



Baltimore Sierran

Serving Baltimore City, Baltimore County & Harford County • Summer 2004

Greater Baltimore Club is on the Move

By David Hutchinson

2004 is bringing a wave of new energy to the Greater Baltimore Group of the Sierra Club. It's not just a statement, it's coming in actions. We are experiencing waves of new volunteer interest and local group dedication that hasn't been seen in years. As exciting as this seems, we still need your help to make this one of the best years on record. It's not about hard work, but rather rewarding volunteering that's enjoyable and fun.

The Second Monday of the month May through November from 7:30 – 9:00 pm, we will be holding general meetings. Each will be focused around an issue with guest speakers and presentations. The first meet-

ing on May 10, 2004 the topic will be: Who is the Sierra Club? Also included will be information and how you can become involved to make the environment and community better. Since this is YOUR club we'll decide the future topics based on feedback from meeting attendees.

We will begin holding monthly general meetings in May through November, so you can meet some of the 3,500 plus Greater Baltimore Sierra Club Group members. We want you there; also invite your friends, neighbors, and family. Get ready Sierra Club members for fun, friends and progress in the Baltimore area.

Action Alert Saving Harford Co. Open Space

Ask County Council Members to Support Creating an Agricultural Resource District

By Rich Norling

In 1993 Harford County adopted a Rural Plan that included primary goals to preserve and promote the rural character of the County and to direct development away from the prime agricultural areas of the County. But unfortunately the amount of development in the rural areas is increasing to the point where it is interfering with farmers' ability to continue farming.

The Harford County Council is now considering a draft Master Plan that is intended to guide the county for the next 8 to 10 years. If agriculture is to continue in Harford County, the draft Master Plan must be amended to state very strongly the intention to protect agriculture outside the development envelope. Now is the time to recognize the public importance of maintaining a critical mass of agricultural land in

an Agricultural Resource District to provide for the continued viability of farming and agricultural uses and promote the rural character of the land outside of the County's planned Development Envelope.

Once the policy of protecting agriculture has been set in the Master Plan, the County Council will be able to consider several ways to implement it, including increasing the county's purchase of development rights program, allowing farmers to transfer development rights to land that is zoned for development, or changing the uses allowed by the zoning code in rural areas. But none of those things are likely to happen unless the Council agrees to amend the Master Plan to create an Agricultural Resource District. Please urge your Council members to create an Agricultural Resource District now! Contact information for Council members follows.

Robert S. Wagner Council Pres. 410-638-3522 • Dion F. Guthrie District A 410-638-3521 • Veronica "Roni" Chenowith Dist.B 410-638-3520 • Robert G. Cassilly District C 410-638-3523 • Lance C. Miller District D 410-638-3524 • Richard C. Slutzky District E 410-638-3525 • Cecelia M. Stepp District F 410-638-3526

Executive Committee Elections

The Greater Baltimore Group of the Sierra Club is governed by a nine-member Executive Committee (ExCom). We each serve two-year terms. In the last issue of the Baltimore Sierran we asked for the nomination of Sierra Club members who could help us build upon our many past successes by serving on the ExCom. Following are biographies for the five nominees who stepped forward. Please use the ballot below to vote for the nominee(s) you think would make good ExCom members.

Robert Burchard has been a member of the Greater Baltimore ExCom for 1.5 years. He is the co-founder and Chair of Baltimore Inner City Outings, a community outreach program of the Sierra Club that has provided 150 educational, outdoor experiences to under served Baltimore youngsters in the past five years. He was an activist in Friends of Patapsco and continues to write environmental advocacy letters to decision makers. Bob received a B.A. & M.Sc. in Biology from Brown U. and a Ph.D. in Microbiology from the U. of Minnesota, served as a Peace Corps Volunteer at the U. of Ife in Nigeria, and retired as Professor Emeritus from the faculty of UMBC after 34 years of teaching, research and administration. He continues

to teach microbiology part-time. He has participated in several Sierra Club backpacking and service outings.

