



The *Muir* VIEW

NEWS OF THE SIERRA CLUB IN WISCONSIN | JOHN MUIR CHAPTER

Public Lands for All:

A CALL FOR A MORE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE APPROACH

How many of us Sierra Club members can recall developing a close attachment with a park after a wonderful weekend hiking or camping with friends and family? Public lands help protect this sense of place that is critical for sustaining the identities of local communities. By preserving the landscape and keeping it open to the public, communities are also able to foster and strengthen social ties.

In addition to this important benefit, public lands also provide both health and economic benefits. For the national parks in Wisconsin alone, visitor spending in 2018 totaled over \$56 million and created at least 800 jobs. That's not even including all the other state parks and public recreation areas! While the health benefits are slightly harder to monetize, conserving land helps clean the air and can even reduce stress and anxiety.

However, for many the dream of visiting public lands remains elusive, particularly for Communities of Color and low-income communities. An analysis by the Center for American Progress and Conservation Science Partners discovered that these communities have less access to open space and natural areas than the rest of the population. Key barriers that exist include lack of information or gear and financial or transportation difficulties. While this is a national issue, Wisconsin also faces similar problems of public park access. About 40 percent of the United States is public land. For Wisconsin, that number drops to 17 percent, with a large



Sierra Club - Great Waters Group members having fun while removing buckthorn.

portion of our public lands in the northern part of the state.

Increasing access and inclusivity to all communities and removing the key barriers is the essential way forward. The next question becomes: how do we do it? Partnering with organizations that represent low-income communities or

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Let's Rise Up!

In Madison, we're faced with the siting of F-35 fighter jets at Truax field. The Air Force's own Environmental Impact Statement shows that, compared to the current F-16s, many more people would experience excessive noise levels that would make their homes uninhabitable.

Is it any surprise that most of those impacted are low-income and People of Color? And despite the massive price tags and huge cost overruns of these unreliable aircraft, the Air Force cannot be relied on to pay people's moving costs or to upgrade their housing to cope with the thunderous noise.

This story is all too common: where environmental harms are located near already marginalized people who can least afford the impacts or to move. Just another "externality cost" we ignore when those in power and with money aren't directly affected – or may even benefit.

Isn't that also the story with coal power plants that use climate disrupting fossil fuels and produce toxic pollutants being located in lower income or disadvantaged communities? The same is true of most chemical plants. Urban freeways too are commonly built or expanded right through Communities of Color or low-income communities without consideration of resultant harms.

Too often, those most impacted often have the least – or no – say in these matters. Is this what we want democracy to look like? Democracy is most resilient when all people's voices are heard, and everyone can participate in the process and has an equitable say in the outcomes. Sadly, we seem to be accentuating inequalities today rather than nearing the dream our founders set forth.

The Sierra Club is a proven leader in raising voices against injustice, and connecting the fate of nature to that of our democracy. We understand that those with the most means can not only pay for safety and comfort, make changes, move, or restart anew, but also have the most influence in the media,



with political elections and decisions, and in turning the levers of government in their favor.

As a grassroots organization, built on the power of our members and supporters, the Sierra Club supports all people having a say in outcomes, especially those who are most affected by decisions or actions. That's why we adopted the Jemez Principles for Democratic Organizing (<https://www.ejnet.org/ej/jemez.pdf>). This provides guidance for us in how we operate and how we collaborate with other people.

In this critical year, will you join with us to be empowered, to participate, to make your voice and that of your family, neighbors, and community heard? While elections are important, even more critical is that we restore the tenets of our democracy, connect with and listen to others, and ensure all people their basic inalienable rights. When the least among us has that say, then our foundation will be strong again.

We invite you to rise up with us, help organize, and together work for the future you want for yourself, your family, and your community. Let's set a course of one person, one voice, one vote.

Don Ferber
Chapter Chair

THE MUIR VIEW

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Please submit articles by mail or email to:
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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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Current advertising rates may be found on the JMC website: sierraclub.org/wisconsin

Deadline:

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

Change of Address:

You can update your contact information online at myaccount.sierraclub.org.

PROGRAM UPDATES

We're protecting every corner of Wisconsin

WATER QUALITY TASK FORCE BILLS

In 2019, more than 100 Sierra Club members and supporters attended the Speaker's Water Quality Task Force public hearings held across the state. At the hearings, Sierra Club supporters called for deliberate action to be taken on lead, coal, PFAS and other water contaminants. In February, several bills were introduced by members of the task force. Sierra Club supported five of these bills and opposed three of them. When this article was written, the bills hadn't been voted on. You can learn more about these bills and whether they were passed on our blog at sierraclub.org/wisconsin/blog/2020/02/water-quality-task-force-bills-good-bad-and-ugly.

STRONG MASS TRANSIT

The \$75 million Multimodal Supplement Grant Program was created in Governor Evers's state budget. This one-time grant program could help towns, cities and counties in implementing local road, pedestrian, biking or transit

projects. Sierra Club and our partners pushed for the 11 public transit projects to be prioritized by the grant's selection committee and DOT Secretary Craig Thompson. At the time this article was written, the grant selection had not been announced. Check our blog at sierraclub.org/wisconsin for updates.

OLD GROWTH FORESTS

More than 100 Sierra Club members and supporters submitted comments to improve Wisconsin's Forest Action Plan. Comments included prioritizing old growth forests and native plants and trees and creating a section about climate resiliency and mitigation. In the next draft of the plan, many of our concerns had been addressed. The final plan is due by July. To get involved with the Forest and Lands team, email Cassie Steiner at cassandra.steiner@sierraclub.org.

CLEAN ENERGY TOOLKIT RELEASE

In March, Sierra Club and our allies released a toolkit to help local governments meet their 100% clean energy commitments. The toolkit lays out a starting point and steps that can be taken to meet ambitious climate goals. We released the toolkit in seven cities in Wisconsin. To learn more about the toolkit, visit sierraclub.org/wisconsin.



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Communities of Color is critical to increasing engagement and awareness of their needs. Additionally, advocating for safe and plentiful public parks at the national, state and local levels can increase access to these recreational opportunities. And finally, the Sierra Club and several of our allies are launching a campaign called Every Kid Outdoors, which is encouraging the state's DNR to accept the federal Every Kid Outdoors pass that allows fourth graders and their families to get into parks for free. Decreasing the financial burden for kids to get outdoors is one step in the right direction.

Wisconsin needs to support more equitable and inclusive access to public lands. The Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter has a Forests and Lands Team working to achieve this and other important land protection goals. To get involved, contact Cassie at cassandra.steiner@sierraclub.org.

