The Lid on Coal’s Coffin Stays On.

Holcomb Plant Quietly Dies in Legislature.

By Tom Thompson, Legislative Coordinator

Sometimes in cartoons, characters play a game where a gopher pokes his head out of a hole and the character tries to bang the gopher on the head with a bat before it goes back down the hole. There are several holes so the character must keep watching to see where it will come up next.

Bills concerning the building of a 1400 mw coal fired power facility in Holcomb were like this game during the 2008 legislative session. At the same time the folks were fighting the production of 11 million tons of CO2, new bills kept popping up. On May 29, 2008, at 10:35 a.m. the game machine was turned off when the gavel was struck by Speaker of the House Rep. Melvin Neufeld, ending the 2008 legislative session and any further attempts to pass legislation limiting the authority of the Secretary of KDHE and allowing Sunflower to re-apply for permitting Holcomb. The Senate did like wise a short time later.

The gopher started popping up in January as HB 2711 in the House and SB 515 in the Senate. It may seem silly to have to say from which house each of these came but as time went on, where coal plant bills came from was often uncertain. For instance, these bills were eventually combined into House Substitute for SB 327. Bills with 3 digit numbers are Senate bills and 4 digit numbers are House bills. Should there then be a veto, the house of origin begins the over ride process. SB 327 was vetoed by Governor Sebelius on March 21st. The Senate voted to over ride but there was no motion to over ride in the House.

On March 26, after a lull in Holcomb activity, there was little on the House Agenda. Interestingly there were a number of Holcomb executives and lobbyists at the Capitol that day. As the House went into session, House Substitute for SB 148 was born. The gopher chase was on once again. 148, similar to 327, with some additional “green” provisions, or “lipstick,” was passed. On April 17, Governor Sebelius vetoed 327. The Senate voted to over ride but the House on May 1st was unable to muster the 84 votes needed to do the same. It failed in the House by a vote of 80 to 45.

You would think the gopher would stay in its hole, but no. Senate Substitute for HB 2412 was written with more lipstick. Later a trailer bill, HB 2802, was written to add more lipstick to 2412 should it go into effect. Both of these passed. It was apparent in the waning days of the veto session that there

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Enclose check and mail to: Sierra Club, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80302-2968

June / July 2008

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

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.
Dear Governor Sebelius,

The 2008 session of the Kansas legislature was dominated by the various bills relating to the construction of the Holcomb coal plant for Sunflower Power Electric Company. The eyes of the nation were on Kansas as coal plant opponents and supporters engaged through the legislative process working to persuade their representatives to vote their way on the bills. Incredible pressure was placed on representatives by political party leadership.

It would have been easy for representatives to buckle under the pressure and vote to allow the plants. But enough true, visionary, principled leaders stood strong to prevent the Holcomb plant supporters from overriding your veto.

This was an inspirational victory for the children of Kansas and the world. It gives us hope for an environmentally healthy future and faith that democracy works when good people come together and stand for what is right. The real threat of global warming cannot be over-stated. The stand taken by our true leaders in the House, Senate, and Executive Office to thwart the building of Holcomb cannot be minimized. This was a tremendous achievement!

Thanks to your recent Executive Order leaders from all over the state were appointed forming the new Kansas Energy and Environmental Policy Advisory Group (KEEP). Kansas is now on the right track to develop and implement a comprehensive energy policy that will further reduce greenhouse gasses by taking advantage of the wind and solar power abundantly available in Kansas.

We are very grateful for your vetoes during this legislative session that stopped the coal plants from being built. Everyone will benefit from bringing to the table conservation and energy efficiency measures and the technology to develop renewable energy in Kansas. If you see an opportunity for Sierra Club to help you in continued efforts to establish a clean energy future, please don't hesitate to contact me. I personally look forward to serving on KEEP!

Thank you on behalf of the entire Executive Committee of the Kansas Chapter of Sierra Club for continuing to consider us as a reputable environmental organization with expertise and accessibility in this area.

Sincerely,

Yvonne A. Cather
Chair
Sierra Club Kansas Chapter
Pack the Capitol Day

By Stephanie Cole, Kansas Chapter Associate Regional Representative

Kansans once again proved their dedication to a clean energy future on April 30th. This is the day the legislature reconvened from its spring break. On this day, there was also an expected attempt to override the Governor’s veto of SB 148. If you’ll recall, this is the bill that would have allowed the Holcomb project a permit and restricted the authority of the Secretary of KDHE. Kansas wasn’t about to let this go unnoticed. Close to 200 clean energy advocates appeared at the Kansas Statehouse to demonstrate support for Governor Sebelius’ veto.

“The most inspiring aspect was the crowd that assembled was a new crowd of people who came together on this issue,” said Eileen Horn, Climate and Energy Project. Participants represented students, labor unions, environmentalists, faith leaders, mothers and children. The crowds rallied outside of the House chambers and were greeted by legislators.

It was a sight to see! FRONTLINE of PBS was filming the uprising of concerned citizens. This footage will appear soon in a documentary on the Kansas coal controversy.

Horn also noted that the public seems to have an increased awareness of climate change and how energy relates to it. The Climate and Energy project hosted a series of energy forums this past winter. Since these forums, the clean energy coalition has grown and seems to be gaining more knowledge. This increased awareness was also apparent at many Earth Day events, where participants were eager to learn about climate change and what they can do to reduce their carbon footprint.

The grassroots efforts on Pack the Capitol Day are illustrative of the outstanding public participation that has grown with current energy issues. Kansas has been front and center in the nation’s global warming debate. Thanks to amazing public participation, and the work of organizations like the Climate and Energy Project, GPACE, True Blue Women, Kansas Natural Resources Council, United Steelworkers and the Sustainable Sanctuary, Kansas rose to the challenge and demonstrated its support for a clean energy future.

The Sierra Club is proud of Kansas!!
Sierra Club Represented on Energy Panel with Lieutenant Governor

The Sierra Club participated in an Earth Day Energy Panel Discussion with the Lieutenant Governor Mark Parkinson. This event was sponsored by Emporia State University as a part of their week-long Earth Day celebration. Joe Spease, Legislative Chair and President of Pristine Power, represented the Kansas Chapter of the Sierra Club.

The proposed Holcomb expansion dominated the forum. Mark Parkinson highlighted the fact that we have been in a water dispute with Colorado for years and after finally settling this dispute, we would essentially be giving them our water by agreeing to deplete in excess of 5 billion gallons of water from the Ogallala aquifer to generate power for Colorado and Texas (not to mention all of the pollution we would pump into the air).

Spease detailed the laundry list of public health and environmental concerns that are associated with burning coal. Of significant concern in the current energy debate are the carbon dioxide emissions coal plants are notorious for releasing. These emissions are linked to global warming and must be reduced if we are to slow the devastating effects of climate change.

