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## April 2024 Climate Newsletter

*Art Collective Earth Day Celebrations, Urge Sen. Baldwin to Support Bad River Band, Deep Canvassing Training, Earth Month Fundraiser, April is Earth Month, Public Screening of "Common Ground," Evers Vetoes CAFO-Friendly Bill, Bipartisan Support for EV Chargers, New Blog Post on Energy Equity, Home Energy Office Hours, Monthly Meeting Recap, First Net-Zero Retreat in WI*



### Art Collective Earth Week Celebrations

Please consider joining the Art Collective at one or both of the following Earth Week kick-off celebrations!

Saturday, April 20 at 10am, a group of rather unusual visitors will appear at the Dane County Farmers' Market, on the North Hamilton plaza of the capitol square. These out-of-town "visitors" will be urging people to consider climate change in their voting choices, but all will transpire in an unexpected way. We would LOVE to have you join us, either to help hold a banner or to be a

smiling face in the crowd. We also need help with tabling! This is a great opportunity to educate folks about 350 Wisconsin and the important work that we do.

Later that day, we invite all to participate in an Earth Day procession and rally with students from around Wisconsin. We'll meet at East Campus Mall at 1pm, march to Library Mall and then down State Street to a brief rally on the Capitol steps that will begin around 2pm. We'd love to have as many folks as possible wearing "critter hats" to show our support for these young adults who are facing down the climate crisis with great resolve.

To join us for either of these events, please sign up below.

Sign Up



**350 WISCONSIN**

# Call Senator Tammy Baldwin

And urge her to support the Bad River Band in shutting down Line 5!

**202-224-5653**

More info



[tinyurl.com/BaldwinLine5](https://tinyurl.com/BaldwinLine5)

## Urge Senator Baldwin to Support the Bad River Band

On December 12, 2023, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit requested the United States submit its views in the Bad River Band v Enbridge case - [one that involves Tribal sovereignty, Tribal treaty rights, the protection of our Nation's precious waterways, and the transition away from a fossil fuel economy.](#)

More than two months later and after the oral arguments in Chicago, on March 8, 2024, the U.S. Department of Justice confirmed with the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals that it intends to file a relevant amicus brief no later than April 8, 2024.

This means that the U.S. Government will be weighing in on the case, sharing its views, and ultimately, showing favor toward one side or the other. While there are many reasons to be hopeful that this will be a positive outcome, there is still much to be done. *Our Senators,*

*including Tammy Baldwin, need to hear more from constituents regarding Line 5.*

Let's come together and make this happen!

Join us this week for a Line 5 focused "Call Your Senator" campaign. [What we're asking is simple - we're calling to urge Senator Baldwin to support the Bad River Band in shutting down Line 5!](#)

Sample Script



## Deep Canvassing Training

Attend the Upcoming FREE Deep Canvassing Training Series Beginning April 16th. **Deep canvassing is central to 350 Wisconsin Action's 2024 campaign plan.**

Have you ever heard of deep canvassing? This unique method of community organizing and activism transcends traditional approaches by prioritizing human connection and fostering shared understanding between individuals. In the upcoming free training series offered by the Deep Canvass Institute, you'll learn how to navigate conversations about climate justice that have the potential to inspire true changes of heart. Upon completion of the three free training sessions, you'll receive a special certification acknowledging your commitment to progressive causes and your growing expertise in deep canvassing.

The training is on April 16th, 17th, and 20th via Zoom. Don't miss this opportunity to learn a new way of driving meaningful change! We have the chance to work together to bring this

transformative approach to the climate justice movement in Wisconsin.

Planning to join us? Please share the sign-up link with three friends! Can't make it to the training? Please pass the invitation on! Looking to ask questions or connect with someone at 350 Wisconsin? Reach out to Jessa Michie, Political Organizer for 350 Wisconsin Action, at [jessa.michie@350wisconsin.org](mailto:jessa.michie@350wisconsin.org). We hope to see you there!

Sign Up Here



## Grow Together, Give Together Earth Day Fundraiser

We're excited to announce our spring fundraiser: "[Grow Together, Give Together](#)." Every dollar donated will directly support our efforts to grow a strong climate movement and advocate for the health of the planet, people, and communities across Wisconsin. Together, let's seize the opportunities of 2024 to drive positive change and create a brighter, more sustainable future for generations to come.

