

From the Holler to the Hood: The REAL Cost of Coal!

Join Eco-Justice Collaborative on a Delegation to
Coal River Mountain, Whitesville, WV

May 14-16, 2010
(Friday through Sunday)



Mountaintop removal mining (MTR) is devastating hundreds of square miles of Appalachia; polluting the headwaters of rivers that provide drinking water to millions of Americans; and destroying a distinctly American culture that has endured for generations. Nearly 2,000 miles of streams have been buried and destroyed and countless mountains and ridge tops have been eradicated with dynamite.

Does it have to be this way? No. Although a 6,600-acre mountaintop removal site is slated for Coal River Mountain, local residents have developed plans for a wind farm there instead. The wind farm would provide over a million dollars more in tax revenue per year than the mountaintop removal proposal, and would provide jobs and clean energy forever. Citizens have been working tirelessly to convince West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin to support their plan for their community...but they are running out of time.

What You Will Do and Learn:

Our delegation will travel to Whitesville, WV, where we will meet with Coal River Mountain Watch, a local grassroots organization working with area residents to stop the pending destruction of Coal Mountain. During our time there we will:

- Learn about the life cycle of coal, which is responsible for about 40% of our country's CO₂ emissions.
- Visit nearby Kayford Mine, view MTR operations, and talk with nationally-renowned activist and resident Larry Gibson.
- Discover how MTR is polluting our streams and altering ecosystems. Learn about the hazards of coal ash and slurry impoundments.
- Meet with residents and record stories of their ongoing struggles and tactics to stop MTR.
- Discuss ways to join the growing movement to say "NO" to coal and "YES" to a green economy.
- Talk about how to:
 - Support efforts underway to stop MTR; and
 - Organize for Clean Power in Chicago and clean up or close down Fisk and Crawford, two coal-fired power plants in Chicago's Pilsen and Little Village neighborhoods.



TOTAL COST for the three-day delegation is \$300.00 and includes orientation, travel, lodging, educational materials and program. Meals are not included. We will eat at the town's reasonably-priced local restaurant.

INTERESTED? Visit the events page of our website (www.ecojusticecollaborative.org) for an itinerary and application. For more information call Pam or Lan Richart at 773.556.3417 / 3418.
