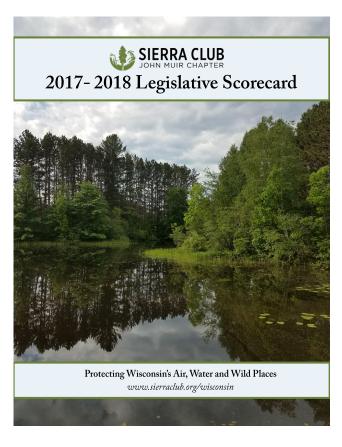
NEWS OF THE SIERRA CLUB IN WISCONSIN | JOHN MUIR CHAPTER

2017-18 Legislative Session Summary and Scorecard



If you are looking for additional motivation to vote this year, look no further than the results from the 2017-18 Wisconsin Legislature. Continuing the trend of the last few years we saw attacks and roll backs on basic environmental protections, loss of local control and changes to governmental procedure that will make it more difficult for state government to protect its citizens from environmental harm. One of the very troubling trends we've seen is a shortsighted response to a complaint from a single person, local government action or court decision. We've seen wide-reaching bills that are meant to address a single concern that fundamentally change the role of local government, modify broad environmental regulations and reduce or completely eliminate certain protections.

WATER: Protection of water quality and water quantity was hit particularly hard in this session. The four most notable examples relate to high capacity wells, wetlands, navigability and dredging.

AIR: There were several bills related to air quality that were not only attacks on standards that protect human health but also attacks on using science to make policy. One passed. The new law seeks to remove the ozone air quality monitoring station in Kohler-Andrae State Park. This means that families will not have vital information they need to protect themselves.

LAND: The mining law passed to benefit Aquila Resources and other potential miners overturned our "Prove It First" requirement

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From the Chair

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Exercise Your Rights



HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES



NEW JOBS



A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

"Without caring, there is no democracy," were linguist George Lakoff's closing words in a PBS interview with Tavis Smiley.

Lakoff's statement suggests that for democracy to function, it's not our beliefs or ideology that are critical, but the emotional links that bind us as human beings. It's the heartfelt connections we forge with each other that are vital to successfully achieving our democratic goals.

By that measure, our democracy is not currently functioning well, with money and politics often taking precedence over the well-being of citizens and the environment. When the common good and aspirations of equity become subservient to individual avarice and righteousness, and our divisions become stronger than what binds us as a nation, our very democracy is at risk.

What upsets me most is not policy disagreements or an inability to reach consensus, but the denigration of human beings and their legitimacy. Rather than unite us, our federal and state administrations are dividing and turning people against

each other. We should heed Lincoln's warning: "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

It's understandable, and perhaps appropriate, to feel angry when we hear hate, see human beings diminished, and fear our planet's destruction. But if democracy depends on caring, how should we respond? What will bring people together, not separate us?

This November provides the opportunity for you to show you care by exercising your democratic right to vote. Voting allows us to choose representatives we think are most likely to support our values. For many of us, especially as Sierrans, that's protecting people and the planet.

The Sierra Club endorses candidates who support environmental protections and individual rights, and will represent our collective interests. We also help organize and turn out the vote for those candidates, which provides you with another opportunity to participate and strengthen our democracy.

People may feel that one person's vote won't count — especially when an election outcome is reasonably assured. But that misses the point. It's the process of voting, of participating in democracy, that is an act of caring and demonstrates that to others. In the same way, your choosing to be a member of and to support the Sierra Club is another act of caring.

Rights, like muscles, can atrophy and weaken without use. Democracy is not a spectator sport. Choose to exercise your most precious rights during the campaign and at the ballot box in November, and show that you care.

Madison, WI 53703.

Don Ferber Chapter Chair

THE MUIR VIEW

Muir View Committee

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Contributor Guidelines

Please submit articles by mail or email to: 754 Williamson St.
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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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Opposing the Back 40 Mine Project

The proposal to build an 83-acre open pit sulfide ore mine adjacent to the Menominee River is encountering legal headwinds. On June 4, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) issued the fourth mining permit. The wetland permit was issued with 28 pages of conditions to be met before mining operations could begin.

Subsequently, the Menominee Nation filed a federal lawsuit on August 1. The lawsuit is based on the fact that the MDEQ was granted permitting authority by the EPA to review and issue mining wetland permits on inland lakes and streams, within the borders of the state of Michigan. The MDEQ does not have permitting authority on border rivers of interstate commerce. Due to the hydrology of the adjacent wetlands, the possibility exists that the mine could as well affect the groundwater of residents on the Wisconsin side of the river. The US Army Corps of Engineers should be reviewing the permit applications and looking at all the possibilities on both sides of the border -- affecting the groundwater -- before issuing the mining permits. On August 2 and 3, the Coalition to Save the Menominee River and Menominee Nation filed separate petitions to contest the issuing the wetland permit in Administrative Court in Lansing, Michigan. One issue being contested is that it was discovered upon reviewing the

finding of fact and conclusion of law, that the MDEQ Water Resources Division had denied the wetland permit. Subsequently, the director of the MDEQ approved and issued the wetland permit, overruling the professionals in the MDEQ's own Water Resources Division!

The John Muir Chapter opposes the Back 40 project because it could poison the water, hence threatening the aquatic ecosystem of the Menominee River and the groundwater surrounding the mine site. The Menominee Nation Cultural and Heritage sites on or adjacent to the mine site would be damaged as well. The Aquila Resources Back Forty project is a keystone project for further development of the Reef and Bend sulfide ore mine sites in Wisconsin.

To learn more about the Coalition to Save the Menominee River visit their website at jointheriver coalition.org. To help pay for the contested case hearing, a tax-deductible donation can be made on their website via Pay Pal or credit card. Checks can be mailed to: Coalition to Save the Menominee River, P.O. Box 475, Marinette, WI 54143.

John Engel

Sierra Club Representative in the Coalition to Save the Menominee River

Continued from page 1

and key financial provisions and more which have protected Wisconsin's environment and public health from the negative effects of metallic mining for two decades. Aquila is the developer of the controversial Back Forty mine proposal in the U.P of Michigan and has interests in two deposits here.