When the term “clean coal” was brought up, Spease was quick to point out that there is no such thing. There may be “cleaner coal,” Spease said, but he acknowledged that as long as we have carbon emissions coming from coal plants we cannot classify them as “clean.”

As an alternative to building new coal plants, the panel discussed energy efficiency and conservation. Parkinson emphasized how critical efficiency and conservation are to a new energy plan. Spease pointed out that many are saving energy and reducing demand without cramping their lifestyle. This can be done by utilizing compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL’s), turning appliance off when not in use, air drying clothes, and buying appliances that feature the blue Energy Star label.

Parkinson referred to the legislature’s expected attempt to override Governor Sebelius’ veto of legislation that would have allowed the Holcomb expansion a permit as one of the most important votes in Kansas history.

Other panelists included, Ray Hammerlund of the Kansas Corporation Commission, Chris Cardinal of the Great Plains Alliance for Clean Energy and Brad Loveless of Westar Energy.

Renewable Baseload Energy

By Jerry Brown, retired Salina School District administrator

An argument that you hear over and over from proponents of the coal plants for Kansas is that you cannot use wind energy for baseload power, therefore you need to develop coal, gas and nuclear energy. They say the wind is not dependable. German scientists would say they are wrong.

If you go to www.youtube.com and in the search box put in quotes “Combined Power Plant” you will be given a choice to watch a seven-minute video from Germany about supplying baseload power from renewable sources. Because of this pilot project, Germany feels that they will start to phase out coal and nuclear plants, and by 2020, will generate 40 percent of their power from renewable sources and by 2050 they will generate 100% of Germany’s power from a combination of wind, biogas, solar and pumped hydro. Watch the video to see how they will do it.

If you compare Germany to Kansas and Oklahoma you will find that Germany is heavily industrialized with a population of 82,000,000 and a land area of 137,000 square miles. Kansas and Oklahoma have a combined population of 6,383,000 with a total land area of 159,000 square miles. Germany, as of this year, produces more electricity from wind than all of the U.S. Germany has to supply more power to more people crowded into a smaller area than Kansas and Oklahoma combined.

From the German example, Kansas could use a combination of wind and natural gas to supply all of our state’s power. On top of that, Kansas could be a top supplier of electricity out-of-state because of our superior wind energy potential. This could be done while phasing out coal and nuclear power in our state.

Take seven minutes, watch the video, and come to your own conclusions.
Plug In Hybrid Cars

Chart of CO2 emissions ranked by power source.

Article from Treehugger.com  Great additional links on the website, so for more info, go to the original website article at: http://www.treehugger.com/files/2008/04/plug-in-hybrid-cars-co2-emissions-electricity-energy.php

Plug In Hybrid Cars: Chart of CO2 emissions ranked by power source.

The chart on the left shows CO2 emissions by gas-electric plug-in hybrids depending on the electricity source. As you can see, plug-ins beat the conventional gasoline-powered vehicle at the top in all situations, but the comparison with a regular hybrid vehicle is more complex. Depending on the power source, it can go from slightly worse than the hybrid to about twice as good (and three times as good as the conventional car).

Not surprisingly, coal without carbon capture is the worst power source, and even “advanced coal burning” isn’t much better. And as the source of 43% of U.S. electricity, it must be taken seriously.

Two Reasons for Hope: Night Charging & Other Power Sources

A study on plug-in hybrids by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory shows that if charged at night, off peak, the vehicles might not put much additional strain on the grid. That’s because coal plants cannot be shut down and restarted rapidly, so they generally don’t stop producing at night. So while it is true that a plug-in hybrid charged by coal-generated electricity would generate more CO2, the alternative might be to burn that coal anyway and get zero miles out of it. Plug-ins could actually make the grid more efficient by putting more of the electricity generated to productive use. (Planet Kansas editor comment: This assumes people are disciplined enough to ONLY plug their plug in cars at night. Otherwise, demand for more coal capacity increases.)

The second reason is that if coal represents 43% of production in the U.S., that means that there’s 57% of things that aren’t as bad as coal. A lot of it is natural gas, nuclear, and hydro. Wind power, solar and geothermal still represent a small fraction of the total, but they are the fastest-growing energy sector.

This means that plug-ins not charged with coal power would still be doing quite a bit better than regular hybrids, especially if you drive less than the electric range between charges, and as time goes on more of the grid should get power from clean sources. There is also a benefit to air quality when you move the emissions from millions of tailpipes that are close to people’s lungs to a few centralized power plants. Ideally all energy would come from renewables, but even in the meantime, we might get clean air benefits.

Outside the U.S.

It also means that the environmental performance of plug-in hybrids will vary from country to country, and even from region to region. You can find out about where your power comes from by contacting your local utility, and in many places even if your local grid is dirty, you can switch to green power.

Plug-In Hybrids Will Keep Getting Better

Another question we might ask ourselves is: What model of plug-in did they base the chart on? Chances are, as time goes on and as oil prices rise, batteries and ultracapacitors will improve, more advanced light materials will be used (such as carbon fiber), there might be breakthroughs in nanotechnologies, aerodynamics will improve, etc. So future plug-in hybrids might be quite a bit more efficient than the one this chart is based on.

And for those worried about all these battery packs from plug-in hybrids, know that they can be made from recyclable and non-toxic materials.
Coal’s Coffin, continued from page 1

wouldn’t be enough votes to over ride. Governor Sebelius vetoed 2412 and 2802 on May 16th after the veto session.

None-the-less there was still a chance that a veto could be over ridden on May 29 when the legislature got together for sine die, the official last day of the 2008 legislative session. Because 2412 was a House bill, the veto over ride process had to begin in the House.

There were 98 members of the House in attendance on sine die but many were not Holcomb supporters. The Speaker of the House Rep. Melvin Neufeld, asked if anyone wished to move to over ride 2412 or 2802. No one rose to do so. Soon after, the Speaker hit the gavel ending the 2008 legislative session, keeping the gopher in its hole for now.

I did not mean to disparage the good name of gophers in this article. Nor do I condone taking a bat to any creature. Working against this legislation was not a game either. It took a lot of patience, perseverance and hard work on the part of a lot of volunteers fighting this bill. There were many days when I was the only lobbyist fighting these bills whereas there were many supporting it.

One thing those other lobbyists did not have was a group of hard working grass roots volunteers who weren’t willing to give up. Anyone who came to a rally, visited their legislator personally or otherwise communicated your opposition to these bills should be proud. Stopping these bills will help continue the movement going on in this country to bring us a cleaner healthier environment.

However, climate change will be best served when Kansas has an effective clean energy plan in place that serves the whole state and the environment. We should be grateful to all those volunteers and legislators pulling the rope in the same direction... our direction!! The 2009 legislative session begins in about 7 months. We kept the gopher in its hole for now, but he is still there.
Lessons

By Phil Morse, Kansas Chapter Political Chair

We did it! Or at least at this writing, before official adjournment of the 2008 Legislature, it appears the Governor will veto the so-called “Economic Stimulus” and Holcomb coal-fired power plant expansion. Moreover, the votes in the House of Representatives may be there to sustain this second of her vetoes. However, whether we win or lose this battle, it seems to me there are a number of lessons we are gaining that will stand us in good stead for our long term effort to achieve a sustainable place for the human species on Planet Earth.

