



*West Virginia Environmental Council's*

# **GREEN Legislative Update**

*Published Weekly During West Virginia's Legislative Session*

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## **Under the Dome**

*By Donald S. Garvin, Jr.  
WVEC Legislative Coordinator*

### **Week 4 – The Byrd Effect**

The first three weeks of the 2011 West Virginia Legislative Session have been dominated by the politics of who is going to be our next short-term Governor. And, of course, everybody in both chambers is running for Governor (well, that's only a slight exaggeration)!

Since the death of U.S. Senator Robert C. Byrd last summer, the state has endured a temporary replacement for his office, a special primary election and special general election for another short-term replacement for his office, and a "acting" Governor.

The State Senate is in shambles. We have witnessed a coup in Senate leadership that resulted in the creation of new Senate rules and a new position - "acting" Senate President. And there has been at least one floor session where both the "acting" Governor (who remains the official Senate President) and the "acting" Senate President presided over the meeting at some point!

The result has been endless wrangling and complaining daily on the Senate floor by the minority faction of Senators who lost their powerful leadership positions in the coup.

The WV Supreme Court has finally weighed in (thanks to our good friends at WV CAG) and said the state must now endure another special election for another short-term Governor this year. And the Court's ruling leaves open the question of the constitutionality of the rules changes in the Senate, leaving some pundits to predict that nothing the Legislature passes this year will be legal.

Things are finally calming down a bit, and both the House and the Senate are beginning to get on with the business of legislating.

How all this will affect environmental legislation this session is still pure speculation.

I will venture this one observation: the new Senate leadership, including most of the committee chairs, is definitely more approachable and open to the WVEC lobby team than the old bunch.

But, as they say, the proof will be in the pudding.

Please remember to keep your bird feeders full this week – if you can still find them under all this snow.

## **Looks Like We're Having An Election - Again!**

*By Leslee McCarty, WVEC Lobbyist*

Thursday the House of Delegates concurred with the Senate to set the dates for the upcoming gubernatorial special election. May 14<sup>th</sup> will be the primary and October 4th, the election.

A large field of candidates is expected to run, including Acting Governor Earl Ray Tomblin, and both current and former Secretary of State, Natalie Tennant and Betty Ireland. Also mentioned are Senators Jeff Kessler, Brooks McCabe and Clark Barnes and House Speaker Rick Thompson. We expect Mountain Party Candidate Jesse Johnson will also throw his hat into the ring.

Hopefully we will get through the primary without a lot of vitriolic ads run by corporate interests (er... persons), but expect to hear more about who loves “job killing Obama care,” and who hates the EPA the most in the general election.

## **Citizen Lobbyists Rock the Capitol on Marcellus - Send More!**

*By Leslee McCarty, WVEC Lobbyist*

We are making a very good splash on Marcellus, thanks in large part to our citizen lobbyists. You are making a difference!! Keep those calls and letters coming and come to E-Day and lobby.

This week we have made sure every Delegate and Senator received West Virginia Rivers Coalition's (WVRC) primer on Marcellus drilling in West Virginia. Thanks to WVRC for such a great document! The long-awaited DEP Bill regulating Marcellus is out and if the heaviest bill wins, the title will go to DEP at 180 pages. Sponsoring the bill are Senators Kessler, Green, Hall and Beach. Committee references are to Energy, Industry and Mining (EIM) and to Finance.

Lots of our representatives say they are waiting to see both bills (DEP and Interim Judiciary bill) before they make up their minds, but most say they think we need more regulations on Marcellus drilling. However, given the complexity of the bills, one wonders whether they will actually be able to compare the two big bills. To that end Dave McMahon, Julie Archer, Don Garvin, Jim Kotcon and others are finishing up a table-formatted comparison of the bills, which may help legislators - (and us!) with comparing. We hope to get that out to legislators on Monday. This bill comparison is now posted on the WVEC website:

[www.wvecouncil.org/legisupdate/2011/02\\_04\\_ComparisonChartMarcellusBills.pdf](http://www.wvecouncil.org/legisupdate/2011/02_04_ComparisonChartMarcellusBills.pdf)

We have been using Don Garvin's comparison as a starting point, and giving that out, too.

Last week's presentation for the House Judiciary and Finance Committees on Marcellus Shale was very well attended and this Friday brought another meeting at 9 a.m. This time Don Rigby with Regional Economic Development Partnership (RED) - Ohio, Marshall and Wetzel Counties' economic development arm - batted first, with a completely rosy scenario of all the wealth and jobs Marcellus would create. Nothing about any downside here, alas.

