Comments Needed: Evergy (Once Again) Attempts to Penalize Solar

TY GORMAN, KANSAS BEYOND COAL REP.

In April 2020, thanks to the action of the Kansas Sierra Club and Vote Solar, the Kansas Supreme Court decreed that Evergy (Westar) could not penalize solar customers because they were generating their own energy, ruling it discriminatory.

Now the utility proposes to replace those illegal charges with a grid access fee on solar customers that is still discriminatory (monthly residential grid access fee of $3.00 per kW of installed distributed generation capacity in Docket Number 18-WSEE-328-RTS).

Full Story
The work of the Sierra Club–Kansas Chapter continues!

The environmental damage done by the Trump Administration will linger for a long time to come -- and the Kansas Chapter's efforts will be more important than ever.

Full Story

Kansas is a state full of sun, so why does Kansas lag behind in solar power?

SARAH SPICER - WICHITA EAGLE

"Kansas is one of the 10 sunniest states and has comparable solar power potential to Florida, averaging more than 200 sunny days a year. Yet, Kansas ranks 43rd in solar generation this year, with only 0.23% of the state’s electricity coming from solar, according to the Solar Energy Industries Association, a nonprofit trade organization. The state also has little investment in solar generation on the utility-scale, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration."

Full Story

Chapter, Group combine Zoom events in November

ERIN DEGROOT, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

You might have noticed that many of our local groups have opened up their Zoom meetings to all members statewide. In this issue of Waypoints, our Group Events section will look a little different to accommodate this change. Groups will still have their local meetings going forward, but this month we have two presentations relevant to all groups, so be sure to take advantage of this unique opportunity to get to know your fellow Sierra Club members and hear speakers from across the state!
endorsements are here...
Remember to vote on November 3rd!
The Sierra Club - Kansas Chapter believes in a strong commitment to a healthy and informed democracy through certain activities to include civic and community involvement.

[kansas.sierraclub.org]

conservation news

Flint Hills Trail Designated a National Recreation Trail

Flint Hills Trail State Park receives national recognition by the U.S. Department of the Interior as a National Recreation Trail.

[Read Article]

Merriam Solar Ordinance removes barriers to residential solar

Merriam removes permit requirement for adding solar panels to houses, and allows solar panels to face the street right-of-way.
Lenexa Begins Curbside Compost Collection

HAROLD DRAPER

Curbside compost collection is now available to Lenexa residents.

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group news & events

state-wide events

All groups welcome!

Post-Election Lay of the Land
Host: Kanza Group
Tuesday, November 10, 7:00 pm | RSVP HERE

The Kanza Group invites all Kansas Sierra Club members and supporters to a meeting on the results of the recent general election and the potential impacts on anticipated environmental bills in the next legislative session. Chapter lobbyist Zack Pistora will host.

Join the call at 6:45 pm for some social time. The program will begin at 7:00 and end by 8:30 pm following a Q & A session.

RSVP to obtain the Zoom link and view updates on the Chapter calendar.

Central Grazing Company & Sustainable Ranching
Host: Kansas Chapter, Southwind Group, Kanza Group
Friday, November 13th, 6:30 pm | ZOOM LINK

Join the Kansas Sierra Club Chapter with our Southwind & Kanza Groups to meet Jacqueline Smith from Central Grazing Company near Lawrence. Plan to log in at 6:30 p.m. for a short social time, then be ready to hear from her at 7:00 p.m.

Jacqueline founded Central Grazing Company in 2015 with a few simple goals:
Raise lambs ethically according to the highest animal welfare standards
Regenerate grasslands by producing planet-benefitting food and fiber
Create economic incentives for independent, regional or organic farmers
Provide living wages to our workers
Build a transparent supply chain that works toward zero waste

She explains her commitment to regenerative agriculture and sustainable food systems this way. “We started this journey because we know the choices we make to feed and clothe ourselves have a huge impact on our planet and lasting effects for us. As more people realize this, environmental and animal welfare concerns are sparking a movement to buy more local and sustainable products.”

Show us your favorite Kansas nature or wilderness area!
Submit a small description and a photo (if possible!) to communications@kansas.sierraclub.org

what are WAYPOINTS?
Waypoints: noun. A stopping place on a journey; an endpoint of the leg of a course, especially one whose coordinates have been generated by a computer.