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Coalfield Review: January 2018

Read our monthly e-newsletter, which will update you on our work, current action items, and upcoming events. If there is any other information you would like to see, please let us know.

Our People, Our mountains, Our future: Get on the bus to Greenbrier, WV!

Beginning on January 31, Donald Trump and every Republican member of the House and Senate will gather at the Greenbrier Resort in West Virginia to plan their 2018 agenda. Join us on a trip to Greenbrier, WV to make our voices heard!

Reserve your spot on one of our buses here: [http://bit.ly/2Ex9TxL](http://bit.ly/2Ex9TxL)

CCJ is partnering with One Pennsylvania in sending buses from locations in Pittsburgh and Washington as part of an overnight trip to make sure that Trump and Congressional Republicans hear our priorities as they’re setting their agenda. [Read more --->](#)

2018 Archive of Coalfield Review 1
Bailey Mine Legal Updates

January 5, 2018, we entered into a stipulation of settlement with the DEP and Consol. The settlement agreement recognizes and makes clear that Consol no longer has permission to conduct longwall mining under Kent Run in the 3L panel, which is located within Ryerson Station State Park. It also states that any future authorization of longwall mining would require a permit revision subject to public notice and comment.

On January 9, 2018, Consol discontinued its appeal of the EHB’s decision. That decision, which sets forth important guidance for evaluating longwall mining applications in the future and provides stronger protection for Pennsylvania streams, cannot be overturned. Read more --->

A review of 2017

2017 was full of precedent-setting victories, transition, and growth. This year we will be ramping up our work by building more leaders and collective rural power in Washington and Greene Counties in order to secure a healthy environment and thriving communities. Read more --->

Upcoming Events

Do you want to get more involved, either with CCJ or our allies? Check here for upcoming events and volunteer opportunities!

- January 20th - The 20th Annual Summit Against Racism
- January 21st - Women’s March on Washington - Pittsburgh
- January 29th - Rustic Ridge Mine #1 Permit Appeal Hearing
  - January 31st - March on Greenbrier

Support CCJ

We could not do this work without the continued support of our members and supporters. Please help us to continue our work to protect Ryerson and fight for environmental justice in southwestern Pennsylvania by making a donation to CCJ. Any gift made to the Center for Coalfield Justice is 100% tax-deductible.

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Coalfield Review: February 2018

Read our monthly e-newsletter, which will update you on our work, current action items, and upcoming events. If there is any other information you would like to see, please let us know.

Take Action on the Falcon Pipeline!

Shell has applied to build a 97-mile Falcon pipeline to feed the Shell Petrochemical Plant in Beaver County. The pipeline will traverse 22 townships in Pennsylvania (including several in Washington County) and others in West Virginia and Ohio. The track record of other pipelines like the Mariner East 2 pipeline, for which DEP needed to halt construction because of many permit violations, means this pipeline should take all necessary steps to get public input and ensure public safety for the hundreds of homes, hiking and biking trails, waterways, and public drinking water sources it is planned to cross. Please take action and send this letter to the DEP permit reviewer Dana Drake and request a public meeting as well as a 60-day extension to the public commenting deadline. Please take action now and send a letter to PA DEP.

CCJ Joins Regional Response to Petrochemical Buildout

In November of 2017, CCJ joined a regional meeting at the People vs. Oil and Gas Summit to discuss the planned petrochemical buildout for the Ohio River valley, focusing primarily on the Shell Ethane Cracker Plant, the Appalachian Storage Hub, and the Falcon Pipeline. Various organizations throughout the region - from Pennsylvania to Kentucky - came together to identify what was known about each project, but also to plan how to move forward to protect our air and water quality. Read more about our involvement here.
Upcoming Events

Do you want to get more involved, either with CCJ or our allies? Check here for upcoming events and volunteer opportunities!

