Welcome and Greetings!

-- We need our leaders to stand up for what is right. We need to stop the expansion of dirty fossil fuels and to create a world that embodies climate justice, equity and sustainability. ~ Solomon Duke, senior at Portland’s Franklin High School, protesting Zenith Oil’s terminal expansion

CALENDAR
-- Friday, March 15 – Youth Climate Strike March & Rally (for all), Peace Corner Bend, Noon
-- Wednesday, March 20 – The Human Element, a James Balog film, 6:30PM
-- Saturday, April 7 – Climate Change Public Lands Forum, 1-5PM
-- Wednesday, April 17 – Program TBD
-- Saturday, April 20 – Earth Day Fair, 11:30-3PM, Kansas Ave Frontage, Enviro Center

The Bad: Exxon is trying to prevent shareholders from voting on a proposal calling on the oil giant to set and disclose targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in accord with the Paris Climate Agreement. And the Trump administration filed a friend-of-the-court brief supporting five oil companies who are being sued by New York City to make them pay for damages related to climate change.

The Good: Youth rock! High school kids in Bend will engage in the worldwide Youth Climate Strike on Friday. Though this is a youth-led event, they invite us adults to join them! Meet up at the Peace Corner, NW Greenwood and NW Wall Street, downtown Bend (near Bank of America), noon. Power to the People? Amen!—that's what the times require of each of us. Complacency doesn’t pressure politicians and corporate boards to act on Climate and for a better world; grassroots—you, me, we—DO!

The Soft Side: Did you know that March 21 is International Day of Forests and also World Poetry Day? The poem FOREST by Britain's Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy is a celebration of the endurance and life-cycle of the forest, reminding us of our place in the natural world and how trees, planetary keystone species, sustain life on earth. You’ll find this evocative poem at the end of the Curiosity Corner section further in the newsletter.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS/EVENTS

-- Every Monday, Make a Call for CEJB!
Polluting industries and oil companies are actively working to weaken HB2020, the Clean Energy Jobs bill. We can't let them! Now more than ever, state legislators need to hear how this bill will benefit all Oregonians. RENEW Oregon, the enviro coalition the Oregon Sierra
Club is partnered with, has created a **Monday Call-In** event, and a nifty tool you can use to make a weekly call. Sign up here: [https://www.reneworegon.org/events](https://www.reneworegon.org/events) to receive an email each Monday morning with updated information on the bill and the most essential message our elected officials need to hear that week.

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**Friday, March 15 – Youth Climate Strike** – [Note: While this is not a Sierra Club event, we're helping to spread the word.] The youth of Bend will participate in this worldwide Youth Climate Strike on Friday—to protest global inaction on the Climate Crisis, to put pressure on elected officials to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to zero, and to ensure a habitable planet and sustainable future. Join in! The Youth Climate Strike platform is here: [www.youthclimatestrikeus.org/platform](http://www.youthclimatestrikeus.org/platform)

Show up, show the community we have the backs of generations to come! Contact enviroclub.bsh@gmail.com or isabel.merel0024@gmail.com with questions or concerns. Meet at the Peace Corner, NW Greenwood and NW Wall Street, downtown Bend (near Bank of America), noon, signs welcome.

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**Wednesday, March 20 – The Human Element, a James Balog film** – For millennia, many civilizations thought that earth, air, fire, and water were the primary forces—the elements—of Nature. Now, humanity itself has its own elemental power. The combined power of our population, our technology, our survival needs, and our desire for affluence has reshaped the Earth as we know it. We have created the Anthropocene.

In this new documentary from the producers of “Racing Extinction,” “The Cove” and “Chasing Ice,” environmental photographer and filmmaker James Balog captures the lives of everyday Americans on the front lines of Climate Change. The Human Element’s coast-to-coast series of stories will inspire us to reevaluate our relationship with the natural world. Watch the trailer here. At the Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas, Bend, 6:30PM gathering/snacks, 6:50PM program.

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**Saturday, April 6 – Climate Change and Public Lands—Exploring Impacts and Solutions** – The Great Old Broads for Wilderness have organized this conference to talk about the effects of climate change, visible all around us. We know that our wilderness areas and wild rivers are no exception. Although some public lands were originally established for resource extraction (like forestry and mining), we’ve learned they have immense value as tools to moderate climate change. The conference will look at how climate change is affecting public lands and how public lands can mitigate climate change. It will examine these relationships through several lenses, including our forests' and deserts' carbon-storing potential, wildlife habitat, and Central Oregon’s unique water cycle.

