

NAPS News

Northumberland Association for Progressive Stewardship
"Northumberland is going to grow. Let's help it grow with order and beauty."

Winter 2016

Volume 25, Issue 1



Welcome to the Winter 2016 Issue of NAPS News.
Here's what was happening this season.

Mark your calendar:

Saturday, April 16, 2016: The Second Annual Earth Day Celebration and Exhibition. Once again the event will be held during the Heathsville Farmers Market at Rice's Hotel/Hughlett's Tavern. NAPS is sponsoring the exhibition of environmental organizations. There will be special activities for adults and children. Watch for details in the papers and reminders on radio.

Middle Schoolers Shine at NAPS Annual Meeting. After discussion of STEM importance by Lee Allain and keynote speaker John Wright from Dahlgren, the students proudly displayed their completed under water robots for the SeaPerch Project. > > >

STEM Update. LEGO winners and a joint venture, reports Lee Allain. **Plus:** The "STEM Boost Two" winners show their LEGO constructions.

Book Review. Dr. Lynton Land describes how *Merchants of Doubt* applies to our Bay ecology.

Financials and Members. Treasurer Greg Haugan has created a budget. Also, NAPS needs new members.

Adult EcoTour. NAPS is supporting an EcoTour on June 11 for Northumberland Preservation, Inc. members.

CCL Update. Citizens Climate Lobby representatives visited Congressman Rob Wittman.

OP-ED. Environmental journalist Bud Ward discusses the impact of the Supreme Court ruling and the death of Justice Scalia on the climate change agreements.

NAPS Calendar.

Results of the Paris Climate Conference. Dr. Greg Haugan summarizes the key goals from the meetings.

Welcome. Here are the three new members of the NAPS Board of Directors elected at the Annual Meeting.

Earth Day Highway Clean-up. Mahoney's Heros will be on Route 200 on Friday, April 22. They need helpers.

Officers. Find out who's guiding NAPS for the coming year. Check out the Officers item.

To keep up with NAPS on a regular basis, check out our web site: www.napsva.org.

– Jay Walker, Editor

Middle Schoolers Shine at NAPS Annual Meeting

By Jay Walker

A group of Northumberland Middle School students and Shauna McCranie, Coordinator of Gifted Services, showed

their completed robots for the SeaPerch Project at the NAPS Annual Meeting, "STEM in Northumberland," Saturday, February 6, at the United Methodist Church in Heathsville. Almost half of the 20 sixth to ninth grade students were on hand to tell the audience of NAPS members and non-members, including their parents and grandparents, what their favorite tasks were. (Soldering skill was a leader.)

Shauna told the crowd of about 50+ that the group was ready to test their underwater robots at the YMCA in-door pool in

Kilmarnock. The next step in April will be competition at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, she said. Everyone had a chance to examine the robots during the intermission.

The SeaPerch Project was part of the overall theme of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math). The keynote speaker, John Wright from the Naval Surface Warfare Center at Dahlgren, described how important STEM education is to the Navy. He outlined the programs that Dahlgren supports at elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools, emphasizing that grants are available, such as the SeaPerch Project at the Northumberland Middle School. Dahlgren provided all the materials and tools needed to construct the robots. NAPS supplied the hand bags to carry the tools.

Continued on Page 4...



Joshua Crosswell and Emily Rice showed their SeaPerch robots.

STEM UPDATE

LEGO Winners and a Joint Venture

By Lee Allain

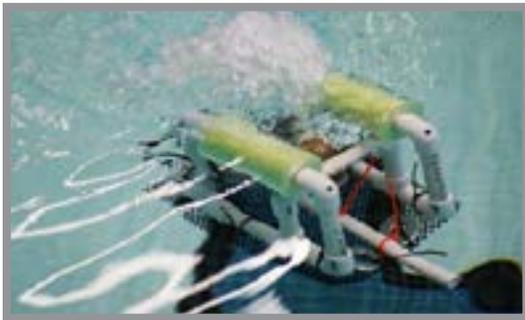
NAPS has continued to support the middle school as they work to meet the commitments made to the “STEM Boost Two” grant from the River Counties Community Foundation. Phase one of the program has been completed with a competition among talented and gifted students. Students voted among themselves for the various completed constructions in the areas of Skyscrapers, Bridges, and Unique Structures. The winners in each category respectively were Teagan Mullins, John Meyers Vanlandingham, and Darrah Downing, shown in the attached



montage.

