

From: Frederick Tutman< info@paxriverkeeper.org>
Sent:
To: fred@paxriverkeeper.org
Subject: Happy New Year!

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Patuxent Riverkeeper. Don't forget to add info@paxriverkeeper.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

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On behalf of the staff, Board of Directors, members and boosters we thank you for your support all year round for the work of protecting the Patuxent River and its people and communities. Happy 2016!

Many thanks for your help making 2015 one of our busiest and most productive years ever! We have prepared a few photos and details to celebrate some of the highlights of the past year of good works at Patuxent Riverkeeper.



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Patuxent Health Study

PrK worked with a team from the University of Maryland and with local citizens to conduct the first ever water related public health study in Lothian, MD to assess impacts of water borne contamination on local communities and on under served neighborhoods. Study results to be shared during 2016.



Patuxent Rougnecks

Citizen volunteers continued their work during 2015 to help maintain safe and free-flowing passage and navigation along the Patuxent Water Trail. You can sign up to join work trips in 2016 to continue this important work. contact: info@paxriverkeeper.org



Wastewater Discharges

PrK members and Board Members worked and lobbied the State to clarify and improve its diligence and public notification after sewage spills. PrK continues to rally citizen engagement and promote activism to get better policies and outcomes from the existing regulatory systems. (Al Tucker and Barbara Sollner Webb shown here at Maryland MDE)



National Rallies & Energy Policy

PrK was an on-stage participant at the US Capitol at a summer 2015 Climate Justice Rally that marked the visit of the Pope to Washington, DC. This was one of several occasions where PrK has taken the national stage in Congress and elsewhere in order to keep our local river issues firmly linked to sustainable energy policy and to stem the tide against the impacts of fossil fuels and its waste stream on land air and water.



Local Grassroots Advocacy and Support

Grassroots means "local" and the heart of PrK's advocacy work is our many collaborations with local communities all over the Patuxent watershed. During 2015 we maintained a running portfolio of eleven separate legal actions aimed at enforcing environmental laws, obtaining reparations from pollution violators and protecting vulnerable communities from harm. Additionally we investigated and resolved scores of citizen pollution complaints. Here, lawyer Macy Nelson talks to press in front of a local circuit court after a trial in one of our legal cases.



Patuxent Jazz Series

2015 marked our first Patuxent Annual Jazz event on the river. As Riverkeeper Center at Nottingham gradually becomes a destination for Crop Hops, Home Tours, Bike Relays, Water Excursions and more; 2016 will see more such events. We hope to see you there...



Monitoring and vigilance

Our day-to-day vigilance, pollution investigations and aerial flyovers help us add "citizen-eye" to the process of policing the river and curtailing the onslaught of violations and pollution sources that continue to degrade the river. In Spring of 2015 we inaugurated the first ever upriver nutrient survey conducted by citizens to detect pollution hot-spots so we can work to reduce and eliminate them. You can sign up to help with the 2016 survey: info@paxriverkeeper.org



Community Building

As a community based organization we offered throughout the year opportunities for watershed folk to assemble, connect and celebrate their common connection to the Patuxent River. Signature events like our recent Oyster Roast for members and the Native American Storytelling event help us play a deeper role in a mobilized and informed citizen's lobby for clean water. Added to this are our newsletters, report cards, e-advisories, published articles, speeches and various works to promote conservation and clean water!



Service Projects & Restoration

Trash cleanups, tree plantings, water testing, and invasive species removal are just some of the ways PrK plays a support role in helping volunteers, researchers and others make a difference and build stewardship and activism to protect the natural resources of our region



Paddling Events and Trips

Our prime location on the Patuxent Waterfront affords the perfect setting to outfit trips, organize tours and outings and opportunities for our members and the public to gain river access, rent boats and safely utilize the vast but endangered natural resources of the Patuxent drainage. During 2015 we helped facilitate river trips for "Upstream Alliance, Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake, among other groups as well as hundreds of regular folks who just wanted to get on their river.



**Thanks for your membership and/or donation to help this unique and important work continue and grow.
Happy New Year!**

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Patuxent Riverkeeper
| 17412 Nottingham Road; Upper Marlboro, MD, 20772 | 301-579-2073
info@paxriverkeeper.org www.paxriverkeeper.org

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