Only a Few Days Left to Vote in the 2020 Election 2.0

KARIN PAGEL-MEINERS, CHAIR, ELECTION COMMITTEE

Just a final reminder that the 2020 Election for Chapter and Group leaders closes at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, May 7th, 2021, so please vote before then. It’s important!! The nine member Kansas Chapter Executive Committee makes decisions on Chapter priorities and policies as well as how to allocate funding.

Are you having trouble locating your 2020 Election 2.0 Chapter and Group ballot? The digital ballots were sent out on Monday, March 22nd with the subject line: "VERY IMPORTANT!! Your 2020 Kansas Chapter and Group ExCom Election 2.0 Ballots Enclosed." If you use Gmail, look for the ballot in your “Promotions” folder. Again, Election 2.0 closes at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, May 7th, 2021, so please vote before then.

If you signed up for a paper ballot, those sky blue colored paper ballots will also need to be received by 10:30 a.m. on Friday, May 7th, 2021.

The Kansas Sierra Club Executive Committee made the decision to redo the 2020 election for many reasons. Many members did not receive their ballots until weeks after the original December deadline for voting had already passed. There
were also some issues with the visibility of the digital ballots, depending on the email service provider.

So please vote! Your December vote will not count.

Your voice and participation in the election is truly valued as is your ongoing support of Sierra Club in general.

If you have questions about the election or your ballot, please contact: karin.pagelmeiners@kansas.sierraclub.org

KDHE’s actions on Hog CAFOs don’t pass the smell test
CRAIG VOLLLAND, CHAPTER AGRICULTURE CHAIR
KDHE is helping hog producers to avoid compliance with surface water setback requirements at issue in a court case Sierra Club won in 2019. Sierra Club continues its fight to protect waters and our rural residents. Learn more about CAFOs and how they affect the environment.

Full Story

KCC orders Evergy to pay back solar customers for illegal charges
ZACK PISTORA, KANSAS SIERRA CLUB LOBBYST
Thanks to the legal efforts of Sierra Club and solar advocates and a recent order by the...
Kansas Corporation Commission, home solar users in Evergy territory are finally getting justice and bill relief they deserve.

Full Story

Kansas Sierra Club takes action to make Evergy accountable
TY GORMAN, KANSAS SIERRA CLUB BEYOND COAL CAMPAIGN

Kansas Sierra Club keeps the pressure on Evergy and the KCC to close all coal plants before 2030.

Full Story

Celebrating Earth Day in Wichita
LORI LAWRENCE

On Saturday, April 17th, many people of Wichita who care about our environment came to the WSU Metroplex to celebrate Earth Day. Several of Southwind Group’s members participated to create an awareness art piece that was larger than life....

Full story

Kansas Sierra Club Sponsors Earth Month Film
ELAINE GIEssel, CHAPTER CONSERVATION CHAIR

Kansas Sierra Club sponsored the documentary film “Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for our Time” for the National Storytelling Network’s “Earth Up” event. Read the full article to...
Industry Proposes Habitat Conservation Plan for Lesser Prairie-Chicken to Avoid Endangered Species Listing

HAROLD DRAPER

A Habitat Conservation Plan to avoid an Endangered Species listing for the lesser prairie chicken is available for public review. Comments are due May 14, 2021.

Updated Master Plans for Council Grove and Marion Lakes

HAROLD DRAPER

Master plans for federal land on Council Grove and Marion Lakes have been updated and are available for public comment until May 9, 2021.

group news & events

chapter-wide events

All events on Zoom and open to everyone!
Dawn Buehler -- Our Friend on the Kaw
Tuesday May 11, 6:30 PM on Zoom
Host: Topeka Group

Dawn Buehler is serving in her 7th year as the Kansas Riverkeeper and Executive Director of Friends of the Kaw (FOK), an organization that is the only grassroots citizens’ group committed to protecting the Kansas River. When formed in 1991, the river was almost completely inaccessible to the public. FOK changed all that by increasing the number of boat ramps from six to nineteen, and leading paddle trips to educate about the river. Dawn will tell us about her work with FOK as an advocate for the Kansas River.

National Resources Conservation Service
Tuesday May 11, 7:00 PM on Zoom
Host: Kanza

Tim McCoy, recently elected to the Kanza ExCom, will present on the financial and technical assistance programs available to private landowners through the U.S. Department of Agriculture to improve soil, create wildlife habitat and protect wetlands and forests.
The Kansas Land Trust - Meet Jerry Jost

Wednesday, May 12, 7:00 pm | ZOOM
Host: Southwind

Jerry Jost, Executive Director of the Kansas Land Trust, will summarize the conservation work of the Kansas Land Trust over the past three decades. He will use a role play exercise to illustrate how the use of conservation easements with willing landowners can help our community preserve our natural heritage for future generations.

SAVE THE DATE

KC Farm School at Gibbs Road - Growing the Future of Food in KC

June 8th, 7:00 PM on Zoom
Host: Kanza

Alicia Ellingsworth, Co-Founder and Executive Director of the KC Farm School at Gibbs Road, will discuss the mission of the KC Farm School, how it empowers individuals through on-farm, hands-on experiences and vocational education, connecting them to the land and soil, food, themselves and their communities.
**featured waypoint:**
**Marion Reservoir**

Photo submitted by Michelle Wolfe

"If you enjoy camping, boating, fishing, hunting, or wildlife watching - we have the place for you. Completed in 1968, Marion Reservoir encompasses 6,200 acres of water surrounded by another 6,000 acres of public lands. The lake is located just north of U.S. Highway 56 between the communities of Marion and Hillsboro, Kansas." - Recreation.gov

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

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**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.

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Waypoints is the monthly newsletter of the Kansas Sierra Club; content is submitted by our members and supporters. Articles may be edited for style and content or may be rejected at the discretion of the editors: Elaine Giessel, elaine.giessel@kansas.sierraclub.org and Mimi Moffat, mimi.moffat@kansas.sierraclub.org. Layout design by Erin DeGroot, communications@kansas.sierraclub.org.