

## November News from Wisconsin's Green Fire

### WGF Celebrates Successes at Annual Meeting



On Tuesday, November 15th, Wisconsin's Green Fire leaders and supporters gathered via Zoom to celebrate WGF's fifth anniversary, reflect on our conservation successes across Wisconsin, and look forward to the years ahead.

**Over 80 people attended the virtual meeting**, ranging from long-time members to new supporters and friends, partners from fellow Wisconsin conservation organizations, members of WGF's [Aspiring Conservation](#)

[Professionals Work Group](#), and WGF [Science Council](#) and [board](#) members.

WGF's new Board President Tom Jerow recognized Past-president and founder Terry Daulton's dedication to WGF and her leadership in WGF's first five years. Tom also recognized two retiring board members, Kate Reilly and Ron Eckstein, and our newest board member Susan Hedman.

We heard from two members of WGF's Aspiring Conservation Professionals Work Group, Jenny Washam and Ellen Wagner, who shared how their involvement with WGF has positively impacted their careers in conservation.

WGF member experts and work group leaders shared updates in their work across a wide range of high priority conservation topics, including:

- John Robinson, co-chair of WGF's Chemicals of Emerging Concern Work Group
- Sara Walling, Senior Policy Manager for Agriculture and Restoration with the [Alliance for the Great Lakes](#)
- Adrian Wydeven, co-chair of WGF's Wildlife Work Group. View Adrian's slides [here](#).
- Keith Reopelle, [Advanced Program and Policy Analyst with the Wisconsin Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy \(OSCE\)](#)
- Michael Cain, co-chair of WGF's Public Trust and Wetlands Work Group

WGF's Legislative Liaison Paul Heinen provided an assessment of implications of the November election, and Paul and Executive Director Fred Clark provided a summary of our most recent [Imbalance of Power](#) report, and a look forward to WGF's strategic plan for the next five years.

Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting! You can view the full meeting recording [here](#).

[View the recording here](#)

## WGF Holds Climate Change Work Group Meeting



On November 10th, Nancy Turyk, WGF Climate Change Work Group chair, and Sarah Peterson, WGF Science Director, hosted a Climate Change Work Group call that was attended by 31 people.

Paul Heinen, WGF Policy Liaison, and Scott Coenen, Executive Director for the [Wisconsin Conservative Energy Forum](#), provided

insights and reflections related to the results of the recent midterm election and what they mean for progress and action on renewable energy and climate change in Wisconsin.

Nancy and Sarah provided a recap on the [Climate Fast Forward Conference](#) in Madison, and announced WGF's involvement with the Wisconsin Climate Table and the [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Green Tier program](#) on Climate Change. They also provided an introduction to a project in collaboration with a Public Service fellow from the University of Wisconsin-Madison who will focus on developing informational fact sheets related to solar field developments.

You can view the full meeting recording [here](#).

[View the Recording Here](#)

## WGF Sponsors Deer Dumpsters to Stop the Spread of Chronic Wasting Disease



Wisconsin's gun deer season begins November 19th, and Wisconsin's Green Fire is playing our part to help slow the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). In partnership with the Sauk County Conservation Alliance and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, WGF has provided designated deer dumpsters where hunters can safely dispose of deer carcasses.

In fact, over the past three years, our combined efforts captured **118 tons of CWD-infected deer waste and helped hunters dispose of 1,099 infected deer carcasses through our deer dumpster program!**

In 2022, WGF is sponsoring two dumpsters in [Baraboo](#) and [Plain](#). Our work includes working with local authorities to find a suitable location for the dumpster, publicizing the locations, arranging for dumpster delivery, monitoring dumpster usage, and arranging for the dumpster disposal and replacement.

With your support, WGF will be able to provide proper carcass disposal at both dumpster locations, and continue our educational efforts with decision-makers, hunters, and outdoor users to improve Wisconsin's response to this disease. **If you are interested in donating to support this cause, please visit our [GoFundMe page](#) to make a secure donation.**

[Visit our website](#) for more information, and happy hunting!

Photo: WGF Wildlife Work Group co-chair Tom Hauge holding a banner for WGF's deer dumpsters.

**Stop the Spread of CWD Today**

## WGF Seeks Supporter Feedback



As 2022 comes to a close, we are looking forward to 2023 and **we want to ensure our work reflects your feedback and your vision for Wisconsin's conservation future.** Our work would not be possible without your support, and we value your opinion!

