



# OTZINACHSON

## Speak Out for a Healthy, Clean

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### QUOTE

“There is nothing like a dream to create the future”

- Victor Hugo

The Sierra Club Pennsylvania Chapter, Clean Water Action, PennEnvironment and Penn Future ask you to please come to the State Capitol in Harrisburg to speak up for a healthy, clean environment on Monday, June 5, 2006.

There are crucial decisions being made right now that will affect our health and natural resources. Two issues, the implementation of the Pennsylvania Clean Vehicles

Program and the adoption of a regulation requiring significant cuts in mercury pollution from power plants, are under attack by industry.

Industry lobbyists are walking the halls of the Capitol every day trying to stop these regulations. We need to bring an army of people to Harrisburg to demonstrate our support for these important programs that clean our air and

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Oppose Bill on Mercury

### Sierra Club Alert

Through the excellent work by a coalition of environmental, sportsmen, public health and religious groups, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) recently introduced a draft rule that will require the state's power plants to stop spewing toxic mercury by 90 percent by 2015; it's called the PA Mercury Rule.

This draft regulation goes further than that of the federal government – called CAMR, the Clean Air Mercury Rule. The Federal CAMR allows trading, which we will never accept, and will increase the chances that no specific mercury reductions will occur at Pennsylvania power plants. With CAMR, PA utilities will trade pollution

credits and allow other out of state plants to reduce mercury, while our citizens will continue to be poisoned.

Pennsylvania must have a specific mercury control regulation, i.e. the PA Mercury Rule that prohibits pollution trading.

But **the highly profitable utility industry does not want to install pollution control equipment.** They've convinced legislators to introduce bills aimed at killing the Pennsylvania Mercury Rule. Today, legislators are being asked to co-sponsor and support

Take a Hike!!!

Be sure to check out  
Our 2006 Hiking Schedule  
Included in this newsletter!

Visit <http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/Otzinachson/>

***Message from the Chair:***  
**THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS, DARKLY**

Winston Churchill is purported to have defined success as being able to keep a smile on your face as you lurch from failure to failure. Thus the tragic success of the Bush regime. The fallout from their wreckage lands everywhere. \$9.8 billion dollars a month to war while our public libraries and National Parks roll back their services only to have morgues and cemeteries pick up the slack. War profiteers file their earnings reports while the maimed, the brutalized and the displaced look in vain for solace or surcease. The Cheshire cat slowly dissolves, only the disembodied smile remains.

**Ed Lawrence, Chair**

Otzinachson Group, PA Sierra Club

Meeting dates for 2006

***Meeting is open to all Sierra Club members and interested non-members.***

**June 6**  
**Aug 1**  
**Oct 3**  
**Dec 5**

All meetings will be held at 7:00 P.M.

**OTZINACHSON**

Executive Committee Chairs:

- Ed Lawrence**, Orangeville; Chair
  - Nicole Faraguna**, Herndon; Vice-Chair/Newsletter Editor
  - Jack Miller**, Middlesburg; Political
  - Dodie Rippon Lovett**, Herndon; Chapter Delegate/Global Warming/Human Rights
  - David Young**, Lewisburg
  - Dave Jansky**, Sunbury; Outings Chair
  - Joseph Rebar**, Shamokin; Membership/Publicity
- Volunteer Committee Chairs:

- Roy Fontaine**, Watsonstown; Treasurer, Publications
- Dave Hafer**, Lewisburg; Endangered Species
- Dave Barsky**, Bloomsburg; Conservation
- Genley Anderson**, Williamsport; Webmaster
- Janet Jones**, Lewisburg; Environmental Education
- Joe Detelj**, Lewisburg; Agriculture/Cafo
- Colette Frantz**, Northumberland; Marine/Waste
- Richard Sahn**, Cogan Station; Water Quality/Habitats

***Thanks for your continued support of the Sierra Club.***

*Your membership is important to preserving the integrity of our environment and keeping our communities safe and healthy.*

*Without you, we can not fight for what is right!*

**Joseph Rebar, Membership Chair, had compiled a database of those individuals wanting to be kept informed of scheduled and non-scheduled hikes and outings. A computer problem resulted in the loss of these e-mail addresses. If you'd like to be kept informed of these events, please send your e-mail**

