

# SAVE NEWSLETTER

# Saugus Action Volunteers for the Environment, Inc.

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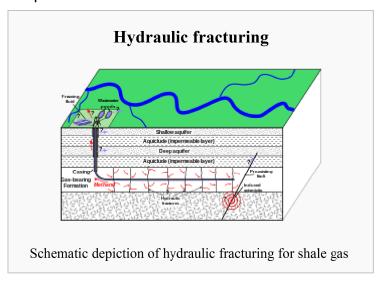
**JULY 2013** 

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Ann Devlin

I am pleased that HBO recently chose to air the documentary <u>Gasland Part II</u> by Oscar-nominated director Josh Fox. <u>Gasland Part II</u> pulls back the curtain on the fracking industry that's threatening our water, our air, our communities, and our climate – and shows how a grassroots movement is fighting back.

For those of you not as familiar with the term "fracking" as you would like to be, fracking is a term used to refer to oil and gas development generally. It is hydraulic fracturing or industrial gas drilling whereby fluid is injected underground at high pressure to fracture rock and release oil or gas trapped inside the formation. Proponents of hydraulic fracturing point to the economic benefits from the vast amounts of formerly inaccessible hydrocarbons the process can extract. Opponents point to potential environmental impacts, including contamination of ground water, depletion of fresh water, risks to air quality, the migration of gases and hydraulic fracturing chemicals to the surface, surface contamination from spills and flow-back, and the health effects of these.

Many environmentalists believe that fracking is a dangerous way of getting oil and gas and a shortsighted energy strategy that is poisoning our air and water, and is on its way to jeopardizing the health of millions of Americans. They content that fracking fluid – which is laced with toxic chemicals that have not been fully tested or disclosed to the public – may be released into the environment through inadequate waste disposal, leaks, spills, and other accidents presenting serious risks to public health and the environment.





### SAVE CELEBRATING ITS 40TH YEAR!

congratulations to SAVE for celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year! We hope that as many as possible of our members, friends and family, and other interested members of the public will join us throughout this special year at our various events. And as always, if you know of someone who would like to join our organization, please have them contact President Ann Devlin at <a href="mailto:adevlin@aisle10.net">adevlin@aisle10.net</a> or direct them to visit our websites/Facebook page at <a href="https://www.saugus.org/SAVE">www.saugus.org/SAVE</a> or <a href="https://www.saugus.saugus.org/SAVE">www.saugus.sau



### SAVE FISCAL YEAR 2014 OFFICERS ELECTED

At the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Dinner on June 12, 2013, the SAVE Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers who had signified their willingness to serve from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014:

Ann Devlin, President, Margery Hunter, Vice President Carol A. Chelf, Treasurer Pamela J. Goodwin, Secretary

With no nominations made from the floor, Nominating Committee Chairman Nancy Prag asked for a vote and each of the above-listed individuals were elected to serve as officers for Fiscal Year 2014.

Many thanks to the members of the Nominating Committee -- Nancy R. Prag, Timothy R. Hawkes, and Ruth G. Mohr – for their hard work.

### PHOTOS FROM THE SAVE ANNUAL DINNER ON JUNE 12TH

SAVE is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> year and below you can find photos from the 2013 Annual Meeting and Dinner.



SAVE FY 2014 OFFICERS (from left, Pam Goodwin, Margery Hunter, Ann Devlin, and Carol Chelf



From left, Guest Speakers Vikram Aggarwal of Energy Sage and Ryan Black of the Sierra Club; with attendees Selectmen Steve Horlick and Mike Serino, also SAVE VP Margery Hunter seated in the foreground

### PRESIDENT'S REMARKS AT 2013 ANNUAL DINNER

Reprinted for those members not able to attend the Annual Meeting & Dinner

President –Elect Devlin delivered the following message at SAVE's 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Dinner on June 12, 2013:

"In May, for the first time in at least 3,000,000 years, the level of heat-trapping CO2 in our atmosphere rose above the, once unimaginable, barrier of 400 parts per million. While efforts to reverse the direction and move the planet towards a safer 350 ppm have been building momentum, they are not enough and not happening fast enough. Most scientists believe that at 450 ppm, the results would be catastrophic and irreversible, and at the present rate, we could arrive at 450 ppm in just 20 years."

"It is up to each of us to do what we can individually, as a community, and as part of the Global Network to keep the level of CO2 in the atmosphere from climbing higher. We can redouble our efforts to reduce, reuse, recycle. We can cut back on our use of fossil fuels in our daily lives. We can look at alternative energy programs and have our houses energy assessed to see what changes can be made. And we can and should petition our representatives in government to work aggressively toward global solutions. It has never been more important to "Think Globally and Act Locally" and we owe it to our grandchildren to do what we can to join other activists both locally and around the world to help take the necessary steps to transition the global economy away from fossil fuels and into renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable farming practices in all sectors (agriculture, transport, manufacturing, etc.)."

