By the time the PFOA water crisis in Hoosick Falls, New York, scorched across the state and national headlines in 2015, these hellish “forever chemicals” had been insidiously seeping into nearly every trophic level of the natural world, courtesy of the accidental, “fortuitous” discovery of polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), later to be trademarked as Teflon, by DuPont research chemist Roy J. Plunkett on April 6, 1938. Given that DuPont originated as a gunpowder manufacturer, the connection shouldn’t be so surprising. It was first used as a water-proof coating on tanks in WWII.

Roy Plunkett passed away in 1984, after receiving many awards and being named the “Discover of Fluoropolymers.” And his initial discovery had evolved and branched into a family of over 1,000 related chemical compounds manufactured by 3M and DuPont. The unique properties of these compounds — friction reduction, water and oil repellency, temperature resistance — as well as their persistence and virtually indestructible nature, lent themselves to a diverse array of uses across the commercial spectrum. From Teflon to Scotch-guard, from fire fighting foam to slick water surfactants in high volume hydraulic hydro-fracking, from the inside of microwave popcorn bags to fast food wrappers, to water and stain resistant coatings on carpets, clothing, baby products, and upholstery — these forever manmade polymers are everywhere. And, thanks to the persistent nature of these chemicals, once in the environment they aren’t going away.

Currently, the community of Cohoes, New York, is embroiled in a battle with Norlite, LLC, an aggregate manufacturing facility that has a kiln licensed to incinerate hazardous materials. Unfortunately, Norlite has been using these kilns for combustion of aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) that contains Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). Funny thing, fire fighting foam is incredibly resistant to incineration — that’s why it is REALLY effective at fighting fires.

Norlite had been accepting materials from a number of military bases, because, sadly, this AFFF, was/is a staple element on U.S. military bases worldwide to combat fire hazards, and its problematic disposal is now a cost to be borne by us all.

While I could expend reams of paper elaborating on the unnecessary pain and incalculable harm caused by these largely unregulated manufactured compounds, that job has already been laudably accomplished through Rob Billott’s book Exposure: Poisoned Water, Corporate Greed, and One Lawyer’s Twenty-Year Battle against DuPont, Mark Ruffalo’s film Dark Waters, and the feature length documentary The Devil We Know, all of which I highly recommend. What needs to be examined is how these chemicals are still inoculating the environment, the water supply, the food chain and the bodies of over 99% of the humans on the planet.

One small silver lining to the water crisis in Hoosick Falls was learning that granulated activated carbon filtration systems or filters effectively remove PFOA/PFAS from water. The problem with that “solution” is that one is left with a growing assemblage of used, contaminated filters in need of safe disposal. They can’t be burned/incinerated, so these filters need to be disposed of in a lined hazardous waste landfill with zero leakage potential, because any leakage would contaminate soil and groundwater.

Some public waste treatment facilities have been upgraded to remove certain per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from the waste stream so that the water returned to the environment is free from these forever chemicals. The remaining sewage sludge, however, is highly contaminated, and in many states, our own included, this sludge is permitted to be applied to agricultural fields as an approved “soil amendment” to add nitrogen to benefit crops for livestock consumption. This practice has been given...
From the Conservation Chair  
Ellen Cardone Banks

As most of our readers know, the Sierra Club is the oldest and largest environmental advocacy organization in the United States with 3.8 million members and supporters according to the national webpage, and a strong volunteer activist presence. The Atlantic Chapter, covering New York State, has about 47,000 members and supporters. Each member and supporter adds to the power of the Sierra Club in our mission to “Explore, Enjoy and Protect our Planet.”

Members have many commitments to career, family, and often to other organizations. Sometimes members say that they have very packed schedules but would like to volunteer some of their time within those constraints. If that includes you, here are some suggestions:

If you have five minutes:  
Sign a petition! You may receive an email asking for your signature to support environmental legislation or to protest actions that are harmful to our land, water or wildlife. Unlike some organizations and candidates who ask for your support, you do not have to worry about being bombarded with frequent requests if you sign something once, as we have limits on the number of communications per month with our members. Elected officials are influenced by petitions from their constituents. For example, the fracking ban in NY State was advanced by petitions and rallies. We need similar actions to make our climate-protecting policies happen and to protect our water, land, air, and health. Usually there are links on a petition drive to your state legislators, so you do not need to look them up. If you have a few more minutes, you can personalize your petition signature with a message about how the issue matters to you.

