

# THE MUIR VIEW



NEWS OF THE SIERRA CLUB IN WISCONSIN - [sierraclub.org/wisconsin](http://sierraclub.org/wisconsin)

## DNR DYSFUNCTION

by Bill Davis, Chapter Director

Wisconsin has a long history of forward thinking in relation to the management of natural resources. This history spans from Sigurd Olson and Aldo Leopold back to John Muir, the namesake of the chapter. When the current Department of Natural Resources (DNR) was formed by merging the Conservation Department and the Department of Resource Development in 1968 there were concerns that the resource development would overshadow conservation. While this was recognized as a possibility, the thought was if both were in the same department it would force coordination and balance. Finding this balance has required work and vigilance over the years. It has worked reasonably well - until recently.

Because of this history and the responsibilities entrusted to the DNR, Wisconsinites have come to expect a high level of professionalism, performance and foresight. It is the front line agency that ensures protection of clean air and water, which are necessary to protect human health and the environment now and in the future. The DNR also provides outdoor recreation opportunities from parks to fishing and hunting. These things are important not just to provide well-being; a clean and healthy environment is also vi-



tal to the agriculture, tourism and forestry industries in this state.

Historically, Wisconsin's DNR has managed the balancing act between resource development and conservation in a non-par-

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## Student and Youth Leadership Blooms

By Cassie Steiner, John Muir Chapter Apprentice



Youth voices are often under-represented or under-heard in organizing circles. Millennials and "Gen-Z" are stereotyped as lazy or too reliant on technology. However, after months of intentional collaboration with these generations, it is evident that these activists have valuable energy, insight, dedication and skills to pour into movement-building and action-planning.

The Sierra Club – John Muir Chapter has begun outreach and support to student and youth (ages 13 – 30) activists' conservation events. Following are just a few examples of this powerful youth leadership in Wisconsin.

### The Solar Summit

On Saturday, January 16, students from around the state gathered at UW-Stevens Point to discuss solar energy, intersections with social justice and equity and plans for Solar Education week (February 22- 26).

This summit was planned by Laura Donovan of UW-Stout and Anne Barlas of UW-Milwaukee and encouraged collaboration

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# FROM THE CHAIR



I was introduced to America's great southwestern desert in the late '90s on a Sierra Club service trip to Arizona. Looking for an early April exposure to spring, I signed up to help rebuild hiking trails in the Coconino National Forest. The desert welcomed us rudely — six inches of snow the first night and blustery, spitting rains during much of the week. On day one I sat on a prickly pear cactus while putting down a tent stake. (I thought my tent would be picturesque next to a cactus.) Resulting dilemma: How do you extract cactus spines from your derriere when

you're with 20 brand new friends? Answer: Alone, in your tent, utilizing a Swiss Army knife.

In more than one way, though, the desert had me "hooked." Since then I've enjoyed several Sierra Club southwestern service trips, and I recommend them — check out *Sierra Magazine!*

As I write this, I've just returned from an independent mid-winter backpacking foray into the Grand Canyon. Previously I had negotiated the Kaibab and Bright Angel trails with friends, camping at Phantom Ranch and Indian Garden. This time, however, we ventured down from the South Rim for six days exploring the Tonto Plateau, two thirds of the way to the Colorado River. The scenery and solitude at this time of year was inspiring, but in departing the popular tourist corridor we had to seriously consider our sources of water. Fortunately my companion, Eric Hansen, a veteran of three dozen ventures below the rim, knew which side canyons held seasonal streams or water pockets. A recent storm had replenished

these surface waters, but we needed to focus keenly on our water needs each day and I was grateful for his knowledge and experience.

Here in Wisconsin, by comparison, water seems ubiquitous. We have over 15,000 lakes, and 84,000 river miles, not to mention hundreds of shoreline miles on Lakes Superior and Michigan. Does this mean we can take our water for granted?

Of course not. In fact we need to be careful that our water is not reduced to a commodity, valued mostly for the profits it can generate. As the nation reels in response to the water shortages and the crisis threatening children in Flint, Michigan (with similar problems in Wisconsin cities), we are reminded that water is priceless for sustaining healthy human life and ecosystems. Indeed we should guard our water jealously.

We're in the midst of troubling regional water quantity problems (e.g., in the Central Sands), farm runoff that pollutes family wells (in Kewaunee County), a continuing deluge of short-sighted proposed state water legislation, (e.g., permit-free dredging of lakes, streams and wetlands, a law barring counties from setting higher shore land standards than the state and perpetual high capacity well permits to name a few). I suggest a simple test to assess the moral validity of these legislative and on-the-ground scenarios: are the farms, industries, real estate developers and other advocates for reduced regulation and enforcement being required to behave as good neighbors? Or, are they seeking to ignore their impacts on neighbors, the public, wildlife and other users of our water?

When it comes to our precious and finite water, let's each demand that the governor and legislature stop enabling and facilitating bad neighbor behavior.

*Jim Kerler*

Note: The John Muir Chapter Executive Committee has elected me for another year as ExCom chair. I thank them for this honor.

## July-September Issue Deadline: May 15

### THE MUIR VIEW

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# Legislature Adjourned

By Elizabeth Ward, Conservation Programs Coordinator, Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter

Although most of our legislators have gone home for the year, the Senate and Assembly can technically come back anytime. As they leave the capital to hit the campaign trail, they leave a trail of environmental destruction, backtracking and an attack Wisconsin's legacy in their wake. Since an attack in January, legislators slammed through more pay-to-play bills that roll-back some of Wisconsin's most important environmental protections.

Wisconsin's infamous nuclear moratorium, the law that required certain safeguards be in place before permitting a nuclear plant, was repealed. The 'moratorium' simply required that a nuclear plant be in the public's interest financially and that there would be a place to store the radioactive waste before a utility could build a nuclear plant.

Other bills attacked Wisconsin's water legacy, literally giving away public land to property owners, undermining the Public Trust Doctrine and removing some permitting requirements. Some called it a 'full-out attack' on Wisconsin's water protection. We also saw the resurrection of the bad idea to permit high-capacity wells without considering the cumulative impact. Even a bill exempting fish farms from finding alternatives to wetland destruction passed!

We're also seeing the continued demise of



local control in Wisconsin. One bill, proposed by Representative Jarchow and Senator Lasee completely undermined public input and local control by expanding 'vested rights.' The bill said that if a developer applied for permits for a project (or even part of a project) from one entity (like the state DNR or a different municipality), then that developer has a 'vested right' in the project and the local municipality would be forced to allow the project. This bill takes away the

rights of local governments and ignores the idea that a project that makes sense for one part of the state does not necessarily make sense for another. As of the writing of this article, the bill has not passed the Senate, but had passed the Assembly.

In obvious backlash, the legislature also passed a bill taking away some of the authority of Dane County after the county board added stipulations to Enbridge's permit to build a tar sands pumping station in the county.

Despite all of the bad bills, we have had some wins. Right before the holidays in December, the Senate and Assembly circulated a bill in the legislature that would make it easier to sell Wisconsin's public water utilities and sewage systems to private companies. Luckily, there was a huge public outcry. This uproar even led the League of Municipalities to change their support and oppose the bill. As a result, in a surprising move, the Senate pulled the vote and pronounced the bill 'dead' and we no longer have to worry about the threat of this bill.

January was also jam-packed with new bills, public hearings (the legislature even hosted public hearings for four bad bills in one day!), and other developments. For the most up-to-date information read our weekly blog, *Muir Musings*, follow us on Facebook and Twitter or visit the chapter website. We will be releasing a full legislative recap soon, so stay tuned!

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## ☞ DNR Dysfunction *Continued from page 1*

tisan way. Unfortunately, the management of natural resources has become completely polarized, partisan and unbalanced.

