



# The *Muir* VIEW

NEWS OF THE SIERRA CLUB IN WISCONSIN | JOHN MUIR CHAPTER

## FOSSIL FUELS ARE ON THEIR WAY OUT

It probably doesn't feel like it, but fossil fuels are finally on their way out. Many of us are still reeling from the past 10 years. The Walker Administration not only refused to take action on climate, but ignored its reality and banned the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) from talking about it. Now, the Trump Administration is doing everything in its power to undo the progress we have made on climate change. It can be easy to feel hopeless and that we won't be able to stop the worst impacts of climate change. But it can and will happen. And it is already happening.

Disagree? Consider:

### Pipelines are "Almost Impossible to Build"

In July, this was the headline in a Bloomberg article after continual setbacks for some major pipelines. In one week:

- The Atlantic Coast gas pipeline was cancelled.
- A federal court decided in favor of the Standing Rock and Cheyenne Sioux Tribes. The court held the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had violated the law when allowing Dakota Access to construct the pipeline under the Missouri River. The court temporarily ordered that the Dakota Access pipeline had to stop running.
- In Montana, a court ruled that the Army Corps of Engineers failed to comply with the Endangered Species Act when issuing a nationwide general permit to fill wetlands, which was enabling Keystone's construction and put a hold on the construction.

As is the nature of these pipeline fights, things change quickly and go back and forth, so by the printing of this newsletter, likely there has been a lot of movement. Regardless, the reality remains: the Keystone XL Pipeline, Line 3 Pipeline, and the Line 61-twin pipeline were supposed to be built and operating by now, but they've faced setback after setback.

**Wisconsin could see more coal retirements this year than any other.** As we work to retire every coal plant in the state by 2030, we have seen a lot of momentum this year.

In January, Dairyland Power announced that it will close the Genoa coal plant in 2021, mentioning concerns about the plant's cost and impact to the climate as main concerns. In March, the University of Wisconsin system announced plans to close its on-campus, coal-fired heating plants. These harmful plants at UW Stout, Platteville, Stevens Point, and Superior have all been shuttered this year.

And there's more -- in May, Alliant Energy announced plans to close the Edgewater coal plant in Sheboygan by the end of 2022 for similar reasons: cost and climate. Our institutions, decision-makers and utilities all are seeing that coal is not worth the cost to the utility, to the ratepayers, and to the climate.

**The reality is, fossil fuels can't compete anymore.** They no longer have a social license. They are too bad for our health and environment. And they aren't even the cheaper option

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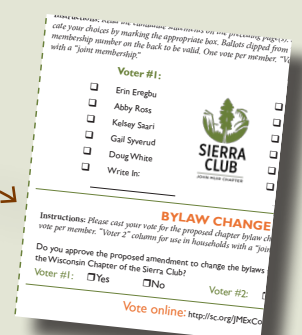
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## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

# OUR CHAPTER NAME AND DIRECTION

The Sierra Club and our Chapter continue to evolve. Recent events have added to reexamining who we are and what we stand for, including the inextricable link between environmentalism and social and racial justice, and further motivated us to revisit our name as a symbol for our chapter.

Our “John Muir” Chapter name has been a source of confusion for some time. We often hear remarks about how confusing the Sierra Club structure is and people are unsure what a ‘chapter’ is and where we fit. While most Chapters are named after the state they are in (Sierra Club Michigan, Sierra Club Illinois), being named “John Muir Chapter” has led to additional confusion. Even within the Sierra Club, many staff and volunteers do not associate “John Muir” with Wisconsin, but rather with California. For the public and outsiders, it was even more confusing as many do not connect our name with Wisconsin.

We miss vital engagement and funding opportunities every time someone does not make this connection, decreasing our ability to work on the critical issues we face.

A deeper issue is that our organization is comprised of people from many perspectives. No one person can represent our chapter or the Club. Our volunteers, staff and members all work on behalf of serving Wisconsin’s diverse range of people and environments. Our name should reflect that.

Many people, even before Muir and up to now, have contributed to our thinking and evolution to improve and protect our environment and society. As such, a multitude of past and present people and cultures, many who are underrepresented, are reflected in our thinking and work.

There is also growing recognition and concern about Muir’s derogatory statements about Black and Native American people. People experience Muir and his writings differently. While some recognize he was a man with evolving views, that does not erase the pain his words cause to others. Our goal is to honor all experiences, stories, and perspectives, and establish an inclusive environment where all feel welcome in the Sierra Club in our current cultural milieu.

Proposing a name change does not diminish Muir’s accomplishments as a founder of the Sierra Club and father of our National Park System. Rather, our chapter’s name should reflect the breadth of who we are, and represent to all what our organization and our relationships to each other and nature stand for.

The John Muir Chapter Executive Committee, after much thoughtful discussion, voted to change our name to “Wisconsin Chapter.” We are now asking our members to approve the new name where all in Wisconsin will feel included and welcome. You will find a ballot to vote on our name on page 15.

**Don Ferber**  
Chapter Chair

## ENERGY THROUGH ACTIVISM

Are you perhaps feeling a little isolated and down? We’ve got an antidote for that! Our work continues unabated, and while much of it is now online, it’s more relevant than ever. There are plenty of opportunities – social distancing doesn’t require being a couch potato.

Elsewhere, you’ll read about our election work and how you can help, but getting involved in our campaigns to shut down coal plants, prevent new tar sands pipelines, provide clean water for all, or protect our public lands are great ways to join with others, get energized, and provide hope through taking action. Just contact our chapter or your Group to be part of our team.

And don’t forget to treat yourself to a hike, bike ride, kayak trip, or other outing. A little “vitamin N” and activism, and we’ll have your spirits lifted in no time. Let’s create positive memories this fall.

## THE MUIR VIEW

754 Williamson St., Madison, WI 53703

A Publication of the John Muir Chapter of the Sierra Club

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*Please include the author’s first and last names, and day and evening phone numbers at the top. Acceptance of submission contingent upon availability of space and must meet Sierra Club guidelines.*

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### **Deadline:**

The deadline for submission of articles to the January issue is midnight on October 15, 2020.

### **Change of Address:**

You can update your contact information online at [myaccount.sierraclub.org](http://myaccount.sierraclub.org).

anymore.

There are six coal plants that have yet to be announced for closure in Wisconsin. One of these is the Columbia coal plant near Portage. An analysis we did earlier this year showed that by continuing to operate the Columbia coal plant, Alliant lost its customers nearly \$20 million in 2019 alone. Ratepayers should not have to pay for dirty and outdated technology. As if the cost of this coal plant wasn't enough, new solar and wind power would be cheaper than the existing coal plant, and transitioning to clean energy and energy efficiency would save customers millions each year. Alliant's decision to close Edgewater was the economic and climate-friendly decision to make, and the Columbia plant must be closed for the same reasons. Doubling down on dirty and costly fossil fuels is nonsensical.

