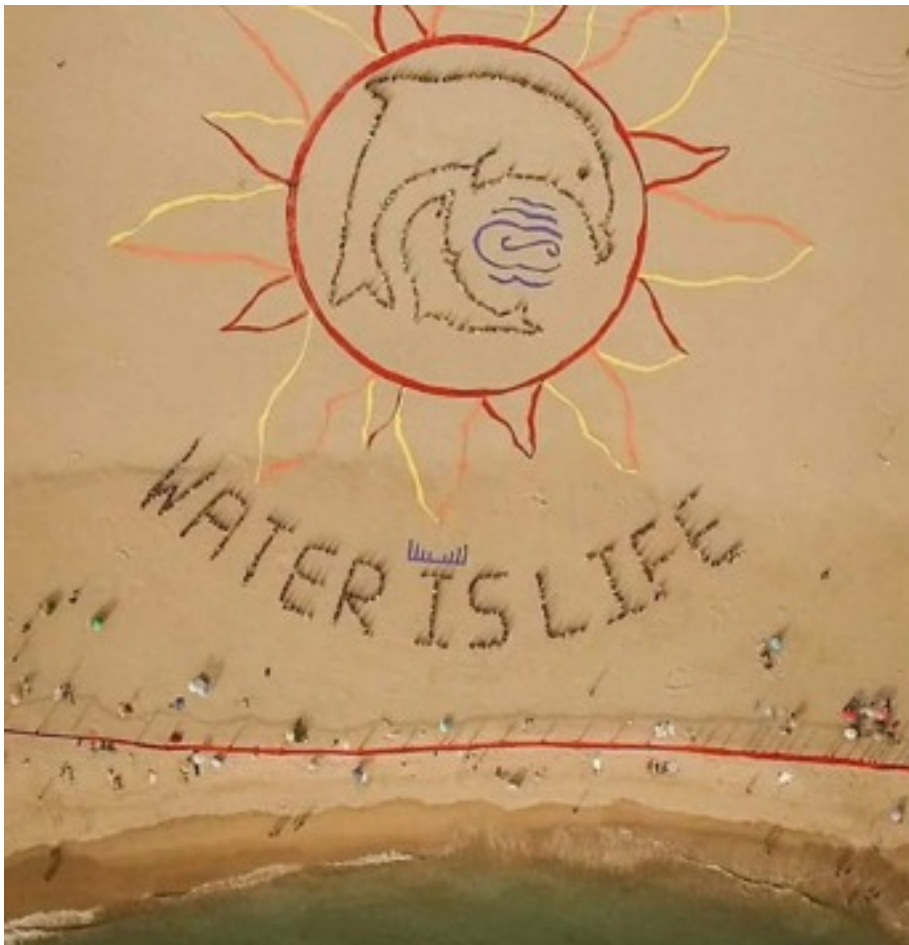


**Journal #4219 from sdc 8.10.18**

*The Book of Beetles edited by Patrice Bouchard*  
*Wood raft makes 4,300-mile voyage*  
*Second Controversial Fracked Gas Pipeline Runs Into Legal Trouble*  
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“We talk about ‘our’ sovereignty, but instead of being only a human concept ‘our’ must be inclusive of all Creation’s sovereignty. Sovereignty is not a right and responsibility



reserved for all human beings. Sovereignty is an integral component within the rest of Creation and belongs to all components of that Creation. We cannot forget that.”--Ingrid Wasinawatok (O’Peqtaw-Metamoh/Flying Eagle Woman ) (Menominee) (1958-March 4, 1999 executed by FARC (Revolutionary Forces of Columbia/ Occidental Oil, USA) in U’wa Territory.

**“The purpose of a writer is to keep civilization from destroying itself.” – Albert Camus**

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**Today's selection -- from *The Book of Beetles* edited by Patrice Bouchard.**

There are 400,000 species of beetles:

"Beetles of the order Coleoptera, with nearly 400,000 described species, comprise one of the most diverse and important groups of animals on Earth. As such, *coleopterists*, biologists who specialize in the study of beetles, have a view of the natural world with a degree of resolution that is seldom seen through the study of other organisms.



