

# WISCONSIN CLIMATE TABLE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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MAY 2023, ISSUE 40

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## FROM THE WCT COORDINATOR

SUSAN GAEDDERT, 1000 FRIENDS OF WISCONSIN

**For the first time since March 2020, the Wisconsin Climate Table met in person!** We convened on Friday, May 5 at Waukesha County Technical College for a day of networking, presentations, updates, and table business. (Many thanks to Joanna Salinas for suggesting the venue!) I'm grateful to everyone who was willing to spend the day together. It was energizing, inspiring, and honestly such a relief to have a break from Zoom. Keep reading to learn more about the meeting, who was there, and what we heard.

I took the position of Coordinator one year ago, in May 2022. It's been wonderful working with the Leadership Team and getting to know many of you. If you have any questions or are interested in joining the **Leadership Team**, please don't hesitate to contact me: [susan@1kfriends.org](mailto:susan@1kfriends.org).

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MAY 5, 2023

NEWS FROM KEVIEA GUIDEN

UPDATES & EVENTS FROM  
MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

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### CURRENT LEADERSHIP TEAM:

ABBY CORSO, ELEVATE (TERM  
EXPIRES MAY 2023)

MONTRE MOORE, WI NAACP

TONY WILKIN GIBART, MIDWEST  
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCATES

CHUCK TENNESSEN, DRIFTLESS  
AREA LAND CONSERVANCY

\*OPEN SEAT

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE  
LEADERSHIP TEAM? YOU MAY  
NOMINATE YOURSELF OR  
SOMEONE ELSE. CONTACT:  
[SUSAN@1KFRIENDS.ORG](mailto:SUSAN@1KFRIENDS.ORG)



## FULL TABLE MEETING: MAY 5, 2023 WAUKESHA COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE

### Clean Energy Plan Campaign

Co-chairs: Montre Moore & Ted Kraig

Organizations represented  
at the full table meeting:

350 Milwaukee  
350 Wisconsin  
1000 Friends of WI  
Citizen Action of Wisconsin  
Citizens' Climate Lobby  
Clean Wisconsin  
Dennis Grzezinski Law  
Office  
Driftless Area Land  
Conservancy  
Elevate  
Green Neighbor Challenge  
Midwest Environmental  
Advocates  
Office of Sustainability &  
Clean Energy (OSCE)  
Sierra Club Wisconsin  
Slipstream  
U.S. Green Building Council  
Waukesha County Green  
Team  
Wisconsin Academy  
Wisconsin NAACP  
Wisconsin's Green Fire

Maria Redmond (Wisconsin OSCE) gave a presentation progress on clean energy and climate action in Wisconsin. While legislative progress is a challenge, the Evers administration has issued executive orders to move forward on green workforce development, establish an Office of Environmental Justice, establish a Green Innovation Fund, and more. The OSCE is also responsible for distributing pollution reduction funds from the EPA. (Slides from Maria's presentation are available in the shared WCT drive here:

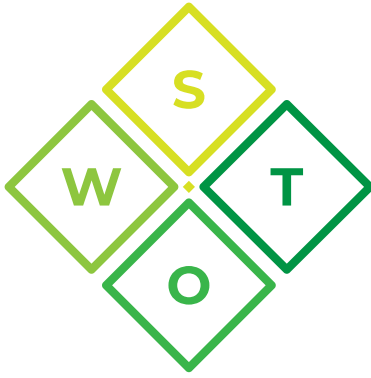
[https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1stdg-aZbvnryEVOhNJix9x1IS\\_bksCRu](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1stdg-aZbvnryEVOhNJix9x1IS_bksCRu))

Some members of the campaign helped write the Clean Energy Plan and were in attendance at the meeting. Their input has been valuable as the campaign finds its focus and looks for opportunities to push public engagement and outreach.



Image: Maria Redmond speaks to the group.

**The Leadership Team has open seats that need to be filled asap!** One seat has been vacant since November 2022. This is a 1-year position ending November 2023. Anyone wishing to fill this position has the option of adding another 1-year term to end in November 2024. A 2-year position ending May 2025 is being vacated by Abby Corso (Elevate), though she has volunteered to stay on for a few extra weeks until the position is filled. The Leadership Team meets at noon on Thursdays twice per month. There is rarely time commitment outside of those meeting times, though I (Susan) sometimes ask for help reading grant applications. Our main goals over the summer are: 1) to put together another state collaboration grant to fund table operations and 2) plan a fall Table retreat.



## FULL TABLE MEETING: MAY 5, 2023 WAUKESHA COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE

### Community Commitments Campaign

Co-chairs: Susan Gaeddert & Stephanie Robinson

Part of the afternoon was spent in small groups to conduct a **SWOT analysis** (Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities/Threats).

Overall, the consensus was that our **strengths** are networking and trust between members, our **weaknesses** are lack of funding and capacity, we have many **opportunities** to expand our reach and impact, and **threats** include burnout and similar coalitions duplicating efforts.

You can view the full notes from the SWOT analysis in the shared drive here:

<https://tinyurl.com/mrxwbzxd>

The main focus of the **Community Commitments Campaign** over the past year has been to put together a Tool Kit for Equity in Local Climate Action Planning, which we presented during the meeting. CCC welcomes feedback from WCT members for making the Tool more user-friendly. We are also in the beginning stages of developing a version of the Tool that can be used by grassroots organizations and other advocacy groups who want to hold decision makers accountable to their equity goals. The beta version of the Tool Kit is online and can be found here: <https://wisconsinclimatetable.org/equity-in-climate-action-planning-tool-kit/>

**CCC Project Coordinator Keviea Guiden** shared stories of climate and energy burden impacts in Milwaukee communities. Keviea's contract with CCC goes through mid-July. We are currently seeking funds to extend it into the fall.



