Support climate proposals in the Governor's budget

Gov. Evers’ 2021-23 Biennial Budget proposal would significantly strengthen Wisconsin’s ability to equitably reduce carbon emissions and mitigate the impacts of climate change. 350 Madison urges its supporters to speak out in support of the Governor’s budget recommendations for climate and the environment.

The Governor’s budget includes 28 provisions aimed at climate and energy. These include expanding the number of electric vehicle charging stations, doubling the size of the Focus on Energy program, and establishing a green job training program, among many others. [Here is a link](#) to the Governor’s climate-related proposals, prepared by RENEW Wisconsin.

The budget now goes to the Joint Finance Committee, which will be holding public hearings in April. We strongly encourage our members to participate in the virtual hearing, and to submit written
testimony to the JFC at budget.comments@legis.wisconsin.gov. Hearings begin at 10:00am:

Friday, April 9, 2021, UW-Whitewater, Whitewater
Wednesday, April 21, 2021, The Hodag Dome, Rhinelander
Thursday, April 22, 2021, UW-Stout, Menomonie, WI
Wednesday, April 28, 2021, Virtual

We also encourage you to attend the Governor’s Bounceback Live Session “Climate Change & Our Environment” on April 21 at 6:00 p.m. This session will provide an opportunity to provide feedback on Gov. Evers’ budget proposals concerning climate change, water, and natural resources. To attend the live session, register here.

350 Madison’s Alder Election Team asked two questions of general election candidates:

1. In 2017, the Common Council passed a resolution to “establish community-wide Energy and Carbon goals of 100% renewable energy and net-zero carbon emissions.” As an alder, what actions will you take to ensure that these goals are established within your tenure?

2. As an alder, how will you use city policy to reduce Madison’s carbon emissions?

Not sure which district you live in? Find your candidates using the City of Madison web tool.

Read the full Q&A on our blog!

350 Madison’s Week of Action April 1 – 9

Here in Madison we have a variety of ways that you can help us educate the public and our Congressional Representatives and Senators.
Build Back Fossil Free!

Everyone can agree that President Biden’s slogan of “Build Back Better” is great: We need to put America back to work by repairing our aging infrastructure, which has been so poorly maintained. But rebuilding America is an opportunity that cannot be wasted. While we create family-supporting jobs for those struggling during the pandemic, we’ve got to “Build Back Fossil Free.”

Build Back Fossil Free, a coalition of 72 national organizations, has created Biden’s Executive Action Blueprint: 25 key executive actions that he can take (without Congressional action) to avert further climate devastation. The coalition has named the week of April 1 to April 9 as a week of action, coinciding with the congressional recess. Congress and Biden need to hear from us in large numbers. If you live outside of the Madison area, here is a map showing where actions are planned, so that you can locate the nearest one to you. You can also organize your own action and get it on the map!

Attend our “Movie Premiere and Actionar” at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 1. It will consist of the moving dance video that our Art Group created for the Get Out the Vote effort, newly re-mastered to emphasize the theme of Indigenous resistance to Line 3. There will be an actionar where we will take online actions to sign the petition to Biden, contact our congresspeople and senators, and share new social media posts made especially for this campaign! There will also be a brand-new short video of our pièce de resistance, a live press conference with the “CEO of Enbridge,” held on the Wisconsin Capitol steps on April 1. He will be revealing a brilliant new invention for dealing with pesky oil spills! And his pal the Enbridge Octopus will fly above him!

Help to hold our huge new banner saying “Tell Biden: #Stop Line 3!” on overpasses in high traffic areas during rush hours from April 3-9. To sign up, contact bennett.russ@gmail.com.

Donate to one of the organizations actively fighting Line 3, either in the courtroom or in the forests of Minnesota. Click here and scroll down to “You Can Help!”

To get involved in the Tar Sands Team, which fights oil pipelines in the Midwest, contact phyllis.hasbrouck@350Madison.org.

