned to the surface, heated by natural gas in combustors and run through high-pressure and low-pressure expanders to power the motor/generator to produce electricity.

**Advantages:** Nearly two-thirds of the natural gas in a conventional power plant is consumed by a natural gas turbine because the gas is used to drive the machine's compressor. In contrast, a compressed air storage plant uses low-cost heated air to power the turbines and create off-peak electricity, conserving some natural gas.

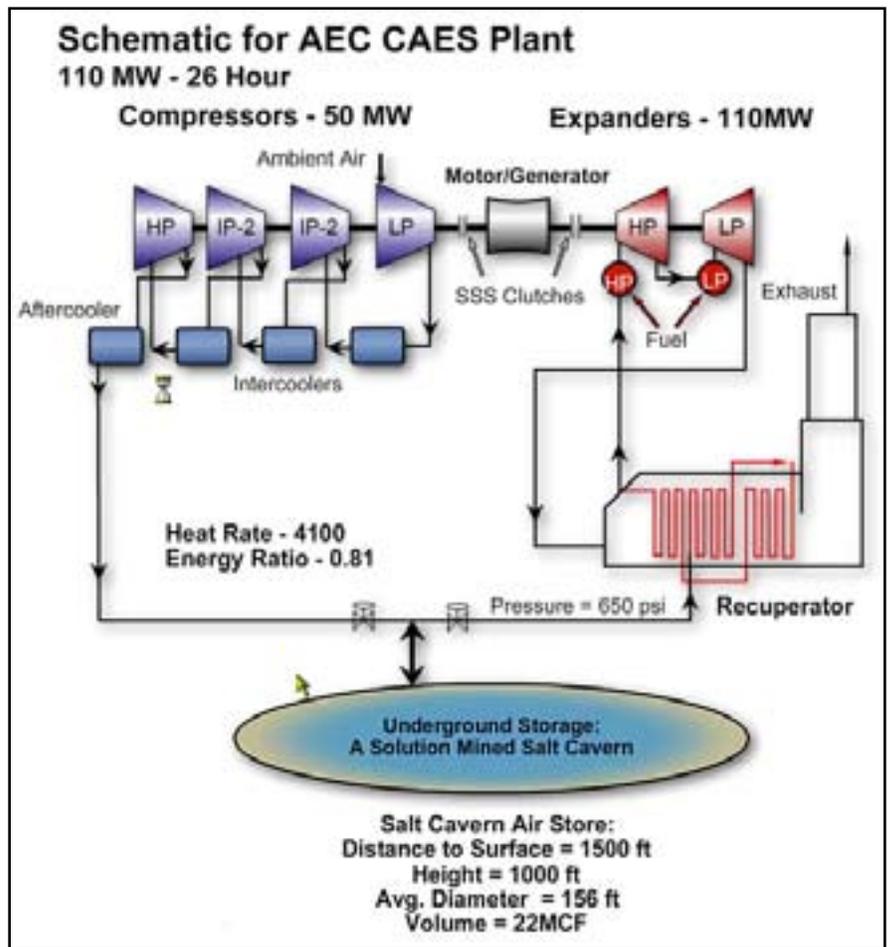
**Applications:** The concept of CAES to help generate electricity is more than 30 years old. Two plants currently exist---an 11-year-old plant in McIntosh, Alabama, and a 23-year-old plant in Germany, both in caverns created by salt deposits.

From the above description by the DOE you can see how the potential for this technology in Kansas is great. Kansas has the wind resource and the available underground storage spaces needed to make CAES work most cost-effectively. The

biggest drawback to CAES is that its application is limited to areas where those resources are located together. Not that many places on earth have that combination. Without the combination of resources, the cost of CAES becomes uneconomical.

But the great benefit of CAES is in providing a constant flow of electricity from wind farms. Making compressed air and storing it at night, when demand for electricity is low, then extracting the air during the day if the wind isn't blowing enough, gives wind farms baseload status. Wind farms would reliably produce electricity when needed, putting an end to the need for coal plants.