February 7 - **Breathless: An Air Quality Expo**
February 10 - **Reclaiming Our Democracy: Washington County**
February 27 - **Climate Reality: Pittsburgh and SWPA Chapter Meeting**

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Coalfield Review: March 2018

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Falcon Pipeline Public Hearings Scheduled

DEP has extended the public comment period for the Falcon Pipeline to April and is holding three public hearings on the project. Thanks to everyone who took action last month asking for an extension on the Falcon Pipeline permit commenting period and DEP to hold public hearings. Check out the Community Calendar for more details on the hearings the first week of April and stay tuned for a guide to commenting.

Request OSMRE Extend Comment Period to Approve Bad PA Mining Law

Last year Pennsylvania's Governor Tom Wolf along with the PA Legislators voted to pass SB 624 which is know Act 32. Act 32 creates an exemption to an 80-year-old law that protects streams and water supplies and will allow mining companies to predictably damage or pollute streams based on a promise to clean them up later, instead of preventing the damage in the first place. Before this law change can take affect the Federal Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) has to approve the change to Pennsylvania's mining program. The OSMRE has begun to review this Act 32 and is accepting comments. Please help CCJ and our allies in requesting an extension to the comment period so that coalfield residents have ample time to participate in the approval process. Take Action --->

The Plastics Problem

Last week, our Community Organizer, Sarah, participated in a meeting in Houston, TX to learn more about plastics and to discuss the various ways that groups across the country can come together to support anti-plastics work at every part of the plastics chain. Read her thoughts --->

CCJ Featured in Documentary

Last month, Refinery29 released a short documentary featuring CCJ work to protect our communities from big coal corporate greed. Check our staff and members in this video:
Upcoming Events

Do you want to get more involved, either with CCJ or our allies? Check here for upcoming events and volunteer opportunities!

March 22 - California Borough Informational Meeting
March 26 - Talk: Environmental Justice is Racial Justice is Gender Justice
March 28 - Upper Ohio Valley Solar Co-Op Info Session
March 31 - Hike to Happy Hour
April 5-7 - Sustainability Weekend 2018
April 6-8 - Community Organizing Summit
April 12 - Building a Future Full of Hope and Promise

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Donate Today
Resident of Donegal Township in Washington County attended an informal public conference hosted by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to ask questions about the Tunnel Ridge Mine expansion permit. According to representatives of Alliance Resource Partners the mine seeks to start longwall mining early as October 2018.
To read more, click here.

ANTI-FALCON SUPPORT AT DEP HEARINGS
Nearly 500 concerned residents of Beaver, Washington, and Allegheny Counties gathered on April 3, 4, and 5 in their respective counties to raise their concerns over the Falcon Pipeline. CCJ attended the hearings in Beaver and Washington Counties to represent our members and supporters.
To read more, click here.
Residents of West Pike Run Township and California Borough are at various stages of the zoning ordinance process, attempting to create protective safeguards around homes, schools, and farms from unconventional oil and gas development, or “fracking.”

To read more, [click here.](#)

**Upcoming Events**

*Do you want to get more involved, either with CCJ or our allies? Check here for upcoming events and volunteer opportunities!*

- April 21 - [Be My Neighbor Day](#)
- April 28 - [13th Annual Clean Water Banquet and Silent Auction](#)
- May 10 - [CCJ at Wigle Whiskey](#)
- May 15 - [Wheel 101](#)
- May 15 - [Pine Box Trail Hike](#)
- May 25 - [28th Annual Heartwood Forest Council](#)
Read our monthly e-newsletter, which will update you on our work, current action items, and upcoming events. If there is any other information you would like to see, please let us know.

The Newest Members of the CCJ Team

Please welcome the newest additions to the CCJ team: Nick and Maura! Nick began his internship in February and is continuing throughout the summer, while Maura joins the team. Both are students at the University of Pittsburgh.

To read more about Nick and Maura, click here.
To directly contact Nick and/or Maura, email intern@coalfieldjustice.org.