FOXCONN: On top of giving Foxconn more than \$3 billion in subsidies the legislature and Governor also exempted it from many environmental safeguards. For example, the facility does not have to write an environmental impact statement and is allowed to fill non-federal wetlands and straighten streams without permits.

PROCESS: The legislature passed and the Governor signed a law that requires any state agency to stop work on a rule that would cost more than \$10 million dollars in any two-year period (benefits are not considered) until the legislature passes a law specifically allowing the rule. For example, if a state agency wanted to adopt a rule (which requires public notice, public participation and legislative review already) to remove lead pipes from buildings to prevent further lead poisoning of our children they would have to stop until the legislature acted.

LOSS OF LOCAL CONTROL: For the last seven years the legislature had been taking power away from local governments. There have been over 100 such laws passed since 2011. That trend continued this year with passage of a law the makes it harder for local government to manage the land within their borders by making it more difficult for them to deny conditional use permits or variance requests.

BRIGHT SPOTS

Despite all this bad news there were some bright spots including the following:

- There were no further cuts to the DNR's budget.
- We won on a modest bill to allow local governments to create funding mechanisms for landowners to remove lead lateral drinking water pipes.
- · Working in coalition with many groups, we helped kill the I-94 megaproject and got some more funding for transit and local roads in the budget.
- · We helped halt another very bad bill that would have repealed administrative rules on a 9-year rolling timeframe.
- We helped stop the bill that would have prohibited the state from spending any money to manage wolves or enforce any law that prohibited killing wolves as long as they are on the federal endangered species list.

Continued on page 4

HOW DOES YOUR LEGISLATOR RATE?

Sierra Club-John Muir Chapter's 2017-18 Legislative Scorecard reflects votes taken by the Wisconsin State Assembly and State Senate on environmental bills.

This scorecard focuses on bills related to the John Muir Chapter's priority issues of reducing climate change and protecting land and water resources in Wisconsin. Use this scorecard as a guide to judge candidates in your district this election year. All 99 Assembly and half the Senate

SENATE District Home Town Name Party Score Bewley Janet 25 Ashland D 90 Carpenter Tim 3 Milwaukee D 100 Cowles Robert 2 Green Bay R 50 Big Bend Craig David 28 R 20 Darling Alberta 8 River Hills R 20 Erpenbach Jon 27 Middleton D 100 Feyen Dan 18 Fond du Lac R 20 Fitzgerald Scott13 Juneau R 20 Hansen Dave 30 Green Bay D 100 Harsdorf* Sheila 10 River Falls R 0 Johnson Milwaukee LaTonya 6 D 100 Larson Chris 7 Milwaukee D 100 Lasee* Frank De Pere R 0 LeMahieu Devin 9 Oostburg R 20 Marklein 17 Spring Green R Howard 20 Miller Monona D Mark 16 100 Chippewa Moulton Terry 23 R 20 Falls Nass Stephen 11 Whitewater R 20 Olsen Luther 14 Ripon R 20 Marathon R Petrowski Jerry 29 20 Evansville D 100 Ringhand Janis 15 Risser Fred 26 Madison D 100 Roth R Roger 19 Appleton 20 Shilling La Crosse D Jennifer 32 100 Stroebel Duey 20 Saukville R 20 Taylor Lena 4 Milwaukee D 100 Testin Patrick 24 Stevens Point D 20 Tiffany Thomas 12 Minocqua R 2.0 Vinehout Kathleen Alma 31 100 Vukmir Leah 5 Brookfield R 20 Wanggaard Van 21 Racine R 20 Wirch Robert 22 Somers D 90

*Harsorf resigned in Nov. 2017, Lasee resigned in Dec. 2017

seats (odd-numbered) are up for election in 2018. Let your representatives know if you're pleased or disappointed with their voting records.

You can find the full scorecard with descriptions of the bills used to grade the candidates at the "elections" tab of our website *sierraclub.org/wisconsin*.

Bill Davis, Chapter Director

Dave Blouin, Chapter Political Committee Chair

ASSEMBLY					
Name		District	Home Town	Party	Score
Allen	Scott	97	Waukesha	R	9
Anderson	Jimmy	47	Fitchburg	D	100
August	Tyler	32	Lake Geneva	R	0
Ballweg	Joan	41	Markesan	R	0
Barca	Peter	64	Kenosha	D	91
Berceau	Terese	77	Madison	D	100
Bernier	Kathleen	68	Lake Hallie	R	0
Billings	Jill	95	La Crosse	D	100
Born	Mark	39	Beaver Dam	R	0
Bowen	David	10	Milwaukee	D	100
Brandtjen	Janel	22	Menomonee	R	0
Brooks	Edward	50	Reedsburg	R	0
Brooks	Robert	60	Saukville	R	0
Brostoff	Jonathan	19	Milwaukee	D	100
Considine	David	81	Baraboo	D	100
Crowley	David	17	Milwaukee	D	100
Doyle	Steve	94	Onalaska	D	100
Duchow	Cindi	99	Town of Delafield	R	0
Edming	James	87	Glen Flora	R	0
Felzkowski	Mary	35	Irma	R	0
Fields	Jason	11	Milwaukee	D	91
Gannon*	Robert	58	West Bend	R	0
Genrich	Eric	90	Green Bay	D	100
Goyke	Evan	18	Milwaukee	D	100
Gundrum*	Rick	58	Slinger	R	0
Hebl	Gary	46	Sun Prarie	D	100
Hesselbein	Dianne	79	Middleton	D	100
Hintz	Gordon	54	Oshkosh	D	100
Horlacher	Cody	33	Mukwanago	R	0
Hutton	Robert	13	Brookfield	R	0
Jacque	André	2	DePere	R	0
Jagler	John	37	Watertown	R	0
Jarchow	Adam	28	Balsam Lake	R	10

