October 2022 Climate Newsletter

Global Climate Strike in Chicago, Stayin' Alive at the Willy Street Fair, Help Elect Climate Champions, Let's Get Together at the Cider Farm, Giving Tuesday, Blame Wall Street Campaign, New Community Climate Solutions Working Groups, Madison Draft Sustainability Plan, Middleton Sustainability Plan, Architects' Forum on Sustainable Buildings, New Staff Members

350 Wisconsin and Climate Allies at the Global Climate Strike in Chicago

On Friday 9/23, a group of more than a dozen environmental justice groups from Illinois and Wisconsin came together for the Global Climate Strike in Chicago. A group of about 250 attendees, including a very significant youth cohort!, marched to the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Chase Bank, and the Kluczynski Federal Building (where Illinois’ US Senators Durbin and Duckworth have offices). We marched for an end to fossil fuel financing, a just and equitable transition to a sustainable future, and for environmental justice for all communities. Our actions are already bearing fruit - public pressure like ours is part of the reason why Manchin voluntarily pulled his dirty permitting deal from the Continuing Resolution!

We hope that this Global Climate Strike is the first of many coalition events bringing Wisconsin- and Illinois-based groups together. Thank you to everyone who took the day to join us in Chicago, and
thank you to everyone who helped plan this event! A particularly big thank you to Russ Bennett and Dianne Brakarsh for their amazing leadership and contributions. We couldn’t have done this without you!

**Stayin' Alive at the Willy Street Fair**

350 Wisconsin joined the quintessential Madison end-of-summer festival, the Willy Street Fair, on September 17 and 18. We joined our friends from the Sierra Club at a booth to educate folks about our work, and to recruit volunteers. On Sunday morning, a number of costumed dancers joined the iconic Willy Street Parade, with our dance and artwork about Stayin' Alive presented for all to see. It was colorful, chaotic and a great place to connect with like-minded souls about the importance of activism (and voting) for the climate!

**Help Elect Climate Champions**

The midterm election is just a few weeks away and 350 Wisconsin Action’s Campaign for the Climate is in full gear. This election will have a huge impact on Wisconsin’s ability to fight climate change and achieve climate justice. It is essential that we elect candidates who will prioritize dramatic climate action!

There are many ways to get involved. Go to [www.350wisconsinaction.org](http://www.350wisconsinaction.org) to check out and sign up for phone banking, door to door canvassing, postcard writing, writing letters to
Let's Get Together at the Cider Farm

Join 350 Wisconsin for our final “Let’s Get Together” event of the season - a fun, casual gathering to build solidarity with fellow climate activists and community members. Enjoy the fall vibes while sipping cider and sampling light appetizers. Whether you’re just getting to know us or a long-time supporter, we’d love to see you!

*The event is free, but we appreciate your registration (click the button below).*

**WHAT:** “Let’s Get Together!” community event

**WHEN:** Wednesday, October 19, 5:30PM-7:30PM

**WHERE:** The Cider Farm, 8216 Watts Road, Madison, WI 53719

Light appetizers provided at no charge.

*Please note: this event date reflects a change due to a conflict with the U.S. Senate candidate debate.*

Register

Save the Date: Giving Tuesday

On November 29th people all around the world are coming together to tap into the power of
human connection and change our world. Following Black Friday and Cyber Monday at the kickoff of the charitable season, #GivingTuesday is an opportunity to make a difference in our community. 350 Wisconsin is proud to once again participate in #GivingTuesday.

We have some great plans in the works, so stay tuned! In the meantime, here is how you can get ready to give:

1. **Mark your calendar.** Plan to join us at Garver Feed Mill on November 29th for a community celebration!

2. **Donate an art/craft item or gift card for our auction** -- click [here](#)!

3. **Give.** On November 29th, go to 350wisconsin.org and donate. You can also support our organization in other important ways, by contributing your time or joining one of our campaign teams.

4. **Spread the word.** Encourage your friends and family to join you in creating real impact by sharing what our mission means to you and why you support 350 Wisconsin.

Let's rally together to strengthen our community and protect our beautiful planet!

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**Calling on Customers for Climate Justice**

The [Blame Wall Street Campaign](#) is now providing assistance to customers of Chase, Wells Fargo and other fossil fuel funders who
want to advocate for climate justice at their bank. The new program is called Customers for Climate Justice (C4CJ), and there are already 350 Wisconsin members who want in on this potentially game changing type of action. Nationwide, there have been over 60 meetings in which C4CJ advocates brought their concerns to branch managers with one of the top climate chaos funders i.e. Bank of America, Citibank, JP Morgan Chase and Wells Fargo.

Motivated to see that number grow? We are too! But it will take a significant organizing push. 350 Wisconsin’s emergent Customers for Climate Justice program will need volunteers to help recruit, coach and coordinate customer advocates (in addition to serving as customer advocates). Where-ever you bank, there is a place for you in this project. Send an email of interest to Divest.Defund@350Wisconsin.org if you want to help it get off the ground.

**Save the Date! Nov 12 at 11 am** will be the last Dane County Farmers Market on the square for this year and 350 Wisconsin will be there with our Defund Climate Change art billboards. Actually, we’ll be at the Chase Bank/Bank of Doom across the street from the market; although, we’d like to have enough of a crowd that we take up space all over. We've got plenty of billboards; we just need the person-power to display them.