Then Highways came up with Paul Mattox, Jr., Secretary of Transportation. They have got some new policies for roads impacted by Marcellus, but there doesn't seem to be a lot of bite in the policies and lots of their agreements with drillers seem to be verbal. Their report showed some good pictures of some messed up roads, though, and it does seem they are attempting some accountability from drillers. But this all needs to be in code, not just policy.

Last, but not least, the Wetzel County sheriff spoke about problems they are having with drilling impacts. His message could be summed up as, "My job is to be responsible for public safety in a county that is being drastically impacted by drilling and it's very difficult!" He mentioned breakdowns blocking traffic, narrow roads with no shoulder, speeding, convoys of trucks, illegal aliens working for companies, drugs, litter, conflicts with school buses...need for more officers. He left out spills, but that is the DEP's job anyway.

Good news here is that the Legislators are listening, asking good questions and now they have two bills to pick from. My message to them, and to you is "We need a bill passed this session to regulate Marcellus!"

We can't wait another year without protection. Practically every day the Gazette runs a story saying more and more wells will be drilled, more and more investment is being made and yet we are basically unprotected from health and environmental impacts. This cannot continue!



## Film "Gasland" Draws Attention

Josh Fox's amazing film, *Gasland*, was nominated last week for an Academy Award for "Feature Length Documentary."

Apparently, this has really upset some in the oil and gas industry. According to a story in the New York Times, an industry group formed to fight federal regulation of hydraulic fracturing, "Energy in Depth" sent a letter to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences saying that factual errors in the film should render it ineligible for the award.

Josh Fox counters that the film is factual. "*Gasland* exposes what they have been doing, and they don't like it," Fox told the NYT.

If you haven't seen the film, it is out on DVD, so get it, watch it and draw your own conclusions. Then make sure your friends and neighbors see it, too!

## **Energy Expansion Trust Fund Act Makes Rounds**

*John Christensen, WVEC Lobby Team*

With all the hullabaloo surrounding renewable energy and efficiency measures lately, it is only fitting that Delegate Manypenny's bill - The Energy Expansion Trust Fund Act (EEF) - addressing the glaring need for the creation of venture capital funds is sorely needed. It is designed to lower both the consumers and businesses cost, making energy conservation more affordable.

The bill reads like one of the most interesting this lobbyist has ever laid eyes on. The lobby team is working very closely with long-time supporter Chris Shepherd who also works with OVEC, in seeking added sponsorship from our Delegates, and garner the support the bill deserves.

This effort was the product of a Study Resolution passed last year, championed by Mr. Shepherd's enthusiastic approach during most of the 2010 session. We are still in the process of adding more sponsors and feel confident we'll reach the maximum number.

The act would authorize the PSC to create a funding mechanism through a slight rate increase of \$.00035/kWh per month (which amounts to less than the cost of a postage stamp) to fund new renewable and efficiency projects in the mountain state.

This fund would be administered by a new chosen board of directors to cover pertinent government agencies and non-profit groups - and held in a separate treasury fund. Due to the creative approach at funding it will have little impact on the state's general fund.

Energy Expansion Funds have a proven track record of performance in 20 states as a job creation and business investment vehicle. In many states, with every dollar collected the benefits have paid back up to 5 - 1 in terms of job creation opportunities in renewable and efficiency private energy service companies.

WV has significant untapped energy capacity in the neighborhood of 5,000 MW in the wind, biomass and hydropower sectors - enough to power every residence in our state - and that's not even considering solar or efficiency savings (WV DOE, US DOE).

## **Solar Week in Williamson**

*By John Christensen, WVEC Lobbyist*

I hope our readers were able to catch the Thursday morning *Charleston Gazette* article <http://tinyurl.com/4vdmfm> on the very successful 'Solar Week' in Williamson sponsored by Mountain View Solar, The Jobs Project, and Solar World.

The event culminated in a day of helpful information workshops by Mountain View engineer Clay Herzog and a very candid presentation by Solar World manager of public affairs Ben Santarris who came all the way from Hillsboro, Oregon, to participate in the event.

The media coverage was superb as both print medium, television and non-profits covered the festivities promoting renewable energy system installations in the southern coalfields.

I just had to make a pitch for Solar World to build a manufacturing plant here in the mountain state, and to my surprise it was well received by Mr. Santarris who promised to take it to the company CEO in the coming months!