An Update on Ryerson Station State Park
Last month the Pennsylvania Environmental Hearing Board (“EHB”) denied the Center for Coalfield Justice’s and Sierra Club’s petition for supersedeas to protect Polen Run within Ryerson Station Park from significant harm caused by longwall mining. We are, of course, very disappointed by the decision. The following weekend, our community came together to remember Ryerson as it once was and rally together to continue to invest in the Park moving forward.

To read more, click here.

WE'VE MOVED!

In case you want to come visit us in our office (and we would love it if you did!), we are no longer at 184 S. Main Street in Washington. We’re still in the city, but we’re now located at 14 E. Beau Street, Washington, PA 15301. Our new office is in the basement of the Trust Building, and the space is shared with our allies at Washington County United (part of Pittsburgh United) and One Pennsylvania. There is a handicap accessible entrance at 6 S. Main Street, Washington, PA 15301, but please call ahead if you or someone you're traveling with needs to use it, as someone from the office with a key will meet you and take you through the hallways. Our office phone number remains 724-229-3550.

Thank You For Wigle-ing With Us!
Thank you to everyone who came into the city for our Whiskey in the Water fundraiser at Wigle Whiskey! The Center for Coalfield Justice continues to raise funds so that we can invest in leadership development within our communities, continue to address the various environmental justice issues we face, and grow as an organization.

To read more about the night, click here.

Upcoming Events

Do you want to get more involved, either with CCJ or our allies? Check here for upcoming events and volunteer opportunities!

- May 17 - Other Side of the World
- May 19 - 100% Committed Training
- May 22 - Rally for Clean Air and a Clean Budget
- May 23 - Where Plastics End Up - An International Perspective
- May 24 - Allegheny County Solar Co-Op Information Session
- May 25 - 28th Annual Heartwood Forest Council
- May 26 - Reclaiming Our Wealth Workshop
June 12 - 100% Renewable Energy Advocacy Day

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Coalfield Review: June 2018

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Join us for DRYerson!

Come spend the afternoon with the Center for Coalfield Justice and your neighbors as we celebrate the progress we’ve made in our fight to protect Ryerson Station State Park. The 12th annual DRYerson Festival is on Saturday, June 30th from 1-4 PM at Pavilion 3 in the Park. The day will kick off at 11:30 with a pre-festival hike lead by CCJ Director, Veronica Coptis, covering the history of the impacts to the park and our community’s efforts to hold Consol accountable, protect our water resources from further damage, and re-envision an improved park.

To read more, click here.

Want to volunteer at the event? Email Sarah Martik at smartik@coalfieldjustice.org!

State Launches "DEP Connect" to Engage with Communities

The state is launching DEP Connects, a new opportunity from the state regulatory agency to provide communication to residents about DEP programs and to hear from community members across the state. They will hold events in each of the six regional areas across the state. We highly encourage
you to sign up to get information on when the DEP will hold an event in your region so you don’t miss any opportunity to be heard. To get notices of upcoming events, click here.

Successful "Paddle Against Petro"
“Kayactivists” from three states joined together for our first ever Paddle Against Petro. Members of organizations from Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia took to the river to protest the Northeast US Petrochemical Construction conference taking place inside the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, with top executives from corporations like Shell and Chevron as well as Pennsylvania State SenatorCamera Bartolotta in attendance. Kayactivists were joined by some land lubbers who spoke about the effects the petrochemical buildout would have on their lives, from people living near proposed cracker plants in Beaver County, PA and Belmont County, OH to people living in areas where fracking will increase to meet the demands of plastics production in other areas of the world. To read more, click here.

CCJ Stands with Antwon Rose II
This past week an East Pittsburgh Police Officer shot unarmed Antwon Rose in the back three times and killed the 17 year old boy. Our allies and neighbors have been taking the streets for accountability and justice for Antwon Rose by rallying outside the Allegheny County Courthouse, shutting down the parkway yesterday. The Center for Coalfield Justice stands in solidarity with our friends fighting for racial justice and against violence from police. To read more and learn how to support, click here.

