

From: Patuxent Riverkeeper< info@paxriverkeeper.org>
Sent:
To: fred@paxriverkeeper.org
Subject: Looking forward to April showers and May flowers?

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!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



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 the environmental health of its people and communities.

Just a simple reminder of some upcoming events and activities on your river that can enhance your own connection to this amazing water resource and also support the community of citizens fighting to conserve it. Hope to see you on the Patuxent!



It's time to get the crud out of the river!

SPRING GREETINGS FROM PATUXENT RIVERKEEPER:

As Spring flowers and fresh greenery start to poke out of the ground, and annual river cleanups start to roll out; we have some exciting plans at Patuxent Riverkeeper. We particularly want to draw your attention to our kick-off event on the Patuxent waterfront for the 2018 outdoor season planned for later this month on [April 28th 2018](#). The day starts with a "Teach-In"; which is a workshop that is the brainchild of our Board of Directors aimed at putting environmental advocacy tools into the hands of as many people as possible in the Patuxent watershed. Our new collaborator "Namati" is an organization that has been working internationally to help citizen activists become "barefoot lawyers" by sharing various para-

legal techniques, tactics and knowledge. Vivek Maru will host our first Teach-in. You can see a link of Vivek presenting a TED talk about his vision of [barefoot lawyers](#).

Also on April 28th we will hold our annual member meeting for 2017 (yes we know it is late). Then you can join us for a Native-American styled celebration of water and the Patuxent River and finally a bonfire with drum circle in the evening. We really hope you can join us by making a reservation here: [Registration/Reservation](#)

Also, we hope you will check out the video first installment of our new video entitled: "[Why I became a Riverkeeper](#)".

Read on for more news, events and volunteer opportunities along the the river you care about...

A Big Win for the River! No more Brandywine Coal Waste....

Patuxent Riverkeeper along with citizens in the Brandywine region successfully convinced the Prince George's County District Council to deny the renewal of the zoning exception for the Brandywine Coal waste site operated by NRG. The site had been operating continuously for about 44 years, although it was originally created as a "temporary" disposal site back in the 1970's. More recently citizens filed a Federal/EPA Civil Rights complaint over the wide range of toxic hazards, dump sites, a Super Fund site, plus multiple power plants being planned and situated in Brandywine.



In this latest outcome, one of the issues that came up during oral arguments was that some 70% of the waste being currently disposed of daily at the Brandywine facility is actually from Charles County-- since that County closed their own coal waste site some years ago as a result of earlier litigation by both Patuxent and Potomac Riverkeeper. With only 30% of the coal waste now being dumped in the Brandywine site sourcing from Prince George's (Chalk Point); and with various health and environmental issues raised by residents, the District Council intervened in the case after a conditional approval was issued by the Zoning Hearing Examiner. Oral arguments were held on February 26th and the vote by the District Council occurred on March 26th 2018. The Council voted unanimously to terminate the special exception.

As near as we can determine, the Brandywine site on North Keyes Road was certainly among the largest, if not THE largest such coal disposal facility in the region. Here are some handy stats on local coal waste:

- Brandywine: 217 acres total, 29 acres (were!) used for active disposal
- Westland (Dickerson): 180 acres total, 64.4 acres used for active disposal
- Ft. Armistead Rd Lot 15 Landfill: 65 acres total, 32 acres used for active disposal

SAVE THE DATE! April 28, 2018

Honor the Earth, the Sky and
Water!

10:00 am-noon ---Teach-In:
Community Discussion- Putting the
Power of Law in People's Hands *

1:00pm -3:00pm---2018 Sacred
Waters Ceremony *

4:00pm--6:00pm---Annual Member
meeting

7:00pm-9:00pm---Pot luck, Bonfire, storytelling & drum circle under a full moon!

