

FINDING THE TIME!

FOUNDING

Sierra Club Outings were started in 1901 by Club Founder John Muir. He was convinced that the best way to persuade people to fight to save valuable wild areas was to take them into the wilderness and let them experience for themselves the beauty that needs defending.

"Keep close to Nature's heart... and break clear away, once in a while, and climb a mountain or spend a week in the woods. Wash your spirit clean."
- John Muir

Fulfilling the Sierra Club's mission to "explore, enjoy, and protect" the wild places of the earth, Sierra Club Outings sponsors about 330 National and International Outings each year. We want to inspire and educate our members about the beauty of the land and the threats to it. Following the spirit of John Muir, our leaders are Club members who volunteer their time to scout, plan, and direct the trips. The Sierra Club operates National Outings as a not-for-profit member service. We run trips that Club members both want to go on and that contribute to the overall conservation and environmental goals of the Club.

MISSION

For more information on becoming an Outings Volunteer leader, please contact us at: national.outings@sierraclub.org

GETTING STARTED

Your local Sierra Club chapter newsletter reports issues of interest to the local chapter and announces candidate endorsements. To get involved with your chapter, call one or more of the conservation leaders listed in the newsletter.

RESOURCES

Sierra Club Web site contains more information about Club conservation efforts. Visit the site: www.sierraclub.org

Sierra Magazine reports conservation issues of national interest and suggests actions you can take to promote those issues.

Environmental Rights Network provides you with periodic emails about issues. To join, send email to: activist.desk@sierraclub.org and include your name, address, phone, fax, email, and member number.



SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS

AN INVITATION TO ADVOCACY

A GUIDE FOR OUTINGS PARTICIPANTS



WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PROMOTE CONSERVATION CAUSES

IF YOU HAVE NO TIME...

Join the Sierra Club or renew your membership.

Make sure that our membership numbers communicate to politicians that people care about the environment.

Your Club dues fight for conservation causes.

Vote... and vote green.

Our agenda gets further when friends are in office.

Vote for candidates of parties with green platforms who understand the issues.

Conserve, reduce, recycle, and reuse.

Buy products with less packaging. Use cloth grocery bags. Buy energy-efficient appliances. Drive less. Turn off unused lights.

Talk about conservation issues.

Get your friends and neighbors to vote, to recycle or join the Sierra Club.

General information: information@sierraclub.org

Membership information: membership.services@sierraclub.org

Phone: 415-977-5500



IF YOU HAVE A LITTLE TIME...

Write a letter.

Write your Congressman, your governor, an administrative agency, or to the editor of your local paper. Let people in influential positions know how you feel. The Club's strength lies in our ability to let our representatives know that the environment matters.

Join the Environmental Rights Network.

The ERN will provide you with periodic emails about breaking environmental issues and suggestions about where letters and phone calls would be most helpful. You will also get the Club conservation insiders' monthly newsletter, *The Planet*. To join the ERN, email: activist.desk@sierraclub.org

Visit your elected officials.

Meet with your elected officials when they come to your district. Talk, call and write to them about your environmental concerns.

Go to public meetings.

Speak on behalf of the conservation viewpoint. The opposition often has a specific economic interest and is sure to be heard. Make sure that we are heard, too.

Sign up for another outing.

Join us again next season!



IF YOU CAN FIND MORE TIME...

Be an active environmentalist.

Get involved with your local Sierra Club group or chapter. The Club's effectiveness is in its volunteer efforts: get out the vote, write letters to the editor, speak at public meetings, talk to the media. These campaigns require volunteer time and energy.

Work in the election campaign.

Select a "green" candidate and help with phone banks, distribute literature, or staff booths in shopping centers. Your efforts are just as important as campaign funds.

Go on an "Activist Trip."

Learn to organize campaigns concerning public lands issues.

Volunteer.

Get involved in community environmental activities.

Lead outings.

Take advantage of leadership opportunities through your group or chapter or through the National Outings program. Your time will carry the conservation message to others.

