



# Virginia Chapter Annual Report 2020

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**SIERRA CLUB**  
VIRGINIA CHAPTER



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## Acknowledgements

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Impact Map

*All of our staff, members, leaders, and volunteers!*

## Photography and Design Credits

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Picture courtesy Al Gore/twitter

**Design:** Grace Manno Studio

# Chapter Director's Note



Protesters march down East Broad Street Tuesday, June 2, 2020.

2020 was an incredibly challenging year that underscored the urgency of transforming our world to one where both people and nature can thrive. Despite continued challenges and setbacks due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, we have continued to achieve significant progress toward our clean energy and climate justice goals.

Virginia has further solidified our position as a clean energy and climate action leader in the South. Years of movement building plus prior wins culminated in major victories with legislative mandates for clean energy, a path to 100% clean energy for the state, and the defeat of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

We continue to reevaluate our priorities and our approach in light of the quickly changing environment both in terms of the pandemic and progressive norms and demands, in keeping with our strategic goals. Increasingly, we are finding ways

to center and uplift those who are most marginalized, and advance our commitment to equity in ourselves, our organizational practices and culture, and in our organizing and advocacy efforts.

We have taken more affirmative steps to follow through on our commitment to becoming an anti-racist multicultural environmental organization. Our chapter has developed three anti-racism action teams and is currently seeking a professional consultant to deepen our understanding of internal needs and provide training, facilitation and coaching on anti-racism, anti-white supremacy and decolonization. Nationally, Sierra Club has committed support for the Red, Black & Green New Deal, a project of the Movement For Black Lives, and we are learning from and following the lead of Black leaders in this initiative and in our state to ensure public officials cannot ignore demands for racial justice, voting rights, and more. Specifically, our chapter has contributed to furthering these efforts at the state and local level by supporting

a just and equitable response to COVID-19, including moratoria on evictions and utility (water and electricity) shut-offs. This included participating in and providing interpretation (Spanish language) for a rally for an extended moratorium on evictions organized by New Virginia Majority.

Preserving our climate for future generations is possible through a movement powered by people coming together. This justice-centered approach to advocacy means that we are dedicated to sharing our resources, power and platform with the countless communities who continue to suffer the heaviest burden of pollution and climate impacts. We cannot overcome the greatest challenges of our time without fighting for a future where the voices of those most impacted matter.

**Thank you for your support!**

Kate West  
Director

# 2020 By the Numbers

 95,000+ advocates

 20,000+ members

 926 Lifetime Members

  
Nearly \$493,000 in 501(c)3 grant monies received!

  
Over \$129,000 501(c)4 support donated!

 13 Staff

 20 Chapter Executive Committee members

 100+ Chapter and local volunteer leaders


 886 501(c)4 donors

 91 Monthly Donors

 1,752 individual donations

 4,406 comments opposing dirty energy projects

 1,135 comments supporting clean energy

  
1,018 actions including letters and social media posts sent to Governor Northam to ask that ACP and MVP be declared nonessential during the health crisis

 520 petitions sent

to DEQ opposing a permit for Digital Realty diesel generators, one of the biggest data centers in VA

 300 meetings with legislators

  
300 guests attended Environment at Risk, featuring 70 original works of art from 50 VA artists and activists focusing on the impacts of fossil fuel infrastructure on Va

 180 bills the Legislative Committee took a position on

 140 Clean Energy Lobby Day Meetings

 78 Press Hits

  
67 new climate and environmental protection laws passed

  
43 years since the founding of our VA Chapter in 1977!

 37 Virtual Events

 25+ Chapter Volunteer Awards

  
24 Letters to the Editors published

 12 local Groups and Activity sections

  
12 Megawatts of Wind Power - Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind installed

  
11 in-person events prior to COVID-19 shutdown

  
4 Virtual Grassroots Conversations

  
4 dirty fuel major projects delayed or defeated  
Atlantic Coast Pipeline, Virginia Natural Gas Header Improvement Project, C4GT, and Mountain Valley Pipeline (including subcomponents MVP Southgate and Lambert Compressor Station)

# Impact Map

## Victories

**Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP):** One of the most expensive fracked gas pipelines ever proposed in the country, slated to run 600 miles from West Virginia, through Virginia, to eastern North Carolina, was defeated in July 2020 after nearly six years of opposition by a broad coalition of activists.

