



June 2022 Climate Newsletter

350 Wisconsin Stayin' Alive, June 6 Annual Meeting, Together for the Climate Campaign, Summer Picnic, Save the Date Events, Wisconsin Retirement System, Office of Environmental Justice, Dane County Landfill, Middleton Public Library Event Recap, State of Wisconsin Clean Energy Plan, and Upcoming Meetings



350 Wisconsin Stayin' Alive!

Did you miss our demonstration on April 23? Now you can watch a video of our Civil DISCObedience action! Click the button below to relive all the fun from Earth Day 2022. A special thank you to Alicia, Bob, and Logan for putting it all together - as well as those who participated in the dance. If you are interested in participating in future dance actions, please contact Russ Bennett at bennett.russ@gmail.com or Dianne Brakarsh at movingfromwithin@gmail.com.

Watch a Video Recording of the Demonstration

**Engage in 350 Wisconsin's
Future at the June 6 Annual**



Meeting

350 Wisconsin's Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, June 6 at 7:00 PM (at the same time as our regular Monthly Meeting). Please join us for a lively discussion of our strategic priorities for the coming year, as we respond to the increasing urgency of climate change and the growing need for climate justice.

You will have the opportunity to discuss 350 Wisconsin's strategic priorities during breakout sessions, where you can ask questions and make suggestions to staff and board members in attendance.

We will also hold elections for the Board and Coordinating Council. To learn about the candidates for these positions, [click here](#). To see if you qualify as a 350 Wisconsin member and are eligible to vote, [click here](#). You must be present at the Annual Meeting to vote.

We look forward to seeing you on Zoom on June 6. To register for the meeting, click the button below.

Register

together 
FOR THE climate
CAMPAIGN

350 Wisconsin is launching a multi-year \$500,000 fundraising campaign to build capacity and

sustain our organization over the next five years – a critical period when society must demand transformative climate action and quickly bring down emissions. We're grateful to the funders and individuals that have kicked-off the campaign with their generous support!

Together for the Climate will support key strategic objectives through cross-cutting approaches:

- Strengthening climate justice work
- Growing statewide power
- Building critical communications capacity
- Enhancing our campaigns: local climate solutions, state policy, pipeline resistance, and divestment.

Together for the Climate-Action will support our new, separate 501(c)4 sister organization, 350 Wisconsin Action.

We are accepting one-time donations and pledges payable over a 3-5 year period. For more information and to discuss a gift or pledge contact: Stephanie Robinson, Development Director at stephanie.robinson@350madison.org.

To visit our campaign website or make a donation, click the button below.

[Learn More](#)



Summer Picnic on Monday July 11

350 Wisconsin will host a summer picnic on Monday July 11, starting at 6 pm.

After months of Zoom meetings, let's meet in-person. We invite those within biking or driving distance of Madison to meet from 6-8 pm at Brittingham Park shelter, at 829 West Washington Ave, in Madison. The picnic replaces our monthly meeting for July; we will be back on zoom on August 1.

We look forward to a relaxed social time, eating our picnic suppers, and getting to know each other better. To keep everyone safe, please

bring your own picnic food, beverage, plate, silverware & cup, if possible.

Save the Date: Summer Events

Mark your calendar for summer fun with 350 Wisconsin! For the second year in a row, staff from Exact Sciences are joining us at two events to raise funds for climate action. More details to come!



Sign the Petition - Divest the Wisconsin Retirement System from Fossil Fuels!

Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) members are organizing a campaign to shift our retirement savings out of increasingly risky fossil fuels. These investments threaten our financial security, as well as our water, our health, and our planet.

As a first step, they are launching a [petition](#) calling on the State of Wisconsin Divestment Board (SWIB) to divest.

Why should SWIB divest?

- Fossil Fuels are increasingly financially risky as long term investments.
- Fossil Fuel investments are risking our water, the health of our planet, and the future of our children and grandchildren.
- We don't want our pension dollars to continue to be invested in dangerous fossil fuel companies, particularly ones that directly endanger Wisconsin. For example, the dangerous oil pipelines owned by Canadian company Enbridge threaten Wisconsin's water, the Great Lakes, tribal treaty rights, and landowner property rights.

It is possible to safely divest from fossil fuels.

- Over 1,500 institutions — representing over \$40 trillion in assets — have now committed to some level of fossil fuel divestment.
- Other state pension funds, including Maine and New York, are moving out of fossil fuel investments while meeting their legal and fiduciary responsibilities.

It is time for SWIB to do the same for Wisconsin's pension fund.

Please take action and sign the petition today!
Click the button below.

Sign the Petition

**Office of Environmental Justice
Created**

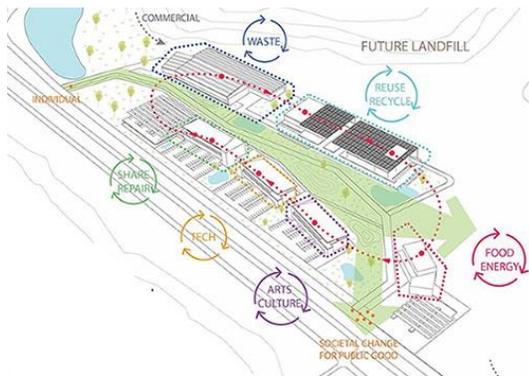


Photo Credit: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/close-up-shot-of-paper-cutouts-7048009/>

On Earth Day, April 22, Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers signed an executive order to create an Office of Environmental Justice at the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA). The new office will work with the Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy, and “facilitate collaboration across state agencies to provide strategies to promote environmentally just policies and prevent disparate outcomes in communities across the state,” Governor’s office says.

