

North Jersey Group

(All of Passaic County, Bergen County except for the eight southern towns mentioned in the Hudson-Meadowlands Group's description, below)

OFFICERS:

Group Chair: Betsy Kohn 201-461-4534
BetsyKohn@aol.com
Vice Chair: Hugh Carola 201-692-8440
HCarola@aol.com

Conservation

Co-Chairs: Tom Thompson 201-848-1080
etrans743@aol.com
Anne Sumers 201-825-8395
annesumers@aol.com

Membership Chair: Ellen Friedman 201-587-1263
EFric@rcn.com

Outings Chair: Ellen Blumenkrantz
eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

Legislative Chair: Patrick Maloof 201-405-0970
patrickmaloofo@yahoo.com

Political Chair: Charlotte Foale 201-921-3059
cfoale@aol.com

Secretary: open position

Treasurer: Mary Ellen Shaw 201-489-1588
MaryEllenShaw@msn.com

Highlands Committee: Bill O'Hearn 973-962-0562
william_ohearn@juno.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/CONSERVATION MEETINGS: Held at least four times a year (once every quarter). For date and location, contact Betsy Kohn, Ellen Friedman or Hugh Carola (see above).

GENERAL MEETINGS:

Held at 7:30pm on the following Thursdays at the locations indicated. For directions or other information, contact Betsy Kohn (see above)

Apr 10: at Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, 443 Van Nostrand Av, Englewood. The Asian Longhorned Beetle in New Jersey - a slide presentation by NJ Agriculture Department officials about efforts to control this tree-eating pest that has been detected in over 100 trees in downtown Jersey City. Learn about identifying ALB, its preferred tree-hosts, extent so far of infestation, and more — and how you can help.

Apr 17: at Wayne Public Library, 461 Valley Rd, Wayne, 973-694-4272. The Asian Longhorned Beetle in New Jersey (see Apr 10 above)

May 8: at Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, 442 Van Nostrand Av, Englewood: Program TBA.

May 15: at Bloomingdale Senior Citizens Center, 101 Hamburg Turnpike, Bloomingdale. (tentative location at print time; please check beforehand with Betsy Kohn): Living Safely with Black Bears - a slide presentation by Lynda Smith of the nonprofit Bear Education and Resource (BEAR) Group about New Jersey's bear situation; dos and don'ts when encountering a bear, and how to peacefully coexist with black bears. Discussion will include black bears' social organization, habits, diet, ecology, and more.

Jun 12: at Louis Bay II Public Library, 345 Lafayette Av, Hawthorne. 973-427-5746: Conservation Meeting - a roundtable discussion of local issues: Sterling Forest, Ramapo River watershed lands, Meadowlands, Highlands) and the campaign to place and pass a referendum reinstating Bergen County's Open Space Trust Fund (which expires at the end of 2003). An opportunity to bring attention to your concerns and issues.

HIGHLANDS COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Held at 7:30 pm on the FIRST TUESDAY of the month at Pompton Lakes Public Library, 333 Wanaque Av, Pompton Lakes. (Apr 2, May 7, Jun 4). Everyone interested in Highlands conservation is invited. For information or to check the meeting schedule, contact Committee Chair Bill O'Hearn at 973-962-0562 or william_ohearn@juno.com.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: This year, you can help with our campaign to persuade first the Freeholders and second the voters to extend the Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund for another five years; or help interview and endorse candidates for the NJ Assembly and Senate; or work on conservation issues in the Ramapo and Hackensack River watersheds and NJ Highlands; or help with public education programs, publicity, tabling, river cleanups, petition drives or fundraising. Or if you prefer, you can focus on an issue, such as air quality, environmental justice, nuclear energy, population, transportation, urban renewal or wildlife and endangered species, or another issue of your choosing. To find out more, please contact Betsy Kohn, Ellen Friedman or Tom Thompson (see above).

E-MAIL NOTICES: If you would like notices of meetings, hikes and issue alerts, please send your e-mail address to

BetsyKohn@aol.com. NB: it will not be shared with anyone else.

You're invited! WALK THE HACKENSACK RIVER GREENWAY IN TEANECK!

SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 3pm

(walk lasts about 1 - 1.5 hours)

Meet at Andreas Park parking lot (near the tennis court), River Rd, Teaneck. Entrance is just south of West Englewood Av. Led by a member of the Teaneck Greenway, this guided walk will include the cultural history of this area of the Hackensack River, flora and fauna and the story of restoring this large buffer in the county's most populous municipality.

FREE! Everyone is welcome!
Contact: info@teaneckgreenway.org

Hudson Meadowlands Group

(Hudson County and southern Bergen County: Lyndhurst, Rutherford, East Rutherford, Carlstadt, Ridgefield, Edgewater, Cliffside Park and Fairview)

OFFICERS:

Chair: Steve Lanset 201-860-9870
slanset@hotmail.com

Vice Chair: Louise Taylor 201-224-3754
l.g.taylor@erols.com

Treasurer: Steve Lanset 201-860-9870
slanset@hotmail.com

Secretary: Tina Munson 201-941-5784
artina@rcn.com

Programs Chair: Open position!

Publicity: Open position!

Political Chair: Open position!