**Buckingham Compressor Station in Union Hill:** This 53,783-horsepower compressor station was proposed in a historic black community and became the epicenter of a massive environmental justice fight. The facility would have pushed fracked gas from the Marcellus shale through the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. It was cancelled along with the ACP.

**VNG Header Improvement Project:** Certificate denied by SCC after statewide coalition mounted robust opposition. If approved would have provided gas to the now cancelled C4GT Plant

**Northern Virginia:** Sierra Club and partners successfully advocated for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to commit to 100% electrification of its transit bus fleet.

**C4GT:** One of two merchant gas plants planned for Charles City County was cancelled after collective community opposition, led by the Concerned Citizens of Charles City County and the SAVE coalition

**Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW):** Virginia's first offshore wind farm is located 27 miles off the shores of Virginia Beach. Once fully built, CVOW will power up to 660K homes, create at least 1,100 new jobs, and bring us closer to achieving our net-zero emission energy goals.

**Rocky Forge Wind Farm:** Virginia's first land-based wind farm was approved for development in Botetourt County. The 14 wind turbines are expected to generate enough energy to power up to 21,000 homes annually.

**Spotsylvania Solar Center:** When complete, the facility will have about 1.8 million solar panels feeding 484 megawatts into the electric grid, making it one of the largest solar energy projects in the U.S.

**Ready for 100% clean energy:** Richmond, Fredericksburg, Virginia Beach, Alexandria, Harrisonburg and Staunton were added to the list of Virginia communities committed to achieving 100% clean, renewable energy by or before the year 2050.



## Ongoing Work

**Rassawek:** The James River Water Authority (JRWA) planned to build a water pump station on top of Rassawek, the Monacan Nations' historic capital. To save Rassawek for future generations and allow Monacan ancestors to rest in peace, we advocated for JRWA to move the project to one of several available alternative locations.

**Cumberland Landfill:** A proposed mega-landfill, accepting between 3,500-5,000 tons of waste per day, threatens a rural community, Pine Grove, and a historic Rosenwald school, which sits across the street from the proposed landfill site.

**Chickahominy Power Plant:** The second of two merchant gas-fired power plants planned for Charles City County, a 1.65-GW facility, would be connected via the recently proposed Chickahominy Pipeline.

**Brown Grove:** Wegmans plans to build a distribution center on a 220-acre site in Hanover County. The 1.7 million square foot center would sit in the Brown Grove community and across the street from the Brown Grove Baptist Church. Citizens say the warehouse would destroy their historically Black community as well as disturb critical nearby wetlands.

**Mountain Valley Pipeline, Southgate pipeline extension, and the Lambert Compressor Station (Chatham):** Six years after private companies set out to build the 303-mile Mountain Valley Pipeline across the mountains, rivers and farmlands of West Virginia and Virginia, the project is billions of dollars over budget and years behind schedule. Infrastructure is being constructed on very steep mountain slopes and karsts terrain which impact front-line communities' water and air supply. If completed, Southgate will extend the pipeline into North Carolina.

**Wise County:** Sierra Club continued working closely with local partners on a just transition for Southwest Virginia, advocating for clean energy jobs and reducing dependence on fossil fuel industries.

# Accomplishments

## Stop the Pipelines & Environmental Justice

Fracked gas pipelines are a major contributor to climate change; threaten the health of local communities; and harms our air, water, and health. In 2020, we battled the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, proposed C4GT gas-fired power plant, Header “Injustice” Pipeline project, and the Mountain Valley Pipeline, Southgate MVP Extension, and Lampert Compressor Station. All but the last have been defeated!

There is no demonstrated need to build more methane (or fracked gas) infrastructure in Virginia, and all additional projects impede our ability to tackle the climate crisis. The Mountain Valley Pipeline and adjacent projects represent a critical threat to our waterways, natural treasures, air quality and the health of local communities. Communities of color are disproportionately impacted by these projects and therefore are our focus for a just energy transition.



## Climate Solutions

### Offshore Wind Energy

Our organizing efforts for both the pilot and commercial Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) projects contributed to historic firsts: landmark legislation, and sizable commitments by both Dominion and the state to develop offshore wind. The pilot CVOW project came online in July 2020 and was the first wind project in the nation constructed in federal waters. The 2020 Virginia Clean Economy Act (VCEA) requires 5,200 megawatts of offshore wind to be in the public interest. In December 2020, Dominion filed a construction and operations plan with the federal government to develop the commercial CVOW project. Construction starts in 2024, with this 2,640 megawatt project to be completed by 2026. Workforce development continues to be at the forefront of our advocacy in this campaign as we push for Virginia to be a hub for the sustainable wind industry, boosting our local economy for generations to come.