The Oak Creek coal plant in Oak Creek is another example of this. Between 2014 and 2018, South Oak Creek customers paid at least \$75 million per year more than if We Energies had bought energy from the open market. Another analysis showed that Oak Creek owner and We Energies parent company WEC, could build new clean energy to replace the Oak Creek plant cost-effectively by 2028.

The cost of oil, especially carbon-intensive tar sands oil, is going in the same direction. Tar sands oil could barely compete already, but COVID-19 strongly impacted the industry, causing oil demand to decline. In August, it was reported that tar sands companies have lost over \$8 billion this year. Exxon Mobil announced it was looking to cancel its tar sands investments this year.

**The high cost of fossil fuels is no longer a secret.** The investors and money managers that create financial outlooks are starting to pay attention and act accordingly. Companies are continuing to divest from fossil fuels. 26 of the world's 35 largest banks have

reduced or completely eliminated coal financing and 16 have restricted oil and gas financing. Blackrock, the world's biggest investor fund, announced it would divest from fossil fuels. While Blackrock has yet to announce a plan to do so, their statement indicates the days of fossil fuel investment are numbered.

**But just because they are on their way out, doesn't mean that we do not have work to do.** In order to prevent further climate catastrophe, we need to make sure we transition off of fossil fuels fast enough according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, that means in the next 10 years. We still need to work hard to curb carbon emissions and to secure a cleaner, more affordable future for all of us.

Here's how we're doing that:

**The fight to stop Enbridge Energy's Line 5 pipeline reroute is ongoing.** To recap, Line 5 currently cuts through the Bad River Reservation in Northern Wisconsin, but due to the increasing risk of an oil spill, the Tribe did not renew their land easement with Enbridge. In response, the company proposed a pipeline reroute, and we're working to stop it and to shut down Line 5 once and for all. In early July the DNR took public comment and testimony on the scope of the project's Environmental Impact Statement and the Wetlands and Water permit Enbridge is required to obtain, and the public spoke up loud and clear in opposition to it. While the DNR processes that feedback, we're building momentum and support for continued work to shut down Line 5.

**Closing the Columbia coal plant:** Because of this dirty and aging coal plant's cost to our economy, our climate and our health, Sierra Club's Beyond Coal Campaign continues to push for the closure of this plant. Through several public weeks of action, which included educational webinars, social media actions,

and calls to MGE, Alliant Energy and WPS (the three utilities that co-own Columbia), we are placing direct pressure on the utilities to demonstrate that the public wants clean energy and energy efficiency instead of dirty coal.

In the Sierra Club's campaign to get the **South Oak Creek coal plant announced for retirement**, we've been mobilizing people online and building pressure on We Energies. In early August, in partnership with several other organizations, we held Coal Costs Us: Week of Climate Action; this was a collection of events and actions with statewide participation that highlighted how coal costs us our health, environment and economy. Moving forward, we're riding this wave of action and continuing to press We Energies to make a retirement announcement -- we both know South Oak Creek will be shut down, the question is only how soon.

In pursuit of a transition to clean energy, we must target fracked gas in addition to coal and oil. While some claim fracked gas itself is part of the transition, we know this not to be true. Methane leaks throughout processing and distribution contribute to the emissions footprint of fracked gas and are often left out of the conversation, even though over the course of 20 years methane is 86 times more potent than carbon dioxide. **This is why we're working to stop a proposed fracked gas plant, the Nemadji Trail Energy Center (NTEC), from being built.**

Dairyland Power and Minnesota Power, who proposed the project, recently updated the plant's cooling plan from water cooling to air cooling. This change gave us an opportunity to testify and comment before the DNR again, where hundreds of people raised their concerns about the plant. While the DNR considers our input, we'll be engaging with residents across the state and encouraging them all to

## SIERRA CLUB SUPPORT FOR

# THE MOVEMENT FOR BLACK LIVES

In June, following the tragic murder of George Floyd, the Sierra Club joined racial justice activists' calls across the country to reduce

excessive funding for militarized policing and to instead invest that money in initiatives that support the well-being of Black people experiencing social and economic injustice. In August, our nation had to come to grips with yet another act of police violence with the shooting of Jacob Blake in our own state. This violence against Black and Brown people must stop -- now.



As Sierra Club members, we are not only fighting for clean air and water and halting climate change to ensure a habitable planet, we are fighting for healthy, safe communities for everyone living in the United States. As one of the world's leading environmental organizations, it is imperative for us to address police brutality, racism, and systemic oppression. We must also confront biases within ourselves, our organization, and our work. We are committed to these goals and will continue to evolve as we learn.

Simply put, environmental justice is racial justice. Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) communities suffer the brunt of environmental harms. Environmental injustice is racial injustice.

Our priority issue campaigns make that clear: the Line 5 pipeline currently runs through Bad River Band's land, I-94 in Milwaukee physically segregates neighborhoods and contributes to air pollution in the neighboring Black community, and lead pipes pollute the water on the north side of Milwaukee, where many People of Color live. We are committed to fighting against this environmental and racial injustice.

No one should ever feel threatened by those charged with keeping us safe. As Martin Luther King Jr. said, "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." We hope you'll continue to work with us to create a world where this no longer happens.

### Continued from page 3

join us in this fight. The economics will help our campaign as well -- an analysis found that NTEC will be a stranded asset (it will cost more to run than it will make) as early as 2032, less than 10 years after it's built.

To join our movement to retire fossil fuels, contact Volunteer Coordinator Katie Hogan at [kathryn.hogan@sierraclub.org](mailto:kathryn.hogan@sierraclub.org) and express your interest in joining one of our teams that are focused on pipelines, moving beyond coal, and advocating for clean energy.

**Elizabeth Ward, Chapter Director**  
**Cassie Steiner, Senior Campaign Coordinator**  
**Jadine Sonoda, Campaign Coordinator**

### WELCOME OUR NEW CAMPAIGN COORDINATOR,

## JADINE SONODA!

In June, we hired our new Campaign Coordinator, Jadine Sonoda! Jadine is passionate about climate advocacy and the connection between our food systems, water, and the health of our communities. Jadine is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis. There, she interned for Missouri Coalition for the Environment, where she worked with a coalition to develop a regional food hub and started a network of students, university professionals, and other organizations that worked toward bringing local, sustainably grown food into educational institutions. Most recently, she was working at Maryland Matters, an independent, nonprofit, government and politics news site. In her free time, Jadine enjoys running, reading and experimenting with new recipes.



Jadine is primarily responsible for supporting the Tar Sands Team and our pipeline work, the Water Team, our campaign to retire the South Oak Creek coal plant, and our campaign to stop the proposed gas plant in Superior.