If you have an hour:  
Log on to a webinar. You will receive notice of webinars that may be sponsored by the Atlantic Chapter, your local Sierra Club Group, or allied organizations about such diverse topics as renewable energy, environmental threats like gas pipelines and energy-wasting cryptocurrency, dangers to wetlands or forests, or electric vehicles. Many such webinars are recorded in case their scheduled times are inconvenient for you.

If you have a couple of hours a month:  
As a Sierra Club member, you are also a member of the Atlantic Chapter and one of ten regional groups. You can find your group on the Chapter website by clicking the “About” tab. Group websites have contact information for leaders and usually announce monthly Executive Committee meetings and occasional issue-focused seminars, live, virtual or both, on Sierra Club initiatives and projects. Some groups sponsor hiking excursions or events such as tree-planting, beach clean-ups, or programs to promote recycling, composting, and reducing plastic waste.

Get involved in local government:  
Municipal governments throughout the state have issues related to water safety, development proposals that threaten wetlands and other rural land, water and air pollution, and fossil fuel infrastructure expansion. Participate in person or virtually in hearings and council meetings on these matters and submit letters to editors. Town governments have citizen committees, including Conservation Advisory Councils. Energy, Waste Management and others, that are often seeking members. New York State has two

Submissions: We welcome our readers to submit brief timely articles for consideration in the SA. Send your requests and ideas to the Sierra Atlantic Committee: Email: elizabeth.ahearn@sierraclub.org, or US Mail: Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter, P.O. Box 38225, Albany, NY 12203. Please write “Sierra Atlantic” in the subject line. Submission deadline for Winter Issue: December 16, 2022.
climate and energy programs, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) Clean Energy Communities and Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Climate Smart Communities, that award certification and grants for climate and energy progress. Find out if your municipality participates, and join the relevant committees or work with other Sierra Club volunteers to start them.

VOTE!!!
Whether it takes you a few minutes, or a wait in line, in-person or by mail, vote November 8!!!

STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH YOUR LOCAL SIERRA CLUB!

You may be receiving our print newsletters and the Sierra magazine, but to be sure you’re getting all of our communications and to learn about getting involved in our work, our website offers a variety of options.

By visiting www.newyork.sierraclub.org, you’ll find email signups for:

- Atlantic Chapter Updates, including general Chapter updates as well as any take-action items
- Sierra Atlantic Newsletter, the electronic version of the quarterly newsletter
- Volunteer Connection, where you can sign up for one of our available volunteer positions and get more involved with the Atlantic Chapter and your local Groups

All of these sign-up forms are in the right column on the homepage of the Atlantic Chapter website.
SUPPORT CHAPTER’S WORK IN NYS

We need your help to maintain the Chapter's critical conservation efforts in NY and continue print publication of the *Sierra Atlantic*. Your membership dues primarily support the Club's national priorities. Your additional support is needed to strengthen the Chapter's work in the Empire State. Please use the coupon below to send a donation. Contributions and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible. Thank you for your generosity. To learn more about a 501c3 tax deductible donation, call our office at 518-426-9144.

Yes, I want to help the Atlantic Chapter preserve and protect the environment of New York State. I am enclosing my gift of:

___ $500 ___ $250 ___$100 ___$60 ___$35 Other $___
___ Check made payable to Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter is enclosed
___ I’d like to make a single payment by credit card
___ I’d like to become a sustainer with $____ monthly or $____ quarterly credit card donation.