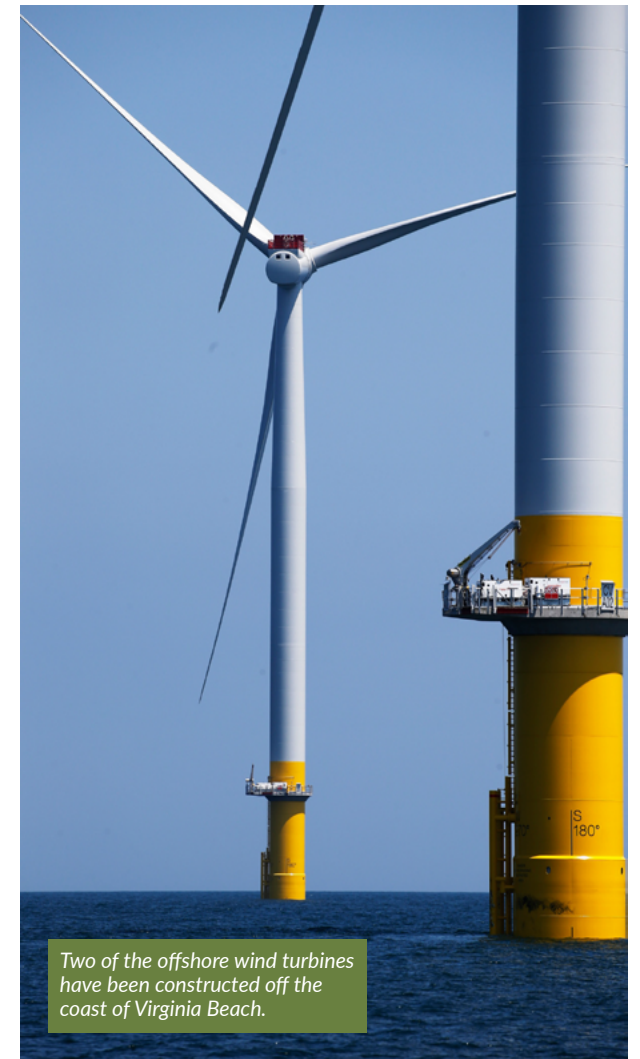
### Onshore Wind Energy

We advocated successfully to both DEQ and to Botetourt County for permit approval for the Rocky Forge onshore wind project. Virginia’s first onshore wind project, Rocky Forge, will power 21,000 homes each year thanks in large part to local activism and leadership by members of our Roanoke Valley Group.

### Solar Energy

Our advocacy for solar on schools has now made Virginia one of the top ten states in the nation in this category. 2020 saw nine installations of solar on schools in Virginia Beach. Newport News will save a total of \$8 million via power purchase agreements. Another huge win for solar energy landed in

Spotsylvania County with a 620-megawatt project, the largest solar plant east of the Rockies. Solar energy’s importance to our energy future was also underscored by several successful bills passed this year, referred to as “Solar Freedom”, which remove barriers to distributed solar.



Two of the offshore wind turbines have been constructed off the coast of Virginia Beach.

# Accomplishments

## Racial Justice

Without racial justice, there is no climate justice. Our commitment to the values of equity, inclusion and justice was tested in 2020, and our chapter responded with vigor to more proactively identify and dismantle systemic racism internally, and prioritize improving our allyship with communities of color by fighting for their protection and needs.

In 2020, we developed an internal evaluation with steps to assess our culture and develop the changes needed. We then created 3 antiracism action teams: internal, external, and a discussion group for shared personal learning and growth.

During the Special Session of the Virginia legislature our Executive Committee endorsed the full set of policy priorities laid out by the Virginia Legislative Black Caucus. The chapter's support for a broad set of racial and criminal justice priorities reflected our equity, inclusion and justice values and was an important milestone that we will continue to build upon.

While following public health guidelines for safety during the pandemic including masking and social distancing, activists were encouraged to participate in solidarity events for the Movement for Black Lives (M4BL). This included marches, rallies and protests to demand action from our state and local elected leaders to reform criminal justice policies, reduce the size of the police budgets and redirect that funding to social programs, counselors, scholarship programs, affordable housing, etc. Protecting the planet can not be limited to stopping disruption to our climate. We must fight for a future that leaves no one behind. Confronting racism is essential for our shared success.