What is the cost you ask? Very affordable, if you ask me. Remember, coal companies aren't including the cost of the



damage they do to the environment, and the accompanying increased healthcare costs, in the price we pay on our bills. Electricity costs from coal plants are about to increase dramatically. Now that the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that CO2 should be regulated under the Clean Air Act, coal companies will eventually be required to spend hundreds of millions of dollars on CO2 reduction equipment. That will raise our electricity rates from coal plants. A carbon tax or cap-and-trade scheme that Congress is considering imposing will raise their costs to operate too. The point of mentioning these



See Compressed Air on page 14

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# **I WANT YOU TO DEMAND WIND POWER IN KANSAS**

**Q: Should new coal plants in Kansas be part of our plan to stop Global Warming?**

**A: NO**

**Q: Will Wind Power create jobs and be part of a sustainable future?**

**A: YES**

**Q: Is Kansas at a Crossroads... hell, is mankind at a crossroads?**

**A: YES**

**Tell Gov. Sebelius to stop future coal plants and to create a future we can live with.**

Capitol Bldg, 2nd Floor  
Topeka, KS 66612  
1-877-579-6757  
governor@state.ks.us



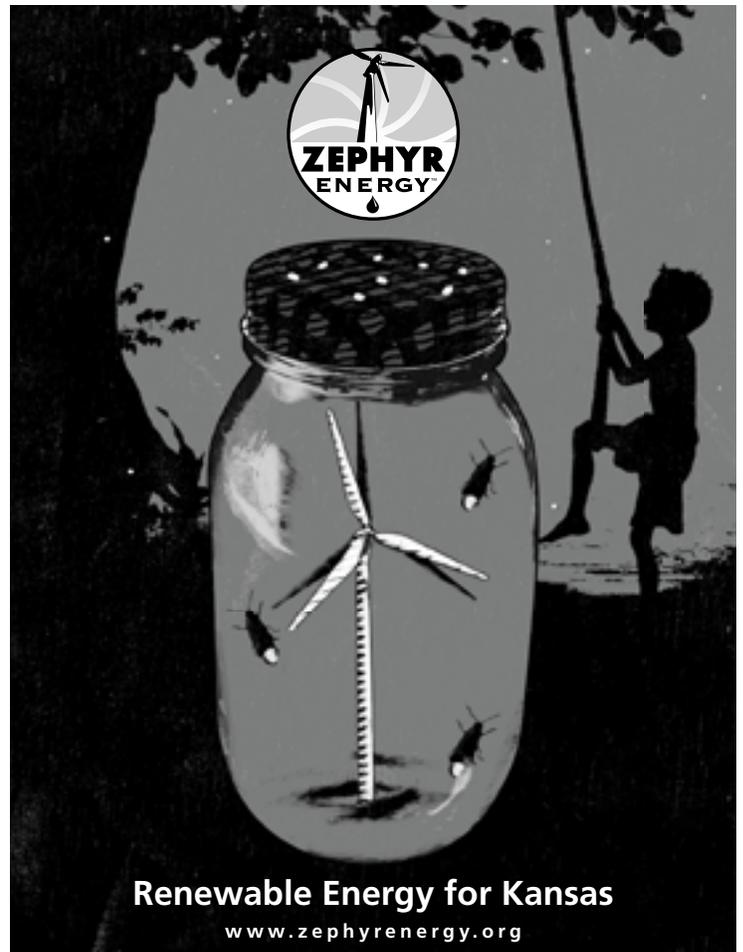
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## **Compressed Air, continued from page 13**

things related to the cost of CAES is that the cost of electricity from a CAES system will soon be less expensive than the cost of coal power. It already is once you assign a reasonable cost to coal plant companies for the environmental damage and increased healthcare costs they create.

If you don't assess the true cost of coal power right now, then the electricity from CAES plants is about \$0.005 higher. That isn't much. This also assumes that there is a good wind resource, available natural storage, and access to high-power transmission lines. More specifically, a 200 MW CAES plant costs about \$250 million, which is in the ballpark with the costs of a wind farm of the same size.

