



FCWC

Federated Conservationists
of Westchester County, Inc.

In This Issue

- [Federation Meeting 2016](#)
- [Sound Investment in Energy](#)
- [Greening Your Blue Jeans](#)
- [Black Ice Alert](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)

Join Our List

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Keep up with us!

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



Conversations on Conservation



Westchester County Airport Expansion: Taking off or grounded?

Friday, March 18, 2016
8:30 A.M. - 11 A.M.

March 2016

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.



Federation Meeting 2016

A Major Opportunity for Westchester's Environmental Community

For those who came, FCWC's 2016 Federation Meeting was a major opportunity for environmental organizations to directly talk to County and State level elected officials about the issues they care about - and the ones who showed up seized it.

Each year FCWC hosts a Federation Meeting for our member organizations to come together, build networks and share; but this year we decided to make the meeting a little more interesting.

In addition to allowing for our traditional programming, we invited elected officials from the County and State level to discuss environmental legislation on the horizon, and then offered the attending organizations an opportunity to share about their work and issues of interest.

The meeting welcomed 9 elected officials and members of their staff from the County and State level - all of whom dedicated three hours to talking about environmental legislation. Additionally we were very pleased to have representatives from 29



**Pace University, Pleasantville
Gottesman Room in the Kessel
Student Center**

Join Conservation Café for a discussion on the changes proposed to the Westchester County Airport passenger limitations by the County Administration.

Learn about what the proposed changes would entail, the history of the work that has gone into keeping the size of Westchester County Airport under control, and the concerns surrounding the environmental impacts of any changes to the current law.

RSVP

environmental organizations from around the county who came to discuss their work, their concerns, and what help they could use from the policy-makers.



This meeting was simply invaluable because it was a dialog - not a lecture. Representatives from each organization were allowed time to stand up and deliver on their main projects and issues, the elected officials then spoke about those prompted concerns.

Some key topics discussed included:

- The construction of the AIM pipeline and its proximity to Indian Point
- Investment in renewable energy sources and alternative transportation methods
- Water quality in Westchester
- Environmental education
- Municipal sustainability projects

We plan to share a more comprehensive report of what was discussed at the Federation Meeting our website in the near future. www.fcwc.org
[Read more on our blog >>](#)

**Welcome Back Purchase
Environmental Protective
Association!**

PEPA joins FCWC

**We are so pleased to welcome
PEPA into the federation!**

The Purchase Environmental Protective Association (PEPA) joined FCWC at the start of this year and we are excited to begin working with this group of dedicated environmentalists.

Founded in 1917, PEPA was established by concerned citizens living in Purchase "who sought to protect the public's well-being by balancing priorities for land reservation with strategies for managing local development."

Today PEPA is still a strong voice in Purchase. The organization monitors development proposals

Let's think about renewables.



Making a Sound Investment in Energy

By Kate Munz, Member Relations Coordinator

Some events over the last few weeks are a reminder that we should take pause to fully assess the energy sources that we, residents of Westchester County, are investing in.

Over the course of four weeks our backyard has endured a ['radioactive' water leak from Indian Point Energy Center](#), and a [home-heating oil spill contaminating the Bronx River](#). Not to mention there has been the ongoing battle concerning the high-pressure natural gas AIM pipeline expansion, which has received

and informs the public about relevant local issues, legislation, and policies. It even conducts appropriate research and hires professional experts as necessary to provide relevant information to the community and local governing bodies. PEPA also participates in local Task Forces and attends Town Meetings and public hearings.

To learn more about PEPA and how you can get involved with this organization please visit www.pepany.org.

P.O. BOX 21
Purchase, New York 10577
(914) 960-3088
www.pepany.org

Meetings of Interest



The Competitive Advantage of Green Marketing

WGBC Leaders in Sustainability

Speaker Series

March 11, 2016

8:00 am - 10:00 am

Join us for an exciting panel discussion featuring Westchester's green business leaders as we delve into the topic of The Competitive Advantage of Green Marketing.

countless calls demanding construction to be halted.

We think it is high time that we collectively take stock and reevaluate where we want our energy to come from.