Ron Henry has been active in the Greater Baltimore Group's efforts to preserve Harford County farm and forestland. As a member of the Group Executive Committee, Ron would continue to pursue this issue along with population and raising environmental awareness in general. Ron has been a member of a number of kindred groups for more than ten years: Friends of Harford, the Rails-To-Trails Conservancy, and the Appalachian Mountain Club. He grew up on a Harford County farm and has

(Continued p. 2)

Save 73,000 Farm/Forest Acres in 15-Minutes

By Richard Klein

The Baltimore County Council is considering proposals to rezone more than a hundred square miles of rural lands. Presently, much of these 73,000 acres of farm and forest lands are zoned for one house per 1.5-acres. If the Council approves the requested zoning change, then development density would drop to just one house for every ten to fifty acres! This action would permanently preserve the quality of nearly 300 miles of some of our most sensitive waters. This is 30% of all the waters in Baltimore County! These waters support

threatened and endangered species as well as highly sensitive brook and brown trout communities.

The Baltimore County Council has not considered a rezoning proposal of this magnitude since the 1970s. As you can imagine, the development community is vigorously opposing this move. So if we are to preserve open space and our most important aquatic resources, we urgently need your help. To further illustrate how vital it is that all Sierrans act today, consider this. During the first round of hearings, about 1,400

(Continued p. 2)

**Greater Baltimore
Group
Sierra Club**

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Owings Mills, Maryland 21117
410-654-3021 • 800-773-4571
Fax 410-654-3028
GBSierra@ceds.org

Bob Burchard
Inner City Outings Chair
410-744-0510
burchard@umbc.edu

Doug Gaede
Webmaster
410-686-3232
doug@gae.de.net

Ron Henry
Harford County representative
410-838-9119
ronlhenry@msn.com

Richard Klein
Group Chair & Conservation Chair
410-654-3021
GBSierra@ceds.org

Patrick McMahon
Transportation Chair
410-235-1512
patrick@mcmahon.com

John Railey
Treasurer
410-752-0104
JRailey@cgyard.uscg.mil

Cliff Terry
Political Chair & Population Chair
410-944-9477
ckterry@bcpl.net

Jack Wise
Outings Chair
410-256-3963
Hikingjack@hotmail.com

Executive Committee Elections (continued from p. 1)

worked at Aberdeen Proving Grounds for 40 years, currently as a physical scientist. Ron is serving as a Native American apprentice. He and his wife Sue have been active in Girl Scouting, the Harford County Recreation Council, and the United Methodist Church for many years.

David Hutchinson. At the end of December 2003, I moved up to Baltimore County from Lexington, KY. I was prepared to become deeply embedded within the environmental community. Serving on the chapter and group ex-com in Kentucky I was prepared to get involved, to meet new friends and make a huge impact on the environment. While it was like leaving a family of organized environmentalists, I was hopeful Maryland would greet me with the same hospitality and friendship that I had received in Kentucky. To my dismay the Greater Baltimore Group had more outings than I could ever possibly get involved with, but lacked the community service, education, outreach, and atmosphere that I originally had become a member for back home. It was confusing that the entire state of Kentucky with 4,000 Sierra Club members was more active and connected than the 3,000 plus members in the Greater Baltimore Group that lived within the same county area.

I am running for this ex-com for three main reasons. The first reason is I'm passionate to begin organizing monthly general meetings and regular sub-committee meetings to get new people involved in the Sierra Club at every level from outings, political, conservation, membership, transportation, inner city outings, sierra student coalition, and anything else. The second item is I want to begin organize service activities that help out the Baltimore area. While state and national issues are important, there is no reason someone has to drive 45 minutes to make a positive difference. The third and final reason I'm running for ex-com is I have the time, skills, dedication, creativity and leadership to make the Greater Baltimore Group the best Sierra Club group in the state. I hope you cast your votes for me in April, because there is so much we could be doing better. Thanks!

