



# L.I. Sierra Club News

Volume 35 No. 2

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

Summer 2015

## SUMMER COMMUNITY MEETINGS

### Film Screening “The Incredible Journey of the Butterflies” - Event for the whole family!

Friday, June 12, 2015, 7:00 p.m. (6:30 free refreshments)

Grace U.M.C., basement auditorium, 515 S. Wellwood Ave., Lindenhurst, Phone: (631)226-8690

**Description:** Discussion led by Joy Cirigliano of Smithtown Audubon. Also, handouts about U. of Ill. Monarch Larva Monitoring Project and on-line training. 2009 PBS NOVA documentary of annual monarch butterfly migration from Canada to Mexico. “This presentation discusses how the butterflies navigate and endure the long journey and takes you to the locations they call home. Nowhere in nature is there a more powerful mix of scientific marvel, awesome beauty and epic struggle for survival than the Monarch butterfly. Journey into the Monarch’s secret and fascinating world as NOVA visits the spectacular locations the Monarch calls home, meets its friends and enemies (including humans in both camps) and flies with it on one of the most inspiring migratory odysseys imaginable”. Monarchs are becoming endangered so we will have handouts on monitoring program and how to identify milkweed (monarchs’ favorite plant for food and laying eggs) in your yard so you don’t pull it.

**Directions:** From Sunrise Hwy.: Wellwood Ave. south 1.8 mi. past railroad tracks right hand side 1 block north of Montauk Hwy., corner of Liberty Ave. Turn on Liberty Ave. for parking. From Montauk Hwy.: Go north to first left, Liberty Ave., church on corner. Parking on street. Use side entrance on Liberty Ave., downstairs through double doors to basement auditorium.

### Green Materials For Interiors

Thursday, June 18th, 7pm (6:30 refreshments)

Amityville Public Library, corner of Oak & John Sts. (just west of Rt. 110) Phone: (631)264-0567

Come and join the Sierra Club and Susan Beganskas, CID\* Assistant Professor of Interior Design, Nassauc Community College, and learn about the criteria used to select green materials for interior projects. Professor Beganskas will talk about using sustainable materials like bamboo flooring and recycled fabric for carpet and curtains along with samples of green materials. She will also answer questions about lighting, especially new LED lighting. Susan also co-Chairs the Environmental Awareness Subcommittee/Campus Services Committee and is Faculty Co-Advisor for Environmental Club.

\*Certified Interior Designer

**Directions:** From north: Take Sunrise Hwy. (Rt. 27) to Rte. 110 (Broadway) south .7 mi. to 3rd traffic light (1st light past RR tracks). Turn right on Oak St. Library is first driveway on right. From south: Take Merrick Rd/Montauk Hwy. (Rte. 27A) to Rte. 110 (Broadway) north .6 mi. to 3rd traffic light (2nd light past gazebo). Turn left on Oak St. Library is first driveway on right.

### TABLING MANAGER NEEDED:

Like to get out and about and talk to people? A person is needed to sign us up for tabling opportunities, to table or find a volunteer to table at different events around Long Island. You will be responsible to make arrangements to hand out supplies to anyone that wants to table. Supplies will be provided to you. You will be in charge of replenishing them and submitting receipts for reimbursement. You yourself will decide how much tabling to do and what events you want to table.

For more information please contact me Ann Aurelio at [SmileyAnn21@Verizon.net](mailto:SmileyAnn21@Verizon.net) or 631-567-1937. Thank you.

### Contents

Letter From  
Chair Page 2

Huntington Leaf Blowers Page 3,7

Outings Pages 4-6

Choosing LED Bulbs Page 6

Huntington Town Quality  
Discount on Solar  
Page 8

“LIKE US ON FACEBOOK” <https://www.facebook.com/LongIslandSierraClub>



Explore, enjoy and protect the  
planet  
SIERRA CLUB  
LONG ISLAND GROUP  
516-826-0801  
[www.LISierraClub.org](http://www.LISierraClub.org)

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CHAIRS

### OFFICERS:

**Group Chair:** Jane Fasullo\* 631-689-1568 [jfas1@optonline.net](mailto:jfas1@optonline.net)

**Vice Chair/Membership Chair/ Chapter Alternate Delegate:**  
Ann Aurelio\* 631-567-1937 [smileyann21@verizon.net](mailto:smileyann21@verizon.net)

