



November 3rd, 2022

To Our Wisconsin's Green Fire Member / Supporters,

Five years ago, Terry Daulton and her husband Jeff Wilson were at their home in Iron County having morning coffee. Their conversation reflected growing frustration over short sighted policies and actions that were leaving Wisconsin's citizens and future generations fewer opportunities to benefit from clean air and water, and the healthy forests, wetlands, and working lands that we call home.

Braving a northern Wisconsin blizzard, over 60 natural resource professionals and scientists accepted Terry's invitation to gather at Kemp Station in Lake Tomahawk. The result of that meeting was the formation of Wisconsin's Green Fire - a non-partisan, science-based organization founded on the expertise of career conservation professionals. Today as WGF begins our NEXT five years, we have a lot of accomplishments to be proud of, and we have a lot more to do. **But we are already making a difference.**

Just as one example, our research newest paper, *Imbalance of Power*, assesses 10 years of conservation failures in Wisconsin and identifies comprehensive policy reforms to address them. This work has received statewide media coverage and in 2023 we'll be working with state and local partners to continue to build public support for these efforts.

And we need your continued support to build a stronger conservation legacy for Wisconsin.

As we write this, our fall general election is on everyone's mind. Regardless of the election outcome however, we know we'll still be facing the same powerful special interests that have long blocked progress on environmental issues, and we know our unique ability to shine the light of science on longstanding and emerging issues will be needed more than ever.

Ambassadors

Senator Russ Feingold
Dr. Patty Loew
Tia Nelson

Board of Directors

Tom Jerow, President
(Rhinelanders)

Terry Daulton, Past President
(Mercer)

Jim Perry, Vice President
(Larsen)

Robin Schmidt, Secretary
(La Crosse)

Bob Gurda, Treasurer
(Madison)

Don Behm (Slinger)

Michael Cain (Madison)

Susan Hedman (Bayfield)

Bob Martini (Rhinelanders)

Bryan Pierce (Eagle River)

Jodi Habush-Sinykin
(Whitefish Bay)

Staff

Fred Clark, Executive Director

Paul Heinen, Policy Liaison

Nancy Larson, Senior Water Resources Specialist

Brianna Neumann,
Administrative Coordinator

Sarah Peterson,
Science Director

Jenny Washam,
Communication and Outreach Coordinator

Wisconsin's Green Fire

P.O. Box 1206
Rhinelanders, WI 54501
715-203-0384
www.wigreenfire.org
info@wigreenfire.org

Your support will help us continue working to restore the balance we so badly need today in Wisconsin conservation.

At our five-year anniversary, we're proud that people in state and federal government, other conservation and environmental organizations, and policy makers are using the information that our experts are generating and leveraging our impact.

Here's what Wisconsin DNR Secretary Preston Cole recently told us about our work:

"Wisconsin's Green Fire members include dedicated natural resource professionals who continue their work as volunteers providing meaningful advice and expertise. Green Fire is one of our valued partners, and your work helps me as Secretary and my staff make better decisions and work more effectively with the programs and issues we are dealing with every day."

Your gift this year will help us continue to help state leaders like Secretary Cole and allow us to fulfill our mission of **advancing science-informed analysis and policy solutions that address Wisconsin's greatest conservation challenges.**

Past support from our members at WGF has helped put us where we are today. **But if we're going to meet our new goals, we'll need to do more.**

The members of our Board of Directors believe enough in our mission that we've collectively pooled our commitments to offer a **2:1 match of up to \$30,000** for all gifts from supporters who can meet or exceed their giving in 2021, and from any new members who make a first-time gift in 2022.

Will you consider a gift to help secure our full match pledge in 2022 and launch new programs in 2023?

As always, thanks for all you do, and being part of the Wisconsin's Green Fire family.

Sincerely,



Fred Clark, Executive Director



Tom Jerow, President

P.S. The appreciation of most investments in 2021 means that if you need to make Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) from your individual retirement account, this year could be an especially beneficial opportunity to make a Qualified Charitable Donation to support Wisconsin's Green Fire. To learn more about RMDs and other planned giving see our page at <http://www.wigreenfire.org/make-a-gift>