Acct no:______________________________________________ Exp. Date: ____________
Signature: ___________________________________________________________________________
Name: ________________________________________________________________________________
Sierra Club Membership number: _______________________________________________________
Street: ______________________________________________________________________________
City: _____________________________ State: _________ Zip: __________________________

*Mail this completed form with your check or credit card information to:*
*Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter, PO Box 38225, Albany, NY 12203*

A copy of our latest financial report can be obtained by writing to Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter,
PO Box 38225, Albany, NY 12203, or the NYS Attorney General.
Of course, at the end of the day, forever remains forever. The reason this category of manmade compound diversified over such a broad spectrum of commercial and industrial venues was due to its stability and indestructible nature. Until a practical means of chemically breaking down the molecular structure of the compounds is discovered and made widely available, continued use of these materials is devilish folly. Recently — in February 2022 — scientists at the EPA announced they had developed a means using a heat- and pressure-based technique known as supercritical water oxidation to destroy 99% of PFAS in a water sample in the laboratory. This technique involves heating water to over 374 degrees Celsius at 220 bars of pressure, resulting in a state that is neither liquid nor gas. In this form, reaction speed is accelerated and bonds break much more easily, including those seemingly indestructible carbon-fluorine bonds. Naturally, this is an expensive endeavor and not exactly practical when dealing with contaminated soil, groundwater, or large waste water treatment issues.

And this brings me back full circle to Hoosick Falls. Shortly after the story broke, I called the DEC to ask what was being done for the residents in the community who had been affected by these chemicals, and I was told not to worry because the chemicals had such a “short half life” in the human body — the people would be fine. Obviously, either the folks at the DEC were in the dark, or they were feeding the public an offensive line of malarkey. I’m hoping it was the former, because we now know that those horrific compounds bioaccumulate — they don’t break down and disappear — and they increase as they march up the food chain. So, to answer the two questions posed as a title, forever is safe and ends when these chemicals are no longer manufactured or used and when those responsible for the contamination and harm are fully held to account for the knowing and intentional harm inflicted on all the living systems of the planet.
Atlantic Chapter 2022 Political Endorsements

These are the Chapter's endorsements as of the print date of the Sierra Atlantic. For a full up-to-date list of endorsements, please visit our website: atlantic2.sierraclub.org/content/2022-endorsements. This is a reminder that the district lines for Congress, State Assembly, and State Senate have been redrawn due to the 2020 Census results. Your district and district number may have changed. See the Chapter's endorsement page for more information.

General Election:

Early Voting: Saturday, October 29, 2022 - November 6, 2022
General Election Day: Tuesday, November 8, 2022

Ballot Propositions: Remember to turn your ballot over - the propositions are on the back.

The Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter urges you to vote YES on Proposal #1: CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR, AND GREEN JOBS Environmental Bond Act of 2022

Federal Races (Senate and Congress):

US Senate: Charles Schumer

House, District 1: Bridget Fleming
House, District 2: Jackie Gordon
House, District 3: Robert Zimmerman
House, District 4: Laura Gillen
House, District 5: Gregory Meeks
House, District 6: Grace Meng
House, District 7: Nydia Velazquez
House, District 8: Hakeem Jeffries
House, District 9: Yvette Clarke
House, District 13: Adriano Espaillat
House, District 14: Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez
House, District 15: Richie Torres
House, District 16: Jamaal Bowman
House, District 17: Sean Patrick Maloney
House, District 18: Pat Ryan
House, District 19: Josh Riley
House, District 20: Paul Tonko
House, District 22: Francis Conole
House, District 26: Brian Higgins

Statewide Races

Governor and Lt. Governor - Kathy Hochul & Antonio Delgado
Comptroller - Tom DiNapoli
Attorney General - Letitia James

NYS Senate

Senate District #1: Skyler Johnson
Senate District #2: Susan Berland
Senate District #3: John Brooks
Senate District #4: Kevin Thomas
Senate District #5: Anna Kaplan
Senate District #6: Michael Gianaris
Senate District #7: Jessica Ramos
Senate District #12: Kevin Parker
Senate District #21: Kevin Kavanagh
Senate District #28: Liz Krueger
Senate District #30: Robert Jackson
Senate District #33: J. Gustavo Rivera
Senate District #35: Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Senate District #37: Shelley Mayer