**Secretary:** Nancy Preudhomme

**Treasurer:** Harvey Miller\* 516-794-7059  
[hmiller@optonline.net](mailto:hmiller@optonline.net)

### CHAIRPERSONS:

#### Political Chair/Chapter Delegate:

Tom Helling\* 917-593-0946 [tom.helling@gmail.com](mailto:tom.helling@gmail.com)

#### Coastal Waterways Chair:

Diane Ives\* 631-532-9926 [spideyives@yahoo.com](mailto:spideyives@yahoo.com)

#### Outreach/Outings Chair/Chapter Delegate:

Jane Fasullo\* 631-689-1568 [jfas1@optonline.net](mailto:jfas1@optonline.net)

**Energy:** Peter Gollon 631-271-5774 [pgollon@aol.com](mailto:pgollon@aol.com)

#### Conservation Chair/Chapter Alternate Delegate:

Bill Stegemann\* 631-624-6559 [billstegemail@gmail.com](mailto:billstegemail@gmail.com)

#### Special Projects:

Mark Kinnucan\* 631-424-1889

[kinnucan@patriot.net](mailto:kinnucan@patriot.net); True Hampton 516-835-7689

#### Newsletter/Chapter Alternate Delegate:

Michael Cafaro\* 631-243-1127 [michaelcafaro1@optonline.net](mailto:michaelcafaro1@optonline.net)

**Calendar/Card Sales:** Jeanne Sofia 631-643-1434

**Education:** Sue Watins 516-921-7150 [sueeduc@verizon.net](mailto:sueeduc@verizon.net)

#### Legislative Chair:

Jack Finkenber\*  
[jfinkenb@suffolk.lib.ny.us](mailto:jfinkenb@suffolk.lib.ny.us)

**Volunteers:** Open

**Nuclear Committee/Chapter Delegate:** Gail Payne\* [paynestudios@gmail.com](mailto:paynestudios@gmail.com)

**Sierra Club Foundation Board of Directors:** Steven Berkenfeld\*  
516-459-6864 [berkenf@optonline.net](mailto:berkenf@optonline.net)

\*Executive Committee Member

\*\*The ExCom meets monthly, generally on the third Monday or Tuesday. For details, call the Chair or Vice-Chair.

## Letter from the Chair

### By Jane Fasullo

Being chair of the Sierra Club L. I. Group executive committee is certainly different than being just a member of the Group or a simple member of the executive committee. For one thing, the chair gets to write the "chair's column" for each quarterly newsletter. It should be an easy task given that there are so many environmental issues to pick from, but how does one choose just one when they are all so important? After much thought, I



decided to use this summer newsletter to give you some insight into what the Group is, how it functions, and how you fit in.

The Group, a division of the Sierra Club organization headquartered in San Francisco, is chartered by the New York state chapter of the Sierra Club, itself chartered by the national Sierra Club. The Group consists of all the Sierra Club members living in Nassau and Suffolk. Its eleven-member Executive Committee consists of Group members who want to volunteer their time to set local policy, determine annual goals, manage the budget, and perform other administrative duties, and get elected by you, the members of the Group. They all have a desire to make the Group an effective force in protecting L.I.'s environment. The Group does not have an office, nor does it hire employees (staff). Everything that is accomplished is done by volunteers.

To achieve the primary goal, to "explore and protect" this extraordinary and precious island, takes a lot more volunteers than just the Executive Committee. It takes lots of people working together to generate ideas, then each doing a small part to making something big happen.

We currently have volunteers working on conservation, L.I. energy generation, waterways, education, nuclear energy, food (CSA's, GMO's and veganism), legislation, membership, outdoor explorations, politics, and setting up public education presentations. All of these volunteers need more people to round out their committees. If you are interested in one or more of these, please look in the column to the left to find the lead volunteers contact information.

In addition, the executive committee would love to see committees form to collectively work on land protection, cleanups, environmental justice, fundraising, legal actions, the printed newsletter, tabling, and communications (printed or electronic media). If you have any desire to contribute to one of these, please contact me. Descriptions of all the above committees are slowly being placed on our website, [LiSierraClub.org](http://LiSierraClub.org).