Upcoming Events
June 26 - Climate Reality: Pittsburgh and SWPA Chapter Meeting
*Our ED, Veronica, is Guest Speaker!
June 26 - Reinventing Power Screening
June 27 - Harrisburg Gathering: One People, One Platform, OnePA
June 27 - 15104 Gas Drilling “Fracking” Update
June 30 - Hike and Tour of Streams in Ryerson Station State Park
June 30 - **DRYerson Festival**
July 11 - **Canonsburg Solar Info Session**
July 28 - **Friendsville Floatilla**
August 3 - **EQT Three Rivers Regatta**

**Support CCJ**

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Coalfield Review: July 2018

Read our monthly e-newsletter, which will update you on our work, current action items, and upcoming events. If there is any other information you would like to see, please let us know.

CCJ’s Team Grows - Welcome, Nick!

Nick Hood recently joined our staff as the community organizer. You may recognize Nick from his work as an intern at CCJ. Nick and his family have lived, worked and recreated in Washington County for their entire lives. Currently, he is enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh and is finishing his degree in Environmental Studies.

To read more about our staffing changes, click here.

Register Your Access to Broadband

Beginning in February 2018, an 11-month study dubbed the “Pennsylvania Broadband Mapping Initiative” launched. The study hopes to determine the amount of high-speed internet access that residents of rural Pennsylvania have and then provide potential solutions to the problems, based on previous models of success.

The study is quick and easy. All you need to do is:

1. Access the website
2. Click the “Start Test” button and,
3. Wait less than 30 seconds.

The information published includes each device’s IP address but does not include personal identifying information about you as an Internet user. To read more about the study, click here.

**Alliance for Appalachia Creates New Teams**

The Center for Coalfield Justice attended the most recent Alliance for Appalachia Steering Committee Meeting, where member groups decided to try a six month trial period that involves a restructuring of the current “teams” with a hope that the new teams are more issue specific and inspiring to those who choose to be apart of them. Also, plans were started for a trip to DC with the goal of meeting with decision makers and sending a clear message that people in Appalachia want a healthy future, rather than more coal mining. To read more about the Alliance’s new teams, click here.

**A Big Thanks and a Save the Date!**

We celebrated our 12th Annual DRYerson Festival on Saturday, June 30, 2018 at Ryerson Station State Park. It was a hot day, but that did not prevent over 60 people from joining us.
for the afternoon, celebrating a place we love. To read more about the Festival, click here.
The next CCJ event will be our Fall Fundraiser, held on Saturday, September 29, 2018 from
6-9:00pm at the Stone Pavilion in Washington Park. Keep an eye on your email and our social
media for announcements: tickets will go on sale in August.

Upcoming Events

July 18 - Public Hearing on PWSA
July 20 - Yough Riverkeeper Pavilion Series
July 21 - This is Zero Hour Pittsburgh
July 23 - Allegheny County Solar Info Session
July 28 - Advocating for Ordinances
July 28 - Climate Reality Bus Tour: Ohio River Valley
August 3 - EQT Three Rivers Regatta
August 11 - Re-Thinking Plastic

Support CCJ

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help us to continue our work to protect Ryerson and fight for environmental justice in southwestern
Pennsylvania by making a donation to CCJ. Any gift made to the Center for Coalfield Justice is 100% tax-deductible.

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Coalfield Review: August 2018

Read our monthly e-newsletter, which will update you on our work, current action items, and upcoming events. If there is any other information you would like to see, please let us know.

Get Your Marching Shoes Ready!

Save the Date for Washington, PA People’s Climate March on September 8th. We are hosting the march with Washington County United, increasing access for our communities to participate in a national day of action. We will be rising for Climate, Jobs, and Justice and demanding that our elected officials are voting to protect our communities from private corporations’ greed.