Shelby Best
Lands Team Member



PIPELINE UPDATE

Line 5

Twelve miles of the Enbridge pipeline cut through the Bad River Reservation in Northern Wisconsin. The risks of an oil spill have increased in recent years due to the receding shoreline of the Bad River. Today, the Line 5 pipeline is at risk of being exposed to the river's current and various debris, which could result in a devastating oil spill. Additionally, parts of the pipeline are exposed and other parts have been found to be unsupported (the ground underneath has eroded away). Because of this, the Bad River Band demonstrated Enbridge cannot operate safely within their Reservation. Enbridge is looking to create a U-shaped reroute path south of the reservation of the Bad River and Lake Superior, despite calls by the Bad River Band and others to remove the pipeline from the watershed.

Pipelines are built to last around 50 years, and the Line 5 pipeline was built in 1953, making it more than 60 years old. The wear and tear of too many years shows in the pipeline. Additionally, the environment surrounding it has changed over time as the twists in the riverbed have shifted. Line 5 has been deteriorating and poses a risk to the land and waterways surrounding it, from farm and tribal lands to important sources of freshwater. Line 5 has had at least 29 spills and has leaked more than one million gallons of oil and gas liquids since the late '60s.

Now Enbridge is moving forward with its plan to reroute the pipeline through Ashland and Iron Counties in northern Wisconsin. People across Wisconsin have made it clear that the pipeline needs to be decommissioned. In addition to the concerns in Ashland, the leases have expired that run through the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest and its path under the Straits of Mackinac (where Lake Huron and Lake Superior meet), which jeopardizes the drinking water for thousands of people.

In order to reroute the pipeline, Enbridge will have to get permits from state and federal agencies, including the Public

Service Commission (PSC). This agency will determine whether or not the pipeline is in the public's interest. Any business that is allowed to transport oil and related products in Wisconsin must gain approval from the PSC. If the PSC deems Line 5 as within the public interest, Enbridge will be able to take private land from Wisconsinites in order to reroute the pipeline. In addition to approval from the PSC, Enbridge would need to gain permits from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The DNR will review the construction projects for the pipeline and decide whether or not to allow an environmental permit for Line 5.

There are several ways to get involved and stop the Line 5 pipeline before it can do permanent damage to the environment.

1. One of the best ways to speak out against the pipeline is to attend a PSC or DNR hearing. The departments will be holding hearings in order to determine if the pipeline is truly in the interest of the public. Community members will be able to attend the hearings and let them know that the pipeline will harm the public more than it will help.
2. Another easy way to get involved is by going to the Sierra Club's website (sierraclub.org/wisconsin) and signing the petition to stop the Enbridge pipeline. In addition, consider making a donation to support the fight against the pipeline.
3. To take a more active role, join the Tar Sands team which is fighting many Enbridge pipelines through Wisconsin and not just Line 5. Contact Elizabeth if you would like to get involved: elizabeth.ward@sierraclub.org.

The Line 5 pipeline is detrimental to the environment no matter where it is routed. Take action today to stop the pipeline from doing more damage to Wisconsin's environment.

McKenna Ross
Chapter Organizing Project Aide

NATIONAL SIERRA CLUB ELECTIONS

A Democratic Sierra Club Demands Grassroots Participation

The annual election for Sierra Club's Board of Directors is now underway.

Those eligible to vote in the national Sierra Club election will receive ballots in early March by mail (or digitally if you chose the electronic delivery option). This will include information on the candidates and where you can find additional information on Sierra Club's election website.

Your participation is *critical* for a strong Sierra Club.

The Sierra Club is a democratically structured organization at all levels. Sierra Club requires the regular flow of views on policy and priorities from its grassroots membership in order to function well. Yearly participation in elections at all Sierra Club levels is a major membership obligation.

Our grassroots structure is strengthened when participation is high and provides an opportunity for members from all walks of life to have a say in what the future of the Sierra Club looks like.

How can you learn about the candidates? Members frequently state that they don't know the candidates and find it difficult to vote without learning more.

Each candidate has provided a written statement about themselves and their views on the official election ballot. You can learn more by asking questions of your group and chapter leadership and other experienced members you know. You can also visit the Sierra Club's election website for additional information, including campaign videos from each candidate:

<https://www.sierraclub.org/board/election>

Voting Online is Quick and Easy!

Even if you receive your election materials in the mail, we encourage you to use the user-friendly Internet voting site to save time and postage. **If sending via ground mail, your ballots must be received no later than April 22, 2020 (Sierra Club Election Day).**

Celebrate Earth Day's 50th Anniversary with Team Sierra!



On April 22, we will celebrate Earth Day's 50th anniversary. And what better way to do so than by giving back to nature through Team Sierra? With Team Sierra, you can do what you love, celebrate Earth Day and raise funds for climate action and conservation.

It's easy. Plan an activity you love to do - biking, hiking, attending a climate strike or even use an upcoming celebration like your birthday or Earth Day - and start a Team Sierra fundraiser. The donations you raise will benefit the Sierra Club-John Muir Chapter and will be used right here in Wisconsin to protect our land, water and wildlife. Prizes will be awarded to fundraisers who raise at the \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$750 levels!

For Earth Day, we are recruiting a large team of people to fundraise together so we can amplify our impact! To get started, simply go to teamsierra.org/wisconsin and create your account. From there, follow the prompts to personalize your fundraising page. If you have any questions or are interested but want to learn more first, you can contact Cassie at cassandra.steiner@sierraclub.org.



Bill Moore, the 2019 recipient of the JJ and Pat Werner Award, with his family.

Nominate Volunteers Today

Each year the Sierra Club-John Muir Chapter recognizes outstanding volunteers for their contributions to our organization, our communities and our planet. We know there is amazing work being done across our state, and today we are asking you, our members, to help us identify these very special people.

We want to hear your stories about the volunteer work that you've witnessed in the past year by Sierra Club volunteers as well as community leaders and other organizations. Fill out the easy online form to nominate them today. Don't let these environmental champions go unnoticed. Here are the six award categories:

NEW ACTIVIST AWARD: Given to a person who has been a John Muir Chapter activist for less than two years and who is an enthusiastic participant in issues and the organization. This recipient possesses a willingness to leap into new roles and champion environmental issues.

WILDFLOWER AWARD: Given to Sierra Club leaders in the John Muir Chapter, including an individual who exemplifies all that is wonderful in the environment and the club, a mentor for new and existing activists, or an educator who promotes a positive image for the Club.

MERIT AWARD: Given to Sierra Club leaders in the John Muir Chapter. Recipient may be an issues champion who has effectively battled environmental challenges, a consistent leader in the environmental movement (i.e. organization leadership roles, organization builder), or one who actively carries the Sierra Club message to decision-makers and the concerned public.

