



# Federated Conservationists of Westchester County

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## Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

## Keep up with us!

Following us on social media is the best way to keep up with day-to-day announcements



## Become a Member

**Join FCWC today!**

FCWC is an environmental coalition of individual and organizational members.

As an umbrella organization, we are well suited to foster the exchange of resources and ideas from local environmental groups and to channel their efforts to maximize our collective outreach.

If you would like to learn more, please visit [www.fcwc.org/membership](http://www.fcwc.org/membership)

October 2015

## Our Mission and Vision

Our mission is to provide leadership that educates people about environmental issues, problems, and solutions; advocates sound decision making; and works with groups and individuals to protect Westchester's natural resources.

FCWC envisions a county in which an environmental ethic defines and shapes all public and private decisions affecting natural resources.

## 50th Anniversary Gala Wrap-Up

While sitting the wake of excitement from our 50th Anniversary Gala, Federated Conservationists of Westchester County would like to begin this wrap-up with a warm thank you to all those who made the night possible.

Sponsors, attendees, honorees, board members, staff, volunteers, and friends - we are so grateful for the generous support and words of encouragement we received for this evening, without it such a wonderful event would not have been possible.

On Saturday, September 26th over 100 members and friends joined us as we celebrated FCWC's 50th Anniversary and the three outstanding environmental leaders FCWC had selected for its Green Legacy Award: Pace Law School, Bedford 2020, and Dr. Cynthia Rosenzweig. Spirits were high as guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, live music, silent auction, and beautiful views at the home of Philip and Barbara Zegarelli in Sleepy Hollow, NY.

The timing of the benefit couldn't have been more appropriate, as Dr. Cynthia Rosenzweig noted, as the United Nations converged for the Sustainable Development Summit that same weekend to set sustainable development goals for the next 15 years. It is fitting that the events happened simultaneously as both are a testament to how far the dialog on sustainability has come.



## Newest Conservation Café

### Bag the Plastic: The Blight of Plastic Bags on the Environment

**Friday, November 6th**

**8:30 - 10:30 am**

**Greenburgh Public Library**

Join Conservation Café - a consortium of eight Westchester County-based partners for a discussion on plastic bags and their impact on the environment.

Learn why plastic bags are problematic for the environment, where they end up, and what can be done about them.

#### Speakers include:

Patti Wood, co-founder and Executive Director of Grassroots Environmental Education

Anne Bobroff-Hajal, member of Eco-Neighbors in White Plains

Catherine Parker, Westchester Legislator

Nancy Seligson, Supervisor of the Town of Mamaroneck

## Meetings of Interest

### Pace Law School Hosts "Magna Carta: Enduring Legacy 1215-2015"

Sponsored by:  
the Law Library of Congress and the  
American Bar Association.

Get a more detailed summary about the night's event by visiting our 50th Anniversary Gala webpage from [www.fcwc.org](http://www.fcwc.org). You can see all of the video's shown throughout the night, pictures, and a video of our Twitter Toasts. Also check out our [Facebook page](#) for pictures from the night!



Guests enjoying drinks and music in the courtyard at the home of Philip and Barbara Zegarelli.



Past and current members of FCWC's Board of Directors

October 13-26, 2015  
Pace Law School Campus



This exhibit honors the 800th anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta and will be open to the public.

Pace Law School has also prepared accompanying exhibits that may be viewed in the lobby of Ottinger Hall and the lobby of the Pace Law Library during regular hours

Join Professor Nicholas Robinson in a presentation of "The Roots of Environmental Law in Magna Carta and The Forest Charter" on October 22nd at 5pm.

For more information visit:  
[www.law.pace.edu/magna-carta](http://www.law.pace.edu/magna-carta)

## WGBC Leaders in Sustainability Speaker Series

WGBC LEADERS IN SUSTAINABILITY SPEAKER SERIES: How to Inspire Organizational Sustainability



### "How to Inspire Organizational Sustainability"

Please join Westchester Green Business Challenge on Friday October 16th for the inaugural Westchester Green Business Leadership in Sustainability Speaker Series.