## WE CAN AND MUST PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE

Wisconsin Sierra Club members face critical votes in the 2020 elections that affect our goals of reversing the assault on environmental protections and conservation by the legislature. The agenda for the 2019-20 Legislature was again driven by the GOP, which controlled both the Assembly and Senate. Fortunately, anti-environmental legislation did not move forward during the last session thanks to Governor Evers and his veto power.

The Sierra Club has endorsed Joe Biden and Kamala Harris to replace the Trump administration and its unprecedented assault on our environment, which threatens our climate, air, water, public lands, wildlife, and oceans. We've endorsed candidates in every Wisconsin Congressional District, as well as 90 candidates for state Senate and Assembly so far. The choice in all of these races is between our proven environmental champions and candidates and incumbents with terrible voting records and commitments in favor of unchecked, polluting industry and development.

### THE JOHN MUIR CHAPTER CAN AND MUST PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE IN TAKING CONTROL AWAY FROM POLLUTING SPECIAL INTERESTS IN THE 2020 ELECTIONS.

Our choices for state Senate and Assembly reflect our commitment to support only the best environmental candidates -- those who are as committed as we are to protection and progress instead of pillaging our natural resources. We continue to work in every state legislative race each cycle to make as much impact as we can on the elections. This commitment is demonstrated by 90 endorsed state candidates out of 115 state contests this cycle, with more to come. See the full and current list at <https://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/lobbying-elections/political>.

To ensure the Sierra Club only endorses the best environmental candidates, our grassroots process begins at the Chapter level. Volunteers in our Political and Chapter Executive Committees examine each candidate's record, distribute questionnaires to candidates who meet our criteria and then vote on state endorsements. The Sierra Club National Political Team, made up of volunteers and staff from around the country, holds a second vote to confirm the endorsements of federal candidates. Throughout our process, volunteers and staff evaluate the environmental and public health records of candidates and their experience of being a true champion on our issues.

The Chapter developed an internal scorecard of votes by the legislature to grade incumbents. The GOP controlled both houses of the legislature in the last session and they ensured that no significant new environmental protections

were allowed to even have public hearings, let alone votes by the full legislature. The degree with which they controlled the legislature's agenda is a scathing indictment of single-party control, though it is tempered to some degree by the governor's veto authority.

The candidates we've endorsed have demonstrated they have the energy, will, and wisdom to tackle our goals on climate change, clean energy and more. Our endorsement is just the beginning of our work to help support these candidates. The next steps to electing new environmental leaders and keeping our proven champions are up to each of us as individual Wisconsin Sierra Club Chapter members. We will work harder than ever during this election to emphasize that the environment doesn't vote for one party over the other and also work to hold these elected officials accountable for the votes they cast.

### JOIN THE LARGEST GRASSROOTS POLITICAL MOBILIZATION IN THE SIERRA CLUB'S HISTORY.

The mobilization includes getting our membership and supporters to vote via using texts, emails, calls, and letters. Review the list of endorsed candidates in your area (see page 6 for the list of endorsed candidates) and contact their campaign offices to learn how to volunteer and be sure to remind candidates that you are a proud Sierra Club member wishing to help them. Look to our political pages on the Chapter website at <https://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/lobbying-elections/political> for more info on how to join the mobilization to work on the Presidential, Congressional and state Legislature campaigns.

The COVID-19 pandemic has only underscored the urgency of our work to unseat President Trump. In the face of uncertainty about public health, we are doubling down on our remote voter contact strategy, and will be prepared to quickly shift gears and massively ramp up if the pandemic makes in-person voter contact unlikely.

The Sierra Club is still the most effective environmental organization in the country because we vote and act on our principles. Let's make a difference in this year's elections. Please contact me at [burroak15@gmail.com](mailto:burroak15@gmail.com) or (608) 220-4040 if you have any questions about the John Muir Chapter's political activities. Thank you and don't forget to vote on November 3!

Dave Blouin  
State Political Chair

# ENDORSEMENTS FOR THE 2020 ELECTIONS

The Sierra Club has endorsed **Joe Biden and Kamala Harris for President and Vice President and Roger Polack, Mark Pocan, Ron Kind, Gwen Moore, Tom Palzewicz, Jessica King, Tricia Zunker and Amanda Stuck for Congress.**

At the state level, our goal of creating pro-environment majorities in both houses of the Legislature is reflected in our endorsements of 90 candidates so far for the Legislature. Forty state lawmakers scored a perfect 100% pro-environment voting record and each has been named a **2020 Environmental Champion** for their demonstrated commitment to preserving Wisconsin's environment. The names of the **Environmental Champions** are listed in bold in the list of endorsed candidates.

The staff and volunteers of the John Muir Chapter are very proud to announce these endorsements. These candidates are committed to maintaining clean air, clean water and the irreplaceable places that make Wisconsin unique. **We urge you, as Sierra Club members, to vote for and help elect new environmental leaders and re-elect proven elected leaders.**

Incumbent officials were judged based on their overall environmental voting record, public statements and activities while in office. Challengers were measured by their responses to questionnaires and interviews, environmental platforms, public service, and public statements.

We wish the best for the **2020 Environmental Champions** who are retiring or running for new offices. They are **Senators Mark Miller, Fred Risser, Dave Hansen, Jennifer Shilling, and Representatives JoCasta Zamarippa, Jason Fields, David Crowley, Deb Kolste, Melissa Sargent, Amanda Stuck and Chris Taylor.**

If you're unsure who your state Senator or Representative is, go to [www.legis.state.wi.us/](http://www.legis.state.wi.us/) and click on "Who represents me?" Use your favorite search engine to find their

campaigns.

**Additional endorsements will have been made since the Muir View was published – please go to <https://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/lobbying-elections/political> to view the most up to date list of endorsements.**



### ***President and Vice President*** **Joe Biden and Kamala Harris**

#### ***U.S Congress***

Roger Polack	1st District
Mark Pocan	2nd District
Ron Kind	3rd District
Gwen Moore	4th District
Tom Palzewicz	5th District
Jessica King	6th District
Tricia Zunker	7th District
Amanda Stuck	8th District

#### ***State Senate***

**Senator Lena Taylor**, D-Milwaukee (District 4)

**Sen. LaTonya Johnson**, D-Milwaukee (6)  
Neal Plotkin, D-Glendale (8)

**Sen. Patty Schachtner**, D-Somerset (10)  
Ed Vocke, D-Minocqua (12)

Joni Anderson, D-Adams (14)  
**Melissa Sargent**, D-Madison (16)\*

Aaron Wojciechowski, D-Oshkosh (18)  
**Sen. Bob Wirth**, D-Kenosha (22)

Paul Piotrowski, D-Stevens Point (24)  
Kelda Roys, D-Madison (26)

Jonathan Hansen, D-De Pere (30)  
Brad Pfaff, D-Onalaska (32)