Phase two part of the program has recently been coupled to the Boys and Girls Club activity, and LEGO constructions are enthusiastically being pursued by as many as 20 students in that after-school program. See recent photo above.

NAPS, also early on, contributed to the purchase of a tool bag to contain tools provided by the Dahlgren Naval facility as part of their funded “SeaPerch” project. Since that time we have helped with student construction and early launch of SeaPerch assemblies at the Kilmarnock YMCA pool. One more practice session at the pool, and the student team will be ready for competition.



“STEM Boost Two” T&G Winners

*Unique – Darrah Downing
Darrah clearly has an engineering talent and an eye for style.*



*Skyscraper – Teagan Mullins
Teagan clearly is excited about his LEGO Skyscraper which is much taller than he is.*



*Bridge – John Meyers Vanlandingham
John came up with a LEGO structural mode that was strong enough to cross library aisles with a suspension bridge.*

BOOK REVIEW

‘Merchants of Doubt’ and the Bay

By Dr. Lynton Land

In a new book, *Merchants of Doubt*, historians Naomi Oreskes and Erik Conway document how special interests, including a few high-level scientists, purposefully mislead the public and denied well-established scientific knowledge. “Big Tobacco,” knowing full well their product was addictive and could kill people, as could second-hand smoke, established the playbook on how to do everything possible to confuse the issue and delay any action that would decrease their profits – lie, shoot the messenger, trot out “experts,” fund “research,” and fund “think tanks” with benign-sounding names like the American Enterprise Institute or the Heritage Foundation.

The energy sector and power plants used the same playbook to deny the environmental effects of acid rain, pesticide manufacturers used it to promote the continued use of DDT and chemical manufacturers used it to deny their products were responsible for the ozone hole. And of course it is being used today to combat action to address global warming.

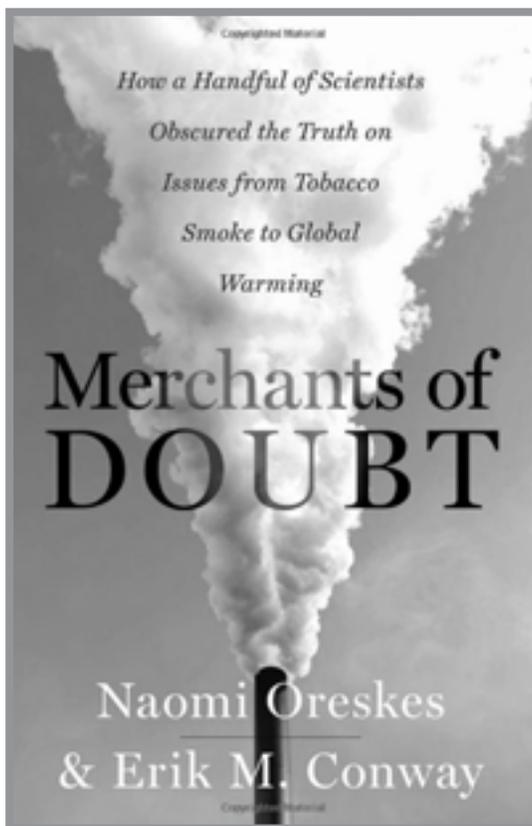
There are many similar examples not covered in this well-written and well-researched book. Close to home, here in Chesapeake Bay, “Big Ag” uses the playbook to do everything possible to compromise understanding that inefficient crop fertilization causes most of Chesapeake Bay nutrient pollution and to delay any possible action to meaningfully reduce the pollution. The writing and passage of the Clean Water Act was successfully manipulated so as to essentially exempt farm practices from regulation.