# End of Suburbia by Sam Pearson

On April 24th, the Otzinachson Group of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Sierra Club sponsored a free screening of the 2003 documentary *The End of Suburbia: Oil Depletion and the Demise of the American Dream* at the Public Library for Union County in Lewisburg. The showing was near capacity for the library's small function room and attendees included a County Commissioner, one current and one former Mayor of Lewisburg, and two local Planning

*Learn more about this movie at*

<http://www.endofsuburbia.com/>

Commissioners, one each from Lewisburg and East Buffalo, as well as almost 20 other interested citizens. They were treated to an informative and intriguing indictment of the unheralded breadth of America's oil dependency. After all, we all know that transportation and home heating depend in large part on fossil fuels, but what about the food we eat and the business we expect to proceed "as usual"?

This thought-provoking film brings the complex issues of oil depletion, consumer culture, suburban form and community organizing into sharp focus, reminding us all of the need for action -- nationally, locally and personally. While viewers may initially feel that there's nothing new to

hear on the topic, it makes a difference to hear about the radical consequences of the end of oil from the mouths of oil company scientists and consultants. Indeed, for many of us these issues may be all too familiar. They are tired, even if timely. But the film serves as an apparently

necessary reminder that we are, none of us, doing all we can in response whether in terms of personal preparations, raising general awareness or promoting local economy and policy strategies. As a gauge of how effective a motivator the film is, all but two of those present at the screening signed up for further information and follow-up, and the two who hung back

called later to be added to the list. In the weeks since, the group has split into a small action committee, working on planning and strategy and a larger audience group which will help to get the word out about additional screenings and public for a as they're arranged.

The next showing will be on Wednesday, May 24th, at 8pm in the Gallery Theater on the top floor of the Langone Center at Bucknell. There will be time for discussion following the screening.

In addition, we are working to set up a one-time Sunday afternoon matinee and panel discussion at the Campus Theatre in June, but the exact date remains to be determined. ☞

This thought-provoking film brings the complex issues of oil depletion, consumer culture, suburban form and community

## Other Worthwhile Sites:

<http://eos.postcarbon.org/>

<http://www.oilcrashmovie.com/>

<http://www.energybulletin.net/4698.html>

<http://www.worldchanging.com/>

<http://www.countercurrents.org/>

<http://www.peakoilaction.org>

## **Green Planet Films**

*a non-profit distributor of nature and environmental DVDs from around the globe*

**[www.greenplanetfilms.org](http://www.greenplanetfilms.org)**

## Speak Out (cont'd)

protect the health of women, children, the elderly and those who suffer from chronic lung diseases.

We will hold a pre-lobby day conference call briefing on Friday, June 2 at noon to fill you in on the issues. You will be given the conference call number when you respond to this invitation. Sierra Club will also send additional information closer to the date about the issues we will be lobbying on.

We will be facilitating carpooling, bus and van rentals, based on each region's expected turnout. We will provide more details about transportation to Lobby Day closer to June 5. Sierra Club will reimburse reasonable transportation expenses for members who lobby their state legislators on June 5.

### Agenda

**9:00 AM**

Arrive in Harrisburg, register and pick up materials

**9:00 AM - Noon**

Visit your legislators

**12:30 PM**

Rally & Press Event in the Capitol Rotunda

**1:00 - 2:00 PM**

Visit your legislators

**2:15 - 3:15 PM**

Debriefing meeting

Woody Allen said that 90 percent of success is just showing up! We need you to show up for health and the environment on June 5.

Please let us know you are coming. RSVP by calling (717) 232-0101 or online at [pennsylvania.chapter.sierraclub.org](http://pennsylvania.chapter.sierraclub.org). Please give us your name, address, e-mail address, and the names of your state Representative and Senator (if you know them). We will send follow-up information to those who RSVP. ☐

## Join the PA Environmental Citizens Online (PA ECO) Network.

This is an action-alert system created through the Pennsylvania League of Conservation Voters that will notify you of urgent conservation and environmental issues affecting the Commonwealth and allow you to contact targeted decision-makers via fax by with the press of a button.

