WISCONSIN *** CLIMATE TABLE ***

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023. ISSUE 45



SCHMEEKLE RESERVE IN STEVENS POINT PHOTO BY SUSAN GAFDDERT

FROM THE WCT COORDINATOR

SUSAN GAEDDERT, 1000 FRIENDS OF WISCONSIN

This is the last newsletter for 2023! I am inspired by the work you all have done over the last year, and I feel so lucky to collaborate with all of you on the work we do together to ensure a resilient future for Wisconsin where everyone thrives.

We have great things in store for 2024! I hope everyone gets some well-deserved rest over the holidays. Keep on keepin' on.



IN THIS ISSUE:

FULL TABLE MEETING: TUESDAY, JANUARY 9 1-2:30PM

WELCOME ANDREW BUTTS, OUR NEWEST LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBER!

CAMPAIGN UPDATES

UPDATES & EVENTS FROM MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS & OTHERS

CURRENT LEADERSHIP TEAM:

ANDREW BUTTS, GREEN NEIGHBOR CHALLENGE

LIZZIE CONDON, WISCONSIN ACADEMY OF ARTS, LETTERS &

ROBIN LISOWSKI, SLIPSTREAM

MONTRE MOORE, WI NAACP

CONTACT THE COORDINATOR: SUSAN@1KFRIENDS.ORG

Leadership Team Welcomes Andrew Butts, Green Neighbor Challenge



The Green Neighbor Challenge is a small non-profit project building a free digital toolkit to empower US residents to navigate their home energy transition. We leverage national datasets and services to help residents anywhere in the US find local green energy programs, energy efficiency and electrification incentives, rooftop and community solar options, and energy assistance programs. Find the energy programs and incentives available to you at www.greenneighborchallenge. org.

FULL TABLE MEETING IN JANUARY

Mark your calendars for a WCT full table meeting on Tuesday, January 9 at 1pm. We'll have a special guest speaker, hear about the work of the Community Commitments and CEP Campaigns - including a special grant opportunity! - and catch up with with news from table members. Don't miss it!



FULL TABLE MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9 FROM 1-2:30PM
REGISTER FOR ZOOM MEETING HERE

CAMPAIGN UPDATES

Clean Energy Plan Campaign Co-chairs: Montre Moore & Ted Kraig

The Clean Energy Plan Campaign has issued an <u>RFP for Equitable Implementation of the Wisconsin Clean Energy Plan</u>. Up to \$10,000 is available for increasing capacity for public engagement around specific goals of the CEP. DEADLINE: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 11:59pm.

Find the RFP on the WCT website here.

If you would like to be included on the CEP Campaign email list, contact Ted Kraig: kraigt@weac.org.

Community Commitments Co-chair: Susan Gaeddert

The next Community Commitments Campaign meeting is Thursday, December 14 at 1pm.

If you are interested in joining Susan Gaeddert as CCC cochair, send an email to susan@1kfriends.org

OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES

EPA ANNOUNCES COMMUNITY CHANGE GRANTS TO ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE



A new federal grant program dubbed **Community Change Grants** is making roughly \$2 billion in funding available to communities for projects that address environmental justice.

The program seeks to address criticism that climate funding is "difficult to access" for underresourced communities through technical assistance and a rolling application process. "The grants can be used to support a wide range of efforts, the EPA said, including workforce development, indoor air pollution reduction and deployment of low- and zero-emissions technologies."

The grants are open to local governments and nonprofit organizations.

learn more about the EPA grant program here.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE FROM GREEN NEIGHBOR CHALLENGE

Online Toolbox for Your Home Energy Transition

Take energy action using the Green Neighbor Challenge's free web tools - find certified renewable energy programs, explore your solar options, and discover energy efficiency & electrification rebates to save energy and money.

Join the Nationwide Effort to Clean Up America's Air

It has never been easier to transition to green energy and reduce pollution at its source. With the Green Neighbor Challenge's free digital toolbox - you can find your local programs and join the nationwide effort of residents to clean up the air in their own backyards by visiting greenneighborchallenge.org.



FULL TABLE MEETING TUES. 1/9 1-2:30PM REGISTER FOR ZOOM MEETING HERE

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM WCT MEMBERS

WISCONSIN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, ARTS & LETTERS LIVE FROM DUBAI - WISCONSIN GOES TO COP28



December 4, 2023 12:30 - 1:30 pm - Zoom

Join the <u>Wisconsin Academy of Sciences</u>, Arts & Letters and the <u>Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies</u>, <u>UW-Madison</u> on December 4th as we bring together three remarkable Wisconsinites to discuss their first-hand experience at COP28, the 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which is taking place in Dubai from November 30th to December 12th, 2023.

