



Sierra

Newsletter of the Coulee Region Group
JUNE 2026

"The universe is wider than our views of it."
- Henry David Thoreau

Sierra Club Mission: To explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; To practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; To educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.

June 17, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
CRSC Summer Potluck
Goose Island County Park, Shelter #3

Make or buy some delicious food to share, bring your own beverage and your personal picnic kit (plate, utensils, cup/bottle), and bike, carpool or drive to Goose Island Shelter #3 on Wednesday, June 17. Bring your bug stuff, too! Starting at 5:30 p.m., we'll talk, eat, share news about current Sierra Club campaigns, and enjoy another summer along the river together.

If you would like to tour the Southern Bluffs school prairie before the potluck, please see below.

If you are driving, consider offering a carpool ride. Offer or seek a ride at <https://tinyurl.com/CRSCJune26Ride> or call 608-315-2693.

You do not need to be a Sierra Club member to attend, though the Sierra Club is doing some pretty important work and welcome new talent and energy! Join here: <https://tinyurl.com/CRSC-joinus>



June 17 at 4:45 p.m. - Tour the Prairie

Tour the prairie established at Southern Bluffs Elementary School with the help of a CRSC Environmental Education grant! Meet at the school parking lot, 4010 Sunnyside Drive, by 4:45 p.m. and Southern Bluffs

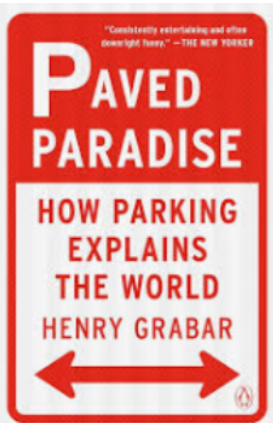
teacher Darcy Lenz will guide us to the prairie. The school is just five minutes from the site of our annual summer potluck! See above for a link to the carpool option!

June 2 - Book Club

This month's book club is hosted by the Sierra Club's Transportation Access and Equity Team. *Paved Paradise* by Henry Grabar is, "a beguiling and absurdly hilarious mix of history, politics, and reportage. Slate staff writer Henry Grabar brilliantly surveys the nation's parking

crisis, revealing how the compulsion for car storage has exacerbated some of our most acute problems— from housing affordability to the accelerating global climate disaster—and, ultimately, how we can free our cities from parking's cruel yoke."

RSVP for this online event **June 2 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.** at <https://tinyurl.com/WISC-PavedBook> or call 608-315-2693 for access information.



June 19 - CRSC Action Gathering

Join CRSC members and friends on Friday, June 19 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. learning about important environmental issues and taking action together to make a difference. We'll watch a short educational video and then learn what we can do to work toward shared goals. Plus, there's pizza! Questions? Call 608-315-2693 or email CRSierraClub@gmail.com.

June 23 - Chapter Action Hour

Every month, the Wisconsin Chapter offers friends and members the opportunity to learn about a current environmental concern and take action together. Fall elections will bring new legislative leaders and possibilities. At the same time, federal policies and programs are changing rapidly. RSVP for this online event, from 6 to 7 p.m. online, at <https://tinyurl.com/WISC-626Action> or call 608-315-2693 to learn how to participate by phone.

Environmental Education Grants

CRSC awarded several Earth Month environmental education grants this year. We'll report on them over the next few months. First up, a report from Darcy Lenz, Southern Bluffs Elementary School in La Crosse.

On (Earth Day), Southern Bluffs was able to host two programs thanks to generous support from the Sierra Club! The \$200 grant helped offset the \$625 fee to host both programs.



Grades 3-5 International Owl Center Presentation - Owls and Us Game Show

This was hands-on and very engaging! Students learned basic facts about owls in Wisconsin, their role in the ecosystem, human-owl interactions, and then students learned about ways to help keep owls healthy. Kids were fired up!

