



FCWC

Federated Conservationists
of Westchester County, Inc.

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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



New! Follow us on LinkedIn

Are you searching for an environmental job or have one to share? [Follow our new LinkedIn page](#) for job postings, event updates, and more!

Call for Young Environmental Leaders!

We are working on programming for young environmentalists and would love your help! If you or someone you know would be interested in learning about opportunities to get involved, please contact: info@fwc.org

Welcome back!

We are thrilled to welcome back the following four member organizations:

May 2017

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.

Federation Meeting: A Discussion with Westchester Legislators

We were thrilled to have Westchester County Legislators MaryJane Shimsky (Chair of Infrastructure Committee) and Francis Corcoran (Chair of Environment and Health Committee) join us for our annual Federation Meeting on Wednesday, May 17th.

FCWC's Federation Meeting is the chance every year for our member organizations to come together, network and share.

We discussed a wide range of local environmental issues, including:

- The closure of Indian Point
- Potential privatization of the Westchester County Airport
- Possible threats to water quality, like expansion of nearby gas pipelines
- Ways to ensure the economic viability of renewable energy

and much more!



Federation Meeting 2017

It was inspiring to hear about the powerful work that our member organizations are doing! We also appreciated everyone's excellent questions - and we're grateful that our County Legislators engaged with all of us in such a candid and thoughtful way on a wide variety of complex topics.

[Friends of Trailside Museum](#)

[Friends of Read Wildlife Sanctuary](#)

[Bedford Audubon Society](#)

[Saw Mill River Audubon](#)

[Friends of Westchester County Parks, Inc.](#)

This section will feature a different FCWC Member Organization each month. We hope to spread the word about these amazing organizations!

Conversations on Conservation's Conservation Café

Pesticides All Around Us: Solutions To This Pollution

Friday, June 2nd
8:30am - 10:30am at Pace University

Co-Sponsored by:

Federated Conservationists of Westchester County, Grassroots Environmental Education, Greenburgh Nature Center, Mianus River Gorge, Pace University, Teatown Lake Reservation, and Westchester Land Trust

Please join the Conservation Café - a consortium of seven Westchester County-based partners for a discussion on pesticides. Learn about the current status of pesticide use nationally, regionally, and statewide, the impact of pesticides, and community-based efforts to reduce the use of pesticides.

If you are a part of an organization interested in becoming a member of Federated Conservationists, visit our [FCWC Member Organizations page](#).

Westchester County Airport

One of the most popular topics discussed at our Federation Meeting was the potential privatization of the Westchester County Airport (WCA).

FCWC has long fought expansion of the airport. Here's a 3-minute video with background information on the WCA by FCWC Board Member Carolyn Cunningham, who has been following the airport issue for decades:



Westchester County Airport Issue - FCWC Board Member Carolyn Cunningham (via Sierra Club)

Interested in learning more?

- [Check out the Sierra Club's](#) comprehensive Westchester County Airport resource guide.
- [Attend an upcoming meeting](#) on May 31st at 7:30pm in Rye Brook.
- Please contact Carolyn Cunningham at carolyncunningham@gmail.com to learn more about how to get involved.

In the News

Here's some important local environmental news:

["Incised Fumewort, new invasive plant, threatens Westchester"](#) by Dan Reiner

This article also includes a short video featuring Suzanne Nolan (Bronx River Parkway Reservation Conservancy) and Christina Andruk, Ph.D. (Iona College).

["Westchester could, and should, lead on renewable energy: View"](#) by Michael Shank

This piece by a member of Peekskill's Conservation Advisory Council calls for Westchester to be a pioneer in expanding renewable energy.

We read alarming news about the environment every day, but here are a couple of pieces showing environmental progress:

["The Natural Lawn Is Making A Comeback"](#) by Carolyn Gusoff

Here's a look at how one Long Island community is making the switch to pesticide-free lawns.



Patti Wood, Founder and Executive Director of Grassroots Environmental Education will provide an overview on the status and impact of pesticide use nationally, regionally, and statewide.

Sara Goddard, Chair of Rye Sustainability Committee (RSC) will discuss strategies for encouraging communities to reduce pesticide use on public and private property.

Peter DeLuda, Assistant Commissioner of Westchester County Department of Health, Bureau of Public Health Protection and Mike McCall, Westchester County Pest Management Committee - Pest Management Coordinator will highlight County policies, practices and other initiatives to reduce and limit pesticide use in the County.

A panel discussion with a question-and-answer session will follow the formal presentations.