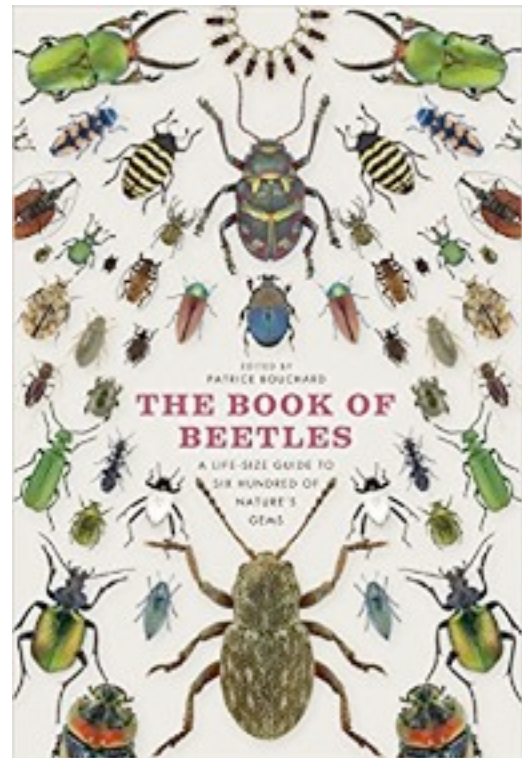
"One out of every five species of plants and animals is a beetle. Despite their riot of forms, colors, patterns, and behaviors, all beetles share a select suite of physical attributes, the most conspicuous of which are the leathery or hardened forewings,

or *elytra* (singular *elytron*). Depending on the species, elytra can help stabilize beetles in flight, protect their delicate hind wings and internal organs, conserve precious bodily fluids, capture bubbles of air underwater, and insulate them from extreme temperatures. Combined with their small and compact bodies and numerous other morphological and behavioral adaptations, beetles exploit and thrive in niches unoccupied or underutilized by other animals in widely diverse terrestrial and freshwater habitats.

"Although the sheer number of species prevents all but the most common or economically important beetles from having a meaningful and widely accepted common name, each known species does have a scientific name consisting of a *genus* (plural *genera*) and *species* (singular and plural) epithet that is universally recognized. To manage information effectively,

coleopterists file each species into a nested system of hierarchical groups, or *taxa* (singular *taxon*), based on their shared evolutionary characteristics. Species is the most exclusive taxon, while the order Coleoptera is the most inclusive of beetle taxa.

"Beetles communicate with one another through physical, chemical, or visual means, usually to locate a mate. Although most species engage in sexual reproduction, a few reproduce asexually by cloning themselves, a process known as *parthenogenesis*. Among beetles, limited parental care of the young is the exception, not the rule. The larvae and adults eat a variety of organisms, living and dead, especially plants. Those that prefer leaves, flowers, fruits, needles, cones, and roots can inflict serious damage to food stores, gardens, crops, and managed timber. Some predatory beetles are used as biological control agents against agricultural or forestry pests, while scavenger species provide an essential service to clean study skeletons in natural-history collections around the globe." [Sign Up Here](#)



**The Book of Beetles: A Life-Size Guide to Six Hundred of Nature's Gems**

Author: Patrice Bouchard

Publisher: University of Chicago Press

Copyright 2014 by Ivy Press Limited Pages: 6-7

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**[Wood raft makes 4,300-mile voyage](#) by Steven Field**

On this day (Aug 7) in 1947, Kon-Tiki, a balsa wood raft captained by Norwegian anthropologist Thor Heyerdahl, completes a 4,300-mile, 101-day journey from Peru to Rarua in the Tuamotu Archipelago, near Tahiti. Heyerdahl wanted to prove his theory that prehistoric South Americans could have colonized the Polynesian islands by drifting on ocean currents. Heyerdahl and his five-person crew [...] [Read more of this post](#)

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**Second Controversial Fracked Gas Pipeline Runs Into Legal Trouble**

A Virginia farm along the proposed path of the controversial Atlantic Coast Pipeline. *Norm Shafer / Washington Post / Getty Images*

August is off to a good start for environmental groups and communities in Virginia and West Virginia who oppose two [pipelines](#) that would carry fracked [natural gas](#) through the region.

Three days after the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) [ordered work to pause](#) on the [Mountain Valley Pipeline](#), its sister pipeline also ran into legal trouble.