Patrick McMahon has been a Sierra Club member since 1995 and directed the Sierra Club's door-to-door canvassing operation in Rhode Island during 1994 and 1995. He received his B.A. in Political Science from Colorado College and his Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from UNC-Chapel Hill. Patrick is a resident of Baltimore City and works for the Neighborhood Design Center providing planning assistance to community-based organizations. He has served on CPHA's Transportation Committee for the past two years and recently helped draft the Greater Baltimore Group's comments on the Baltimore Regional Rail System Plan. As a member of the Executive Committee, Patrick would like to help the Group use its clout to improve bus and rail mass transit throughout the region.

John Railey has been a member of the Greater Baltimore Group of the Sierra Club for over twenty-five years. He is an Outings Leader, and served as the Chairperson for the Group's Outing Committee from 1983 to 1997. In 1990, John became Outings Chairperson for the Maryland Chapter, and continues to serve in that capacity. In addition, he is the Greater Baltimore Group's representative to the Maryland Chapter Executive Committee, and serve as the Group's treasurer, as well as a member of the Group's Executive Committee. John is asking that you to reelect me to another term on the Group Excom. He believes that the Greater Baltimore Group should be a voice for reason; working for a cleaner, healthier, wildlife-friendly environment.

Executive Committee Ballot

Please provide your name and address below then check the box next to the candidate(s) for which you wish to vote. Since there are five vacancies you may check the box next to all five candidates. Mail your ballot to

Greater Baltimore Sierra Club
8100 Greenspring Valley Road
Owings Mills, MD 21117

- Robert Burchard
 Ron Henry
 David Hutchinson

- Patrick McMahon
 John Railey

Your Name _____

Address _____

Old Growth Forest at Liberty, Loch Raven and Prettyboy Reservoirs?

By Richard Klein

Nearly 40 people participated in the Sierra Club's Prettyboy Forest Stewardship Hike on March 13th. The purpose of the hike was to discuss a plan released last year, A Comprehensive Forest Conservation Plan for Long-Term Watershed Protection on the City of Baltimore's Reservoirs. This plan sets forth a number of measures for managing the 17,580 acres of forest adjoining the three reservoirs - Liberty, Loch Raven and Prettyboy. The plan can be viewed at the following City website: http://ctyservices.baltimorecity.gov/dpw/waterwastewater03/watershed_fcp/cfcp2004.pdf

During the March 13th hike we visited several forest stands above Prettyboy Reservoir to discuss how each would be managed based upon the plan. A similar hike has been scheduled for the Loch Raven area; details are provided below.

Among those present for the March 13th hike were DNR Watershed Forester Rob Northrop, the author of the plan, Maryland Sierra Club Conservation Chair Dan Boone, who is a widely respected forest biologist, and City Watershed Manager Gene Scarpulla. Also present were Sierra Club members and representatives of other citizen groups involved in this issue. Based upon the discussion between the three forest/watershed-management experts, the citizen group representatives drafted a set of preliminary recommendations for improving upon the plan. These preliminary recommendations are presented below so

all Greater Baltimore Sierrans may offer their input. After we receive your input we'll forward the recommendations to City and DNR officials. To let us know your thoughts on these recommendations contact Richard Klein at 410.654.3021 or GBSierra@ceds.org.

Old Growth Forest

Presently, the plan does not call for managing any of the 17,580 acres of reservoir forest to mature into old-growth forest. At a minimum, half the reservoir woodlands should be managed to restore and maintain old-growth forest conditions. This special habitat should be delineated so as to create and protect forest-interior conditions within patches that are as large and as contiguous as possible (i.e., identify and designate as future old-growth forest those tracts that provide the largest acreage with the smallest edge-to-area ratio).

Determining the Cause of Seedling Paucity

In many parts of the forest there appears to be a severe paucity of young tree seedlings. This may be due to excessive deer populations grazing down seedlings or to some other cause. To determine the precise cause the plan calls for establishing about two dozen, one-acre areas where ex-

isting forest will be cut so scientists can monitor natural regeneration. Half-acre exclosures will also be established to see the effect on regeneration when deer are excluded. Both study types should be established as soon as possible so we can learn the cause of the apparent lack of tree regeneration (e.g., seedlings). It is crucial that the cuttings and exclosures be located and paired in a way that yields the most meaningful data possible.