Katsma	Terry	26	Oostburg	R	0
Kerkman	Samantha	61	Salem	R	0
Kessler	Fred	12	Milwaukee	D	100
Kitchens	Joel	1	Sturgeon Bay	R	18
Kleefisch	Joel	38	Oconomowoc	R	0
Knodl	Daniel	24	Germantown	R	0
Kolste	Debra	44	Janesville	D	100
Kooyenga	Dale	14	Brookfield	R	0
Kremer	Jesse	59	Kewaskum	R	0
Krug	Scott	72	Nekoosa	R	0
Kuglitsch	Mike	84	New Berlin	R	0
Kulp	Bob	69	Stratford	R	0
Loudenbeck	Amy	31	Clinton	R	0
Macco	John	88	Ledgeville	R	0
Mason**	Cory	66	Racine	D	83
Meyers	Beth	74	Bayfield	D	100
Milroy	Nick	73	South Range	D	100
Murphy	David	56	Greenville	R	0
Mursau	Jeffery	36	Crivitz	R	9
Nerison	Lee	96	Westby	R	0
Neubauer**	Greta	66	Racine	D	100
Neylon	Adam	98	Pewaukee	R	0
Novak	Todd	51	Dodgeville	R	36
Nygren	John	89	Marinette	R	0
Ohnstad	Tod	65	Kenosha	D	91
Ott	Jim	23	Mequon	R	0
Petersen	Kevin	40	Waupaca	R	18
Petryk	Warren	93	Eleva	R	0
Pope	Sandy	80	Mt. Horeb	D	100
Pronschinske	Treig	92	Mondovi	R	0
Quinn	Romaine	75	Barron	R	0
Riemer	Daniel	7	Milwaukee	D	100
Ripp***	Keith	42	Lodi	R	0
Rodriguez	Jessie	21	Oak Creek	R	0
Rohrkaste	Mike	55	Neenah	R	0
Sanfelippo	Joe	15	New Berlin	R	0

Sargent	Melissa	48	Madison	D	100
Schraa	Michael	53	Oshkosh	R	0
Shankland	Katrina	71	Stevens Point	D	100
		, -	010110101010		
Sinicki	Christine	20	Milwaukee	D	100
Skowronski	Ken	82	Franklin	R	0
Snyder	Patrick	85	Schofield	R	9
Spiros	John	86	Marshfield	R	0
Spreitzer	Mark	45	Beloit	D	100
Stafsholt	Rob	29	New Richmond	R	0
Steffen	David	4	Green Bay	R	0
Steineke	Jim	5	Kaukauna	R	0
Stuck	Amanda	57	Appleton	D	100
Subeck	Lisa	78	Madison	D	100
Summerfield	Rob	67	Bloomer	R	0
Swearingen	Rob	34	Rhinelander	R	0
Tauchen	Gary	6	Bonduel	R	0
Taylor	Chris	76	Madison	D	100
Thiesfeldt	Jeremy	52	Fond du Lac	R	0
Tittl	Paul	25	Manitowoc	R	0
Tranel	Travis	49	Cuba City	R	21
Tusler	Ron	3	Harrison	R	0
VanderMeer	Nancy	70	Tomah	R	0
Vorpagel	Tyler	27	Plymouth	R	0
Vos	Robin	63	Rochester	R	0
Vruwink	Don	43	Milton	D	100
Wachs	Dana	91	Eau Claire	D	100
Weatherston	Thomas	62	Caledonia	R	0
Wichgers	Chuck	83	Muskego	R	9
Young	Leon	16	Milwaukee	D	100
Zamarripa	JoCasta	8	Milwaukee	D	100
Zepnick	Josh	9	Milwaukee	D	100
Zimmerman	Shannon	30	River Falls	R	0

 $^*\mbox{Gundrum}$ won Jan. 2018 Special Election to replace Gannon who died in Oct. 2017. **Neubauer won Jan. 2018 Special Election to replace Rep. Mason who retired. ***Ripp left office in Jan. 2018.

Sometimes, things happen fast.

Never miss an opportunity to take action or join an event.

Follow Sierra Club Wisconsin on Facebook and @SierraClubWI on Twitter & Instagram







The Sierra Club Is Proud To Announce Our Endorsements For The 2018 Elections

The Sierra Club has endorsed Tony Evers for Governor, Tammy Baldwin for Senate, and Randy Bryce, Mark Pocan, Ron Kind, and Gwen Moore, Tom Palzewicz, and Dan Kohl for Congress.

At the state level, our goal of creating and increasing pro-environment majorities in both houses of the Legislature is reflected in our endorsements of 92 candidates so far for the Legislature. A record 44 state lawmakers scored a perfect 100% on the scorecard and each has been named a **2018 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.

The 2017-18 Sierra Club Legislative Scorecard was used in part to judge incumbent candidates. The entire scorecard with descriptions of the legislation used for grading can also be found at: <code>sierraclub.org/wisconsin/lobbying-elections/political</code>

We wish the best for the **2018 Environmental Champions** who are retiring or running for new offices. They are: **Senator Kathleen Vinehout** and **Representatives Terese Berceau, Eric Genrich, Dana Wachs, and Leon Young. Representative Cory Mason** also retired and he was a strong leader on our issues and an Environmental Champion throughout his career.

If you're unsure who your state Senator or Representative is, go to *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://sierraclub.org/wisconsin/endorsements to view the most up to date list of endorsements.



WISCONSIN GOVERNOR

Tony Evers

U.S. SENATE

Tammy Baldwin

U.S CONGRESS

Randy Bryce 1st District
Mark Pocan 2nd District
Ron Kind 3rd District
Gwen Moore 4th District
Tom Palzewicz 5th District
Dan Kohl 6th District

Caleb Frostman D-Sturgeon Bay (1)

Tim Carpenter D-Milwaukee (3)

Julie Henszey D-Wauwatosa (5)

Chris Larson D-Milwaukee (7)

Kyle Whelton D-Sheboygan (9)

Michelle Zahn D-Juneau (13)

Janis Ringhand D-Evansville (15)

Kriss Marion D-Blanchardville (17)

Lee Snodgrass D-Appleton (19)

Lori Hawkins D-Bristol (21)

Chris Kapsner D-Boyceville (23)

Janet Bewley D-Mason (25)

Richard Pulcher D-Lublin (29)

Jeff Smith D-Eau Claire (31)