I look forward to many of you joining together to keep our (your!) Sierra Club L.I. Group strong and effective. As the saying goes, "many hands make light work".

If you have comments or questions, please contact me, Jane Fasullo, at [jfas1@optonline.net](mailto:jfas1@optonline.net).

---

# An Ill Wind

By Dr. Bonnie Sager, Co-founder Huntington CALM

Huntingtoncalm@gmail.com

You can hear them a mile away. They are relentless and go from morning till night, seven days a week. As annoying as the noise can be, Gas Leaf Blowers also cause many other health and environmental problems.

The land maintenance business has grown dramatically over the past 30 years. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, the number of landscapers grew 42% between 2002 and 2012 to 1.1 million workers and continues to grow at a steady pace. Convoys of landscape trucks and trailers loaded with industrial-sized gas-powered mowers, blowers, trimmers, and edgers have become a common sight in our neighborhoods.



Gas leaf blowers (GLBs) are the worst environmental and health offender in the arsenal of lawn equipment. A GLB operates at speeds of up to 270 mph (higher than any hurricane); in one hour, one GLB kicks up approximately 5 pounds of mold, fungal spores, insect eggs, fertilizer, heavy metals and rodent feces; it can take hours to days to settle, depending on the weather. They pollute the environment and harm our health in several ways.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Each year, according to the US government, lawn and garden machines consume close to 2 billion gallons of gasoline and generate many billions of pounds of toxic and carcinogenic air pollutants. The inefficient 2-stroke engine of the GLB produces more pollution than any other lawn equipment. Up to 30% of their gas goes directly, unburnt, into the atmosphere. In the summer, the volatile organic compounds from raw gasoline combine with sunlight and NOx to form ground level ozone, which harms sensitive vegetation.

One hour of GLB operation is the equivalent of 40 cars idling for one hour. One GLB operating for 30 minutes puts out more emissions than an auto traveling 2,000 miles. These blowers usually travel in packs, so multiply these numbers by 2-3. And of course, the gasoline that does combust produces the greenhouse gas CO2, adding to global climate change.

In addition to air pollution, the maintenance of GLBs puts an untold amount of toxic chemicals and solid waste into our landfills, soil, and water. Examples include detergents, degreasers, lubricants, spark plugs, hoses, and filters.

According to Cornell Co-Operative Extension, every time a GLB is filled with gasoline, approximately 2 ounces spill. That adds up to 17 million gallons of gas spilled each year. From filling gas powered lawn equipment, over 50% more than the amount spilled by the Exxon Valdez (Source: Steinberg T. American Green: The Obsessive Quest for the Perfect Lawn, 2006). This spillage ends up in our air, soil and water supply.

## AIR POLLUTION AND HEALTH

Leaf blowers and other gas-powered lawn and garden equipment emit millions of tons of toxic, carcinogenic air pollution each year.

The American Lung Association, Children's Environmental Health Center, and the US Environmental Protection Agency warn explicitly against gas-powered lawn equipment.

GLB pollution consists of: 1) ozone-forming chemicals and 2) fine particulate matter. Ozone and particle pollution threaten the health of millions of Americans, according to the American Lung Association. There is broad agreement amongst

(Continued on Page 7)



# Outings and Events

*Note: More information about events, additions or cancellations: [www.LiSierraClub.org](http://www.LiSierraClub.org), mouse over "events" and click on "calendar". Registration with the leader at least one hour before is strongly advised. Please call back if you can't attend. Read descriptions carefully. YOU PARTICIPATE AT YOUR OWN RISK.*

*For all hikes: 1 - bring a beverage, 2 - dress in layers, 3 - wear appropriate footwear, 4 - heavy rain or snow cancels, and 5 - pace is moderate unless stated otherwise. "E" means an event has at least three brief two-five minute stops for educational purposes and information sharing along the way. Leaders: Jane (631-689-1568), Len (LN56789@gmail.com), Jan (beachtowel1@verizon.net or 631-327-1268), Paul (631-70-6497 or [wpziems@optonline.net](mailto:wpziems@optonline.net)).*

**June 6, Sat.**

**Kayak - Connetquot River, Great River**

**1:30 pm**

Enjoy the lower end of the Connetquot River from the water. Paddle roughly 4 miles in this fairly wide river (subject to strong winds) with protected lands and various small to mansion sized homes along the banks. There are no kayak rentals here. Bring sun screen or sun protective cloths, and water. A flotation device must be worn while in your boat. Rain or wind over 15 mph cancels. You must register as the number of participants is limited. Directions: use the dirt road off the left side of River Road where you see the white pillared entry to the Timber Pt. Golf course. Leader: Jane Fasullo.