We know that the disposal of animal waste (poultry litter, sewage sludge and manure) by land application in the guise of “free fertilizer” causes at least one quarter of Bay nutrient pollution, and NAPS has been opposing the practice for decades. The January 21 Rappahannock Record reported that “Oversight of biosolid applications is sufficient, say Virginia farmers.” Of course they say that. They get free fertilizer but bear no responsibility for the massive nutrient pollution that results. As long as land application

is “Nitrogen-based” and assumes that only 30% of the disposed Nitrogen is available to the next crop, less Nitrogen and Phosphorus ends up in the crop than is released to the environment.

The word “biosolid” was dreamed up to purposefully mislead people about the source of the waste, which is the solids resulting from processing municipal sewage – sewage sludge. The most “solid” “bio” I can identify is an elephant tusk, so the word is just plain stupid. The land application of all forms of animal waste today (sewage sludge, poultry litter and manure) causes more pollution than was once caused by the point-source discharge from wastewater treatment plants. After spending billions of dollars and reducing Virginia’s point source nutrient discharge by about half, no improvement in Bay water quality is apparent. Why not? Because inefficient crop fertilization, especially by using animal waste, has always been the largest source of Bay nutrient pollution and nothing has changed.

“Big Ag” continues to blame other sources of pollution, like fertilized lawns, and claim that it is too expensive to do anything with the animal waste except dispose of it by land application in the guise of “free fertilizer.” They never tell the public that if the cost of pollution is accounted (pollution is an “externality” or a consequence of economic activity that is experienced by unrelated third parties), a landfill designed for methane recovery is cheaper. If Bay water quality is ever to improve (the ecosystem can never be restored) the “Merchants of Doubt” must be recognized by society, their role in politics eliminated and the conclusions of mature consensus science accepted and implemented.



Member Report	2016 2/18/16	2015 Paid-Up Total
Business	2	4
Family	42	62
Individual	20	41
Patron	4	5
Sustaining	11	28
Student	1	1
Total	80	141

NAPS MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The table presents the current membership status versus 2015 as reflected in the numbers of paid-up members in this year to date. In the important Sustaining category (\$100.00) we are running well behind. We expect to make this up as the “Sustaining Members” historically have needed reminders.

The biggest problem is the dearth of new members. Our community is aging and we are losing members faster than we can replace them. We are planning to improve our presentations to encourage new persons to join. We need their individual support as well as financial support to enable us to continue our programs with the schools and the community.



Sophia Sapanara described how the underwater robot works.

Middle Schoolers Shine...from Page 1

Turning to the Northumberland students, he said, "I love to see the SeaPerch smiles that illuminate the faces of STEM students when they put their creations in the water." He added that robots are heavily involved in Dahlgren's R&D.

NAPS Vice President Lee Allain opened the program with an overview of STEM and why it is vital for the future of the country. He stated that an engineering career offers many benefits including significant income, job satisfaction in participating on important projects, and service to the country. Lee emphasized one of the STEM slides, "Aiming for the Good Life."

Prior to starting the proceedings, Lee paid special honor to Kenny Eades, retired County Administrator, and his replacement Luttrell Tadlock. Lee thanked them both for attending and said that NAPS has appreciated their help and encouragement.

At the NAPS Business Meeting following the STEM program, Greg Haugan reviewed his financial report and gave a brief summary of preparations for the 2016 Earth Day celebration on Saturday, April 16, at the Heathsville Farmers Market.

In addition, three new board members were elected: Shauna McCranie, Pam Hagy, and Janice Mahoney. (See separate story, Page 8.)

NAPS FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report for 2015 was presented at the Annual Meeting. We ended up with \$4,500 in our checking account that is identified below as carryover to 2016. The carryover would have been larger except for some unexpected expenses due to the Earth Day event and paying for a new roof for the "Too Good to Throw Away" building at the Northumberland Waste Depository near Horsehead. Below is the tentative budget for 2016. It is based on our actual expenditures and revenues for 2015, adjusted for likely changes. The Social resulted in a net increase in revenues due to the generosity of the Angels List. We hope for similar generosity this year.