STATE ASSEMBLY

Scott Gavin, D-Little Chute (3) Terry Lee, D-Green Bay (4) Matt Lederer, D-Appleton (5) Daniel Riemer, D-Milwaukee (7) JoCasta Zamarripa, D-Milwaukee (8) David Bowen, D-Milwaukee (10) Jason Fields, D-Milwaukee (11) Robyn Vining, D-Wauwatosa (14) Lillian Cheesman, D-Milwaukee (15) David Crowley, D-Milwaukee (17) Evan Goyke, D-Milwaukee (18) Jonathan Brostoff, D-Milwaukee (19) Christine Sinicki, D-Milwaukee (20) Gabriel Gomez, D-S. Milwaukee (21) Aaron Matteson, D-Pewaukee (22) Liz Sumner, D-Fox Point (23) Jennifer Estrada, D-Manitowoc (25) Rebecca Clarke, D-Sheboygan (26) Nanette Bulebosh, D-Elkhart Lake (27) Kim Butler, D-Balsam Lake (28) Scottie Ard, D-New Richmond (29) Barry Hammarback, D-River Falls (30) Brittany Keyes, D-Beloit (31) Katherine Gaulke, D-Elkhorn (32) Brandon White, D-Jefferson (AD 33) Chris Meier, D-Eagle River (34) Mark Martello, D-Tomahawk (35) Melissa Winker, D-Oconomowoc (38) Elisha Barudin, D-Beaver Dam (39) Erin Tracy, D-Weyauwega (40) Frank Buress, D-Westfield (41)

Ann Groves Lloyd, D-Lodi (42) Don Vruwink, D-Milton (43) Deb Kolste, D-Janesville (44) Mark Spreitzer, D-Beloit (45) Gary Hebl, D-Sun Prairie (46) Jimmy Anderson, D-Fitchburg (47) Melissa Sargent, D-Madison (48) Jesse Bennett, D-Bagley (AD 49) Art Shrader, D-Reedsburg (50) Jeff Wright, D-Plain (51) Kevin Booth, D-Fond du Lac (52) Gordon Hintz, D-Oshkosh (54) Dan Schierl, D-Neenah (55) Diana Lawrence, D-Appleton (56) Amanda Stuck, D-Appleton (57) Dennis Degenhardt, D-West Bend (58) Christine Rahlf, D-Cedarburg (60) Gina Walkington, D-Bristol (61) John Lehman, D-Racine (62) Joel Jacobsen, D-Burlington (63) Peter Barca, D-Kenosha (64) Tod Ohnstad, D-Kenosha (65) Greta Neubauer, D-Racine (66)

Wren Keturi, D-Chippewa Falls (67)

Cari Fay, D-Merrilan (70)

Beth Meyers, D-Bayfield (74)

Ali Holzman, D-Cumberland (75)

Wendy Sue Johnson, D-Eau Claire (68)

Katrina Shankland, D-Stevens Point

Nick Milroy, D- South Range (AD 73)

Chris Taylor, D-Madison (76) Shelia Stubbs, D-Madison (77) Lisa Subeck, D-Madison (78) Dianne Hesselbein, D-Middleton (79) Sondy Pope, D-Verona (AD 80) Dave Considine, D-Portage (81) Erica Flynn, D-Greenfield (84) Allison Leahy, D-Wausau (85) Nancy Stencil, D-Wausau (86) Elizabeth Riley, D-Hayward (87) Tom Sieber, D-Green Bay (88) Ken Holdorf, D-Marinette (89) Iodi Emerson, D-Eau Claire (91) Rob Grover, D-Galesville (92) Steve Doyle, D-Onalaska (94) Jill Billings, D- La Crosse (95) Paul Buhr, D-Viroqua (96)



Meet Katie Hogan

We have a new face in the office for the next few months! Katie Hogan has joined us as an apprentice. Katie just graduated from the College of William and Mary in Virginia, and she was an intern with the Virginia Chapter. The John Muir Chapter's new strategic plan is aimed at increasing the power of the Chapter. Building power takes good organization, and having the right people in the right places, but that can be tricky to establish. Too much structure and we become bureaucratic and unwieldy; too little and we cannot appropriately welcome and engage new activists or channel the energy of our current activists. Katie will be working with some of our teams starting with Land and Wildlife, Tar Sands and Transportation to help us find the right balance and make any necessary changes to how we are working now to help us build power over the long term.

If you are interested in volunteering, contact Katie at *kathryn.hogan@* sierraclub.org, and she will help you identify which volunteer role is best for your interests.

Solar Homes Group Buy Going Strong

It's not too late to get in on the Chapter's 2018 Solar Homes Group-buy. In fact, now might be the perfect time. With over 114 kw of solar already scheduled to be installed, all participants will receive a rebate of at least \$100 per kw based on the system size installed. That savings comes on top of our partner SunVest's already competitive pricing. Plus, SunVest has pledged to donate to the John Muir Chapter for each system installed through the program. You'll feel great knowing that your home or business is powered by clean, solar energy.

Sign up for a free solar assessment to find out if your home is right for solar at *sunvest.com/programs/sierraclub*. Then attend an informational session on October 16 at 6:30 p.m. at Three Rivers House, 724 Main St, La Crosse, WI 54601

Wisconsin Loves Water

In July, we partnered with Elite Sports Clubs on a water awareness campaign and fundraiser. Through a social media awareness campaign, Pools & Brews fundraiser events and generous donations from Elite Sports Clubs, over \$6,000 was donated to us for our work protecting Wisconsin's environment and waterways. Thank you to Elite Sports Clubs and to all of our members who participated in one of the events or the social media campaign!

Land and Wildlife

The volunteers on the Chapter's Land and Wildlife Team have been working hard to crystalize the Chapter's position on grey wolves. The presence of the wolf in Wisconsin is important for several reasons. From a biological and ecological point of view, wolves make our forests healthier, and they are the best control there is for stopping the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease, which is moving north into wolf range. From a cultural point of view, the Anishinaabe Tribe views the wolf as a brother,

not an adversary. There have been recent efforts at the state and federal levels to remove all protections from the wolf population in the state. If that happens, management falls to the state of Wisconsin, and unfortunately, the state has shown absolutely no interest in managing the wolf based on science nor with respect to its role and function in the state. Our policy lays out the conditions, guidelines and parameters that should be established at the state level to manage wolves well when and if they are removed from protected status.