Possibly the first and most important lesson is the cumulative value of all our individual, seemingly insignificant, contributions. When we began this fight, neither the Governor nor the Secretary of KDHE was committed to opposition to the huge new coal-fired power plants at Holcomb. Somewhere along the line they committed and their commitments were tenacious and strong, firmly grounded in avoiding the danger posed to Kansas and the planet by 11,000,000 tons each year of carbon dioxide. We don’t know when or what changed their minds, but surely the inundation of messages from all of us and our friends, and the packed hearing rooms, especially in Lawrence, must have commanded their attention. When there appeared to be overwhelming support in the legislature to reverse the Secretary’s wise decision our messages and voices were again heard by enough courageous legislators to sustain the Governor’s veto. Tom Thompson told us the most important voices our government representatives hear are our voices, their constituents. He was right!

Thanks to Craig Wolfe the Kansas Sierra Club was ready to use 21st Century technology to broadcast our leaders’ messages, pass them on to our friends and cohorts, along with the information we needed to easily contact and express our concerns to our representatives. Time and again we heard and responded to their call, thanks to Craig and our leadership being able to contact us via e-mail. Using members’ email is a good way to keep members informed, and this year’s experience demonstrates that our voices can be heard. Lesson two was the value of using available technology to distribute information along with the tools to make it easy for us to get our messages to our government decision makers.

Lesson three was the immense value of working with all our allies in our war to leave a livable planet for our posterity. The Kansas Resources Defense Council, the Kansas Rural Center, the Land Institute, True Blue Women, and especially the Climate and Energy Project and the Great Plains Alliance for Clean Energy were and are all crucial allies. Our values, concerns, and projects resonate with an expanding number of citizens and organizations, while we are learning success grows with an ever widening base of support.

Finally, we are slowly finding a voice that strikes a chord with concerned yet conservative Kansans. We are not just anti-coal-fired power plants; we are pro-wind energy and all the economic opportunity that represents, especially for Kansas. We are not “doomsday” conservationists; we know energy efficiency will save consumer and tax payer monies while building all new industries and opportunities. The transition to clean energy and sustainable living will not be easy. The planet today requires us to focus on living sustainably. Creating sustainability in all phases of our lives will force major change. But, change will bring opportunity to those who step forward and seize it. That is a message that Americans can relate to. That is a message we are beginning to articulate. Lesson four!
Governor Sebelius Proclaims Kansas Native Plant Appreciation Month!

Organization: Kansas Native Plant Society

Governor Kathleen Sebelius has proclaimed June as Kansas Native Plant Appreciation Month! The Governor’s proclamation urges all citizens to join in the observance of Kansas Native Plant Appreciation Month by enjoying, appreciating, and celebrating our floral diversity and taking advantage of the opportunities to learn more about our native plants, their habitats, and how to protect them.

Kansas Native Plant Society is celebrating Kansas Native Plant Appreciation Month with many different free events from June 1 through June 25. Everyone is welcome to enjoy these opportunities to discover our state’s natural heritage. Explore nature, learn about native plants, and socialize with like-minded people at these outings. Take a native plant walk, visit a natural area, or become involved in a restoration project as we join together to celebrate this precious heritage during Kansas Native Plant Appreciation Month!

Also visit the Kansas Native Plant Society website which features a wide variety of native plant information: www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org.

Events in honor of Kansas Native Plant Appreciation Month:

June 1: Join the Third Biennial Coblenz Prairie Foray, 1pm. This glaciated tallgrass prairie offers diverse native plants as well as uncommon birds like Henslow’s Sparrow, notable insects like Golden Byssus skippers, and interesting rocks like Sioux Quartzite. This may be the furthest south the glaciers advanced in Kansas, and large pink and red Sioux Quartzite boulders, glacial erratics, can be found in several areas. Among the 270 recorded plant species, we hope to see the federally protected Mead’s milkweed, Prairie phlox, Starry Catchfly, Topeka Purple-coneflower, and Tall Cinquefoil! Other plants of interest include the Adder’s Tongue Fern --one of the few prairie ferns and Cluster fescue (Festuca paradoxa) --a fescue rarely found in Kansas. Kansas Native Plant Society and Grassland Heritage Foundation co-sponsor this event. Co-leaders: Jeff Hansen, KNPS President and GHF Board Member and Shirley Braunlich, KNPS Board Member. Coblenz Prairie is 40-minutes west of Lawrence, KS in west-central Douglas County at the intersection of E 1 Road and North North 1150th Road; it is part of the Clinton Wildlife Area. Meet a half-mile east of the intersection on the south side of North 1150 Rd. email@KSNPS.org> (785) 864-3453

June 7: Wilson County Wildflower Tour in southeast Kansas. Gather at Fredonia High School, 916 Robinson St, 8:30am. Enjoy home baked pastries and booths of education and interest. Buses will provide transportation. Join small group tours with professional leaders or opt for self guided experiences. Kansas Native Plant Society members will be playing active roles in this event. Lunch is included with the registration price of $8, payable by June 2 to Wilson Co Conservation, 930 N 2nd Street, Fredonia, KS 66736. Contact Gina Thompson (620) 378-2866 with questions.

June 7: Wildflower Tour at Lake Wilson in Russell County, KS. This tour will combine rangeland and wildflowers, 8:30am to approximately noon. Kansas Native Plant Society members will be playing active roles in this event. A lunch will be provided. Reservations are recommended. Contact Andy Phelps at the Natural Resources Conservation Service office in Russell andy.phelps@ks.usda.gov (785) 483-2826.

June 8: Friends of Konza Prairie Annual Wildflower Walk, 7pm. The walk will be co-lead by Valerie Wright, Kansas Native Plant Society Past President, and Konza Docents. There is a charge of $5 for those who are not Friends of Konza Prairie members. Telephone reservations are due June 3, (785) 587-0441.

June 14: Cowley County Wildflower Tour in Winfield, KS. Join the Cowley County NRCS and Kansas Native Plant Society for a wildflower tour of Winfield Lake. Meet at the Winfield High School at 8am for refreshments and a presentation, and then travel by bus to Winfield Lake at 9am to view the wildflowers until noon. Last year we saw entirely different wildflower populations on the north and south sides of the lake. There is no charge but you must RSVP by June 6th. Also contact us for information on camping, hotels, dining and shopping in the area. Please call (620) 221-1850 ext. 3 during business hours or Krista Dahlinger on evenings or weekends (316) 258-6341.

