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June 2023 Climate Newsletter

Celebrating Gail Nordheim, A Message from Gail Nordheim, Protect All Water, Midwest Renewable Energy Fair, Pizza for the Planet, Shareholder Showdown Finale, Tracking Proposed Solar Development, Kiss the Ground Screening





Celebrating Gail Nordheim

Gail Nordheim, who has made tremendous and diverse contributions to our organization, is moving this June to Denver, CO, to be close to family. We will miss her greatly! Folks in Colorado will get not only a loving grandma, but also a superb climate champion.

350 Wisconsin would not be where it is today were it not for Gail's astute, creative, consistent and tireless leadership. She hit the ground running in July 2017 as co-coordinator and stopped only in mid-June 2023 when she and her husband decided it was time for this move. Gail, we thank you! We will miss you! Stay in touch!

A Message from Gail Nordheim, Board President

On June 15, I'll be stepping down as Board President and will no longer be volunteering with 350 Wisconsin. I'm moving to Denver to be closer to family and plan to continue my climate activism there.

It's been great working with you over the last 6 years. Our collaborative efforts have resulted in 350 Wisconsin becoming a key player in Wisconsin's climate movement. A few parting thoughts:

- First, I hope that 350 Wisconsin continues to embrace diverse, creative approaches for addressing climate change, including multi-channel communications, art, policy advocacy, and direct action. This builds our visibility and impact.
- Second, our unique volunteer-driven leadership model is a major strength, promoting grassroots citizen involvement. It will be important for volunteers and professional staff to continue working collaboratively as the size and scope of our organization grows.
- Finally, *please donate generously to 350 Wisconsin!* Your donation allows us to fairly compensate our staff, pay for our communications, and carry out our campaigns. Your financial support is essential if we are to survive and grow.

Our diverse and committed Board will continue to provide strong leadership. Thank you to Tanace Matthiesen for serving as Acting President until the Board elects a new President.

Climate change is the world's most important and difficult problem. Thank you for your efforts on behalf of our planet.

-Gail Nordheim



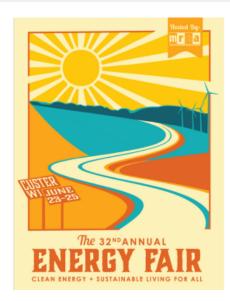
Protect All the Water with the Art Collective!

At noon on Friday, June 9th, the Art Collective will debut their new piece, "Protect All the Water," in the Capitol rotunda. This will serve as our contribution to a nationwide distributed set of actions for the End the Era of Fossil Fuels campaign, organized by People vs. Fossil Fuels.

Everyone is invited to attend! We envision performing this at various locations over the summer, and would love to recruit more singers and/or body percussionists. Please contact Russ Bennett, <u>bennett.russ@gmail.com</u>, if you'd like to join us. We'd love to have you.

The following day, June 10th, the Chariot of the Great Turning will be part of a 12:30pm parade around the capitol square, organized by the Madison Children's Museum. We'll be joined in the parade by Black Star Drum line, the Handphibians, and the Forward Marching Band! This will be a very upbeat family event.

We are in full swing preparing for a summer of outdoor actions. As always, feel free to contact Russ or Dianne with any questions.



Upcoming Midwest Renewable Energy Fair

The Midwest Renewable Energy Association's Energy Fair will take place from Friday, June 23 to Sunday, June 25 in Custer, Wisconsin – near Stevens Point. There's something for everyone in the workshop lineup: energy policy, sustainable living, ecology, social justice, creativity, agriculture, and more! 350 Wisconsin will be exhibiting on Friday and Saturday and there will be tons of other environmental organizations and businesses to check out! If you're planning to go for the day on Saturday, the Wisconsin Chapter of the Sierra Club is sending a bus from Madison up to the fair for just \$5 – sign up here. (The details about the bus can be found on the signup page.) We hope to see you there!

Contact Maddie Loeffler at <u>maddie.loeffler@350wisconsin.org</u> with any questions or comments.





Pizza for the Planet - June 28th!

On Wednesday, June 28th 5-9pm, dig into some of Madison's best pizza while supporting climate action! We're excited to team up again with Ian's Pizza--Garver for this popular fundraiser. We hope to see you there -- the more people who participate, the higher the percentage of funds we receive! Ian's will take pre-orders for curbside pickup, or you can enjoy your pie outside on Garver's patio with fellow activists. Ian's will also deliver to Madison's east side and Monona. **Be sure to mention 350 Wisconsin when you place your order!** Invite your friends, family and coworkers to support 350 Wisconsin's critical campaigns!