## Legislative Victories

The Clean Economy Act is a landmark energy bill that mandates 100% clean energy while phasing out fossil fuels and requiring carbon pollution cuts. The Clean Energy and Community Flood Preparedness Act directs Virginia to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) to cut carbon emissions and invest in low-income energy efficiency and flood resilience.

Solar Freedom promotes distributed renewable energy by removing barriers to customer-sited solar.

Virginia Council on Environmental Justice is now codified as a permanent council to protect vulnerable communities from being disproportionately impacted by pollution and to amplify their voice in the decision making process.

Other bills prohibit offshore drilling, implement wildlife crossing projects, and prohibit hydraulic fracturing in the Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Area. Please see our 2021 Legislative Scorecard for greater detail.

## Clean Transportation

A strong, electric public transportation system reduces climate emissions and improves the quality of the air we breathe simultaneously. Achieving this vision requires a wide range of groups and individuals that are engaged in the transportation planning process, and advocating for policies that favor investing funding into options that provide sustainable, clean alternatives over driving and fossil fuels. In Northern Virginia, we worked with partners to successfully advocate for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to commit to 100% electrification of its transit bus fleet by 2045.



# COVID-19 Pivots

It was Friday the 13th in March of 2020 when we received the initial news of our shutdown due to the Covid-19 virus. Little did we know then how deeply and profoundly this pandemic would affect us all. Our chapter quickly pivoted to hosting virtual events to keep our base engaged. From grassroots conversations to advocacy training, we stay connected. In total, we hosted 37 events and collaborated on many more with partner organizations.

While our work continued for climate justice, we supported related social justice causes. The Sierra Club Virginia Chapter was one of eleven environmental and marginalized community advocacy organizations that joined statewide calls for the State Corporation Commission (SCC) to extend its moratorium on utility disconnections during the COVID-19 pandemic. A joint comment submitted by the organizations challenged the SCC's assertion that a moratorium extension could harm ratepayers, given the lack of available and relevant data from regulated public utilities including how many Virginia customers have unpaid utility bills, the financial reserves of each utility, and the amount utilities have overcharged customers in previous years.

**VIRGINIA LAWMAKERS:  
STOP EVICTIONS**

“  
I'm struggling more than ever. People are struggling. We are not only behind on rent, we are behind on utilities, and we're trying to juggle everything at one time with no decent income. I have three kids ages five to twelve. I don't have money for babysitters and they cut unemployment. So what are we supposed to do?  
”

**CLAUDIA TAYLOR, 37**  
Relief counselor and nursing assistant in Richmond whose income was cut due to COVID-19

**We call on Virginia lawmakers to join us in helping Claudia and her family and the thousands like them stay in their homes during this pandemic. Governor Northam and the General Assembly must pass a comprehensive eviction moratorium and invest in a rent relief program that leaves no Virginian behind.**

AAPJ Civic Engagement Collaborative	Richmond For All
ACLU of Virginia	Richmond Tenants Union
African Communities Together	Sacred Heart Center Students Leadership Institute
Arlington for Justice	SEIU Virginia 512
BPSOS, Inc	Sierra Club Virginia Chapter
Bridging the Gap Virginia	Sin Barreras
CASA	Tenants and Workers United
Charlottesville Low-Income Housing Coalition	The Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis
Clean Virginia	The Humanization Project
Coalition for Supportive Housing	UFCW Local 400
Coalition to Repeal "Right to Work"	Unite Here Local 23
Enterprise Community Partners Mid-Atlantic	Virginia AFL-CIO
Fairfax NAACP	Virginia Association of School Nurses
Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME)	Virginia Black Leadership Organizing Collaborative
Just Future Project	Virginia Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice VA	Vic Civic Engagement Table
League of Women Voters of Arlington	Virginia Coalition for Immigrant Rights
Legal Aid Justice Center	Virginia Coalition of Latino Organizations (VACOLAD)
Loudoun County NAACP	Virginia Counselors Association
LULAC	Virginia Education Association (VEA)
Manufactured Housing Coalition of Virginia	Virginia Housing Alliance
NKASEC	Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy
NARAL Virginia	Virginia Justice Democrats
National Writers Union	Virginia Organizing
New Virginia Majority	Virginia Poverty Law Center
Northern VA Black Attorney Association	Virginia Student Power Network
Old Dominion Bar Association	Virginia Young Democrats
Prio Bangla	Virginia21
Progress Virginia	Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement (VOICE)
Public Housing Association of Residents	Voices for Virginia's Children
	Whole Woman's Health Alliance