June 14: Dr. Woody Holland’s Wildflower Tour of Neosho County, KS. Kansas Native Plant Society Board Member Carl Paulie will lead the tour. We will be looking for Showy Beardtongue (Penstemon cobaea), Tube Beardtongue (Penstemon tubaeflorus), Pale Purple-coneflower, Prairie Phlox and many others. Meet Carl in front of the courthouse during business hours or Krista Dahlinger on evenings or weekends (620) 221-1850 ext. 3 during business hours or Krista Dahlinger on evenings or weekends (316) 258-6341.

June 14: The 3rd Annual Symphony in the Flint Hills will be held in Morris County, KS. Enjoy this unique pairing of music and prairie! The vision of this concert is to heighten appreciation and knowledge of the Flint Hills as the last major intact tallgrass prairie on the North American continent and will help focus attention on the Flint Hills of Kansas as a national treasure belonging to all Kansans and as a destination for people beyond our borders. Featured is an
The Sierra Club also opposed SB 586. In 2007 there was a bill that allowed utilities to charge consumers for construction work in progress. In the past if a utility was building a generation plant they did not start charging consumers until the plant began producing putting the risk for building such facilities on the shoulders of the stockholders. This bill put it on the ratepayer by having them pay for the facility while the facility was under construction. The argument is that the over all costs are decreased. Nuclear power plants were not included in last year’s bill. 586 gave this privilege to utility companies building nuclear power plants too plus allowed them to pass along costs for feasibility studies to rate payers. This bill passed both houses by a large margin and was signed by the Governor.

Select Committee

HB 2949, opposed by the Sierra Club, seemed to be part of a movement to keep coal and nuclear the only sources for generating base load power in Kansas. This bill was the only bill considered by the Select Committee on Energy and Environment for the Future and was chaired by Rep. Don Myers. In effect, this bill was a portfolio standard for coal and nuclear energy setting goals for coal at 60% coal and 40% nuclear by the year 2028. This sounded too much like turning it into resolution HCR 5038 so toned down a mandate to the utilities. In committee, members removed the percent standards and otherwise redesigned the resolution to make it more open to renewables. The resolution passed the committee favorably and was placed on General Orders in the House but never voted on.

NAFTA Resolution

Another HCR, 5033, was pushed by Rep. Judy Morrison in the House Federal and State Affairs Committee. This resolution was aimed at stopping what is sometimes called the NAFTA Superhighway. The Sierra Club submitted written testimony in support of this resolution because it called for withdrawing U.S. participation in NAFTA. By the time 5033 was passed out of the committee, the NAFTA aspect of it was removed. 5033 passed out of the House but was never voted on in the Senate.

Net Metering

In late February, the Sierra Club supported HB 2881. This was a net metering bill that was submitted by Rep. Tom Holland to the House Energy and Utilities Committee. It was probably the best net metering considered in the legislature this year. It provided for an electric meter that ran backwards and forwards and paid the owner of the generator 200% of avoided costs for electricity generated that was beyond what was used over a 12-month period. It also included both solar and wind. Unfortunately, this did not pass out of committee.

However, soon after this bill was in committee, Rep. Holl-land attempted to amend a toned down version of 2881 into HB 2632 on the floor of the House. Unfortunately, the House was not ready to allow Kansas citizens to benefit from such a benefit and voted it down.

Holcomb Infected Bills

Holcomb affected the success of other bills dealing with renewables or conservation and efficiency. As such, bills that were considered, were put into the Holcomb bills in an attempt to attract votes. Another net metering bill, this for solar, 2682, had a hearing and showed promise. SB 452 directed the state to increase the energy efficiency of vehicles and buildings...
Cool Cites Update

The Climate Protection Task Force (see PK, Feb/Mar 2008 edition “Testimony Supporting Climate Protection Task Force”) will have meet for the third time May 27th. The Task Force will establish working groups to address GHG emissions in the community as well as the city government. Energy (electricity), transportation, waste will be some of the GHG emitting sectors that will be addressed in separate chapters in the final comprehensive GHG Reduction Plan. Please peruse http://www.lawrenceks.org/climate_protection/

To learn about this group and the resources they work with to help prepare the final plan. Carey Maynard-Moody is chair of the CPTF Transportation work group.

At the April 29th meeting, Dennis Murphy, Director of Kansas City’s Environmental Quality Office, gave detailed advice for developing a climate protection plan. Having helped coordinate Kansas City’s year long planning process, his presentation was excellent.

The public may attend and listen at these meetings. Mayor Michael Dever is the Chair, and Assistant Chair is shared by Carey Maynard-Moody and Simran Sethi. Each would welcome ideas about municipal planning for Climate Change, and can be contacted at mdever@sunflower.com, careymm@sunflower.com, and simran@ku.edu

Longest Walk

By Carey Maynard-Moody, Wakarusa Group Chair

Several Sierra Club members from the Wakarusa Group helped prepare and serve meals to the Longest Walkers while they stayed at Haskell Indian Nations University April 29-May 1st in Lawrence. Four SC members contributed money for gas cards to purchase fuel for the walkers’ back-up van.

As luck would have it, my schedule conflicted with the arrival of the walkers in Lawrence. I really wanted to meet them when they entered the city and walk with them to HINU. However, I had a Climate Protection Task Force meeting at the time of their arrival.

I was able to go out to HINU to contribute the fried chicken I made for the walkers’ supper Wednesday night. The Longest Walk leader sat with me after supper to receive the contribution of the gas cards we collected from the Wakarusa Group. Inside the envelope with the gas cards I inserted a heartfelt letter and a self addressed, stamped post card for him to post to let me know how they were progressing on their walk to Washington DC. I scoured the campus for a copy of the local paper that featured a beautiful photograph of the group as it assembled in our park the night before. I wanted the leader to see it. However, the newsstands were empty. I told the leader that if he contacted me, I would purchase a copy of the photo and mail it to him.

I returned to the eating area to help the group of volunteers clean up. Some of my HINU acquaintances from Wetlands Preservation Organization showed up to help. Everyone was weary.

Then I watched the pow-wow while waiting for the bus home.

The timing of the Longest Walkers’ arrival couldn’t have been worse. HINU graduation was a week away and the HINU volunteers were overwhelmed with school commitments, graduation, and travel plans.

The Longest Walkers must be very tired. I cannot imagine tackling such an ambitious mission. My heart goes out to them. I admire their commitment.

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outdoor concert performed by the Kansas City Symphony. www.symphonyintheflinthills.org (620) 273-8955

June 21: Volunteers are needed for prairie maintenance and preservation projects. Assist the Grassland Heritage Foundation Groundhogs [www.grasslandheritage.org]. Wear appropriate clothing. No special skills or tools needed. For details, please contact Frank Norman, Kansas Native Plant Society Board Member fnorman@sunflower.com (785) 887-6775 (home) or (785) 691-9748 (cell).