This talented student duet was from SUNY Purchase.

## My Week with an Electric Vehicle

### Driving on Energi

By Alicia Molloy, Program Director FCWC

During the last week of September I had a weeklong opportunity to participate in a new program sponsored by the United States Department of Energy and chosen partner Empire Clean Cities called 'Driving on Energi.'



For one week the program gave me a Ford Fusion Energi, electric vehicle, to test drive; the aim being to get electric vehicles (EVs) in the hands of social media influencers and spread the word about EV practicality and feasibility.

After my seven days and many miles spent traveling all over Westchester county (with only about 20 of those miles using traditional petrol) with the Ford Fusion Energi, here's a little about my experience and my take on some of the most pervasive EV myths.

While driving the Fusion Energi around, I began thinking about what obstacles or misconceptions are out there regarding EVs, and tried to see if my experience driving one helped to dispel some of these myths.

#### 1. Myth: EVs look weird.

One of the first comments I would receive when chatting with people about my temporary EV is "that doesn't look like an electric car." And that is precisely the point! The Ford Fusion Energi, Nissan Leaf, Toyota Prius, Chevy Volt, and Tesla models are designed with the same esthetic as general consumer vehicles. I would have to say the only thing that might give away the Ford Fusion Energi on the surface would be the extra port for the electric plug.

This distinguished panel includes Joanne Deyo, Vice President, Facilities, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Jim Diamond, CEO, Diamond Properties, LLC, and Lisa Moir, Chef & Owner, The Blue Pig Ice Cream.

[Register](#)

## 2. Myth: I won't be able to drive very far on the range.

Obviously some electric cars have ranges from 80- 300 miles, however there are some EV models, such as with the Ford Fusion Energi and Chevy Volt where gas is used as a backup to the main electric battery. The Ford Fusion Energi got approximately 20 gallons on pure electric, and after the battery was drained, it automatically switched over to run on gasoline. The other neat aspect is the regenerative braking. Every time you braking energy gets sent back to the battery. (There was even a fun little braking coach that encourages you to brake smoother to increase efficiency with the car).

Read the full blog post here: [www.fcwc.wordpress.com](http://www.fcwc.wordpress.com)

## Solarize Westchester Launches Round 2 - Press Release



Starting this month and until March 2016, homeowners and commercial property owners in six Westchester communities will have the opportunity to participate in a solar power discount program that makes installing solar electric systems simpler and more affordable.

For the second round of Solarize campaigns, Solarize Westchester has selected the following communities to participate:

- Solarize Hastings-Dobbs Ferry (the Villages of Hastings-on-Hudson and Dobbs Ferry)
- Solarize Rye Brook (the Village of Rye Brook)
- Solarize Somers-New Castle (the Towns of Somers and New Castle)
- Solarize Tarrytown (the Village of Tarrytown)

The Solarize program encourages increased adoption of small-scale solar electricity systems by offering lower installation costs due to economies of scale. Group discounts offered by a competitively selected, pre-vetted, qualified solar contractor are coupled with extensive community outreach and education to create awareness and build interest.

See full press release here:

[Solarize Westchester Announces Communities Selected for Second Round of Solar Power Program](#)

### Contact Information

Website:

[www.solarizewestchester.com](http://www.solarizewestchester.com)

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[nicola@adbundantefficiency.com](mailto:nicola@adbundantefficiency.com)

### Upcoming Events

Each Solarize coalition features workshops and other events to educate residents about the benefits of Solarize Westchester.

For a full list of upcoming events see below open to the public.