[Read more on our blog >>](#)

Greening Your Blue Jeans



Dungarees, Levi's, daisy dukes, denim - whatever you call them, they use a lot of water.

We all wear blue jeans, they are an American staple. But what is less commonly known, is how heavily the textile industry relies on water. To make [one pair of stonewashed jeans requires about 500 gallons of water to grow, dye and process the cotton.](#)

Americans throw away about [11.1 million tons of textiles annually](#) (clothes, blankets, towels, etc) - that is a lot of water going to waste. This concern is becoming increasingly more important as the [south-western United States continues to face extreme drought conditions](#). Access to water is only going to become more difficult due to climate change and demand, therefore we need a solution. One that is becoming increasingly popular, especially in our area is textile recycling.

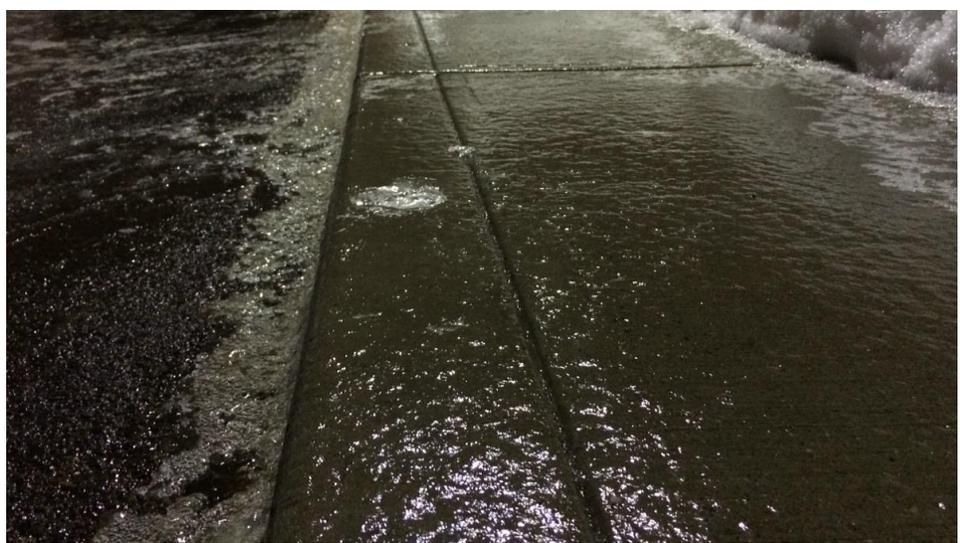
[Read more on our blog >>](#)

Black Ice Alert! Don't Kill Your Landscape with Ice Melt.

Panelists Include:

Renee Brown, *CW Brown/LeChase*;
Bud Hammer, *Atlantic Westchester*;
Jen Beato, *Eileen Fisher*;
Michael Dardano, *BuzzPotential*

Get your ticket



Member Organizations
You have a new benefit!

WESTCHESTER
Shared Resources Program

New Initiative by FCWC for
Member Organizations

As part of FCWC's 50th Anniversary initiatives we are introducing a FCWC Member Organization-only shared resources program.

An online directory, this searchable list will have items organizations are willing to loan out. This will enable better collaboration between environmental groups and smarter use of resources.

Each item will have details and contact information, allowing groups to make connections.



Check it out!
Take a look at our new page fcwc.org/shared

Here's some info on de-icers....but don't kill your landscape with ice melt.

Guest writer, Green Ossining

Originally published on www.greenossining.org

Thanks to Angie's List for the info below. Got any other ideas/thoughts/local shops that sell earth-friendly de-icing items? PLEASE SHARE.

Over the years, several effective deicing products have been developed to eliminate slippery surfaces. However, some of them may end up damaging plants in the landscape, flooring in your house or harming pets. Here are the most common deicing options, and how they might affect you:

Sodium chloride - While generally the least expensive deicing product, rock salt doesn't work well in temperatures below 25 degrees and can leach into the soil, changing the chemical balance to toxic levels.

