



August 2024 Climate Newsletter

Monthly Meeting Picnic and Volunteer Fair, Get Your Activist Kit, Gates of Hell With the Art Collective, Taste of Madison, Vote "NO" on August 13th, Volunteer and Training Opportunities, Driving Climate Progress, Defend Our Climate, Line 5 Comment Period Extended, Home Energy Office Hours, Support Vista Sands Solar Farm, WE Energies Comment Period

Get Involved

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Monthly Meeting Picnic and Volunteer Fair

[Our upcoming monthly meeting](#) will not only be our annual picnic at Brittingham Park, but will also host a 350 Wisconsin and 350 Wisconsin Action Volunteer Fair!

This is a fantastic opportunity to learn about various volunteer opportunities, especially as we gear up for the upcoming election. Our established 350 Wisconsin teams will also be present, showcasing how you can get involved in ongoing initiatives. Each station will have some creative element. If you have been following us but weren't sure how to get involved, this would be a great time to come and learn! If you have been involved with us, please feel free to bring friends and enjoy the festivities.

Date: Monday, August 5th

Time: 6pm

Location: Brittingham Park in Madison

Don't miss out on this chance to make a difference and connect with like-minded individuals. We look forward to seeing you there!



Get Your Activist Kit!

Last chance to receive our one-of-a-kind Activist Kit, which includes a 350 Wisconsin t-shirt, two stickers, a postcard, and a 350 bandana! All you need to do is sign up as a monthly donor of any amount today!

By becoming a monthly donor, you help us:

- Sustain long-term campaigns for climate action & solutions
- Mobilize our communities to demand change
- Shut down the dangerous Line 5 oil pipeline and stop the reroute
- Push for policy changes that protect our planet

To join our dedicated group of monthly donors and claim your Activist Kit, simply click the link below and choose a donation amount that works for you:

[Start Your Monthly Donation](#)



Photo by John Hart, Wisconsin State Journal - used with permission

Gates of Hell with the Art Collective!

The Art Collective continues to support 350 Wisconsin Action by staging our Gates of Hell skit and dance. Our July 16 performance at Olbrich After Hours reached over 2400 attendees who had come to watch the concert. We surprised them by being the “opening act”. Tablers reported lots of interaction with the crowd.

On July 20, we presented it again at the Dane County Farmers’ Market. Our next scheduled appearances are on Aug 24 and Sept 14, (10-11 am) at the Farmers’ Market. Our overarching message with this piece is encouraging all to vote to save our beautiful planet! We’re looking for volunteers to help with banner-holding and/or leafleting, and to table during the performances – which really got folks excited about voting!

[Sign Up: Gates of Hell Skit](#)

After the skit we had the first ever public performance of the music working group of the Art Collective. We can still use some more musicians and singers. Everyone is welcome. Next performance is August 17, 11 AM.

Several Art Collective members worked on banners for Building Unity’s Climate Emergency Day events (7/22). Art Collective members also hosted a community potluck and concert the evening before.

The word and image working group met on 7/25. We decided to try doing some creative on-the-spot poetry-writing near the Tar Sands Team booth at the Atwood Neighborhood festival on 7/27 and 7/28.



Taste of Madison

It is that time of year again! We are looking for help staffing our Beer Stand at Taste of Madison! We have the potential to earn ~\$2,000 for 350 Wisconsin over Labor Day weekend. It may seem a bit early to ask, but they like us to have at least half of our volunteers in place in July.

Taste of Madison offers over 80 food vendors, 3 entertainment stages and 26 beverage stands drawing over 250,000 people to the Capitol Square on the Saturday and Sunday of Labor Day weekend. There is no charge for admission or entertainment. Taste of Madison raises \$90,000 annually for local non-profit and charitable organizations.