According to a recent article in The New Republic, “The alliances forming around the
Protecting the right to organize
On March 9, the House passed the “Protecting the Right to Organize” bill (HR 842). If and when it passes the Senate, it will be the first pro-union organizing legislation passed in many decades. This is an example of a successful legislative collaboration between environmental groups and labor groups. The interests of environmental groups and labor groups can often be at odds (think fossil fuel-related jobs like mining and pipeline installation), but to successfully fight climate change, we need to find areas of agreement and form broad coalitions between many different organizations across many interest areas. It is an example of the intersectionality of climate change with other issues that are not thought of as climate change-related.

PRO Act buck long-held wisdom in Washington about what it would take to get labor unions and environmentalists to work together. James Williams Jr., IUPAT’s vice president at large, has been frustrated by years of seeing the two talk past one another. Construction unions, in particular, have come to loggerheads with climate hawks over infrastructure projects like the Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipelines. ‘I would blame labor a lot of the time for this,’ he says, ‘but there have to be deeper conversations about the fact that labor is going to lose jobs that have been really good jobs for a really long time. . . A new generation of climate organizers see workers as a critical piece of the mobilization needed to pass any sweeping climate legislation and create a more sustainable world. Labor reforms like the PRO Act, they reason, are necessary for making both possible.’”

If you’re looking to reflect on and develop these coalitions, the upcoming Global Just Recovery Gathering (April 9-11) includes a session on “Building Labor-Climate Coalitions for a Just Recovery” on April 10, 12:15-1:45 pm EST. Check it out!

Greenwash meets resistance
JP Morgan Chase and 17 other banks recently canceled a $2.1 billion dollar loan with Enbridge. After THE cancellation, it was replaced with an $800 million dollar “sustainability” loan. Tribal attorney Tara Houska insists that “this greenwash will not
stand.” In the Twin Cities, news of the greenwash inspired an Open and Shut Chase Action.

3/9, 9:00 a.m.: A brand new branch in the Minneapolis branch opened its doors for the first time.

3/9, 9:01 a.m.: Chase branch locked its front doors because dozens of people held a die-in, demanding it #DefundEnbridge.

#GivingTuesdayNow is May 5th

Despite all of the challenges of the present moment, we can’t forget that this is a dress rehearsal for the type of global disruption and devastation we’ll see if we don’t continue to drive solutions that address climate change.

Here at 350 Madison we’re doing everything we can to continue fighting climate change while keeping our staff, volunteers and community safe. We’re pushing for an economic recovery that focuses on people, environmental protection and resiliency instead of large corporations. Fossil fuel companies are not pausing and neither can we.
If you are able, please join us on May 5th for #GivingTuesdayNow, a global day of giving and unity. Our goal is to raise $3,000 to support our campaigns, programming and staff so we can continue working to preserve a healthy and livable planet for all. We depend on donors like you, and your support is immensely important and greatly appreciated right now. Click here for creative ways to support this campaign.

Donate to Our #GivingTuesdayNow Campaign

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Pizza for the Planet

Order up some of the best pizza in town on Wednesday, April 21st 5-9 p.m., and you can support 350 Madison at the same time! We’re excited to team up with Ian’s Pizza-Garver for this Earth Day themed fundraiser, “Pizza for the Planet.” The more people who participate, the higher percentage of funds returned to our nonprofit, to support our vital campaigns and programs. So, mark your calendar and share with your friends and family! Ian’s is happy to take pre-orders for curbside pickup, or you can enjoy your pie COVID-safe outside on Garver’s lovely terrace. Ian’s will also deliver to Madison’s east side and Monona. For more details, check out this flyer, and be sure to mention 350 Madison when you place your order!

Mark your calendar:
Follow us on social media!

Find action updates, climate art, and ways to get involved on our Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. You can also help us reach more people by liking our posts, commenting, and sharing!

You can see more of us on Facebook if you "favorite" us. To do this, click "News Feed Preferences" then click "Manage Favorites." You can add us to your favorites by searching our page. Now our page will show up at the top of your news feed!

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Have Questions?
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