LD ROCKWELL AWARD: Presented to an individual who has provided exceptional service to the John Muir Chapter political/electoral program.

GOOD CITIZEN AWARD: Given to organizations and individuals external to the club who are championing innovative programs or processes that protect the environment.

TORCHBEARER AWARD: Given to organizations and individuals external to the club, such as decision-makers who consistently promote legislation, regulations or practices that protect the environment.

JJ & PAT WERNER AWARD: The chapter's highest honor, given to Sierra Club leaders in the John Muir Chapter who have shown an undying commitment to its goals and missions throughout the years.

The nomination form can be found at sierraclub.org/wisconsin/awards. The final deadline for nominations is August 1. Winners will be acknowledged at our annual Volunteer Appreciation & Awards Party in fall. Contact Awards Chair Lacinda Athen with questions: lacinda.athen@gmail.com.

Election Season is here!

The rest of 2020 is going to be pretty intense. In the fall we have “the climate election of our lifetimes,” according to the national Sierra Club’s Executive Director Michael Brune, when we work to elect a president that will take bold action to address climate change. Here in Wisconsin, we have an opportunity to replace state senators and representatives who support the fossil fuel industry with elected officials who will put our clean air and water first. Before the fall, there are spring elections, including a race for Wisconsin’s Supreme Court and a special election to replace former Representative Sean Duffy in northwestern Wisconsin. Anticipate a lot of work, but important work. Election results can have some of the biggest impacts on the environment. If you would like to get involved in our electoral work, contact Elizabeth at elizabeth.ward@sierraclub.org.

Join a Support Team!

Looking for a way to get involved and contribute but have a difficult schedule? Do you only like working from your couch at 2:00 a.m. or when you have free time in the middle of the day? Don’t mind working at a computer? Join one of our new support teams! Each team gets sporadic assignments when our campaign teams need support, and you will be able to plug into this work remotely, whenever you are able to do so. We have seven teams, each with its own task focus: Phone Banking, Digital Communications (social media), Writing & Research, Photography, Texting, Graphic Design, and Data Entry. Interested and want to join? Email kathryn.hogan@sierraclub.org.

Seeking Muir View Coordinator

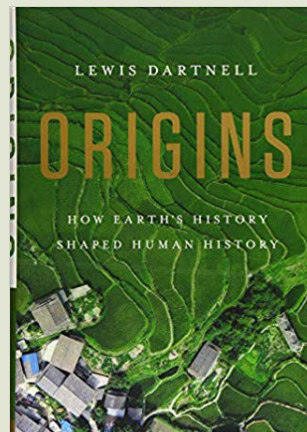
Do you love organizing files, meeting deadlines and copy editing articles? We are seeking a Muir View newsletter coordinator. This newsletter coordinator will work with staff to assign articles, send deadline reminders to article authors, and organize files for editing ease! Email cassandra.steiner@sierraclub.org.

GREEN REVIEW

ORIGINS: HOW EARTH’S HISTORY SHAPED HUMAN HISTORY

BY LEWIS DARTNELL, BASIC BOOKS, NY, 2019, 287 PAGES.

Even if you are only a little bit of a science geek, start rubbing your palms together in anticipatory glee. A historian, biologist, geographer, oceanographer, cosmologist, geneticist, geologist, paleontologist, and professor of science communication have taken form in one man: Lewis Dartnell. Technically he is an astrobiologist, an interdisciplinary scientist, and a professor of science communication at the University of Westminster.



Origins answers hundreds of questions, most of which you wonder why you never asked. While full of facts, the chapters are organized around stories of the Earth and its people. With astounding lucidity, Dartnell takes the reader on a journey that begins before time itself. Where did the constituents that make up the human body originate? A peek at part of the answer -- they came from the nuclear fusion of stars. How does human development differ when land masses are latitudinal (Eurasia) versus longitudinal (the Americas)? Another peek -- climate zones across latitudes tend to be more similar, therefore, agriculture and husbandry advances are easier to share. Why does India have monsoons? Dartnell will call to mind an ocean breeze at sunset to offer you a visceral analogy to understand what could be, for a typical science writer, a complicated explanation. Anyone who loves the Earth is bound to love her more, and certainly will understand the complexity of the planet, its life, and its culture after reading *Origins*. Readers will even see connections between Earth’s resources and voting patterns. This book offers dense, but not difficult, reading. The index makes information useful for later reference.

As we work to keep our planet habitable for humans, it’s in our best interest to understand the Earth better. After all, we are physically a part of the Earth, just as much as any rock, any mountain, or any ocean. We can’t fight nature without destroying ourselves. Dartnell helps us to be smarter stewards by steeping us in a rich interdisciplinary understanding of our home and our people. It’s good, really good.

Amy Lou Jenkins’ BSN MFA latest book is *Corners: Voices on Change*. If you would like to send a book for review, contact her through JackWalkerPress.com.

Celebrate Earth Day with

The **Southeast Gateway Group** will be planting small trees and shrubs in the Colonial Park floodplain, an area that lost 40 percent of its canopy to the emerald ash borer, on April 18 and April 25 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. In cooperation with the City of Racine Parks and Forestry, we've been planting larger trees to rebuild the canopy in the fall, and the smaller shrubs to rebuild food sources and shelter for the wildlife. Meet at the Root River Steelhead Facility (navigate to 2200 Domanik Drive) at 9:00 a.m. Dress for the weather; we'll work in mist, but not rain. Bring your own water; porta-potty available. Contact melissa.warner3@a2q.com

The **Fox Valley Group** is hosting a walk on April 18 for the community to begin Earth Day week. This is our sixth year organizing hikes and walks along the Fox River. The event gives people the opportunity to participate in a fun organized Earth Day event, experiencing nature in our urban setting. Last year more than 700 people participated.

Our free walk takes place on the 3.5-mile Loop the Lake Trail on the southern portion of Little Lake Butte des Morts. It is a stroller-friendly trail utilizing a former railroad trestle and two pedestrian bridges that were recently constructed to create the trail. The trail passes through three cities (Neenah, Menasha and Fox Crossing) and a half-dozen parks.

