

## December Climate Newsletter

*Giving Tuesday, City of Madison Sustainability Website, State Climate Policy, Green Buildings Group Podcast, Join the Climate Justice Team, Customers for Climate Justice, Climate Justice Legacy, #RejectLine5 Webinar and Presentation, Climate Safe Pensions*



### Giving Tuesday a Big Success!

A HUGE thank you to everyone who helped us reach our GivingTuesday fundraising goal! This puts us in a great position heading into the year-end giving season. We hope to raise \$50,000 by December 31st so we can continue advocating for the rapid, dramatic action we need to combat the climate crisis.

Our November 29th gathering at Garver Feed Mill was a joyful celebration of our dedicated volunteers and the friendship and determination that bring us all together. A major highlight was the debut of our "Together for the Climate" video. We hope you enjoy this inspiring look back at the impactful year we've had with the support of our truly fantastic volunteers and partners.

To support 350 Wisconsin with a year-end gift, please click the button below.

Watch the Video

EOY Donation



## City of Madison Sustainability Website

The Madison Community Working Group of our Community Climate Solutions Team is delighted with news from the City of Madison:

- It has released its superb new [Sustainability website](#) - check it out!
- The City recently strengthened the emissions-related portions of their agreement with MG&E. Learn more [here](#).
- In January, 2023, it will seek public input on its 2023 Sustainability Plan Update (stay tuned!).
- Yet this year, the City will ask the Common Council to approve two ordinances that our City of Madison Working Group will ask our alders to approve:
  - An ordinance designed to reduce emissions from very large buildings, primarily by asking building owners to confidentially “benchmark” their building emissions, and
  - An ordinance designed to further shift travel/transportation (the city’s largest source of emissions) to low-emissions options like public transit, rideshare, biking, and walking. (For information, see their [TDM website](#).)

We will provide more information about these proposed ordinances once they are scheduled for Common Council votes.

---



## Help Us Shape Wisconsin's Climate Policy!

States are critically important in addressing climate change. The [Center for Climate and Energy Solutions](#) states that *"A wide range of policies have been adopted at the state and regional levels to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, develop clean energy resources, promote alternative fuel vehicles, and promote more energy-efficient buildings and appliances, among other things....The actions taken by states and regions play a vital role by developing and testing innovative solutions, delivering near-term emission reductions, and laying the groundwork for broader action."*

Unfortunately, Wisconsin lags behind many other states in its climate policy. The 350 Wisconsin State Policy Team is committed to changing that, pushing for state action in renewable energy, building codes, green workforce development and transportation.

Now is the time to get involved. We are launching workgroups on Energy/PSC, Building Decarbonization, Green Workforce Development, and Transportation. They will advocate for strong climate action from Executive Branch agencies, the Legislature, and the Public Service Commission.

To request more information about the State Policy Team or a particular workgroup, please complete [this form](#).

## Architects' Forum on Sustainable Commercial Buildings and Residential Homes



### Green Buildings Group Podcast

You may recall that, in October, we invited folks to our [Architects' Forum on Sustainable Commercial Buildings and Residential Homes](#). If you missed this October 13 event, and want to learn how practicing architects work together with their clients to design and build sustainable, energy-saving low-carbon buildings, go to this new podcast on the 350Wisconsin website by clicking the button below.

Listen to the Podcast!



### Join the Climate Justice Team's Work to Achieve Equity in Everything We Do!

The Climate Justice Team is working with a variety of groups and at all levels of government to achieve our climate justice goals. Some of the things happening currently:

**At the community level:** An important tool in eliminating climate **injustice** is bringing together social justice, environmental and climate groups to understand the ways in which our goals are related, support each other's work, build coalitions and political power, and achieve mutual goals. Team members are actively working with other social justice, climate, and environmental groups in Madison and throughout the State (such as [Hummingbird](#), [Freedom, Inc.](#), and [Wisconsin EcoLatinos](#)) to do just that.

**At the local government level,** we are participating in, and supporting the work of cities and counties around the State on their Climate Justice and social equity efforts, for example, reviewing and commenting on [Milwaukee's Climate and Equity Plan](#), and working with Dane County's Tree Canopy Collaborative [Dane County's Tree Canopy Collaborative](#).

**At the State and federal levels:** With the recent passage of the Infrastructure & Jobs Act, the Inflation Reduction Act and President Biden's Justice 40 Initiative, we are working with other groups at the national and state levels to ensure these programs target the neediest communities most impacted by climate change. For example, commenting on the development of EPA's [Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund](#).