PAID FOR BY LEGAL AID JUSTICE CENTER, NEW VIRGINIA MAJORITY, THE COMMONWEALTH INSTITUTE FOR FISCAL ANALYSIS, VIRGINIA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, AND VIRGINIA POVERTY LAW CENTER

# Labor Equity

In October 2020, the Sierra Club signed a contract with the Progressive Workers Union (PWU) to represent staff in its 64 chapters across the country. This is an important achievement for the rights and protections of our workforce, and brings with it additional costs in the form of higher labor rates, increased benefits, and more. In order to ensure that we are able to continue to maintain our current staffing level, we are exploring new sources of funding in a variety of areas.

As we continue to endeavor to live our values as an organization, we hope that the commitment to living wages and support for our staff will be seen as a positive for further investments from funders and donors. When you commit financial support to the Sierra Club, you can rest assured that we are caring for our valued employees, so they can sustain themselves as they work toward environmental sustainability.



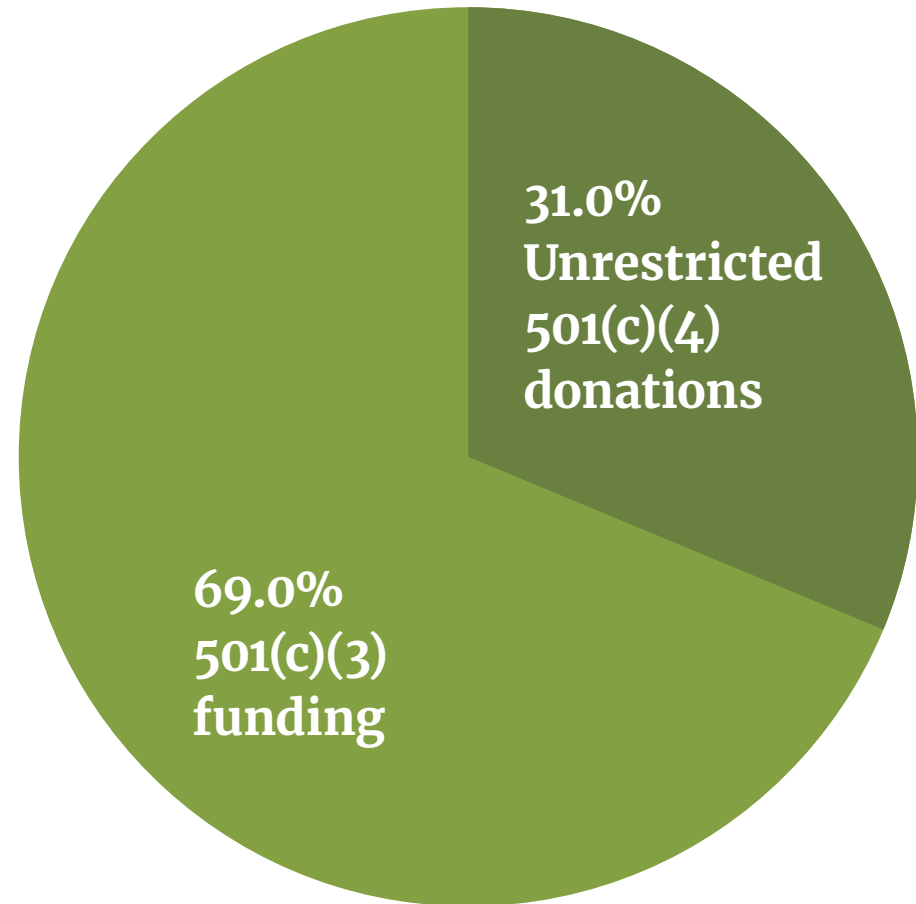
## Contract Demands:

- Sierra Club practices the equity values it preaches
- Family sustaining wages
- Access to raises and promotions
- Work/life balance
- A comp time tracker
- Equity in our health insurance
- Accountability for toxic behavior
- Expand the definition of family
- 360 Reviews



# Your Critical Support

We are proud of how much we achieve on such a tight budget. Your unrestricted, 501(c)(4) non tax-deductible support sustains our legislative advocacy work *and* our operations. The Sierra Club Foundation is the fiscal sponsor of our 501(c)(3) funding, which supports our campaign work to educate, recruit, and mobilize grassroots power to achieve big local, state, and federal regulatory policy victories that protect our environment. We can't do one without the other, and we can't do any of this without you, our members and donors!