Postpone Logging Until Seedling & Regeneration Studies Are Completed

Significant tree removal should not occur until the regeneration/exclosure experiments are fully completed. The word "sig-



Baltimore City Watershed Manager Gene Scarpulla opens the March Prettyboy Forest Stewardship hike with a description of the City's forest management goals.

Save 73,000 Farm/Forest Acres in 15-Minutes (Continued from p. 1)

people commented on the rezonings. We have nearly 1,800 members in Baltimore County. If all of us take the following action, then we could be the decisive factor in saving 300 miles of waterways and 73,000 acres of open space!

If you are a Baltimore County resident, contact your County Council representative TODAY and urge support for the rural land downzonings proposed for the second and third Councilmatic districts.

To determine which council district you live in look either at your voter registration card or view the map posted at <http://www.baltimorecountycouncil.org>

This June the Council will hold hearings throughout the County. The two most important hearings are for the second and third districts. These hearings are scheduled for

June 8th, Second District, beginning 7:00 at Pikesville High School, 7621 Labyrinth Road, off Smith Avenue; and

June 17th, Third District, beginning 7:00 pm at Loch Raven High School located on Cromwell Valley Rd. at Cowpens Ave.

Please plan on attending and presenting your testimony in support of downzonings proposed for each district. To view all the hearing dates and locations go to http://www.co.ba.md.us/Agencies/planning/zoning/county_council_hearing_sched.html

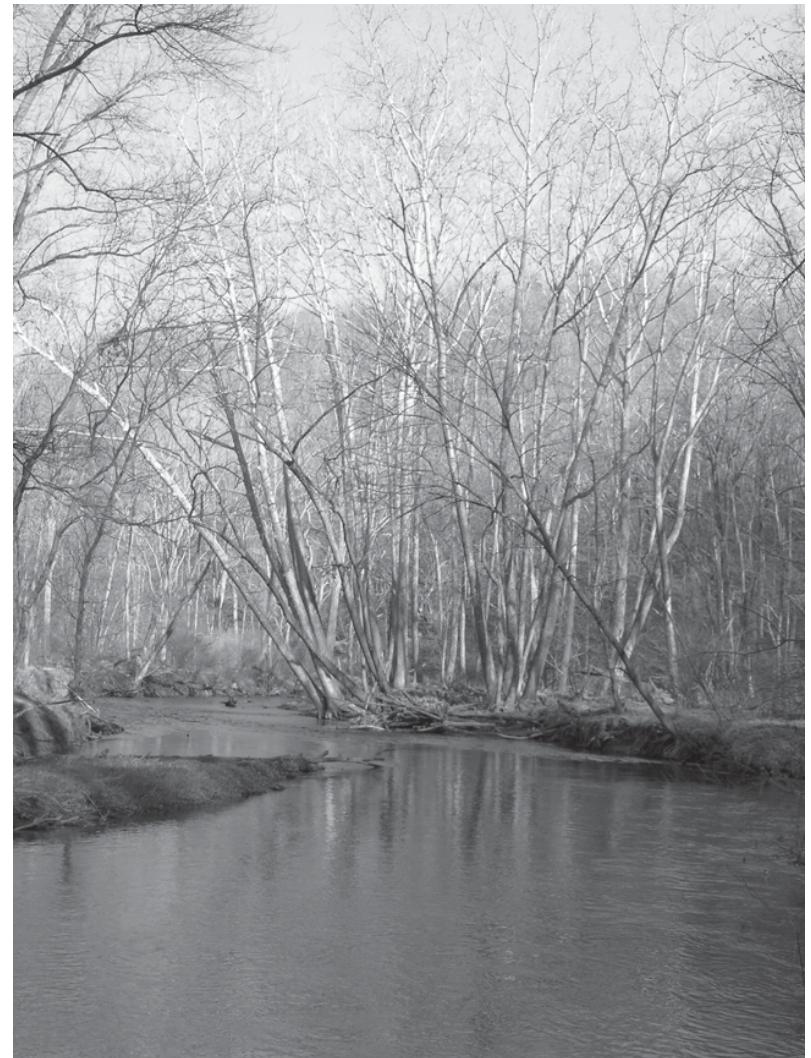
For further detail on the 44 issues involving downzoning of rural lands see the Greater Baltimore Sierra Club report *Preserving Baltimore County's Sensitive Aquatic Resources Through Zoning Adjustments*. View this report on the Greater Baltimore Sierra Club website <http://maryland.sierraclub.org/baltimore/index.html>