Organizations supporting this conference are Oregon Wild, the Juniper Group Sierra Club, ONDA, Vocal Seniority, Central Oregon Landwatch. As we look to create a more climate-resilient future, considering the role that public lands play is key. Topics include Forest Defense is Climate Defense, Climate Change & Wildlife, Climate Change & Waterways, Be the Beaver, and How Volunteers are Saving Streams from Climate Change, with enviros tabling. $10 donation requested. At Trinity Episcopal Church, St. Helens Hall, 231 NW Idaho, Bend. (Enter from St. Helens Place.) Registration required.

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**TAKE ACTION**
-- ACT: Call or email Greg Walden and tell him what matters to you. Rep. Walden has a shameful 4% environmental voting rating for the past two years, representing Oregon, a state where people place very high value on a clean, healthy, climate stable environment. Rep. Walden, think about it—you should align with Oregonians’ values! Constituent pressure is effective—go for it!

-- ACT: Write or call your state legislators on these bills; look up your reps here.
1) Vote YES on HB2623, the anti-fracking bill.
2) Vote YES on HB2619 banning neonicotinoids in Oregon, the pesticides deadly to bees/pollinators; read bill here.
3) Vote YES on House Joint Resolution 13, referring Campaign Finance reform constitutional amendment to a ballot initiative—let’s clean up Oregon’s extremely lax campaign finance regulations. Read HJR13 here.

-- Membership Election Reminder: Vote for the Sierra Club’s National Board of Directors by April 24. Find your email from sierraclub@electionservicescorp.com and follow the instructions. Read candidate statements here. Thank you!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

-- March 16 – VegNetBend Community Potluck – Bring a vegan dish to feed 8 with card listing ingredients. Suggested donation $2-5, 6-8PM, Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas, Bend.

-- March 18 – Public Forum: What’s Next for Federal Public Land Protection in Oregon? – With Rep. Earl Blumenauer and Sen. Ron Wyden. Wilderness, national recreation areas, wild and scenic rivers, and other federal public lands across the state preserve natural treasures and protect some of the values we hold most dear: wildlife; clean air and water; and opportunities for outdoor recreation, some of our greatest gifts to future generations. Doors open 3:30, program 4:00PM. At the Mazama Mountaineering Center, 527 SE 43rd Ave, Portland. Space limited, RSVP here.


-- April 20 – Earth Day Fair, 11:30-3PM, booths on Kansas Avenue between Bond and Lava. Stop by to say hi at the Juniper Group booth! Lots to see, lots to do, lots to eat at the food trucks. Enjoy this celebratory day!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT, QUOTES

-- We’d rather be ruined than change. We’d rather die in our dread than climb the cross of the moment and let our illusions die. ~ W.H. Auden

-- There are no gray areas when it comes to survival... The one thing we need more than hope is Action. Once we start to act, hope is everywhere. ~ Greta Thunberg, Swedish girl striking for Climate

-- Individually we are one drop. Together we are an ocean. ~ Ryunosuke Satoro

-- Science increasingly shows that the days of seeing natural gas as a bridge fuel are coming to an end. ~ Michael Bloomberg, UN Special Envoy for Climate Action, commenting on how Los Angeles has just abandoned plans to rebuild three long-standing natural gas-burning power plants, in a move towards cleaner sources of energy.
--- Trees are our most powerful weapon in the fight against climate change. It’s a beautiful thing because everyone can get involved. Trees literally just make people happier in urban environments, they improve air quality, water quality, food quality, ecosystem service, it’s such an easy, tangible thing. A widespread campaign of tree-planting worldwide could make a substantial dent in the world’s net greenhouse gas emissions. ~ Thomas Crowther, ETH Zurich researcher

--- Ecological Grief - Climate Change is increasingly understood to impact mental health through multiple pathways of risk, including intense feelings of grief as people suffer climate-related losses to valued species, ecosystems and landscapes. ~ Ashlee Cunsolo, Memorial University, Labrador, Canada. Read more.

CURIOSITY CORNER

--- Restoring Forests by Planting Trees with Drones - Every year, wildfires in the U.S. burn an average of 7 million acres, and our current method of replacing lost trees isn’t exactly ideal. DroneSeed has developed drones capable of deciding where to plant seeds and actually planting them, using lidar to create a 3D map of an area and a multispectral camera to gather details about its soil and vegetation. From that data, an AI model determines the ideal spot to plant a new tree. Seattle-based DroneSeed has developed special seed vessels—small pucks of nutrients with a seed at their center and a dusting of capsaicin on their exterior to deter animals from eating them. This is cheaper than using people, less wasteful and dangerous than helicopters and smart enough to scale to national forests currently at risk of permanent damage. The company’s drones can work in swarms of up to five crafts, and plans are to kick off its first commercial post-fire restoration project in December. Read more.