**Architects' Forum on Sustainable Buildings**

Our Green Buildings Team invites you to an **Architects’ Forum on Sustainable**
Commercial Buildings and Residential Homes, on Thursday, Oct. 13, 2022, from 12-1pm at this Zoom link. This forum will provide an opportunity to listen to and learn from practicing architects on how they work together with their clients to design and build sustainable, energy-saving low carbon buildings & homes. For information on the panelists, contact susan.millar@350wisconsin.org.

New Community Climate Solutions Working Groups

CCST recently added working groups and projects that include Energy Burden in Wisconsin, Dane County Sustainable Land Use/Water Saving Practices, Monitoring Capital Area Regional Planning Commission, and Monitoring Dane County Board of Supervisors. If you are interested in taking action locally to combat climate change for these and other Working Groups, please fill out the interest form below!

Fill Out the Form

Madison Draft Sustainability Plan

Madison is on the cusp of releasing its new Draft Sustainability Plan to the public! The plan's goals now include metrics to track progress and was built using an equity lens to promote equitable access for Madison's residents. Fill out the Action Participation List interest form below to receive updates when the comment period opens.
Middleton Sustainability Plan

Middleton passed its updated Sustainability Plan! Thanks to CCST's Middleton Working Group for their direct input, public comments, and communication to the Sustainability Committee, city officials and alders throughout this multi-year process.

Please Welcome our New Staff Members!

Kyla Smith (she/her)

My name is Kyla Smith (she/her) and I recently joined 350 Wisconsin as the Climate Justice Organizer. I joined this organization due to my passion for incorporating justice into climate and environmental work. My professional experience includes developing a community needs assessment and project recommendation report on addressing environmental injustices in Detroit, creating and running a student organization in college that focuses on

Mariah Lelewicz

Mariah was recently hired as the Communications and Development Fellow for 350 Wisconsin. She is a recent graduate of St. Norbert College, where she earned her degree in Political Science. While on campus, Mariah worked for the Sturzl Center for Community Service and Learning, where she gained experience working with volunteers, organizations, and students. While in that role, she realized that nonprofit work was something she was passionate about. In her free time,
diversifying STEM, and working with students from low-income, first generation, and racial/ethnic minorities that have goals of getting into graduate school. I would love to incorporate more climate justice and anti-racism concepts into the organization so that we can start to not only learn more about these issues, but also implement climate justice into every initiative at 350 Wisconsin. My main goal is to be as accessible as possible, so please reach out to me if you ever have questions about climate justice. My email is kyla.smith@350wisconsin.org.

Mariah likes to bake, read, and craft different things with her Cricut. Mariah is excited to be working with 350 Wisconsin, combining many of her interests and passions into this very important work. She is hoping to be able to learn as much as she can in this role to help 350 Wisconsin continue to grow!

Grace Martin

Hi all! My name is Grace Martin and I am the Political Fellow for 350 Wisconsin Action. I graduated from UW-Madison in spring of 2022 with a degree in Political Science and Environmental Studies, and minors in Public Policy and Sustainability. In school, I was involved in climate organizing on campus and worked on divesting the UW Foundation from fossil fuels. After graduating, I knew I wanted to continue pushing for Wisconsin institutions to bring climate into consideration, whether it be through policy work, elections, or issue advocacy. 350 Wisconsin is an excellent vehicle for this work because of the organization's
diverse-issue focus and recognition of the deep intersectionality of climate injustices, and I feel honored to be a part of this work. In my free time I love to get outside (here is a picture of me at Devil’s Lake State Park) and either bike, hike, ski, or just sit and enjoy nature.

**Upcoming Meetings**

**Art Collective**: October 13, 7:15 pm | Contact: Russ Bennett bennett.russ@gmail.com; Dianne Brakarsh movingfromwithin@gmail.com

**Climate Justice**: October 10, 7:00–8:30 pm | Contact: Marian Fredal marian.fredal@350wisconsin.org

**Community Climate Solutions**: October 20, 5-6 pm | Contact: Susan Millar Susan.Millar@350wisconsin.org; Kermit Hovey, Kermit.Hovey@350wisconsin.org; Julia DePalma, juliadepalma1@gmail.com (For a complete schedule of various team meetings of CCST, click [here](#).)

**Communication Action**: October 17, 7:00-8:30 pm | Contact Emily.Park@350wisconsin.org

**Divest & Defund**: October 24, 7-8:30 pm | Contact divest.defund@350wisonsin.org

**Fundraising**: October 19, 7-8 pm | Contact Stephanie.Robinson@350wisconsin.org

**State Policy**: November 16, 5:30-7:00 pm | Contact Gail Nordheim gail.nordheim@350wisconsin.org

**Tar Sands**: November 7, 5:45–6:45 pm | Contact Phyllis Hasbrouck Phyllis.Hasbrouck@350wisconsin.org

**Monthly Meeting**: November 14, 7-8 pm | Contact Julia Isaacs Julia.Isaacs@350wisconsin.org; Kelly Kearns Kelly.Kearns@350wisconsin.org

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**350 Wisconsin**

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