If you live in Washington or Greene County, you are living on the front-lines of fossil fuel extraction and the climate debate. It is time to challenge the national narrative and show that people from the coalfields want and deserve clean air, clean water, and healthy jobs.

To read more about the march, click here and register to join us here.

Registration Live for Grassroots Organizing Summit
Register now for the Grassroots Organizing Summit starting Friday, October 12th through Sunday, October 14th at the Laurelville Retreat Center in Mount Pleasant, PA. The Summit seeks to better prepare emerging organizers and to reinvigorate seasoned organizers to face the challenges presented by the shale gas and petrochemical buildout in the Appalachian region.
To read more and register here [click here](https://www.grassrootsorganizingsummit.com).

**Miners' Benefits in Jeopardy if Congress Does Not Act**

The Black Lung Disability Trust Fund has been around for about forty years, providing benefits to miners and, in some cases, to their surviving dependents to help them recover from the increasingly prevalent and powerful disease [pneumoconiosis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pneumoconiosis). “Black Lung Disease” was coined as a term because of the way the dust buildup inside the lungs can make them appear black. The Disability Fund has been in financial jeopardy for years, with expenditures consistently exceeding revenue, but the situation is about to become worse in 2019 when the excise tax that resources the Fund is set to decrease by 55% despite the fact that more than 25,000 people rely on its benefits as of 2017. Recently the cases of [Black Lung have been increasing](https://www.minersbenefits.org).
To read more about what is at stake, [click here](https://www.minersbenefits.org).

**CCJ Advocates for No Increased Pollution in Monongahela River**

In a room full of UMWA members and miners from the Cumberland mine, the Department of Environmental Protection held a public hearing on the draft NPDES permit no. 033511, which would
increase the permitted limits for sulfates and total dissolved solids (TDS) into the Monongahela River outfall 001 near Carmichaels, PA. CCJ Campaign Coordinator, Sarah, Community Organizer, Nick, and board members, Ken and Chuck, attended the event to stand up for common-sense permits. To read more about the hearing, click here.

Upcoming Events

August 23 - Green Drinks
September 5 - Wigle Whiskey Solar Happy Hour
September 8 - Washington, PA People’s Climate, Jobs, and Justice March
September 18 - Symposium: Potential Regional Economic Impacts of the Ethane Cracker Plant
September 26 - Trivia Night with Climate Reality!
September 29 - 4th Annual Party in the Park

Also check out the many events at Ryerson Station State Park.

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Coalfield Review: September 2018

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4th Annual Party in the Park Coming Soon!

We’re TWO WEEKS away from our 4th Annual Party in the Park! Join us for a night of fall fun in the name of supporting access to environmental justice across communities in Washington and Greene Counties!

To read more about the event and to register, click here.

Greene County is Updating Comprehensive Plan
Greene County’s current comprehensive plan will expire in 2020, and the county is in the process of updating its comprehensive plan. The County will host a series of five open houses at various locations to receive input on what should be included in different elements of the plan. To read more, and to find the closest event to you, click here.

Washington County Residents Take Action
The People’s Climate March held by CCJ and Washington United on September 8th, 2018 in Washington, PA was a success! Despite the morning forecast for potential floods and an all-day rain, over sixty (60) people attended. The people that attended marched around downtown Washington to express their concerns with the Climate, Jobs, and Justice. Attendee’s stopped at both the Republican and Democratic Headquarters in hopes to provoke action from local legislators and let all candidates know that whoever wins must work for the people and not corporations. 

To read more, click here.

CCJ Is Hiring!

Do you want to work for CCJ? Does someone you know want to work for CCJ? Check out our job postings for an Outreach Coordinator and Community Organizer here. But don’t worry! Current staff are staying put - we’re growing!