**The Climate Justice Team needs volunteers for state, federal, and local-level work!** If you enjoy pursuing equity with community organizations and at all levels of government, join our next meeting! We meet on the second Monday of the month. Our next meeting is December 12th at 7 p.m. Join with the Zoom link below or contact Marian Fredal at [marian.fredal@350Wisconsin.com](mailto:marian.fredal@350Wisconsin.com).

Attend the CJ Meeting

---

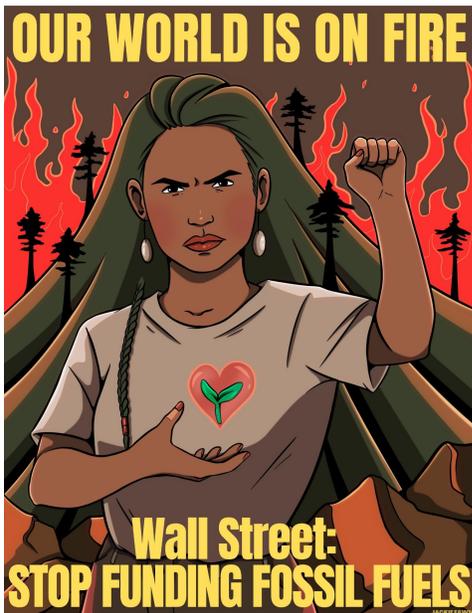


Image Credit: Jackie Fawn

## Calling on Customers for Climate Justice

Changes as monumental as keeping fossil fuels in the ground rarely happen without nonviolent direct action as a main ingredient. Other ingredients can be very crucial as well. Campaigns that taste the sweetness of victory have often found ways to pair protest with less aggressive tactics.

Some call this having an inside/outside strategy.

Divest and Defund is concluding a year of flash mob demonstrations at the doorsteps of the downtown Chase Branch. That's applying pressure from the outside.

This winter, D&D will be looking to attract **Customers for Climate Justice** who can help apply pressure from the inside.

One of those Customers could be you!

Got a credit card with a JP Morgan Chase or Wells Fargo logo on it? Know someone who does? That's all it takes to have some Customer Clout.

Using this clout is what Customers for Climate Justice (C4CJ) is all about! This winter and beyond, Divest and Defund will be recruiting, training, and mobilizing account holders to meet with bank branch managers and express concern about financing of the climate crisis. Email [Divest.Defund@350Wisconsin.org](mailto:Divest.Defund@350Wisconsin.org) to help build this program today!

"  
WE ARE ON EARTH TO TAKE  
CARE OF LIFE. WE ARE ON  
EARTH TO TAKE CARE OF  
EACH OTHER.

– XIYE BASTIDA

## Consider a Climate Justice Legacy

Do you feel a deep commitment to the mission at 350 Wisconsin to make transformational progress toward environmental justice and solving the climate crisis? Do you wonder how you can make a lasting difference for generations to come?

If so, 350 Wisconsin is incredibly grateful for your consideration of a legacy gift. It is one of the highest honors for our grassroots non-profit to be included in a will, estate plan or bequest as you make a lasting legacy by leaving a portion of your assets to 350 Wisconsin. To include 350 Wisconsin in your legacy plan, please use the following legal name and Tax ID number:

350 Wisconsin Inc.  
PO Box 2428  
Madison, WI 53701  
Tax ID#: 81-0817375

Please contact Stephanie Robinson, Director of Development at (608)345-9347 or [stephanie.robinson@350wisconsin.org](mailto:stephanie.robinson@350wisconsin.org) with any questions or to share your generous intention to include a gift to 350 Wisconsin in your will. This will ensure the team at 350 Wisconsin may show our gratitude for your lasting commitment to the future generations that will inhabit our Earth.

---

## Waadookawaad Amikwag and Partners are still seeking State help

- Define our terms
- Share data, knowledge and experience
- Commit to **“DO NO MORE HARM”**
- Continue thermal investigations
- Conduct a failure analysis
- Report findings to PUC

## Wisconsin Beware!

In our last newsletter (Nov. 2) we told you about Waadookawaad Amikwag (Those Who Help Beaver), a group of citizen scientists doing the work that Minnesota agencies should be doing. They are recording and publicizing evidence of the extensive severe damage to Minnesota waters and lands caused by the installation of the new Line 3, now called Line 93.