*Image: Keviea shares stories with the group.*

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## NEWS FROM KEVIEA GUIDEN, CCC PROJECT COORDINATOR

Keveia was quoted in a WUWM story called "Milwaukee Campaign to replace We Energies with public utility grows."

<https://www.wuwm.com/2023-05-02/milwaukee-campaign-to-replace-we-energies-with-municipal-utility-grows>



Power to the People rally outside of City Hall in Milwaukee. Image from WUWM.

*"Guess where the less desirable area's at? Milwaukee. These are the older homes. These are the energy-inefficient homes. These are the homes that are not weatherized. These are the homes that have leaks and cracks in them, so this is what makes us pull more energy to keep homes warmer."*

*-Keveia Guiden*

## EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM WCT MEMBERS

### WISCONSIN GREEN MUSLIMS

*"The ISNA Green Initiative Team calls on to carry out its responsibilities under our nation's bedrock environmental laws, like the Clean Air Act, by advancing protections across federal agencies that will help the president to keep his promise."*



#### **The Clean Air We All Deserve**

*Our access to clean air depends on where we live and work*

<https://iegw.files.wordpress.com/2023/05/the-clean-air-we-all-deserve-may-june-2023-1.pdf>

## WISCONSIN'S GREEN FIRE

Wisconsin's Green Fire Spring 2023 newsletter, Confluences, is available now! Features include the importance of DEI in conservation, work group updates, a call for artists, and more!

<https://wfire.org/2019/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Confluences-Newsletter-Prf3-pages.pdf>



## 1000 FRIENDS OF WISCONSIN WEBINAR SERIES

**WEBINAR**  
MAY 17, 12-1PM

**SPEAKERS**

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS  
DIRECTOR  
Susan Gaeddert

LA CROSSE ACADEMY PARTICIPANTS  
Andrew Ericson  
Dorothy Lenard  
Cathy Van Maren

1000 Friends of Wisconsin  
www.1kfriends.org

Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/yapxumu4>

**COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION ACADEMY**  
a new program from  
1000 Friends of Wisconsin

Learn all about the first **Community Transportation Academy!** The academy is an opportunity for deep public engagement at the local level, helping bridge the gap between community advocates and transportation policy and planning entities. The Academy is designed as a template to be used in communities across the state. We're excited to share our experience with the first academy held in La Crosse! Join **Susan Gaeddert, Community Programs Director** and 3 La Crosse participants who will discuss the who, what, why and how of the Academy.

Link to register: <https://tinyurl.com/yapxumu4>

## WAUKESHA GREEN TEAM/ GREEN NEIGHBOR CHALLENGE

**FREE ONLINE WEBINAR**

**NAVIGATING YOUR HOME ENERGY TRANSITION**

In this presentation Green Neighbor's Founder will be introducing the organizations' toolkit and inviting residents to take action with them in a joint webinar with Waukesha County's Green Team!

The Green Neighbor Challenge is an online toolkit built to help US residents navigate the home energy transition and take green energy action. Visit [Greenneighborchallenge.org](https://www.greenneighborchallenge.org) to learn more.

DATE 16 Mar, 2023

TIME 6:30-8:00PM CDT

Register at [bit.ly/3SBzdde](https://bit.ly/3SBzdde)

**SPEAKER**  
Andrew Butts

Waukesha County Green Team

Green Neighbor Challenge

On March 16th, the **Waukesha County Green Team** hosted a webinar with the **Green Neighbor Challenge** on "Navigating Your Home Energy Transition." We'd love for more organizations to check out the recording (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJP5GqnTrNo>) and consider ways to lead and engage residents by example on home energy transition efforts.

If you'd like to host a similar webinar to introduce your membership to the programs and incentives supporting home energy action, please reach out to [Andrew@GreenNeighborChallenge.org](mailto:Andrew@GreenNeighborChallenge.org).

# WAUKESHA COUNTY GREEN TEAM SUSTAINABILITY FAIR



Exhibitor and Sponsor registration is now open for the 2023 Sustainability Fair!

The fourth Sustainability Fair will be held at Retzer Nature Center in Waukesha County on Saturday, August 26 from 9:30am-3:00pm. The fair is a project of the Waukesha County Green Team and fair partners include Waukesha County, Waukesha County Land Conservancy, and Plowshare Fair Trade.

The Fair is a Zero Waste event and will include interactive exhibits, an EV showcase, expert presentations, planetarium showings, and guided activities for children and adults that celebrate environmental sustainability and show how it can be approachable, economical, and fun!

Bring your organization to over 1,000 ecologically minded visitors of all ages.

Exhibitor and Vendor Sign-up:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sustainability-fair-2023-exhibitor-and-vendor-signup-tickets-495180055877>

Sponsorship Opportunities:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sustainability-fair-2023-sponsorship-opportunities-tickets-495207678497>

Information Packet:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yI79hYWccNT\\_-qDzQuOQkme-xXvzHOXS/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yI79hYWccNT_-qDzQuOQkme-xXvzHOXS/view)

## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

Items for the June WCT newsletter should be submitted by **Friday, June 2 at noon.**

Send a write-up of **no more than 200 words** plus an image and any links to share. I am also looking for seasonal photos from around Wisconsin to feature on the cover page each month.

Send all information to:  
[susan@1kfriends.org](mailto:susan@1kfriends.org)

*"When I rise up, let me  
rise up joyful like a bird.  
When I fall, let me fall  
without regret, like a  
leaf."*

-Wendell Berry