### I-95 ROADBED UPDATE

Representatives from the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), joined by approximately fifteen Saugus residents as well as town attorneys and engineers, did a site walk-through of the abandoned I-95 roadbed area adjacent to Route 107 in mid-June. The roadbed was part of a proposed Interstate 95 extension that was to cut through the marsh area. But after the project started in the early 70's, it was abandoned and a large mound of sand was left in the marsh. DCR originally approached the Town last summer about removing as much as 350,000 cubic years of sand for the purpose of restoring Winthrop Beach. The Saugus Conservation Commission met over a number of months and approved the project in April with about 230,000 cubic yards of sand slated for removal. Approximately 20 Precinct 10 residents filed an appeal of that decision in May with the MassDEP, which led to the site walk-through. While the issue of ownership of the land is still being looked into, residents want to make sure they will get the best project possible with the least impact – and which includes restoration of the salt marsh. A MassDEP decision is expected sometime in the near future.



# CHANNEL 5'S "CHRONICLE" AIRS PROGRAM ON CLIMATE CHANGE

One of our members, Fae Saulenas, recently advised that on June 19, 2013, Channel 5's "Chronicle" devoted an entire show to the effects of climate change in our local area.

The Boston Harbor Association has recently released a report outlining a project currently underway to design coping strategies for potential climate change-related coastal flooding.

You can view the entire report at <a href="www.tbha.org/preparing-rising-tide-report">www.tbha.org/preparing-rising-tide-report</a> or review the 11 page Executive Study for report highlights.

#### **MEMBERS:**

We would love to hear from you regarding any specific steps that you are taking to increase your recycling efforts this year. Please share your environmental ideas / agenda at <a href="https://www.saugus.org/SAVE">www.saugus.org/SAVE</a> and click on the Facebook link. Or, if you're already on Facebook, you can simply "search" Saugus Action Volunteers for the Environment.

# MEMBERS: PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS <u>NOW</u> FOR THE FOLLOWING UPCOMING EVENTS:

# Next SAVE Board Meeting – Wednesday, August 21, 2013, 7:00 PM at Breakheart Visitors Center

All SAVE members, as well as members of the general public, are encouraged to attend and share your environmental concerns. You can also find more information on our websites <a href="https://www.saugusSAVE.org">www.saugusSAVE.org</a> or <a href="https://www.saugus.org/SAVE">www.saugus.org/SAVE</a>

### SAVE at Saugus Founders Day - Saturday, September 7, 2013

Come visit the SAVE table during Founders Day 2013. This year, SAVE will be raffling off a beautiful full-color print of a Barred Owl that was donated by "Eyes on Owls." See below for more details.

SAVE's Next "It's New to You" SWAP - Saturday, September 28, 2013, 10 AM - 1 PM

SAVE is planning its next "It's New to You" SWAP in our continuing effort to keep still-usable items out of the waste stream. We plan to hold this event in conjunction with Breakheart's Fall Festival, but we really could use your help in making this event possible. If you can volunteer for even a short time that day, please contact Ann Devlin at <a href="mailto:adevlin@aisle10.net">adevlin@aisle10.net</a> or at 781-233-5717 Why not start setting aside any still-usable items that can be brought to the SWAP for recycling? Also, don't forget to also bring your worn-out athletic shoes for drop-off in our recycling bin as we plan to once again participate in the Nike Reuse-a-Shoe program. Remember, the purpose of this FREE swap is to keep still-usable goods out of the waste stream.

### STOP BY THE SAVE TABLE DURING FOUNDERS DAY

Everyone who was able to attend the September 2012 SAVE-sponsored live owl program: "Who's Watching You? Owls of the World" really enjoyed it. Naturalist Marcia Wilson and her husband, Mark, a wild-life photographer, introduced these wonderful creatures to attendees during this very special event. And the Wilson's donated a beautiful, full-color print of a Barred Owl to SAVE. We plan to raffle off this most generous gift during Founders Day, September 7, 2013. So plan to stop by the SAVE table during Founders Day and get your raffle tickets for this exquisite full-color print.



