

October News from Wisconsin's Green Fire

WGF Goes Six for Six, Hosting Regional Conservation Socials Across Wisconsin



Wisconsin's Green Fire leaders, members, and friends gathered across Wisconsin this fall to celebrate WGF's conservation successes in the past year and look forward to the coming year. Through September and October we gathered in outdoor, COVID-safe settings in Eau Claire, Milwaukee, Madison, Eagle River, Washburn, and Amherst and welcomed new and old friends interested in [WGF's work](#) in conservation.

At each social we heard from [WGF experts](#) on a topic of interest in the region, ranging from wolves to water resources to energy policy. We were encouraged to see the enthusiasm in [WGF's work](#) and mission to support Wisconsin's conservation legacy and science-based management of the state's natural resources.

We would like to thank everyone who attended these socials, the venues who hosted us, and the WGF leaders who organized each of these events!

If you are interested in becoming a member and supporting WGF's work, visit our [website](#) and learn more!

**Become a member
today**

Monroe County Climate Assessment Hosts Community Listening Sessions

The Monroe County Climate Assessment is moving into a public feedback phase. Monroe



County Administrator Tina Osterberg and Land Conservation Director Bob Micheel joined WGF's Fred Clark and Nancy Turyk in listening sessions in Wilton and Tomah on Thursday evening Oct 21st. With many different views about climate change and its causes, a key point of consensus among participants is the importance of soil and water

conservation in creating resilient communities.

[Read more about the project](#)

WGF Welcomes its First Two Fellows



Jenny Oren is WGF's Communications and Membership Fellow, managing WGF's communications efforts and membership outreach and engagement. She has been an active member of WGF's Student and Young Professional Work Group since its creation in 2020, and worked with WGF as a part-time communications assistant during the summer of 2021.

Jenny holds an M.S. in Environmental Conservation from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a B.S. in Conservation Biology from North Carolina State University, and has experience in large carnivore conservation, policy development, and science communication. Originally from eastern Virginia, Jenny is excited to grow her network in the world of conservation through this Fellowship and her work with WGF!



Heather Stricker is WGF's Climate Science Fellow, a position made possible in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy. In this role, Heather will work with a team of partners and collaborators supporting Wisconsin communities in climate assessment and readiness planning.

Heather holds a B.S. in Animal (Wildlife) Ecology from Iowa State University and M.S. in Conservation Biology from Central Michigan University. Heather is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in Educational Sustainability, and has spent the last 15 years working as a wildlife and conservation biologist, with specialties in landscape ecology, large carnivores, geographic information systems (GIS), and biodiversity.

[Learn more about WGF's Fellows](#)

Hope for the Future: WGF Holds its Fall 2021 Annual Meeting



WGF held its fall 2021 Annual Meeting in late September, "Wisconsin Conservation: Today's Challenges and Tomorrow's Leaders". The meeting's theme centered on the state of our conservation tradition, with a special focus on the next generation of conservation professionals. Our keynote speaker Christine Thomas [shared her experience](#) in natural resource education as the former Dean of the College of Natural Resources at UW-Stevens Point and Natural

Resources Board member. The meeting ended with an [inspirational closing](#) from members of WGF's Student and Young Professional Work Group, who shared what motivates them to remain involved in conservation.

[View the meeting recordings](#)

WGF Provides Testimony on Proposed Bills



The Capitol is buzzing with activity again as legislators debate some of the last bills that will pass during the 2019-2021 legislative session. The last day of session is March 10, 2022, and there are only three one-week floor periods left to pass bills through both houses and get them to the Governor's desk.

Energy bills and a package of hunting and fishing bills,

including [Senate Bill 620 on sandhill crane hunting](#) are being watched closely by WGF's Legislative group as they prepare objective and factual comments to share with Senate Sporting Heritage Committee members (pictured above). Many WGF members have extensive science and work experience on the issues being debated and are often sought out for their expert testimony or background.

Please email WGF's Legislative Liaison Paul Heinen with any questions at pheinen@wigreenfire.com.

Get Involved in Wisconsin Conservation

[Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters 2021 Local Government Summit - Leading the Change: Deep Resilience, Smart Communities](#) This virtual event on October 27th will focus on local energy planning and resilience in Wisconsin communities, featuring expert speakers who will share resources and lead discussions on creating more resilient communities. WGF Energy Work Group co-chair Gary Radloff will moderate a session with Tyler Huebner, Commissioner of the Public Service Commission, about local government opportunities in energy.

Register for the event on October 27th from 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM [here](#).

Attend upcoming listening sessions hosted by the office of Sustainability and Clean Energy on the Wisconsin Clean Energy Plan: Two upcoming listening sessions will gather public input on the first-ever Wisconsin Clean Energy Plan, a collaborative plan to reach 100% carbon-free electricity consumption in Wisconsin by 2050. The Clean Energy Plan is an important step towards creating a cleaner, safer, and more sustainable environment that benefits all Wisconsin citizens.

Upcoming listening sessions will provide a space for attendees to share their thoughts and input on Plan development. [Click here to register](#) for upcoming sessions on October 26th, and view [past listening sessions here](#).

Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association's Introduction to Carbon Farming Webinar: This webinar hosted in partnership with the Carbon Cycle Institute will be on November 16th from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. It will be an introduction to a three-week online workshop in early 2022 on carbon farming and learning the role of carbon in farming practices and climate change mitigation. [Register and learn more here](#).

Wisconsin's Green Fire in the News

WPR's September 22, 2021 story: [Wisconsin DNR Asks Hunters for Help with CWD Sampling This Fall](#).

PBS Wisconsin Here and Now October 15, 2021 segment with WGF member Peter David: [A Lawsuit to Halt Wisconsin's Wolf Hunt](#).

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.

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Tomorrow!**

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Voices for Conservation