Other organizations will participate with us at Fritse Park, midway along the walk, with information tables. We will provide snacks. This is the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, so some emphasis will be placed on celebrating it. Information can be found on our website, or at this link. <https://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/fox-valley/EarthDayWalk>

The **Chippewa Valley Group** will be hosting the Gaylord Nelson Earth Green Award Event on Monday, April 20 at 5:30 p.m. in the First Congregational UCC Community Room, 310 Broadway Street, Eau Claire. It will include a reception with wine, appetizers, and a program to honor Dave Carlson, nature and outdoors writer and TV broadcaster.



th Your Local Sierra Club



The **Coulee Region Group** will be tabling at the La Crosse Earth Fair on Sunday, April 26 at Myrick Park. This free event runs from 11:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m. and includes hands-on activities, environmental education, green vendors, a farmer's market including craft vendors and local artisans, live music, food, door prizes, and much more. For more information, visit <http://earthfairlacrosse.com/>. We will also be conducting our spring roadside clean-up of River Valley Drive on Saturday April 25 at 9:00 a.m.

The **Great Waters Group** will be celebrating Earth Day with two events on April 18.

As in recent years, volunteers will be picking up debris along an otherwise beautiful stretch of Lincoln Creek on Milwaukee's north side, an area the Group adopted through Milwaukee Riverkeeper. The workday will be part of its annual Spring River Cleanup. The cleanup will be from 9 a.m. to noon and participants can meet at the Bee Bus sign at 35th and Congress. More details and sign-up information can be found on the events calendar of our website: <https://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/great-waters>.

A few miles south of the Lincoln Creek workday, the Great Waters Group is partnering with the Washington Park branch of the Urban Ecology Center for their annual spring workday. As in past years, groups will spread through the park from 9 a.m. to noon to participate in a huge number of stewardship activities, from seed cleaning to infrastructure maintenance to trash cleanup. A community lunch will be served following the service activities. We are also highlighting camping and outdoor skills during the noon lunch hour, with camping demonstrations being held from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. GWG will provide camping and outdoor recreation expertise. More information can be found on the events calendar of our website: <https://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/great-waters>.

The **Four Lakes Group** will be participating in national Get On Board Day on April 16, in addition to partnering on Climate Strikes in Madison on April 22 - 24. For more information, visit <https://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/four-lakes>.

2020 Paddling Trips and Instructional Clinics

<https://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/river-touring-section>

Interested in paddling some wild and beautiful waterways with other experienced paddlers? The John Muir Chapter's River Touring Section (RTS) has just what you're looking for. RTS leads trips and instructional clinics on whitewater and quietwater open to Sierra Club members and the general public. Join us to perfect your skills, explore new waterways, meet other paddlers, learn from skilled volunteer leaders and have fun on the water. We offer trips and instruction suitable for families and individuals of varying ability. Pre-registration and the signing of a liability waiver is required. Trips are free, unless otherwise indicated. Paddlers provide their own boats, food and gear. Visit our website for the most complete and updated trip and clinic lists and other paddling links and information (see above).

INSTRUCTIONAL CLINICS

RTS offers instructional clinics for a nominal fee, taught by skilled volunteer instructors. Clinic sizes are limited, so reserve your spot early. Fees are due in advance and are non-refundable unless the clinic is cancelled. Whitewater clinics are for experienced river paddlers who want to learn or improve their whitewater paddling and safety skills. Additional canoe and kayak clinics are offered for those new to paddling or interested in improving their river paddling skills. **Wilderness First Aid Clinics** are typically offered in the early spring; this year's clinic was held in February.

QUIETWATER CANOE CLINIC (Solo and Tandem)

TBD: Held on lake near Madison

Clinic Fee: \$20 per person. This clinic is designed to prepare paddlers for easier and more enjoyable quietwater paddling. Topics include: safety issues, paddling dynamics, extensive practice of important paddling strokes, canoe rescue, and paddling as a team. Participants should bring their own canoe, paddle, lifejacket, lunch, and drinking water. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Carl Zimm: 608-246-0485, beampowered-tetode@yahoo.com.

MOVING WATER CANOE CLINIC (Solo and Tandem)

May 30: River near Madison Class I; Day Trip

Clinic Fee: \$20/person. Designed for paddlers already competent on lakes but new to river paddling. We'll review the basic strokes—draws, pry's, sweeps, forward, back and J. We'll discuss safety, reading water, and maneuvers; ferries, side slips, and eddy turns. Then we'll practice these skills as we canoe down river. Must provide own canoe and gear, including suitable PFD.

Registration Contact/Leader: Carl Zimm: 608-246-0485, beampowered-tetode@yahoo.com.

WHITewater CANOE CLINIC (Solo and Tandem)

June 6-7: Wolf R. Class II; Car Camp

Clinic Fee: \$40 per person plus camping fees. Basic whitewater paddling skills taught to paddlers who have already mastered basic moving water paddling skills. Emphasis on river reading, safety skills & equipment, review of paddling strokes, and practice eddying, ferrying and surfing. Participants must provide their own gear and properly equipped boats (including airbags) suitable for whitewater. Group campsite B at

Bear Paw Outdoor Adventure Resort (near White Lake/ Langlade WI) is reserved for Friday and Saturday nights, or you can make your own lodging arrangements. Bring a dish to pass for the Saturday night potluck. **Registration Contact:** Rich Krieg: 920-660-3557, richkrieg@new.rr.com.

WHITewater KAYAK CLINIC

June 6-7: Wolf R. Class II; Car Camp

Clinic Fee: \$40 per person plus camping fees. Basic whitewater paddling skills taught to paddlers who have already mastered kayaking on moving water. Emphasis on river reading, safety skills & equipment, perfecting paddling strokes and practice eddying, ferrying and surfing. Kayaks should be rated for Class II whitewater and have pillars reinforcing the deck. Students require a suitable helmet, PFD, neoprene spray-skirt, paddle, air bags, water bottle, dry bag for clothes-lunch-incidentals, and appropriate paddling clothes for immersion. Group campsite B at Bear Paw Outdoor Adventure Resort is reserved for Fri. and Sat. nights, or you can make your own lodging arrangements. Peshtigo River Outdoor Learning Center at Bear Paw rents some kayaks and paddling gear. Bring a dish to pass for the Saturday-night potluck. We'll have multiple instructors and safety boaters. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Mari Gasiorowicz: 608-512-7394, mgasiorowicz@gmail.com. Other leaders: Bruce Nelson, Dave Hiller, Jodi Darst and Dan York. Sign up early; this clinic often fills up.

MOVING WATER KAYAK CLINICS

Class Q-I Day Trip(s)

Clinic Fee: \$20 per person/day. One-day clinic offered on various rivers and dates. Locations subject to water levels. 5 person max/clinic. River reading, basic strokes and boat maneuvering will be taught for kayakers who are already competent paddling on lakes. Safety and equipment will be covered as needed. Kayak, neoprene spray skirt, and properly fitting PFD required. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Kasy Culbertson: 608-222-0746 (preferred) or kasy99@gmail.com.

June 25, June 26: Waupaca R.