Our two large expenditures are the annual Scholarships we provide to High School Seniors. As is usual, we plan on four \$500.00 scholarships with our Scholarship Chairperson Myrtle Phillips coordinating the activity of interviewing and selecting the candidates. Our EcoTours have been well attended and we are again planning on two of them. These provide our young people an opportunity to spend a day out on the water learning about Bay ecology and fishing, crabbing and oyster harvesting. Our successful STEM program budget is to continue to support the robotics and related programs at the schools. The SeaPerch robots were demonstrated at our Annual Meeting in February. We will again sponsor Earth Day activities in coordination with the first 2016 Farmers Market and Wine Fest on April 16. This year we are also coordinating with the Farm and Field Day at the High School. The Run NNK Running Club is also sponsoring an Earth Day 5K race on April 16 similar to last year and the NAPS Earth Day Road Cleanup will occur on April 22. The NAPS Board decided to purchase an inexpensive laptop and software to provide a digital home for much of our current data that is currently on the computers of our various officers. We want to provide the laptop to support the Secretary and provide a backup location for financial and membership data. We have a contingency of \$450.00 identified for Other Projects that are expected to arise during the year. Other Projects include expenses related to the NAPS booth at the Master Gardeners event in White Stone on April 2 and the Strawberry Festival on May 28. At present we are projecting a \$450.00 shortfall but expect to make it up with additional revenues or reduced expenses. The Board will be discussing this at each meeting.

PROPOSED 2016 BUDGET (2/10/2016)

Carryover		\$4,500.00	
REVENUES	Dues	\$6,250.00	
	Social	\$1,100.00	
	Other	\$100.00	
EXPENSES	Admin		\$1,700.00
	Scholarships (4)		\$2,000.00
	Donations		\$150.00
	Newsletter (4)		\$650.00
	Social		\$450.00
	Earth Day		\$450.00
	EcoTours (2)		\$1,100.00
	STEM		\$450.00
	Laptop and Software		\$500.00
	Other Projects		\$450.00
TOTAL		\$7,450.00	\$7,900.00
Carryover to 2017		\$4,050.00	

ECOLOGY

Adult EcoTour Underway June 11*By Lee Allain*

NAPS member Jane Towner has been working to set up an EcoTour for Northumberland Preservation Inc. (NPI). It will be an adult tour including several families and new people to the county. Since NAPS believes that we all need to be on “speaking terms” with our local ecosystem, we are hosting even ‘older students’ to expand Bay

knowledge.

On Sat, June 11, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM, NAPS and NPI-Shiloh will offer a unique educational opportunity, an EcoTour led by waterman, Capt. Danny Crabbe. Participants will board his boat, “Kit II,” at his dock in Ophelia to tour the Little Wicomico River and the Bay to learn about the ecology of the Chesapeake Bay from a true waterman. This trip is designed for people of all ages, with families especially welcome. An EcoTour experience provides up-close and personal insight into the Chesapeake

Bay Ecosystem.

The cruise will start with a tour of Purcells Oyster Aquaculture facility. Then it will move to pulling a couple of crab traps and becoming familiar with local blue crab ecology. (How do you hold a crab without getting pinched?) Tonging a few oysters and opening a few is next on the agenda. (Are you ready to eat one?) Then, if the weather cooperates, a short trip out to Smith Point Light and a close-by fish trap will complete the tour.

See herons, gulls, cormorants, and eagles in close proximity. Have fun while becoming familiar with how to be a steward of this natural resource – to return the Bay to productive health.

Are you and your group interested in a similar experience? Tours are available from both Captain Rowe on the Coan River and Captain Crabbe.



Capt. Crabbe's Kit II ready for an EcoTour.