We currently have the following:

A department that is failing so badly at protecting rights to clean water that Midwest Environmental Advocates petitioned EPA in October 2015 to either fix the DNR's program or take away the DNR's authority to implement the Clean Water Act. It is an ironic situation indeed for Wisconsin, the first state to be given that authority back in the 1970s.

In addition, communities are suffering from exposure to the dust caused by mining for

sand to use in hydraulic fracturing (fracking), which is known to contain human carcinogens. In 2011, many of these citizens petitioned the DNR to promulgate rules to regulate the dust from these mines to protect their health and that of their children. The response? A summary refusal to consider the petition.

Instead of bolstering the technical capacity of the DNR, the Legislature and governor stripped the DNR of most of its scientists in the last budget, thus hamstringing the agency. Much of the work of the DNR is highly technical. To be effective the DNR must marshal the best science and information it can.

Why has this happened? It has happened because the Legislature and the administration have, for the first time, imposed a completely one-sided, pro-business slant to the agency at the expense of the environment and the health of Wisconsinites everywhere. This is clear in many ways, including the proclamation that "Wisconsin is Open for Business," and the rush to permit factory farms and high capacity wells. It is also apparent in cuts to the DNR's budget and proposals to sell public land to political contributors. Other reasons are less obvious to the general public. For example, the state Attorney General issued an opinion in favor of a developer of a Concentrated Animal

☞ *Continued on page 5*



**Student Leadership** *Continued from page 1*

six different campuses and provided a much-needed energy around the state to organize environmental campaigns that expand beyond one campus.

“Youth leaders have the opportunity to come together to amplify their story as well as others in ways that will affect serious change. Through working on Seize the Grid with other students, I have found myself in an incredible community of other young people that are dedicated to justice and system change,” reflected Donovan.

**The #ClipperIsTheNewKXL Rally**

Student leadership in Wisconsin continued after the Solar Summit. On February 11, young environmentalists organized the #ClipperIsTheNewKXL rally of 150 people outside of the Democratic Presidential Debate in Milwaukee. “Clipper is the new KXL” was used to draw the connection between the frequently discussed tar sands pipeline Keystone XL and the Alberta Clipper pipeline, a lesser-known pipeline similar in size that is currently crossing the U.S./Canada border. Youth tar sands pipeline fighters showed up in force to let the candidates know that Wisconsin and the Midwest can no longer be a fossil fuel sacrifice zone for pipeline expansion after expansion.

The dedication and energy of the activists standing outside for hours in 17-degree weather was evident. The majority of those activists were youth (ages 13 – 30), and many were students from Wisconsin. In fact, eight UW campuses and one high school were represented, in addition to students from Minnesota and Michigan as well as community members.

Beyond attending the rally, students in Wisconsin also made up the majority of the planning team for the action. The hard work that youth activists poured into planning this action defied the stereotypes of their generation.

Students organized outreach and recruitment efforts, using Skype video calling to speak at the meetings without needing gas to travel around the state. They also planned an art build and worked with community members to build a three-panel banner and large oil droplet posters. Some students in Milwaukee assisted with logistical pieces, researching security and parking options for rally attendees. Youth from across the region led a social media charge with the hashtag #ClipperIsTheNewKXL to create pressure online, and several others wrote op-eds to local papers. Students were also prepared to interact with press and lead chants and speeches at the rally.

Planning a large rally outside of a presidential debate is not easy, as it turns out. However, with a strong team of youth leadership, a beautiful action came out of a lot of hard work. Furthermore, since this action, one of the presidential candidates has come out in opposition to the Alberta Clipper pipeline.

**Spring Forward Strategy Session**

Rather than going home to rest the day after the debate rally in Milwaukee, students pushed forward with a one-day strategy session focusing on building youth power throughout Wisconsin.

After a day of visioning, goal-setting and time-lining tactics, students left with concrete next steps for ways to engage on and

off-campus in clean energy, anti-tar sands and election-related campaigns.

**The Wisconsin Tar Sands Campus Tour**

One of the “next steps” that came out of the Spring Forward strategy session is the Wisconsin Tar Sands Campus tour, an educational and interactive tour of speakers to eight UW campuses. Youth-planned, these stops will provide tools for students on campus to launch their own tar sands campaigns or contribute to upcoming tar sands actions in their communities. The tour will be taking place from April 3-8, 2016. Check [sierraclub.org/Wisconsin](http://sierraclub.org/Wisconsin) for more information about the tour.

**Collaborating with Youth**

“What both surprised and encouraged me was the incredible support from older generations as they felt a re-igniting of their spark when youth began joining their fight,” stated student Cailie Kafura of Stevens Point. “Through my involvement with environmental campaigns, I have been moved many times over by the grassroots power of Wisconsin and the resilience of common folk of all ages to the seemingly immortal corporations.”

When the next generation becomes the utility ratepayer, the head-of-household and the transportation decision-maker, they must be prepared to make greater demands for renewable energy, sustainability and clean transportation. If the climate movement and the Sierra Club is to continue to grow and be effective, creating welcoming and open spaces for folks of all genders, races and ages is a vital step.

# Spring DNR & Conservation Congress Hearings

*Make Your Voice Heard on Fish, Wildlife and Environmental Questions*

*By Don Hammes, Chapter Executive  
Committee Vice Chair*

The annual DNR and Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) spring hearings will be held on Monday, April 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. There will be 72 public hearings, one in each county, where individuals interested in natural resources management in Wisconsin will have an opportunity to provide important input to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Natural Resource Board (NRB). Visit this website to find the location of the hearing in your county and to view all of the advisory questions: <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search "Spring Hearings."

The WCC is made up of delegates elected at the Spring Hearings. Delegates advise the NRB, which currently sets policy for the DNR. Spring hearing attendees can vote for WCC delegates, vote on proposed rule changes and weigh in on advisory questions relating to fish and wildlife management. The spring hearings also provide an opportunity for citizens to bring statewide conservation issues to the attention of the Conservation Congress through the citizen resolution process. Following are a few representative questions that may be of interest to Sierra Club members.

## Questions 9-10

These two questions ask whether participants favor allowing a local public notice and input process separate from the statewide Spring Hearings to change regulations more quickly for specific fish species on specific inland waters if the Department feels this is necessary.

## Question 13

This question asks participants whether they support appointment of the DNR Secretary by the Natural Resources Board instead of the governor. For 70 years, the DNR secretary was appointed by the NRB. This changed in 1995 when the position became a cabinet position appointed by the governor.

Sierra Club strongly supports a yes vote on this question.

## Question 20

This question asks participants whether they support the Legislature repealing the iron mining law of 2013 that specified a new regulatory framework applicable to ferrous (iron) mining. This law was passed to support the GTAC mine in northern Wisconsin.

Sierra Club strongly supports a yes vote on this question.

## Question 21

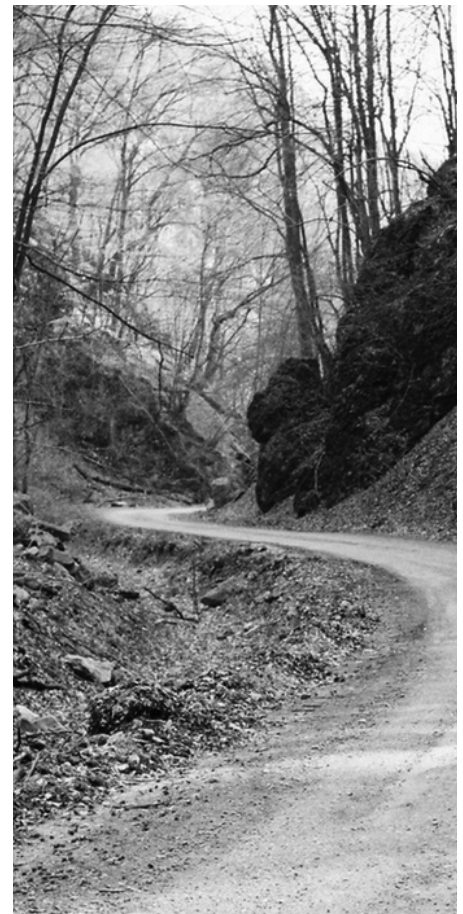
This question asks participants whether they support a moratorium on new state permits for frac sand mining and processing in Wisconsin.