Membership: Louise Taylor 201-224-3754
l.g.taylor@erols.com

NEWS: Keep up with Group happenings at warp speed! Please send your e-mail address to Steve Lanset (slanset@hotmail.com) and you will be added to our distribution list. We are especially trying to network members who share similar environmental interests and to call meetings on shorter (two or three weeks) notice than usual. We are currently working on the Bergen Arches, Liberty State Park, and green transportation issues. Members are invited to help with these or other local issues. For those interested in our open volunteer positions, please contact Steve Lanset, at 201-860-9870, or at slanset@hotmail.com.

Essex County Group

(Essex County)

OFFICERS:

Chair: Richard Isaac 973-716-0297
risaacx@aol.com

Conservation: Kyle Lischak 973-218-9388

Political: Janine Schaeffer 973-736-0898
jschaeffer@sealtechcompany.com

Bob Wolff 973-509-7331
robert_wolff@urscorp.com

Media: Camille Gutmore 973-667-2203
cgutmore@hotmail.com

Outings: Dave Ogens 973-226-7107
bandit29@aol.com

Open Space: Michel Cuillier 973-736-0913
schatzidog@earthlink.net

Treasurer: Lori Tanner 973-857-0519
LJensen@montclairlaw.com

Secretary: Bob Wolff 973-509-7331
robert_wolff@urscorp.com

Env. Justice: Dawn Breeden 973-763-8968
rossbreeden@verizon.net

Fundraising: Kim McGuire 973-275-1030
mackim@aol.com

Programs: Sue Slotnick 973-564-9589
PSue82@juno.com

Membership: Open Position

Consumption: Mike Minaides 973-470-0793
msminaides@hotmail.com

Rahway River: Kirk Barrett 973-313-1218
kbarrett@cimic.rutgers.edu

ACTIVITIES: Working to preserve wetlands in the Passaic River Basin and remaining forested areas in Essex County, continuing to ensure that the Essex County Park and Open Space Trust Fund is implemented in a fair and consistent way, and addressing environmental justice (EJ) issues.

****OPENINGS**** The Group has an opening for Membership Chair, as well as openings for those interested in our Environmental Justice Campaign, our Wetlands Campaign, and for those who interested in recycling and consumption issues! For those interested in helping please contact Rich at 973-716-0297, or at risaacx@aol.com for details!! Thanks!!

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Held at 7pm the first week of the month. Please contact Rich at risaacx@aol.com or 973-716-0297 for the location and day of the week, which may vary.

GENERAL MEETINGS: Held periodically at 7:30 pm on the SECOND THURSDAY of the month at the Verona Park Boathouse, corner of Lakeside and Bloomfield Ave., Verona (unless otherwise specified). For directions, please call Sue, 973-564-9589.

April and May: No meetings scheduled.

June 12: Frustrated that you can't get from point "A" to point "B" in New Jersey via public transportation without hassles and headaches? Come hear about the recent implementations and future plans the New Jersey Association of Railroad Passengers (NJ-ARP) has for improving mass transportation in New Jersey. Doug Bowen, VP of the non-profit corporation, will share his vision for a more efficient, balanced statewide transportation network.

Loantaka Group

(Morris and Union Counties)

OFFICERS:

Group Chair: Paul Sanderson 908-233-2414
paulmsanderson@aol.com

Treasurer: Joyce White 908-272-4478
joyce00201@yahoo.com

Secretary: Lisa Melanie 908-875-5570
lisamelanie@comcast.net

Conservation Chairs:

Morris County: Chris Mills 973-377-1742
milssc@citigroup.com

Union County: Open position!

Legislative Chair: Ken Johanson 908-464-0442
kjohan@comcast.net

Political Chair: Meiling Chin 908-490-1054 (8-10PM)
chinmeiling@yahoo.com

Programs: Kathy Nelson 908-604-2331
ktnelson@mail.com

Outreach & Events Chair: Bob Johnson 908-771-9676
robert.johnson@comcast.net

Publicity Chair: Janice La Gala 973-895-2143
jlagala@cs.com (before 9PM)

Membership: Open position.

Air Quality Coordinator: Bob Campbell 908-273-5720
wrobc@intac.com

Highlands Coordinator: Phil L'Hommedieu 973-425-2808
plhommedie@aol.com

Invasive Plants Coordinator: Franz Leinweber 973-328-4625
fjleinweber@aol.com

Greenbrook: Bob Muska 908-665-2296
rmuska@erols.com

The Loantaka Group has some very interesting meetings planned for this Spring. We'd welcome the chance to meet you and to introduce ourselves at one of our general meetings. Please see the meeting schedule which follows and join us!

This is your Club and there is always an open invitation to attend Executive Committee meetings. Right now, we have an open position on our Executive Committee. If you are interested in the position or would just like to find out more, please contact Paul Sanderson.

To join our emailing list, send a blank email to: Loantaka-Group-Announcements-subscribe@topica.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Meetings are held on the FIRST TUESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm in the Library of the Chathams. ExCom meetings are open to all members. Please join us!

GENERAL MEETINGS:

Meetings are held on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm in the Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St. (Route 124), Chatham. Everyone is welcome! Library phone: 973-635-0603

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Mar 12: Penny Jones, a member in good standing with the Fluorescent Green Party, will present "Splendid Scarabs". She is also the Recycling Education Specialist with the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority.

Apr 9: The current proposal to develop the Exxon tract in Florham Park threatens the Buried Valley Aquifer, which serves several surrounding communities. Ernie Cicconi is a Madison resident who opposes the development. He will speak and include visual materials to help you better understand the threat to the water supply.

(Continued on page 8)