Senate District #38: Elijah Reichlin-Melnick
Senate District #39: Julie Shiorishi
Senate District #40: Peter Harckham
Senate District #41: Michelle Hinchey
Senate District #46: Neil Breslin
Senate District #47: Brad Hoylman
Senate District #48: Rachel May
Senate District #50: John Mannion
Senate District #52: Lea Webb
Senate District #55: Samra Brouk
Senate District #56: Jeremy Cooney
Senate District #61: Sean Ryan
Senate District #63: Timothy Kennedy
30 Years at Zero Waste (or pretty darn close)
Chris Burger, Member, National Zero Waste Team

In 1970 our nation celebrated its first Earth Day. Its purpose was to celebrate the richness and beauty of our planet and to raise awareness about the need to protect the planet and preserve its ability to sustain life. Many used the opportunity to protest and to demand that the government enact legislation protecting the environment and requiring that businesses act more responsibly. My wife and I did not disagree, but upon reflection, we thought: shouldn’t we be taking responsibility for our own actions? Then we asked: What was the biggest personal impact we had on the environment? The answer, we felt, was the waste we produced and the non-renewable energy we consumed.

So we made two commitments: 1) We would not buy anything that we were unwilling to take responsibility for (disposal was not an option since it shifts consequences to someone else), and 2) We would strive to become more energy efficient and use renewable energy whenever possible. We did our best, and by 1978 we had built an energy efficient, all electric home powered by passive geothermal along with passive and active solar and supplemented by an Energy Supply Company (ESCO) specializing in supplying renewable energy. Recently we purchased an electric vehicle to cover our transportation needs.

The problem is that close to 40% of the energy we use comes in the form of the “stuff” we consume. Over half of this “embedded” energy is used to mine and refine the virgin material used to make the products we bring into our lives. This makes a powerful argument for buying with the intent to reuse, recycle, or compost what you purchase and avoiding what you can’t reuse, recycle, or compost, which is precisely what our family has been doing for close to 30 years.

We started a compost pile in our backyard, but back in the early 70’s very little recycling was taking place. There was paper recycling done through paper drives. Scrap metal dealers and glass manufacturers would take your metal and glass, but you needed to get these materials to their sites. Most communities have scrap metal dealers, and we were fortunate to have a glass manufacturer in a friend’s hometown, so we took our glass there when we visited. Plastic was not being recycled, but then again, there was far less of it back then and we could usually find alternative containers.

That said, we wanted to make it more convenient. We were members of a food co-op at the time that already had a clothing and book exchange. Some of
us got together to form a community drop-off recycling program as well. This worked to some degree, but it was not community wide, and it was difficult to sustain with volunteers. It made me realize that our government would have to step up and develop the necessary recycling infrastructure.

As luck would have it, in 1980 our County Executive developed a consensus for moving away from landfiling. Unfortunately his alternative was incineration. When I asked how much recycling was planned for, the response was 5% ferrous metal to be pulled out of the bottom ash at the end of the process. I served on our local Environmental Management Council at the time, and we proposed a robust recycling program to “augment” the incinerator. There were very few successful recycling efforts at the time, so, I think the County Executive, along with the County Legislature gave their blessing, expecting us to fail. In the meantime, they went ahead with plans to build the incinerator, sized to the full waste stream.

We wrote a recycling plan and implemented it in 1987, the same year the incinerator project released their draft EIS. We grew the recycling program while criticizing the incinerator project. Recycling rates were higher than our projections. Many citizens felt that if we recycled, we would not need the incinerator and they were right. In 1991, I testified at the incinerator permit hearing, suggesting that the incinerator would undermine our recycling efforts. The DEC Commissioner agreed and ordered that either a smaller incinerator be built or importation of waste into the County be allowed. The company that was to build the incinerator insisted that it could not economically downsize, so the County Legislature held a vote to allow importation. That vote failed, effectively killing the project.

In 1992 on Earth Day, local, national, and international film crews captured our family (my wife, two daughters, and myself) taking a single 32 gallon can of waste to the landfill. Not out of the ordinary but for the fact that it had taken us six years to fill it. What I did not share at the time was the fact that we were already at zero waste, or pretty darn close. What we have generated since fits in a paper grocery bag. A robust recycling program has made our family recycling efforts much easier while more and more people are moving toward zero waste. We are no longer unique, but perhaps hold the record for the longest time at zero waste: 30 years this spring.