## **Nuclear Energy is Dirty Energy**

*By Denise Poole, WVEC*

There continues to be an effort at the national as well as the state level to open the door to more nuclear power plants. This effort equates nuclear power and coal with “clean” energy.

Nuclear energy (like coal) is dirty energy.

At the national level, congress is likely to consider establishing a “Clean Energy Standard” this year. This “Clean Energy Standard” being considered includes nuclear power, coal and natural gas. It’s a standard that would actually inhibit, not encourage, renewable energy, energy efficiency, and other safe and clean technological tools. Rather, it appears to reward polluting businesses.

At the state level, West Virginia is one of just a handful of states that carry a ban on construction of nuclear power plants. As you may recall, we have had this ban since 1996 when the WVEC lobby team fielded the legislation through both the House and Senate.

This year, we also have SB 224 sponsored by Senator Brooks McCabe (D-Kanawha) requesting the repeal this ban. McCabe has sponsored his bill for three years, and thus far it has not succeeded.

SB 224 has been assigned to Energy, Industry and Mining (EIM). Chairman Senator Mike Green (D-Raleigh) tells me that it is not on the agenda in his committee at this time. We’ll let you know if and when it appears.

The *Nuclear Information and Resource Service* (NIRS) has prepared a new six-page briefing paper: “Nuclear Energy is Dirty Energy”, that examines the fundamental misconceptions or misunderstanding of those who lump nuclear power together with genuinely clean energy, and provides a factual basis for why nuclear is not clean.

The website for NIRS is, [www.nirs.org](http://www.nirs.org) - the briefing paper and a lot of other information can be found there.

## **DEP Water Quality Standards Rule to Be Taken Up**

Monday, February 7 at 1:00 p.m. Senate Natural Resources will take up the DEP Water Quality Standards Rule. This rule contains important standards for Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and regulations, which DEP believes will correct the Greenbrier River algae problems.

The meeting will take place in 208 W (Senate Judiciary.) If you can attend, and have an interest in the rules (like if your drinking water comes from a river, or you like to swim or fish in our rivers!), please try to attend. Industry will be there!

## **Wednesdays Are (Still) Citizen Lobby Days!**

**Join Us!** WV Chapter of the Sierra Club, WV Environmental Council, WV-SORO and others working to protect our land and water resources from destructive drilling practices

**What?** Citizen Lobby Days

**When? Where?** Each Wednesday (or any day\*) during the 2011 Legislative Session (Starting January 19, 2011) at the State Capitol in Charleston

**Why?** To urge lawmakers to strengthen West Virginia’s oil and gas drilling laws

Please call Chuck, Julie or Denise in advance so we can be sure to meet with you and maximize our time. Chuck Wyrostok, WV Sierra Club Outreach Coordinator, at (877)-252-0257 or [wyro@appalight.com](mailto:wyro@appalight.com); Julie Archer at (304) 610-9094 or [julie@wvsoro.org](mailto:julie@wvsoro.org); Denise Poole, WV Environmental Council at (304) 414-0143 or [deniseap@earthlink.net](mailto:deniseap@earthlink.net)

\*A group of organizations working on these issues have picked Wednesdays as Citizen Lobby Days, however, with a little advance notice we'll be happy to meet you anytime you are available to come to Charleston. Please contact Chuck or Julie in advance to arrange a time and location to meet. We also recommend calling ahead to schedule an appointment with your legislators. *We hope to see you can join us!*

## **Shameless Plea, Week Four**

Well, here we are again - begging, begging, begging. We really hate to beg. Really. We hate to beg and plead. Beg and plead we must, if we want to make it through the end of the session.

Please send anything you can afford to support the lobby team, and we hope you know by now how much we appreciate all the support.

Please join us this Wednesday for E-Day at the Capitol, and our E-Day Benefit Dinner and Awards Ceremony – its going to be a good one this year!