\*Melissa Sargent scored 100% as District 48 State Representative

#### ***State Assembly***

Kim Jensen, D-Egg Harbor (District 1)  
Emily Voight, D-Appleton (3)

Kathy Hinkfuss, D-Green Bay (4)  
Richard Sarnwick, D-Shawano (6)

**Rep. Daniel Riemer**, D-Milwaukee (7)  
Sylvia Ortiz-Velez D-Milwaukee (8)

Rep. Marisabel Cabrera, D-Milwaukee (9)  
**Rep. David Bowen**, D-Milwaukee (10)

Dora Drake, D-Milwaukee (11)  
**Rep. Robyn Vining**, D-Wauwatosa (14)

Jessica Katzenmeyer, D-West Allis (15)  
**Rep. Kalan Haywood**, D-Milwaukee (16)

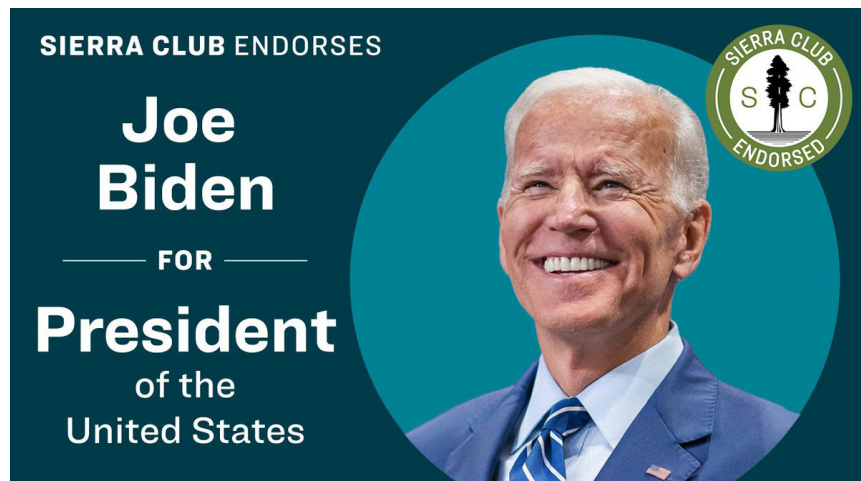
Supreme Moore Omokunde, D-Milwaukee (17)

**Rep. Evan Goyke**, D-Milwaukee (18)  
Rep. Jonathan Brostoff, D-Milwaukee (19)

**Rep. Christine Sinicki**, D-Milwaukee (20)  
Deb Adraca, D-Whitefish Bay (23)

Emily Siegrist, D-River Hills (24)  
Mary Lynne Donohue, D-Sheboygan (26)

Kim Butler, D-Balsam Lake (28)  
Sarah Yacoub, D-Hudson (30)

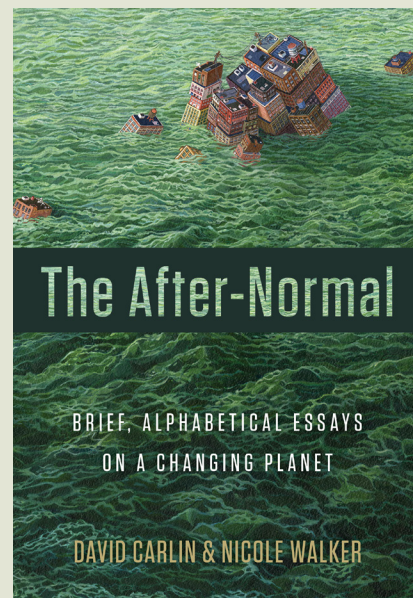


Elizabeth Lochner-Abel, D-Walworth (31)  
 Katherine Gaulke, D-Elkhorn (32)  
 Mason Becker, D-Fort Atkinson (33)  
 Kirk Bangstad, D-Minocqua (34)  
 Tyler Ruprecht, D-Merrill (35)  
 Abigail Lowery, D-DeForest (37)  
 Melissa Winker, D-Oconomowoc (38)  
 Izzy Hassey Nevarez, D-Juneau (39)  
 Deb Silvers, D-New London (40)  
 Nate Zimdars, D-Ripon (41)  
 Melisa Arndt, D-Rio (42)  
**Rep. Don Vruwink**, D-Milton (43)  
 Sue Conley, D-Janesville (44)  
**Rep. Mark Spreitzer**, D-Beloit (45)  
**Rep. Gary Hebl**, D-Sun Prairie (46)  
**Rep. Jimmy Anderson**, D-Fitchburg (47)  
 Samba Baldeh, D-Madison (48)  
 Shaun Murphy-Lopez, D-Hillsboro (49)  
 Kriss Marion, D-Blanchardville (51)  
**Rep. Gordon Hintz**, D-Oshkosh (54)  
 Dan Schierl, D-Neenah (55)  
 Diana Lawrence, D-Appleton (56)  
 Lee Snodgrass, D-Appleton (57)  
 Gina Walkington, D-Bristol (61)  
 August Schutz, D-Caledonia (62)  
 Joel Jacobsen, D-Burlington (63)  
**Rep. Tip McGuire**, D-Somers (64)  
**Rep. Tod Ohnstad**, D-Kenosha (65)  
**Rep. Greta Neubauer**, D-Racine (66)  
 Chris Kapsner, D-Sheridan (67)  
 Emily Berge, D-Eau Claire (68)  
 Brian Giles, D-Marshfield (69)  
 John Baldus, D-Stevens Point (70)  
**Rep. Katrina Shankland**, D-Stevens Point (71)  
 Criste Greening, D-Wisconsin Rapids (72)  
**Rep. Nick Milroy**, D-South Range (AD 73)  
**Rep. Beth Meyers**, D-Bayfield (74)  
 John Ellenson, D-Shell Lake (75)  
 Francesca Hong, D-Madison (76)  
**Rep. Shelia Stubbs**, D-Madison (77)  
**Rep. Lisa Subeck**, D-Madison (78)  
**Rep. Dianne Hesselbein**, D-Middleton (79)  
**Rep. SONDY POPE**, D-Verona (AD 80)  
**Rep. Dave Considine**, D-Portage (81)  
 Jacob Malinowski, D-Greendale (82)  
 Alan DeYoung, D-Muskego (83)  
 Jeff Johnson, D-Wausau (85)  
 Richard Pulcher, D-Lublin (87)  
 Kristen Lyerly, D-De Pere (88)  
 Karl Jaeger, D-Marinette (89)  
 Kristina Shelton, D-Green Bay (90)  
**Rep. Jodi Emerson**, D-Eau Claire (91)  
 Amanda White Eagle, D-Black River Falls (92)  
**Rep. Steve Doyle**, D-Onalaska (94)  
**Rep. Jill Billings**, D-La Crosse (95)  
 Aaron Perry, D-Waukesha (97)

## THE AFTER-NORMAL: BRIEF, ALPHABETICAL ESSAYS ON A CHANGING PLANET

BY DAVID CARLIN AND NICOLE WALKER,  
 ROSE METAL PRESS, 2019, 224 PAGES.

