

NEWS RELEASE

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Madison activists to send protesters to Standing Rock North Dakota, hold solidarity event on West side

The Army Corps of Engineers has issued an "eviction notice" for the Standing Rock camps effective Monday, December 5. The governor of North Dakota has followed up with a mandatory evacuation order that threatens to levy fines and block emergency services from the camps, while militarized police continue to attack and injure water protectors.

The water protectors do not plan to leave. Instead, they have called for as many people as possible to come to Standing Rock. A massive show of support will let North Dakota, the Army Corps, and the pipeline companies know that too many people stand with Standing Rock to let this pipeline proceed.

350 Madison is organizing carpools that will leave over the next several days to arrive in North Dakota by Monday. Those who go are expected to face serious risks: temperatures at Standing Rock are well below freezing, especially at night, and snow and strong winds are likely. In addition, protestors at the site have been seriously injured by tear gas, concussion grenades, rubber bullets, and water cannons deployed in dangerously cold temperatures.

For those who are unable to travel to North Dakota, 350 Madison and Madison Action for Mining Alternatives are organizing a solidarity protest on Friday, December 2, from 4-7 PM, at Madison's Army Corps of Engineers office, 559 D'Onofrio Drive. Protestors will ask the Army Corps to immediately rescind its eviction notice, which puts the thousands of people who will be at the camp on Monday in danger. This will be a legal protest with no anticipated risk of arrest, although there may be a direct action involving risk of arrest separate from the main protest.

350 Madison Climate Action Team is the local branch of <u>350.org</u>, an international grassroots organization that is mobilizing a global climate movement. 350 parts per million (ppm) of CO2 is the number that leading scientists say is the safe upper limit for carbon dioxide in our atmosphere. We have well exceeded that limit. Learn more: <u>http://350madison.org/</u> Multi-School Divestment Fund <u>http://www.divestfund.org/</u>