



SAVE NEWSLETTER

Saugus Action Volunteers for the Environment, Inc.

www.saugus.org/SAVE - www.SaugusSAVE.org - www.SaugusSAVE.com

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Ann Devlin

Can you imagine being able to light your tap water on fire? Part exposé, part mystery, part travelogue, part bluegrass banjo meltdown, part showdown – that's "Gasland", the 2010 American documentary written and directed by Josh Fox. SAVE is very excited to be able to present a FREE showing of this film at the **Saugus Public Library, 295 Central Street, Saugus, on Wednesday, March 26, 2014, at 7 PM.**

"Gasland" was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary in 2011. The film follows Josh Fox as he encounters EPA whistleblowers, congressmen, world- recognized scientists, and some of the most incredibly inspiring and heart-wrenching stories of ordinary Americans fighting against fossil fuel giants for environmental justice.

We hope that everyone will be able to join us to learn more about the drilling technology called 'fracking' and what it means for all of us.

SAVE is also happy to announce that we have finalized plans for our **2014 Annual Meeting and Dinner**. The event will be held again this year at Prince Pizzeria on Route One South on Wednesday, June 18, 2014. Please complete the response coupon on page 5 and send to our Treasurer as soon as possible.

Don't forget to check the SAVE Facebook page at www.saugus.org/SAVE for action alerts.

BOTTLE BILL UPDATE

In mid-December, the Sierra Club issued the following update:

Mass State Secretary Rules that the Bottle Bill Has Enough Signatures for 2014 Ballot

Boston, MA- With the Secretary of State's office making it official, the Campaign to Update the Bottle Bill announced that its initiative petition qualified today with well over the required amount of signatures. The top signer of the petition, Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino said: "This is an important day for the City of Boston and for the entire Commonwealth. The passage of this bill will help clean up our neighborhoods, expand recycling, and save cities and towns money at a time when we need it the most."

The Secretary of State's office issued a letter saying the petition had garnered a total of 94,950 certified signatures, more than 35% of the required 68,911 to qualify. "While an initiative petition drive is never easy," commented Janet Domenitz, Executive Director of MASSPIRG, "collecting signatures for this bill, which is so widely supported by the public and so long delayed by the Legislature, felt like making a touchdown."

The bill, which would place a five cent deposit on beverage containers like water, sports drinks, and iced teas, has been pending in the Legislature for approximately a decade. "So many people have called this bill a 'no brainer'," said Ryan Black of the Massachusetts Sierra Club, "because they all know what a big improvement this bill would be for our environment."

The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts, a key organization in the petition drive, deployed

members all across the state. "This issue knows no boundaries," said Lynn Wolbarst of Sharon. "Our League members in Amherst and Gloucester are as enthusiastic as those in Martha's Vineyard."

MASS PIRG recently emailed members and other interested parties the following:

Janet S. Domenitz, MASSPIRG Executive Director, advised that: "On Thursday, March 6, we packed a hearing room, with standing room only, demonstrating just how much support there is around the state for an Updated Bottle Bill.

First, a little background:

- The Updated Bottle Bill, the single most effective recycling and litter-reducing tool we have, has been pending in the Legislature for over a decade.
- In the fall, over 800 volunteers around Massachusetts helped collect more than 130,000 signatures on an initiative petition, so that the Updated Bottle Bill would be on a path to the November 2014 ballot.
- The way the process works is that the initiative petition becomes a bill for several months, and **that bill got a hearing on Thursday. It was a great hearing, and now we need to get the bill out of committee.**

So, that's where we need your help:

[Please email your representative and senator and tell them: This is the last chance they have to pass this bill. If they drop the ball, we head to the ballot.](#)

This is Beacon Hill's last chance to finally heed the public's will, by passing this critically important, overwhelmingly popular, and long-languishing bill. Once the Updated Bottle Bill becomes law, it will mean a billion bottles and cans get recycled instead of trashed every year. But we need your help to get there. Thank you."