Sierra Club strongly supports a yes vote on this question.

## Question 30

This question asks participants whether they support legislation that would require the Secretary, Deputy Secretary and/or the Assistant Deputy Secretary of the DNR (two out of three) to have either a degree in natural resource management and five years experience or at least 10 years of natural resource management experience before they are appointed.

The Sierra Club – John Muir Chapter urges attendees of this year's spring hearings to voice your opinion and vote. This is a once a year opportunity; go make your voice heard!



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## ☞ DNR Dysfunction *Continued from page 3*

Feeding Operation (CAFO). The Attorney General's opinion says that the agency cannot limit the number of cows at the facility or require groundwater monitoring to protect the neighbors of the proposed facility. That is the equivalent of saying that the DNR cannot limit the amount of pollution coming out of an industry's pipe or monitor the body of water being polluted. Additionally, several citizens have made open records requests to the DNR to get information on incidents relating to the use of dogs in hunting. The DNR responded that it will charge the citizens thousands of dollars to provide the information!

This is not the attitude or performance expected and demanded from this agency. Its mission is simply too important. Many of the environmental issues the chapter has been working on are ultimately related to the DNR's current dysfunction, such as work on biennial budgets, sound management of resources and hunting, moving the state away from fossil fuels and high-capacity well legislation. Addressing this issue requires a thorough approach that addresses the more systemic problems within the agency. To that end, a group of volunteers and staff are working on a multi-year campaign to bring back the DNR Wisconsinites need and deserve.

# ISSUES AT A GLANCE



## Solar Homes Program Returns

We're excited to announce that Sierra Club-John Muir Chapter's Solar Homes Program will continue throughout 2016. Over the past two years the Sierra Club solar homes program has helped 29 member households install 152 KW of solar. That means every year those Sierra Club members are saving roughly \$21,000 on the cumulative cost of their energy! Would you like to join them?

The solar homes program offers the opportunity to work with a trusted, experienced installation team from H&H Solar that can help put your values into action. Sierra Club members and supporters receive a discount and H&H makes a contribution to the John Muir Chapter to support our grassroots advocacy in Wisconsin.

See the Solar Homes Program ad in this issue for more details, then sign up for your free, solar assessment at <http://hhgroup-holdings.com/solar/solar-homes/> or call Stanley Minnick at 608-438-9026.

Not ready to take the plunge? You can still help the cause (and earn a stipend) through our referral program. It's the perfect way to make a difference even if solar isn't right for your living situation. To find out more email Stanley Minnick at [sminnick@hhsolarenergy.com](mailto:sminnick@hhsolarenergy.com). This is an exciting new program that offers a chance for everyone to help build a clean energy future for Wisconsin.

## "Ban the Bag" in your Community

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) up to one trillion plastic bags are used worldwide each year. Early this year, a report stated that worldwide, the oceans could have more plastic than fish by 2050 if we continue on this trajectory! Given that these bags are often used as a means to simply carry products home and then are discarded, eliminating them can have a huge environmental impact with little inconvenience. Though the plastic bags are in our lives for mere minutes at times, they stay on the planet for much longer.

Leaders from the Sierra Club Great Waters Group have led a campaign in Wauwatosa to 'ban the bag.' The Sierra Club-John Muir Chapter is helping set up a team to build on their expertise and help others start a campaign in their community. If you're interested in joining this effort, contact Elizabeth Ward at [elizabeth.ward@sierraclub.org](mailto:elizabeth.ward@sierraclub.org) or (608) 256-0565

## Your Vote Makes a Difference on April 5

Your vote in the Spring Election this year is more important than ever. With our legislature intent on rolling back so many of our protections, elections for the Wisconsin Supreme Court and local races mean even more. For example, while the legislature stalls to move clean energy and clean transportation initiatives forward, local communities are funding bus systems and solar panels. Decisions at the local level will move Wisconsin forward despite the actions of the state legislature.

Your vote on April 5 could make the difference. At the time this article is being written, the Chapter has not yet endorsed in the Spring Elections. Check our website to stay up-to-date on our endorsements and learn where each candidate stands on the issues. To find out what's on your ballot, where to go, and how to vote (voter ID's are required!), go to [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov) or call us at (608) 256-0565.

## Decision Pending on Water Diversion

Thousands called on Governor Walker and the Wisconsin DNR not to approve the application by the city of Waukesha to divert water from Lake Michigan for drinking water. Unfortunately, at the end of last year, the Department of Natural Resources approved the City of Waukesha's application. However, that was only the first step in the process. The application also has to be approved by all eight Great Lakes states and two Canadian provinces. During the recent comment period, Sierra Club members across all eight states spoke out and wrote to their Governors.

Hundreds attended public hearings held in Waukesha and Duluth. The public comment period is closed, but the decision will be announced in April.

All we need is one governor to deny the application and the proposal will not go through. Thank you to all who testified, wrote their governors and spoke out. Stay tuned to our website or follow us on Facebook and Twitter for more updates.

## Graphic Design Volunteer Needed

We're looking for a volunteer with an eye for design and excellent layout skills to take over production of the quarterly Muir View newsletter. Experience with Adobe InDesign and Photoshop software required. Interested? Email Jacinda Tessmann at [jacinda.tessmann@sierraclub.org](mailto:jacinda.tessmann@sierraclub.org) and include at least three samples of your design work. For more details call 608-256-0565

## 2016 Paddling Adventures in Quetico and Wisconsin

Don't miss the opportunity to enjoy the wild north woods on canoe and other outings offered by the John Muir Chapter. In addition to the outings to the Quetico Provincial Park on the Canadian side of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, we have several other options in Wisconsin, some in locations governed by the National Park Service (NPS) and in commemoration of the NPS 100-year anniversary in 2016. The following trips have openings:

### Wilderness Camp Cooking - Devils Lake, May 13-15,

Leader: Nancy McDermott - 608- 238-1421, [njmcderm@gmail.com](mailto:njmcderm@gmail.com)

### Intro to Canoe Camping - Bittersweet Lakes,

June 10-13, Leader: David Thomas - 414-344- 1044, [thomasdp@thomerwald.net](mailto:thomasdp@thomerwald.net)

### North Country Trail Service & Backpack, June 24-27,

Leader: David Thomas - 414-344- 1044, [thomasdp@thomerwald.net](mailto:thomasdp@thomerwald.net)

### Apostle Islands, July 17-22,

Leader: David Thomas - 414-344- 1044, [thomasdp@thomerwald.net](mailto:thomasdp@thomerwald.net)

### Quetico, August 5-15,

Leaders: Peter Brands 262-888- 3516 [pbrands@gmail.com](mailto:pbrands@gmail.com) and Tim Karaskiewicz 414-397-8768 [tkaraskiewicz@mitchellairport.co](mailto:tkaraskiewicz@mitchellairport.co)

For more details and a complete list of outings, visit <http://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/outings-events>. Even if a trip is full, cancellations allow for many who have been on the waiting list to attend.