June 25: Celebrate the Sixth Annual Grant-Bradbury Prairie Jaunt! Join Kansas Native Plant Society and Grassland Heritage Foundation on Topeka’s premiere prairie park. This 80-acre tallgrass prairie includes over 296 plant species. Jeff Hansen, KNPS President and GHF Board Member will lead the tour at 7pm. Directions: Take Topeka Blvd south to the University Blvd intersection (stoplight), take a right. Take University west about half a mile - when the road curves south, you are at the driveway to the park gate. There is a small brick building at the driveway. email@KSNPS.org (785) 806-6917

The Kansas Native Plant Society encourages awareness and appreciation of the native plants of Kansas. www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org

KNPS. R.L. McGregor Herbarium. University of Kansas. 2045 Constant Ave. Lawrence, KS 66047-3729
Feeding the World, Creating More Problems?

By Leopold Center Distinguished Fellow Fred Kirschenmann

In 1798 Thomas Malthus published his infamous Essay on Population in which he warned the world that unchecked population growth inevitably will outstrip our ability to increase food production. For this unpopular assertion, Malthus has been berated as a “prophet of doom.” We in the industrial world have prided ourselves on the fact that we have “proven him wrong” by demonstrating our ingenious ability to dramatically increase the productive capacity of the plants and animals we have selected for our food. Consequently, we have been able to continue feeding a rapidly expanding human population. The massive, global famines that Malthus predicted never occurred—at least not yet.

But Malthus put his finger on a truth that we have since come to recognize as a fundamental law of ecology. The more energy (food) that any species has at its disposal, the more its population increases, creating a demand for still more food; all the while eroding the ecological capital that produces the food, thereby decreasing the potential to produce the food that the expanding population needs.

In nature, this sequence of interrelated events invariably leads to a collapse of one sort or another. The species in question returns to some kind of equilibrium with the rest of the species in the ecological system in which it lives, and on which it ultimately depends.

We humans seemingly have convinced ourselves that, by virtue of our superior cleverness, we are exempt from this law of ecology. But evidence seems to be mounting that we may not be exempt.

We have been able to feed expanding populations due to our clever technologies that exploit the storehouse of non-renewable resources—coal, oil and natural gas, which have accumulated on the planet over many millennia. In addition, we’ve been blessed with abnormally stable climates that serendipitously have coincided with our fossil fuel binge, making it possible for us to consistently produce unimaginable quantities of food.

Complicating the situation is the fact that our ingenuity has encouraged us to dramatically increase our consumption, which now places even more stress on the ecological health of the planet than does an expanding population.

In a January 2, 2008 opinion piece in the New York Times, Jared Diamond noted that if every person on the planet increased consumption to match that of U.S. citizens, it would be equivalent to having 72 billion people living on Earth. No one believes that our planet can sustain such an impact for long, yet we seem to be on the way. Developing countries

“How rich will we be when we have converted all our forests, all our soil, all our water resources and all our minerals into cash?” By Ding Darling. Published June 1938 in The Des Moines Register.
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Legislative Report, continued from page 10

purchased or leased. HB 2632 allowed utilities to receive a return on investments in consumer energy efficiency and conservation programs. Furthermore, SB 580 provided for a fund for a Weatherization Assistance Program to help low and moderate income homeowners with weatherization projects. The Sierra Club supported all 4 of these bills. These and similar legislation were unfortunately included in the Holcomb bills so did not otherwise progress.

Gratitude

Thanks to all of you for the attention you gave to issues supported by the Sierra Club. Those of you, who attended rallies, phoned, wrote or emailed the governor or legislators helped push the system toward a more environmentally friendly future for Kansas. I was impressed this year with how well a variety of environmental groups worked together. This allowed legislators to be approached on a variety of levels. Believe me when I say that elected officials knew you were there. Your voices were heard even if the message wasn’t usually adhered to. We were lucky to have a core of legislators and the Governor, who stuck with us on many issues. Make sure you support those who supported our issues.

Feeding World, continued from page 12

understandably want to share our consumptive lifestyles and many are poised to do so.

Hence, we are at an interesting crossroad. We managed to “solve” the Malthusian dilemma with the Green Revolution in technologies, which in turn increased population and consumption growth rates, while depleting natural resources (oil, natural gas, coal, fresh water, soil, stable climates) that made increased production possible.

A California farmer recently announced that he will leave his farmland fallow this year and sell his water rights; he can make more money selling water than growing rice. The price of a barrel of oil has reached $110 and probably headed toward $200 within a decade, given our rate of consumption. As recently as 2003, oil was $25 a barrel. Virtually every climatologist predicts that in the short term unstable climates—more droughts, floods and severe weather—will be the norm.

So we must ask ourselves, would it have been wiser to address the Malthusian dilemma by taking steps to keep human population growth in ecological harmony with the rest of the biotic community, rather than exploiting the planet’s resources to feed the world? It is too late to change history, but perhaps it is not too late to change our course if we act now. Continuing on our present track simply is not sustainable.

In his prescient 1938 cartoon, Ding Darling tried to call our attention to an important question (and title of his drawing): How rich will we be when we have converted all our forest, all our soil, all our water resources and minerals to cash?

There is simply no good reason to believe that the law of ecology can be suspended. Our insane preoccupation with maintaining growth, economic and human, ultimately will lead to our collapse as it does for all other species.

Instead of feeding the world regardless of the cost, we can begin bringing our population and consumption into equilibrium with the planet’s capacity to maintain its ecological health. We can do this through programs to that give resource-poor people access to education, make family planning methods affordable and available worldwide, and develop policies to discourage energy and material-intensive consumption. The irony is that we actually could improve our quality of life by taking this second path. We are finally realizing that working ourselves to a frenzy to consume a lot of stuff that we don’t need is not giving us the life we want.
Wakarusa Group Work Day at Baker Wetlands

The Wakarusa Group organized a service outing in the Baker Wetlands April 12. Participants ranged in age from 15-64. Besides Sierra Club members, participants included high school and KU students, members of Westar’s Green Team, and members of Jayhawk Audubon. There were 18 total participants. Participants were rewarded with gifts of compact fluorescent light bulbs. It was a very successful event with plans to stage another one in October.
Mark Your Calendar!

Kansas Wind & Renewable Energy Conference '08

Plan to Join Us in Topeka, Kansas
Tuesday, September 23 & Wednesday, September 24
Topeka Ramada Inn

Expanded Format: Two Full Days of Sessions & Trade Show

One of the nation's foremost climate experts, Dr. James Hansen, from NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, will keynote the 2008 event.

In addition to the general session speakers, the conference will feature breakout sessions on the following topics:

- **Renewable Energy** – including expanded discussion of wind generation opportunities as well as opportunities for solar, biofuels, and other alternative energy resources.
- **Energy Efficiency** – addressing a variety of energy conservation and efficiency issues for residential, commercial, and industrial sectors.
- **Educational Opportunities** – addressing curriculum at all educational levels to prepare teachers and individuals to meet the tremendous potential for careers in energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Energy Industry Trade Show will provide two full days to meet and network with industry representatives and others working in the growing field of renewable energy and energy efficiency.