A federal appeals court on Monday vacated two permits required by the [Atlantic Coast Pipeline](#) to complete its 600 mile project beginning in West Virginia and traveling through Virginia to North Carolina, [The Associated Press reported](#).

"There is no right way to build these dirty, dangerous fossil fuel projects, and people in Virginia and across the country will continue to come together to fight them until they are permanently halted," [Sierra Club](#) Executive Director Michael Brune told The Associated Press.

The Sierra Club was one of the groups, along with [Defenders of Wildlife](#) and the [Virginia Wilderness Committee](#), that brought the case that led to the ruling by the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The case was argued by the [Southern Environmental Law Center](#).

The court ruled that the a National Park Service (NPS) permit allowing the pipeline to pass under the Blue Ridge Parkway was invalid because it did not explain how the pipeline's construction would not contradict the scenic purpose of the parkway, which connects Virginia's Shenandoah National Park to North Carolina's Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Construction would require cutting enough trees that a gap in the forest would be visible from at least one parkway observation point.

Chief Judge Roger Gregory called the permit "arbitrary and capricious" in his ruling.

"Arbitrary and capricious" were also the words used by the court to justify vacating a second permit granted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service because it didn't specify any limits to the pipeline's impact on five threatened or [endangered species](#).

The revoking of the second permit built on a [ruling in May](#), in which the court initially found that the "incidental take statement," which is the statement that sets limits on the impact of projects on vulnerable species, was not sufficiently clear.

Following that initial ruling, the pipeline's builders [said they would suspend](#) construction along 21 miles in West Virginia and 79 miles in Virginia until a new "incidental take statement" was completed.

In a footnote to Monday's ruling, the court said that revoking the permits meant that FERC's approval of the pipeline was invalid until new permits were issued, since that approval was contingent on satisfactory permits.

"Absent such authorizations, ACP, should it continue to proceed with construction, would violate FERC'S certificate of public convenience and necessity," the footnote said, according to The Associated Press.

Environmental Law Center senior attorney D.J. Gerken thought the ruling would be a huge stumbling block for the project.

"Today's decision means Atlantic has to go back to the drawing board," he told The Associated Press.

Dominion Energy, the company leading development on the project, disagreed.

"We believe the Court's concerns can be promptly addressed through additional review by the agencies without causing unnecessary delay to the project," the company said in a written statement reported by The Associated Press.

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**When Twitter Decides Who Speaks** John Kiriakou, Reader Supported News

Kiriakou writes: "Censorship has become such a normal part of daily American life that most people either don't pay attention to it or don't care. But it's taken on a life of its own, and it's beginning to spin out of control. We must take back our constitutional right to freedom of speech and our civil liberties." [\\_Read More](#)

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### **The creeping privatization of public libraries**

At 17,566, [there are more public libraries](#) in the United States than there are Starbucks coffee shops. And just like at Starbucks, patrons have access to free wi-fi. But unlike Starbucks, public libraries will usually provide the free use of a computer as well as internet access.

Perhaps it is their very ubiquitousness that makes them such a tempting target for [libertarians like the Koch brothers](#) and right -wing economists like the one who recently suggested a takeover of libraries' functions by Amazon.

*Forbes* quickly [pulled the controversial op-ed](#) by contributor Panos Mourdoukoutas, an economist and academic who felt that many of the functions of the local library, like free Wi-Fi, and movie rentals are already being filled by places like Starbucks and services like Netflix. Why shouldn't Amazon open stores to provide books to the public? His argument included the fact that public libraries cost taxpayers money (gasp). It would be so much nicer for him if he did not have to contribute a couple of hundred dollars every year to American literacy. The American Library Association reports that the actual annual cost is \$36.96 per person.

So, in order to save the cost of a single hard-backed book, we should privatize our public libraries and let Amazon determine what we should read, Starbucks can decide what websites we can visit, and Netflix can select our movie choices for us. How cool.

After some scathing Twitter criticism, *Forbes* withdrew the article, claiming that the subject matter was outside of the author's area of expertise. But it's unlikely the concept it contained was ever a serious threat. No way in hell would the spoiled, vengeful, petty tyrant currently occupying the Oval Office ever allow Jeff Bezos to expand his empire. Ever.