--- This Is Zero Hour - "Dear Elected Officials, We, the youth, demand that you reject the corrupting monetary influence of fossil fuel executives, lobbyists, or their front groups, and commit to protect our health, climate, and democracy instead." Explore well-thought out, comprehensive, succinct platform of Basic Requirements 2020, Mitigating Climate Disaster by 2030, and Just Transition by 2040—worth reviewing from this youth organization fighting for a future with a livable climate. Read here.

--- It is really important that we move past “national action plans” and start to take action immediately against two groups largely responsible for climate change: the 100 corporations responsible for 71% of global carbon emissions since 1988 and the wealthiest 10% of the global population responsible for 50% of consumption emissions. A mere 25 corporations and state-owned entities were responsible for more than half of global industrial emissions in that same period. Most are coal and oil producing companies and include ExxonMobil, Shell, BP, Chevron, Gazprom, and the Saudi Arabian Oil Company, while seven are cement manufacturers. China leads the pack on the international stage with 14.3% of global greenhouse gas emissions due to its coal production/consumption, and Chevron was the biggest individual company contributor to the rise of global mean surface temperature. If the fossil fuel industry and high polluting countries are not forced to change, we will be on course to increase global average temperatures by 4°C by the end of the century. The “single biggest way to have impact on climate change and other environmental crises is through collective pressure on policymakers to act in our interest rather than special interests,” pronounces climate scientist Michael E Mann. Read article.

--- Resource for Gardeners: The Oregon Flora project’s mission is to serve as the primary steward of Oregon’s botanical information and to guide its use and application. Topics found there:
- The Oregon Plant Atlas — an interactive mapping program which draws from a database of over 540,000 records to display plant distributions and the data behind each mappable point
- Photo Gallery — a collection of photographs for each plant featuring its habitat, general features, and details, as well as images of herbarium specimens
- The Rare Plant Guide — a searchable database and fact sheets
about some of Oregon's rare and threatened species

**The Vascular Plant Checklist** — provides the taxonomic foundation for the complete project, listing accepted scientific names, common names, and synonyms for all Oregon vascular plants

**A Flora of Oregon** — the definitive reference for plant identification

--- **Climate Change: Focusing on how individuals can help is very convenient for corporations.** Consider this. Although the power of consumers is strong, it pales in comparison to that of international corporations, and only governments have the power to keep these interests in check. Usually, we regard governments as having a duty to protect citizens. So why is it that we allow them to skirt these responsibilities just because it is more convenient to encourage individual action?

Asking individuals to bear the burden of global warming shifts the responsibilities from those who are meant to protect to those who are meant to be protected. We need to hold governments to their responsibilities first and foremost. At some point we will need social movements capable of changing everything, but right now we need to relentlessly focus our actions on that small group of people profiting off the destruction of the world, and not wait in vain on governments to do it for us. [Read article.]

--- **Carol Ann Duffy’s poem, Forest:**

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FOREST
In fact, the trees are murmuring under your feet,
a buried empathy; you tread it.
High over your head,
the canopy sieves light; a conversation
you lip-read. The forest
keeps different time;
slow hours as long as your life,
so you feel human.
So you feel more human; persuaded what you are
by wordless breath of wood, reason in resin.
You might name them-
    oak, ash, holly, beech, elm-
but the giants are silence alive, superior,
and now you are all instinct;
swinging the small lamp of your heart
as you venture their world:
the green, shadowy, garlic air
your ancestors breathed.
Ah, you thought love human
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till you lost yourself in the forest,  
but it is more strange.  
These grave and patient saints
who pray and pray  
and suffer your little embrace. ~ Copyright © Carol Ann Duffy, 2019

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- Like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/junipergroup/ and our Keep Waldo Wild campaign at this link.
- Sierra Club Juniper Group Meetup. Sign up for Juniper Group hikes, outings, campouts, programs, special events and field trips. It’s easy to join, easy to sign up for activities, is optionally identity-sheltered, and is entirely separate from Facebook. Check out the Juniper Group’s Meetup here.

Welcome new members and transfers! We also value your membership renewal and activism! Want to volunteer? Fill out the Volunteer form here.

Have comments? Submit them to juniper.group@oregon.sierraclub.org.

Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not. ~ Dr. Seuss

Sierra Club—Explore, Enjoy, Protect the Planet
Spring-Melt Season’s Greetings, from all of us at the Juniper Group!

Gretchen Valido, Chair
Sierra Club Juniper Group
juniper.group@oregon.sierraclub.org
C/o The Environmental Center
16 NW Kansas
Bend, OR 97703

* Please let us know your change of email address, and add this email to your address book to prevent spam blocking. If you do not wish to receive newsletters, please email us at juniper.group@oregon.sierraclub.org.

Sierra Club is America’s oldest, largest, and most influential grassroots environmental organization.

Our Mission Statement: Explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; Practice and promote the responsible use of the earth’s ecosystems and resources; Educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; Use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.
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