## National Sierra Club Elections are Underway - VOTE!

The 2016 election for the Sierra Club national Board of Directors will be held on April 27, 2016. Those eligible to vote in the national Sierra Club election will receive in the mail (or by email if you chose the electronic delivery option) your national Sierra Club ballot in early March. This will include information on the candidates and where you can find additional information on the Club's web site. Your participation is critical for a strong Sierra Club.

The Sierra Club is a democratically structured organization at all levels. The Club requires the regular flow of views on policy and priorities from its grassroots membership in order to function well. Yearly participation in elections at all Club levels is a major membership obligation.

In a typical year less than 10% of eligible members vote in the Board elections. A minimum of 5% is required for the elections to be valid. Our grassroots structure is strengthened when our participation is high. Therefore your participation is needed in the voting process. To find out more, visit [www.sierraclub.org/board/election](http://www.sierraclub.org/board/election)



## Chapter Members Lead National Outings

Two members of the Great Waters Group, Bill Baurecht and Helen Bannan-Baurecht, lead Sierra Club national outings in California and Nevada. This summer they will lead and assist in two outings that may interest you if you'd like to vacation with your children or grandchildren in the Sierras near Lake Tahoe. These lodge outings are based at Sierra Club's Clair Tappaan Lodge near Donner Pass. Full descriptions can be viewed online.

### Sierra Vistas and Family Fun in Tahoe National Forest, California

July 24-29, 2016

Trip # 16214A

Price: \$795 child/ \$895 adult

Enjoy panoramic mountain vistas and activities in the Eastern Sierra. We will hike short segments of the Pacific Crest Trail, swim in mountain lakes, learn about Washoe Indian culture, and play at cozy Clair Tappaan Lodge, without the distraction of electronic devices. We'll be outdoors every day playing and learning in an area rich in Western history. This trip lets us introduce children to mountain hiking and arid terrain. It's a multi-generational outing: for accompanied kids and adults. Adults without kids are welcome. Minimum age is 7.

Co-leaders: Bill Baurecht and Helen Bannan-Baurecht

### Just for Grandparents and Grandkids, Tahoe National Forest, California

July 17-22, 2016

Trip # 16212A

Price: \$695 child/\$795 adult

"Want quality time with your grandchildren? If you enjoy short hikes, wading in clear creeks, swimming in mountain lakes, and picnicking on the beach, don't miss this opportunity to create precious memories together. Join us on a Sierra Club classic at Clair Tappaan Lodge and discover why kids always ask, 'Can we go again next year?' Minimum age is 6."

Leader: Angela White

Assistants: Bill Baurecht and Helen Bannan-Baurecht

View details at <http://content.sierraclub.org/outings/> At FIND A TRIP type the trip number



# TAR SANDS UPDATE

By Elizabeth Ward, Chapter Conservation Programs Coordinator and Cassie Steiner, Chapter Apprentice

Kicking off the new year, the John Muir Chapter worked with our partners at the Wisconsin Safe Energy (WiSE) Alliance to continue to educate communities across the state about the threat of a new tar sands pipeline in Wisconsin. WiSE Alliance is the alliance formed with other groups (like 350 Madison), concerned community members and landowners throughout Wisconsin. Together, we hope to halt the onslaught of tar sands pipeline proposals in Wisconsin.

## ***Enbridge Over Troubled Water Release***

A new report, *Enbridge Over Troubled Water*, was released by the Sierra Club, along with the National Wildlife Federation, Honor the Earth and a dozen other groups. The report exposes the serious threat that Enbridge Inc., the Canadian oil pipeline goliath, poses to the Great Lakes region. It looks at various tar sands projects Enbridge operates across the region and the devastating impact it has had on communities and will continue to have if Enbridge is permitted to continue its scheme to expand its pipeline system through the towns, rivers, properties, wetlands and streams of the Great Lakes area.

Highlights of the report include the history of Line 61 in Wisconsin and Enbridge's unprecedented fines and environmental violations, as well as Enbridge circumventing local control and public input in order to push the expansion of Line 61 through. It also looks at Enbridge's "double-speak" on the Line 61-twin: Enbridge telling investors one thing and impacted communities another. Finally, it looks at the unbelievable instance in which Enbridge tried to get a resident in Northern Wisconsin thrown in jail for trespassing on his own land. To read the full report, visit our website: [sierraclub.org/Wisconsin](http://sierraclub.org/Wisconsin)

## ***Pipelines Delayed***

After a long battle in Minnesota, the courts, Public Utilities Commission and Governor Dayton's administration decided to force the Sandpiper pipeline and Line 3 to under-



go full environmental impact statements before getting permits. Both of these pipelines enter Wisconsin, and will feed into the new Line 61-twin. This means that no matter what happens in Wisconsin there will be some scrutiny about these pipelines and hopefully the impacts downstream in Wisconsin will be incorporated.

Enbridge announced in February that the construction of these pipelines, which they had bragged about beginning in 2016, will now not begin until 2019. This is another victory for those fighting to protect our land and water from the threats of these pipelines. We don't know yet what this means for the Line 61-twin. Stay tuned!

## ***Legislative Threats***

Wisconsin's Legislature continues to threaten the ability of local communities to protect their residents from the threats of tar sands pipelines. After expanding eminent domain in the budget passed in July, the Legislature quickly got to work undermining the ability of local governments to protect their citizens. Specific attacks on Dane County after the county board scrutinized Enbridge's application for a pumping station and required certain protections before Enbridge could get a permit, as well as bills that could take away a local community's say if any new pipelines were proposed. See the Legislative Update in this issue for more information. Ironically, the bills' authors, Senator Frank Lasee and Representative Adam Jarchow, referred to these as "bills protecting property rights." If landowners

along the line would now be faced with eminent domain and could not turn to their local elected officials to help them when Enbridge comes knocking, whose property rights are they protecting?

## ***Rallies and Campus Engagement***

Beyond work with communities along the line, there has been broader community and campus engagement around the state. On February 11, there was a youth-organized rally of 150 people outside of the Democratic Presidential Debate in Milwaukee and in early April, there will be an educational tar sands tour through the state. More information about both of these events can be found in the *Muir View* article "Student and Youth Leadership Blooms."

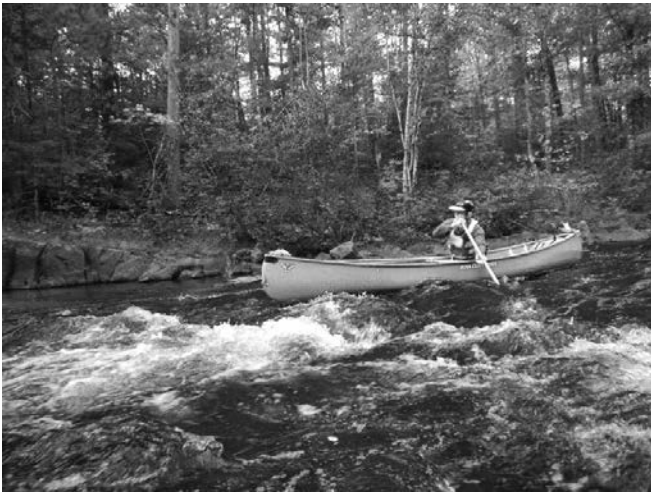
## ***Do you live along the pipeline?***

Sierra Club and WiSE Alliance are attending, speaking at and hosting forums throughout Wisconsin about the threats of the proposed Line 61-twin. So far, forums have been held in Gilman (Taylor County) and Marshfield (Wood County) and others are in the works. If you live in a community along the line that you think could benefit from hearing about the concerns of the pipeline and the risks or ways to get involved, let the Sierra Club know.