Upcoming Events

- September 19 - Solar Panel Panel: Ready for 100
- September 21 - Open Mic Night
- September 22 - Indian Creek Watershed Festival
- September 22 - Climate Advocate Training
- September 25 - Climate Reality: Pittsburgh and SWPA Chapter Meeting
- September 26 - Trivia Night with Climate Reality
- September 29 - 4th Annual Party in the Park
October 4 - Sustainability, Fracking & Plastics
October 6 - 5th Annual Run for Shelter 5K

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Coalfield Review: October 2018

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Demonstrations Impact Shale Insight Conference

Concerned residents from throughout the Appalachian region gathered in Pittsburgh on Tuesday, October 23 and Wednesday, October 24 for two connected actions designed to counter the Shale Insight Conference. The main day of action began at Point State Park with a native-led water ceremony. Participants in the ceremony bought water from upstream of their homes to be blessed, and the water was then put back.

To read more, click here.

Over 50 People Attend Grassroots Organizing Summit

CCJ recently hosted the Grassroots Organizing Summit with Mountain Watershed Association in Mount Pleasant, PA. Community organizers, frontline community members from the tri-state region attended along with allies in the gulf coast and native communities resisting fossil fuels for many
years. The weekend was spent learning and growing alongside other Grassroots Organizers from around the region.
To read more, click here.

**CCJ Goes to Washington, DC to Advocate for Black Lung Trust Fund and RECLAIM Act**

The Center for Coalfield Justice joined forces with the Alliance for Appalachia and traveled to Washington DC to influence lawmakers on a few coalfield issues. We spent three days, September 24th - September 26 meeting with various Senatorial and Congressional Staff from Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee.
To read more, click here.

**Fun Times at CCJ’s Annual Party in the Park!**
The Center for Coalfield Justice just held its 4th annual Party in the Park Fall Fundraiser on September 29, 2018. With help from our donors and sponsors, the event was a success. Attendees enjoyed good foods, great deserts, and even better refreshments. Not forgetting to mention good music and good times!

Silent auction items ranged from homemade cobblers to tickets to the Pittsburgh Zoo. Under a beautiful harvest moon, we celebrated into the night and bid on items we desired. All proceeds will go towards the hard work being done by all CCJ staff to help preserve our communities integrity and natural splendor. We hope everyone enjoyed their time as much as we did!

**Upcoming Events**

November 9 - Earth Witness: Storytelling, Poetry, Acoustic
November 14 - 2018 Shale and Public Health Conference
November 15 - 10th Annual Yough Defense Party
November 19 - Transgender Day of Remembrance Candlelight Walk
December 11 - Save the date for CCJ Holiday Party

Want to help plan an upcoming event? CCJ’s Holiday Party is fast approaching! Please email smartik@coalfieldjustice.org if you would like to join in on the party planning!

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Community Forum for Tunnel Ridge Mine Tonight

Join our Community Organizer, Nick Hood, and Staff Attorney, Sarah Winner, tonight from 6:00-8:00pm for a community forum related to the Tunnel Ridge Mine. Tunnel Ridge, a subsidiary of Alliance Coal, has been granted a permit from development to longwall mining in PA. At the forum, Nick and Sarah will provide information about the permit and answer questions about longwall mining: they will also provide information about how to protect your rights as a property owner. The photo above shows where the longwall mining has been permitted.
EJ Groups Gather to Discuss Breaking Free From Plastic

CCJ attended a gathering in Pasadena, TX from November 5-7 to meet with other environmental justice groups working to fight against petrochemical expansions and buildouts. Our Campaign Manager, Sarah, attended the gathering, which brought together people from across the country, from the Gulf South to the West Coast.

CCJ previously attended a Break Free From Plastics gathering in Houston, but the consensus from that meeting was that environmental justice groups were not proportionally represented in the space, so groups like GAIA and TEJAS with support from Earthworks arranged this meeting. Groups like Portand Citizens United, 5 Gyres, and Louisiana Environmental Action Network attended the EJ gathering.

To read more, click here.