Perhaps if Mourdoukoutas had suggested Barnes & Noble it might have had a slim chance (but not really). For now, the idea has been knocked down with all of the scorn it deserved. But it is only one attack. There are always more.

Similar to the push to completely privatize libraries is one that places the management of a public library in the hands of a private company. Library Systems and Services, Inc (LSSI) out of Maryland has management contracts with 83 libraries. [According to Wikipedia](#) (citing a *Library Journal* article):

The company started in 1982 with the [MINI MARC cataloging system](#) and custom software for libraries. It expanded into managing libraries at [sic] housed within federal agencies, an opportunity created by [Reagan-era privatization policies](#) .



It moved into management of public libraries during the 1990s; in 1997, it took over the Riverside County Library system in California. In 2016, [Michael Hilzik, writing for the Los Angeles Times](#), reported that Kern County, California, was considering outsourcing its library management.

The issue really is about nothing but money. LSSI says that it [doesn't impose its own library policies](#) on its clients. A study for the American Library Assn. observed, however, that LSSI contracts subtly put the company in the driver's seat in mapping out long-term strategies for the libraries placed under its control, often because the public officials handing over their systems didn't understand enough about libraries to know where to push back.

But LSSI holds out the prospect of squeezing employees harder to extract efficiencies. In 2010, its founder and then-CEO, Frank A. Pezzanite, raised hackles by expressing unalloyed contempt for the public employees who staff public libraries: ["A lot of libraries are atrocious,"](#) he told the New York Times. "Their policies are all about job security. You can go to a library for 35 years and never have to do anything and then have your retirement. We're not running our company that way. You come to us, you're going to have to work." Pezzanite made his remarks shortly after LSSI won a contract to take over the Santa Clarita system.

Among other changes, LSSI typically replaces public-employee pensions with 401(k) plans, which are cheaper for employers. But as a private company, it turns away questions about how much profit it earns on its library management deals.

The attempt here, as in the privatization of charter schools, appears to be one meant to destroy unions and enrich the top 1 percent. [From the 2010 New York Times article](#) on the movement to take over Santa Clarita libraries:

The company is majority owned by Islington Capital Partners, a private equity firm in Boston, and has about \$35 million in annual revenue and 800 employees. Officials would not discuss the company's profitability.

Just this month, [Santa Clarita resumed management](#) of its libraries at the end of its contract with LSSI.

The city added 25 new positions, Hernandez said. Regular library users will notice some new staff, but there will also be some returning staff — of the city's 84 full-time and part-time positions, 31 will be filled by current library staff.

The interview process for the 54 part-time and 30 full-time positions was competitive — 894 people applied.

Turnover rates for LSSI's 59 library positions were high during its contract with the city, Hernandez said. Thus, the city had a competitive application process to ensure the new staff would have a higher retention rate.

Local librarians are incredible people. They stand there all day long greeting patrons, answering questions, helping students, and teaching all who need to know just how to get online. They know their communities and can assist job seekers with applications and interviewing skills and databases of career openings. They can help small business owners find online assistance.

Local libraries are usually the first to open after a natural disaster to give help to their communities. Even without a disaster, they provide a heated place in the winter and an air conditioned space in the summer for elderly patrons who may not otherwise have a safe, comfortable place to read. Librarians create summer programs for children and can guide them into a lifetime of reading and growing through books.

And they often even know our names. They deserve, and have earned, our support. When a company like LSSI takes over a library, patrons are often initially unaware of a difference in the operation. But as staffing levels are reduced and the remaining staff is burdened with the additional workload, shortcomings appear. Turnover rates destroy the continuity that a community needs in its libraries.

According to [the most recent Pew Survey](#):

Most Americans view public libraries as important parts of their communities, with a majority reporting that libraries have the resources they need and play at least some role in helping them decide what information they can trust

There is also a growing sense that libraries can help people decide what information they can trust: 37% of Americans feel that public libraries contribute “a lot” in this regard, a 13-point increase from a survey conducted at a similar point in 2015.

This last part is important, and as the numbers of Americans who believe that public libraries can help them find information they can trust increase, we can expect additional attacks on our libraries. But the ability to distinguish reality from Fox News and other purveyors of misinformation and propaganda is critical for our future as a democracy. Especially now, when

distrust in the media is encouraged by the Twitter rantings of a narcissistic crybaby who finds critical thought to be unfathomable.