PK-2 International Owl Center Presentation

The Owl Center gave a wonderful presentation to the younger students. Our program was called, "So You Want to be an Owl" (interactive program on owl behavior) for the K-2nd grade group. The students were excited and engaged in learning about the owls. There was a lot of interaction with students which kept their interest and the questions coming.



More June Events

- 6/ 1: Documentary Film Screening - "Dear Sirs" at 6 pm in the Holmen Area Community Center. <https://tinyurl.com/holmendearsirs>
- 6/ 3: Friends of the Blufflands annual meeting. 7 p.m. at The Nature Place, La Crosse.
- 6/ 6: National Trail Days at Kickpoo Valley Reserve. <https://kvr.state.wi.us/Events/Calendar>
- 6/ 8: Driftless Eco Explorers 11 a.m. Holmen Library <https://tinyurl.com/drftlsexplore>
- 6/ 8: Driftless Eco Explorers 11 a.m. Great River Landing. <https://lacrossecountylibrary.events.mylibrary.digital/event?id=345216>
- 6/ 9: Kane Street Community Garden Open House, 4 to 6 pm <https://www.facebook.com/share/1aeYTmDfWW/>
- 6/10: Ride SMRT 2 Viroqua & Transportation Liberation video. <https://lacrosseata.blogspot.com> / 608-315-2693
- 6/13: Procession of the Species at ArtSpire 11:30 am. <https://artspire.thepumphouse.org/2026-performing-arts/>
- 6/13: Critter Mobile at Vets Park, West Salem. Shelter 4. 1 pm. <https://tinyurl.com/wsvetsparkprograms26>
- 6/13: Bluff Country Snakes at Goose Island County Park. 2 pm. <https://tinyurl.com/GIPark-snakes>
- 6/20: Midsummer Fest at Norskedalen. <https://www.norskedalen.org/events/midsummer-fest/>
- 6/20: River Valley Raptors at Goose Island County Park. 2 pm. <https://tinyurl.com/GIPark-snakes>
- 6/20: T.R.I.P An Archaeology Walking Tour. 10 - noon. Trempealeau Library. <https://swmlibrary.org/calendar/>
- 6/24: Citizens Climate Lobby meeting at 6:30 p.m. Email

info@lacrossecccl.org for details.

6/25: Thinking Big about Wisconsin Passenger Rail conference 1:30 to 4:30, Oriental Theater, Milwaukee. <https://www.hsrail.org/events/thinking-big-about-wisconsin-passenger-rail/>

6/27: The Critter Mobile at Goose Island County Park. 2 pm. <https://tinyurl.com/GIPark-snakes>

6/27: Bluff Country Snakes. Vets Memorial Park, West Salem. Shelter 2 at 2 pm. <https://tinyurl.com/wsvetsparkprograms26>

6/27: Free E-Recycling 8 to noon. N5550 Dynamic Way, Onalaska. <https://www.facebook.com/share/1D3DBJ8JpK/>

Free Fun Weekend, June 6-7

Wisconsin is home to 50 state parks, 15 state forests, 44 state trails, 84,000 miles of rivers and streams, roughly 15,000 lakes and so much more. For the first weekend every June, you can explore it all with state park admission fees, fishing licenses and trail passes waived. Learn more at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/adventure/freefun>

**LA CROSSE
JUNETEENTH
SATURDAY, JUNE 20
RIVERSIDE PARK
NOON TO 6 P.M.**

CELEBRATE
**JUNE
TEENTH**
FREEDOM DAY

APPLY NOW! HS Award Application Deadline July 1!

Coulee Region Sierra Club

Environmental Stewardship Award for High School Students

CRSC will award \$300 to a high school junior or senior who has demonstrated leadership, action, public engagement, and understanding of the importance of environmental stewardship. **Applications are due July 1!**

Students residing in Crawford, Grant, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Richland, Trempealeau and Vernon are eligible to apply and applicants do NOT need to be Sierra Club members!

The application consists of an environmental résumé and portfolio and a short essay.

Learn more at <https://tinyurl.com/CRSC-Students> or email CRSierraClub@gmail.com or call 608-315-2693 for more information about this grant.