BACKYARD BIRDWATCHING

This Winter has been tough on all of us, with the frigid cold and so much snow. However, it has not deterred our feathered friends from visiting the backyard bird feeders. Recent sightings at our feeders include three pair of Bluejays, a Northern Cardinal family, 2-3 Downy Woodpeckers, and numerous Tufted Titmice, House Sparrows, Mourning Doves, Chickadees, Grackles, Nuthatches, Mockingbirds, Red-Winged Blackbirds, Crows, Starlings, and most recently, several Robins – a sure sign that Spring and warmer temperatures are right around the corner!

We've also had many sightings of several beautiful Red-Tailed Hawks flying overhead or sitting on tree boughs throughout our neighborhood. In addition, we spotted a single Peregrine Falcon sitting on the porch railing of a neighbor's house.

Not to be outdone, other Winter visitors have made their appearance, including a family of 5 Wild Turkeys who wander throughout the neighborhood pecking at the seeds dropped from the numerous bird feeders. Deer can be seen occasionally grazing in backyards, nibbling at rhododendron buds and other shrubs. Several rabbits have been hopping about recently, and an opossum was out foraging in the late afternoon last week.

Although not in Saugus, our biggest thrill this Winter was spotting a large Snowy Owl perched atop a post very close to the road in a marsh at Salisbury Beach Reservation on February 1st. Luckily, we always keep a set of binoculars in the truck and so were able to see this beautiful owl in all his glory.

REMEMBER: As each of us looks back through the years at the diligence and commitment of SAVE members since our organization's inception over 41 years ago, we also look forward to continued vitality and dedication to SAVE's founding principles, with special emphasis on the two themes of **"THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY"** and **"REDUCE, REUSE, AND RECYCLE"** that have been a common thread throughout SAVE's history.

MEMBERS: PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE FOLLOWING UPCOMING EVENTS:

SAVE FREE Film Event – Wednesday, March 26, 2014, 7:00 PM at the Saugus Public Library, 295 Central Street

All SAVE members, as well as members of the general public, are invited to attend this FREE educational documentary film event. Come and learn about the drilling technology known as "fracking" and what it means to all of us. Refreshments will be provided. Please plan to arrive early since the film will begin promptly at 7 PM.

Saugus Tree Committee Spring Tree Maintenance at the Saugus Tree Farm – Saturday, April 26, 2014, from 9 AM to 3 PM {Rain Date: Sunday, April 27, same hours}

Join the Saugus Tree Committee and SAVE as we celebrate Earth Day/Arbor Day 2014.

The Tree Committee needs your help, and this is a great project for students to complete community service as a graduation requirement.

People are advised to wear work clothes and bring some work gloves, a hat, boots (as it may be muddy, and sunscreen/bug spray. If you have trowels, shovels or hoes, please bring them along.

DIRECTIONS to Tree Farm: take Jasper Street (off Central Street) then take a right, which is Cross Street (the sign says "to Auburn Street"). Bear left onto Auburn Street. The walk-through driveway is between 25 and 27 Auburn St. (Pioneer Sales Building), then walk down the driveway to right of building, over railroad tracks and follow dirt road to tree farm.

SAVE's Annual Meeting and Dinner – Wednesday, June 18, 2014

The 2014 SAVE Annual Meeting and Dinner will once again be held at Prince Pizza, Route 1 South. See page x of this newsletter for more details, as well as the response coupon for this important annual event. You can also find information on our website www.saugus.org/SAVE

DON'T FORGET!



SAVE ANNUAL DUES AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Just a reminder that, if you haven't done so already, please take a moment to submit your Fiscal Year 2014 annual dues and membership renewal. (SAVE's 2014 Fiscal Year runs from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014)

Many thanks to all those members who responded so promptly or who have joined as new members as a result of the recent Annual Dues and Membership Renewal effort. A very special

thank you also goes to those who so generously included additional monies earmarked for either the SAVE Scholarship/Educational Fund or the Environmental Fund.

