

# WISCONSIN CLIMATE TABLE



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025, ISSUE 58



IMAGE: BENCH OVERLOOKING LAKE MENDOTA

## FROM THE WCT COORDINATOR

SUSAN GAEDDERT, 1000 FRIENDS OF WISCONSIN

Buds are tentatively poking through on the fruit trees I planted last year, proof of life. Last week it snowed. This Friday it could hit 70. It must be March in Wisconsin.

While things fall apart in Washington, here in Wisconsin, we're gearing up for the state budget process and monitoring progress on the state's first ever Climate Action Plan.

I saw a post on social media that said (I'm paraphrasing): *the reason a choir can sustain a note for what seems like an impossibly long time is that members of the choir drop out to breathe when they need to while the rest keep singing.*

I think we have to be like the choir. Keep singing. Take a breath when you need to, and then jump back in. This is how we work together.

### IN THIS ISSUE:

NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

FULL TABLE MEETINGS 3/13 AND 5/9

WTC VIRTUAL WATER COOLER

RE-AMP HUB ORIENTATIONS

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

MEMBER NEWS & JOB POSTINGS

---

### CURRENT LEADERSHIP TEAM:

ANDREW BUTTS, GREEN NEIGHBOR CHALLENGE

ABBY CORSO, ELEVATE

ROBIN LISOWSKI, SLIPSTREAM

ABBY NOVINSKA-LOIS, HEALTHY CLIMATE WISCONSIN

JOANNA SALINAS, WAUKESHA COUNTY GREEN TEAM

---

CONTACT THE COORDINATOR:  
SUSAN@1KFRIENDS.ORG

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS! WISCONSIN CLIMATE TABLE Q1 AND Q2 FULL TABLE MEETINGS

### Q1: Thursday, March 13

10-11am

Zoom registration link:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/G6l0J2QGQoyToIF\\_WOTzFg](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/G6l0J2QGQoyToIF_WOTzFg)

*A full agenda will be sent out to all registrants ahead of the meeting. We will share updates on Climate Table work and spend some time discussing how we move forward in the face of new challenges.*

### Q2: Friday, May 9

~9am-3pm

Location TBD

*Our annual spring gathering will take place in either Milwaukee or Madison. This is an opportunity for Table members to hear from each other and work together in a friendly, welcoming environment. There is no fee to attend. Breakfast and lunch are provided, and we have a budget for travel support.*

---

## WTC VIRTUAL WATER COOLER

We're trying something kind of new in 2025, a **WCT Virtual "Water Cooler"**! Every few weeks, the Coordinator will set up a Zoom meeting open to anyone from the Table who wants to show up and shoot the breeze.

Whether you need to vent, talk through a conundrum, or just get to know others in the Climate Table, you are welcome to join! There will be no agenda or calls to action, just an open space for people to gather informally and get to know each other.

The next **WTC Virtual Water Cooler** is **Friday, March 21 from 11:30-12:30**. Check the email list for a Zoom link, or email the Coordinator if you want to be added to the calendar hold: [susan@1kfriends.org](mailto:susan@1kfriends.org)

## RE-AMP HUB ORIENTATIONS

Looking for a place to direct someone who should be involved in our Transportation or Agriculture work? New to the network or looking to re-engage in these strategic priorities? We've got hub orientations coming up!



This March, [RE-AMP](#) will be hosting orientations for our Agriculture & Food Systems Hub and our Transportation Hub. These are the two strategic priorities that carried over from our 2021-2024 priorities and we're excited to keep building on the amazing work of our members in these areas. These orientations will include briefings on the focus areas, collaborative culture, and history/future of the hubs. More information on each orientation below. These orientations are open to members and non-members, so please share widely.

### WHO ARE THESE FOR?

- New member organizations getting acquainted with the network
- Recently hired staff who work in these areas
- Organizations or individuals curious about RE-AMP or exploring membership
- Values-aligned organizations doing important work that is missing in the network
- Existing members who are looking to re-engage in a hub or are curious about cross-hub connections

### AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS HUB ORIENTATION

Wednesday March 12, 9:30-10:30am CT // 10:30-11:30am ET

[Info and Registration](#)

40 minute briefing and optional 20 minute Q&A on who we are, what happens in our hub, and what we're strategizing and collaborating on this year in the Midwest.

### TRANSPORTATION HUB ORIENTATION

Thursday March 27, 3-4pm CT // 4-5pm ET

[Info and Registration](#)

Join RE-AMP Program Manager, Vanessa Pacheco, as we walk through the focus, culture and history/future of the Midwest Transportation Hub. Learn about opportunities for capacity-building and collaboration!

If you work in our **Energy Priority** please check out the [first Energy Hub Meeting](#) on March 20th at 10 CT // 11 ET.



# GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

## THRIVING COMMUNITIES GRANTMAKING PROGRAM



The Great Lakes [Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program](#) will distribute \$40 million in grants. This three-year program will serve communities in Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, and 36 federally recognized tribal nations. Nonprofit organizations, local and tribal governments, and institutions of higher education that work in the Great Lakes region are all welcome to apply for funding.

Grants will support projects that focus on issues including, but not limited to:

- Environmental health
- Air, soil, and water quality
- Healthy homes
- Access to healthy food
- Stormwater and green infrastructure
- Emergency preparedness
- Disaster resilience
- Environmental job training

Applications will be accepted through November 2026, and grants will be approved on a rolling basis. **The next funding round will end on March 30, 2025.**

Organizations are encouraged to apply sooner rather than later. To learn more about the program, please visit the [website](#) which includes a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section. You can also attend March Office Hours (3/13 and 3/27 12-1pmCT) by [registering here](#) or reach out directly to Dr. Ryan Alaniz, Director of Rural and Remote Outreach: [ryan@reamp.org](mailto:ryan@reamp.org).