WHAT: Work a shift in our Beer Tent at Taste of Madison

WHERE: Capitol Square, Madison WI

WHEN: Saturday, August 31st, 1-5:30 PM and 5:30-9:30 PM

We need your help to make this happen! We're looking for folks that can commit to working a shift of 4 to 4.5 hours, serving drinks, and taking money. We will also need a few people each shift to talk with people about 350 Wisconsin and our efforts to combat climate change. The two shifts are from 1-5:30 pm and from 5:30-9:30 pm.

IMPORTANT: You must sign up for a shift at both links. One is to confirm with the Taste of Madison organization and one is to sign up for a specific shift.

Sign up for a shift here!

[Volunteer Registration Part 1](#)

AND HERE:

Volunteer Registration Part 2

Looking forward to seeing you there!



Vote "NO" on August 13th!

Vote NO August 13th, 2024 on ballot amendment questions 1 & 2! The referendum has a direct impact on how Governor Evers is able to allocate state funding, and gives direct power to the state legislature. If these amendments pass, Governor Evers will not be able to quickly administer funds to communities that need immediate action and assistance from natural disasters that affect communities across Wisconsin. Read the full post to learn why voting NO is so important and how it can help ensure a swift response to future emergencies.

[Full Post Here](#)



Volunteer Opportunities and Training

We have recently been training volunteers in deep canvassing and relational organizing with 350 Wisconsin Action. We have attached the recordings and passcodes below if you have been unable to attend these training sessions. Please contact Nikki at nikki.darga@350wisconsin.org if you are interested in participating in these election related activities!

We will be setting up more training in the future.

[Watch Deep Canvassing Training](#)

(Passcode 0BkYSL8#)

Watch Relational Organizing Training

(Passcode: .X9^W8?F)



Driving Climate Progress

Climate Action Campaign (CAC) is hitting the road this summer in an electric campervan for their Clean Energy REVolution Tour – a 6-state/6-week tour #DrivingClimateProgress!

The tour will focus on celebrating the clean energy revolution now underway thanks to the historic climate investments in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), as well as all the benefits of the recently finalized Solutions For Pollution standards cleaning up power plants, vehicles, and appliances. Each stop will provide an opportunity to hear from local leaders, organizations, community members, and elected officials about how these investments are fueling a clean energy future.

Here are the remaining stops in Wisconsin:

- **La Crosse** - August 2nd @ 9:30-10:15am
[Copeland Park - Oktoberfest Pavilion](#)
- **Madison/Cambridge** - August 6th @ 10:30-11:30am [Hinchley's Dairy Farm](#)
- **Milwaukee** - August 8th - @ 11:00-11:45am [Washington Park Urban Ecology Center](#)
- **Wauwatosa** - August 8th (Trivia night!) @ 6:00-7:45pm [Leff's Lucky Town](#)

As part of the CAC WI State Table, 350 Wisconsin will be joining in. If you'd like to attend any of these stops, please fill out this form:

[Sign Up Here](#)



Defend Our Climate!

Earlier this month, 350 Wisconsin, Faith in Place, and Healthy Climate Wisconsin were so happy to have the chance to drop by Senator Tammy Baldwin's office to thank her for her leadership on defending our climate! Senator Baldwin has stood up for the #InflationReductionAct and other critical climate investments for Wisconsinites. Thank you, Senator Baldwin!

While we can't control the excessive heat, droughts, wildfires, or flooding, we can control the climate pollution behind these weather extremes.

Over the last few years, we have gained unprecedented momentum on our climate goals, but this progress is being threatened. That's why we're calling on our leaders in Congress to stand up to attacks by big polluters and their allies.

Join us in telling our elected officials to protect these critical advances and #DefendOurClimate!

Add Your Name Now!



Lower Potato River Falls
Photo by Britnie Remer

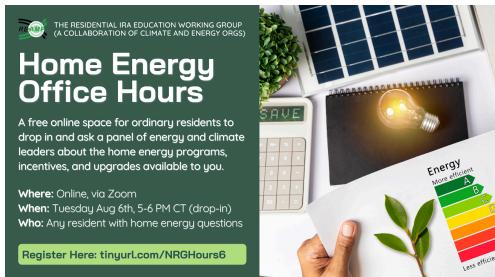
Line 5 Comment Period Extended

BIG news! Once again, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has extended the public comment period for Enbridge's Line 5 expansion project in northern Wisconsin.