The event will take place the day following the inaugural Health Day at COP and attendees will be able to ask questions about the impact of climate change on health, as well as other aspects of the discussions at COP28.

Register today for this free Zoom event at: https://www.wisconsinacademy.org/evenings/live-dubai

1000 FRIENDS OF WISCONSIN: WEBINAR 11/29 AT 10AM

Join us 11/29 at 10am CST to learn what highway fights can teach us about building the climate movement. Highways offer a perfect example of how our most polluting infrastructure has been built in tandem with racism. A wave of new highway fights demonstrate the power of communities to demand cleaner and more just solutions.

Speakers: Carl Glasemeyer from 1000 Friends, Raquel Sidie-Wagner from Our Streets Minneapolis, Pine Holz from the People's Canvass

Link to register.



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CLIMATE ACTION MAPPING PROJECT

The Wisconsin Climate Action Mapping Project (WI CAMP) is a working group of 350 WI made up of volunteers and interns that are working toward climate collaboration throughout the State. CAMP aims to foster state-wide synergy across organizations focused broadly on climate action by providing a website that allows organizations and citizens to easily connect, coordinate, collaborate, and join existing climate-related initiatives in their area.



We want to better connect and communicate the work and advocacy of institutional departments to WI citizens, which will help them feel more informed to participate in climate action, citizen science, and civic engagement so that we can collectively, rapidly use known information and data to make positive change. There are many fantastic resources that already exist to protect our environment, they are unfortunately housed across so many different platforms. CAMP wants to make these resources more accessible, visible, and shared among the many talented WI organizations.

If you are interested in our directory, this project initiative, and/or giving our group feedback, please get connected with us at elise@couillardsolarfoundation.org.



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DRIFTLESS AREA LAND CONSERVANCY

High school students in the Driftless Area are demonstrating a rising awareness of the environmental challenges we face today. **Driftless Area Land Conservancy's Clean Local Energy Alliance – Now! (CLEA-N)** project has been working to foster that awareness and activism. For the recent Wisconsin Science Fair at Mineral Point High School, CLEA-N provided the Earth Wise Club with a solar-tracker kit. Students assembled and demonstrated the tracker. A slide presentation displayed the solar data they had collected showing the abundance of solar energy that is going unused on their campus.





CLEA-N's donation of a solar tracker kit also provided Dodgeville High School students the same opportunity to collect solar data at their site. With CLEA-N's support, the DHS's student Clean Energy Transition Team is educating students and faculty members about the benefits of solar. School districts that don't add solar miss an opportunity to save hundreds of thousands of dollars in energy costs. "206 schools across Wisconsin already have added solar. It's time we took a serious look at doing the same," science teacher and CETT faculty leader Karri Roh-Wasley stated.

CLEAN WISCONSIN IS HIRING!



Clean Wisconsin is hiring a Stakeholder Engagement Manager to develop and implement stakeholder engagement strategies around new energy conservation building codes. <u>More information can be</u> found here.

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WISCONSIN GREEN MUSLIMS

Huda Alkaff et al. (Islamic Society of North America -ISNA- Green Initiative Team) published an article in the national Islamic Horizons magazine November/December 2023 edition: "Islam's Environmental Spirit: Working for Climate and Environmental Justice"



"...responsibility lies with the leaders of rich nations that have a historical legacy of pollution to deliver a fast and fair phase out of fossil fuels and fund it globally.."

-Islam's Environmental Spirit

350 WISCONSIN



The Line 5 Action Toolkit is a joint effort of the 350 Wisconsin & Sierra Club WI Chapter tar sands team. It was created to help Wisconsinites across the state get involved in the fight against Line 5 and to raise awareness about this critical issue through a variety of actions.

Want to make a big impact with something simple? Put up a yard sign! Looking to do a bit more? Distribute flyers in your community and invite a friend to help! Whether you're short on time or can afford to challenge yourself to complete each action, your efforts help spread the word. If you have any questions about how to use the toolkit, please contact Britnie:

britnie.remer@350wisconsin.org.

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Whose woods these are I think I know.

His house is in the village, though;

He will not see me stopping here

To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer To stop without a farmhouse near Between the woods and frozen lake The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark, and deep.

But I have promises to keep,

And miles to go before I sleep,

And miles to go before I sleep.

-Robert Frost



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

Items for the September WCT newsletter should be submitted by end of day **Friday**, **January 5.2024**.

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

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