I have never been so excited about forced air in my life. Ain't technology grand? Think about it. The concept is really simple. The operation is more complicated than the simple description, but it is essentially a simple process. Its ramifications are huge. We could literally replace all the coal power in Kansas with wind power firmed by CAES. We could actually produce enough power for several Midwestern states, greatly reducing harmful pollutants. Yes, there is a bit of pollution that would come from the small natural gas use, but the overall benefits are tremendous. Maybe the answer really is blowing in the wind? 



**Renewable Energy for Kansas**

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| REGULAR                | <input type="checkbox"/> \$39   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$47   |
| SUPPORTING             | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100  |
| CONTRIBUTING           | <input type="checkbox"/> \$150  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$175  |
| LIFE                   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1250 |
| SENIOR                 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$24   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$32   |
| STUDENT/LIMITED INCOME | <input type="checkbox"/> \$24   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$32   |

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

Enclose check and mail to: **Sierra Club,**  
P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968

F94Q W 4600 1



America needs a smart energy policy that increases our energy security and protects the environment. There is a better way. Congress should pass legislation that cuts our country's dependence on oil, increases our use of clean, renewable energy sources like wind and solar power, protects our public lands, and modernizes the electricity grid to prevent future blackouts.

Join the Sierra Club today and add your voice to protect the planet.

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

### Energy Fair, continued from page 9

High School, located at 4700 Overland Drive. Homes Tour buses will leave from the Free State High School promptly at 10 am and 2 pm.

Throughout the day you will have opportunities to view energy conservation exhibits and to consult with experts on how their products and services can lower your utility bills and increase the energy efficiency of your home. Exhibitors will include area builders, architects, insulators, heating and cooling experts, government agencies, non-profits, and alternatively-fueled vehicle representatives. Local businesses will have energy saving products on site, including high efficiency windows, compact fluorescent bulbs, weather-stripping and programmable thermostats. Tasty treats will also be available through concessions.

The Heartland Renewable Energy Society's Sustainable Homes Tour will feature at least five area homes that incorporate energy conservation design and products. Those on the tour will be able to observe alternative energy systems in action, and talk with home owners about actual cost savings and the experience of living in an energy efficient home.

An expert line-up of speakers will discuss topics such as home weatherization, energy efficient remodeling, new home construction techniques, wind and solar energy, and the legislative climate for energy efficiency in Kansas. The City of Lawrence will also be introducing Kristin Riott of The Climate Project as

this year's keynote speaker. A veteran of former Vice President Al Gore's training initiatives, Ms. Riott will be presenting a slide show on which the Academy Award-winning film, "An Inconvenient Truth" is based. 



# Chapter & Group Leaders

*Groups are the local body of the Kansas State Chapter*

## Chapter Executive Committee

### Officers, Committee Chairs

\*Elected ExCom member; \*\*Appointed ExCom member,  
\*\*\*Group Representative to Chapter, \*\*\*\*Officer/Committee Chair

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(316) 522-4741, yvonne.cather@kansas.sierraclub.org

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**Barbara Keltner\*\*\*\*** CAFO Chair, Corporate Accountability Chair,  
International Trade Chair, (316)722-5621

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**Bill Cutler**, Treasurer, (785) 379-9756, spudspa@yahoo.com

**Jack Smith**, Outings Chair, (785) 273-3138, JKJMSmith@aol.com

**Jo Ann Van Meter**, Conservation Chair, (785) 234-3023,  
worrybeads@aol.com

**Patsy Samson**, Membership Chair, (785) 267-5368,  
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**Phil Morse\*\*\*\***, Political Chair, (785) 273-3613, p.morse@sbcglobal.net

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**Carol Barta**, Newsletter Editor, Program Chair, (785) 410-8608,  
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**Craig Lubow\***, Vice-Chair, Conservation Chair,  
Media Chair, Calendars, (913) 299-6620,  
craig.lubow@kansas.sierraclub.org