When people begin to wake to the damage that Fox, et al have done, they will need some source of information that they can trust. We have to make sure they can continue to get it in a public library that remains impartial and beholden to no private investors, and only to the American taxpayers.

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Webinar - Wednesday, Sep 19, 2018

[Building Girls' Protective Assets in Indian Country: Intentional Girl-Centered Program Design](#) [VIEW ALL WEBINARS](#)

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### **One-year artist fellowships**

Through our [Artists in Business Leadership](#) and [Cultural Capital](#) Fellowships, First Peoples Fund partners with Native artists and culture bearers to strengthen their business skills and to ensure that art, culture and ancestral knowledge are passed from one generation to the next.

Twenty to twenty-five artists are selected annually for First Peoples Fund's one-year fellowship programs. Fellows receive \$5,000 project grants, technical support and professional training to start or grow a thriving arts business and to further their important work in their communities.

Applicants Must be an enrolled member or provide proof of lineal descendancy of a U.S. federally recognized tribe, a state recognized tribe, or be an Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian.

[Brendon Albers](#) (Cheyenne River Sioux), 2016 Artists in Business Leadership Fellow and 2016 Cultural Capital Fellow. Photo courtesy of Northwest Area Foundation

### **WHICH FELLOWSHIP IS RIGHT FOR YOU? [ARTIST IN BUSINESS LEADERSHIP](#)**

The program's purpose is to develop independent, satisfied, and credible Native artist entrepreneurs who are generous in spirit. The fellowship supports artists to pursue specific *arts business development goals* for themselves and their families. Artists should have attended a Native Artists Professional Development workshop and/or have at least two years of experience marketing, distributing and/or presenting their art. [Learn More](#)

### **[CULTURAL CAPITAL](#)**

The program's purpose is to strengthen the Collective Spirit® of those artists who perpetuate generosity, wisdom, and integrity in their communities. The fellowships are designed for artists and culture bearers who are deeply rooted in their communities and are committed to *passing on ancestral knowledge* and cultural practices within their tribal communities. [Learn More](#)

[Delores Churchill](#) (Haida), 2003 Community Spirit Award honoree, 2006 and 2015 Cultural Capital Fellow. Photo by Hulleah Tsinhnahjinnie.

### **Application process**

Since 2004, First Peoples Fund has [welcomed nearly 200 artists](#) – from photographers to painters, hip-hop artists to basket weavers - to our fellowship programs. They have gained access



to not only our vast network of artists and strategic partners, but also to new market opportunities.

## **2019 FELLOWSHIPS**

Applications for 2019 fellowships are now open. Applications are due by September 30, 2018. Selection notification is by December 2018 with fellowships starting January 2019.

First Peoples Fund is excited to announce new developments in our fellowship programs beginning in 2018.

We will continue our national programs with funding priorities to deepen our work in the following tribal communities: Colville, Pine Ridge, Blackfeet, Red Lake, Citizen Potawatomi, Hawai'i, Bering Strait Region, and Cheyenne River.

We are also excited about expanding our ABL and CC fellowships into the Southwest region.

We extend a special invitation to Native performing artists from ALL states to apply for the fellowship programs. Performing artists from most traditional and contemporary art forms are encouraged to apply, including musicians, hip-hop artists, spoken word artists, dancers and performance groups emphasizing cultural tourism and/or sharing and teaching others within their communities.

To apply, click the button below to create an account and begin your online application. The system will autosave while you work on your application but we recommend still saving occasionally as you work on your application.

[Ronald J. Paquin](#) (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa), 2007 Community Spirit Award honoree, 2009 Cultural Capital Fellow, 2016 Artists in Business Leadership Fellow. Photo by Hulleah Tsinhnahjinnie.

## **QUESTIONS?**

Want to discuss how you can apply for a First Peoples Fund artist fellowship? Call [\(605\) 348-0324](tel:605-348-0324) or email at [info@firstpeoplesfund.org](mailto:info@firstpeoplesfund.org).

