

January News from Wisconsin's Green Fire

WGF Hosts Lunchtime Webinar with Todd Ambs



On **January 27th from 12-1pm**, WGF will host a lunchtime webinar, *Confessions of a Recovering Bureaucrat: A WGF Conversation with Todd Ambs*.

This lunchtime conversation will feature Todd Ambs, recently retired as the Secretary for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and notable Wisconsin conservationist. In his over 40-year

career, Todd has worked with state governments and nonprofit organizations with a focus on water resources and policy. In his latest role serving in the Evers administration, Todd navigated controversial issues such as wolf hunting and PFAS contamination, as well as intensely partisan events around conservation governance, with the last two years of that time during the midst of a global pandemic.

In this free-wheeling conversation with WGF Executive Director Fred Clark, Todd will share reflections on Wisconsin conservation today and his ideas for our future. He might even break out his old guitar!

We hope you join us for this lunchtime conversation with Todd! [Visit our website](#) to register and learn more.

Register
Today!

WGF Climate Change Work Group Hosts Meeting



Join our Climate Change Work Group Chair, Nancy Turyk, and WGF leaders for an hour-long meeting on **February 10th from 5-6pm**. We'll share updates on our climate change work, gather your feedback, and invite your ideas for future work. Come learn more about the [Monroe County Climate Readiness and Rural Economic Opportunity Assessment](#), updates from our

Energy Policy Work Group, and provide feedback to our Student and Young Professional Work Group on climate communication graphics. We also invite attendees to propose topics for additional breakout groups.

Please visit [our website](#) to learn more about WGF's work in climate change, and we hope to see you on February 10th!

Registration is free and required. Please contact Sarah Peterson, WGF Science Director, at speterson@wigreenfire.org with any questions.

Photo credit: UW-Madison

Register
Today!

Update on Enbridge Line 5 Re-Route and Opportunities for Public Input



The Canadian pipeline and energy company Enbridge proposes to re-route Line 5 around the Mashkiiziibii (Bad River) Reservation. The new segment would be constructed upstream of the Reservation, but within the Bad River Watershed, a major tributary to Lake Superior.

In December, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) released the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for public review and comment. The public is invited to testify at WDNR's virtual public hearing on **February 2, 2022, and/or to submit written comments by March 4, 2022**. Information on the project and how to comment is on WDNR's website [here](#). A final EIS will be prepared after WDNR evaluates the public comments. WDNR will not issue the permits until the EIS is finalized.

In addition to the state actions, the [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers](#) is reviewing Enbridge's application for waterway and wetland crossings under federal authorities. **The public comment period on the federal applications is March 7, 2022.**

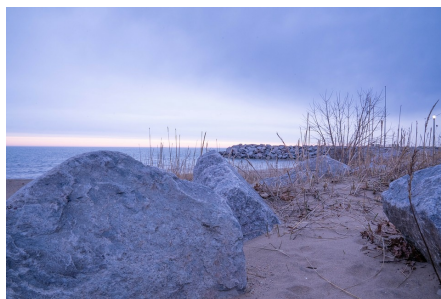
A good resource on how pipeline construction is regulated in Wisconsin is our series of 2 page guides developed with Midwest Environmental Advocates available [here](#).

WGF's review team is busy evaluating the draft EIS and will provide hearing testimony and written comments. We are also reviewing the waterway and wetland permit information submitted by Enbridge after the public comment period. WGF [commented](#) on the EIS scope and draft permits in July 2020.

To read more about our concerns about the pipeline visit our [website here](#). If you have experience or information to share with the WGF review team, please contact us at info@wgreenfire.org.

[Read More](#)

WGF Co-Hosts Public Trust Doctrine Webinar



On January 19th, WGF co-sponsored a webinar with the [University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Center for Water Policy](#) and the [State Bar of Wisconsin](#), featuring six expert panelists who offered diverse perspectives on the public trust doctrine and how it influences Milwaukee's Fresh Coast.

During the webinar, the six panelists, including WGF Board member and Public Trust and Wetlands Work Group co-chair Michael Cain, addressed questions about the implications of the public trust doctrine on public rights, land development, funding, policy, and governance affecting Milwaukee's iconic waterfront.

The webinar was attended by 214 people representing NGOs, academia, state and local government, media, and businesses across Wisconsin and region. You can view the recording [here](#).

[Click here](#) to view Michael Cain's slides, and [here](#) to view supplemental material from his presentation.

[View the Webinar](#)

Get Involved in Wisconsin Conservation

Attend Treaty Rights 101 with the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) on February 10th: Dr. Jonathan Gilbert with GLIFWC will lead two online presentations and discussions about Ojibwe Treaty Rights in the Great Lakes region, and implications of the Lac Courte Oreilles vs Wisconsin decision in Wisconsin. Topics will include co-management arrangements, tribal consultation, and GLIFWC's role in spearing, deer hunting, and ma'iingan (wolves).

Click [here](#) to register for the 10am presentation, and [here](#) for the 6pm presentation.

Represent your county as a Wisconsin Conservation Congress delegate:

The Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) is the statutory body of citizen-elected delegates who advise the Natural Resources Board and Department of Natural Resources on natural resource management decisions in the state.

The WCC currently has vacancies in several counties, and is looking for individuals interested in representing their county in natural resource management, policy, education, and conservation decisions. Visit [WDNR's website](#) to learn more about delegate requirements and responsibilities, and view the vacancies [here](#).

Please contact Kari Lee-Zimmermann at Kari.LeeZimmermann@Wisconsin.gov if you are interested.

Learn about the History, Process, and Health Benefits of Maple Syrup in Wisconsin:

On February 2nd, Theresa Baroun, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Maple Syrup Producers Association (WMSPA), will present on all things maple syrup for this month's Science on Tap Minocqua.

You can view the live stream on February 2nd at 6:30pm [here](#).

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

Give Today to Support Conservation
Tomorrow!

Wisconsin's Green Fire 715-203-0384 | info@wgreenfire.org | www.wgreenfire.org

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