View the lands affected by each of the 44 zoning issues at the Baltimore Co. website <http://www.co.ba.md.us/Agencies/myneighborhood/zoning.html>.

Scroll to the bottom of the page, click on "I Agree", then scroll down to the bottom of the next window and click on "Create Map". A map of Baltimore County will then appear. The blue stars you see on the map are for each zoning issue. With the "Zoom In" tool you can see the land area affected by each issue.



This northern Baltimore County wetland supports threatened-endangered species and is one of many aquatic resources benefitting from the proposed downzoning.



The Big Gunpowder is ranked among America's 100 top trout streams and would benefit immensely from the proposed downzoning.

Baltimore County residents should contact your County Council representative TODAY and urge support for the rural land downzonings proposed for the second and third Councilmatic districts.

Following is contact information for all seven Council members

Baltimore County Council
Old Courthouse, Room 205
400 Washington Ave.
Towson, Maryland 21204
410-887-3196
Email: baltcc@comcast.net
Fax: (410) 887-5791

Make the Right Choice, Vote in November

By David Hutchinson

Surveys have revealed a troubling trend: Sierra Club members do not vote in statistically greater numbers than the general public. What's even worse is that the environment is not one of the top issues when choosing a candidate.

Why it may not seem that one voice can make a difference in state or national elections, it does. Just imagine the changes that may have happened if only a few Sierra Club voters in Florida had voiced their opinion in the 2000 presidential election. One vote can even decide a winner in local races.

It's not just about voting that makes a statement. It's making an informed decision that ing an informed decision that makes the statement. Even if the environment is not your top priority for electing people, you can consider it by looking up voting records at the League of Conservation. It will give you a rating based on critical environmental legislation they have passed or rejected. Also the Sierra Club Maryland Chapter makes informed recommendations on which candidate is the best for the environment.

This election, make an informed statement. Let's elect the most environmentally friendly politicians on record!

Club is on the Move (Cont. from p. 1)

Monthly meetings will be held at the East Towson Carver Community Center the second Monday of the month May through November from 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm. The center is located in Towson at the corner of Jefferson and Lennox Avenue near downtown Towson. New, old and potential members are welcome.

From the 695 Beltway take the Dulaney Valley exit towards Towson. Dulaney Valley will end at a roundabout; go straight through past the mall onto York Road. Past the Towson Library turn left onto Towsontown Blvd. Take the second left onto Jefferson Avenue and the Carver Center is at the corner of Lennox and Jefferson Avenue. Parking is available on the street, or there is a parking lot in front of the facility. For any additional directions or questions contact David Hutchinson at (410) 683-8918. Look forward to meeting you all in person!

Can we contact you once a month by e-mail about urgent opportunities to preserve open space, forests, air quality, improving transit, and other issues?