With over 1,000 megawatts of wind generation capacity expected to be online in 2008, Kansas joins an elite group of states with renewable energy as a significant part of their electric generation portfolio.

**Now! Kansas Wind Resources Map & Solar Resources Map will make their debut at the Conference!**

Online registration available soon: [http://lee.ks.gov/](http://lee.ks.gov/)

Conference sponsorships are available:
Jim Ploger, Energy Programs Division, 785-271-3349; j.ploger@lee.ks.gov
Kanza Silent Auction
Another Great Success

By Craig Wolfe, Silent Auction Chair

The Kanza Group held its Silent Auction this year on May 2nd, and it proved, once again, to be a huge success. We have really found our stride when it comes to putting these together. We still have room for improvement, and the last few minutes before we opened the doors were harried, but in the end, it all came together. (None of the attendees were the any the wiser.) The event raised almost 50% more than last year’s Auction.

We held it this year at a great facility... the Lenexa Conference center, which is a converted barn. The City of Lenexa has really made this place our ideal location. So much so, that the following week, we reserved the location for next year’s event.

Bob Berkebile of BNIM Architects was our guest speaker. With our theme, Kansas Carbon Countdown: Meeting the Challenge, Bob discussed green architecture and its impact on fighting the effects of climate change. Bob will be a hard act to follow next year.

And, of course, a giant thank you goes to each and every volunteer, sponsor, donor, and attendee that made this event a success!!

Sierra Club thanks our Award Winners for their special dedication to the environment.

Left and Back Row
- Eileen Horn, for Climate and Energy Project (CEP): “No Coal in Kansas Award”
- Chris Cardinal, for Great Plains Alliance for Clean Energy (GPACE): “No Coal in Kansas Award”
- Julie Koppen and Greenability Magazine: “The Pen is Mightier than the Sword Award”
- Toby Grotz: “Activist of the Year Award”
- Richard Mabion: “Breaking the Silence Award”
- Bob Magness and South Metro Opposition Coalition (SMOC): “Leading the Leaders Award”
- Craig Volland: “Fearless and Tireless Leader Award”

Front Row
- Stephanie Cole: “Employee of the Year Award”
- Connie Chapman: “Local Activist Award for South Metro Opposition Coalition”
- Chuck Dehner: “Trails Protection Award”
Thank You to all who made our Silent Auction a Success!!

Thank You to our Sponsors

Baru Financial Services (Steve Baru)  Jeffrey Gorski
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Craig & Jamie Wolfe  Kimberly Reene
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Café Provence  Homespun Hill Farm
Carlson Center of Johnson County  Hot Mama Bakery
Community College  Its Only Natural
Carol Hartegan  J. Alexanders
Colosseum - Dave Mullen  J. Wilbur Co.
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Energy Savings Store  Living Streams Mission
Ernie Miller Nature Center  Local Burger
Events by Kirsten  Lowes of Roeland Park
Family Tree Nursery  M.E.O. Designs
First Watch  Macys Department Store
Fitness Together  Magic Touch Cleaning
Frank Man  Matt Nowak
Free State Brewery Company & Restaurant  Meyer Therapeutic Massage

Midland Radio  Mike & Pam Miller
Bruce Smith Drugs  Minsky’s Pizza
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Good Natured Family Farms  OTALPED LLC
Great Harvest Bread  Pie Lady Coffeehouse
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GreenTech Solutions  Quality Hill Playhouse
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Lenexa Car Wash  Unicorn Theatre
Linda Smith  Village Flower Company
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Magic Touch Cleaning  Wild Birds Unlimited
Matt Nowak  Yoga Studio
Meyer Therapeutic Massage

Some special moments on page 18
Frank Drinkwine and Lia Miller (daughter of Pam & Mike Miller) carefully select the winning raffle ticket of the Prairie Chicken in stained glass.

AND THE WINNER IS... an excited Kim Hanson, activist in True Blue Women, flaunts her prize to the loosers.

Pam and Mike Miller donated not only the raffle ticket picker, but the raffle prize as well.

Artwork from Margaret Hoffman depicted the theme of this year’s Silent Auction... Kansas Carbon Countdown: Meeting the Challenge. For our grandchildrens’ sakes, let’s hope we are successful.
Join the Wakarusa Group in a tour of a virgin prairie near Lecompton, home to 100s of plants and animals, including Mead’s milkweed and regal fritillary butterfly. Many plants should be in flower, so the prairie will be in its full, glorious splendor.

Frank Norman, local plant ecologist and life member of the Sierra Club, will lead the tour. He will talk about prairies in general and their management, point out plants that are present, and perhaps discuss their medicinal properties.

Bring your own drinking water and wear insect repellant if you are susceptible to chiggers! Light snacks will be provided. For more details/to reserve a spot, please contact Carey Maynard-Moody at careymm@sunflower.com or (785) 842-6517.

http://kansas.sierraclub.org/
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

Yvonne Cather*, Chair, Chapter Council, (316) 522-4741, yvonne.cather@kansas.sierraclub.org
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Carey Maynard-Moody*, ExCom Member, (785) 842-6517, careymn@kansas.sierraclub.org
Paul Post* ExCom Member, Topkea Group Rep, (785) 354-1972, paulpost@paulpost.com

Craig Wolfe*, Legislative Chair, (913) 384-2862, spease4kc@everestkc.net

Southwind Group (Wichita)
Dave Kirkbride*, Chair, Chapter/Group Rep, Newsletter Chair, (316) 945-0728, david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org
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Bill Cather Program Co-Chair, (316) 522-4741, bill.cather@kansas.sierraclub.org
Larry Ross** Outings Chair, Political Chair, Transportation Chair, (316) 685-5681, larryross7133@sbcglobal.net
Yvonne Cather**** Energy Chair, (316)522-4741, Yvonne.Cather@kansas.sierraclub.org
Barbara Kelner**** CAFO Chair, Corporate Accountability Chair, (316)722-5621

Topeka Group
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Jo Ann Van Meter, Conservation, (785) 234-3023, worrybeads@aol.com
Patsy Samson, Membership Chair, (785) 267-5368, patsy.samson@aging.state.ks.us
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Wakarusa Group (Lawrence)
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Flint Hills Group (Manhattan Area)
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Carol Bartu, Newsletter Editor, Program Chair, (785) 410-8608, snowsage54@hotmail.com

Kanza Group (Kansas City)
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Tom Thompson****, Political Chair, (913) 236-9161, tomthompson@sbglobal.net
Bob Wilshire****, Outings Chair, (913) 384-6645, rjwilshire@kc.rr.com