Calcium chloride - Works well at temperatures below zero and is considered less harmful to vegetation. But it can leave behind a slippery residue that can be harmful to carpet, tile, shoes and your pet's feet. This product can be up to three times more expensive than rock salt, but you don't need to use as much.

Calcium magnesium acetate - Can cost 10 times more than rock salt, but it's salt-free and biodegradable. It won't harm the environment and is less corrosive to concrete than salt.

Urea- Primarily used as a fertilizer, urea has a lower potential to damage vegetation compared to potassium chloride, but it still has the potential to burn your lawn, shrubs and other plants. It can also contaminate runoff water with nitrates in the spring.

FCWC features guest writers from member organizations to provide these groups with another outlet to share their message. If you are interested in being a guest writer please contact Alicia at fcwc@fcwc.org.

Events

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

Sugaring Off Party

Sponsored by: Friends of Trailside Nature Museum

When: Saturday March 12, 12-3pm

Where: Trailside Museum, Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Cross River, NY.

Enjoy winter's sweet rewards at this annual celebration that offers food, music and sugaring demonstrations all day. Event and parking are free thanks to the Friends of Trailside Nature Museum. Learn more about the benefits of becoming a 'Friend' at the event. For more information, call the museum at (914) 864-7322.

Friends of Marshlands Annual Meeting

Sponsored by: Friends of Marshlands Conservancy

When: Sunday, March 13 at 5:30pm

Where: Marshlands Conservancy, 220 Boston Post Road, Rye

Joins Friends of Marshlands for their Annual Meeting. Following the meeting will be a woodcock walk and a hike down to the shoreline. Hank Birdsall will be guest speaker, to focus on Deer Management and Options in Rye and Westchester.

Learn How to Design with Native Plants

Sponsored by: Native Plant Center

When: Monday, March 14 8:30am-3pm

Where: Westchester Community College, Vahalla, NY

Native plants are versatile and essential to landscape designs of every size. Discover how to create beauty and a sense of place while providing habitat for wildlife--other than deer! Our stellar lineup of presenters includes: Darrel Morrison, Claudia West, Larry Weaner, and Michael Hagen. Click **here** to register online.

Egg Hunt

Sponsored by: Friends of Hilltop Hanover Farm

When: Saturday, March 19 10am

Where: Hilltop Hanover Farm, 1271 Hanover Street Yorktown Heights, NY

Spring is on its way, let's celebrate with an Egg Hunt! Join us and together we will hunt for eggs, meet the animals, tour the farm, peek into the hoop house to see seeds sprouting, witness birds returning to the farm after the winter away, enjoy a self-guided scavenger hunt, and more. **Learn more.**

The Great Green Egg-Travaganza

Sponsored by: Greenburgh Nature Center

When: Sunday, March 20 11am-3pm

Where: Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Road, Scarsdale

Sun, March 20, 11AM-3PM THE GREAT GREEN EGG-TRAVAGANZA

Celebrate the spring solstice with a day of seasonal egg-citement! Participate in egg-themed activities, including our environmentally friendly egg hunt - and meet the GNC chickens. Crafts and games run continuously. Refreshments available for purchase. For discounted rate, preregister and pre-pay online only by Saturday, March 19. Event held Rain or Shine. **Book Now.**

Join the Effort to Restore the American Chestnut

Sponsored by: Teatown Lake Reservation

When: Thursday, March 24 7-8pm

Where: Teatown Lake Reservation, 1600 Spring Valley Road, Yorktown

The American Chestnut (*Castanea dentata*), once the predominant hardwood of the Northeast deciduous forest, has been decimated over the past century by an invasive blight. Come learn the current research being done and how you can help save this iconic species from extinction in a talk given by Charles Fulco, member of the American Chestnut Foundation. Blight-resistant saplings, will be distributed to each attendee, to plant at home. For Adults. **Learn More.**

Idle Threat

Sponsored by: Tarrytown Environmental Advisory Council

When: March 28 at 7pm

Where: Warner Library, 121 North Broadway, Tarrytown

Join TEAC at Warner Library for a viewing of "Idle Threat" and conversation with Producer and Star, George Pakenham. **Learn More.**

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