CCL UPDATE

Meeting Our Congressman

The highlight of the last three months was a meeting January 11, where First District Congressman Rob Wittman discussed his work on a Readiness Subcommittee Hearing on Navy aviation and personnel support, the recent Paris Climate Conference, and his approach to climate issues in the coming year. This status report is based on the summary prepared by Mr. Jay Walker of NAPS and published in the Rappahannock Record and the Northumberland Echo.

The discussion was attended by Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL) members Dr. Greg Haugan, Dr. Maureen Fairbrother, and Mike Harwood.

The visitors touched on how well Rep. Wittman (Rep. Virginia) ran the subcommittee hearing, which was broadcast on C-SPAN, January 8.

“Significantly, there was no political wrangling nor rancor, no ‘gotcha’ questions, and no grandstanding for the cameras,” said Haugan. “You could not tell the politics of the subcommittee members asking questions of the Navy officers testifying.”

According to the Armed Services Committee, Congressman Wittman’s subcommittee not only manages the largest account within the DOD budget, it oversees civilian personnel, energy security, and environmental issues that affect the Defense Department.

The CCL representatives reviewed the results of the Paris Climate Conference focusing on the important successes and the need for, not only putting a price on carbon, but the need for new technologies and renewable energy sources to meet the identified goals.

Regarding the issue of climate change actions in Congress, Rep. Wittman explained his approach in his subcommittee.

“Simply put, it was to find common ground on issues of clean energy, renewables, and the need for conservation,” Haugan reported. “He indicated he would continue to avoid divisive issues in his



At the January 11 meeting were (l. to r.) Dr. Greg Haugan, Dr. Maureen Fairbrother, Congressman Wittman, and Mike Harwood.

approach to the environment and energy, including work to develop new technologies such as alternative nuclear power generation and use of spent fuels. He described the role of the subcommittee in pushing new technologies since they will be needed by the military to replace fossil fuels. Also, Congressman Wittman indicated that the private sector could use these technologies once developed to provide stable power sources to complement the variable wind and solar sources.”

According to Haugan, there are plans to visit the congressman again at the Tappahannock office in March/April as part of a CCL Spring Lobby Day and then have a larger group from CCL to visit his office in DC in June, which Wittman said he would welcome.

(Note: The following editorial is a reprint of an article written by Mr. Bud Ward of White Stone for the Yale Climate Connections page on February 16. Bud Ward is a nationally recognized environmental journalist and contributor to the Yale Climate Connections blog.)

OP-ED

Supreme Court Action, Scalia Death Lead to Unknowns

Two ‘bombshell’ events over just four days leave observers befuddled amidst uncertainties for next steps on Obama administration climate change efforts.

By Bud Ward

It took fewer than four calendar days for the outlook for American climate change leadership to twice change dramatically. Just how it has changed likely won't be known for months.

The first “bombshell” action came on February 9, when the U.S. Supreme Court took the highly unusual step of staying the Obama Administration’s Clean Power Plan EPA regulations pending review by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. Read on for a glance at a few of the terms used to describe that action.

And then, four days later, came the stunning February 13 death of Supreme Court conservative icon Antonin Scalia, who had been in the majority in the five-to-four “stay” action earlier that same week. Few Americans could have missed the deluge of claims and counter-claims Scalia’s death has precipitated.

Where it goes, nobody knows.

A sampling of how some – mostly those wanting more action to address risks they see from a warming climate – have characterized the Court’s February 9 action on the power plant rule, considered the backbone of the administration’s commitments to the Paris Climate Agreement signed in December 2015:

“Extraordinary.” “Surprise.” “A blow.” “Bad news.” “An enormous shadow.” “Serious damage . . . far from a death knell.” “A wrench in the delicate diplomacy” surrounding the December 2015 Paris climate agreement. “A bump in the road, not a roadblock.” “Deeply disturbing.” “Slam the brakes . . . sowing doubts internationally.” “Incalculable damage.” “Nakedly partisan, unprecedented type of action.”

The list goes on and on, with those states and their coal and fossil fuel advocates delighted with the Supreme Court action as effusive as many climate advocates were upset.