Why? Because of grassroots power! Several appendices included in their Draft Combined Decision Document continued to be updated and new ones were added since releasing it for feedback - and our movement took notice.

There's still time to get your comments in! The new deadline is Friday, August 30th.

[Write to the Army Corps Now!](#)



The graphic features the NRG logo at the top left. Below it, the text "THE RESIDENTIAL IRA EDUCATION WORKING GROUP (A COLLABORATION OF CLIMATE AND ENERGY CRSS)" is written. The main title "Home Energy Office Hours" is displayed in large, bold, white letters on a dark background. To the right of the title is a photograph showing a hand holding a small green plant next to a notepad with a glowing lightbulb icon, a calculator, and a solar panel model. At the bottom left, there is descriptive text about the event, and at the bottom right, a button with the text "Register Here: tinyurl.com/NRGHours6".

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, to help you take your next steps.

WHEN: Tuesday Aug 6th, 5:00-6:00 PM CT
(drop-in anytime)

WHERE: [Zoom - register here!](#)

These free Home Energy Office Hours represent a collaboration between many climate and energy organizations from the RE-AMP Network (including 350 Wisconsin!) and Energy Democracy Project.



Support the Vista Sands Solar Farm

Action alert! The Public Service Commission (PSC) of Wisconsin is considering a proposal for the construction of the Vista Sands Solar Farm, which could be the largest renewable project in the state! **We need your help to make sure the PSC considers the environmental and climate benefits of the Vista Sands Solar Farm in its decision and ultimately approves it!**

Submit your comment by Friday, August 16 at 1:30 PM using the PSC's public comment form. We've provided some sample comment language

for you to use in our blog post, but we encourage you to make it your own!

Support the Solar Farm!

If you've submitted your comment and want to make an even greater impact, consider testifying at a public hearing! **The public hearings are scheduled for Friday, August 16 at 2 PM and 6 PM – testify via Zoom (using [this link](#)) or in-person at Best Western Hotel & Convention Center in Plover, Wisconsin.**



Photo of a Power Plant | Steven Baltakatei Sandoval, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons

WE Energies Gas Plants - Time to Comment!

The Public Service Commission (PSC) of Wisconsin is currently considering a request from WEC Energy Group (the parent company of We Energies) **to build two new natural gas power plants** in Milwaukee County at ratepayers' expense. As climate activists, we know that in order to prevent the worst impacts of climate change, we need to transition away from all fossil fuels, *including* natural gas – also known as fossil gas. We need to make it clear to the PSC that **fossil gas is not a safe alternative to coal!**

A few weeks ago, we asked you to comment on WEC's request for special accounting on the Oak Creek project – and thanks to your help, the PSC denied the request! But our work isn't done: **We just found out that the public comment period for these two construction dockets has already begun, and ends on Friday, August 9th.** Here are [some talking points](#) you can use to craft your comment!

Stop the Gas Plants!

Let's ensure the PSC hears loud and clear that we will not accept *any* new fossil fuel infrastructure, especially not at the expense of We Energies ratepayers!

Upcoming Meetings

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

Climate Justice: August 12, 7-8 pm | Contact: Marian Fredal marian.fredal@350wisconsin.org

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

Communication Action: August 20, 7:00-8:00 pm | Contact: Emily Park Emily.Park@350wisconsin.org

Fundraising: August 21, 7-8 pm | Contact: Kristen Clark, kristen.clark@350wisconsin.org

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

Tar Sands: October 7, 5:30- 6:30 pm | Contact: Britnie Remer britnie.remer@350wisconsin.org

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

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

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Madison, WI 53713
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