* Please register online:

<http://paxriverkeeper.org/product/honor-the-earth-sky-water/>



**Thanks for your membership, donations and support for the
cause of a clean Patuxent River. See you on the river soon!**

► DONATE NOW

**A Message from and for our friends in Hyattsville
Our Community deserves clean air, clean water and safe streets!**

Please come out and oppose building a CONCRETE BATCHING PLANT across from the Bladensburg Waterfront Park in Bladensburg, MD. The community has been fighting this proposed plant for almost a year and the next step is April 16 at 1:30 pm. The community will

deliver our strong opposition to the Prince George's County Council on why this is NOT what we want or need in our neighborhood. The Port Towns Environmental Action (PTEA) previously filed an appeal on the Zoning Hearing Examiner's decision to approve building a new concrete batching plant at the Ernest Maier operation in Bladensburg. The Prince George's County Council will now hear the public's arguments and render their decision on the plant. We need all who care about these issues to SHOW up in FORCE to oppose the plant at this April 16 hearing (1:30pm.) Please wear 'red' to the hearing showing we want a 'STOP' to development that compromises our health and the health of our environment! We are standing for NO more air & water pollution and diesel exhaust. We deserve a community that is free of toxins and safe streets. You can help us in two ways:

1) It is urgent that our County Councilmember Andrea Harrison hears that we do not want a concrete batching plant in the Port Towns/Bladensburg!
(this site is located in her district)
Call or email today: 301-952-3864; rcstreeter@co.pg.md.us (Rodney Streeter, Chief of Staff)

2) Attend the Public Hearing and wear "RED"
Monday, April 16, 2018 @ 1:30pm at the
County Administration Building, 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro, MD
20722
(Free Parking at Equestrian Center & Free Shuttle Bus to County Administration Building)

For more on the case and the serious health issues of concrete plants and diesel exhaust visit web site:

www.JoinPTEA.org

Email: JoinPTEA@gmail.com

Facebook: @JoinPTEA

Port Towns Environmental Action (PTEA) is a coalition fostering environmental and social justice in the Port Towns communities of Prince George's County while promoting local sustainable practices that create equitable, healthy, and safe communities.

2018 Grassroots River Cleanup
Save the Date: April 14, 2018*

It's that time again, to get out of the house, head for the river, stream or creek and do your part to haul away the trash and debris that has accumulated since the last cleanup. We are preparing a list of possible cleanup sites to be posted on our web site in advance of the planned cleanup date. We are also recruiting volunteers to help at various sites.

Inquiries to: info@patuxentriverkeeper.org

PLEASE HELP! We are most especially in need of volunteers to help out at a cleanup site being organized along route #108 at the border near Howard and Montgomery Counties. Interested volunteers please contact us at:

info@patuxentriverkeeper.org

SAVE THE DATE!

Meet a live owl and other critters, Talk with Wildlife Scientists, Enjoy Great food, music, adult beverages, Grand Prize drawing, fun activities, hiking, photography, fishing and more. Take a fascinating conservation tram ride, Music by Chuggalug, Door prizes.

RSVP required by April 13th, to event@friendsofpatuxent.org or call

301-497-5789. Hosted by Friends of Patuxent. Donations appreciated!




Annual Patuxent River Clean Up
VOLUNTEERS, ASSEMBLE!
Saturday, April 14, 2018

Patuxent Riverkeeper provides supplies, H2O, waivers, insurance, and tallies your clean-up results for the Patuxent River Commission.

To join our grassroots clean up, contact info@cleanpatuxent.org

"STAY CLOSE TO NATURE. IT WILL NEVER FAIL YOU"
FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT



YOU'RE INVITED TO A
Night on the Wild Side
EXPERIENCE YOUR WILDLIFE REFUGE

Thursday, April 26, 2018 • 5-8 pm
National Wildlife Visitor Center at
Patuxent Research Refuge
10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop
Laurel, MD 20708

Patuxent Riverkeeper
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| www.patuxentriverkeeper.org

STAY CONNECTED:



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