### Ways to Give:

**[One-Time Donation:](#)** Every contribution, no matter the size, plays a vital role in supporting our mission. Whether it's \$10 or \$100, your generosity helps fund critical initiatives aimed at combating climate change and promoting sustainability.

**Become a Climate Champion:** Become a Climate Champion by starting your automated monthly donation of any size. With consistent funding, we can plan for the long term, tackle challenges with confidence, and make a lasting difference in the fight against climate change.

**Donate in Someone's Honor:** Recognize a loved one, friend, or colleague by making a donation in their name. Celebrate friends and family with a meaningful gift that benefits both our planet and future generations!

**Why Your Support Matters:** Your gift enables us to organize grassroots campaigns, host educational events, and advocate for policies that prioritize climate justice. Together, let's grow and give for a greener, healthier, and more sustainable world.

Donate



## April is Earth Month

Check out this list of upcoming events happening around Madison for Earth Month (April)!

### **April 17, 1:15pm: Spring Solar Tilt**

(Assembly Room, 4200 Co Rd M, Middleton, WI 53562)

Holy Wisdom Monastery is on track to become fully net-zero carbon by the end of 2024. Join as one of 90 volunteers who will be the first to tilt Holy Wisdom's solar panels or come to watch and join in prayer for climate change. For more information, and to register for this event, check out this [link](#).

### **April 19-26: Earth Fest**

UW-Madison's Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies and Office of Sustainability have organized a stunning array of lectures, visual and performing arts, and interactive exhibits pertaining to environmental issues.

The schedule is [here](#). While most of the events are presented by UW-Madison faculty and students engaged in sustainability research and action, some feature speakers from across the nation, such as a lecture by Jonathan Foley, Executive Director of Project Drawdown.

### **April 20, Various Times: Art Collective Earth Day Activities**

Dane County Farmers' Market and East Campus Mall

Join members of 350 Wisconsin's Art Collective for two events to celebrate Earth Day! See their article for details.

### **April 20, 11am-2pm: Bilingual Environmental Conservation Fair**

Elver Park 1250 McKenna Blvd, Madison, WI 53719

Wisconsin Ecolatinos is hosting the second Bilingual Environmental Conservation Fair to celebrate Earth Day. They will have information and resources about protecting the environment and reducing your carbon footprint. Check out their [website](#) for more information.

### **April 22, 4-9pm: EARTH DAY EVERY DAY!** (Garver Feed Mill)

Join us for a vibrant gathering that goes beyond celebrating Earth Day for just one day! Engage in our Ecological Community Convergence at the historical Garver Feed Mill

in Madison, Wisconsin, where we aim to uplift and inspire through education, community, and fun. For more information, check out the [Facebook Event!](#)

### **April 26, 4:30pm: Solar Series: Solar and Managing Your Prairie Plants**

Registration [Link](#)

Each month from April to November, the Couillard Solar Foundation hosts their [Solar Series](#). On April 26th, the Foundation will discuss managing prairie ecosystems under solar energy arrays. Find more information and pre-registration link [here](#).

### **April 27 from 10am-3pm: Earth Day Every Day**

645 Schewe Rd, Middleton, WI (off Old Sauk Road on the west side of Madison)

This family-friendly event includes free admission, live music, a bounce house, face painting, free popcorn, free drawings, and activities for kids, as well as dozens of exhibitors, speakers, and an electric vehicle show! For more details and free tickets, check out this [link](#)! If you own an EV and want to show your vehicle, sign up [here](#)!

Show Your EV!