# General Meetings

**General public is welcome to attend**

---

## **Flint Hills Group, (Manhattan)**

**Oct 24. 7:00 pm.**

### **Wild Utah: America's Redrock Wilderness**

Bob Brister, Interregional Outreach Coordinator, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance will give a slideshow on Utah Wilderness areas. Come learning about what the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance has accomplished in Utah over the years. The presentation will be held in the Manhattan Public Library. For more information and to verify time and place please call or email Carol or Scott. Carol Barta, (785) 410-8608, snowsage54@hotmail.com, or Scott Smith, (785) 539-1973, wizard13@cox.net

## **Flint Hills**

**Nov 14. 7:00 pm.**

### **Meet Your Fellow Sierrans!**

Come and meet other Sierra Club members. Help plan next year's outings and activities. Bluestem Bistro (in the Glass Room), 1219 Moro St., Aggieville. For information please call or email Carol Barta 785-410-8608 (snowsage54@hotmail.com) or Scott Smith 785-539-1973 (wizard13@cox.net).. Carol Barta, (785) 410-8608, snowsage54@hotmail.com, or Scott Smith, (785) 539-1973, wizard13@cox.net

## **Kanza Group, (Kansas City)**

**Nov 13. 7:00 pm.**

### **Crude Impact: Oil and Humankind**

**7:00 pm.** Come early and have snacks with friends.

**7:30 pm. Program.** CRUDE IMPACT is a powerful and timely video/movie that deftly explores the interconnection between human domination of the planet and the discovery and use of oil. This documentary film exposes our deeprooted dependency on the availability of fossil fuel energy and examines the future implications of peak oil — the point in time when the amount of petroleum worldwide begins a steady, inexorable decline. Our meetings are at the Overland Park Lutheran Church, 7810 W. 79th Street. Park on north side. Directions at [www.kansas.sierraclub.org/kanzadirections.htm](http://www.kansas.sierraclub.org/kanzadirections.htm).. Craig Wolfe, (913) 299-4443, [info@kansas.sierraclub.org](mailto:info@kansas.sierraclub.org)

## **Southwind Group, (Wichita)**

**Oct 12. 6:30 pm.**

### **Butterflies, Butterflies, Butterflies**

Jim Mason from the Great Plains Nature Center will present a program on butterflies. Dave Kirkbride, (316) 945-0728, [david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org](mailto:david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org)

## **Southwind Group**

**Nov 9. 6:30 pm.**

### **Global Warming & Wildlife**

Ken Lockwood from the Eagle Valley Raptor Center will present a program on wildlife and global warming at the Great Plains Nature Center. Dave Kirkbride, (316) 945-0728, [david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org](mailto:david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org)

## **Topeka Group**

**Oct 23. 7:00 pm.**

### **Kansas Land Trust**

Roxanne Miller, Executive Director of the Kansas Land Trust. Roxanne will introduce us the KLT's program of assisting primarily rural landowners in establishing conservation easements to prevent commercial development and sprawl encroachment on pristine places and landscapes. Topeka and Shawnee County Public library, 1515 SW 10th Street. A "no host" dinner will be at Annie's Place Restaurant in Gage Center before the meeting at 5:30.. Paul Post, (785) 354-1972, [paulpost@paulpost.com](mailto:paulpost@paulpost.com)

## **Topeka Group**

**Nov 27. 7:00 pm.**

### **Bryan Welch, Publisher and Editorial Director of Ogden Publications**

Our speaker is Bryan Welch, Publisher and Editorial Director of Ogden Publications in Topeka, which publishes "Mother Earth News," "Natural Home," "The Utne Reader," and other magazines for people interested in self-sufficiency, sustainability and rural lifestyles. Topeka and Shawnee County Public library, 1515 SW 10th Street. A "no host" dinner will be at Annie's Place Restaurant before the meeting at 5:30.. Paul Post, (785) 354-1972, [paulpost@paulpost.com](mailto:paulpost@paulpost.com)