Learn more at <http://paeco.e-actionmax.com/>

**Be sure to vote in this year's Primary Election—May 16th!**  
**To learn more about environment-friendly candidates, visit [www.paclv.org](http://www.paclv.org).**

## Please don't us!

**It's Spring**—a time of renewal.

Please won't you take this opportunity to renew your Sierra Club Membership today? You know we've missed you!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Recipient's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club

MasterCard  Visa  AMEX

Exp Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

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

Enclose check and mail to:

**Sierra Club,**  
**P.O. Box 52968,**  
**Boulder**  
**CO 80322-2968**

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**  
 INDIVIDUAL JOINT

**INTRODUCTORY**  \$25

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CONTRIBUTING  \$150  \$175

LIFE  \$1000  \$1250

SENIOR  \$24  \$32

STUDENT  \$24  \$32

LIMITED INCOME  \$24  \$32

F94Q **W** -1



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



## Otzinachson Regional Group of the Sierra Club Edward Abbey Hiking Club Spring/Summer 2006 Outings Schedule

### **Sunday, May 14: Golden Eagle Trail**

Rated one of the best hikes in Pennsylvania, this hike has everything: views, streams and history, a great nature outing. Moderate to strenuous, 9 miles. Meet at 9:00am at the Sovereign Bank parking lot, Southern Ave., between Market and Hasting (Route 15), South Williamsport. Bring lunch and water. Contact Roy Fontaine 570-523-0987

### **Sunday, June 11: Bald Eagle State Forest**

This is a loop hike starting and ending at R. B. Winter State Park, 11 miles, moderate to strenuous. Our hike ends with a swim in the lake. Meet behind the Lewisburg Post Office at 9:00am. Bring lunch, water and a swim suit. For more information, contact Paul Shaw at hikerpaul@comcast.net

### **Saturday, June 24: Allegheny Front Trail**

This hike, near Black Moshannon State Park, will take us to the Allegheny Plateau, the most prominent geographic feature of Pennsylvania as seen from outerspace, and complete the loop we began last year. We will hike from Huckleberry Road to Underwood Road. 13 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the Harvest Moon Restaurant, located on Route 220, west of Williamsport. Bring lunch and water. Contact Catherine McLaughlin / Ed Lawrence 570-925-5285

### **Sunday, June 25: Old Loggers Path**

We will hike the southern section of the OLP from Masten Ghost Town to Pleasant Stream Road. 12 miles, moderate to strenuous, with fine views. Meet 9:00am at the Ralston Post Office on Route 14. Bring lunch and water. Contact Roy Fontaine 570-523-0987.

### **Saturday, July 29: The Donut Hole Trail**

This hike, near Kettle Creek State Park, will take us to one of the wildest and remote parts of The Donut Hole and allow us to get a fire tower vista at the end. We will hike up Summerson Run on Kettle Creek to Route 144 west of Renovo. 10 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the Harvest Moon Restaurant, located on Route 220, west of Williamsport. Bring Lunch and water. Contact catherine McLaughlin / Ed Lawrence 570-925-5285

### **Saturday, August 26: The Golden Eagle Trail Hike OR Bike the Pine Creek Rail Trail**

Hike or bike, you decide. Another opportunity to hike the 10 mile Golden Eagle Trail loop, one of Pennsylvania's premier day hikes, or to bike the Pine Creek Rail Trail, one of Pennsylvania's premier rail trails. Moderate to strenuous. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Harvest Moon Restaurant, located on Route 220, west of Williamsport. Bring lunch and water. Contact Catherine McLaughlin / Ed Lawrence 570-925-5285



## Otzinachson Regional Group of the Sierra Club Edward Abbey Hiking Club Spring/Summer 2006 Outings Schedule

### **Saturday, September 30: The Appalachian Trail**

This hike will take us on the AT along Blue Mountain ridge to where it accords at Hawk Mountain during the peak season of raptor migration. We will hike from Route 309 to Hawk Mountain Rd. 12 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Pilot service station at the Route 93 exit off of Route 80 east of Berwick. Bring lunch and water. Contact Catherine McLaughlin / Ed Lawrence 570-925-5285