## **Think Renewable**





The West Virginia Environmental Council's

# E-Day!

“Protecting West Virginia’s Water”

Wednesday, February 09, 2011

**Senate Hallway & Alcoves ~ 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

• **Press Conference:**

**12:30 – Governor’s Press Room (Behind Secretary of State’s Office)**

**“Regulating Marcellus Gas Drilling”**

Speakers Include:

Senators Jeffrey Kessler & Orphy Klempa; Delegates Tim Manchin, Mike Mannypenny, Barbara Fleischauer. Beth Little (WV Sierra Club), Dave McMahon (SORO) *others.*

• **Grassroots Citizen Lobbying throughout the day**

• **Environmental / Sustainable Business / Progressive Displays!**

## ***Participants Include:***

- ◆ WV Environmental Council
- ◆ WVEC Grassroots Citizen Lobby
- ◆ WV Highlands Conservancy
- ◆ WV Citizen Action Group
- ◆ Clean Elections Coalition
- ◆ Sludge Safety Project
- ◆ WV Chapter, Sierra Club
- ◆ WV Rivers Coalition
- ◆ Coal River Mountain Watch
- ◆ Stop PATH WV
- ◆ WV GreenWorks
- ◆ Mountaineer Chapter ~ Trout Unlimited
- ◆ Friends of Blackwater Canyon
- ◆ Sustainable Living for West Virginia
- ◆ Mountain View Solar & Wind
- ◆ Capitol City Construction
- ◆ PIMBY (Power In My Back Yard)
- ◆ Friends of the Lower Greenbrier
- ◆ Friends of the Cheat
- ◆ Friends of the Mountains
- ◆ Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition
- ◆ Greenbrier River Watershed Association

**West Virginia Environmental Council**

2206 Washington Street East, Charleston WV 25311

(304) 414-0143

[www.wvecouncil.org](http://www.wvecouncil.org)

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**West Virginia Environmental Council's**

***E-Day! Benefit Dinner***

Wednesday, February 09, 2011

6:00 p.m. ~ 9:30 p.m.

The Women's Club of Charleston  
1600 Virginia Street East, Charleston

(\$15 per person donation at the door)