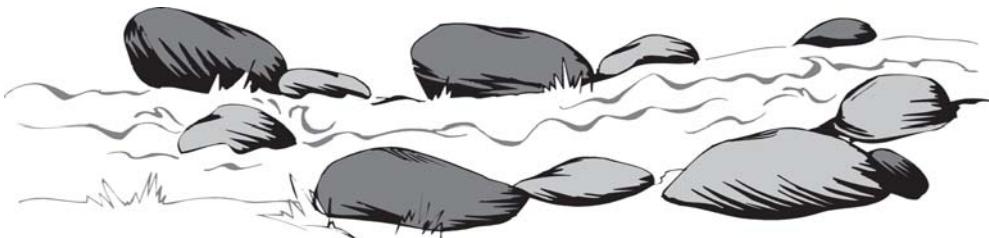
**If yes, send an e-mail to
GBSierra@ceds.org and put “Email Alerts” in the subject area.**

Loch Raven Forest Stewardship Hike

Saturday, June 19th, 9 am



**Loch Raven
Drive at Morgan
Mill Road**



**Want to Help Take Back the
White House, Preserve
74,000 Acres of Open Space
And Save 300 Miles of Streams?**

Attend our monthly action meetings at

East Towson Carver Community Center,

at the corner of Jefferson and Lennox Avenue in Towson

7:30 – 9:00 pm, 2nd Monday of the month

June 14 • July 12 • August 9 • September 13 • October 11 • November 8

Prettyboy Watershed Celebration

On Saturday, May 22nd, the Prettyboy Watershed Coalition will celebrate the Prettyboy Watershed and share information on how residents can protect it. The celebration will run from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Genesee Valley Outdoor Learning Center, Rayville Road, off Middletown Road. The program includes educational displays, hands on fun activities for all ages including challenge games, nature walks, hay rides, history presentations, and live music.

For further information contact event coordinator Mare Cromwell at 410-448-3679.

**New Member Hike, Meeting &
Native American Flute Concert
Oregon Ridge Nature Center
Tuesday, June 8th, 7:00 pm
(see Outings notice for details)**



Jan Seiden

*"The flute offers a voice through which the soul can sing.
It gives us the gift of bearing the essential wisdom of our souls."*

Outings (continued from p. 8)

Wed. June 30 GB–Outings Committee Meeting

Come plan new outings and meet other outings leaders. New and prospective outings leaders welcome. 6:30 PM. Jack:410-256-3963.

July 2004

Sun.July 3 GB – Gunpowder Tube Trip.

Wear old shoes or water shoes and have a way to keep keys from falling out of your pocket. Bring a tube or rent one at Monkton Bike Shop. Meet at Monkton Station at 1:00 PM. Jack: 410-256-3963

Sat.July 17 GB – Moderate. Caledonia/Michaoux Forest, PA

7.5 mile hike through a forest of towering hemlocks, a forest of deciduous trees and along free-

flowing mountain streams bordered by rhododendron. Circuit hike will include parts of Locust Gap and Hosack Run Trails and Quarry Gap portion of Appalachian Trail with 800 foot change in elevation. Bring lunch and water. Meet at Park & Ride just north of I-70 on Route 32 at 8:30 AM. Ron 410-767-0106

August 2004

Anytime Aug. GB – Gunpowder River Tubing Trip

Bring a tube or rent one at Monkton Station. Wear old sneakers or water shoes and have a way of keeping your keys from falling out of your pocket. Cool weather alternative will be a hike. Meet at Monkton Station at 1:00 PM. For details call Jack at 410-256-3963.

Old Growth Forest at Liberty, Loch Raven and Prettyboy Reservoirs? (Continued from p. 3)

nificant" is defined as the removal of more than 100 acres of trees within a period of 3 years. Tree removal should be limited to "Hazard Trees" along roads, utility lines, and public use areas, until the experiments are fully completed. The proposed larger-scale regeneration cuttings should be postponed until the enclosure and regeneration experiments are completed and the results clearly show that regeneration cuttings would be beneficial.

Clearly Identify Pine Stands Requiring Management

The plan states that some 1,330 acres of forest are dominated by Virginia pine and are in a location where these trees are susceptible to blow-down come high winds. Based upon the March 13th hike, it looks like this area may be considerably smaller than 1,330 acres. Therefore, we recommend that areas of Virginia pines considered for management using strip-shelterwood silvicultural treatment should be clearly delineated. While large areas of reservoir forests contain Virginia pine, it appears that a relatively small acreage contains this species at sufficient density and with sufficient susceptibility to high winds to warrant this management practice. Again, these areas should be clearly delineated.