**June 7, Sun.- E**

**Hike - Pine Trail at Robert Murphy Park, Ridge**

**Noon**

4 miles, mostly flat, moderate pace. Walking through oak forests, visit a series of ponds that are the headwaters of the Peconic River including Peasy's, Duck, Sandy, Stock's and Grassy and discuss what lives in and around the water. You'll learn to identify and avoid poison ivy, and about avoiding tick illnesses. Dress for the weather. Heavy rain (but not drizzle) cancels. Bring tick repellent and a beverage. No bathrooms here. You MUST REGISTER with Jane at least 1 hr. ahead. Directions: Meet at the Pine Trail parking lot on the South side of Middle Country Road, about 2 ¼ miles East of the William Floyd Parkway. Leader: Jane Fasullo.

**June 14, Sun.**

**Trailview State Park**

**Noon**

5 - 6 miles in 3+ hrs. on hilly terrain. Moderately strenuous and fast. Registrants should be in good physical condition. Explore Trailview State Park in its natural state on this healthy, positive afternoon with conversation, networking, and mingling. Feel free and good about yourself as you enjoy the exercise and take in what nature has to offer. There are few, if any, stops other than one for your snack. Bring water and tick repellent. Register by leaving your phone number and how many in your party with Len. Directions: I-495 (L.I.E.) exit 44N. Merge onto NY-135 N toward Syosset. Take exit 14E (Rte. 25 or Jericho Turnpike) toward Woodbury. Turn right onto 25. Continue to the Trailview Parking Lot on your left just past the Stop and Shop. Leader: Len.

**June 20, Sat. - E Kayak - Brown's River, Sayville**

**11 am**

Paddle 1.5 - 3 hrs. on the river and, optionally, in Great South Bay. The north end of the river is protected marsh where we should see plenty of birds (e.g. marsh wren, heron, and red wing blackbird). Learn the importance of marshes and the effects of the seasons on them and their inhabitants. This river section is just over 3 mi., good for beginners or those who only want to do a short paddle. If the wind isn't too strong, venture to Great South Bay. The channel out is narrow with boat traffic so you'll have to learn about channel markers and how to avoid a collision. If it's windy, a second loop of the river is an option. Bring a beverage and bring appropriate (sun or wind protective) clothes and accessories. Flotation device must be worn while in your boat. Rain cancels. After the kayak, we may stop for

lunch at the Cull House on Terry St. (you pay - burgers, salads, light fare). If you have your own kayak, meet at the end of Terry Street. If you need a rental, call Captains Kayak (631-750-3587) at least a day ahead to make your own arrangements. Everyone meets up in the water at the rental shop around 11:30. Directions: Sunrise Hwy. to Lakeland (exit 49) or Johnson Ave. (exit 50) south to Montauk Hwy. Turn left (east) onto Montauk then bear right onto Middle Rd. Turn right onto Foster Ave. Renters turn left onto Hamilton or Erwin St.. Owners turn left onto Terry St. Registration required with leader, Jane Fasullo.

**June 20, Sat. - E**

**Hike - Lower Connetquot R. State Park, Great River**

**10 am**

4 - 5 mi., flat, 2 ½ hrs. Start at the hunting club (bathrooms here), then hike through woods to the old fish hatchery where you can read about, and maybe see, several species of trout, and view the hatchery structures. Learn why the hatchery was closed and when it's expected to reopen. About a mile up the west side of the river, cross a bridge to the east side. Heading back, see springs that feed the river. Near the end of the trail, view wildlife on the largest of the man-made ponds and the Grist Mill (under renovation) before passing by the hunting club. Bring a beverage, tick repellent, and shading for your eyes. Dress in layers appropriate for the weather and wear closed shoes or boots. Rain cancels. Registration required. Call 631-689-1568 and leave your name, phone # and the number of people in your party. Directions: North side of Sunrise Hwy between exits 46 and 47. If eastbound, use exit 47A, go left over the bridge, turn left onto the service road, then enter the westbound side of Sunrise. NYS Park entry fee is \$8.00 (free with a NYS Empire Pass). Meet in the parking lot. Leader - Paul Ziems (do not call or email Paul the day of the hike!)