Your generous contribution to the Sierra Club Virginia Chapter makes this work possible. And remember that when you give, 100% of your gift stays in Virginia to support our local work. For this reason, contributing to the Virginia Chapter is a long-term investment to protect the environmental health of our state for future generations.



**Give today at**  
**[vasierra.club/donate](https://vasierra.club/donate)**

# Donor Appreciation

We cannot do this amazing work without your consistent support through yearly memberships and donations. For over 40 years, your support has moved Virginia expeditiously towards a clean energy future, protected our lands, air and water, and cut harmful pollution. There are many ways to continue this support. You can become a monthly donor, which translates into sustainable operating funds that we can count on.

Have you considered becoming a life member? You will never have to remember to renew and it comes with amazing benefits: lifelong membership in the Sierra Club and your local chapter, personalized life membership card and certificate with Ansel Adams image, subscription to Sierra Magazine, worldwide eco travel opportunities, discounts on Sierra Club gifts, Life Member Newsletter and updates from the Club's Conservation Director. The rates are \$1,000 for a single membership and \$1,250 for joint with an option to pay in installments. More information can be found at [sierraclub.org/virginia](http://sierraclub.org/virginia).

No matter which level you join—monthly, annual, lifetime—your support enables us to continue the fight for a healthy planet. We depend on committed changemakers like you. For over 40 years, this Virginia Chapter has made incredible strides to protect our precious resources and to create a healthy future for all of us to thrive for generations to come. Please continue to show up for us as we continue to fight for you.

## Scaling Old Rag \$100-249

Quentin Smith  
Sheila Slate  
Brian and Victoria Pepper  
Olivia and Steven R Ellis  
Alan Fischbeck  
Joan K Richardson  
Kathy Emmons & John Freitag  
Barbara L Ragland  
F Henning  
Allen And Mary Turnbull  
Allen Cooke  
Richard A Liroff  
William Howlett  
Kenneth Schmidt  
A Fynsk  
Kerry Lewis  
Jerry and Jennifer B Smith  
Stephen T Moreland  
Peter Blake  
Suzanne & Richard Eggeling  
Dr. John Swallow  
Theodore J Parker  
Sharon Richardson  
William and Patricia Farr  
James Bizzell  
Richard Rugani  
Loren Denton  
Karen Parsons  
Marion S Moore  
L Wiechmann-Roddy & W Roddy  
Lois Stanton  
Mary and William Mason  
Mark And Mary Patterson  
Sherri Woodard  
Joyce Kaswandik  
Linda Kline  
Craig S Derkay MD  
Lt Col/Mrs Lowell Flickinger  
Justin Travis Rains  
Linda And Carl Pfeiffer  
Dani Dp Stockwell  
Mrs Priscilla Liskey  
Ms Margaret Sears  
Ms Helen Appleby  
Terry Denton  
Dorothy Schoeneman

Theresa Singleton  
Maria Parker  
Adele Witenstein  
Clyde & Deb Bingham  
Mr Michael Pulice  
Susan Gandiello  
Mr Ernest Wilson  
Leona Chase  
Mary Freed  
Steven Lemons  
Gene Edwards  
Keith and Charlotte Hubbard  
James Franklin  
Michael & Georgia Crews  
Gordon Kerby  
Felicity Francis  
Betsy Rath  
E Hider  
Lynn Wingard  
Michael & Stephanie Wriston  
David Palmer  
William Wilson  
Leann Hensche  
Kay Lanter  
Elaine Francisco  
Ann Shank  
Susan Currie  
Helen Sexton  
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G Utterback  
Sherry Clem  
Lynn Cross  
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Dr Wayne A Jones  
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Ann Miller  
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David Vanpatten  
Leonardo Williams  
Sandra Weaver  
William Bryant  
David Perkins