Nutrient Control Through Forest Management

The plan calls for establishing 100- to 150-foot strips adjoining nutrient sources (e.g. crop fields) where forests will be managed in an aggrading condition to reduce nutrient releases into the reservoirs. The "aggrading condition" would be achieved by cutting the forest strips every hundred years or so. The proposed locations for these strips should be clearly defined. The anticipated water quality benefits should be quanti-

fied with appropriate reference to the scientific studies supporting the benefit projections. For example, the USEPA Chesapeake Bay Program model shows that an acre of crop field releases about four pounds of phosphorus per year while an acre of forest releases 1/80th this amount (0.05 lbs/acre/yr). The plan should clearly show and document the reduction in cropland nutrient releases achieved if aggrading forest strips are placed downgrade.

Forest Roads & Water Quality

Reservoir roads should be upgraded to minimize erosion and other water quality impacts and to preserve access. At a minimum these roads should comply with Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) regulations.

Reducing Forest Road Mileage

The mileage of reservoir roads should be reduced to the lowest necessary to maintain access for fire suppression and other management purposes. Roads taken out of service should be converted to a natural condition as quickly as possible.

Recreation & Forest Health

The Greater Baltimore Sierra Club and other groups should initiate discussions with the City regarding the following recreation related issues.

Road Closures: The plan contains a recommendation to close 53 miles of forest roads. Some of these roads may serve as existing recreation trails. We would like to see them evaluated for passive recreation use should they be closed to vehicular traffic.

User Fees to Fund Forest Enhancement: The plans calls for requiring that all recreational users obtain permits. We see merit in this recommendation as well as potential difficulties. Permits could gener-

ate desperately needed funds for trail maintenance, trail user education and other forest management activities. We envision a permit system, similar to that applied at some State parks where users pay a per car fee at trailhead parking areas. This system seems to work quite well.

Recreation User Education: Launching the proposed workshops and other measures to educate recreational users on how to enjoy the forests without harming the ecosystem and water quality and, possibly, assisting in establishing the proposed user-group kiosks, signing the road system, and in recovering property boundaries.

Hire A Forest Ecologist: A forest ecologist should be hired to oversee the implementation of the preceding steps and to expand the existing plan so that it is clear that substantial tree removal is incompatible with the primary goal of preserving reservoir water quality.

Power lines: The plan should be expanded to address power lines, gas lines and other utility lines passing through reservoir for-

ests. The potential environmental effects should be identified and options presented for minimizing each impact. New utility corridors should not pass through reservoir forests.

If you'd like to see some of these forest issues first hand, then please join us for a second Forest Stewardship Hike, which will be held on Saturday, June 19, beginning 9:00 a.m. at the orange gate at Loch Raven Drive and Morgan Mill Road. Parking is available along Loch Raven Drive north of Morgan Mill. The three forest experts (Dan, Gene and Rob) who led the Prettyboy hike will lead this one too. For further details contact Richard at 410-654-3021 or GBSierra@ceds.org.

In closing we'd like to thank the City of Baltimore and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources for supporting the March 13th hike and our ongoing discussions. Both City and DNR officials have been extremely cooperative in this effort. We are very impressed by their knowledge, professionalism, dedication and openness. They represent government at its best.



March Prettyboy Forest Stewardship hike participants passing through a stand of maple. Under the DNR management plan this area would revert to a forest with greater ecological value.



Baltimore Sierran

Outings May – August 2004

May 2004

Sat. May 1 GB-Easy. Gunpowder Pk Mingo Forks

6 mile hike through Hereford area of Gunpowder Park, including the Mingo Forks, Bunker Hill and Gunpowder River Trails. Meet at Mount Carmel Road Park & Ride off of I-83 at 8:30 AM. Ron 410-767-0106

Sat. May 22 GB-Easy. Gunpowder Pk Sweet Air

6 mile hike through scenic section of Gunpowder Park, including a walk through a bucolic corn field, by a Waldenesque pond, along the Little Gunpowder River and through a pine forest. Meet in Safeway parking lot on southeast corner of Route 145 (Paper Mill/Sweet Air Road) and Route 146 (Jarrettsville Pike) at 8:30 AM. Ron 410-767-0106

Wed. May 26 GB-Moderate. Gunpowder River Hike.