## **RELATED POSTS**

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<a href="#">Access to Fellowship Portal</a>	

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**Recycle Old Crayons, Brighten Lives**

Over a half-million crayons are sent to landfills each year, filling disposal areas with waxy [paraffin](#) which is tough to break down. But, never fear. August is #CrayonCollectionMonth, and organizations like [The Crayon Initiative](#) are prepared to help. They collect discarded crayons from schools, restaurants, homes, and community groups. Recycled crayons are then melted down and remanufactured for distribution to art programs in children’s hospitals all over the country. Search for hospital partners in your area [here](#).

**Spread the Word**

We love the idea of partnering with restaurants to recycle crayons, and applaud establishments doing the same with their foam foodservice products! Encourage restaurants in your area to incorporate foam recycling into their business plan by sharing the [benefits of foam recycling](#) with them next time you stop in for a meal.

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**National Environmental Justice Public Meeting** August 14-16, 2018  
**Boston Park Plaza (50 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116)**

**Teleconference Option Available**      **Register here today!**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) will convene a public face-to-face meeting beginning on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, starting at 6:00 p.m., Eastern Time. The NEJAC meeting will continue August 15 ? 16, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time. The meeting discussion will focus on several topics including, but not limited to environmental justice concerns of communities in Boston, MA and surrounding areas; the proactive efforts of EPA Region 1 to advance environmental

**Why Natives Should Stop Buying Pendleton®**

Pendleton® has contributed almost \$400,000 to Republican politicians who have been especially hostile to tribal sovereignty. The politicians they contribute to have pushed legislation against Indian tribes, and against the Violence Against Women Act.

In 2012, Pendleton® was fined by the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries for numerous safety violations that could have resulted in the "serious injury or death" of their employees. Instead of fixing the violations, Pendleton® fought the WSDLI in court to get the violations thrown out.

In 2012, Pendleton® settled with the United States government for falsely suggesting that their products were made by Natives. Even today, parts of the Pendleton® website refer to their blankets as "Indian Blankets." Despite making \$150 million a year, Pendleton® was only forced to pay around \$42,000 in the form of a contribution to a Native school. Today, they still allow customers to believe their products are Native-made, even though the company is run entirely by non-Natives.

Pendleton® was fined by the EPA for leaking large amounts of toxic chemicals into natural water sources surrounding their mills, poisoning fish species and hampering fish breeding that are essential to tribal cultures in the area. #waterislife

**PENDLETON® WORKS AGAINST TRIBES AND NATIVE WOMEN**

**STOP BUYING PENDLETON® AND SUPPORT A NATIVE BUSINESS.**

PENDLETON® CLAIMS TO HAVE ORIGINAL DESIGNS, BUT MANY HAVE BEEN COPIED FROM INDIAN ARTISTS WHEN THEIR DESIGNER VISITED RESERVATIONS IN THE EARLY 1900S TO GET DESIGN IDEAS.

justice; and deliberation of the final report from the NEJAC Environmental Justice and Water Infrastructure Finance and Capacity Work Group.

**Event Details:**

●**Who Should Attend:** This meeting is open to the public. Members of the public are encouraged to provide comments relevant to the specific issues being considered by NEJAC.

●**Cost:** Free

●**Public Comment Period:** August 14, 2018, starting at 6:00 PM Eastern Time

●**Public Meeting:** August 15 ? 16, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. ? 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time

●**Registration Public Face-to-Face Meeting:** Pre-registration is recommended to attend the face-to-face meeting. You can register here: <https://nejac-public-meeting-august-2018.eventbrite.com>

●**Registration Public Teleconference Option:** Pre-registration is required to attend the meeting by teleconference. You can

register here: <https://nejac-public-teleconference-option-august-2018.eventbrite.com>

- **Online Registration Closes:** August 7, 2018, at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time
- **Location:** Boston Park Plaza, 50 Park Plaza, Boston, MA, 02116-3912.
- **Hotel Reservation Information:** Hotel reservations can be made [here](#).

For more information on the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC): <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/national-environmental-justice-advisory-council-meetings>

To learn more about the NEJAC, visit <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice>

To learn about the Public Comment Guidelines, visit <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/national-environmental-justice-advisory-council-guidelines-public-comment>

For questions about this event, please contact Karen L. Martin ([martin.karenl@epa.gov](mailto:martin.karenl@epa.gov)) or by phone 202-564-0203.