• **Deluxe Soup & Salad Buffet**

**2011 Award Presentations: 7 pm – 8 pm**

Mother Jones – *Mary Wimmer*

Chuck Chambers Public Service – *Delegate Tim Manchin*

Linda Schnautz Courage – *Judy Bonds (posthumously)*

Laura Forman Grassroots Activism – *Keryn Newman*

Green Entrepreneur – *Sara Halstead-Bolton, GreenWorks*

Youth Activism – *Laura Steepleton*

**Live Music: 8:00 – 9:30 pm:**

**Andy Park & the Country Katz**

**Steve Hill**

**Michael & The Archangels**



# Bills We Are Tracking

Bill Number	Title	Committee
<b>Senate Bills</b>		
SB 12	Public health assessment of DEP rules ( <i>WVEC Bill</i> )	Health
SB 20	Establishing recycling goals	Nat Res
SB 24	Creating Green Buildings Act	Finance
SB 41	Creating Jobs Impact Statement Act ( <i>Devil in the Details</i> )	Econ Dev
SB 54	Additional private lodging at Stonewall Jackson Lake State Park	Nat Res
SB 70	Budget Bill	Finance
SB 201	Energy Efficient Building Act	Econ Dev
SB 224	Repealing nuclear power plant ban ( <i>Perennial Terrible Bill</i> )	EIM
SB 225	WV Innovation and Development Act	Econ Dev
SB 227	Creative Communities Development Pilot Program	Econ Dev
SB 244	Coalbed Methane Ownership ( <i>Interim Bill</i> )	EIM
SB 245	Funding for Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration ( <i>Interim Bill</i> )	Judiciary
SB 248	Banning Coal Slurry Injection ( <i>GREAT Interim Bill</i> )	Judiciary
SB 258	Hydraulic Fracturing and Horizontal Drilling Gas Act ( <i>Interim Bill</i> )	Judiciary
SB 271	Adding members to DEP Advisory Council ( <i>Perennial Terrible Bill</i> )	Gov Org
SB 314	Natural Gas Resources Transportation Road System	Transportation
SB 336	WV Energy Efficient Buildings Program Act	Gov Org
SB 353	Increase Tax on Marcellus Shale if Transported Out of State	EIM
SB 366	Underground Storage Tank Admin. Fund	Judiciary
SB 370	Auth. Div. Of Mining & Reclamation Assess Fees to Coal Mine Operators	EIM
SB 372	Coalbed Methane Severance Tax Proceeds	EIM
<b>House Bills</b>		
HB 2012	Budget Bill	Finance
HB 2024	Green Buildings Act ( <i>WVEC Bill</i> )	Gov Org
HB 2025	West Virginia Energy Efficiency Act ( <i>WVEC Bill</i> )	Gov Org
HB 2026	Prohibiting coal sludge impoundments ( <i>Great Bill</i> )	EIL
HB 2056	West Virginia Renewable Energy Act ( <i>Great Bill</i> )	EIL
HB 2135	Plug-in electric vehicle tax credit ( <i>Great Idea</i> )	Transportation
HB 2136	Plastic Shopping Bag Excise Tax Act ( <i>Good Idea</i> )	Finance
HB 2153	Requiring DEP to remediate waste tire piles	<b>Passed Jud., to Finance</b>
HB 2160	Incentives for energy conservation by electric utilities	EIL
HB 2170	Requiring DEP approve coal mine permits in six months ( <i>Perennial Terrible Bill</i> )	Judiciary
HB 2172	Requiring DEP to monitor litigation ( <i>Pro Industry Bill</i> )	Nat Res
HB 2219	Verifiable Science Act ( <i>Perennial Terrible Bill</i> )	Gov Org
HB 2232	Allowing planning and zoning restrictions for mining and manufacturing activities	EIL
HB 2352	Extending the alternative-fuel motor vehicle tax credit	Finance
HB 2401	Renewable Portfolio Standards Sustainable Energy Act ( <i>WVEC Bill</i> )	EIL
B 2403	Marcellus gas well operations use of water resources ( <i>Carryover Bill</i> )	Judiciary
HB 2404	Low Emission Vehicle Act	EIL
HB 2422	Creative Communities Development Act	EIL
HB 2448	Creative Communities Development Pilot Program	EIL
HB 2514	Honeybee-friendly strip mine reclamation	EIL
HB 2554	Intrastate Coal and Use Act ( <i>Rediculously Bad Bill</i> )	EIL
HB 2688	Adding a member from labor to Surface Mine Board ( <i>Bad Idea</i> )	EIL
HB 2776	Residential Renewable Energy Systems Tax Credit ( <i>Great Idea</i> )	EIL
HB 2795	Jobs Impact Statement Act ( <i>Devil in the Details</i> )	EIL
HB 2800	Creating the West Virginia Ski Resort Industry Commission	Gov Org
HB 2809	Stopping accelerated rate recovery and revising definition of need for power lines	EIL
HB 2810	Relating to interconnection and net-metering ( <i>WVEC Bill</i> )	Judiciary
HB 2814	Bottle Bill ( <i>Great Bill Again</i> )	Judiciary
HB 2834	Total Dissolved Solids Bill ( <i>Carryover Bill</i> )	Gov Org
HB 2842	Coalbed Methane Ownership ( <i>Interim Bill</i> )	Judiciary
HB 2844	Funding for Chesapeake Bay Watershed Restoration ( <i>Interim Bill</i> )	Judiciary
HB 2850	Banning Coal Slurry Injection ( <i>GREAT Interim Bill</i> )	Judiciary
HB 2851	Surface owner's right to purchase mineral interests	EIL
HB 2859	Election of Public Service Commissioners	Gov Org
HB 2878	Hydraulic Fracturing and Horizontal Drilling Gas Act ( <i>Interim Bill</i> )	Judiciary
HB 2890	Energy Efficient Building Act	EIL
HB 2915	Repealing sections of the Alternative and Renewable Energy Portfolio Act	EIL
HB 2938	Tax credit for plug-in electric and compressed natural gas vehicles	Transportation
HB 2940	Requiring liners in all new surface coal-waste impoundments	EIL

HB 2953 Dedication of coalbed methane severance tax (same as SB 372)  
HB 2955 Div. Of Mining & Reclamation Access certain fees to coal mine operations (SB 370)  
HB 2972 Intrastate Coal and Use Act  
HB 2974 Relating to Coopers Rock State Forest  
HB 2985 Updating Logging Sediment Control Act

EIL  
EIL  
EIL  
Nat Resources  
Gov Org

\* Note: We are tracking the DEP Rules bills separately.



## Calendar of Events



**February 9:** E-Day at the Capitol. Senate side hallway and upper rotunda alcoves. From 9 AM – 3 PM. Focus will be on citizen lobbying and exhibits (environmental groups, small green businesses). For more information and to participate: [deniseap@earthlink.net](mailto:deniseap@earthlink.net) or [a\\_clean\\_wv@yahoo.com](mailto:a_clean_wv@yahoo.com)

**February 9:** WVEC E-Day Benefit Dinner & Award Presentations. Woman's Club of Charleston – 1600 Virginia Street (corner of Elizabeth Street). 6 PM – 9 PM. Featuring a Deluxe Soup & Salad bar, cash bar. Award presentations begin at 7:15 PM. Cost: \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. For more information: [deniseap@earthlink.net](mailto:deniseap@earthlink.net) or (304) 414-0143.