June 24, June 27: Bark R.

July 1: White R, Lake Geneva

July 3*, July 8*: Yahara R or Sugar R.

(*scholarships available)

RIVER SAFETY AND RESCUE CLINIC

Aug 15-16: Wolf and nearby rivers. Class II; Car Camp

Clinic Fee: \$40 per person plus camping fees.

LIMIT: 10. Learn river safety and beginning rescue techniques for boats and swimmers through active instruction and practice; including use of ropes, river swimming/crossing, strainers, and managing rescue scenarios. Become familiar with self-rescue. Requires paddling, swimming and moderate physical activity. Especially recommended to all who might lead paddling trips, including experienced leaders wishing to retrain. Provide own properly outfitted whitewater boat and gear. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Justin Schmitz: 920-740-8791, justin.schmitz@westernalum.org. Co-leader: Mari Gasiorowicz.

WHITewater CLINIC II - Kayak and Solo Canoe/C1

Aug 29: Marge Kline Whitewater Park, Yorkville, IL. Class II; Day Trip

Clinic Fee: \$20 per person. Refine and improve your whitewater skills. This clinic will stress eddy turns, peel outs, ferries, and river reading. The whitewater park has numerous eddies and places to practice the above skills and is suited for instruction at a wide range of water levels. You will have a chance to repeat all or sections of the whitewater course, enabling you to hone your skills. The skills and techniques you develop in this clinic will allow you to paddle whitewater rivers with greater competence and confidence. **Registration Contacts:** John and Mary Koeppel: 608-298-7593, koeppelm@gmail.com. Instructors: John and Mary Koeppel, Dan York, Mari Gasiorowicz, Jim Tibensky.

Pre-requisite: This clinic is open to 1) paddlers who completed the RTS Wolf R. Whitewater Clinic and have also gone on one or two Sierra Club RTS whitewater trips and 2) to paddlers who have had whitewater instruction in previous years and are looking to improve their skills.

SEA KAYAK TOURING SKILLS CLINIC

Date/Location TBD
Sea kayak touring on rivers, lakes, Great Lakes, and oceans can be exceptionally fun with good equipment and solid skills. The goal of this clinic will be to improve paddling efficiency and to enhance safety skills for beginner and intermediate paddlers. If you are interested, please email directly for more information. Specific venue and schedule to be determined based on interest. **Contact/Leader:** Michael Hammer: mjhammer1@gmail.com.

PADDLING TRIPS

Visit: <http://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/river-touring-section/trips> for additional trip listings.

March 21: 4-6 pm Baraboo Indoor Pool-Kayaking for Kids/Families. Join us on this special day for kids to bring their families AND their kayaks to the pool to play. Meet other families that love to boat. There will be some extra kid-sized boats to share. Everyone MUST pre-register as group size is limited to 25. Pool fees of \$5/person plus \$10/boat can be paid at the door. Email: scpoolsessions@gmail.com for additional details and to pre-register.

April 11-12: Mid-WI Exploratory Class II-III; Car Camp (or motel). Rivers to be determined by water levels. This trip is recommended for skilled whitewater boaters with good self-rescue skills. Wetsuit or dry suit required. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Dave Hiller: 608-444-8695, dave@davehiller.com.

April 13 (Monday): Montreal River Class II-III; Day Trip. Terrific whitewater play run in spectacular canyon scenery. Recommended for skilled whitewater boaters with good self-rescue skills, including combat roll. Wetsuit or dry suit required. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Jeff Ford: 608-767-3875, csbakery@tds.net.

April 25-26: WI Whitewater Exploratory Class II-III; Car Camp. Rivers to be determined by water levels. Recommended for skilled whitewater boaters with good self-rescue skills. Wetsuit or dry suit required. **Registration Contact/Leader:** David Skriba: 920-210-9400, screbs2017@outlook.com.

May 2-3: Pine R. Class I-II; Boat Camp. Join us on our 44th annual Pine River trip. We will discuss the DNR's recently updated master plan for the Pine/Popple Wild Rivers properties. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Gregg Riemer: 608-216-5803, dunord@sbcglobal.net. Co-leader: Kevin Olson: 608-963-2678, olsonfam44@centurytel.net.



March 22-23: Suwanee R. (Florida) Class 1; Boat Camp on platform along river. LIMIT 8. Near White Springs, Fla. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Kasy Culbertson: 608-222-0746 (preferred), or kasy99@gmail.com.

April 4-5: Robinson and Morrison Creeks Class II; Car Camp. Runnable when the water is up in the spring, these small, scenic creeks are a lot of fun. The two drops on the Robinson can be portaged. Wet or dry suit required. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Bruce Nelson: 608-609-9978, b1nelson@att.net.

April 18: Bark River Class I; Day Trip. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Kasy Culbertson: 608-222-0746 (preferred), or kasy99@gmail.com.

April 18-19: NE WI Whitewater Class II-III; Car Camp. Rivers to be determined by water levels. This trip is recommended for skilled whitewater boaters with good self-rescue skills. Wetsuit or dry suit required. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Jim Johnson: 608-444-3440, reachjimjohnson@gmail.com. Co-leader: David Skriba

May 3-5: Pine R. extension Class II; Boat Camp with portages. Continue downstream from our traditional Pine River trip. Options to continue 1 or 2 days. See Meyers Falls, LaSalle Falls and Breakwater Falls. We will discuss the history and future of the Pine River Dam. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Gregg Riemer: 608-216-5803, dunord@sbcglobal.net.

May 9: Horicon Marsh; Class Q; Day Trip. Tandem canoes and sea kayaks are welcome on this scenic trip through a state/national wildlife refuge that is the largest freshwater cattail marsh

in the U.S. Look for nesting eagles, pelicans, trumpeter swans and other migrating birds. Bring binoculars and water-proof cameras. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Michael Hammer: mjhammer1@gmail.com.

May 9-10: Pike and Wolf R. Class II+ Car Camp. Enjoy a Spring run down two of our favorite wild and scenic rivers. Paddlers should have experience on Class II rivers and have practiced eddy turns, ferries, and self-rescue. A great trip to sharpen these and other skills, including surfing. Wetsuit or dry suit required. Bear Paw Group Site camping available. Co-Leaders: Jodi Darst and Justin Schmitz. **Registration contact:** Jodi Darst: 608-212-4536, jodidarst@yahoo.com.