## **Wakarusa Group, (Lawrence)**

### **General Information**

The Wakarusa Group is limiting its general meetings in order to concentrate on holding special events. To get the most up-to-date announcements on our events, please add your name to our e-mail list. You can add your name to the list by contacting Carey Maynard-Moody at (785) 842-6517, [careymm@kansas.sierraclub.org](mailto:careymm@kansas.sierraclub.org)



# Sierra Club Outings

**General public is welcome to participate**

Below is the combined list of all outings by the Kansas Chapter and Groups. The number in [brackets] indicates the area of the outing as shown on the map. Please contact the outing leader listed after the description by phone or e-mail before attending any of these activities. For trips requiring physical exertion, leaders need to know your ability and condition. Sierra Club policy also requires participants to sign a liability waiver or acknowledgement of risk prior to departing the trailhead.



**[1] Oct 6. 7 am - 10 pm. Adopt - A - Highway Cleanup**

Meet at the Amerisuites Hotel parking lot at 6021 SW 6th Street.. Topeka. Jack Smith (785) 273-3138, jkmsmith@aol.com

**[4] Oct 6-7. Family Campout - Watkins Mill State Park, Lawson MO**

Join us for some exploring and good old campfire fun! One of the nicest campgrounds close to KC, and a great weekend trip for beginners. Sign up early so we can arrange campsite reservations. \$10 donation requested.. Kanza. Renee Andriani, (913) 488-4445, randri@kc.rr.com

**[4] Oct 13 -14. Easy Overnight Fun Hike, Adrian, MO.**

Kick off the Fall Backpacking Season with an overnight trip to Jerry Burns' Farm. So easy, even a caveman can do it! \$5 donation requested.. Kanza. Bob Wilshire, (913) 384-6645, rjwilshire@kc.rr.com

**[4] Oct 13. Beginner Backpacking Class, Independence, MO**

Learn backpacking basics in this 5 hour information and hands on class. We'll cover equipment, a section on low budget options, places to go and more. \$5 donation requested.. Kanza. Paul or Melody Gross 816-228-6563, wildwoodp@hotmail.com

**[4] Oct 20. Hike, Picnic and Visit to the Native Hoofed Animal Enclosure at Lake Jacomo, Blue Springs, MO**

Bring your picnic basket. We'll enjoy a short hike in the Autumn air, followed by lunch, and a little hot chocolate, then we'll feed the Bison and Elk apples and carrots. Great for all ages. . Kanza. Patty Brown, 816-737-2804, pbbbrn5@sbcglobal.net

**[1] Oct 20-21. Car Camping at Tuttle Creek State Park, Manhattan, KS.**

Fall is a great time to be on the prairie where we can enjoy a hike on the Konza Prairie as part of our camping excursion to Tuttle Creek State Park \$10 donation requested.. Kanza. Anne McDonald, (913) 384-6645, pamcdonald@kc.rr.com

**[4] Oct 27-28. Eleven Point River Overnight Float, Alton, MO**

We will car camp Friday night at a National Forest campground near Greer's Crossing, NE of Alton, MO. We will float Saturday, camp along the river and float Sunday morning to our takeout. \$10 donation requested.. Kanza. Terry DeFrates, (913) 385-7374, theerustbucket@aol.com

**[2] Oct 27-28. 11:00 am. Annual Gyp Hills Hike**

Meet at the Kirkbride Ranch for lunch on Saturday.. Southwind. Dave Kirkbride, (316) 945-0728, david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org

**[1] Oct 27. 10:30 am. Bowersock Tour**

Guided tour of Bowersock hydroelectric power plant.. Wakarusa. George Brenner, (785) 393-3828, gbrenner@sunflower.com

**[4] Oct 27-28. Join us on this mystery Jackson County beginning backpack, Jackson County, MO**

Exact location to be announced to registered participants the day before the hike. It will be fun and close to home. The group size on this easy hike is limited to 10, which includes leader and assistant. This will be a great follow up to the beginning backpack 101 class. We'll be focusing on basic backcountry skills, with an emphasis on Leave No Trace (LNT) principles. We'll hike out by early Sunday afternoon. \$10 donation requested.. Kanza. Paul Gross, (816) 228-6563, wildwoodp@hotmail.com