**June 28, Sun.- E**

**Bicycle - Cedar Creek Park (to Tobay Beach), Seaford**

**2 pm**

19 mi. (or 10 mi.), flat, 2.5 plus hrs. on a paved bike/walk path. Stop at Jones Beach before going to Tobay. People doing only 10 miles can stay at Jones Beach and wait for the others to return from Tobay, or they can return to Cedar Creek Park on their own. At the beaches, learn about the shifting sands, some of the beach plants and their importance to wildlife and beach stabilization, historical breaches of the barrier island, and more as you eat your self-provided snack. Meet in Cedar Creek Park by the break in the fence for entry to the path on the west side. The best parking lot is the second on your left. A helmet must be worn. Dress for the weather. Rain or very high wind (15 mph or more) cancels. Enter the park on LARCH Street, S off Merrick Rd. Must register by 1 pm with leader Jane Fasullo.

**July 4, Sun. - E**

**Kayak - Stony Brook Harbor**

**1 pm**

Paddle 4 mi. in 2 hrs. Launch into Stony Brook creek from the left side of the parking area across from the Three Village Inn in Stony Brook. Learn about many of the life forms encountered on this paddle to the headwaters of the harbor including the Diamond back terrapins and the mussels hitch-

ing a ride on seaweed. No kayak rentals here but you can rent anywhere and car-top a kayak to the location. We will help you unload and reload your boat. A floatation device must be worn while in your boat. Sun protection (lotion, visor, towel for your legs, sun glasses, etc.) and a beverage are strongly recommended. Rain or high wind (> or = 15 mph) cancels. Registration required. Leader Jane Fasullo.

**July 5, Sat. - E**

**Hike - Bayard Cutting Arboretum, Great River**

**Noon**

3-4 mi., flat, easy to moderate pace, in 2 hrs. Start at the Great River RR station off Connetquot Ave. at noon, then walk through a parcel of mixed hardwoods and pine to the main gate. Inside the park, walk the drive to the gazebo by the bathrooms and main house/cafeteria where those who parked on the grounds (\$8) can meet us. Walk the grounds to the west then south, pass along the edge of the salt water cove. Follow the gravel path along the river, view the vegetables growing in the "farm" area, see the fancy chickens, then return to the main house before returning to our cars. We do not stop in the cafeteria, so bring your own snacks and beverage. If you wish to visit the café after the walk, you'll have to find your own way back. The grounds are beautiful with many labeled trees and shrubs, so bring your camera! RAIN CANCELS. Insect repellent advised. Leader: Jane Fasullo.

**July 11, Sun.**

**Bicycle - Massapequa to Bethpage, Massapequa**

**10:30 am**

Ride a level blacktop path for about 4 mi. in beautiful Massapequa Preserve along the creek. For the next 2.5 mi., ride the paved path through increasingly rolling terrain, culminating in one long but not too steep hill just before entering Bethpage Park. The slower pace of 9 to 11 miles per hour is good for beginners. Enjoy your own Snack / lunch and beverage at Bethpage State Park before returning. Bring drinking water. A helmet must be worn. Bathrooms at both parks. Heavy rain cancels. Meet at the East end of the second parking lot north of the RR station by the entrance to the Massapequa preserve. Leader: Jane Fasullo