What is it to love and to think critically in a world that moves further and further from our recollections of normal? David Carlin and Nicole Walker's short form alphabetarium, written even before the COVID-19 pandemic, predicts movement toward the many somethings that exist beyond normal, including global pandemics. This witty and often hopeful collection of short-form essays melds art, love and critical thinking into a survival guide of sorts. Two writers, in love with what remains and what is hoped for, bounce essays off each other and across continents from Arizona to Melbourne as they progress through the alphabet. An expected norm of order leads them bravely from "A" is for Albatross to "Z."



Those who have never fallen in love with the essay genre have their chance in *The After-Normal*. These personal essays collect ideas, facts, loves, memoir, cultural linchpins, and losses and spin cohesive and artful webs. David comes to you with "B" for bacteria and, in a Steven King-ish tale, accounts the little lives that make up about half of our mass. They mean us no harm, but they do recycle our elements from one life form to the next. They will take us over.

Nicole's "D" for Dear David, displays the thinking, working around of ideas and disappointments after the last presidential election. Thoughts of more paternalism, specifically as applied to environmentalism, evoke David's love and his ardor against complacency. David's "K" for kindness asks a lot of the reader, so it may be the most important essay. "Because every time we draw a line between those we will be kind to and those we will not, we mark out a space for unkindness to proliferate."

Nicole has the last word with "Z" imagined not only as end, but as what we need each day to move us to a better after-normal: a chance to go back to "A," a chance to do better, to use our capacity to understand the past, to love, to be critical thinkers, to be artful, to act for justice for all life, to make a difference.

Amy Lou Jenkins is the author of *Friends: Voice on the Gift of Companionship*, Oct, 2020. Contact her to forward a book for possible review at [JackWalkerPress.com](http://JackWalkerPress.com).



## THE ZOMBIE HIGHWAY EXPANSION PROJECT IS BACK!

Governor Evers announced that he is reviving plans to expand 3.5 miles of I-94 East/West in Milwaukee near the Brewers stadium. This is a project that we have opposed for a decade due to concerns about environmental and racial injustice. This project would worsen the climate crisis by adding cars to the road, would negatively impact public health due to air pollution and would exacerbate racial injustice and segregation -- all for the high, high price of more than \$1 billion.

Add your voice to opposition of this project -- and share what you'd rather see \$1 billion spent on in our state!

1. Download the app "3-2-1 Video" on your smartphone.
2. Use the code "SC1080" to get access.
3. From within the app, navigate to the settings menu using the gear icon in the top right. Under "Profile," click "My Settings." Under "My Settings," click "Update Profile." Navigate to the "Select a Group" dropdown, and select your assigned group: "Sierra Club Wisconsin."
4. Share your story via video!

## THE WATER TEAM HAS BEEN ADVOCATING FOR A STRONG

In December 2019, the DNR started the process of developing regulations for drinking water. Contaminated water is linked to negative health impacts. While the DNR prepares a draft of the rule, the Water Team is running public outreach practices. Our goal is to prompt Wisconsin residents to think about their water practices decrease nitrate runoff. When the comment period opens, we will collect comments and testimony.

## IMPROVING COUNTY FOREST PLANS

Twenty-nine counties in Wisconsin must file 15-year plans for managing county forests. These plans include how resources are prioritized and how county forests are used and maintained. We created a toolkit to share with residents of these counties to help them make comments to their county forest administrator to improve the plans. Plans must be filed by this month -- October 2020.

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## WORKING HARD AT WORK ENFORCING NITRATE RULE

Regulation of manure and fertilizer use to curb nitrate levels in waterways is a critical issue for Wisconsin and is particularly dangerous for infants and young children. By running an educational campaign about good and bad farming practices and highlighting the importance of sustainable agriculture, including how good farming practices can help protect water resources, the Water Team will focus on turning out the draft rule, the Water Team will focus on turning out

## PREVENTING MINING POLLUTION

Open-pit mining is one of the most destructive activities Wisconsin could face. When the legislature removed the Prove It First Law, which required that mining companies demonstrate they can operate safely before being permitted to mine in Wisconsin, there has been some movement. We're currently monitoring a couple of locations where companies have said they are doing "exploratory drilling" to determine if they would want to resume mining in those areas. We're also continuing to put pressure on state regulators and Michigan regulators not to allow the Aquila Resources to build the Back 40 mine, which would jeopardize the Menomonee River, a cultural resource to the Menominee Tribe in addition to being an important water resource to the area and to Wisconsin's tourism economy.

## PROTECTING OUR OLD GROWTH TREES IN THE CHEQUAMEGON-NICOLET NATIONAL FOREST

The US Forest Service is attempting to allocate 12,000 acres of mature and old-growth forest in Wisconsin's only national forest, the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, for timber contracts, with over 1,000 acres allocated for clear-cutting. This project could have significant impacts that need to be studied before allowing this to happen. Allowing this project to continue without an adequate Environmental Impact Statement will have serious consequences for key species in the forest, threaten the ecosystem as a whole, and reduce the recreational value of the National Forest.

Sierra Club's members have contacted the US Forest Service's administrator asking for the forest service to stop and study this project. At the time this was written, Sierra Club and our partners were waiting for more information from the forest service. Visit [addup.sierraclub.org/campaigns/act-for-public-lands-and-forests](http://addup.sierraclub.org/campaigns/act-for-public-lands-and-forests) for updates about this project.

## MISSED OPPORTUNITY

This last session can easily be summed up as one giant missed opportunity. The majority leaders squandered opportunity after opportunity. Instead of working with the governor and the legislators across the aisle, they stopped any chance of progress we had. Residents of Wisconsin cannot feel safe turning on the faucet and drinking the water. It could be contaminated with factory farm pollution, lead, PFAS, or more. We have less than 10 years to stop climate change. These are real, urgent problems that cannot wait. It's not the time to play games, but that's exactly what the legislature did.

Right away at the beginning of the session, Governor Evers introduced a thoughtful budget that prioritized clean air and water, including a goal of 100% clean energy, transit increases, funding for lead pipe removal and other water clean-up, and funding for our state parks. Instead, the Joint Finance Committee threw his budget out and replaced it with one that eliminated or watered down Evers' initiatives, including completely eliminating lead pipe funding. Opportunity squandered.