It will take all hands-on-deck in order to protect Wisconsin from the threats of tar sands pipelines. To get involved, visit [sierraclub.org/Wisconsin](http://sierraclub.org/Wisconsin), or contact Elizabeth Ward at [Elizabeth.ward@sierraclub.org](mailto:Elizabeth.ward@sierraclub.org) or (608) 256-0565.

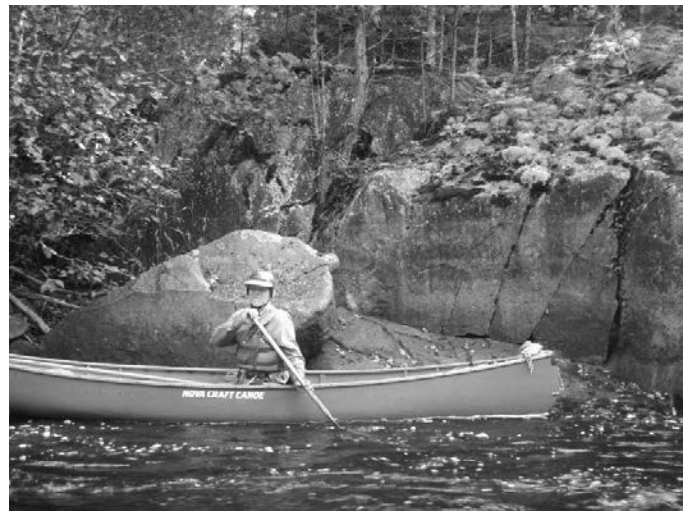


# Celebrating the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act



{Pictured above} is John Roberts celebrating the legislative Wisconsin Wild Rivers Act last year. When these photographs were taken, it had been 50 years since the Wisconsin Wild Rivers Act had been passed, and Roberts has paddled the 3 designated NE rivers - Pike, Pine, Popple - a total 50 times in one year.

The Wisconsin system of state Wild Rivers was established by the 1965 Legislature in order to afford the people of the state an opportunity to enjoy natural streams, to attract out-of-state visitors and assure the well-being of our tourist industry, and to preserve some rivers in a free flowing condition and protect them from development. In 2015, paddlers from the Sierra Club-John Muir Chapter celebrated the 50th anniversary of the act, which the Sierra Club was instrumental in passing.



On his 44th trip he joined the SC River Touring Section on the Pike, where this picture was taken {shown above}. Paddling the Pine on a sunny day in December brought paddlers from all surrounding states and Canada to join him on this special 50th river trip.



{Pictured on left} is the last trip was on the Pine on a sunny December day. Part of the fun was paddling up onto surface ice at river banks' edge, seeing frozen small waterfalls which melted a bit at the sun's reach, and being able to see through the clear cold water to river bottom. This trip brought paddlers from all surrounding states and Canada to join him on this special 50th river event.

# GREEN REVIEW

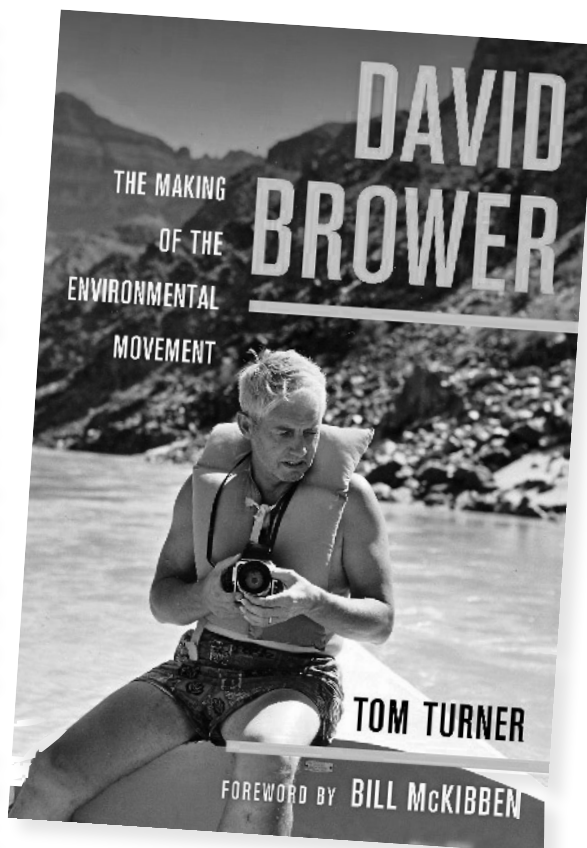
by Amy Lou Jenkins

*David Brower: The Making of the Environmental Movement*, By Tom Turner, with a foreword by Bill McKibben. University of California Press, 2015. 308 pages.

David Brower was instrumental in saving many U.S. lands from ruination, including Echo Park in Dinosaur National Monument, a free-flowing river in the Grand Canyon, Redwood National Park, North Cascades National Park, Point Reyes National Seashore, Mineral King in Sequoia National Park and nearly 800 wilderness areas. Sierra Club members may know Brower as the executive director who led the Sierra Club from 1952 to 1966. During these years the mountaineering society evolved to become a central pillar of environmentalism in the nation.

Tom Turner laments that most Americans don't know David Brower, hence, this first comprehensive biography. Turner worked with Brower for 20 years, yet the career biography doesn't shy away from the complicated nature of a man twice fired from organizations he served and grew (Sierra Club and Friends of the Earth). The biography focus on the career of Brower has little to say about the inner life of Brower, yet the facts alone offer glimpses.

One fascinating battle of nonprofit against government intervention happened when Brower fought to save Echo Park from a dam. During Congressional testimony he put what he called his ninth-grade math skills up against the mathematical compu-



tations of the Bureau of Reclamation. The Bureau had claimed that the proposed dam reservoir would save between 1,000 and 2,000 acre-feet of evaporation. Brower's chalkboard figures before Congress demonstrated the math errors. After the hearing, the Bureau's water saving claim dropped to 250 acre-feet, with Brower claiming the number to be 200. Brower also used the John Muir technique of helping the public to fall in love with America's wilderness. He took the press on float trips, led hiking expeditions and turned the Sierra Club into a publishing house that chronicled and illustrated the majesty of wilderness.

It's hard to imagine that the sharp mathematics at play in the saving of Echo Park didn't come into play with a similar level of astuteness in the running of the Sierra Club. Board members, including Ansel Adams, seemed to harbor both admiration and frustration for what they saw as haphazard financial management. Turner presents Brower as a man who moved full-steam ahead in his passion to protect wilderness. That energy and momentum would build great organizations, but once those organizations were big enough to need a bureaucracy, his style was at odds with organizationally-processed change.

After being fired, Brower's job to save wilderness didn't end. He founded Friends of the Earth and then the Earth Island Institute. In 1982, he was even asked back to serve on the board of the Sierra Club. Although when board member Dick Leonard asked if he was going to behave, Brower answered, "No."

David Brower passed away in 2000 at the age of 88. His biography also serves as a history of the battles to save wilderness. The chronicle of wave after wave of desperate measures to save vulnerable lands builds admiration for the stamina and hutzpah of Brower. All the organizations he served and founded continue to protect wilderness around the world and magnify the impact of a great and complicated American.

*Amy Lou Jenkins is the award-winning author of Every Natural Fact: Five Seasons of Open-Air Parenting. Contact her through her site at [www.AmyLouJenkins.com](http://www.AmyLouJenkins.com) if you'd like to offer a book for possible review.*

explore, enjoy and protect the planet!