**July 12, Sun.- E**

**Hike -Montauk Point State Park**

**10:30 am**

5 - 7 mi., varying terrain, in 2 hrs. From the upper parking lot at the lighthouse, walk to the beach, then up a narrow trail with steps and flat areas to the top of 40 - 50 ft. high bluffs. Take pictures from the bluffs of the lighthouse or the Atlantic Ocean, and view seabirds, surfcasting fishermen, and possibly surfer riders while learning how these contribute to the protection of the area. Next, follow a winding trail to Camp Hero with its World War II gun emplacements and signs explaining the history of the Camp. Continue west to a decommissioned US Air Force radar station. Take a short break here before returning along 'Battery 113' trail which meanders through the woods, over several streams, and back along the bluffs to Turtle Cove below the Lighthouse. Meet in the lighthouse upper parking lot (\$8 or free with a NYS Empire Pass). Restrooms off the neighboring lower lot. After the hike, visit the Lighthouse Grille, the Lighthouse and gift shop, walk to the beach and on the revetment (large stones that protect the lighthouse from storms), or hike to the Money Ponds (about 4 more mi.). Rain cancels. Wear clothes appropriate to the weather. Bring a beverage and tick repellent. You MUST REGISTER with Jane at 631-689-1568. Leave your name, phone #, and the number of people in your party. Questions? Contact the leader by the night before. Leader: Paul Ziem.

**July 19, Sat. - E**

**Kayak - Bullshead Bay, Southampton**

**1 pm**

6 mi. 3 - 4 hrs with a beach break for a stretch and self-provided snack. The "inner" bay has a mix of wild and developed waterfronts. Paddle it north to the creeks and into Scallop Pond where we take a beach break. During the

beach stop, learn about tides, who lives in some of those shells, why seaweeds are important, and more. Leaving the pond, wind permitting, take a detour into Peconic Bay or slide back on the inner bay. Floatation device must be worn while in your boat. If you car top a kayak to the bay, we'll help you unload and load it. If you need a rental, try Weekend Warriors and ask if Eric will bring a rental to the site for you - 631-725-5950. Rain cancels. Directions: Sunrise Hwy. East. At the 1st traffic light after Shinnecock Canal, Tuckahoe Rd., turn left. At the four corners, stay leftish across the intersection onto Barkers Island Road. Cross over the next intersection, staying on Barkers Island Road. When the road makes a hard right (90 degree), go straight ahead to the beach. Park at the end. Registration required with Jane at 631-689-1568 at last 1 1/2 hours ahead.

**Aug. 2, Sun - E**

**Hike - Avalon Park and West Farm, Stony Brook**

**2 pm**

3 mi., mostly hilly, in 2 hrs. Start this varied hike at the Stony Brook pond and gristmill (restored). Follow the boardwalk along the pond, take the stone steps up to a small man-made pond, a labyrinth, a monument (learn why it's here), and a rhododendron viewing platform, then follow a gravel path across Rhododendron Lane. Here you'll be in a mix of hilly woodlands, open fields and transition zones where vines, shrubs, and small trees provide the perfect habitat for upland birds (they supply shelter and food). We stop a few times to let people catch up and to discuss some of the animals and plants that call this place home. No bathrooms. Meet across from the grist mill on Harbor Rd (off Main Street) at the north end of the mill pond. If there are no spaces along the roads, drive past the pond and park at the south end of the shopping mall parking lot. You MUST register with leader Jane Fasullo.

**Aug. 8, Sat. - E**

**Kayak - Carman's River**

**10 am**

Travel the river into a section of Bellport Bay; take a break at a beach on the east side of the bay, then return. Learn about the condition of the river, native and invasive plants, and note the changes in the flora as we transition from the fresh to the salt water. We'll identify much of the sea life we encounter, find and ID shells, and identify most of the birds (hopefully we'll see the eagles that nest here in the summer). A floatation device must be worn. Rain or lightning cancels. Park at the Carman's River Canoe and Kayak rental company, 2979 Montauk Hwy. (on the north side) just west of the river crossing (631-803-8496). Non-Brookhaven residents may have to pay \$5 to launch their own kayaks. Brookhaven Town residents will need to show an ID. The site is south of Sunrise Hwy. and west of William Floyd Pkwy. Use LIE exit 68 S (William Floyd) or Sunrise exit 58 S. Turn right onto Montauk Hwy. at the traffic light is immediately south of Sunrise Hwy. Leader: Jane Fasullo