Watch their recent [compelling hour-long webinar](#) that showed what will happen to Wisconsin’s waterways if we do not stop the Line 5 expansion through Ashland and Iron Counties. Later that day they [live-streamed a presentation](#) that told the story of Turtle Island and the Indigenous way of living, answered questions, and then explained their positive program to get the State of Minnesota to open up communication and to fix the damage.

These webinars should convince everyone that it’s not just oil spills and global warming that we should fear from Enbridge projects; it’s the construction projects themselves that have already caused intense damage.

The Wisconsin DNR will not be able to say that they didn’t realize that Enbridge would cause such damage, thanks to the work of these dedicated water protectors. They must [#RejectLine5!](#) Contact [phyllis.hasbrouck@350Wisconsin.org](mailto:phyllis.hasbrouck@350Wisconsin.org) to volunteer.

---



[ClimateSafePensionsWisconsin.org](https://ClimateSafePensionsWisconsin.org)

## Case for Divestment is Stronger than Ever

Results of the U.N. Climate Conference (COP 27) in Egypt emphasize that **governments will not lead until grassroots activists force them to**. It is more important than ever to keep pressing our Wisconsin State Retirement pension fund and other large institutional investors to **stop financing fossil fuel expansion and instead fund the world we want to live in**.

Also, despite recent global developments, there is still a strong financial case for fossil fuel divestment. The new report from the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA) reiterates that climate risk is a financial risk:

“An unsustainable military intervention is at the root of the recent price spikes. Market fundamentals for oil and gas are weak because disarray within the industry and competition threatens the industry’s growth plans. For investors seeking a steady, stable investment, fossil fuels are unreliable. Today and going forward, fossil fuel companies offer volatility, spurious innovations and political calamity.” [Check out full IEEFA report](#)

**Take a moment to help Climate Safe Pensions for Wisconsin** get the Wisconsin State Retirement Fund to divest its millions of dollars of fossil fuel investments. Visit their new [website](#) to find resources and to **take action signing their petition below**.

Sign the Petition

---

## Upcoming Meetings

**Art Collective:** December 8, 7:15 pm | Contact: Russ Bennett [bennett.russ@gmail.com](mailto:bennett.russ@gmail.com); Dianne Brakarsh [movingfromwithin@gmail.com](mailto:movingfromwithin@gmail.com)

**Climate Justice:** December 12, 7:00–8:30 pm | Contact: Marian Fredal [marian.fredal@350wisconsin.org](mailto:marian.fredal@350wisconsin.org)

**Community Climate Solutions:** December 15, 5-6 pm | Contact: Susan Millar [Susan.Millar@350wisconsin.org](mailto:Susan.Millar@350wisconsin.org) (For a complete schedule of various team meetings of CCST, click [here](#).)

**Communication Action:** December 19, 7:00-8:30 pm | Contact [Emily.Park@350wisconsin.org](mailto:Emily.Park@350wisconsin.org)

**Divest & Defund:** TBD | Contact [divest.defund@350wisconsin.org](mailto:divest.defund@350wisconsin.org)

**Fundraising:** January 18, 7-8 pm | Contact [Stephanie.Robinson@350wisconsin.org](mailto:Stephanie.Robinson@350wisconsin.org)

**State Policy:** December 7, 5:30-7:00 pm | Contact Gail Nordheim [gail.nordheim@350wisconsin.org](mailto:gail.nordheim@350wisconsin.org)

**Tar Sands:** December 5, 5:45–6:45 pm | Contact Phyllis Hasbrouck [Phyllis.Hasbrouck@350wisconsin.org](mailto:Phyllis.Hasbrouck@350wisconsin.org)

**Monthly Meeting:** December 5, 7-8 pm | Contact Julia Isaacs [Julia.Isaacs@350wisconsin.org](mailto:Julia.Isaacs@350wisconsin.org); Kelly Kearns [Kelly.Kearns@350wisconsin.org](mailto:Kelly.Kearns@350wisconsin.org)

---

DONATE

VOLUNTEER

### 350 Wisconsin

PO Box 2428, | Madison, Wisconsin 53701  
608-492-1667 | [contact@350wisconsin.org](mailto:contact@350wisconsin.org)

Follow Us



[Unsubscribe](#) or [Manage Your Preferences](#)