### **Saturday, October 28: The Switchback Railroad at Mauch Chunk**

This hike will take us to the outskirts of present day Jim Thorpe to hike the historic railroad grades that inspired the roller coaster rides of today. We will hike a loop that begins and ends at Mauch Chunk Lake Park. 11 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot of First Columbia Bank next to the Columbia Mall at the Buckhorn exit of Route 80. Bring lunch and water. Contact Catherine McLaughlin / Ed Lawrence 570-925-5285

### **Sunday, November 19: The Joe Gmitter Trails**

This hike takes us to a remote section of the second largest State Game Lands in Pennsylvania, SGL 57, located South of Noxen. We will hike a loop that begins and ends on Sorber Mountain Road. 8 miles, moderate to strenuous. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the Ricketts Glen Hotel, located 1 mile east

of Red Rock on Route 118. Bring lunch and water. Contact Catherine McLaughlin / Ed Lawrence 570-925-5285

### **Sunday, December 10: Ricketts Glen State Park**

Our hiking route will depend on weather conditions. 7 miles, moderate. Meet at 10:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the Ricketts Glen Hotel, located 1 mile east of Red Rock on Route 118. Bring snack and water. Contact Catherine McLaughlin / Ed Lawrence 570-925-5285

**NOTE 1: At times unscheduled events will be added via e-mail. If you would like your name added to the unscheduled notification list, send your e-mail address to [jrbar@localnet.com](mailto:jrbar@localnet.com) and put on the subject line "unscheduled hike list".**

**NOTE 2: This schedule will be revised at a later date.**



## Coming to a Theatre Near You!! The Inconvenient Truth

Humanity is sitting on a ticking time bomb. If the vast majority of the world's scientists are right, we have just ten years to avert a major catastrophe that could send our entire planet into a tail-spin of epic destruction involving extreme weather, floods, droughts, epidemics and killer heat waves beyond anything we have ever experienced.

If that sounds like a recipe for serious gloom and doom -- think again. From director Davis Guggenheim comes the Sundance Film Festival hit, AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH, which offers a passionate and inspirational look at one man's fervent crusade to halt global warming's deadly progress in its tracks by exposing the myths and misconceptions that surround it.

That man is former Vice President Al Gore, who, in the wake of defeat in the 2000 election, re-set the course of his life to focus on a last-ditch, all-out effort to help save the planet from irrevocable change. In this eye-opening and poignant portrait of Gore and his "traveling global warming show," Gore also proves himself to be one of the most misunderstood characters in modern American public life. Here he is seen as never before in the media - funny, engaging, open and downright on fire about getting the surprisingly stirring truth about what he calls our "planetary emergency" out to ordinary citizens before it's too late.

With 2005, the worst storm season ever experienced in America just behind us, it seems we may be reaching a tipping point - and Gore pulls no punches in explaining the dire situation. Interspersed with the bracing facts and future predictions is the story of Gore's personal journey: from an idealistic college student who first saw a massive environmental crisis looming; to a young Senator facing a harrowing family tragedy that altered his perspective, to the man who almost became President but instead returned to the most important cause of his life - convinced that there is still time to make a difference.

With wit, smarts and hope, AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH ultimately brings home Gore's persuasive argument that we can no longer afford to view global warming as a political issue - rather, it is the biggest moral challenges facing

our global civilization.

Paramount Classics and Participant Productions present a film directed by Davis Guggenheim, AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH. Featuring Al Gore, the film is produced by Laurie David, Lawrence Bender and Scott Z. Burns. Jeff Skoll and Davis

Guggenheim are the executive producers and the co-producer is Leslie Chilcott.

*Source: <http://www.climatecrisis.net>*

playing in Philadelphia, June 5th at the Ritz 5



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**MONDAY, JUNE 5th, 2006**

Sierra Club members and other people who care about the environment  
will be

**TAKING IT TO HARRISBURG**  
**JOIN THEM!**

Details inside: Otzinachson co-ordinators  
Contact Dave Hafer 570-523-3107o or Paul Shaw [pshaw@ptd.net](mailto:pshaw@ptd.net)