**Aug. 16, Sun.- E**

**Kayak - Setauket and Port Jefferson Harbors**

**Noon**

4 - 6 mi. in 3 - 4 hrs. from Setauket Harbor into Port Jeff Harbor and back. Learn boat traffic safety, how to read tides and channel markers, and how to execute basic paddle strokes such as a back stroke and a draw. Beach on either the Old Field peninsula or the old mining area of Port Jeff depending on the wind and boat traffic for a leg stretch, eating self-provided munchies, and a discussion of the natural world around you. Also learn about natural and unnatural events that shape this harbor. Distance covered will depend on the wind. Help available with unloading and loading kayaks on vehicles. Meet at Setauket Harbor Canoe and Kayak on shore Rd. in Setauket. They have rentals - 631-751-2706. Bring beverage, sun protection (visor or capped hat, long sleeve shirt, leg cover, sun glasses and sun screen), and your own food. A floatation device must be worn while in your boat. Rain cancels. REQUIRED registration at least N1 hr. ahead of the paddle. Leader: Jane Fasullo.

**Aug. 22, Sat. Bicycle - Heckscher Park, Great River** **10 am**  
About 11 miles, flat, 1.5 hours. Good for beginners at a pace of about 12 miles per hour. Take a short ride from J. F. Kennedy Elementary School on Woodland Drive to the park on lightly traveled development roads, loop through the park TWICE, then return to the school. We'll take a stop at the beach to watch the wind surfers (if they are there), and a stop to use the bathrooms. Must wear a helmet and have your own bike. Meet at JFK elementary school on Woodland Drive in E. Islip/Great River. Rain cancels. Directions: Sunrise Hwy to Carlton Ave south which becomes Woodland Dr. after crossing Montauk Hwy.

**Aug. 29, Sat.- E** **Noon**  
**Kayak - Northport Harbor and Bay**  
Venture into the harbor and paddle to a beach where you can relax, stretch your legs, search for and learn about the beach "debris", optionally take a swim, then head back. You can rent anywhere and we'll help you unload and load the boat on your car or you can rent at Glacier Bay Kayak, rte. 25A, Northport, 631-262-9116. You must make your own rental arrangements. If you rent from Glacier Bay, "put in" behind the store then paddle around to Scudder Beach to meet those with their own kayaks. A floatation device must be worn while in your kayak. Rain or high winds (15 mph or greater) cancels. Directions to Scudder Beach: 25A to the Centerport/Northport boundary (Glacier Bay shop is here). Take the first street east of the store, Woodbine Ave., the first left (Beach Ave.), then left onto Ketchum. You MAY have to pay \$5 to park. Leader - Jane Fasullo.

To join the Sierra Club, visit [www.LiSierraClub.org](http://www.LiSierraClub.org) and click on the "JOIN" button.

**Kenneth L. Robinson, Esq  
Robinson & Associates, P.C.**

**35 Roosevelt Avenue  
Syosset, NY 11791**

1(516) 496-9044

1(516) 496-9047 (Fax)

e-Mail: [EnvLaw516@aol.com](mailto:EnvLaw516@aol.com)

**LEGAL SERVICES PROVIDED:**

- Environmental Law
- Real Estate Transactions
- Commercial Litigation
- Land Use
- Last Will and Testament
- General Legal Advice

**Sierra Club Member Since 1973**

## Choosing LED Light Bulbs

by Susan Beganskas, CID\*

Now that LED lighting has become more affordable, it is a great time to switch out any leftover incandescent or halogen bulbs and to replace inoperative compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs) in your decorative and/or architectural lighting fixtures.



LEDs save energy and last far longer than CFLs, while containing no mercury. The new Lighting Facts Label, modeled after the Nutrition Facts Label on food packaging, makes it easy to see these advantages. These labels provide information on lumens (light output), life (based on 3 hours of use per day), and light appearance (warm or cool light). Choose warm color, soft light to replicate the warm color of incandescent lighting.

New LED bulbs can deliver omni-directional lighting similar to incandescent lighting while dimming down to a lower lighting level than many CFLs. Look for bulbs by GE, Phillips, Osram, Sylvania, and CREE. For more information on LED's: [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)

For information on PSE&G rebates: <https://www.psegliny.com/page.cfm/Efficiency/Programs/Lighting/LED>

Susan Beganskas is an Assistant Professor of Interior Design at Nassau Community College.