**[5] Nov 1-4. Backpacking Trip, Ozark Highlands Trail, AR**

A more challenging backpacking trip on the Ozark Highlands Trail. Plans are to spend three nights on the trail in the rugged backcountry of Northwest Arkansas. \$10 donation requested.. Kanza. Bob Wilshire, (913) 384-6645, rjwilshire@kc.rr.com



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***more outings next page***

# Committee Meetings

## **Kanza Group (Kansas City)**

### **Executive Committee**

**Oct 25, Dec 6 - 7:00 pm,**

Frank Drinkwine, (913) 385-0385,  
frank.drinkwine@kansas.sierraclub.org

### **Joint Action Committee**

**Oct 25, Dec 6 - 7:00 pm,**

Conservation, legislative, and political  
Craig Lubow, (913) 299-6620,  
craig.lubow@kansas.sierraclub.org

## **Southwind Group (Wichita)**

### **Executive and Fundraising Committee**

**Oct 7, Nov 4 - 6:00 pm**

7701 East Kellogg, Suite 880  
Dave Kirkbride, (316) 655-8299,  
david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org

### **Conservation Committee**

**TBA - 6:00 pm**

5825 Memphis St, Bel Aire Wichita.  
Ellie Skokan, (316) 744-0033  
ellie\_skokan@yahoo.com

## **Wakarusa Group (Lawrence)**

### **Executive Committee**

**1st Sunday of month, 7:00 pm,**

Location TBA. Carey Maynard-Moody,  
(785) 842-6517,  
careymm@kansas.sierraclub.org.

### **Conservation Committee**

Contact Carey Maynard-Moody,  
(785) 842-6517,  
careymm@kansas.sierraclub.org.

## **Topeka Group, ExCom meets quarterly, date and time announced by email**

**Energy & Conservation Committee, Oct 11, Nov 15**

Paul Post, (785) 354-1972, paulpost@paulpost.com

## **Kansas Chapter: (State), Executive Committee, Nov 17 (time & location TBA)**

Yvonne Cather (316) 522-4741, yvonne.cather@kansas.sierraclub.org

### **[1] Nov 10. Perry Lake Trail Maintenance, Perry, KS**

Join us as we continue our 16-year tradition of maintaining the Perry Lake Trail. Bring a lunch, work gloves, and outdoor hand tools.. Kanza. Steve Hassler, (913) 707-3296,  
steve.hassler@kansas.sierraclub.org

### **[4] Nov 17-18. Bell Mountain Wilderness**

#### **Backpacking Trip, Potosi, MO**

Enjoy the crisp fall air, and the impressive views as we hike to Bell Mountain. From our vantage point, we'll be able to survey Saturday's bushwhack day hike to the summit of Lindsey Mountain. \$10 donation requested.. Kanza. Paul Gross, (816) 228-6563, wildwoodp@hotmail.com

### **[4] Nov 24. Annual Squaw Creek NWR Birdwatching Trip, Mound City, MO**

300 species of birds, 30 species of mammals and 35 species of reptiles and amphibians call this wetlands home. 300,000 Geese, 100,000 Ducks and 200 Bald Eagles spend the winter here. We're going to stop by and pay them a visit. Great for all ages. \$5 donation requested.. Kanza. Dave Patton, (816) 461-6091, davedahiker@yahoo.com

### **[1] Nov 24. 8:30 am. Day Trip & Hike at the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge**

Meet at the Great Plains Nature Center parking lot for car pooling . Southwind. Ellie Skokan, (316) 744-0033,  
ellie\_skokan@yahoo.com