[Click here for more information and to register!](#)

Meeting of Interest

FCWC's 52nd Annual Meeting

Thursday, June 8, 2017
5:00pm - 8:00pm at
Center for the Urban River at
Bezak (CURB), Yonkers

Interested in learning more about local pesticide use? Stop by the next Conservation Café "Pesticides All Around Us" on June 2nd! [More details here.](#)

"Senate Defends Climate, Health by Voting Down Methane Resolution" by Jeremy Martin, Union of Concerned Scientists
Limits on emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas, were left intact!

Want more updates like this? [Like our page on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

Do you have news or any environmental or conservation successes to share? Let us know at info@fwc.org; we'd love to share it in the next E-news!

Events

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

Science at Sunset on the Science Barge: River Talk and the Movie "Lost Rivers"

Sponsored by: Groundwork Hudson Valley
When: Thursday, June 1st, 7:00pm - 8:30pm
Where: Science Barge, Yonkers

As River Program Director for GroundworkUSA, Ann-Marie Mitroff serves as a co-coordinator of the EPA Urban Waters Learning Network with partner organization, River Network. Using her 20+ years of on-the-ground experience in managing conservation and river projects in urban areas, she provides guidance and program perspectives to urban waters practitioners across the country, including local Groundwork Trusts, through the Urban Waters Learning Network. Ann-Marie is also Groundwork Hudson Valley's River Program Director. \$5 suggested donation. [Learn more.](#)

Hot Topic, Take Action

Sponsored by: Greenburgh Nature Center
When: Wednesday, June 14th, 7:00pm
Where: Greenburgh Nature Center, Scarsdale

Threats to the environment requires immediate attention and action. Join academics, industry experts and policymakers to talk about current ecological issues, recent headline news and how it relates to our community. Held in partnership with the Lower Hudson Sierra Group. Refreshments at 7:00 PM; program begins at 7:30 PM. Free!

Sew Your Own Reusable Bag

Sponsored by: Bedford 2020
When: Thursday, June 1st and June 29th, 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Where: 84 Bedford Rd, Katonah

Together in partnership with the Community Center of Northern Westchester, Bedford 2020 and the Reusable Bag Initiative will offer monthly opportunities to sew your own reusable bags with the use of discarded/recycled fabrics. Thursday evenings starting at May 4th. No experience necessary. [Sign up here to participate.](#)

Beekeeping Series: Hive Inspection & Maintenance

Sponsored by: Hilltop Hanover Farm
When: Saturday, June 24th, 12:00pm - 2:00pm
Where: Hilltop Hanover Farm, Yorktown Heights

"Bee" inspired to learn about the fascinating world of honey bees and beekeeping. The workshop will introduce you to the basic terms used in beekeeping, bee biology, and a brief history of beekeeping, along with learning about the members of the colony and their function, as well as the various types of hives and

Arrive by 5pm to tour the historic YPRC (Yonkers Paddling and Rowing Club) and The Science Barge

5:30pm- 6:30pm
Picnic Supper and Business Meeting including the Election of Directors by FCWC Members: Class of 2020.

6:30-8:00pm
Presentation of FCWC's Green Seal Awards for Outstanding Environmental Advocates to:

Ruth and Seymour Klein Foundation, Inc. for their longstanding commitment to supporting the FCWC's mission and work.

We Future Cycle for their work with young people to encourage schools to recycle.

Presentation of FCWC's Edith G. Read Award for Outstanding Student Environmental Efforts to:

Victoria Barrett for her environmental activism; she is also one of 21 young people who are plaintiffs in a lawsuit against the federal government for ignoring the damaging impact of climate change.

Early bird tickets available before June 2nd; [click here for more details and to register!](#)

We hope you'll join us!

equipment required. In addition, guidance will be provided as to how to purchase bees and how to get started with your own hive. Fee is \$20 per class or \$100 for the complete series. [Register here.](#)

Got a minute? Here are three quick ways to help us out (for free!):

1. **Follow us on social media:** [Like us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#) to get updates throughout the month about local events, action alerts, environmental stories and more!
2. **Help us with your purchases:** If you're already planning on making a purchase through Amazon, simply use [smile.amazon.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!
3. **Share with your friends:** Find yourself forwarding our newsletter to your friends? [Please send this link to them](#) so they can sign up too!

Already doing all that? Thank you so much - we really appreciate your support! Please consider becoming a member if you aren't already; [here's a link with more information!](#)

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