\*CID – Certified Interior Designer

leading medical organizations that even short term exposure to these types of pollution can cause or contribute to cancer, early death, heart attack, strokes, congestive heart failure, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and other serious conditions. A recent study by researchers from the Harvard School of Public Health mentions the increasing evidence linking fine particulate pollution exposure to autism in children.

## **NOISE AND HEALTH**

At point of use, gas-powered leaf blower noise levels can exceed 100 decibels (dB). Those levels far exceed safe levels established by the World Health Organization, US Environmental Protection Agency, and Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Noise at these levels can affect our physical and mental health, and our ability to think and function. Potential health effects range from annoyance and sleep disruption to ischemic heart disease, high blood pressure, and hearing loss.

Noise degrades our quality of life. Where has the peaceful use and enjoyment of our homes and properties gone? It is difficult to enjoy outdoors activities like walking, jogging, biking and gardening. We are driven into our homes to try to escape the incessant whine of the GLBs.

## **ECOSYSTEM IMPACT**

Noise, toxic fumes, high speed air-jets, and hot air from GLBs have a damaging impact on our ecosystems. Wildlife may be injured or driven away from their habitats. Nests and habitats may be disrupted or destroyed. Seeds, pollen, and sap vital for propagation of plants and animals may be desiccated. Branch breakage, leaf loss, and root exposure resulting from the high velocity air-jets only inches away can injure or kill plants. Loss or compaction of topsoil and mulch reduces protection and nourishment for plants, animals, and insects. Air-jets can spread disease-causing pathogens and invasive seeds.

Natural ground cover protects, nourishes, and provides moisture to plants and animals, including important pollinators. Butterflies and insects need leaves for their habitats. Even the precious honeybee is put in harm's way.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

Today we have commercial grade Lithium Ion battery blowers. They are not perfect, but are a much better alternative. They do not pollute, do not cause ground level ozone, eliminate solid waste byproducts and are much quieter. Hand held equipment may be low tech, but it gets the job done too. In the summer there are few if any leaves -- so why use a GLB to blast some grass clippings and dirt? The risks far outweigh the benefits.

We urge you to speak to your local politicians and tell them you want a restriction on GLB use during summer months. Tell your landscaper NOT to use a GLB on your property when there are no leaves. You are the consumer and have every right to request this.

Over 400 municipalities across the US have restricted or banned GLBs. Landscapers haven't suffered economic hardships, prices have not increased, properties still look neat and tidy and everybody has cleaner air and a healthier environment.



# Huntington Residents to Enjoy “Quantity Discount” on Solar Installations

Solarize Huntington is a new, community-driven program for reduced-cost solar panel installations available to residents of the Town of Huntington. As more residents sign on to go solar through this program, the price for all participants will go down. By leveraging the collective purchasing power of the Town’s homeowners, the discount from average installation prices in the area can range from 15% to 25%, depending on the number of systems sold through the program. The result: homeowners save both on the cost of the system and on the cost of their electricity, and everyone benefits from less fossil fuel use.

Solarize Huntington was organized by the Town of Huntington in partnership with the City University of New York (CUNY) NYSolar Smart program as part of the U.S. Department of Energy’s Sunshot Initiative Rooftop Solar Challenge II.

Sustainable CUNY and the competitively selected installer, Direct Energy Solar, will be holding free “Solarize 101” workshops to explain the program in detail throughout the program. The first workshop was held on May 11th. You can find additional information and dates of additional workshops, or sign up online at <http://solarizehuntington.com/>.

The first 20 homeowners to sign contracts will receive an additional \$500 discount. Program enrollment runs through September 10th.

Readers outside Huntington who would like their localities to create similar programs should direct their officials to the information and application on the State’s NY-Sun Community Solar application webpage <http://ny-sun.ny.gov/Get-Solar/Community-Solar/Community-Solar-Application>

Please consider removing yourself from our newsletter hardcopy mailers. You can contact Harvey Miller at [hmiller@optonline.net](mailto:hmiller@optonline.net), and he’ll help you get your quarterly newsletter via PDF. This will save the local group significant funds.

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

FOUNDED 1892

SIERRA CLUB

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

516-826-0801

West Sayville, NY 11796-0172

P.O. Box 172

Long Island Group



NON PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Hicksville, NY 11802  
Permit No. 681