Lisa Guthrie  
Jeanne Van Gemert  
David W Davenport  
Jerry Bradley  
C Loonan and C Wainwright  
Robert Annandale  
Paul H Van Order  
Ann Gordon  
Carol Phelps  
Lynne Kennedy  
Ms Karen J Bopp  
Donald Eckenrode  
Richard Perilli  
James Avila  
E Sidamon-Eristoff & H Lewis  
S and H Van Voorthuizen  
John and Connie Swanson  
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Thomas Gibson  
Ben Greenberg  
Jennie Greene  
Marion Rogers  
Lorraine Schooner  
Dan Lysy  
Loren Peterson  
Mary Ellsworth  
Rebecca L & Colin Minor  
Marjorie & Philip Runge  
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Mary O'Mara  
Kopp and Cecelia Michelotti  
David Hoth  
Nancy Warren  
Mr Exequiel Sevilla  
Barbara Beck  
Thomas Melby  
Linda Riter  
Constance Dahlberg  
Susan Johnson  
L. Holland  
Mr James R Zinck  
Ellen Thurman  
Mary Farrish  
Larry Fallon  
John C Francis  
Lee Ellen Knight  
William E Keish  
Luciane Lindquist  
Christy Lumm  
Vicki Wheaton  
Robert And Jo Anne Singleton

Old Rag.....3,268'  
Hogback.....3,474'  
Pinnacle.....3,730'  
Stony Man .....4,010'  
Hawksbill .....4,050'  
Mount Rogers... 5,728'

\* Indicates sustaining monthly donor  
† Indicates contributions raised through Team Sierra fundraising platform  
(see: [teamsierra.org/virginia](http://teamsierra.org/virginia))

# Donor Appreciation

## continued

### Scaling Old Rag \$100-249

Lucas Peres  
Victor Riesenman  
Maryanna Fisher  
Ms Victoria Weisiger  
Sally White and Rob Drucker  
Ridgley Lange  
Pamela Stevenson  
Joanne and Tom Glass  
Joyce Thrift  
Mary Wazlak  
Nancy Manley  
Agnes Brabrand  
Ryan Arnold  
Mr William Schall  
Stephen Getsug  
Frances Lee-Vandell  
Christine Santiago  
Ann McRee  
Babak Zamanpour  
Jane Haxby  
Roy Lochner  
Linda Ingersoll  
Rebecca Belt  
Caroline E McCullough  
Edna Whittier  
James Pouzar  
Marilyn Hillman  
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Robert Pendleton  
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John Hodges  
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Jane Comings  
Micah Hadley  
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Jeanette Winget  
Yvonne Poley  
Sheila Katz  
Arthur Impastato  
Rajeev Poluri  
Walton Vaughan  
Jo Ann & John Valvo  
George Rogers  
Gary Gonyar  
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Old Rag.....3,268'  
Hogback.....3,474'  
Pinnacle..... 3,730'  
Stony Man ..... 4,010'  
Hawksbill ..... 4,050'  
Mount Rogers... 5,728'

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Jerome Casagrande	Joseph McNamara	Larry & Anna Olson	Mark L De Bow	Mr Cary Hopper	Nancy Manley	Raymond & Luann Martin

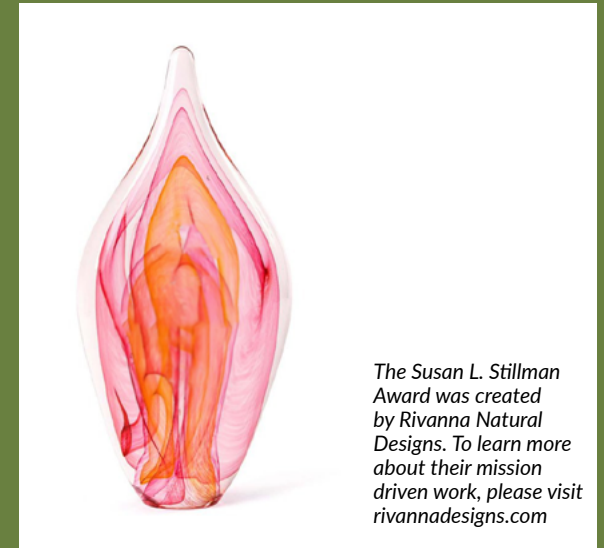
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*The Susan L. Stillman Award was created by Rivanna Natural Designs. To learn more about their mission driven work, please visit [rivannadesigns.com](http://rivannadesigns.com)*

## Susan L. Stillman Award

This award honors the generous contributions of volunteer leadership and financial support to our Virginia Chapter from Susan L. Stillman. An individual is appreciated with this award when they have both demonstrably contributed to our Chapter's work with their volunteer time and built capacity through direct non-tax deductible giving and/or volunteer fundraising. These are the funds that support our legislative advocacy work and operations. Award recipients may qualify by making substantial donations themselves, or by raising money through other means such as hosting major fundraising programs, fund drives or events. Each year potential recipients of this award are considered, but it is not necessarily given. No award was granted in 2020.