Within the new office will be a Chief Resilience Officer position, the first for any state in the Midwest, tasked with coordinating state agency resilience initiatives, supporting regional and watershed planning, and helping communities assess and address their flood and climate risks.

This is a huge win! Thank you Gov. Evers and all those who supported this effort! To read the press release [click here](#). The governor’s 2022 Earth Day proclamation is available [here](#).



We're Proud of the Dane County Landfill - Seriously!

Did you know the Dane County Landfill is proposing a Sustainability Campus?

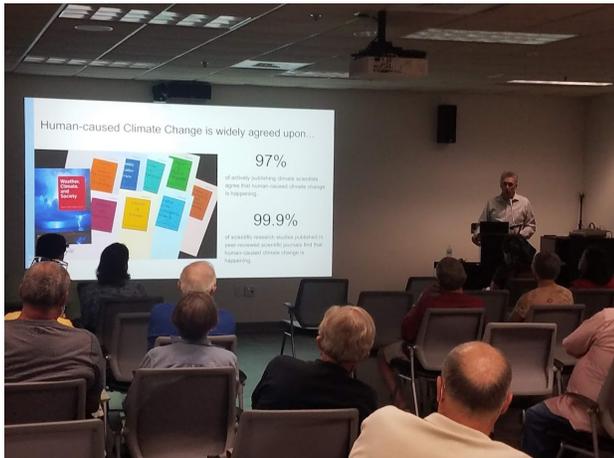
The Campus, to be built on half of what is now the Yahara Hills Golf Course, would expand on the nationally-recognized work they do - diverting all construction materials, tires, shingles, lawn waste, mattresses, hazardous chemicals, electronics as well as education and habitat restoration. To these activities, it would add municipal composting, biodigesters, bike rescue, and recreational areas. Oh, and host

businesses that could tap into the waste stream to turn “trash” into treasure, providing jobs for local residents and revenue for the County to lower your taxes!

The current landfill only has about 9 years left before it’s full, and it takes 7 to 10 years to permit a new one. They have looked for other sites, and none of them could support the Sustainability campus. The alternative would be shipping the County’s waste elsewhere, to be managed less-responsibly, and costing residents more.

The proposed Sustainability Campus would allow Dane County to be even more proud of itself as a place where we actually *make money* off of our trash. And, y’know, keep it from polluting our one and only home. Sounds like a win-win!

[Learn More](#)



"Solving the Climate Crisis" at the Middleton Public Library

The Middleton Community Working Group of 350 Wisconsin's Community Climate Solutions Team spearheaded organizing the May 12 "Solving the Climate Crisis," the Middleton Public Library's first in person lecture event since the pandemic. Special thanks to Kevin Spittler of the CWG for initiating this outreach and Bob Lindmeier, senior chief meteorologist at WKOW-TV for speaking about climate change, why it's happening, and what we can do about it.

Lindmeier acknowledged that while the climate crisis is sobering because it is really happening,

really serious, and really caused by humans, he highlighted the hope we have because of the many ways available to solve it, if we act!

Representatives from sponsoring organizations (Middleton Sustainability Committee, Friends of Pheasant Branch Conservancy, Citizens' Climate Lobby-Madison, and 350 Wisconsin's Community Climate Solutions Team: Middleton Community Working Group) answered questions and discussed opportunities to take action.

STATE OF WISCONSIN

CLEAN ENERGY PLAN



State of Wisconsin Clean Energy Plan

In August 2019, Governor Tony Evers issued an executive order directing the Wisconsin Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy to create a comprehensive clean energy plan. The resulting [document](#) was published at the end of April of this year. Some goals of the plan include putting Wisconsin on a path for all electricity in the state to be 100% carbon free by 2050, ensuring that Wisconsin is adhering to the carbon reduction goals of the 2015 Paris Agreement, improving reliability and affordability of the energy system, and creating more equity in Wisconsin with regards to affordable energy access, stimulus, and job creation. We applaud this effort and look forward to the policies that must be enacted to make these goals a reality.

Upcoming Meetings

Art Collective: June 9, 7:15 pm | Contact: Russ Bennett bennett.russ@gmail.com; Dianne Brakarsh movingfromwithin@gmail.com

Climate Justice: June 13, 7:00–8:30 pm | Contact: Marian Fredal
Fredal marian.fredal@350madison.org

Community Climate Solutions: June 16, 5-6 pm | Contact: Susan
Millar Susan.Millar@350madison.org; Kermit Hovey, Kermit.Hovey@350madison.org; Julia
DePalma, juliadepalma1@gmail.com (For a complete schedule of various team meetings of CCST,
click [here](#).)

Communication Action: June 20, 7:00-8:30 pm | Contact Emily.Park@350madison.org

Divest & Defund: June 27, 7-8:30 pm | Contact divest.defund@350madison.org

Fundraising: June 15, 7-8 pm | Contact Stephanie.Robinson@350madison.org

State Policy: June 15, 5:30-7:00 pm | Contact Gail Nordheim gail.nordheim@350madison.org

Tar Sands: June 6, 5:45–6:45 pm | Contact Phyllis Hasbrouck Phyllis.Hasbrouck@350madison.org

Monthly Meeting: June 6, 7-8 pm | Contact Julia Isaacs Julia.Isaacs@350madison.org; Kelly
Kearns Kelly.Kearns@350madison.org

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350 Wisconsin

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