Do you have questions you’d like to ask Chris about his zero waste lifestyle? Email your question(s) to Elizabeth Ahearn (elizabeth.ahearn@sierraclub.org). Chris’ answers will be featured in the Winter edition of the Sierra Atlantic.
2022 Chapter At-Large Elections
At-Large Delegate Selection for the 2023-2024 At-Large Term

PAPER BALLOT VOTING DEADLINE DECEMBER 31, 2022
YOU CAN VOTE ONLINE – ONLINE VOTING DEADLINE DECEMBER 31!

Please check your email inbox in early December for your official, non-transferrable link to
the 2022 Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter online ballot, which will be sent to all members in
good standing with email addresses on file. Submit your vote via the official online ballot - do
not email your vote.

You must choose to EITHER vote online OR by filling out the paper ballot at the end of this
newsletter. There are four (4) vacancies on our executive committee ("ExCom").

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS:

Candidate Statement of Jeff Schumann
I have been an active member of the Sierra Club in NY since January 2021, after moving from Vermont to Croton-
on-Hudson, NY. Though I’d been active in environmental advocacy for many years, I was inspired to become
engaged with the SC by Naomi Klein. I had already decided to concentrate my efforts on fighting climate
change, which to me is the greatest challenge and the greatest threat we face. In her books Naomi Klein
contends that the SC is the most active organization in fighting climate change. That led me to first
volunteering in Shay O’Reilly’s Stop the Gas work and then on to other Chapter issues. I have seen the successes
we at the Chapter have had here in NY in advancing renewable power generation and legislation to ween us off
fossil fuels. I am grateful to have played some small part in those efforts. Energy is one area where I have
concentrated my Chapter work. I am an active member of the Chapter’s Energy Committee, and I am the chair
of the Large-Scale Renewable Energy sub-committee. I also serve on the Legislative Committee where I have
contributed my thoughts and ideas on energy sector bills, including whether to sponsor or not sponsor.
Additionally, I am working with other groups on climate related efforts here in NY, including Stop POW Crypto
NY, Gas Action Committee, and Renewable Heat Now coalition. I know the Chapter believes that partnering with
other organizations will benefit us all and I would like to see if I can play some role in that. I would welcome the
opportunity to bring my thoughts, ideas, and collaborative work style to the ExCom team. Thank you for your
consideration.

Candidate Statement of Gilbert Sabater
I am running for the Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter Executive Committee because I believe I can be an asset to the
group. I am an entrepreneur, and I have been green since I worked on a farm in Madoc, Ontario when I was 15
years old. I joined Canadian ROTC at Regiopolis High School and received my training in Ipperwash Army boot
camp, in Ontario when I was 18. The green all around me in both places lifted my spirits and made me conscious
of the value of forests, water and animals. I lived in Japan for two years while serving in the Marine Corps, and
that is where my love for nature truly became a part of my life. Because the Japanese live in such small spaces,
they have learned the value of trees and flowers in everyday life by cultivating them in their home gardens.
When I returned to the States, I worked for Alfred Politz, a scientist/researcher who became my mentor and
eventually my friend. Alfred had been experimenting with wind and solar energy since the early fifties. He had
purchased a large plantation in Tampa Florida where, among the orange trees, he had built a house powered by
solar panels and wind sails (his own invention). In the seventies I met Stanford Ovshinsky in Detroit at his solar
panel laboratory and raised funds for his research to increase the efficiency of the panels. We also met the
engineers designing the Ford Torino Sterling experiments in collaboration with N.V. Phillips in the Netherlands
and the U.S. Department of Energy. I am still working on the Sterling engine designed specifically for developing
countries. I joined the Sierra Club about 10 years ago, and I believe that I can be an asset to the organization.

