



FCWC

Federated Conservationists
of Westchester County, Inc.

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Meeting of Interest

Managing Street Trees: What You Should Know For Success

Thursday, December 15
8:30am-1pm
Westchester County Center, White Plains

This workshop will focus on the selection of appropriate street trees and discuss insects, diseases and other environmental factors and how their influence

December 2016

Our Vision And Mission

FCWC, founded in 1965, envisions a county in which an environmental ethic defines and shapes all public and private decisions.

Our mission is to provide leadership that educates about environmental issues, advocates sound decision making, and unifies groups and individuals to protect and preserve Westchester's environment and address climate change.

Consider Making End of Year Donation to FCWC

At this time of the year when you are thinking about making a gift to charities or local organizations that impact your life and community, won't you consider making one of these gifts to FCWC?

Here at FCWC, we recognize that grassroots efforts produce the most impactful results. This is why we have always encouraged local environmental action. This year we've seen extraordinary examples of local environmental action throughout Westchester. From dedicated individuals and organizations fighting the Algonquin Pipeline expansion, to multiple municipalities passing local plastic bag ordinances, to Rivertowns and landlocked towns alike rallying together to ensure that the Hudson River does not become a parking lot for barges. These are just a few examples of the collective and tireless work performed by so many residents and organizations around the County. We're pleased to say we've played a part in each of these initiatives.

This year, generous support from our members and friends has helped us to educate and inspire residents in a variety of ways. We have hosted educational workshops on pollinators in peril, the impact of climate change on our wildlife, issues impacting Long Island Sound, and renewable heating and cooling options. We have issued policy statements about proposed changes to the passenger cap at the Westchester County Airport, about County legislation banning #4 and #6 heating oil, and on Spectra Energy's 3rd project. We've also brought together groups of non-profit organizations and municipalities to network and share ideas that have sparked many great conversations and partnerships.

If you have enjoyed reading our E-newsletter, attended one of our events, followed us on social media, or even enjoyed the wonderful natural world that we are lucky to have in Westchester County, we would appreciate your support.

[Donate Now](#)

and impacts on trees can be managed and controlled.

The workshop will feature four speakers representing Cornell University's Urban Horticulture Institute, Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center-Cornell University, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Approval is pending for continuing education credits for landscape architects and arborists. Annual training certificates for members of planning boards and zoning boards of appeals will be issued. May qualify for continuing education credits from other professional organizations.

[Street Trees Workshop
Flyer and Registration](#)

What's in store for 2017?

In 2017, look for us to do even more to keep dialogue going about climate change in Westchester County. As we approach 2017 with a proposed EPA administrator and a proposed Secretary of Interior who are both climate change deniers, the need for advocacy organizations like FCWC is critical.

We're putting together an 'action item' list that we can do individually or as organizations on how to move the environmental agenda forward in Westchester County. We hope to share this list widely and work with all of our members, supporters, and friends and beyond to have these action items become a reality.

We're also keeping our eyes on what is happening with the Westchester County Airport and will advocate for what is best for Westchester's air and water quality in addition to quality of life. We are hoping to host a public meeting on these critical issues early in the new year.

We are continuing on with our 'Greening our Towns' programming and we will help to bring municipalities together to share best practices on how they accomplished green initiatives (think shopping bag ordinances, LED Streetlighting, tree ordinances, etc) in their communities! These meetings will hopefully facilitate wider adoption of these practices around the County!

We always look forward to bringing together our member organizations and members at our Federation and Annual meetings. Stay tuned for more details about these events.

Finally, you'll also see some new faces on the staff of FCWC in 2017, because we're hiring 2 part-time positions! If you or anyone you know would like to work with us, please have them send in their resume to fwcw@fwcw.org. More information on our open positions can be found [here](#).

Shopping with Purpose

Raise money for FCWC while shopping for your holiday gifts! When you shop online with Amazon, simply use smile.audubon.com instead of amazon.com. On your first visit, select FCWC as your organization to support. Amazon will then donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to FCWC at no cost to you. Every bit adds up!



Events

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

Westchester's Winter Wonderland

Sponsored by: Westchester Parks Foundation

When: Now thru January 2 5pm

Where: Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

Holiday Circus Performances | Visits with Santa | RangersTown Rink Skating

and MORE! \$15 Admission....Unlimited Fun! Children 5 & Under are free!
Buy tickets [here](#).

Grand Holiday Illumination

Sponsored by: Untermyer Gardens Conservancy

When: December 9 through January 8 From Dusk to 8pm

Where: Untermyer Gardens Conservancy, Yonkers

Come see the walled garden fully illuminated! Opening nightly except in the case of icy conditions.

Wreath Fest

Sponsored by: Rye Nature Center

When: Friday, December 16, 9:45-10:45am

Where: Rye Nature Center, Rye

We will use local evergreens and wisteria vines to create decorative wreaths for the holiday season. Registration required by Wednesday, December 14th at 12:00 pm. \$30/person. Email marygillick@ryenaturecenter.org.

Christmas Bird Count

Sponsored by: Teatown Lake Reservation

When: Saturday December 17, 8am

Where: Teatown Lake Reservation

Celebrate nature this holiday season by helping Teatown educators in this important census to count wintering birds. The information gathered is compiled and sent to National Audubon which uses the information to monitor trends in populations and other conservation issues that impact avian health. Dress for the weather, bring binoculars and wear hiking boots. Free. Adults only. ** If you can't make it up to Teatown on December 17th, please look into other Christmas Bird County opportunities sponsored by local Audubon Society chapters. **

The Artist, the Musician, and the Birds of America

Sponsored by: Hudson River Audubon

When: Wednesday, December 21, 7pm

Where: Lenoir Nature Preserve, Yonkers

Anthony Philip Heinrich is a little-known 19th century American composer whose life is closely intertwined with that of John J. Audubon - so much so that he is buried with the Audubon family in New York City. His music drew inspiration from the wilderness and wild birds of the continent. Recently new examples of Heinrich's work were discovered, including one specifically dedicated to Audubon. Learn about this unlikely and unusual connection, with images provided by Audubon and music by Heinrich. Presenter: Fred Baumgarten, Director of Foundations, Government, and Corporate Relations, Sarah Lawrence College

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