Without action through the budget, the majority party created a Task Force on Water Quality to help address Wisconsin's water issues. After listening to hundreds of hours of testimony across the state about water concerns and what could be done, nothing came of it. Earlier this year they released the long-awaited package of bills -- some good, and some terrible. The bills ranged from good bills like increasing the well-compensation program and eliminating the use of coal ash in tar to giveaways to pollutants that seek to undermine the authority of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) or add red tape to their process. The Democrats also put out their own package of bills that had strong proposals to systematically reduce the pollution in our water. None of those bills (the Republican package nor the Democratic package) became law. Another opportunity blown.

Throughout the session, there were a number of great bills that were introduced, including a package of bills to help tackle climate change, including one to add a social cost to carbon when the Public Service Commission evaluates proposals. There was a bill introduced to reinstate the Prove It First mining moratorium law. There were many more that would have helped us make progress. The majority wouldn't even allow these bills to move forward in committees. Opportunity after opportunity lost.

Unfortunately, a bill that did receive bi-partisan support and ended up becoming law was the Felony Trespass Bill. This new law makes it a felony to be on land owned by an energy company, including a pipeline company or utility. The law was supposedly meant to protect workers, but it will have a chilling effect on protests and could result in landowners and tribal members being arrested on their own land. In addition, it could mean arresting more nonviolent people for felonies. We have a mass incarceration problem in Wisconsin and the last thing we need is to imprison more nonviolent offenders.



The Felony Trespass Bill is what the legislature has to show for this session. A bill that steps on civil liberties and undermines people trying to stop climate change. This past session was more than a missed opportunity, but a

failure. **We need to elect new leaders in November who will prioritize our health, stop climate change, and create the ability for us to safely drink our water.**

Elizabeth Ward  
Chapter Director

### Support the John Muir Chapter through Workplace Giving

#### Does your employer offer a Community Shares workplace giving campaign?

Designate your gift to the Sierra Club Foundation and you'll be supporting our work to protect Wisconsin's water, land & wildlife.

For a list of workplace campaigns or information on starting a campaign, visit the websites below.



[www.communityshares.com](http://www.communityshares.com)



[www.communitysharesmke.org](http://www.communitysharesmke.org)

# SPOTLIGHTING THOSE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

None of our work would get done without the incredible people who devote their time and energy to help preserve the environment and future of Wisconsin. They have created a supportive community for one another and anyone who wants to join the relentless fight against climate change.

In honor of their tireless efforts and dedication, we've launched #SundaySpotlights. Every Sunday we will be spotlighting passionate members of Sierra Club to catch a glimpse of their personal stories and what goes into advocating for our planet. With these #SundaySpotlights we aim to show the diversity of our volunteers and their work and inspire others to make a difference. Look for them on our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages. Contact [elizabeth.ward@sierraclub.org](mailto:elizabeth.ward@sierraclub.org) if you want to nominate a volunteer to spotlight!



## CHAPTER AWARDS

Every year the chapter recognizes some of the many outstanding volunteers and community leaders who are making a difference for Wisconsin. This year is no exception. Plans are in the works to host an online awards ceremony and social the week of November 15 to honor these individuals. Watch our calendar of events for more details and to register. <https://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin>.

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

While working from home we've gotten creative in how we engage with our members and supporters, shifting our events and actions online. What started as our #ActAtHome series has morphed into a live-streamed weekly preview of the week's actions and our newly launched vlog, Issues at a Glance. So far we've covered topics from the Fourmile Logging Project to the return of the Zombie Highway, and there's much more to come. To catch these videos and for reminders about upcoming opportunities to take action, make sure to follow us! Our platforms are: YouTube (Sierra Club Wisconsin), Instagram (SierraClubWI), Twitter (SierraClubWI), and Facebook (SierraClub WI).



## Virtual Volunteer Nights

Since April, we've transitioned to entirely from-your-home Virtual Volunteer Nights! Join us on the second Wednesday of every month to work virtually with others, learn new skills, and work on the issues you care about! Check out our calendar of events for upcoming dates.

Interested? Email [kathryn.hogan@sierraclub.org](mailto:kathryn.hogan@sierraclub.org) to learn more.

## Join a Support Team!

Join one of our support teams for a flexible way to engage with us and support our work - digitally! Pick one or more of our teams with a specific focus, and take on projects as they interest you and fit your schedule. We have seven of these teams: **Phone Banking, Digital Communications, Writing & Research, Photography & Videography, Graphic Design, Data Entry, and Texting.**

Interested? Email [kathryn.hogan@sierraclub.org](mailto:kathryn.hogan@sierraclub.org) to learn more.

# VOTE FOR OUR CHAPTER LEADERS TODAY!

It's time for you to elect new John Muir Chapter leadership. Each year, members are asked to choose three volunteer leaders from a slate of candidates who will serve as at-large delegates to the Executive Committee for a three-year term starting in 2021 that goes through 2023.

The John Muir Chapter Executive Committee is your volunteer leadership team, made up of nine at-large members and six appointed local group delegates. The Executive Committee provides direction to the Chapter on fiscal matters, policy, fundraising, and prioritizing issue work, and ensures that the Chapter evolves with the times and remains an effective organization.

After reading the candidates' statements (listed in alphabetical order by last name), use the ballot on page 15 to cast your vote. Each member can VOTE FOR UP TO THREE CANDIDATES!

Candidates for the Executive Committee were asked these questions:

- 1) Discuss when and why you joined the Sierra Club, and describe any leadership or volunteer activities with the Club or other non-profit groups that will help you fulfill your role.
- 2) What unique skills, experience, or perspective from your personal or professional background (fundraising, legal, accounting, communications, Board, political) will you bring to the Chapter Executive Committee?
- 3) Looking forward over the next two to five years, how do you think the Chapter needs to grow and change to be effective on our issues?
- 4) The Chapter's current priority issues are: Protecting Our Water Resources, Moving Beyond Coal to Clean Energy, Moving Beyond Oil to Clean Transportation, Protecting Habitats from Destructive Mining, Protecting Native Forests and Wildlife. Of the Chapter's priority

issues, which one are you most passionate about and why?

Thank you for your interest in the success of the John Muir Chapter!

Vote Today! Fill out the ballot on page 15 and mail your ballot to Mary Reames, 4121 Meyer Ave, Madison, WI 53711-1620. **Ballots must be mailed or postmarked by November 15 to be counted.**

This year **you are able to cast your vote online** instead of by mail, if you prefer. Visit <http://sc.org/JMExComBallot> to access your ballot online. Please vote either by mail or online and not both.

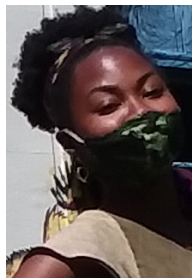
## ERIN EREGBU

1) Being a Sierra Club member and volunteer is one of my most proud accomplishments! I have also been involved with

the Gateway Technical College Horticultural Club; volunteering at Riverside Urban Ecology Center and the Mitchell Park Botanical Domes, and was a Service Leader for the Project A.W.A.R.E Des Moines River Watershed Cleanup.