Candidate Statement of Diana Strablow
I have served on the Sierra Club Niagara Group, Executive Committee for the past number of years working with
a deeply committed group of colleagues, to protect our world from further harm and move toward a more
sustainable future. I collaborated on campaigns, maintained our website and handled a portion of our
communications and outreach. While currently in a second term as Vice Chair, I have moved to the Adirondacks
and will be transitioning from that role. I would welcome the opportunity to serve on the Atlantic Chapter of the
Executive Committee bringing a new perspective from the North Country. Love of the natural world and
standing up to injustice have been passions of mine since my youth. Solutions need to engage, include and serve
(Strablow, cont.) all, especially those who have historically suffered environmental injustice and are now likely to suffer most directly from the impacts of climate change. A major focus for me has been the necessity to transition from our reliance on ‘natural’ fracked gas in order to address the climate crisis. I have continued to monitor the proposed Northern Access Pipeline Project which is again in focus, as it recently was granted an extension of time. This year we have revived and I have served as Co-Chair of the Atlantic Chapter Gas Action Committee. This past year, I have represented the Atlantic Chapter on the Renewable Heat Now Campaign. It was exciting to have part of our building electrification legislative package move through the NY legislature, much more work needs to be done. I will continue that collaboration and engage the Chapter. In these challenging times, I have a deep appreciation of working alongside fellow Sierra Club members towards a more promising future and would be grateful for the opportunity to serve on the Atlantic Chapter Ex-Com.

Candidate Statement of Karl Palmquist

I believe that science, policy, conservation, and justice are deeply linked, and that fact-based decision making must remain at the forefront of our organization. For the past two years, I have helped lead local efforts with this in mind as vice-chair of the New York City Group. With National staff and Chapter leadership, I have underscored the importance of grassroots, volunteer leadership, while unifying our collective mission at all levels of the Club. As Chair of the Group's Nominating Committee, I helped enhanced our Executive leadership with 3 new members with diverse backgrounds and experiences. I am currently a National Science Foundation Graduate Fellow at The Rockefeller University, earning my PhD in Systems Biology. At Rockefeller, I reinforce my commitment to local environmental action by designing and implementing a program where high school students analyze soil health in community gardens and advocate for policy-based solutions to preserve and promote urban biodiversity. As an At-Large Delegate, I will expand my current work as a member of the Chapter's Farm and Food Committee and our NYS Soil Health Coalition co-representative. I will help build out our Chapter's soil health and agriculture efforts, while also emphasizing healthy food availability and environmental justice.

Candidate Statement of Gale Pisha

With each new report from the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and similar environmental organizations, it is clear that we only have a brief window of time left to keep our planet from even worse climate impacts than we've already been experiencing. As co-chair of the Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter (SCAC) Legislative Committee for the past five years, I have worked with our staff and volunteers to get legislation passed, like the historic Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, that will end the use of fossil fuels and promote a clean energy economy. This work involves helping staff to plan weekly committee meetings during the legislative session, writing bill memos to let our elected officials know our reasons for supporting these and other good bills to protect our air, water and open spaces, and speaking with legislators. I also compile data on chapter volunteer lobbying that our SCAC staff is required to report to the government. I attend weekly meetings to coordinate our legislative work with national Sierra Club staff related to their energy and transportation work in NY. After serving two terms as an At-Large Delegate to the SCAC Executive Committee (ExCom) from 2017-2020, during the past two years I represented the Lower Hudson Group as Group Delegate to the ExCom. Throughout that time I participated in every ExCom meeting. This past fall I compiled a SCAC Leader's Handbook as a guide to club policies and procedures for current and new chapter leaders. It has been a privilege to work side by side with dedicated Sierra Club volunteers and staff on climate change, toxics, drinking water protection and other issues. I would appreciate your vote so I can continue that effort as an At-Large Delegate for the next two years. Contact me with questions at soygale@verizon.net.