June / July 2008
General Meetings

General public is welcome to attend

**Flint Hills Group**
*(Manhattan)*

**General Information**
For information please call Scott Smith at 785-539-1973 anytime or email wizard13@cox.net.

**Kanza Group, (Kansas City)**

**June 10. 7:00 pm.**
**Are BioFuels Doing More Harm Than Good?**
7:00 pm - Come early, and we will have snacks and good conversation followed by our general meeting.
7:30 pm - Donn Teske, President of the Kansas Farmers Union, will help us get our arms around reality regarding biofuels. Is there too much of a blind rush to praise the plant-to-energy phenom as our energy savior? Some researchers, who once hailed biofuels as a strong solution for the energy/fuel crisis, are now viewing their recommendations in horror. Overland Park Lutheran Church, 7810 W. 79th Street. 8 blocks west of Metcalf at Lowell. Park on north side. Directions at www.kansas.sierraclub.org/kanzadirections.htm.
Craig Wolfe, (913) 299-4443, info@kansas.sierraclub.org

**Kanza Group (Kansas City)**

**July - No Meeting**

**Southwind Group (Wichita)**

**June & July - Watch for your postcards**

**Topeka Group**

**June 24. 7:00 pm.**
**Monarch Watch**
Chip Taylor with Monarch Watch will be our speaker. Monarch Watch is an educational outreach program that engages citizen scientists in large-scale research projects designed to study the migration and life cycle of Monarch butterflies in Kansas and throughout North America. Monarch Watch is part of the Kansas Biological Survey. Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 SW 10th Avenue. Optional dinner at Annie’s Place Restaurant in Gage Center is at 5:30. Paul Post, (785) 354-1972, paulpost@paulpost.com

**Topeka Group**

**July 22. 7:00 pm.**
**Movie Night**
A film will be chosen in advance by Topeka Group members. Possibilities include “An Inconvenient Truth,” “The End of Oil,” “A Crude Awakening,” and “Who Killed the Electric Car?” Stay tuned! Topeka and Shawnee County Library, 1515 SW 10th Avenue. Optional dinner at Annie’s Place Restaurant is at 5:30. Paul Post, (785) 354-1972, 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

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Create an Environmental Legacy.

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

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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

June / July 2008
Sierra Club Outings

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.

Southwind Hike at the Tallgrass National Prairie Preserve
Springtime in the Tallgrass Prairie, 6-mile backcountry hike at Tallgrass National Prairie Preserve with overnight tent camping at YMCA Camp Wood, Reservations required by May 24, $6 camping fee., Southwind. Ellie Skokan, (316) 744-0033, ellie_skokan@yahoo.com

[1] Jun 7. 9:00 am. Hiking the Tall Grass Prairie
Flint Hills Group’s next outing will take place on Saturday, June 7. We will meet at the Tall Grass Prairie National Preserve Headquarters building at 9:00 am for a day of hiking the back country trails. The hike is a moderate 6.4 mile loop offering visitors an intimate view of the tall grass prairie ecosystem. The brochure promises, “Scenic vistas, prairie grasses, wildflowers, wildlife, and rugged terrain may be experienced along the new backcountry day hiking trails.” There is no limit on the size of the group, but please contact Carol or Scott to sign up.. Flint Hills. Carol Barta, (785) 410-8608, snow sage54@hotmail.com, or Scott Smith, (785) 539-1973, wizard13@cox.net

Kill Creek has as many as 200 plant species on a 20-acre remnant that has never been plowed. See how many you can identify. $5 donation requested.. Kanza. Mike Miller, (913) 362-2600, mrmiller1@mindspring.com

Join us in a tour of a local, unplowed, tallgrass prairie that is home to 100s of plants and animals, including the federally protected Mead’s milkweed and regal fritillary butterfly. Many plants should be in flower, so the prairie will be in its full, glorious splendor. Frank Norman, local plant ecologist and life member of the Sierra Club, will lead the tour. He will talk about prairies in general and their management, point out plants that are present, and perhaps discuss their medicinal properties. The land also includes native prairie, CRP prairie, woods and a stream. Bring your own drinking water and wear insect repellent if you are susceptible to chiggers! Light snacks will be provided.. Wakarusa. Carey Maynard-Moody, (785) 842-6517, careymm@kansas.sierraclub.org

Curbside Recycling
Coming to Kansas City, Kansas

As part of Mayor Reardon’s Green Initiative, Kansas City, Kansas will be implementing a new curbside recycling program scheduled to begin the week of June 23 through June 27, 2008. Curbside recycling bins will be picked up each week the same day as the resident’s trash day.

All homes, up to a four-plex, who receive residential trash service from Deffenbaugh, who reside in Kansas City, Kansas will have curbside recycling available to them. This program does not include apartments or businesses.

Residents must have a green recycling bin in order for them to participate in curbside recycling. Residents are able to pickup a free recycling bin. If you don’t have your green BPU coupon you need to show your driver’s license or some Kansas City, Kansas ID at the following temporary locations in June 2008 to get your recycling bin:

- Recycling Center, 3241 Park Dr., Thursdays and Saturdays from 8 am to 1 pm and Fridays and Sundays from 11 am to 4 pm.
- Neighborhood Resource Center at Liveable Neighborhoods in the lower level of Indian Springs, 4601 State Avenue, Monday-Friday, 8 am. to 5 pm.
- Rosedale Development Association, 1403 S. Blvd. Monday-Friday 9 am. to 5 pm.
- North East Business Association at Turner House, 2052 N. 3rd Street, Tuesday thru Thursday from 10 am to 3 pm.
- Buz’s Mufflers, 5030 Leavenworth Rd. Monday thru Friday, 8 am to 5 pm.
- UG Annex, 8200 State Avenue using western entrance. Monday-Friday 8 am. to 5 pm.
- Turner Recreation Commission, 831 S. 55th, Monday-Thursday 8 am to 8:30 pm., Fridays 8 am to 5 pm. and Saturdays 10 am to 2 pm.
## Committee Meetings

### Kanza Group  
(Kansas City)  
**Executive Committee**  
Jun 24, Jul 22 - 7:00 pm,  
Frank Drinkwine, (913) 385-0385, frank.drinkwine@kansas.sierraclub.org  
**Joint Action Committee**  
Jun 24, Jul 22 - 7:00 pm,  
Conservation, legislative, and political  
Craig Lubow, (913) 299-6620, craig.lubow@kansas.sierraclub.org

### Southwind Group  
(Wichita)  
**Executive and Fundraising Committee**  
TBA - 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 Planning**  
TBA - 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, TBA.  
Paul Post, (785) 354-1972, paulpost@paulpost.com  
**Energy Committee,** Jun 12, Jul 10 - 7:15 pm, Classic Bean, Fairlawn Plaza Shopping Cntr, 2225 SW Fairlawn Plaza Dr  
Phil Morse (785) 273-3614, p.morse@sbcglobal.net

### Kansas Chapter:  
(State), Executive Committee, July 19 (location TBA)  
Yvonne Cather (316) 522-4741, yvonne.cather@kansas.sierraclub.org