It was one of those no-details/no-explanation Supreme Court actions that sheds no light on the legal thinking behind it. Yet at the same time, the Supreme Court’s decision sent a very strong signal, at least as of that date, that things might not go well for the regulation once the full Court takes it on for real . . . some unknowable number of months into the future.

The five justices generally comprising the “conservative” majority sent the rule back to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, the same court that had earlier given it the go-ahead.

A panel of that court had green-lighted the landmark EPA rule-making, but now the full appeals court will also have a chance to decide its fate, with the process beginning with an expedited hearing scheduled for June 2.

The timetable after that is unclear, but few expect a final judgment, almost certainly again involving an appeal to the Supreme Court, prior to the January 2017 end of the Obama administration.

Coal and fossil-fuel interests and the mostly Republican-governed two-dozen-plus states bringing the challenge against the EPA rules could not have asked for more. Those determined to limit combustion of coal and fossil fuels – and the mostly Democratic-governed states siding with them – tried to make the best of what clearly was, from their standpoint, a major setback.

While the White House and its climate change allies tried to put their best foot forward – the White House spokesperson, for instance, claiming confidence the ruling eventually would be upheld – others appeared perhaps less inclined to lipstick a pig.

“This arbitrary roadblock does incalculable damage and undermines America’s climate leadership,” California Governor Jerry Brown, a leading voice among governors wanting to combat climate change, said February 9 in a statement.

Politico quoted former Obama administration climate adviser Jody Freeman, now a Harvard professor, as saying “There’s no question this undermines U.S. leadership on climate change in the international arena” less than two months after the Paris Climate Agreement was reached in December.

If all that weren’t enough of a wrench in the works of Obama administration climate policy, word came within days of Justice Scalia’s death. The leader of what has become known as “originalism” – interpreting the Constitution by the original words of its framers – Justice Scalia was generally regarded (along with being brilliant, forceful, unbending, eloquent in his written dissents, and a stalwart defender of freedom of speech, in all forms) – as having had no fondness for EPA.

Coming as it did, the death of the Supreme Court’s leading conservative thinker raises doubts anew about the administration’s climate change initiatives, all in the context of a presidential primaries campaign season and a now, at least temporarily, evenly-split Supreme Court.

As they say, one just can’t make this stuff up. As a fictional story about the making, or unmaking, of climate change policy, it would seem too far-fetched to be credible.

But in the context of the reality-TV nature of climate change policy and policy-making in this zany presidential election season, it amounts to just one more bizarre chapter in a book that many feel cannot end soon enough, although no one now can know just how and when it will all end.

NAPS Calendar

NAPS Board Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, starting at 9 a.m. at the Union First Market Bank on Rt. 360 in Burgess, unless otherwise changed.

- Apr. 13 Wed..... NAPS Board Meeting**
- Apr. 16 Sat..... Earth Day Celebration at Heathsville Farmers Market**
- Apr. 22 Fri..... Earth Day Highway Clean-up starting at Wicomico Church**
- May 11 Wed..... NAPS Board Meeting**
- June 8 Wed. NAPS Board Meeting**
- July 13 Wed..... NAPS Board Meeting**
- Aug. 10 Wed..... NAPS Board Meeting**

ENVIRONMENT

Paris Climate Conference, December 2015

By Dr. Greg Haugan

The Paris Climate Conference, formally known as the 21st Conference of the Parties, or COP21 ended on December 12, 2015 with a 31 page signed agreement between 195 nations. Final agreement will occur in April after at least 55 countries have formally signed it.

There are several key aspects of the agreement: one is that it will be reviewed each 5 years and the commitments re-established at lower emissions levels than the original commitments made in October 2015 just before the conference. The agreement also has a financial side with promises of \$100 billion per year in assistance to developing countries to adapt to climate change. There is also a strong emphasis on technology development as a key element to assist in meeting emissions goals.

The graph presents the key aspects of the emissions policies and pledges. The two scales are gigaton equivalent of CO₂ annual emissions and the time scale.