May 11 (Monday): Wolf R. Sections 3 & 4 Class III-IV; Day Trip. Start at Herb's Landing on section 3 and take out at Big Smokey on section 4. This 16-mile marathon will include all of the most challenging rapids on the Wolf. The portion through the Menominee Indian Reservation requires permits (\$35) and is limited to skilled whitewater boaters with good stamina and self-rescue skills, including a combat roll. Wetsuit or dry suit required. Final trip details subject to water levels. Group campsite B has been reserved at the Bear Paw Outdoor Adventure Center for Sun. night. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Jeff Ford: 608-767-3875, csbakery@tds.net.

May 15-20 Boundary Waters Canoe Area Class Q; Canoe Camp. Experience the BWCA in the Spring, it could be cold, it could be wet, but it could also be warm and sunny - with no crowds! Trip includes paddling and portaging. Well behaved dogs allowed if approved by trip leader. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Katy Golden: 414-378-1053, katyrenny@yahoo.com.

May 16: Baraboo R. Class I; Day Trip. Giese Park through Baraboo to Circus World parking lot. This section used to be blocked by 3 dams, now removed; allowing boaters and wildlife to return. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Carl Zimm: beampowered-tetode@yahoo.com, 608-246-

0485.

May 23-25: Bois Brule R. Class I-II; Car Camp. Paddle 3 distinctly different looking, but beautiful sections of this northern river, ending up in Lake Superior. Campsites available at Brule R. State Campground; some reservable online; others first-come, first-served. Please plan ahead and be prepared to share a site. **Registration Contact/Leaders:** Kevin and Carol Olson; 608-356-8992, olsonfam44@centurytel.net. Co-leaders: Pat and Bobbie Wilson.

May 30-31: Root R. Minnesota Class I; Car Camp. Paddle the Root River in unglaciated SE Minnesota. This is a fragile karst region where sinkholes exist in farm fields among a maze of cave tunnels that provide spring water to the river. Camping is free. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Sue O'Brien: 507-858-5290, sueob1@gmail.com. Co-leader: Carol Brewton.

June 6-7: Wolf R. Sections II and III Class II+ Car Camp. Trip is concurrent with RTS whitewater clinics. Camping available with clinic participants at Bear Paw. Sat. night potluck. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Kevin Olson: 608-356-8992, olsonfam44@centurytel.net.

June 10 (Wed): Black Earth Creek Class I+ Day Trip. Come paddle quaint Black Earth Creek near Mazomanie. This narrow river features occasional small waves as it winds through beautiful pasture and farmland. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Byron Barksdale: 720-224-3457, bbarks20@gmail.com. Co-leader: Sandra Newbury.

June 13: Little Wolf R. Class I-II; Day Trip. Short run from DNR landing on Wolf River Road to J Bridge. May run twice. Whitewater helmet, PFD, flotation required. Bring a mesh bag for trash pick-up while on the river. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Linda Nicholson: 608-843-1197. Co-leader: David Skriba.

June 20-21: Mekan R. Class I; Car Camp. Premium trout stream with crystal clear water. Can require precise maneuvering around narrow,

tight bends or deadfall. Will paddle sections above and below Germania Marsh. Sat. night potluck. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Kasy Culbertson: 608-222-0746 (preferred), or kasy99@gmail.com.

June 20-21: Pike and Wolf R. Class II+ Car Camp. Practice whitewater skills from the recent clinics before they get rusty – or just come to enjoy these wild, scenic rivers. Pike R. on Sat; Section 2 of Wolf R. on Sun. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Bruce Nelson: 608-609-9978, b1bnelson@att.net. Co-leader: Phillip Johnsrud.

June (26) 27-28: Wolf and nearby rivers Class II-II+ For women and non-binary paddlers; Car Camp at Bear Paw. Have fun and build skills, confidence and sense of community. Sat. evening potluck and music around the campfire. Fri. afternoon (optional): review skills, wet exits and strokes on a nearby lake or run the Red R. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Jodi Darst: jodidarst@yahoo.com, 608-212-4536. Co-leader: Mari Gasiorowicz.

July 18-19: Bark/Crawfish R. Class I+ Car Camp. Registration Contact/Leader: Kasy Culbertson: 608-222-0746 (preferred) or kasy99@gmail.com.

July 20 to Aug. ?? Montana Whitewater Class II-III; Car Camp. Join experienced paddlers on classic whitewater rivers in Montana, starting with the N. Fork Flathead. Must feel comfortable on rivers such as Wolf R. section 3. Opportunities to play, practice skills and hike. Join us for all or part of this trip. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Phillip Johnsrud: 715-572-9884, johnrudp@tds.net.

Aug. 8-9: Black River Family Trip Moving Water; Boat Camp. This kid-focused trip is offered to encourage young families, adults with kids, and the young-at-heart to join us on the water. We'll stop to play and explore, hike up a hidden waterfall, cook-out and sleep in tents on a sandbar. If water levels are too low, we'll switch to the WI R. **Registration Contact/Leaders:** Renee and Eric Bend: 801-245-9933/ 801-245-9833 or renee.bend@preventiongenetics.com. Co-leaders: Carol & Kevin Olson, Bobbie & Pat Wilson.

International Scale of River Rating Difficulty

Temperatures below 50° F typically increase a rating to the next higher level.

Class I: Moving water with few riffles and small waves. Few or no obstructions.

Class II: Easy rapids with waves up to 3 ft. and wide clear channels that are obvious

Class III: Rapids with high, irregular waves often capable of swamping an open canoe. Narrow passages that can require complex maneuvering. May require some scouting from shore.

Class IV: Long, difficult rapids and constricted passages that often require precise maneuvering in very turbulent waters. Scout from shore often necessary and conditions make rescue difficult. Canoeists and kayakers should have the ability to roll/self-rescue.

Classes V and VI: RTS does not offer trips at these levels.

August 15: Kids on the Red R. Class I-II +portages; Day Trip with camping options. For kids accompanied by adult(s). Teaching on easier rapids. Carefully managed river running. Opportunities to swim. Designed to be fun for kids. Approval by trip leader required. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Paul Janda: 608-622-9534, pauljanda@mail.com.

Aug. 21-23: Namekagon R. Class I; Car Camp. Join us for 3 days on the middle and lower sections of this river. It is designated as part of the 200-mile St. Croix National Wild & Scenic Riverway. Paddlers with canoes and rec. kayaks 10' and longer are welcome. Free camping. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Sue O'Brien: 507-858-5290, sueob1@gmail.com. Co-leader: Carol Brewton.

Aug. 29-30: Flambeau R. Class II; Canoe Camp. Refresh your soul on the north fork of this scenic river in NC WI. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Rich Krieg: 920-660-3557, richkrieg@new.r.com.