### Upcoming Public Solarize Launch Events

Solarize Hastings- Dobbs Ferry	Solarize Tarrytown	Solarize Hastings- Dobbs Ferry	Solarize Rye Brook	Solarize Somers- New Castle	Solarize Somers- New Castle
<b>Thursday Oct. 15</b> 7:30-9pm Dobbs Ferry Village Hall, 112 Main St, Dobbs Ferry	<b>Thursday Oct. 15</b> 7-8:30pm Tarrytown Village Hall, One Depot Plaza, Tarrytown	<b>Sunday Oct. 18</b> 3-4:30pm James Harmon Community Center, 44 Main St., Hastings-on Hudson	<b>Tuesday Oct 22</b> 7:30-9pm Rye Brook Village Hall, 938 King St., Rye Brook	<b>Monday Oct. 26</b> 7-8:30 pm New Castle Town Hall, 200 S. Greeley Ave., New Castle	<b>Thursday Oct. 29</b> 7-9pm Somers Town House, 335 Rte. 202, Somers

## UPCOMING EVENTS

For a full list of our member organization's events and happenings, check out our Federation Calendar at [www.fcwc.org/calendar](http://www.fcwc.org/calendar). Remember to always confirm events before attending. Check back regularly as we are always updating.

### Fall Foliage Hike

**Sponsored by:** Friends of Trailside Nature Museum

**When:** Saturday October 17, 2PM

**Where:** Meet at Trailside Nature Museum in Ward Pound Ridge Reservation

Join Trailside staff as they hike through the Reservation to observe the fall colors. Visit some of the best scenic views the park has to offer in search of the true grandeur of the season. Sturdy shoes and plenty of water recommended, dress appropriately for weather. For more information call 914-864-7322.

### Loose Leaf Crafts

**Sponsored by:** Westmoreland Sanctuary

**When:** Saturday October 17, 12-2PM

**Where:** Westmoreland Sanctuary, 260 Chestnut Ridge Road, Bedford Corners  
Come learn more about leaves, why are they changing color and falling, what makes them look so different? Also go on a quick hike to find fallen leaves to use in the craft project. Ages 5 and up. Members free. \$5/Nonmember. For more information contact: Stephen Sciamé at [ssciamé@westmorelandsanctuary.org](mailto:ssciamé@westmorelandsanctuary.org)

### Sheldrake's Fall Festival

**Sponsored by:** Sheldrake Environmental Center

**When:** Sunday October 18, 1-4PM

**Where:** Sheldrake Environmental Center, 685 Weaver Street, Larchmont

Join Sheldrake for a fun-filled nature Sunday! Live Raptor Shows, Guided

Nature Walks, Native Plant Education, Beekeeping and More! Save \$2/ticket if you purchase online before 10/18! \$5 members, \$8 non-members, free for children under 2. On day of event, tickets will be \$7 for members, \$10 for non-members.

Purchase [online](#) now.

### **Stinkhorns, Puffballs, and Witches' Butter**

**Sponsored by:** Friends of Rye Nature Center

**When:** Saturday October 24, 9:30AM

**Where:** Rye Nature Center, 873 Boston Post Road, Rye, NY

These are just a few of the strange, beautiful, and ecologically important fungi we may find during this walk and talk. Suggested for ages 10 and up.

\$5/person members, \$10/person non-members. For more information email-[info@ryenaturecenter.org](mailto:info@ryenaturecenter.org).

### **Bats in Peril**

**Sponsored by:** Teatown Lake Reservation

**When:** Thursday October 29, 7PM

**Where:** Teatown Lake Reservation, 1600 Spring Valley Road, Ossining  
FOR ADULTS Bats are amazing mammals that help keep insect populations in check. Sadly New York's bat populations are in a critical state of decline due to white-nose syndrome. Come learn all about the curious and often misunderstood world of nocturnal insect-eating bats, and what present-day challenges they face. Learn why we should all care about a future without these important little creatures. More Information: <http://www.teatown.org>.

### **Halloween Happenings**

**Sponsored by:** Friends of Hilltop Hanover Farms

**When:** Saturday October 31, 10AM-4PM

**Where:** Hilltop Hanover Farm, Yorktown Heights

Come in costume and get 10% off your produce and meet Zombie Farmers, pick your pumpkins, have some cider and play cow-pie bingo. Free tours & crafts and lots of fun for all. For more information.

<http://www.hilltophanoverfarm.org/events/>

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We hope you find the information contained within this E-News relevant and useful. As always, please keep in touch and let us know your thoughts and ideas regarding environmental issues throughout the County.

Sincerely,

Federated Conservationists of Westchester County