The top set of lines reflects the current policies and actual emission projections under a business-as-usual scenario. The range simply reflects the amount of uncertainty in the estimates. Business-as-usual will result in a range of +3.3° to +3.8° C or approximately +6° F. This will result in very severe climate and weather consequences as well as significant ocean acidification and sea level rise. The Earth will become a very uncomfortable place to live for the majority of the inhabitants.

The middle set of lines on the graph represent the pledges made in October for the COP21 conference. They total approximately +2.6° C or nearly 5° F above the pre-industrial level. Remember, in 2009 the nations of the world indicated that +2° C was the danger level for civilization. This will be exceeded by a relatively wide margin.

The result is a worsening climate that will make life much more difficult for our grandchildren.

The bottom curve is aspirational. The concept is that at each 5-year review period, countries will be able to take advantage of still unknown technology and policies to reduce further the world-wide emissions. This is the real hope of the island nations that are threatened by sea level rise.

So there is good news and bad news. The good news is that the current goals and promises, if achieved, will keep the Earth's temperature to about +2.6° C increase, or another +1.5° C above today (we have already increased +1° C). While causing major problems for some, it will probably enable adaptation plans to work, especially in terms of resilience to violent storms and heat waves. Sea level rise will cause many problems as it will increase another 3-4 feet before the end of the century causing extensive displacement of persons.

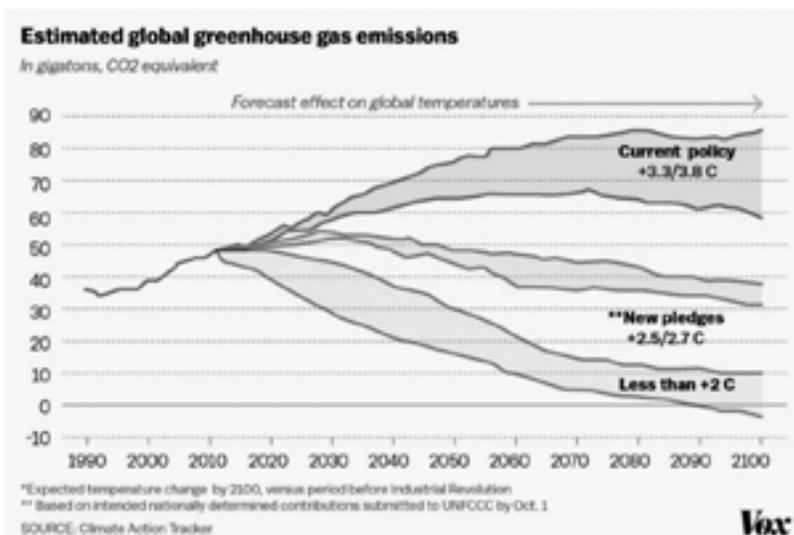
The good/bad news is that to achieve these promises, significant changes need to be made in sources of energy. We have to stop burning coal, and have to leave most of the existing oil and gas reserves in the ground or develop technology to sequester CO₂ emissions. There needs to be a significant increase in renewable power technologies including

solar, wind, hydro and perhaps advanced nuclear and others to pick up the slack. The promises will not be easy to meet and there will be extensive push-back from the fossil fuel interests. But the basic message from Paris is that the fossil fuel industry is being "sunset." This will occur sooner rather than later under the policy of tightening the emissions targets each 5 years – the process has begun.

The last aspect of the agreement is very interesting – the enforcement mechanism. Previous agreements were "top-down," such as the Kyoto Treaty, with sanctions for missing targets. Delegates were very uneasy about signing on to such agreements for many reasons including the problems of getting agreement within their countries when the delegates went back home. The Paris agreement is "bottom-up." Each country sets its own goals and policies to meet those goals. There is an agreed-upon transparency for each country. All countries have to submit regular inventories of their emissions. The reports will have to meet certain accounting standards and be subjected to "expert" review. There are no sanctions, only peer pressure and pressure from within each country. And of course the increasing pressure from the many adverse impacts of a warming climate and ocean.