Educating Candidates on Transit

Over the course of the election cycle, our transportation coalition has been hard at work educating both the public and candidates running for office about transportation needs across Wisconsin. By showing up to forums to ask questions, emailing candidates and submitting letters to the editor, we shifted the conversation about transportation from exclusively about roads to including transit. While this may seem small, it is a huge victory! It shows that our candidates are hearing what we are saying and are being forced to respond. As the rest of the campaign cycle plays out, we encourage you to continue to reach out to the candidates running in your area and to ask them about their transportation priorities.

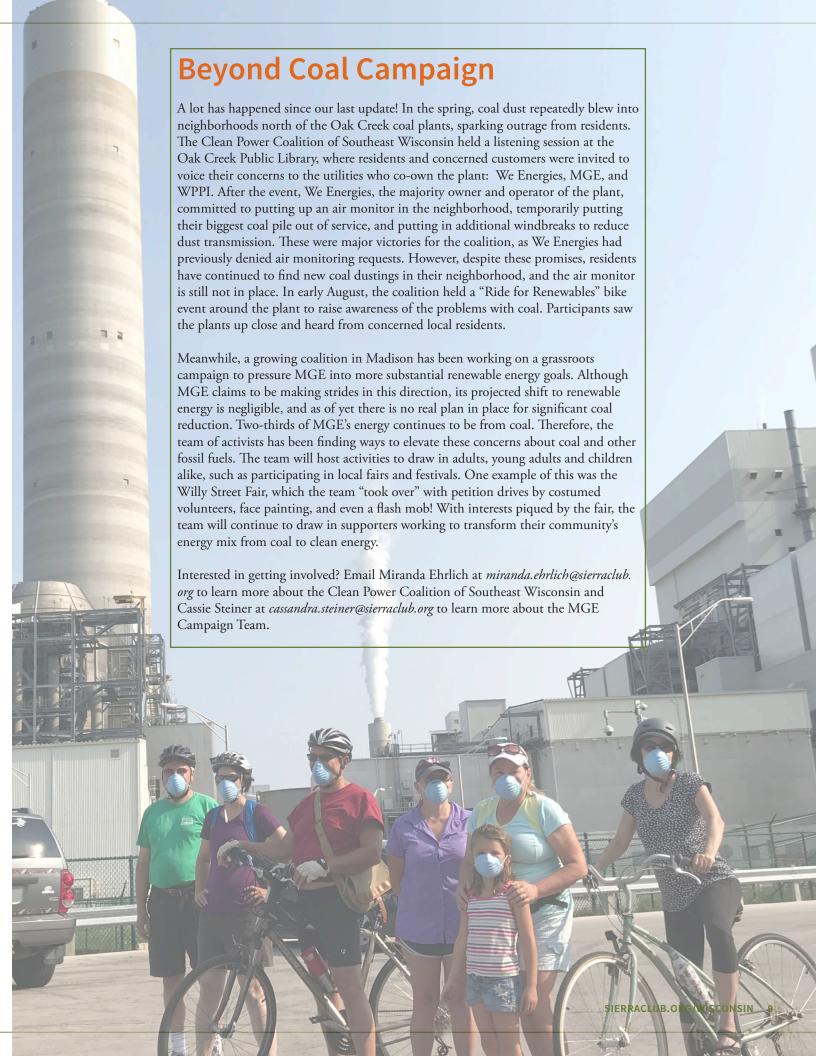
River Touring Section

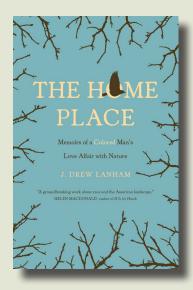
There are still a few ways to get involved with paddling trips this year and early 2019! For more information please visit our website *sierraclub.org/wisconsin/river-touring-section* or contact Kevin Olson, RTS Chair: 608-963-2678, *olsonfam44@centurytel.net*

Oct. 27 - 28 - Wolf R., Class II+ Car Camp Annual Halloween Trip. We'll paddle Section 3 of this wild, scenic river on Saturday and Section 2 on Sunday. Wet/dry suit required. Potluck dinner on Sat. night. Contact: Phillip Johnsrud: 715-572-9884, johnsrudp@tds.net

Jan. 12, 2019 - RTS Annual Meeting, 11 a.m. to ~3 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 615 Broadway St, Baraboo, WI. Potluck at noon, followed by business meeting, trip list formation and slideshow/videos of 2017 trips. Advance registration not required. For details, contact: Kevin Olson: 608-963-2678, olsonfam44@centurytel.net

Jan. 28 - Feb. 8, 2019 - Florida Rivers, Class I+ Car Camp Take a break from winter and enjoy the unique flora and fauna of Florida's rivers. Occasional small rapids, deadfall hazards, and up-river paddling. Space limited and advance campground reservations required, so inquire early. Contact: Kevin & Carol Olson: 608-963-2678, olsonfam44@centurytel.net. Co-leader: Katy Golden.





GREEN REVIEW

The Home Place: Memoirs of a Colored Man's Love Affair with Nature

BY J. DREW LANHAM, MILKWEED EDITIONS, 2017, 212 PAGES

Personal identity prescribes much of how we build our lives. Professor Lanham's distinctiveness as a Black naturalist places him as an outlier in wild places. Why doesn't he see more people who look like him in the field? Is nature-loving in the realm of the privileged? Many of the essays in this book pull that thread through the collection. His childhood allowed for time and connection, and his brother owned a copy of Leopold's *Sand County Almanac*. That was a good start.

These interconnected essays render years, history and geographies into a claimed identity. What is most beautiful about the collected effect of these stories of a life is how the interaction of land and chosen values builds humanity. Lanham chooses his values carefully, claiming some beliefs as

bedrock and recognizing the peril in others. He rejects the church teachings that equate education with a rejection of God. One of the strengths of the narrative is the layering of insight and experience, as he looks back from his vantage as a professor, a father, a husband.