Protectors of Mingo Remain Active; Permitting Process Continues

The Protectors of Mingo (POM), a community group in Washington County, continue to monitor the ongoing permitting process for the Ram #1 mine being proposed by Ramaco LLC, a mining company predominately based in the midwest. The proposed mine would be in Nottingham and Peters Townships near Mingo Creek County Park.

To read more, click here.

You're Invited!
Celebrate the most festive time of year with your friends at CCJ and Washington County United! Join us for an evening of food and drinks, ugly sweaters and sugar cookies. Our doors will be open from 6-8pm - stop by, stay as briefly or as long as you can, and bring a friend! Have a good party food recipe? Bring some to share and write down the recipe so that people can take it with them! To help us plan, please use this link to RSVP! Even Santa uses a list, after all. Want to help put the party together? Email Sarah Martik at smartik@coalfieldjustice.org.

Upcoming Events

November 15 - Identity and Advocacy at the Crossroads; 6:00pm, W&J Media Room
November 15 - Yough Defense Party
November 15 - Air Pollution and Renewable Energy
November 15 - Braddock Meeting: Southwest PA Neighbors for Clean Air
November 17 - Sustainability Pioneers Documentary

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Action Needed - Black Lung Disability Trust Fund in Jeopardy!

Black Lung Claims, by total received

All filings since July 1, 1973, including terminated, non-approved claims and Medical Benefits Only claims

Rates of Black Lung disease are on the rise in coal communities across Appalachia, but Congress is set to allow Black Lung Disability benefits to be jeopardized. Congress has failed to pass an extension of current funding levels, but some members are fervently working to pass this extension as part of an appropriations bill up for a vote on December 21st. Congress must act to protect miners and pass an extension of the Black Lung Excise Tax.

Write a letter to your members of Congress today telling them to pass an extension of the Black Lung Excise Tax before the holidays.

To read more, click here.

Residents in Footprint of Tunnel Ridge Learn Proactive Steps to Protect Homes and Water Supplies
The Center for Coalfield Justice along with friends from the Buffalo Creek Watershed Association held an “Undermining for Residents Workshop” at the Donegal Township Municipal Building in the evening on Wednesday 14, 2018 and nearly forty (40) people attended.

Tunnel Ridge LLC has been permitted to longwall mine a swath of coal underneath an area of West Alexander, and residents are concerned about what may happen to their water supplies and structures, such as their houses and farm buildings, after being undermined. CCJ’s staff attorney Sarah Winner helped describe steps for residents to take that can help them protect their water sources and structures on their property.

To read more, click here.

*Relationships Are the Foundation for a Just Economic Transition*
From November 7th to 9th, the Just Transition Fund hosted their National Convening with grantees and speakers in Washington, DC. Folks gathered from across the country just after the elections, celebrating some great wins and acknowledging the work that is ahead to build just and sustainable communities. From listening to speakers and talking with attendees, it is clear that all of our efforts to create communities where everyone has a living wage and is welcomed in their communities will be a challenging road to tread, but inspiring stories keep us moving forward. To read more, click here.

There's No Place Like CCJ for the Holidays - Thanks for Celebrating with Us!

To all our members, supporters, and allies who joined us at our holiday party on December 11th, thank you for joining with us for an evening of fun - and for those of you unable to attend, we missed you but celebrated your work throughout the year, nevertheless! Our office was full of food and friends, and we wouldn't want to close out 2018 any other way. To recap our 2018, or to make a donation to fuel our work moving forward, check out this blog. We look forward working with all of you to create strong, healthy, just communities in 2019!
CCJ staff will be taking time off for the holidays. Our office will be closed from December 20 - January 4th. If you need to contact us, please send an email to Sarah Martik at smartik@coalfieldjustice.org (and be patient with response times).

Upcoming Events

December 18 - FINAL VOTE on Housing Opportunity Fund's Budget Cut
January 19 - Women's March PGH, "Building Bridges Stronger than Hate"