All 195 countries acknowledge that the science is incontrovertible, climate change is caused by humans, it is bad and something must and can be done about it. The issue is how fast we can reduce our CO₂ emissions, how fast we can replace fossil fuels, what adaptation plans are necessary and what mitigation schemes are practicable. The biggest impediment is the ability to provide renewable energy sources to replace fossil fuels at the rate necessary to meet emission reduction targets.

In the U.S. the President's Clean Power Plan, CPP, is a key ingredient of us being able to meet our goals. It is a combination of "top-down" dictates from EPA of individual goals of the states and a "bottom-up" implementation philosophy. The states have the options of four different approaches to be used individually or in combination to achieve the goal. For example a conservation program plus closing of coal-fired power plants. With the Supreme Court stay in providing plans to EPA as required by the CPP the states have the option to comply or not. A large number of states, including Virginia and some that are parties to the lawsuit to stop the CPP, are continuing with their own plans to meet the goals that have been established. Regardless of any ruling that comes out of the Supreme Court this summer, it appears that the U.S. may continue on track to meet its pledge at COP21. A bipartisan group of governors from 17 states, including Virginia, has pledged to accelerate their efforts to create a green economy in the US by boosting renewables, building better electricity grids and cutting emissions from transport. Surveys show the bulk of the citizens of this country are aware that climate change is real and needs to be addressed. Bud Ward in another piece in this newsletter discusses the impact of current events in more detail.





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NEWS

Welcome, New Board Members

At the NAPS Annual Meeting, three new members of the Board were nominated and elected. We welcome Janice Mahoney, Shauna McCranie, and Pam Hagy.

Janice is a familiar name at NAPS since she took over organizing the highway clean-up which takes place twice a year. When she retired in April 2007, her main activities have centered around being a Northern Neck Master Gardener. She served as the Master Gardener’s Vice President and President from 2011 to 2014 and is currently chair of the Teaching Gardens program. Before retiring, Janice was Vice President of Human Resources at Burke & Herbert Bank in Alexandria.

Shauna is Coordinator of Gifted Services for Northumberland County Public Schools. Even before joining the Board, she was involved with the Middle School EcoTour and played a major part in the Navy’s SeaPerch Project that is a STEM program at the Middle School. A native of Reedville, Shauna has taught art for 23 years in Northumberland, Prince William, Lancaster, and Middlesex counties before returning to the school administration position here. She is an art major who now copes with science and math issues with ease.

Pam also became involved with NAPS before joining the Board when she organized a very ambitious EcoTour last fall for Middle School students. She is an independent producer, writer, and photographer who covers the Bay and rural life along its shores. Pam is also



New NAPS Board members (from left) are Janice Mahoney, Shauna McCranie, and Pam Hagy.

an educator and coach with Northumberland County Public Schools Community Problem Solving teams that placed second in Elementary and Middle School divisions last year in state competitions. She covered the environment and technology in DC, was a correspondent in East Africa, and a journalism trainer in Africa.

ENVIRONMENT

Earth Day Highway Clean-up

Coordinator Janice Mahoney has announced that the spring highway pick-up will be on Earth Day, Friday, April 22, from 10 a.m. to noon. As usual, volunteers meet at the Wicomico Church parking lot and pick up trash along Route 200 to Tipers Bridge.

Says Janice, “There is no better way to serve your community and protect our fragile ecosystem than cleaning up after those who don’t care.”

If you are a NAPS member and want to join the team, please email Janice at vervaville@yahoo.com or call 804-580-3154.

NAPS Officers & Board Members

NAPS Officers

- Co-President.....Lee Allain..... 529-5491Leeallain7@gmail.com
- Co-President.....Lynton Land 453-6605jandl@nnwifi.com
- Co-Secretary.....Ida Hall 804-761-2342ida@northernneck.com
- Co-Secretary.....Shauna McCranie..... 580-8032 ...smccranie@nucpa.net
- Treasurer.....Greg Haugan..... 580-2166greghaugan@gmail.com

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