Full-color print of Barred Owl donated to SAVE by "Eyes on Owls"

### **BOTTLE BILL UPDATE**

The MA Sierra Club released the following press release earlier this month on July 3rd:

## Legislature Drops the Ball, Rejects Bottle Bill Update

Today, the Legislature dropped the ball once again, as the final FY14 budget was reported out of the budget conference committee without the Updated Bottle Bill in it. The Senate had voted unanimously to include the Updated Bottle Bill in its version of the FY14 budget, and while the House never considered it in their budget, 76 members of the House are cosponsors of the bill. But when the budget conference committee--which meets behind closed doors and does not record individual votes--was finished resolving the differences between the House and Senate budgets, the Updated Bottle Bill was not included.

"The conference committee snatched defeat from the jaws of victory," commented Janet Domenitz, Executive Director of MASSPIRG. "The Updated Bottle Bill is wildly popular with the public, with over 100 organizations, with 208 cities and towns, with 350 small businesses. The Legislature had a chance to make this bill law and they ignored it."

The Updated Bottle Bill, which would add a nickel deposit to beverage containers such as water and sports drinks, has been pending in the Legislature for several years. The single most effective recycling tool in the state, the current bill, which has been on the books since the early 80's, reduces container litter by 80%. "As beach season gets underway, it's a dramatic reminder of how much litter and trash we could get rid of if we simply put that nickel deposit on more beverages," said Ryan Black of the Sierra Club, another Updated Bottle Bill supporter. "Our environment would be cleaner and healthier if we could recycle more of these plastic bottles which are trashing our ocean, our parks, and our open spaces," added Ken Pruitt of the Environmental League of MA. The coalition pushing this bill includes the League of Women Voters, the South Shore Recycling Cooperative, the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, and over 90 other local and statewide groups. The coalition will continue to vigorously pursue this long overdue reform.

SAVE members are strongly encouraged to contact our legislators and urge them to continue to support the Bottle Bill during the new legislative session. Call Representative Wong at 617-722-2488 or email him at the following link: <a href="mailto:Donald.Wong@mahouse.gov">Donald.Wong@mahouse.gov</a>; call Representative Kathi-Ann Reinstein at 617-722-2180 or email her at <a href="mailto:KathiAnne.Reinstein@mahouse.gov">KathiAnne.Reinstein@mahouse.gov</a>



As we reported in the last newsletter, SAVE is participating in a fun activity known as Geocaching. Members can check out how the cache is doing and what other geocaches are in the area by going to <a href="https://www.opencaching.com">www.opencaching.com</a>

### **PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOUR FY2014 DUES!**



SAVE FISCAL YEAR 2014 BEGAN ON JULY 1, 2013

Just a reminder that Fiscal Year 2014 began on July 1, 2013. (SAVE's 2014 Fiscal Year runs from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014). You can submit your FY 2014 annual dues and membership renewal by simply completing the form below.

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 members 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 <u>update any email / telephone or cell phone / address</u> revisions that will help us maintain current and accurate member information.

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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, plus \$3 for each additional family member. Student dues are \$1.

Name(s)	E-Mail
Name(s)	.E-Mail
Name(s)	.E-Mail

ount enclosed for dues	\$
ntribution enclosed for Scholarship/Education Fund (i	any)\$
ntribution enclosed for Environmental Fund (if any)	\$
al Amount enclosed	\$

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 hold special events, 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



REMINDER: As each of us looks back through the years at the diligence and commitment of SAVE members since our organization's inception 40 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.

## PLEASE REMEMBER TO: REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE





Members: Don't forget the Saugus River Watershed Picnic and Children's Festival on Wednesday, July 24th, 6:00 p.m. to Dusk, at the Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site, 244 Central Street, Saugus. This is a free event, but remember to bring a blanket and picnic supper -- complimentary drinks and dessert will be provided. {Raindate: July 25th}

REMEMBER: SAVE was organized and incorporated in 1973, "to promote a better quality of life in Saugus through environmental concern and action."

For over 40 years, SAVE has been an instrumental part of the national grassroots environmental movement. By spearheading local campaigns and participating in statewide initiatives, SAVE is an effective advocate for the protection of our community's health and its natural resources.

### **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

SAVE reminds all its members to continue to check our website and/or Facebook page to see links to important "Action Alerts"

Visit the SAVE websites at <a href="www.SaugusSAVE.org">www.SaugusSAVE.org</a> or at <a href="www.saugus.org/SAVE">www.saugus.org/SAVE</a> and click on the Facebook link. Or, if you are already on Facebook, simply "search" Saugus Action Volunteers for the Environment.

### SAUGUS ACTION VOLUNTEERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Post Office Box 908 Saugus, Massachusetts 01906



THINK GLOBALLY...ACT LOCALLY!

Remember to: REDUCE - REUSE - RECYCLE