# Behind the scenes

We are committed to informing, empowering and engaging activists in implementing strategic climate solutions in and for Virginia.

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# Moments from 2020



Artist Dustin Klein projects an image of George Floyd onto the statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee in Richmond, Virginia, U.S. June 18, 2020.



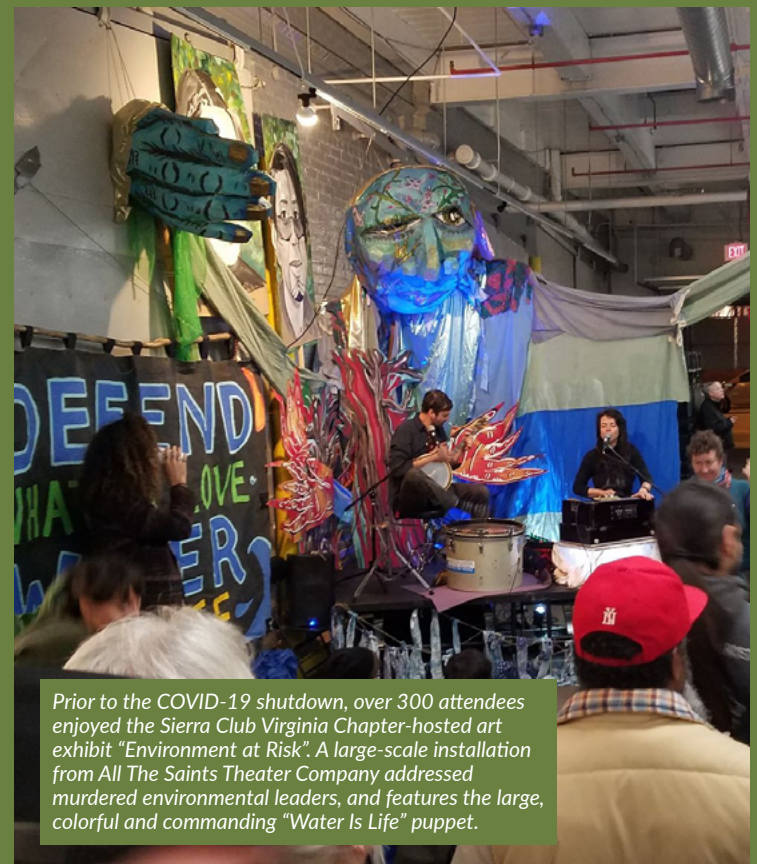
This photo of ballerinas Kennedy George and Ava Holloway was taken as protests continued and Gov. Ralph Northam had called for the removal of the Robert E. Lee statue.



Mara Eve Robbins, of the "1000 Flags, 1000 Waters Project" presented her installation art to the crowd, which featured art from the fight against Mountain Valley Pipeline and an interactive opportunity for the public to create artwork to add to the exhibit, through creation of a "water flag," representative of a cherished waterway.



Rev Barber (Left), Al Gore right with Ella Rose and other local residents of Union Hill in 2019 during the Atlantic Coast Pipeline fight—defeated in 2020!



Prior to the COVID-19 shutdown, over 300 attendees enjoyed the Sierra Club Virginia Chapter-hosted art exhibit "Environment at Risk". A large-scale installation from All The Saints Theater Company addressed murdered environmental leaders, and features the large, colorful and commanding "Water Is Life" puppet.



The Sierra Club is the most enduring and influential grassroots environmental organization in the United States. We amplify the power of our 3.8 million members and activists to defend everyone's right to a healthy world.

We know actions speak louder than words. That's why we've built a national community of volunteers, advocates, and grassroots activists who show up when and where it counts. Our supporters have the tools and resources to make themselves heard in nearly every district in every state across the country.

From securing protection for 439 parks and monuments, to winning passage of the Clean Air and Endangered Species Acts, to putting over 281 coal plants on the path to replacement with clean energy, to securing the right of every kid in America to visit a national park, we have an unmatched record of success and impact.

The Sierra Club Virginia Chapter is over 20,000 members strong. We coordinate action to promote climate solutions and oppose projects and policies that put the interests of corporate polluters above the needs of communities.



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Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet

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