The term "colored" in the subtitle might give a reader pause. But Lanham writes from a perspective of one who sees nature as his guide – a place beyond Black and white, a place accessible to all. Lanham seems to see ties between races as biologic, not only because of genetic identity, but because our relationship to the natural world reveals our common interdependencies.

Insight comes in layers that we build. While working at the Department of Natural Resources in the rural south, Lanham experienced fear based on historical realities: "I was a strange stranger, and maybe not the person locals would think should be working with a white woman. Kate was a super-observant naturalist, who noticed the slightest nuances in tooth pattern or fur color — but was, I think, oblivious to the threat I perceived." He didn't discuss his perceptions with Kate.

The Home Place is a beautiful beginning to a much-needed discussion about identity that is attained through nature, culture and power structures. It subtly asks how we might build a more just and verdant life — a more just and verdant world.

Amy Lou Jenkins is the editor of the new anthology, Corners: Voices on Change. If you would like to send a book for possible review, contact her through JackWalker-Press.com.

Volunteer Appreciation & Awards Event



Bill Davis presenting the New Activist Award to Tonya Petrick at the 2017 Volunteer Appreciation Event.

Volunteers are the foundation of the Sierra Club. Whether it's helping with mailings, tabling at events, making phone calls, joining a committee or running for a group or chapter leadership position, it is the energy and enthusiasm of our volunteers that moves our campaigns forward. The John Muir Chapter staff would like to say thank you and honor our volunteers statewide. Everyone is invited to join the celebration on Saturday, November 17 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., at Threshold, 2717 Atwood Ave, Madison, WI. We'll also be presenting the chapter awards.

Not a volunteer yet? This is a great opportunity to find out how to get involved and socialize with other volunteers and chapter leaders.

RSVP here http://bit.ly/JMCawards2018.

Tar Sands Update

ENBRIDGE GETS GREEN LIGHT THEY'VE BEEN WAITING FOR

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) voted to approve the Certificate of Need for Enbridge's proposed Line 3 tar sands pipeline. This decision was devastating and ignored the unprecedented opposition to the pipeline, including 13 "youth climate intervenors" who opposed the project on the grounds that it would jeopardize their future, every impacted tribe in Minnesota, dozens of environmental groups, landowners along the pipeline, and more. It also greenlights more oil to flow into Superior, Wisconsin. Given that oil has to move somewhere, it drives the need for another tar sands pipeline, the Line 66 Pipeline, through Wisconsin.

In Wisconsin, we jumped right into action, responding to the news with a dozen other organizations to condemn the approval. A coalition formed that vowed to work to stop another pipeline in Wisconsin. In August, many of our members and partners participated in a "downstream call-in day," calling on Governor Dayton to step in and stop the Line 3 pipeline.

ENBRIDGE IN WISCONSIN

While Enbridge continues to deny any "immediate plans" to build the pipeline, landowners throughout the state have been receiving calls and letters for "surveys." As the Wisconsin Easement Action Team (WEAT, a group created by landowners to work together to strengthen their power against Enbridge) explains:

It is clear the survey is targeting landowners along the pipeline route, even new landowners who would be in the next pipeline path. This is yet another sign that they are continuing to move forward on the new Line 66 Pipeline.

Enbridge's questions appear to be geared for three goals:

- 1. Determine our strength.
- 2. Learn what kinds of messages will work to turn public opinion in favor of Enbridge and against us.
- 3. Collect information on each landowner to figure out who to go after first.

Sierra Club and our partners responded to these surveys, and will work together to thwart Enbridge's plans to divide and take advantage of landowners and communities. Instead, landowners and community members are building partnerships that will stop the pipeline.

ORGANIZING ALONG THE LINE

Given Minnesota's approval of the Line 66 Pipeline despite unprecedented opposition, we know we will have to work harder than we imagined to stop it from coming here. The Sierra Club is a founding member of the Wisconsin Safe Energy (WiSE) Alliance, an alliance of groups forming coalitions along the line throughout Wisconsin to work to inform our local communities about the risks and impacts of another pipeline and call for strong reforms. Each group is made up of current easement holders, environmentalists, property rights advocates, and more. In Columbia County, the local WiSE group defeated a proposal to relax zoning laws making it easier for Enbridge to get a pipeline through the county. Jefferson and Clark counties became the fourth and fifth counties to pass resolutions calling for eminent domain reform to stop Enbridge from taking land for their projects. A new group formed in Rusk County. We also solidified the partnership between WiSE and Save Our Illinois Land (SOIL) and the Sierra Club chapters in Wisconsin and Illinois to make sure we are working together to stop the pipeline.

VIDEOS SHOWCASE IMPACTS

In September, our partners launched a video series that will go through the end of the year. Each video has landowners telling their stories about what it's like to live with a pipeline and the threat of another one threatening their homes and livelihoods. Check out our Facebook page to see the videos. Please share!

If you're interested in getting involved in the work to stop the Line 66 pipeline, contact Elizabeth Ward at *elizabeth*. ward@sierraclub.org or call (608) 256-0565.



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

www.communitysharesmke.org

Executive Committee Election

Yes, it is 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. These three leaders will serve as at-large delegates to the Executive Committee for a three-year term starting in 2019 and finishing in 2021.

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, use the ballot below. 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 future success of the John Muir Chapter!

Vote Today! Fill out the ballot on page 15 and mail your ballot to Liz Wessel, 546 Woodside Ter., Madison, WI 53711-1429. Ballots must be mailed or postmarked by November 15 to be counted.

The Nominating and Election Team

John Muir Chapter-Executive Committee

ELECTION BALLOT 2018

Instructions: Read the candidate statements on the preceding page. Select up to three candidates. Indicate your choices by marking the appropriate box. Only ballots from mailed copies of The Muir View with legible membership numbers on the back are valid. One vote per member. "Voter 2" column for use in households with a "joint membership."

Voter #1:	Voter #2:	_
Steve Bower	Steve Bower	
Laura Donovan	Laura Donovan	
Andrew Knutson	Andrew Knutson	SIERRA
Write In:	Write In:	JOHN MUIR CHAPTER
·		

Ballots must be postmarked by November 15, 2018

Mail to: Liz Wessel, 546 Woodside Ter, Madison, WI 53711-1429



STEVE BOWER

1) Joining the Sierra Club years ago was a natural fit for me. By continuing in the footsteps of Leopold, Muir and Nelson and walking shoulder to shoulder with like-minded people, will make the difference for us and those to follow. Protecting our shared natural resources is a commitment I have worked

toward for decades.