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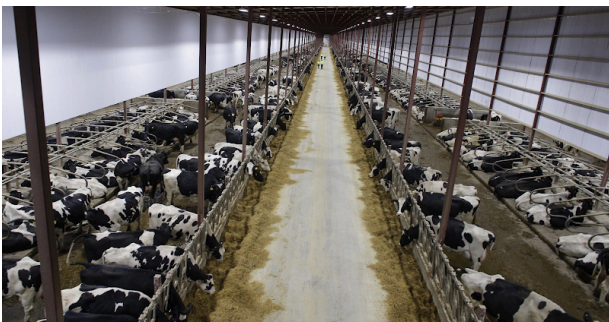


## Public Screening of "Common Ground" at First Unitarian Society, April 27

First Unitarian Society of Madison is celebrating [Faith Climate Action Week](#) by hosting a free screening of "Common Ground" on Saturday, April 27 at 7:00 PM. Doors will open at 6:30 for dessert, beverages and fellowship; a facilitated discussion will follow the film. Location: Atrium Auditorium, First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive, Madison. [Advance registration](#) is requested (but not required).

About the film: "Common Ground" is a new film about how regenerating the world's soils has the potential to rapidly stabilize Earth's climate, restore lost ecosystems, and create abundant food supplies. This film explains why transitioning to regenerative agriculture could be key in rehabilitating the planet, while simultaneously invigorating a new sense of hope and inspiration in viewers. If you liked "Kiss the Ground", you will love "Common Ground!"

Register



## Evers Vetoes "CAFO Friendly" Bill

We got a big (and fast!) win heading into Easter weekend: Governor Evers vetoed the so-called "Protect our Farms Act." This bill, AB957, would have "protected" factory farms (a.k.a. "CAFOs," Confined Animal Feedlot Operations)



from local regulation, while enabling continuing harm to rural communities and the climate. CAFOs are a **main source of agricultural GHG and phosphorus emissions**, and of **elevated levels of toxic nitrates and manure-borne diseases** for nearby communities.

AB957 would have made it illegal for local governments to pass regulations on CAFOs that are stricter than the State's, taking away one of their last tools for saying "no" to CAFOs in their communities. One of 350 Wisconsin's partners, the **Sustain Rural Wisconsin Network** (SRWN) alerted us that this bill was going to Evers' desk in less than a week! Despite this quick turnaround, 350 and SRWN's other partners sent Evers over 600 comments, and he vetoed the Bill on Friday, March 29!

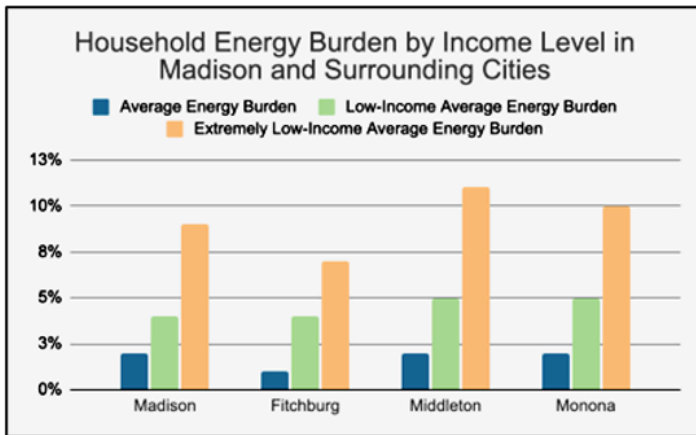
That the Bill passed the legislature is disappointing, a point we should make in the run-up to the November elections. Meanwhile, we celebrate the nimble, lively coalition that helped make this veto happen!



## **Bipartisan Support for EV Chargers in Wisconsin Legislature**

On March 12 the Wisconsin Senate passed **Senate Bills 791 and 792**, allowing private entities to own and operate electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, and charge customers by the amount of electricity used, rather than by how long they charge. This will allow the state to get \$78 million from the Federal Government,

and will bring fast, reliable charging across Wisconsin.



Household Energy Burden by Income Level in Madison Metro Area.  
Data Source: ACEEE

## New Blog Post Highlights Energy Equity Issues

Energy bills becoming more unaffordable? You're not alone. Rising energy costs affect everyone, but are especially harmful for low-income ratepayers whose high energy burdens only exacerbate socioeconomic disparities and inequities. Find out more about the connections between climate justice, rising energy costs, utility rate increases, and the clean energy transition in a new blog post "Energy Burdens, Energy Justice, and Climate Justice" written by Energy Equity Working Group intern Ava Cohen.