**Wyandotte County Museum**, 631 N. 126th Street, (Located in Wyandotte County Park) Monday-Saturday, 8 am to 5 pm.  
In July there will also be some permanent sites identified in which residents can pickup a curbside recycling bin on an on-going basis.  
When curbside recycling begins, place your recyclables in your green recycling bin and place the bin at the curb weekly on your regularly scheduled trash day. The green recycling bin signals the truck to stop, as Deffenbaugh will have two trucks running on trash day: one for trash and the other for recycling. The recycling trucks will look similar to trash trucks; but all recyclables will be picked up together at the curb and taken to a facility where they are separated and processed. This is called single stream recycling.  
You do not have to separate your recyclables, just place all your recyclables into the same green bin, this makes it easy and convenient for you. There is no limit on how much you recycle.  
Once curbside starts, we will be picking up paper, paperboard, plastic containers labeled #1 and #2, aluminum and steel cans, and corrugated cardboard. Please separate your green recycling bin 3-4 feet from your garbage if possible.  
Examples of paper that will be picked up will be newspapers (including inserts and ads), office paper, junk mail, magazines, and catalogues. You can place your paper recyclables into a paper sack, not a plastic bag, and place it in or to next to the recycling bin each week. Using paper sacks will help to prevent blowing paper.  
Paperboard refers to the packaging material used to make cereal, cracker, beverage, shoe boxes, etc. Breakdown your paperboard and place them in your bin or in a paper grocery bag along with your newspapers, paper, junk mail and magazines for your convenience.  
We will only be collecting plastics labeled #1 or #2. Examples of PETE #1 plastic are bottles for soft drinks, water, juice, sports drinks, mouthwash, catsup, and salad dressing as well as food jars for peanut butter, jelly, jam and pickles. Examples of HDPE #2 plastic are bottles used for milk, water, juice, cosmetics, shampoo, dish and laundry detergents. A rule of thumb for plastic is that the container must have a threaded neck with a cap that screws on. Please remove all lids or caps and throw lids & caps into the garbage.  
Empty beverage aluminum cans are accepted for collection. You should rinse out the cans and flatten the aluminum cans before putting them into your recycling bin. Empty soup, fruit, vegetable, food, and beverage steel cans are also accepted. Please rinse and clean the steel cans and place the lid inside the can and crimp close before placing them into your recycling bin.  
Corrugated cardboard refers to shipping boxes that have the “wavy middle layer”. Boxes should be flattened and cut to pieces no larger than 2 feet by 2 feet. Place on ground under the bin and fold and stuff multiple boxes into one box and set next to the bin.  
Some items that will not be accepted with the curbside program is no glass; no plastic bags; no margarine or yogurt cups; no shredded paper; no hardback or soft back books; no pizza boxes; no tissue; no paper towels; no paper plates; no Styrofoam; no disposable diapers; no plastic cups, no tableware; no motor oil containers.  
For more information feel free to contact 311 or visit the website at www.wycokck.org for curbside recycling.
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 21, Outings page 22, and Committee Meetings page 23. For the latest update on events, go to www.kansas.sierraclub.org/EventsSearch.htm.

CM TBA. 6:30pm. Conservation Committee Meeting. Southwind. Ellie Skokan, (316) 744-0033, ellie_skokan@yahoo.com
Out Jun 1. Contact Ellie Skokan for details. Southwind Hike at the Tallgrass National Prairie Preserve. Southwind. Ellie Skokan, (316) 744-0033, ellie_skokan@yahoo.com
CM TBA. 7:00pm. Planning committee meeting. Wakarusa. Carey Maynard-Moody, (785) 842-6517, careymmm@kansas.sierraclub.org
CM Jun 1. 5:00pm. Southwind ExCom Meeting. Southwind. Dave Kirkbride, (316) 945-0728, david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org
Out Jun 7. 9:00am. Hiking the Tall Grass Prairie. Flint Hills. Carol Barta, (785) 410-8608, snowsage54@hotmail.com, or Scott Smith, (785) 539-1973, wizard13@cox.net
GM Jun 10. 7:00pm. Are BioFuels Doing More Harm Than Good?. Kanza. Craig Wolfe, (913) 299-4443, info@kansas.sierraclub.org
CM Jun 12. 7:15pm. Energy Committee. Topeka. Phil Morse (785) 273-3614, p.morse@sbcglobal.net
Out Jun 14. Tallgrass Prairie Walk, Olathe, KS. Kanza. Mike Miller, (913) 362-2600, mrmiller1@mindspring.com
CM Jun 24. 7:00pm. Kanza ExCom meeting. Kanza. Frank Drinkwine, (913) 385-0385, frank.drinkwine@kansas.sierraclub.org
CM Jun 24. 7:00pm. Conservation and Joint Action Committee. Kanza. Craig Lubow, (913) 299-6620, craig.lubow@kansas.sierraclub.org
GM Jun 24. 7:00pm. Monarch Watch. Topeka. Paul Post, (785) 354-1972, paulpost@paulpost.com
Out Jun 28. 9:00am. Splendor in The Grass: Prairie Tour. Wakarusa. Carey Maynard-Moody, (785) 842-6517, careymmm@kansas.sierraclub.org
CM TBA. 7:00pm. Planning committee meeting. Wakarusa. Carey Maynard-Moody, (785) 842-6517, careymmm@kansas.sierraclub.org
CM TBA. 6:30pm. Conservation Committee Meeting. Southwind. Ellie Skokan, (316) 744-0033, ellie_skokan@yahoo.com
CM Jun 24. 7:00pm. Southwind ExCom Meeting. Southwind. Dave Kirkbride, (316) 945-0728, david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org
Out Jun 28. 9:00am. Splendor in The Grass: Prairie Tour. Wakarusa. Carey Maynard-Moody, (785) 842-6517, careymmm@kansas.sierraclub.org
GM Jun 30. 9:00am. Conservation and Joint Action Committee. Kanza. Craig Lubow, (913) 299-6620, craig.lubow@kansas.sierraclub.org
GM Jul 6. 6:00pm. Southwind ExCom Meeting. Southwind. Dave Kirkbride, (316) 945-0728, david.kirkbride@kansas.sierraclub.org
CM Jul 10. 7:15pm. Energy Committee. Topeka. Phil Morse (785) 273-3614, p.morse@sbcglobal.net
CM Jul 19. 9:00am. Chapter ExCom Meeting. Chapter. Yvonne Cather, 316-522-4741, yvonne.cather@kansas.sierraclub.org
CM Jul 22. 7:00pm. Conservation and Joint Action Committee. Kanza. Craig Lubow, (913) 299-6620, craig.lubow@kansas.sierraclub.org
GM Jul 22. 7:00pm. Movie Night. Topeka. Paul Post, (785) 354-1972, paulpost@paulpost.com
CM Jul 22. 7:00pm. Kanza ExCom meeting. Kanza. Frank Drinkwine, (913) 385-0385, frank.drinkwine@kansas.sierraclub.org

Deadline for the next issue is July 15

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