If you are interested in sharing your opinion on how you think Wisconsin's Green Fire has been doing, **please take a few minutes to complete [this survey](#) before December 2nd.** The survey includes:

- WGF's **programs and activities** in 2022.
- Our work to incorporate **diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice (DEIJ)** initiatives into every area of our work.
- WGF's work **focus areas** for the next five years.
- WGF's **communications** efforts and products in 2022.

[Click here](#) or scan the QR code above to find the survey. Thank you in advance for taking the time to share your opinion! If you have further input, please email us at [wigreenfire@gmail.com](mailto:wigreenfire@gmail.com).

**Provide Your Feedback Today**

## Next Steps for Cross-Cultural Partnership

In September, representatives from WGF and the [Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society \(WCTWS\)](#) co-facilitated a session at the Great Lakes Regional [Native American Fish and Wildlife Society \(NAFWS\)](#) conference in Hayward, WI called "Building cross-cultural partnerships for conservation." The session was attended by 16 conference participants, representing state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and tribal organizations. Attendees broke into two groups to discuss two questions:

- 1) What are some **challenges and opportunities** to cross-cultural communication, collaboration, and



before critical issues arise.

Some specific action steps for WGF and WCTWS that participants identified included encouraging **cross-organizational and cross-cultural communication and attendance at meetings held by other organizations**, providing **education, training, and resources to members** to better equip them for cross-cultural partnership building and collaboration, and **working closely with Tribes to influence decision makers on shared goals and issues that impact co-managed territories**.

Read the full summary of the session [here](#).

[Read More Here](#)

## ***Get Involved in Wisconsin Conservation***

**Apply for Vernon County Watershed Planner Position:** Vernon County Land & Water Conservation Department is hiring a Watershed Planner who will work directly with landowners and farmers on innovative watershed approaches. The Planner will be responsible for decisions regarding watershed planning, analysis, and modeling. Learn more and apply [here](#).

**Save the Date: Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society Winter Meeting and 50th Anniversary Celebration:** WCTWS will be holding its 52nd winter meeting in La Crosse, WI on January 31st - February 2nd with the theme "Bridging the Gap: Blending Research and Management." There will be a social celebrating WCTWS's 50th anniversary on Tuesday the 31st. The social will look back on the history of WCTWS, recognize past award recipients and board members, and look forward to the coming years. Many WGF wildlife work group members will also be in attendance, and will hold an in-person work group meeting the morning of the 31st.

Visit [WCTWS's website](#) for more information and to register.

**Apply for the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Freshwater Sciences Water Policy and Science Communications Graduate Student Research Fellowship:** This two-year funded Research Fellowship will begin in Fall 2023 and run through Spring 2025, and the candidate must also be admitted to the water policy Thesis track in [UW-Milwaukee's School of Freshwater Sciences master's degree program](#). The successful candidate will have a bachelor's degree in journalism, communications, public policy, economics, environmental science, engineering or a related field and should be interested in conducting graduate research toward a thesis focused on water policy and

partnerships for conservation among organizations in the Great Lakes Region?

2) **What are some ideas for specific action steps** organizations can take to better pursue cross-cultural communication, collaboration, and partnerships?

Participants discussed the barriers, and agreed there is often a misalignment of goals and worldviews between tribal and non-tribal organizations. Therefore, **it is important to acknowledge differences in these perspectives by adjusting language and priorities at the beginning of collaborations**. Additionally, **it is crucial to establish relationships on trust between individuals in each organization**, which must be done early

science communications.

The admission deadline for the Fall 2023 semester is **January 15th, 2023**. [Click here to learn more.](#)

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## Wisconsin Conservation News

The Lake Guy October 31st blog post: [Wisconsin's Green Fire holds webinar on imbalance of power in conserving resources and protecting the environment](#)

Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society November 9th webinar featuring WGF's Jenny Washam, Paul Heinen, and Tom Hauge: [Wisconsin's Green Fire – Partnership Opportunities in Wildlife](#)

WPR's November 11th article featuring WGF's Fred Clark: [Wisconsin's new wolf management plan nixes a statewide population goal](#)

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

**Give Today to Support Conservation Tomorrow!**

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