Dues continue to be just \$5 per year for the first family member to join, plus \$3 for each additional family member who joins. Student dues are only \$1 per year.

The tear-off sheet below enables those members who have not already done so to submit their annual dues and indicate whether they wish any additional monies submitted with their dues to be applied to the SAVE Scholarship/Educational Fund, or to the SAVE Environmental Fund.

This is also a great time to update any email / telephone or cell phone / address revisions that will help us maintain current and accurate member information.



Enclosed is my check for membership dues for fiscal year 2014 (from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014).

Annual Dues are \$5 for the first family member to join, and \$3 for each additional family member. Student dues are \$1.

Name(s)E-Mail

Name(s)E-Mail

Name(s)E-Mail

Address.....

TelephoneCell Phone

Amount enclosed for dues.....\$ _____

Contribution enclosed for Scholarship/Education Fund (if any).....\$ _____

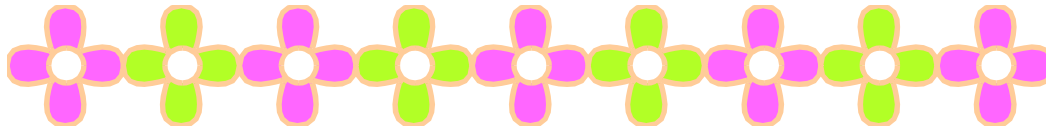
Contribution enclosed for Environmental Fund (if any).....\$ _____

Total Amount enclosed\$ _____

Please make check payable to SAVE, Saugus, and mail to: SAVE Treasurer Carol A. Chelf, 99 Edgelawn Avenue, Unit # 1, North Andover, MA 01845

While SAVE annual dues have continued to remain extremely low, your financial contributions are an important source of income that help support our ongoing efforts to promote a better quality of life in Saugus through environmental concern and action. These funds also make it possible for us to publish our newsletter, hold local Environmental Candidates' Nights, and grant an annual college scholarship to a local high school graduate or sponsor an environmental educational event.

Your continued support is most appreciated. Please direct questions regarding SAVE membership to Ann Devlin at adevlin@aisle10.net or at 781-233-5717



DON'T MISS OUT!
SAVE ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2014

AT PRINCE PIZZERIA, 517 BROADWAY-ROUTE 1 SOUTH, SAUGUS
 (SOCIAL HOUR BEGINS AT 6:30 PM, DINNER BUFFET TO BEGIN AT APPROXIMATELY 7:15 PM)

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING ALL OF YOU THERE! AND WE URGE ALL MEMBERS TO RESPOND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THE ITALIAN BUFFET WILL CONSIST OF AN ANTIPASTO SALAD, SEVERAL ASSORTED PIZZA / PASTA / MEAT DISHES, AND DESSERT, AS WELL AS SODA, COFFEE AND TEA.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL THE COUPON BELOW, TOGETHER WITH A CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$17.00 FOR EACH PERSON ATTENDING, TO TREASURER CAROL CHELF, 99 EDGELAWN AVENUE, UNIT # 1, NORTH ANDOVER, MA 01845, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT NO LATER THAN JUNE 11TH.

Parking: PARKING IS AVAILABLE ON SITE, AND THE FACILITY IS ACCESSIBLE FOR THE DISABLED.

ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER

I (we) don't want to miss *SAVE's* Annual Meeting and Dinner at Prince Pizzeria, Route 1 South, Saugus, on June 18th! Please accept my (our) check made out to *SAVE* for \$_____ (\$17.00 per person) for the dinner buffet.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Mail to our *SAVE* Treasurer, Carol Chelf, 99 Edgelawn Avenue, Unit # 1, North Andover, MA 01845, with check made out to *SAVE*, Saugus.