GOAT Noat for April 2018 from the GREEN Organizing Action TEAM (GOAT)

Attend our screening of This Changes Everything on Tuesday, April 10, 7pm at the Meetinghouse. Refreshments and discussion to follow. This film is an epic attempt to re-imagine the vast challenge of climate change through portraits of seven communities around the world and how to transform our failed economic system into something radically better.

Join Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake and One Water Partnership for an Inspirational bus tour on Sunday, April 8, 2-5pm and Sunday, April 29, 2-5pm. Our Meetinghouse and solar panels will be a featured stop on the tour of congregations working to restore a healthy environment in the Jones Falls watershed.

In the state legislature, the Clean Energy Jobs Act was sponsored by over half of the members of the Maryland Senate and House of Delegates. Unfortunately, it was voted down by a House sub-committee and then withdrawn. So it’s back to the original strategy: gain visibility and make it a campaign issue this year and pass it in the 2019 session.

In other disappointing news, the state-wide ban on polystyrene foam (e.g., Styrofoam) didn’t make it out of committee.

On a positive note, the Baltimore City Council passed a polystyrene foam ban in food services and the crude oil terminal prohibition. Please call Mayor Pugh (410-396-4900) and urge her to sign both bills.

Despite signing the fracking ban, Governor Hogan has issued a state permit clearing the way for construction of a fracked-gas pipeline across Western Maryland after regulators in the Trump Administration give their approval (and do we think they won’t?). TransCanada, the company behind the Keystone XL pipeline, wants to build a pipeline that would carry fracked gas from Pennsylvania, under the Potomac River and the C&O Canal near Hancock, MD, and into West Virginia. It would threaten the drinking water of millions of people in DC, Maryland, and Virginia. Please call Governor Hogan (800-811-8336) to express your disappointment. Sample call script:

Continuing story: https://www.facebook.com/NoPotomacPipeline. Details on Hogan’s campaign for fracked-gas infrastructure in Maryland:

http://chesapeakeclimate.org/maryland/no-potomac-pipeline