[Read the Blog Post](#)

**Home Energy Office Hours**

A free online space for ordinary residents to drop in and ask a panel of energy and climate leaders about the home energy programs, incentives, and upgrades available to you.

**Where:** Online, via Zoom  
**When:** Wednesday, May 1st, 6:00-7:00PM CT  
**Who:** Any resident with home energy questions

Register Here: [tinyurl.com/NRGHours3](https://tinyurl.com/NRGHours3)

## Home Energy Office Hours

With the rollout of the Inflation Reduction Act, there are more energy incentives and programs than ever for homeowners and renters to take advantage of. Whether you're interested in reducing your energy bills, improving the air quality and comfort of your home, or reducing your environmental impact, we're here to listen to your concerns and share any information, resources, and personal insights we can to help you take your next steps.

**WHEN:** Wednesday, May 1st, 6:00-7:00 PM  
**WHERE:** Zoom (register below)

These free Home Energy Office Hours represent a collaboration between many climate and energy organizations from the RE-AMP Network and Energy Democracy Project.

Register



## Meeting Recap: Ecoanxiety, Climate Grief, Solastagia

The monthly meeting in March was one of our best public meetings, according to several of the 80 people attending. Dakila Chungyalpa, founder and director of the Loka Initiative at the Center for Healthy Minds, explained why cultivating inner resilience is a form of environmental activism. After sharing her personal history with climate anxiety, she suggested some contemplative practices that can be helpful, including forest bathing, land based healing, somatics, mindfulness (broadly defined), tonglen meditation, writing or reciting a prayer, contemplative prayer, committing to individual behavior change, and committing to community-based action. If you missed her great talk, no fears! Check out the archive of past monthly meetings by clicking the button below.

We welcome anyone reading this newsletter to join us at a 350 Wisconsin monthly meeting. We typically meet the first Monday of the month (including May 6, June 3 and July 1). Join us to be inspired by great speakers, learn more about what we do, meet more of us, and find out how you can plug in to the action. To learn more about next month's meeting—and

find a registration link – just check our web page below.

Monthly Meeting Archive

Monthly Meeting Registration



## Holy Wisdom Monastery - First Net-Zero Retreat Center in Wisconsin

Holy Wisdom Monastery will be the first net-zero retreat center in our state, having just added 300 more kW of solar, solar storage batteries, and a ground-source heat pump system. A bright spot on our landscape!

### Upcoming Meetings

**Art Collective:** TBD | Contact: Russ Bennett [bennett.russ@gmail.com](mailto:bennett.russ@gmail.com); Dianne Brakarsh [movingfromwithin@gmail.com](mailto:movingfromwithin@gmail.com)

**Climate Justice:** April 8, 7-8 pm | Contact: Marian Fredal [marian.fredal@350wisconsin.org](mailto:marian.fredal@350wisconsin.org)

**Community Climate Solutions:** April 18, 5-6 pm | Contact: Susan Millar [Susan.Millar@350wisconsin.org](mailto:Susan.Millar@350wisconsin.org), Rachel Robillard [RachelEBRobillard@gmail.com](mailto:RachelEBRobillard@gmail.com), or Maddie Loeffler [maddie.loeffler@350wisconsin.org](mailto:maddie.loeffler@350wisconsin.org) (For a complete schedule of various team meetings of CCST, click [here](#).)

**Communication Action:** April 22, 7:00-8:30 pm | Contact: Emily Park [Emily.Park@350wisconsin.org](mailto:Emily.Park@350wisconsin.org)

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

**Fundraising:** April 17, 7-8 pm | Contact: Kristen Clark, our new Development Manager, at [kristen.clark@350wisconsin.org](mailto:kristen.clark@350wisconsin.org)

**State Policy:** April 17, 4-5 pm | Contact: Janet Niewold [janet.niewold@gmail.com](mailto:janet.niewold@gmail.com)

**Tar Sands:** April 1, 5:30- 6:30 pm | Contact: Britnie Remer [britnie.remer@350wisconsin.org](mailto:britnie.remer@350wisconsin.org)

**Monthly Meeting:** April 1, 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)

**Organization Calendar:** <https://350wisconsin.org/meeting-event-calendar/>

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