### [LEARN MORE AND APPLY](#)

This program marks a major public investment in local communities through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Grants in the Great Lakes region will be distributed by a partnership between the Minneapolis Foundation, Midwest Environmental Justice Network (MWEJN), NDN Collective, and RE-AMP Network.

# WCT MEMBER UPDATES

## WISCONSIN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NETWORK

**Wisconsin Environmental Health Network**

### MAKING THE CONNECTION Conference

Plastics and Health

**MARCH 7TH | 11AM-5PM**

HEALTH SCIENCES LEARNING CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MADISON AND ONLINE

Join the Wisconsin Environmental Health Network (WEHN) for our annual environmental health conference, focusing this year on the critical connection between plastics and health.

- This event is an opportunity to connect, learn, and engage with experts and peers in the field.
- Earn 5 hours of CE or CME credits

**Thank you to our 2025 sponsors!**

- Clean Wisconsin
- Family Farm Defenders
- Group Health Cooperative of SCW
- Healthy Climate Wisconsin
- Healthy Lawn Team
- Joseph Zilber School of Public Health
- Linda & Gene Farley Center for Sustainability, Peace & Social Justice
- Madison Area Donor Mills Alliance
- Midwest Environmental Advocates
- Preventive Medicine Residency Program - Henry Anderson Fund
- UnityPoint Health - Meriter Medical Staff
- UW Department of Pediatrics
- UW Dept of Farm Medicine and Community Health
- UW Health, UnityPoint Health - Meriter & Quarte

**REGISTER AT**  
[WWW.WEHNONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.WEHNONLINE.ORG)

Join the **Wisconsin Environmental Health Network** for its [annual conference](https://www.wehnonline.org/conference-2025), where experts will delve into the critical connection between health and plastics, addressing systemic impacts and actionable policy changes.

This event is ideal for students, environmental advocates, healthcare professionals, and anyone curious about how plastics impact our health and environment. Don't miss this opportunity to gain valuable insights and be part of the conversation!

Link: <https://www.wehnonline.org/conference-2025>



### Climate Action Day March 11, 2025

Join us for a powerful day of action! Advocate for sustainable energy, environmental justice, and faith-based engagement. Meet with legislators, participate in advocacy training, and rally for change.

**2025 WISCONSIN ADVOCACY DAY**

## CLIMATE ACTION DAY AT THE CAPITOL

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Join Faith in Place at the 2025 Wisconsin Advocacy Day! We will be advocating for a cleaner and healthier tomorrow! All are welcome!

More details and the agenda to come!

**11 March 2025**

**Wisconsin State Capitol**  
2 E Main St, Madison, WI 53702

\*Transportation Opportunities will be provided\*

**FREE REGISTRATION: [BIT.LY/WI-ADVOCACY-DAY2025](https://bit.ly/wi-advocacy-day2025)**

Our strategy should be not only to confront empire, but to lay siege to it. To deprive it of oxygen. To shame it. To mock it. With our art, our music, our literature, our stubbornness, our joy, our brilliance, our sheer relentlessness – and our ability to tell our own stories. Stories that are different from the ones we’re being brainwashed to believe.

The corporate revolution will collapse if we refuse to buy what they are selling – their ideas, their version of history, their wars, their weapons, their notion of inevitability.

Remember this: We be many and they be few. They need us more than we need them. Another world is not only possible, she is on her way. On a quiet day, I can hear her breathing.

— Arundhati Roy, *War Talk*

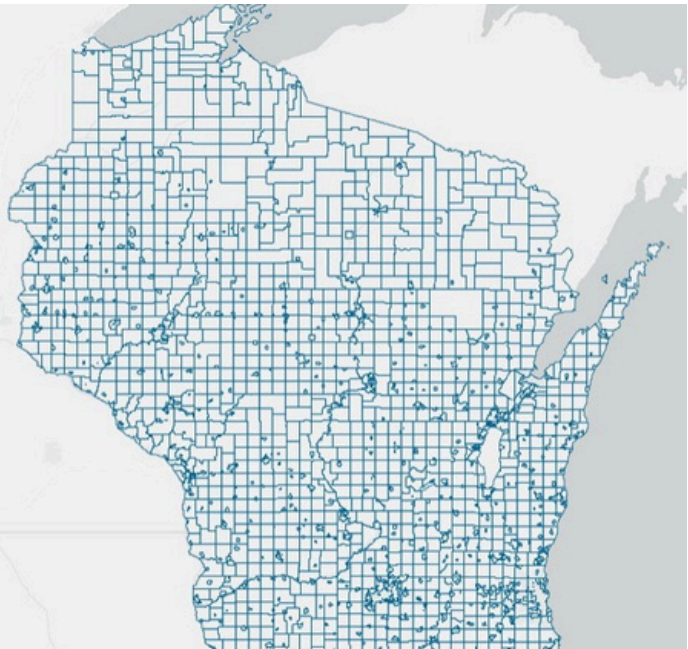
## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

Items for the next WCT newsletter should be submitted by **April 4, 2025**.

Submit 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.

Use [this form](#) for submissions. If you have questions, email [susan@1kfriends.org](mailto:susan@1kfriends.org)

*The Wisconsin Climate Table is a network of more than 30 diverse member organizations from across Wisconsin working together for equitable solutions to the climate crisis. We share the common goal to equitably eliminate greenhouse gas emissions in Wisconsin by the year 2050.*



Check out the WCT website! <https://wisconsinclimatetable.org>