Find all the latest issue information and upcoming events at: [www.sierraclub.org/Wisconsin](http://www.sierraclub.org/Wisconsin)

# Club member pens guide to Wisconsin streams

Longtime River Touring section member, Rick Kark, has written a complete guide to paddling most of the navigable streams in Wisconsin, which is available as a free resource online. He explored 300 of them between 1969 and 2007 and is still adding to that number -- even though he has lived in North Carolina since 2008. Is he a paddling fanatic or just addicted to exploring new rivers? It's probably the latter because Kark says he can't resist planning a trip, devising a shuttle method, paddling a new river and seeing what's around each new bend.

Kark's first Wisconsin stream was the St. Croix River in the summer of 1969. By the late 70s he had taken up whitewater paddling with the John Muir Chapter's River Touring section. His expertise and his interest both increased after he attended one of the section's spring whitewater clinics. In subsequent years he frequently felt the thrill of running such whitewater classics as the Wolf and Peshtigo Rivers. Of course he paddled these with others. Simultaneously he started to explore lesser paddled streams, but usually this was done alone in one of his solo canoes. He enjoyed the quiet water streams nearly as much as the splashy ones and started to take notes about his experiences. In April of 2007 he reached the milestone of 300 on the East Twin River near Two Rivers. Many of his old Sierra Club friends paddled with him that day. At a late luncheon afterwards, the Two Rivers Mayor and City Council President presented him with a plaque honoring him for his accomplishment.

Initially Kark wrote long descriptions about each stream experience but he eventually decided to write more abbreviated versions stressing just the essentials. Included for each stream are the following headings: Location, Natural Features, Navigability and Difficulty, Logistics, Trip Ideas and Conclusion. Trip Ideas includes these subcategories: My Experiences, Experiences of Others and Further Ideas. Under his own experiences he describes where he put in and took out, geologic features and other observations.

Kark hopes that Wisconsin Sierra Club members will be inspired by his writings to get out there and try new streams. He realizes that most paddlers will not be willing to pull their boats over as many log jams and fallen trees as he has, which is a ridiculously high number. Frequent low water conditions and obstruction gauntlets on many of these streams will discourage many potential explorers. But Kark says there are many undiscovered "gems" in the Badger State and that his e-book should help curious paddlers find one in their area of the state. His book divides the state into seven regions to aid the process.

The River Alliance of Wisconsin has published Kark's Canoeing and Kayaking Guide to 309 Wisconsin Streams at its website. There is also a link from the John Muir Chapter River Touring website, [www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/river-touring-section/links](http://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/river-touring-section/links).



#### How it works:

- Sierra Club members can sign-up for a free site assessment at: [www.hhgroup Holdings.com/solar/solar-homes](http://www.hhgroup Holdings.com/solar/solar-homes)
- H&H provides an estimate and, if the homeowner decides, installs the system
- H&H Provides a discount of \$500-\$1000 depending on system size, and a donation to the Sierra Club

#### The Benefits:

- You save money and put your values into action
- Wisconsin reduces its dependence on dirty fossil fuels
- The John Muir Chapter raises money to support conservation work in Wisconsin

#### For more information:

Stanley Minnick from H&H Solar: [SMinnick@hhsolarenergy.com](mailto:SMinnick@hhsolarenergy.com)  
608-438-9026

Or visit: [www.hhgroup Holdings.com/solar/solar-homes](http://www.hhgroup Holdings.com/solar/solar-homes)



# RIVER TOURING SECTION

## 2016 Paddling Trips and Instructional Clinics

<http://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/river-touring-section>

Interested in paddling some great water with fun and skilled paddlers? Sierra Club's River Touring Section (RTS) has just what you're looking for. RTS leads trips and instructional clinics on whitewater and quietwater that are open to Sierra Club members and the general public. Join us to perfect your skills, explore new waterways, meet other paddlers, learn from skilled volunteer leaders and have fun on the water. Trips are free, unless otherwise indicated. Visit our website for the most complete, updated trip list and other paddling links and information (see link above).

### INSTRUCTIONAL CLINICS

RTS offers instructional clinics for a nominal fee, taught by skilled volunteer instructors. Clinic sizes are limited to maintain low student-to-instructor ratios, so reserve your spot early. Fees are due in advance and are non-refundable unless the clinic is cancelled. RTS whitewater clinics are for reasonably experienced paddlers who want to learn or improve their whitewater paddling and safety skills. Additional clinics are offered for beginning canoe and kayak paddlers.

#### WHITewater CANOE CLINIC (SOLO AND TANDEM) JUNE 4-5 WOLF RIVER CLASS II; CAR CAMP

Clinic Fee: \$40 per person plus camping fees. Except for joint classroom sessions, separate instruction will be provided for solo and tandem participants. The tandem clinic will include canoe-camp tripping skills for whitewater. Participants must



provide their own gear and properly equipped boats, suitable for whitewater. The group campsite at Bear Paw Outdoor Adventure Resort is reserved for Friday and Saturday nights, or you can make your own lodging arrangements. Bring a dish to pass for the Saturday night potluck. Registration contact: Doug Robinson, 608-334-8026, [dougknu@gmail.com](mailto:dougknu@gmail.com). Solo Leader: Rich Krieg. Tandem Leader: Phillip Johnsrud.

#### WHITewater KAYAK CLINIC JUNE 4-5 WOLF RIVER CLASS II; CAR CAMP

Clinic Fee: \$40 per person plus camping fees. This is a beginner to advanced-beginner whitewater course. Kayaks should be rated for Class II whitewater and have pillars reinforcing the deck. Students also need their own helmet, PFD, neoprene spray-skirt, paddle, air bags, water bottle, dry bag for clothes-lunch-incidentals and appropriate paddling clothes for immersion. The group campsite at Bear Paw Outdoor Adventure Resort is reserved for Friday and Saturday nights, or you can make your own lodging arrangements. Bring a dish to pass for the Saturday night potluck. Leaders: Bruce Nelson and Jack

Burton. Registration Contact: Jack Burton, 608-393-9793, [burtonjack48@gmail.com](mailto:burtonjack48@gmail.com)

### MOVING WATER KAYAK CLINICS

#### JUNE 14 & 23: SHORTER KAYAKS; JUNE 16: LONGER KAYAKS; JUNE 21: ONE PARENT WITH CHILD BARK RIVER AT ROME CLASS I

Clinic Fee: \$20 per adult per day. River reading, strokes and boat maneuvering will be taught for kayakers who are already comfortable paddling on lakes. Safety and equipment will be covered as needed. Kayak and properly fitting life jacket required. Contact: Kasy Culbertson, 608-222-0746, [kasy@gmail.com](mailto:kasy@gmail.com)

#### QUIETWATER CANOE CLINIC (SOLO AND TANDEM) JUNE 18 LAKE WINGRA OR LAKE MENDOTA NEAR MADISON

Clinic Fee: \$20 per person. This clinic is designed to prepare paddlers for easier and more enjoyable quietwater paddling. Topics include: safety issues, paddling dynamics, extensive practice of important paddling strokes, canoe rescue and paddling as a team. Participants should bring their own canoe, paddle, lifejacket, lunch and

water (equipment rentals may be available in town, but check with trip leader). Contact: Carl Zimm, 608-246-0485, [beam-powered-tetrode@yahoo.com](mailto:beam-powered-tetrode@yahoo.com)

#### MOVING WATER CANOE CLINIC JUNE 25 BADFISH OR KOSHKONONG CREEK NEAR MADISON CLASS I

Clinic Fee: \$20 per person. Confident on lakes, but not ready for rivers? Then this canoe clinic is for you. We'll review the basic strokes — draw, pry, sweep, forward, back and J. We'll discuss safety, reading water and maneuvers: ferries, side slips and eddy turns. Then we'll practice these skills as we canoe Badfish Creek or Koshkonong Creek. Contact: Carl Zimm, 608-246-0485, [beam-powered-tetrode@yahoo.com](mailto:beam-powered-tetrode@yahoo.com)