For thirteen years having lived on a Madison Audubon Society sanctuary, my volunteer activities have been many and varied. They include but not limited to prairie burns, seed collecting, brush management, and winter planting parties.

During the last four years the local Citizens Climate Lobby group, of which I am a member, have written letters to and called our Congressional and Senate members, visited their offices and attended town hall meetings advocating for a reduction in CO2 emissions.

As treasurer for Citizens Advocates for Public Education for five years, I have advocated for all public schools. I feel it is vital that children are provided the best education, our communities thrive, and we attract and retain the highest quality professionals.

2) For 34 years I taught earth science and physics in Wisconsin. Professional development for myself and others was always high on my priority list. Through work with the UW-Geology Museum I helped write a grant and co-lead four years of paleontology field work for teachers in Kansas and Colorado. Subsequent to that I organized and lead eight student trips digging dinosaurs in the western states.

In 1999 I undertook writing grants to install a 5-kW photovoltaic system on Waunakee High School. This was completed in 2002. Other grants include the Toyota Tapestry Grant for Teachers, two Wisconsin Environmental Education Board grants and others.

Since 2011 much of my time has been focused on electing candidates to state and national office who have a strong commitment to environmental ethics. Canvassing and knocking on doors, making phone calls and hosting fund raising house parties for like minded candidates has been a priority.

I currently serve on the board of the Jefferson County Democratic party.

3) A continued emphasis on our core values is critical. As an organization, the Sierra Club must strive to include a

diverse and vibrant membership. People from all walks of life, with an eye on younger members will help us sustain an awareness and importance of our shared natural resources. Without our ongoing efforts we will see a continued erosion of environmental standards and loss of local control.

Member advocacy is vital. We must all talk to our neighbors, share our concerns in letters to the editor, call our legislators and stand tall when the going gets tough. We have all seen the rollback of clean water and air standards, underfunded regulatory agencies, and an attack on science itself at the State and Federal levels. We can and must make a difference.

4) Moving beyond coal to clean energy seems to be the key to managing the planet's future. By promoting wise state renewable standards that put us in the lead instead of constantly trailing our mid-west neighbors is wise. Wisconsin should be the industrial juggernaut when it comes to solar and wind manufacturing. Thousands of family supporting sustainable jobs are at our fingertips, in this manufacturing state.

Home grown energy production is the wave of the future. Wisconsin cannot continue to import well over half of our energy (coal), and expect to set any standard, let alone lead.

By unleashing the innovation potential of the University system in solving storage issues such as batteries and imagining smart grids to better use our limited resources will help make Wisconsin a world leader. This will take leadership we currently do not have and the way forward is through the ballot box. It will take member advocacy and a steady and determined effort by all of us.



LAURA DONOVAN

1) I first got involved with the Sierra Club through the Sierra Student Coalition's Summer Program (Sprog), a week long training program for and by young people about organizing for environmental and social justice issues. While at Sprog, I learned about Seize the Grid, SSC's renewable energy

campaign, and organized a campaign at UW-Stout and in the UW System to get more campuses on board and achieve system level change. I also co-directed this year's Midwest Sprog program. With our team, we planned trainings, recruited attendees, fundraised to support travel costs, and facilitated trainings and activities to build community and push each other to grow our understanding and practice of anti-oppressive work.

Outside of the Sierra Club, I am a founding member of the Wisconsin Youth Network (WiYN), which connects people

across the state to work together on various campaigns and share strategies and resources. As a member of WiYN, I have helped plan in person meetings and retreats, facilitated conference calls, took part in creating the first bylaws document of the network, and helped guide the elections process for our first operations team.

I am also involved with the Sunrise Movement, whose strategy centers on making climate change an urgent social and political topic, which is achieved by talking to people about climate change, and targeting our representatives to ensure that they stand with us, not with fossil fuel CEOs. I held roles as a hub leader, trainer, action coordinator for Wisconsin's Day of Dedication in the fall of 2017, fundraiser, and a trainer coach. These roles helped me to connect to others and gave me practice in holding political leaders accountable.

2) I worked in the Sustainability Office on our campus, and designed and conducted surveys about the bus service and walking safety, both of which supported decisions to improve the service and implement safety measures. I also re-wrote our contract with the county transit operator to ensure there were ways that both parties could hold each other accountable and added more clarity to our expectations for our working agreement. As I was wrapping up my time at UW-Stout, I compiled information and resources for everything I worked on that could be passed on to the next person in my role.

In addition to being organized and thorough, I thrive on creativity, which is important in both daily operations and in art making. On a regular basis, it is necessary to think creatively to meet our needs in ways that use less resources. Art making, while not necessarily present in Executive Committee operations, is vital to community health because it can bring people together and communicate ideas in ways that meetings and announcements cannot. My commitment to creativity will help me identify solutions and resources with the Executive Committee and chapter leaders, and center the importance of art in community building and in the movement.

3) I think accessibility is extremely important, and shows up in different ways, such as geographic, financial, physical ability, and in norms that may be more accessible to some than others. For example, geographically, it might be difficult for someone in Platteville to get involved with their local chapter which mainly operates in La Crosse, unless they have access to a car and can afford the gas and time to drive to meetings. This also impacts the connectedness someone might feel to volunteering in a town that they don't call home. Financially, it can be difficult for someone to be a member if they cannot afford the annual membership fee. While the Sierra Club is a non-profit that is centered on volunteerism, it is a privilege to be able to volunteer one's time. When thinking about physical ability, a lot of daily activities are not accessible, let alone movement work - for example, door knocking, marches, sometimes

even attending a meeting. Finally, spaces often uphold norms that they don't realize might be inaccessible to some people. For example, norms that are common in one generation might make it difficult for someone in another generation to participate and feel welcomed in a space.