Shareholder Showdown Finale

A phase-out of financing for companies engaged in fossil fuel extraction. That is what we want from Wall Street. It is also the basis for a resolution recently brought before the shareholders of JP Morgan Chase, the bank that has done more than any other to plunge us into a state of climate emergency.

Click the button below for the vote count on the *phase out* and other climate resolutions that came before the Chase shareholders at the bank's most recent Annual General Meeting. Such resolutions have been key pieces of campaigns that have changed corporate behavior for the better, even when the percentage of "Yes" votes has been in the single digits. In order for these resolutions to exert such power, however, they need to echo through the streets and inside the offices of Chase bank branches around the nation.

350 Wisconsin's Divest and Defund team is doing its part to make that happen. Please join us at our next Chase action on the morning of July 15 at Madison's downtown Chase Bank. This demonstration will coincide with the Dane County Farmers Market.

See the Vote Count



Tracking Proposed Solar Development in WI

The State Policy Team continues to track proposed solar development project applications under review in Wisconsin. Any project above 100 MW must go through the Public Service Commission's extensive application and approval process. Smaller project proposals are reviewed by local units of government such as cities and counties, depending on their jurisdiction. The State Policy team works hard to recruit concerned citizens to submit comments in support of each project. Although projects are all over the state, most 350 Wisconsin members are in the Madison area, so we try our best to partner with local residents and environmental organizations near project sites. Public comments truly make a difference in getting projects approved.

Elk Creek Solar in Dunn County (northwestern WI), and Langdon Mills Solar in Columbia County (northeast of Madison) are currently going through the PSC approval process. Over the last month, the State Policy Team solicited many comments to support project approval. If you'd like to help promote solar development projects like these, please join 350 Wisconsin's State Policy Team. If interested, Contact Jan Niewold at jan.niewold@350wisconsin.org. We meet on Zoom the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 4 pm.

More about State Policy Group



350 WI Screening of "Kiss the Ground" - Join Us!

The 350 WI Agriculture Policy and Practices Team invites you to a FREE screening of "Kiss the Ground." This powerfully hopeful documentary tells the stories of farmers, researchers, and activists who are working tirelessly to show how the ways we grow our food can not only be gentle on the planet, but also repair the harm we have done to it! Regenerative agriculture has the potential to revitalize soil, water, communities, and even the climate. Come learn what this kind of agriculture looks like, and how YOU can help support the movement, right here in Wisconsin!

The screening will start at 1:30 pm on Saturday, June 17th, in Community Room B of the Pinney Branch of the Madison Public Library: 516 Cottage Grove Rd, Madison, WI 53716. There will be a Q&A and discussion with members of the Agriculture Policy and Practices Team afterward.

(While the event is free, licensing to show the film no longer is. A suggested donation of \$10

would be greatly appreciated to help cover the cost.)

RSVP to Michael Friend at <u>mjfriend0316@gmail.com</u> to help us anticipate attendance.

Can't wait to see you!

Upcoming Meetings

Art Collective: TBD | Contact: Russ Bennett <u>bennett.russ@gmail.com</u>; Dianne Brakarsh <u>movingfromwithin@gmail.com</u>

Climate Justice: June 12, 7:00–8:30 pm | Contact: Marian Fredal <u>marian.fredal@350wisconsin.org</u>

Community Climate Solutions: June 15, 5-6 pm | Contact: Susan Millar <u>Susan.Millar@350wisconsin.org</u>, Rachel Robillard <u>RachelEBRobillard@gmail.com</u>, or Maddie Loeffler <u>maddie.loeffler@350wisconsin.org</u> (For a complete schedule of various team meetings of CCST, click <u>here</u>.)

Communication Action: June 8, 7:00-8:30 pm | Contact: Emily Park <u>Emily.Park@350wisconsin.org</u>

Divest & Defund: June 26, 7-8:30 pm | Contact divest.defund@350wisonsin.org

Fundraising: June 21, 7-8 pm | Contact: Stephanie Robinson <u>Stephanie.Robinson@350wisconsin.org</u>

State Policy: June 21, 4-5 pm | Contact: Janet Niewold janet.niewold@gmail.com

Tar Sands: June 5, 5:30–6:30 pm | Contact: TBA (visit our website for more info)

Monthly Meeting: June 5, 7-8 pm; July 10, 7-8 pm | Contact: Julia Isaacs Julia.Isaacs@350wisconsin.org; Kelly Kearns Kelly.Kearns@350wisconsin.org



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