### **[1] Dec 1. Day Hike Mill Creek Streamway Trail, Shawnee Mission Park, KS**

We'll hike a section of one of the best trails in the Metropolitan area. \$5 donation requested.. Kanza. Bob Wilshire, rjwilshire@kc.rr.com & Anne McDonald, pamcdonald@kc.rr.com, (913) 384-6645

### **[4] Dec 7-9. Winter Backpacking at Hercules Glades Wilderness, MO**

Throw your warm stuff in your pack and join us for a quick weekend backpack. \$10 donation requested.. Kanza. Dave Patton, (816) 461-6091, davedahiker@yahoo.com

### **[4] Jan 5. Monkey Mountain Day Hike and Geocaching Adventure, Grain Valley, MO**

We'll help you work off some of that Holiday candy on this hike/high tech scavenger hunt in Eastern Jackson County. Great fun for kids too. \$5 donation requested.. Kanza. Dave Patton, (816) 461-6091, davedahiker@yahoo.com

### **[4] Jan 19. Day Hiking at Fleming Park, Jackson County, MO**

Enjoy the crisp winter air as we hike and explore some off trail ravines and woodlands. Bring your lunch, and we'll provide the hot chocolate. \$5 donation requested.. Kanza. Paul Gross, (816) 228-6563, wildwoodp@hotmail.com



# Calendar of Events

## Summary of all Kansas Chapter Events

Below is a listing of all General Meetings (GM), Outings (Out), and Committee Meetings (CM) for the Kansas Chapter and Groups. For specific information, see General Meetings page 17, Outings page 18, and Committee Meetings page 19. For the latest update on events, go to [www.kansas.sierraclub.org/EventsSearch.htm](http://www.kansas.sierraclub.org/EventsSearch.htm).

- Out Oct 6. 7 am - 10 pm. Adopt - A - Highway Cleanup. Topeka  
Out Oct 6-7. Family Campout - Watkins Mill State Park, Lawson MO.  
Kanza  
CM Oct 7. 6:00 pm. Southwind ExCom Meeting. Southwind  
CM Oct 11. 7:15 pm. Topeka Group Energy and Conservation  
Committee. Topeka  
GM Oct 12. 6:30 pm. Butterflies, Butterflies, Butterflies. Southwind  
Out Oct 13 -14. Easy Overnight Fun Hike, Adrian, MO. . Kanza  
Out Oct 13. Beginner Backpacking Class, Independence, MO.  
Kanza  
CM Oct 16. 6:30 pm. Conservation Committee Meeting.  
Southwind  
Out Oct 20-21. Car Camping at Tuttle Creek State Park, Manhattan,  
KS. . Kanza  
Out Oct 20. Hike, Picnic and Visit to the Native Hoofed Animal  
Enclosure at Lake Jacomo, Blue Springs, MO. Kanza  
GM Oct 23. 7:00 pm. Kansas Land Trust. Topeka  
GM Oct 24. 7:00 pm. Wild Utah: America's Redrock Wilderness. Flint  
Hills  
CM Oct 25. 7:00 pm. Conservation and Joint Action Committee.  
Kanza  
CM Oct 25. 7:00 pm. Kanza ExCom meeting.. Kanza  
Out Oct 27-28. 11:00 am. Annual Gyp Hills Hike. Southwind  
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backpack, Jackson County, MO. Kanza  
Out Nov 1-4. Backpacking Trip, Ozark Highlands Trail, AR. Kanza  
CM Nov 4. 6:00 pm. Southwind ExCom Meeting. Southwind  
GM Nov 9. 6:30 pm. Global Warming & Wildlife. Southwind  
Out Nov 10. Perry Lake Trail Maintenance, Perry, KS. Kanza  
GM Nov 13. 7:00 pm. Crude Impact: Oil and Humankind. Kanza  
GM Nov 14. 7:00 pm. Meet Your Fellow Sierrans!. Flint Hills  
CM Nov 15. 7:15 pm. Topeka Group Energy and Conservation  
Committee. Topeka  
Out Nov 17-18. Bell Mountain Wilderness Backpacking Trip, Potosi,  
MO. Kanza  
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Kanza



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