



WISCONSIN'S
greenfire
VOICES FOR CONSERVATION

March News from Wisconsin's Green Fire

Climate Change Listening Session Thursday, March 25th, 2021 at 4:00 pm



Are you concerned about climate change?
Interested in helping shape the future of WGF's involvement in the issue?

Join our Climate Change Work Group Chair, Nancy Turyk, and WGF staff, for an hour-long listening session on **Thursday, March 25th, from 4-5**

PM. We'll share our ideas for direction, gather your feedback, and invite your ideas. We hope to see you there!

Registration is free and required. For questions, please contact Sarah Peterson, WGF Science Director, at speterson@wgreenfire.org

[Register for the Listening Session](#)

The Future is Now: Creating a 21st Century Energy Policy in Wisconsin Webinar

Wednesday, March 31st, 2021 at 11:00 am

Join Wisconsin's Green Fire for a 90-minute panel discussion on opportunities for Wisconsin to chart a path towards an energy system that is cleaner, more reliable, more



*The Future is Now: Creating a
21st Century Energy Policy
in Wisconsin*

*A Conversation with
Energy Leaders*

March 31st, 11:00 AM

[Register Here](#)



equitable, and increasingly decentralized. WGF welcomes energy experts from [RENEW Wisconsin](#) and the [Midwest Renewable Energy Association \(MREA\)](#) to discuss the future of clean, renewable energy in Wisconsin and policy opportunities that exist to enact change. Learn how

energy consumers can benefit from new policies and investments, how third-party financing can help propel local renewable energy generation, and get a glimpse of Wisconsin's new State Energy Plan.

Bring your questions for a lively Q&A session with our panelists:

- Heather Allen, Executive Director, RENEW Wisconsin
- Nick Hylla, Executive Director, Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA)
- Keith Reopelle, Renewable Energy Consultant and Member of Wisconsin's Green Fire

[Register for the Webinar](#)

Did you miss our webinar last month on PFAS: Forever Chemicals in Wisconsin? You can now view the recording on our website.

[Watch the Webinar](#)

Wisconsin State Budget Announced

Summary and Analysis from WGF Legislative Liaison Paul Heinen



I am happy to report that Wisconsin's Green Fire supports the historic state budget recently introduced by Governor Tony Evers. His budget contains increases in funding for water programs, PFAS regulation and testing, setting up an Office of Environmental Justice, energy and climate priorities, flood prevention, and so much more.

One specific priority that WGF requested in our early meetings with the governor's staff was the re-authorization of the [Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program](#). Since 1989, the program has protected our forests, parks, wild spaces, and natural areas across the state. The governor's budget includes a ten-year extension of the program running through 2032 with an increase from \$32 million to \$70 million per year –more than a doubling of this unique land protection fund.

We are working closely with [Gathering Waters, Wisconsin's Alliance for Land Trusts](#), and other organizations across the state, supporting the re-authorization of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. Gathering Waters has developed a simple way to show your support for the program by contacting your Wisconsin State Legislators and creating a personalized postcard to support the program. You can find the link at the end of this update.

I will keep you updated on the Stewardship Fund's progress along with all the other items in this fantastic budget in the coming months.

-Paul Heinen

Support the Knowles- Nelson Stewardship Fund
Send Your Legislator a Post Card

Lessons from Wisconsin and Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)



Michael K. Foy and Thomas M. Hauge, members of Wisconsin's Green Fire, gave a presentation during the [Southeast Deer Study Group Conference](#) recently. During their presentation, they addressed how other states can tackle the

critical situation that CWD poses to deer herds around the country.

Watch the 20 Minute Presentation

Wisconsin's Green Fire Supports Safe and Accessible Budget Process

With the state budget process underway, WGF has joined



100+ local and statewide organizations to encourage the Joint Finance Committee Co-Chairs to set up an approach for testimony and engagement on the proposed budget that welcomes the voices and experience of all people in Wisconsin. Over the last few months, leaders in the Wisconsin Legislature have been holding meetings and hearings without

requiring attendees to wear masks or offering a video option for those who don't feel safe attending hearings.

[Read the Letter to the Joint Finance Committee Co-Chairs](#)

Looking for a comprehensive analysis on the recent wolf hunt? Wisconsin's Green Fire will be releasing one in the coming weeks. Be sure to stay tuned to our [Facebook](#) page and/or our [website](#) to read it as soon as it is released.

Wisconsin's Green Fire in the News

Wisconsin's Green Fire is becoming a go-to source for natural resource focused stories across the state. Each month we will compile and share the latest pieces featuring our members, staff, and work.

- WPR's February 17th, story: [Evers' Budget Proposes Significant Investment To Address Climate Change, Protect Public Lands](#)
- WXPR's February 25th, story: [Evers' \\$25 Million Plan to Address PFAS Applauded by Conservation Group](#)
- The Capital Times February 25th, story: [Wisconsin Environmental Experts Expect Different Approach to PFAS Under Biden](#)
- WXPR's March 10th, story: [Wisconsin's Green Fire Urges Wisconsin to Update Energy Policy to Keep Up with Changing Technology](#)

Wisconsin's Green Fire needs your support now more than ever. Your donation assures that conservation issues around the state are addressed with the best scientific information available.

[Give Today to Support Conservation Tomorrow!](#)

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Voices for Conservation