Sept 12: Wolf R. Class II; Wolfman Safety Boat Volunteers Car Camp (free) at Scout Camp or Phil's place. Practice rescue skills early Sat. morning as a volunteer safety boater for the Wolfman Triathlon (short section 2). Good opportunity to support the local paddling community. **Registration Contact/Leaders:** Kevin Olson: 608-356-8992, olsonfam44@centurytel.net and Phillip Johnsrud: 715-572-9884, johnsrudp@tds.net.

Sept. 12-13: Wolf R. Sections 3 & 4 Class III; Car Camp. Paddle Wolf R. section 3 after Wolfman on Saturday; section 4 on Sunday. Permits needed to paddle through Menominee Reservation (\$35). **Registration Contact/Leader:** Kevin Olson: 608-356-8992, olsonfam44@centurytel.net.

centurytel.net; Justin Schmitz: 920-740-8791, justin.schmitz@westernlum.org and Dave Hiller: 608-444-8695, dave@davehiller.com.

Sept. 18 (Fri): Deerskin R. & Blackjack Creek. Moving Water; Day Trip. Join us as we paddle the crystal-clear waters of these small streams.



Portaging of beaver dams may be required on Blackjack Creek. Learn how a local land trust has protected land along the Deerskin. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Gregg Riemer: 608-216-5803, dunord@sbcglobal.net.

Sept. 19-20: Middle Branch of the Ontonagon R. (Michigan) Class I-II; Car Camp. Saturday we will paddle from Watersmeet to Burned Dam Campground. Sunday we will paddle from Burned Dam Campground to Bond Falls. Learn how the Middle Branch has been diverted downstream of Bond Falls for power generation. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Gregg Riemer: 608-216-5803, dunord@sbcglobal.net.

Sept. 26-27: Pike and Red R. Class II+ Car Camp. Enjoy the fall colors on these classic

whitewater rivers. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Kasy Culbertson: 608-222-0746 (preferred), or kasy99@gmail.com.

Oct. 31-Nov. 1: Wolf R. Class II+ Car Camp. Annual Halloween trip. We'll paddle section 3 of this scenic river on Sat. and section 2 on Sun. Wet suit or dry suit required. Indoor potluck dinner on Sat. night. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Phillip Johnsrud: 715-572-9884, johnsrudp@tds.net.

RTS Annual Meeting: Jan. 9, 2021. 11 AM to -3 PM. Location: First United Methodist Church, 615 Broadway St., Baraboo, WI. Potluck at noon, business mtg, 2021 trip list formation and slideshow/videos of 2020 trips. Bring dish to pass and table service. Pre-registration NOT required. For details, contact: Carol Olson: 608-356-8992, olsonfam44@centurytel.net.

Feb 6-17, 2021: Florida Rivers Class 1+ Car Camp. Take a break from winter and enjoy the unique flora and fauna of Florida's rivers. Occasional small rapids, deadfall hazards and upriver paddling. Space limited and advance campground reservations required, so inquire early. Well behaved dogs allowed if approved by trip leader. **Registration Contact/Leader:** Katy Golden: 414-378-1053, katyrenny@yahoo.com. Questions/Comments? Please visit our website or contact Carol Olson, RTS Chair: 608-356-8992, olsonfam44@centurytel.net.

CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

General Trip & Clinic Participant Requirements (see RTS website for details).

Preregistration is required for all trips and clinics. Contact the person listed for each trip/clinic to obtain details, determine if you have the abilities and equipment needed for the trip, and to register.

Participants are responsible for providing their own boats and gear, whether owned, borrowed or rented. Boats and gear must be appropriate for the type of trip planned. This includes a properly fitted PFD (life-jacket) on all trips and a helmet, flotation (and spray skirt for kayaks) on whitewater trips. Food, lodging and transportation are also typically the participant's responsibility, although we can help identify people who need rides and who have space in their cars.

All participants are required to sign a liability waiver prior to the trip or clinic and to abide by decisions made by the trip leaders. Parents/guardians must sign for anyone under age 18.

Glass containers and alcoholic beverages are not allowed on the water. Non-paddlers are not allowed on the water without permission of the trip leader. Pets are not allowed unless the trip description/leader specifies otherwise.

We have had the power all along

This article was adapted from a blog by Diane Cain, Sierra Club member and Conservation Congress delegate. The full article, "Opinion: We have had the power all along," is available at sierraclub.org/wisconsin/muir-musings-our-blog

Aldo Leopold, among other conservationists, had a unique vision for protecting the natural resources and wildlife of Wisconsin. In the wake of the unprecedented decimation of bison, elk, turkeys, beaver, cougar, fisher, wolverine, marten, passenger pigeons and wolves in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the citizen group known as the Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) was formed. The WCC is a citizen-elected advisory board, which makes Wisconsin the only state to fund the election of delegates who represent a cross-section of outdoor enthusiasts. The purpose of the WCC is to represent the views of Wisconsin citizens to the state's Natural Resources Board (NRB).

The WCC is attended by a range of people: hunters, trappers, wildlife watchers, hikers, environmentalists. It presents an opportunity for anyone to give direct input in natural resource management. In 2019, 3,402 individuals attended the WCC Spring hearings in person. Many participants chose to engage with the WCC using an online

voting option, which 7,310 people used to vote on spring 2019 Conservation Congress resolutions. While voting online is an option, one must attend the meetings in person to vie for a position as a delegate and/or to present a resolution.

I would like to call attention to the upcoming WCC Spring hearings to encourage attendance, to seek a position as a delegate and/or to consider presenting a resolution. The meetings are held in every county in Wisconsin the second Monday in April of every year. We've seen the Conservation Congress support resolutions that opposed the Penokee Mine in northern Wisconsin and the Line 61 pipeline, some of our top priorities. Historically, some of the more controversial resolutions presented have been about hunting the feral cat, mute swan, mourning dove, sandhill crane, wolf and albino deer.

Attending the Conservation Congress hearings presents an opportunity to make a real difference. In April 2019, I presented a resolution banning chocolate in bear bait to the Jackson County Conservation Congress who voted in favor of the resolution. The chocolate

ban resolution was then forwarded to the WCC Bear Committee and to the floor of the Conservation Congress. While the resolution was rejected there, the conversation moved forward because of my action at the WCC hearing.

It is important to attend your WCC meeting on April 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in your county of residence. Please refer to: <https://dnr.wi.gov/About/WCC/springhearing.html> for information on meeting locations, resolution instructions and how to become a delegate to the WCC.

"We have had the power all along."

We must look within ourselves, be willing to step outside of our comfort zone and to shake off apathy for the greater good. Our presence as grassroots environmental advocates must be felt and heard to facilitate a change in the status quo.