**February 20:** White Grass Winter Outing - A winter-themed snow shoe tour, White Grass Ski Touring Center, Davis WV - 1 PM. Learn about all the unique wildlife habitats in Canaan Valley and much more. For more information, visit [www.whitegrass.com](http://www.whitegrass.com) or call (304) 866-4114.

**March 2:** FREE SCREENING – ‘Dirty Business - “Clean Coal” and the Battle for our Energy Future.’ West Virginia State Theater / The Cultural Center, Capitol Complex. Screening at 7:00 PM. Panel with filmmaker and other experts at 8:30 PM. Please RSVP: <http://bit.ly/DirtyBusiness-RSVP>

**March 12:** Last day of legislative session.

**April 2-6:** 6<sup>th</sup> Annual “Week in Washington”. Organized by The Alliance for Appalachia. Opportunity to pass the Clean Water Protection Act and the Appalachia Restoration Act. For more information and to register: [www.ilovemountains.org](http://www.ilovemountains.org) or call (304) 546-8473

**April 16:** “A Sustainable Affair” – Celebration! Davis & Elkins College campus, Elkins WV. Sustainable Living for WV and the Center for Sustainability Studies of D&E celebrate over 10 years of sustainability initiatives and fairs. Beginning at 4:00 PM - Halliehurst Mansion: Wine Tasting, music, Group of 12 juried vendors (green energy, agriculture, local artisans); 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM - “Sustainable Feast” dinner. Join us at the “Ice House” on campus from 9:00 PM till Midnight with live music by Fox Hunt! For more information: [deniseap@earthlink.net](mailto:deniseap@earthlink.net)

**May 19-21:** The New River Symposium, “Bridging the Gaps: Collaborations for Sustainability” – Concord University, Athens WV. For more information contact: Dr. Roy Ramthun – [rramthun@concord.edu](mailto:rramthun@concord.edu)

**May 27-30:** Heartwood's 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Forest Council. To be held at Camp Ahistadi, Damascus, Virginia. Join Heartwood as they focus on **Energy**. Hosted by Southern Appalachian Mountain Stewards, The Clinch Coalition, Mountain Justice, The Alliance for Appalachia, Dogwood Alliance and Wild South. For more information: [katey.lauer@theallianceforappalachia.org](mailto:katey.lauer@theallianceforappalachia.org) or (304) 546-8473

## Legislative Session 2011 Information Sources:

### Legislative Reference & Information Center:

MB-27, Bld. 1 - State Capitol Complex, Charleston WV 25305

**WV Legislative web-site:** [www.legis.state.wv.us](http://www.legis.state.wv.us)

(For bill tracking, bulletin board (journals), legislators' e-mails.)

**To Call Toll Free:** 1-877-565-3447 or local Charleston area: (304) 347-4836

**Listen Live:** West Virginia Legislature page <http://www.legis.state.wv.us/> and click on "listen live."

**WV Environmental Council Web-site:** [www.wvecouncil.org](http://www.wvecouncil.org)

WVEC Office: (304) 414-0143

### Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition:

[www.ohvec.org/ovec\\_news.html](http://www.ohvec.org/ovec_news.html) and [www.ohvec.org/news\\_gen.html](http://www.ohvec.org/news_gen.html) daily.

Every morning, OVEC checks scores of news sources and posts links.

**Legislative Update** is published by the West Virginia Environmental Council (WVEC) – a statewide organization dedicated to facilitating communication and cooperation among citizens in promoting environmental protection in West Virginia. *Legislative Update* is published weekly during the regular Legislative Session.

We welcome letters, articles, and artwork from readers and reserve the right to edit or reject submissions. Please send materials to Denise Poole, *editor* at [deniseap@earthlink.net](mailto:deniseap@earthlink.net)

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## Support the West Virginia Environmental Council

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Phone: (304) 414-0143 [www.wvecouncil.org](http://www.wvecouncil.org)

\_\_\_\_\_ Renewed Membership      \_\_\_\_\_ New Membership  
\_\_\_\_\_ Change of Address      \_\_\_\_\_ Donation

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Student / Senior:	_____ \$10	Regular:	_____ \$25
Seedling:	_____ \$50	Sustaining:	_____ \$100
Enviro Steward:	_____ \$250	Canopy:	_____ \$500
Old Growth:	_____ \$1,000	Other:	_____

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WVEC Legislative Update Newsletter

February 04, 2011