Candidate Statement of Bill Mattingly

I would be honored to serve a second term as At-Large Delegate to the Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter. I lived in NY for most of my 65 years, growing up in North Tonawanda, then working and raising a family in Corning. I am a scientist/engineer (PhD in Materials Science, Cornell, 1995, and BS Chem E, University of Detroit, 1980). I've been active in the Finger Lakes Group for a dozen years and am currently serving a second term as Chair. In April 2020, I authored a resolution to the Atlantic Chapter opposing “behind-the-meter” sales of electric power, which was the scheme used by Greenidge Generation to enable their cryptomining. More than two years later, the DEC denied the air permit to Greenidge; a huge win for our coalition of environmental groups against a well-funded cryptocurrency industry. Still, there are many more battles to come. As At-Large Delegate, I support environmental bills in the NYS legislature, which included lobbying state senators to pass the cryptomining partial moratorium bill. That bill now awaits Governor Hochul's signature. I provided active support to the
(Mattingly, cont.) CLCPA, the Climate Action Councils, and their Draft Scoping Plan. I was one of the founding members of the NY Water Sentinels and served five years as regional coordinator of about 25 volunteers, monitoring streams for hydrofracking contamination. I see climate change as the number one global problem. We must quickly and justly transition NY and the world to renewable, carbon-free, energy.

**Candidate Statement of Mallory Rutigliano**

I would like to express my appreciation for being considered for continued at-large membership in the Atlantic Chapter's Executive Committee – I have been energized by my past two years on the executive committee and would be eager to continue contributing and learning as a delegate. Three years ago, I joined the Chapter’s Hudson River Committee, to consider issues facing the River and surrounding areas and have subsequently helped grow a Climate and Finance committee within the NYC group. For these commitments, our teams have submitted feedback on the Hudson River Estuary Program put out by NYC DEC and conducted webinars and educational sessions with experts on various topics related to sustainable finance, as two of our primary accomplishments among others. Additionally, I have recently begun a role as an alternate delegate for the state with the national Sierra Club Council of Club Leaders, and have been working on soil health with the Chapter’s Farm and Food Committee and on the side for a project related to implementing soil health policy nationwide. I completed a Bachelor’s Degree at Dartmouth College in Biology and Psychology and then worked at NYU School of Medicine on several research studies on women and minority populations. During that time, I worked doing an extra research project focusing on global policies regarding nitrogen pollution in the air, soil, and water. For three years after, I worked doing industry research on sustainable finance, green bonds, fossil fuel divestment, and climate finance disclosure regulation among other topics. I am particularly passionate about informing policy with science, educating young individuals on environmental justice issues, and creating a sustainable food system. I thank the nominating committee and the membership for your consideration.

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**Vote Yes on Prop 1 this November - Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Bond Act**

New York State lawmakers recently passed the **Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Bond Act**, a historic piece of legislation that will fund critical environmental protection and restoration projects throughout the state. **Now, it’s up to voters to vote yes on Prop 1 in the general election on November 8.**

Projects supported by the Bond Act will:

- Safeguard clean drinking water, preventing contamination and pollution
- Update aging or failing water and sewer infrastructure
- Reduce carbon pollution that causes climate change
- Preserve forests, wetlands, and other wildlife habitats
- And more!

The Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter supports Prop 1 - the **Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Bond Act**. This historic proposal will offer the funding opportunities for sustainable infrastructure and will finance projects that protect critical habitats, restore wetlands, prevent floods, and safeguard our drinking water. We are counting on you to flip over the ballot on November 8th. Vote YES on Prop 1, and help us spread the word by sharing on social media and talking to your friends and family!

To learn more, visit [voteyescleanwaterandjobs.com](http://voteyescleanwaterandjobs.com).
Please vote for up to four (4) candidates. If you vote by paper ballot, cut off this entire back page and mail to Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter, PO Box 38225, Albany, NY 12203, so that it is received no later than December 31, 2022. Do not separate the ballot from your mailing address. Member information, needed to verify that the member has not also voted online, will be separated from votes before votes are tabulated to ensure secrecy.

Mallory Rutigliano
Bill Mattingly
Gale Pisha
Karl Palmquist
Diana Strablow
Gilbert Sabater
Jeff Schumann

*If you have a joint membership, 2nd member vote here:

Mallory Rutigliano
Bill Mattingly
Gale Pisha
Karl Palmquist
Diana Strablow
Gilbert Sabater
Jeff Schumann

*If you have a single membership, this column will be ignored when votes are counted.