2 – 3 miles along the Gunpowder River. Meet at Gunpowder Parking Lot on Belair Road at 7:00 PM. Jack: 410-256-3963.

Participating in Sierra Club Hikes & Other Outings

1. All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the liability waiver before you chose to participate on an outing please go to:

<http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/>, or contact the Outings Department at (415) 977-5528 for a printed version.

2. In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

3. You don't need to register in advance for most outings. If this is required then it will be stated in the outing announcement.

4. Beginners are welcome on most outings. If the outing requires experience or good conditioning, then this will be stated in the announcement.

5. Bring at least one quart of water with you for every five miles or two hours of hiking.

6. Bring a snack or lunch.

Sat.-Mon. May 29-31 GB-Moderate. Memorial Day Weekend Backpack – Dolly Sods. West Virginia

We start off with a short backpack to our basecamp on Saturday followed by a long day hike on Sunday where we will take time to explore this unique wilderness. Must have proper gear. Call Ted for details at 410 239-4590

June 2004

Sun. June 6 GB-Moderate. Fair Hills/Big Elk Creek Hike

7 miles through forests and fields, and along Big Elk Creek in the Fair Hills NRMA, near Elkton Md. This hike will visit a covered bridge and several ruins that may date to colonial times. As we ramble, we will talk about the history and ecology of the area. Depart the White Marsh Park & Ride on Honeygo Blvd. at 10:00 AM. John 410-752-0104

Tue. June 8 GB-Moderate. New Member Hike & Native American Flute Concert.

Beginning at 7:00 PM we'll meet at Oregon Ridge Nature Center for a brief concert by national award-winning Native American flutist Jan Seiden (www.flutejourney.com). We'll then do a one-hour hike on the trails of this unique park and return to the nature center for more of Jan's music along with a discussion of the opportunities offered by the Sierra Club to preserve the natural resources so cherished by the native people of our land. Jan's CDs will also be on sale. To reach Oregon Ridge Park take I-83 to Shawan Road (exit 20), go one-mile west and turn left on Beaver Dam Road where you'll see signs directing you to the park immediately on your right. For further details contact Jack at 410-256-3963.

Sat. June 19 GB-Moderate. Susquehanna State Park

8 mile hike beginning at historic Rock Run Grist Mill, along hilly trail overlooking the Susquehanna River and through deciduous forest. Meet at the

parking lot at K-Mart on Route 1 north of Belair Road exit from 695 at 8:30 AM. Ron 410-767-0106

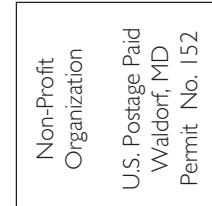
Sat. June 19 GB-Moderate. Loch Raven Forest Stewardship Hike.

A leisurely hike with State Watershed Forester Rob Northrup, City Watershed Manager Gene Scarpulla and Sierra Club forest biologist Dan Boone to discuss options for managing nearly 18,000 acres of forests adjoining Liberty, Loch Raven and Prettyboy reservoirs. We'll meet 9:00 a.m. at Loch Raven Drive and Morgan Mill Road. Parking is available along Loch Raven Drive just north of Morgan Mill. For further details contact Richard at 410-654-3021 or GBSierra@ceds.org.

Sun. June 27 GB-Gunpowder Tube Trip.

Wear old shoes or water shoes and have a way to keep keys from falling out of your pocket. Bring a tube or rent one at Monkton Bike Shop. Meet at Monkton Station at 1:00 PM. Jack: 410-256-3963

(Continued p. 3)



Baltimore Sierran
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