Continued on page 15

CONSERVATION CONGRESS

Seeking Executive Committee Candidates

The John Muir Chapter is seeking dedicated Sierra Club members who would like to join other passionate volunteers in working toward the general and operational health of the chapter. Do you have skills in budgeting, project management, strategic planning or fundraising? Or do you have an interest and willingness to learn skills in those areas? Do you like looking at the big picture and then rolling up your sleeves and pitching in to do the work? Have you been looking for a way to put your talents to work in a way that serves your values, purpose and passion? Then consider running for a seat on the Chapter Executive Committee.

Three at-large seats will be filled in the 2020 fall election.

Those elected will serve three-year terms starting in January 2021 and ending in December 2023. Members from across the state are encouraged to apply. Meetings are held approximately six times per year and are scheduled for weekends and evenings to accommodate work/school schedules. Mileage reimbursement is available for travel to in-person meetings, and most meetings also offer a call-in option. The deadline for completed applications is August 1, 2020. A full description of Executive Committee member expectations is available as well as a short application form. Please contact Linda Frank at Linda@frankenwironmental.com to learn more about the opportunity to serve.

QUESTIONNAIRE

This year, there are a number of issues that will be of interest to Sierra Club members. To help you in the voting process, we have included a list of official positions that the Sierra Club has taken. We recommend tearing out this page of the Muir View and taking it with you to the Conservation Congress spring hearing.

- **QUESTIONS 1-7:** The first seven questions are about requiring non-toxic shot. Vote **YES** on all of these questions. Non-toxic shot prevents lead from building up in animals and our environment.
- **QUESTION 19:** Do you support legislation that would return authority to the DNR to utilize Earn-A-Buck as a herd management tool in overpopulated counties? **YES** Earn-a-buck is an important program for controlling deer size and reducing the spread of disease
- **QUESTION 20:** If greater flexibility is returned to the DNR, do you support allowing CDACs the ability to make recommendations regarding using Earn-A Buck in their respective counties? **YES** Earn-a-buck is an important program for controlling deer herd size and reducing the spread of disease
- **QUESTION 28:** Would you support the Wisconsin Conservation Congress informing the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) that the proposed Back Forty Mine Project poses a significant threat to water quality in the Menominee River and Lake Michigan? **YES** The Back 40 mine would have detrimental impacts on Wisconsin's environment, and will affect the long term economic benefits of a clean Menominee River. It is apparent that Michigan rushed through the mine approval without fully considering evidence of its likely impacts.
- **QUESTION 55:** Would you favor the legislature creating an alternative funding source in addition to license fees? **YES**

We'll also be encouraging people to submit resolutions (questions) of their own about some of our more pressing issues. Watch our blog at sierraclub.org/wisconsin or contact elizabeth.ward@sierraclub.org to learn more.

Leaving a Legacy

Here's a tidbit we probably don't talk about enough. You can leave an environmental legacy by naming the John Muir Chapter in your will or trust. National Sierra Club has Gift Planning Officers who can help you every step of the way.

While your gift won't cost you anything today, you will receive some immediate benefits. By working with the Gift Planning Department to establish a legacy gift in your will, trust, or by beneficiary designation, you become eligible for recognition in Sierra Club's Rachel Carson Society. This particular giving society pays homage to Rachel Carson, who used the proceeds of her famous book, *Silent Spring*, to create an enduring legacy gift for Sierra Club. Her bequest remains instrumental in ensuring that Sierra Club has the funds necessary to continue our mission.

To learn more, please call the Gift Planning Department at (800) 932-4270 or email gift.planning@sierraclub.org and tell them you'd like to support Wisconsin's John Muir Chapter.

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
Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax-deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts.





SIERRA CLUB

JOHN MUIR CHAPTER

754 Williamson Street

Madison, WI 53703

Our newsletter is printed on recycled paper

CALENDAR

APRIL 7

Nonpartisan Spring Elections and Presidential Preference Primary
myvote.wi.gov

APRIL 13

Conservation Congress Spring Hearings
dnr.wi.gov/about/wcc

APRIL 22

Earth Day!
Visit page 8-9 of this edition of the Muir View for information about events near you.

APRIL 22

National Sierra Club Board Ballots Due
<http://www.sierraclub.org/board/election>

MAY 16

Hands Across the Sand
handsacrossthesand.org

JUNE 1

National Sierra Club Awards Nominations Due
www.sierraclub.org/awards

JUNE 1

National Trails Day and Free Weekend at Wisconsin State Parks

JUNE 26-28

MREA Energy Fair in Custer
www.theenergyfair.org

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Algunos artículos del Muir View están disponibles en español.

Se sitúan en la red:

sierraclub.org/wisconsin/muir-view-newsletter

Select articles from The Muir View are available in Spanish. They are found online:

sierraclub.org/wisconsin/muir-view-newsletter

AUGUST 1

Chapter Executive Committee Nominations/Applications Due
See page 14 for more information.

AUGUST 1

Chapter Award Nominations Due
See page 6 for more information.

AUGUST 11

Fall Partisan Primary
myvote.wi.gov

SEPTEMBER 7

Labor Day

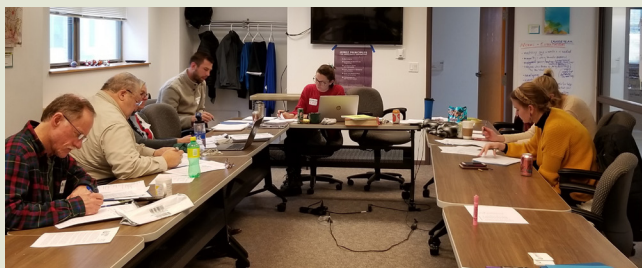
NOVEMBER 3

National Election Day

This Muir View was in production before the COVID-19 outbreak. Events and in-person meetings may be canceled, postponed or changed in structure to be accessible online. Please check sierraclub.org/wisconsin or email cassandra.steiner@sierraclub.org with any questions.



OUR MEMBERS IN ACTION



In mid-January, volunteers from three of our conservation issue teams came together to build robust plans for winning environmental victories in 2020, meet new team members, and learn about campaign planning. With volunteers from our Protecting Clean Water, Protecting Public Lands, and Clean and Equitable Transportation teams all in attendance, we got right down to work! Between 35 of us over the course of the weekend, we emerged with stronger bonds and strong, actionable plans for how to create a livable Wisconsin for future generations. Want to join us? Email kathryn.hogan@sierraclub.org to learn more.

VOLUNTEER NIGHTS

Visit sierraclub.org/wisconsin for more information

- **Milwaukee** - April 2
- **Madison** - April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9
- **Kenosha** - April 9, June 11, August 13
- **Racine** - May 14, July 9, September 10