2) I have studied communication and public speaking. In addition to being active in conservation and preservation, my strongest passions are in organizing and identifying talents, maximizing and activating people to action through connectedness, coaching, relationship building, and being adaptable in completing tasks.

3) I can see the Sierra Club engaging more with and welcoming people from diverse communities who may have unique and non-traditional skills. I also believe in encouraging members to work together and engage more with teams



to create a more efficient and connected community of contributors. I can also see the Sierra Club offering more member appreciation emails from board members, staff and volunteers.

4) I have always felt an affinity towards nature and human life, and at age 6, would ask my mother for Sierra Club magazines. As I grew, I became aware of my contributions to excesses, consumption and waste, and began reading about and experiencing the welcoming characteristics of nature. The journey has been life-saving. With the help of others, I found mindfulness, and dedicated my life to protect natural resources and spread awareness of nature's benefits. As a Sierra Club member, I value the various platforms we use to reach thousands of people, and encouraging them to understand the importance of clean energy, wildlife habitats, watersheds, forests, and sustainable production and consumption. Within the Sierra Club, I currently offer my time mostly to protecting native forests & wildlife.

## ABBY ROSS

1) My volunteer history with the Sierra Club has ranged from organizer and coordinator, to event planning committee member. I have also acted as the media lead for statewide events. In these roles I have often worked closely with 350 Madison, WiSE Alliance, and other groups from across the state. I am also a member of the Wisconsin Youth Network (WiYN), and served as the membership coordinator from 2019-2020.

Most recently I helped lead the first of its kind, Tar Sands Storytelling Project, which was a collaboration between the Sierra Club, WiYN, and the Clark



Cultural Arts Center, and was supported by additional organizations from across the state. In 2019, I received the National Sierra Club's Joseph Barbosa Award for this work. I am currently with the Alliance for Climate Education (ACE), a national nonprofit committed to educating young people on climate justice, and empowering them to take action.

2) I have experience working in a host of political campaigns. I also have a professional background in administration and communications in both institutional and nonprofit settings. However, the skills and experiences that would inform my work with the Chapter most, are art activism, community and youth organizing.

3) I believe the Chapter would benefit from a realignment of values, and growth in its partnerships. The impact of the WI Sierra Club will in part depend on creating a culture of inclusion, where diverse voices can together shape real solutions.

4) Protecting our water resources. I feel a particular kind of urgency and passion around the protection of our waters. To protect the water is to protect all of the environmental and living world. There is also such immense beauty in our Wisconsin waters!

#### KELSEY SAARI

1) Last year, I was looking for ways to become more involved in Environmental Activism since it is easy to feel helpless and overwhelmed by current events. I attended a Volunteer Night and quickly became a Sierra Club Member. I then became involved in my local Group (Southeast Gateway), as well as the Lands Team. I regularly attend volunteer nights, as well as monthly team meetings, and local events/campaigns. I am on the communication teams and work on phone banking and texting



projects. I also helped reestablish the John Muir Chapter Book Club.

2) I have been working in Healthcare since 2009 and have been a Registered Nurse since 2012. I love caring for others and helping people. I believe that access to clean air and water is essential to keeping people healthy and preventing disease. Nature truly is the best medicine.

3) I think education and public engagement are essential to our success. Information about our current campaigns and goals should be easily accessible and we should strive to engage as many people as possible in the work we are doing as a Chapter. People should be excited about what we are doing as a Chapter and want to get involved. It's important that people feel like they are effecting change and making a difference.

4) As a member of the Lands Team, and an avid hiker, I am very passionate about protecting native forests and wildlife. As a team this year, we have focused on preserving Wisconsin's forests on a statewide and countywide level. We are also working on making Wisconsin's Lands accessible to everyone regardless of age, ability, or financial situation.

#### GAIL SYVERUD

1) I joined the Sierra Club because I was against oil and gas projects in ANWR. Locally, I am a member of organizations that advocate for sustainability, natural resources, wildlife, and national carbon fee and dividend legislation.

2) Skills from my professional background in human services and social work include budgeting, strategic planning, program evaluation, staff hiring and supervision. From my membership and leadership in local environmental and non-profit groups, I have experience in



planning educational events, publicity, fundraising, advocacy, and voting and lobbying to enact environmental policies and legislation at many levels.

Work at Wisconsin Democratic Party Field Staff positions with a state senator and representative included staffing a campaign office, volunteer coordination, organizing, public relations, press contacts, and authoring petitions.

3) The Wisconsin Chapter should maintain a focus on dirty coal and dirty tar sands oil, highlight the Sierra Club's Beyond Coal leadership, and advocate for Wisconsin to move to renewable energy and remove Enbridge pipelines.

4) I am interested in joining the Wisconsin Board because Wisconsin has been slow to address climate change. I'm impressed with Sierra Club Beyond Coal Campaign's work to reduce carbon emissions. Ashland and Bayfield Counties experienced extreme weather events in 2012, 2016 and 2018 that resulted in major flooding, erosion, sewage overflows and road damage. We learned firsthand that burning fossil fuels and rising carbon emissions pose a threat to our environment, natural resources and to human health.

I am also interested because of ongoing issues related to the 67 year old Enbridge Line 5 tar sand pipeline that crosses northern Wisconsin and the Bad River Indian Reservation and am interested in land owners affected by the proposed reroute and participating in the Line 5 Coalition that includes local, state and tribal organizations.

#### DOUG WHITE

1) I am a lifelong environmentalist, longtime Sierra Club member, and recent Muir Chapter volunteer. I have over four decades of experience in nonprofit leadership, including two decades with state level organizations, and two with community



*Continued on page 14*

Continued from page 13

level organizations. I currently volunteer on environmental issues with three nonprofits and am passionate about protecting nature.

2) I have:

- decades of extensive fundraising, communications, Board, and political experience and related skills
- fundraised for and managed a portfolio of 20 programs worth \$30 million per year, including \$50 million one five-year period.
- advocated for policy change in the education, health and environmental domains with state and federal political leaders, including as an assistant to Governor Evers (when he led Public Instruction)
- served on and staffed boards of state and community level organizations
- formed and lead a local nonprofit that ran environmental protection and community development programs
- strong skills in strategic planning and program evaluation, and experience as an environmental health scientist with

skills to analyze, interpret and communicate scientific findings

3) In order to be most effective, the Chapter needs to significantly expand and diversify its membership base, establish a component empowering youth to lead, expand and diversify its financial resources, and put in place communications and feedback components that support these. The Chapter also needs flexibility to adapt to and take advantage of many changes that are occurring in the age of COVID and related political and social developments.