#### RIVER SAFETY AND RESCUE CLINIC AUG. 13-14 RED RIVER CLASS I-II; CAR CAMP

Fee: \$40/person plus camping fees. Limited to 10 people. Learn river safety and beginning rescue techniques for boats and swimmers through active instruction and practice, including use of ropes, river swimming/crossing, strainers, rescuing pinned boats and

managing rescue scenarios. Requires swimming and moderate physical activity. Recommended to all who might lead paddling trips including experienced leaders wishing to retrain. Registration deadline is July 16. Contact: Doug Robinson, 608-334-8026, [dougknu@gmail.com](mailto:dougknu@gmail.com)

#### **PADDLING TRIPS**

Visit: <http://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/river-touring-section/trips> for additional trip listings

#### **APRIL 2-3 ROBINSON & MORRISON CREEKS NEAR BLACK RIVER FALLS CLASS II; CAR CAMP**

Runnable when the water is up in the spring, these two small, scenic creeks are a lot of fun. There are two drops on the Robinson that can be portaged. We'll pick up spring thaw trash as we go, leaving the stream in better shape for those who follow. Wet or dry suit required for this early season trip. Contact: Phillip Johnsrud, 715-445-4777, [johnsrudp@tds.net](mailto:johnsrudp@tds.net)

#### **APRIL 10 BARK RIVER CLASS I+ DAY TRIP**

Join us for an early spring paddle on a clear spring-fed river made so by restored wetlands. As there are seven bridges, portaging may be needed. The Upper Rock R. at CW is the fallback choice if weather or water levels are a problem. LIMIT: 10 boats. Contact: Kasy Culbertson: 608-222-0746, [kayaker.kasy@gmail.com](mailto:kayaker.kasy@gmail.com)

#### **APRIL 23 RED RIVER CLASS II-III; DAY TRIP**

Get back on the water. Watch for wildlife such as deer, blue heron, mink and trout. Wet or dry suit required. Contact: Marianne McEvelly, 715-250-3891, [rivermouse369@yahoo.com](mailto:rivermouse369@yahoo.com)

#### **APRIL 30-MAY 1 WHITEWATER RIVERS OF NE WISCONSIN CLASS II-III; CAR CAMP**

Lodge or car camp near Cranston, Wis. Rivers determined by water level. Saturday we hope to paddle the Peshtigo, Sunday, the Oconto. Wet/dry suit, helmet and floatation required, plus neoprene spray skirt for kayaks. Located in the northern lakes and forest region of Wisconsin. Explore these headwaters and discuss the nature of each as they flow to the southeast. Contact: Dave Skriba, cell 920-210-9400, [screeps1@hotmail.com](mailto:screeps1@hotmail.com). Co-leaders: Jack Burton, 608-393-9793, [burtonjack48@gmail.com](mailto:burtonjack48@gmail.com) and Bruce Nelson: 608-244-6397, [blbnelson@att.net](mailto:blbnelson@att.net)

#### **MAY 7-8 PINE RIVER CLASS I-II; CANOE CAMP**

Join us on the 40th annual Pine River Rendezvous (the last by this leader) and celebrate the river's 50th year of designation as a Wild River. We will address the many challenges facing the wild rivers as we go forward. Contact: Laurence Zibell, 715-546-2131 or Jim Servais, 920-217-6284

#### **MAY 14-15 ROOT RIVER (SE MINNESOTA) CLASS I; CAR CAMP**

Enjoy a weekend paddling in unglaciated SE Minnesota. Dolomite cliffs overlook the valley which has many spring-fed tributaries and abundant wildlife. Learn about the region's early history and its effect on the river valley. Contact: Sue O'Brien, 507-858-5290, [sueobl@gmail.com](mailto:sueobl@gmail.com) or Carol Brewton, 507-454-7187

#### **MAY 14-15 WHITEWATER RIVERS OF CENTRAL WI - EXPLORATORY CLASS II-III;**

**Car Camp.** Rivers to be determined by water levels. Learn about control of water run-off in the region's forest transitional landscape. Contact: Dave Hiller, 608-444-8695, [dave@davehiller.com](mailto:dave@davehiller.com). Co-leaders Kasy Culbertson, Dave Skriba.

#### **MAY 21 BARABOO RIVER CLASS I; DAY TRIP**

Hatchery Rd. through Baraboo. This section used to be blocked by three dams, now removed, allowing boaters and wildlife to return. Come see how this now free-flowing river makes a fine centerpiece to historic downtown Baraboo. Contact: Carl Zimm, 608-246-0485, [beam-powered-tetrode@yahoo.com](mailto:beam-powered-tetrode@yahoo.com)

#### **MAY 21-22 PIKE RIVER CLASS II-III; CAR CAMP**

Paddle a designated Wild River while viewing wildlife and picking up trash found on the river. Bring wet/dry suit for cool spring temperatures. Take out near Yellow Bridge first day. Paddle from below Yellow Bridge to the Menominee R. second day. Contact: Jim Servais, 920-434-0740 or 920-217-6284

#### **MAY 28-30 BOIS BRULE RIVER CLASS I-II; CAR CAMP**

Join us for three day trips on the Bois Brule. Saturday: County S to Hwy 2. Sunday: Pine Tree Landing to Hwy 13—this section includes a series of Class II rapids. Monday: Hwy 13 to Lake Superior, with fairly constant Class I rapids. We'll learn about the work done to protect this trout stream. Helmets required for rapids. Camping is available at the DNR campground south of Brule, Wis., in Douglas County. Campsites can be reserved online through the DNR website. This is a busy weekend so please share your site with fellow paddlers. Contact: Pat & Bobbie Wilson, 608-788-8831, 608-397-2531 (cell), [pbwilson@centurytel.net](mailto:pbwilson@centurytel.net). Co-leaders: Carol & Kevin Olson



**MAY 31 MONTREAL RIVER  
CLASS II+ DAY TRIP OR CAR  
CAMP**

Hike to overlooks at Saxon Falls, then put in below the falls and paddle through Montreal Canyon, a beautiful gorge with sheer cliffs on both sides. Learn about the geology and iron mining in the nearby Penokee Range. Contact: Kevin Olson, 608-963-2678, [olsonfam44@centurytel.net](mailto:olsonfam44@centurytel.net)

**JUNE 3 PIKE RIVER  
EXPLORATORY CLASS L-LL;  
DAY TRIP**

We will explore some of the wilder portions of the Pike R. Choices are a short section above Dave's Falls west of Athelstane and/or a longer section below "Yellow Bridge" to the confluence with the Menominee R. Contact: Kasy Culbertson, 608-222-0746, [kayaker.kasy@gmail.com](mailto:kayaker.kasy@gmail.com)

**JUNE 11-12 MECAN RIVER  
CLASS I; CAR CAMP**

The Mekan is a premium trout stream with crystal clear water. It maintains a steady current and at times requires precise maneuvering around narrow, tight bends or dead fall. We will paddle a section above Germania Marsh on Saturday and below the marsh on Sunday. Come learn about the threats and impacts of irrigation and proposed bottled water facilities. Contact: Leo Hummel, 608-322-7014, [dhummel@centurytel.net](mailto:dhummel@centurytel.net)

**JUNE 17-21 SYLVANIA  
WILDERNESS SERVICE  
PROJECT QUIETWATER; CAR  
CAMP**

\$40/person fee. Help the Friends of Sylvania ([www.friendsofsylvania.org](http://www.friendsofsylvania.org)) remove invasive thistles and enjoy the beauty of this special place. Meals will be coordinated cooperatively. Canoes available for discounted rental. Limited enrollment. Reservation deadline: June 3. Registration contact: Ms. Wally

Brinkmann, [wabrinkm@wisc.edu](mailto:wabrinkm@wisc.edu). For more information contact trip leader: Dan Wallace, 608-835-5144, [dan.wallace@wisc.edu](mailto:dan.wallace@wisc.edu).