I think it's important to make Chapter activities as accessible and as easy to get involved as possible. There is a lot of work to be done, and we need as many people as possible to be a part of the work. Removing barriers to participation is vital to success. I don't have all the solutions to making Chapter activities more accessible, and look forward to working with the Executive Committee and chapter leaders to bring in as many people as possible.

4) I am most passionate about clean transportation. I grew up in Platteville and went to school in Menomonie, both of which are small rural towns with little access to public transportation in town, let alone to other towns, let alone clean transportation. It is an expectation that people have a car, because the cities are built and connected to each other in way that make cars a necessity. This setup can extremely hinder people's access to basic needs, such as food, health care, and a job. It can also contribute to a sense of isolation. Transportation, especially clean and accessible transportation, is necessary to healthy and strong communities.



ANDREW KNUTSON

1) I joined the Sierra Club soon after my children were born. Knowing that I had a responsibility to look after them and their future made it impossible to remain a passive observer when threats arise to the air, water, and land that they'll depend on one day. Since then, I've gone on to earn a

masters degree in public policy from Duke University, and volunteered with the Sierra Club and other organizations like the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters, and the Wisconsin Bicycle Federation.

The Wisconsin Bicycle Federation has also given me the opportunity to meet with state and local legislators to talk about the issues facing our state's cycling community. The Bike Fed aims to eliminate the barriers which might keep people from getting out and enjoying the great cycling opportunities Wisconsin has to offer. My involvement with the Bike Fed included lobbying legislators to ask for increased funding for cycling infrastructure projects, and to promote legislation designed to increase mandatory penalties on drivers convicted of injuring or killing cyclists and pedestrians through negligent or impaired use of a motor vehicle.

2) As a student at Duke, I learned the skills necessary to

communicate effectively and concisely, both in written documents and oral presentations. Our instructors meant for us to learn how to convey information to lobbyists, legislators, and other elected officials in a way that tells them what they need to know, without taking any more of their time than necessary. However, politicians are not the only people with lots on their plate, and efficiency is always the key to effective communication, no matter who your audience is.

My job as the Sales Manager at Budget Bicycle Center has also taught me skills in accounting and finance. At the time I took over management of the shop, there was no system in place to track our sales and expenditures, and the only data we had to gauge our performance was poorly organized an generally inaccessible. I took it upon myself to develop an extensive system of accounting for our sales and receipts, as well as consolidating all the data from past years so that we can more accurately track important trends over time.

3) In the coming years, I believe it will be more important than ever for the Sierra Club to reach out to rural areas and small towns in Wisconsin. The Club will need to work on developing local leadership in areas where residents are more likely to trust the people they know and live with. Farmers in Wisconsin are dependent on many of the same natural resources as anyone who lives in a city, but without a more thorough understanding of their needs and goals, it will be difficult to convince them that we are on the same side. Without trusted local leadership, the Sierra Club is just another far-away group trying to tell people how to go about their business.

Moreover, I believe that the current administration's attempts to undermine environmental safeguards present an opportunity for the Sierra Club to experiment with different

messaging strategies. There are plenty of examples from history where a lack of environmental regulation and stewardship has led to public health disasters, or the erosion of rights and protections for vulnerable populations. Instead of providing examples of things that may happen, there are places where it may be more effective to provide examples of what has already happened.

4) Of the John Muir Chapter's priority issues, I would have a hard time choosing only one to be passionate about. Given that transportation is one of the leading contributors to greenhouse gas emissions in the US, I believe that moving Beyond Oil is of critical importance. Having spent the last 8 years working with cyclists and their bikes, I have a good working knowledge of both the needs of the cycling community, and the barriers that exist which keep people driving their cars. Alternative transportation has a massive potential in Wisconsin, not only to reduce our state's carbon footprint, but also to contribute to a healthier, happier population, and all the benefits that go with it.

However, on a more emotional level, I believe in the importance of preserving the wild places in our state. Exploring the outdoors, watching wild animals, hiking, canoeing, are the activities which helped me develop an enduring interest in what happens outside the world of people and their things. These are the experiences which create new generations of environmentalists, and which teach us just what the stakes are in the fight to protect our world. Without Wisconsin's wild places, it will become more difficult to teach our children that there's so much more to value in nature than what we can extract from it.

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



754 Williamson Street Madison, WI 53703

Our newsletter is printed on recycled paper

CALENDAR

WEEKLY ON WEDNESDAYS: ENBRIDGE PIPELINE VIDEO PREMIERE, WISCONSINSAFEENERGY.ORG

OCTOBER 6

Little Pink House showing and Pipeline Panel

Portage, WI.

facebook.com/columbiacountywise

OCTOBER 16

Solar Group Buy info session

6:30 p.m.

Ho-Chunk Three Rivers House, 724 Main St, La Crosse, WI

OCTOBER 19-21

Wisconsin Youth Network

Fall Gathering

Eau Claire

facebook.com/WisconsinYouthNetwork

NOVEMBER 6

Fall General Election

myvote.wi.gov

NOVEMBER 10

JMC Executive Committee Meeting

location to be determined

NOVEMBER 15

Executive Committee Election Ballots Due

VOLUME 56 / NUMBER 3 OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2018

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

NOVEMBER 17

Volunteer Appreciation and Awards Celebration

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Threshold 2717 Atwood Ave Madison, WI

JANUARY 12

River Touring Section Annual Meeting

11:00 - 3:00 p.m. First United Methodist Church 615 Broadway ST Baraboo, WI Details: Kevin Olson 608-963-2678 olsonfam44@centurytel.net











OUR MEMBERS IN ACTION

Sierra Club-John Muir Chapter members participated in Peoples Climate March events across Wisconsin.

On the left, Clean Energy Super Heros fight off Dirty Fuel Villians at a street theater before the march and rally in Milwaukee. Thank you, Kaja Rebane, for the great costume designs. Sierra Club joined 50 other organizations in planning the Southeast Wisconsin Peoples Climate March in Milwaukee, making it one of the largest Peoples

Climate March planning coalitions in the United States!

On the right, almost 100 people gathered in Minocqua. Chapter Director Bill Davis was one of the featured speakers. In addition to the events in Milwaukee and Minocqua, several other cities including Appleton, La Crosse, Platteville, Madison, and Monona also held events.