4) While I am passionate about each of these, and see them all as interrelated, Moving Beyond Coal to Clean Energy is most critical in my opinion, due to its central role in slowing the climate crisis. We need a great amount of clean electricity to use for low carbon heating, transportation, manufacturing, agriculture and other purposes.

## LOCALLY GROWN, NATIONALLY KNOWN EVENT RAISES CRITICAL FUNDS

This year the fundraising committee took a creative approach to our Locally Grown, Nationally Known event by replacing the annual, in-person event with a fun, interactive, online event.

The July 28 event delivered a perfect mix of fun and purpose, providing everyone with an opportunity to socialize from the comfort of home. There was trivia on the topics of Wisconsin lakes, state parks, air quality, and carbon sequestration. Then came delicious and locally sourced cocktail and mocktail mixing demonstrated by longtime Sierra Club member Claire Gervais who made signature cocktails designed by Sierra Club leader Marty Dillenburg.

The featured event included a cooking demonstration by Chef Paul Tseng of Willy Street Coop. Chef Paul showed off three of his favorite Wisconsin-flavored recipes: pan-fried trout with wild rice salad, sauteed oyster mushrooms with pea shoots and garlic, and deconstructed berry salad with reduced balsamic.

Sprinkled amid the demonstrations were updates from Elizabeth Ward, Chapter Director, about the chapter's current campaigns to shut down the Enbridge line 5 pipeline and protect the National Chequamegon-Nicolet Forest from logging, and to call for bold and equitable action by the Governor's Task Force on Climate Change. There was also a preview of the Beyond Coal Campaign's Coal Costs Us: Week of Climate Action.

Thanks to our many sponsors and hosts, the evening began with a healthy head start toward our goal and with additional donors making online donations during the event we quickly surpassed our \$10,000 goal. These funds provide critical support for the chapter's grassroots advocacy work in Wisconsin.



John Muir Chapter-Executive Committee

**ELECTION BALLOT 2020**

**Instructions:** Read the candidate statements on the preceding page(s). Select up to three candidates. Indicate your choices by marking the appropriate box. Ballots clipped from The Muir View must have a legible membership number on the back to be valid. One vote per member. "Voter 2" column for use in households with a "joint membership."

**Voter #1:**

- Erin Eregbu
- Abby Ross
- Kelsey Saari
- Gail Syverud
- Doug White
- Write In: \_\_\_\_\_



**Voter #2:**

- Erin Eregbu
- Abby Ross
- Kelsey Saari
- Gail Syverud
- Doug White
- Write In: \_\_\_\_\_

**BYLAW CHANGE**

**Instructions:** Please cast your vote for the proposed chapter bylaw change using the ballot below. One vote per member. "Voter 2" column for use in households with a "joint membership."

Do you approve the proposed amendment to change the bylaws to change the Chapter's name to the Wisconsin Chapter of the Sierra Club?

- Voter #1: Yes No      Voter #2: Yes No

**Vote online:** <http://sc.org/JMExComBallot>

**Mailed ballots must be postmarked by November 13, 2020**

Mail to: Mary Reames, 4121 Meyer Ave., Madison, WI 53711

**Support the John Muir Chapter**

When you make a donation to the John Muir Chapter you allow us to continue our work to protect wilderness and wildlife, to improve the quality of life in our cities and to promote the enjoyment of nature. Please be as generous as you are able. Your contributions, above and beyond membership dues, are an important part of the Chapter's budget.

- \$50    \$100    \$250    \$500    other \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Sierra Club-John Muir Chapter, 754 Williamson St., Madison, WI 53703





# SIERRA CLUB

JOHN MUIR CHAPTER

754 Williamson Street  
Madison, WI 53703

Our newsletter is printed on recycled paper

## CALENDAR

### OCTOBER 4

#### Tar Sands Storytelling Project Virtual Showing

See our calendar of events for more information.

[sierraclub.org/wisconsin](http://sierraclub.org/wisconsin)

### OCTOBER 14

#### Virtual Volunteer Night

Registration required to receive the zoom call link.

[sierraclub.org/wisconsin](http://sierraclub.org/wisconsin)

### NOVEMBER 3

#### National Election Day

Register to vote by mail at [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov)

### NOVEMBER 11

#### Virtual Volunteer Night

Registration required to receive the zoom call link.

[sierraclub.org/wisconsin](http://sierraclub.org/wisconsin)

### NOVEMBER 13

#### Executive Committee Election Ballots Due

See page 15 of this Muir View for more details.

### NOVEMBER 18

#### Chapter Awards Ceremony (online)

Registration required to receive the zoom call link. View our event details at [sierraclub.org/wisconsin](http://sierraclub.org/wisconsin).

### DECEMBER 1

#### Giving Tuesday!

You can donate to support our work at [sierraclub.org/wisconsin](http://sierraclub.org/wisconsin)

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### DECEMBER 9

#### Virtual Volunteer Night

Registration required to receive the zoom call link.

[sierraclub.org/wisconsin](http://sierraclub.org/wisconsin)

### DECEMBER 24 - JANUARY 1

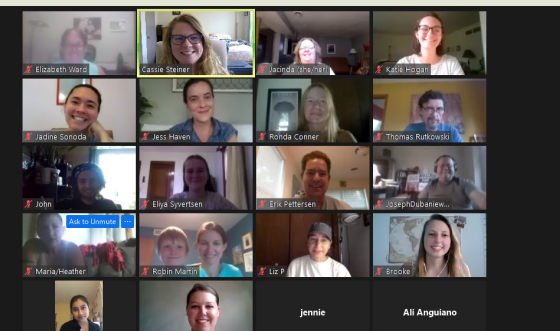
Winter break - Sierra Club offices are closed.

If you are planning to make a qualified charitable distribution from your Individual Retirement Account this year, please make sure that you instruct your fund manager to make the check payable to: **Sierra Club Foundation with John Muir Chapter or Wisconsin Chapter** in the memo line.

The word "foundation" is necessary for us to deposit charitable distributions into the chapter's fund at the Sierra Club Foundation, a 501 c 3 public charity which acts as the fiscal sponsor for the charitable work of the John Muir Chapter. All other, non-tax deductible gifts to support our grassroots advocacy should continue to be made payable to: Sierra Club- John Muir Chapter. Questions? Please email [jacinda.tessmann@sierraclub.org](mailto:jacinda.tessmann@sierraclub.org) Thank you for your support!



## OUR MEMBERS IN ACTION



Despite volunteering and working from home, our members have still found ways to work together face-to-face! This screen grab on the left is from July Virtual Volunteer Night, where we worked together on graphic design, data entry, social media, and writing projects. We also continue to find creative ways to work together from afar; for example, this beautiful chalk art was part of a coal week of action. Want to join us? Email [kathryn.hogan@sierraclub.org](mailto:kathryn.hogan@sierraclub.org)