**JUNE 18-19 PIKE RIVER/WOLF  
RIVER CLASS II+ CAR CAMP**

Practice whitewater skills from the WW clinics before they get rusty. Or just come to enjoy these wild and scenic rivers. The Pike on Saturday; Section II of the Wolf on Sunday. Contact: Phillip Johnsrud, 715-445-4777, [johnsrudp@tds.net](mailto:johnsrudp@tds.net)

**JUNE 25 & 26 SATURDAY:  
LOWER BARK OR  
KOSHKONONG RIVER  
SUNDAY: MECAN RIVER  
CLASS I; DAY TRIPS**

Practice moving water skills fresh after clinics and join old/new paddling friends from past clinics. Choices are cool, clear streams with some irrigation threat impacts. Saturday will be water level dependent and similar to what has gone before. Sunday may be a more challenging practice (limit 10). Enjoy paddling one or both. Contact: Kasy Culbertson, 608-222-0746, [kayaker.kasy@gmail.com](mailto:kayaker.kasy@gmail.com)

**JUNE 25-26 MISSISSIPPI RIVER  
AND BACKWATER CLASS I;  
CANOE/KAYAK CAMP**

Join us on this fun adventure as we explore part of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge near Fountain City. We'll see lots of birds and turtles and camp on a sandbar. Learn about the effects of the lock and dam system and the efforts to restore the habitat along this bird migratory route. Contact: Sue O'Brien, 507-858-5290, [sueobl@gmail.com](mailto:sueobl@gmail.com) or Carol Brewton: 507-454-7187

**JULY 10 RED RIVER CLASS  
II-III; WOMEN ONLY**

Join us for a "girls just want to have fun" day on the Red. Learn about the historical monastery while enjoying the summer day. Contact: Marianne McEvelly,

715-250-3891, [rivermouse369@yahoo.com](mailto:rivermouse369@yahoo.com). Co-leader: Kasy Culbertson, 608-222-0746, [kayaker.kasy@gmail.com](mailto:kayaker.kasy@gmail.com)

**Questions/Comments?**

Please visit our website or contact Kevin Olson, RTS Chair: 608-963-2678, [olsonfam44@centurytel.net](mailto:olsonfam44@centurytel.net)

CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

General Trip & Clinic Participant Requirements (see RTS website for details).

Preregistration is required for all trips and clinics. Contact the person listed for each trip to obtain details, determine if you have the abilities and equipment needed for the trip, and to register.

Participants are responsible for providing their own boats and gear, whether owned, borrowed or rented. Boats and gear must be appropriate for the type of trip planned. This includes a properly fitted PFD (life-jacket) on all trips and a helmet, flotation (and spray skirt for kayaks) on whitewater trips. Food, lodging and transportation are also typically the participant's responsibility, although we can help identify people who need rides and who have space in their cars.

All participants are required to sign a liability waiver prior to the trip or clinic and to abide by decisions made by the trip leaders.

Glass containers and alcoholic beverages are not allowed on the water. Non-paddlers are not allowed on the water without permission of the trip leader. Pets are not allowed unless the trip description specifies otherwise.

*International Scale of River Rating Difficulty Temperatures below 50° F typically increase a rating to the next higher level.*

*Class I: Moving water with few riffles and small waves. Few or no obstructions.*

*Class II: Easy rapids with waves up to 3 ft. and wide clear channels that are obvious*

*Class III: Rapids with high, irregular waves often capable of swamping an open canoe. Narrow passages that can require complex maneuvering. May require some scouting from shore.*

*Class IV: Long, difficult rapids and constricted passages that often require precise maneuvering in very turbulent waters. Scout from shore*

*often necessary and conditions make rescue difficult. Canoeists and kayakers should have the ability to roll/self-rescue.*

*Classes V and VI: RTS does not offer trips at these levels.*



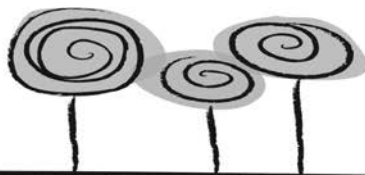


# Save the Date for Autumn Assembly!

Our Annual Autumn Assembly will be held October 7-9 at Bethel Horizons Camp and Retreat Center in Dodgeville, Wisconsin. Additional details will be posted on the chapter website as they become available. Registration information will be published in the July issue of the Muir View.

Autumn Assembly is an annual gathering of Sierra Club members that offers you an opportunity to connect with others, learn more about the issues that matter to you and enjoy the outdoors. Unlike most conferences that are held in drab conference rooms, the Autumn Assembly is hosted in a camp setting and features an agenda that incorporates hikes, outings and campfires, making it part retreat-part conference.

Some guests just come for the day, others view it as a weekend getaway and chance to reconnect with nature by camping on-site or reserving one of the rooms available at the camp. Whichever option you choose, you're sure to leave feeling more inspired and connected. For more information on the Autumn Assembly contact the chapter office at [john.muir.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:john.muir.chapter@sierraclub.org) or 608-256-0565.



## Support Your Local Sierra Club

We send out an appeal in March to each of our members, asking for contributions directly to our Chapter. These contributions really do make a difference to us and are an important part of the John Muir Chapter's budget.

When you make a donation to the John Muir Chapter, you support Sierra Club's work in Wisconsin's own backyard. You allow us to continue our work to protect wilderness and

wildlife, to improve the quality of life in our cities and to promote the enjoyment of nature.

Please be as generous as you are able—and remember, these funds directly affect your way of life in your neighborhood.

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax-deductible.

### explore, enjoy and protect the planet!

\$50

\$100

\$250

\$500

any other amount

Please keep my gift anonymous

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail your contribution to:** Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter  
754 Williamson St.  
Madison, WI 53703

**Donate online at:** <http://sierraclub.org/wisconsin>

**Website:** <http://sierraclub.org/wisconsin> | **Phone:** (608)256-0565 | **E-mail:** [john.muir.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:john.muir.chapter@sierraclub.org)



**2016 John Muir Chapter Events Calendar:**

- April 3-7**      **Wisconsin Tar Sands Tour**  
*sierraclub.org/wisconsin*
- April 5**        **DON'T FORGET TO VOTE**  
*Presidential Preference & Spring Election*  
*myvote.wi.gov*
- April 13**      **Tar Sands Lecture by Jane Kleeb of Bold Nebraska**  
*Madison location To be Determined,*  
*sierraclub.org/wisconsin*
- April 27**      **Sierra Club National Board of Directors Ballots Due**  
*https://www.sierraclub.org/board/election*
- May 7**         **City of Madison Rain Barrel & Compost Bin Sale**  
*10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Alliant Energy Center*  
*Order ahead: cityofmadison.com and search*  
*"rain barrel sale"*
- June 17-19**    **Midwest Renewable Energy Fair**  
*Custer, WI*  
*www.midwestrenew.org/energyfair*
- Oct. 7-9**      **Autumn Assembly**  
*Bethel Horizons Camp & Retreat Center,*  
*Dodgeville, WI*  
*sierraclub.org/wisconsin*

**Executive Committee Meetings**

- April 2, May 7, June 25**      *10 a.m. - 3 p.m.*  
*Location to be determined*



**the world isn't waiting, why are you?**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club.  
 Please charge my:  Visa  Mastercard  AMEX

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Join today and receive  
 a FREE Sierra Club  
 Weekender Bag!



Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
<b>Special Offer</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$47
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
Student/Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

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