



Sierra

Newsletter of the Coulee Region Group

AUGUST 2026

"The Perseids are the most popular meteor shower ... They reach a strong maximum on August 12 or 13. ... In 2026, the moon is new on August 12 so conditions are optimum for viewing this shower." - <https://tinyurl.com/ams-26perseids>

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.

August 4, 7:00 p.m., Online

Film: VS. Goliath - Appalachia

Online: <https://tinyurl.com/scfilm-vsgolapp>

Deep in the hollows of the Appalachian Mountains, the construction of a fracked gas pipeline rips through mountaintops, forests, and streams, bearing down on rural communities across Appalachia. Russell, an Army veteran who once swore an oath to protect and serve his country, now finds his home, waters, and forests under threat. He enlists in the battle to defend his community. Russell joins forces with people along the pipeline route, including Georgia, an

apple farmer in Virginia; Maury, a retired schoolteacher in West Virginia; and Crystal and Jason, Indigenous community leaders in North Carolina. Together, they form a movement that faces numerous setbacks as they take on the multibillion-dollar corporations behind the pipeline. When one of the nation's most powerful politicians intervenes, the stage is set for a high-stakes showdown.

After the film, stay for a live Q&A with questions via the chat feature. Register for link: <https://tinyurl.com/scfilm-vsgolapp>

August 5 - Highway Clean-Up



The July clean-up didn't work out, so we're trying again on August 5. We'll work on River Valley Drive, meeting at 6 p.m. at the pumping station just west of the intersection with Gillette Street, and then spread out to pick up litter. Bags and vests are available or bring your own. We'll work for about an hour

and then gather (optional) at Rudy's on La Crosse Street for refreshments.

August 21 - Action Gathering

Join us at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, August 21 at 401 West Avenue South for pizza, education, and action.

This month's CRSC Action Gathering will focus on a recent Trump administration grant of \$19 million for the Columbia Energy Center, a coal-fired plant co-owned by Alliant Energy, Madison Gas and Electric and Wisconsin Public Service in south central Wisconsin.

What does this mean for our clean air and water goals, for climate action, for the fight to end fossil fuel use?

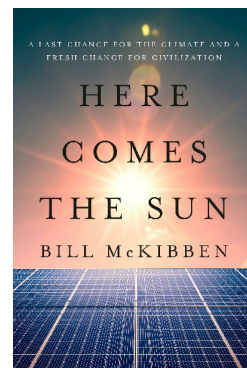


Please email CRSierraClub@gmail.com or call or text 608-315-2693 with questions about this event. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

August 4 - Book Club

The Sierra Club Wisconsin Chapter's book club will meet online from 6:30 to 7:30. This month's book is *Here Comes the Sun: A Last Chance for the Climate and a Fresh Chance for Civilization* by Bill McKibben! Whether you've read the book or not, you'll enjoy the conversation! Register: tinyurl.com/wisc826book

Every eighteen hours, the world puts up a nuclear power plant's-worth of solar panels. At the same time, combustion continues to melt our poles, poison our bodies, and drive our global inequality. And it is no longer necessary: For the first time in 700,000 years, we know how to catch the sun's rays and convert them into energy. Bill McKibben tells the story of our sudden spike in power from the sun and wind, tracing the arrival of plentiful, inexpensive solar energy, which, if it accelerates, gives us a chance not just to limit climate change's damage, but to reorder the world on saner and more humane grounds.



VOTE AUGUST 11

More August Events

8/ 1: MVC Bee ID & Conservation Walk in Grant County.
<https://tinyurl.com/mvcbeewalk>

8/ 1: River Valley Raptors 2 pm Goose Island Park
<https://tinyurl.com/laxparksgi26>

8/ 2: Birding for Anyone. 8 to 9 a.m. Woods Trail, Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge. 904-553-2609

8/ 3: International Owl Awareness Day Celebration 8:30-5 Houston, MN <https://www.internationalowlcenter.org/owlawarenessday.html>

8/ 5: Lessons from the Tainter Creek Grazing Project 6 pm Munsch Farm, S995 Bagstad Ln, Coon Valley <https://cooncreekwatershed.org/>

8/ 5: Enviro Wednesday at The Nature Place 7 pm
<https://natureplacelacrosse.org/calendar/>

8/ 7: Glaciers in Wisconsin 9 am McMullen County Park, Warrens <https://tinyurl.com/augwarrensevents>

8/ 8: River Valley Snakes 2 pm Vets Park Shelter 2, West Salem <https://tinyurl.com/laxparks26>

8/ 8: Night Sky Viewing 8-10 pm Wildcat Mountain State Park <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/events/124761>

8/ 9: Solar Viewing 1-4 pm Wildcat Mountain State Park <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/events/124766>

8/12: The Viroqua Line - RR book talk 2 pm McIntosh Memorial Library, Viroqua <https://tinyurl.com/mcintoshrrbooktalk>

8/12: Trout Stream Restoration Workshop 8:30-4:30 Online <https://www.uwlax.edu/events/?e=33906>

8/12: Soil Health Field Day 8 am-noon. N5356 County Road M, West Salem tinyurl.com/mvcaug26events

8/13, 15, 19: MVC Invasive Brush Removal. See link for details. <https://tinyurl.com/mvcaug26events>

8/15: Fascinating Fungi 10-noon The Nature Place
<https://natureplacelacrosse.org/calendar/>

8/15: Universe at the Park 7:30-10 pm McMullen County Park, Warrens <https://tinyurl.com/augwarrensevents>

8/20: Transit Talk & Treats. 4:30 to 6:30 pm People's Food Co-op, La Crosse., tinyurl.com/transittalk-820

8/22: The Mississippi Flyway 1 pm Goose Island Park
<https://tinyurl.com/laxparksgi26>

8/22: River Valley Raptors 2 pm Vets Park Shelter 2, West Salem <https://tinyurl.com/laxparks26>

8/22: Exploring the Night Sky 8-10:30 pm Perrot State Park <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/events/127366>

8/25: State Sierra Club Action Hour 6 p.m. Online <https://tinyurl.com/wisc-826ah>

8/26: Lunch & Learn - Wake Boats noon Online <https://tinyurl.com/wisc-ll-wakeboats>

8/27-29: The Mystery of Migration 3 online programs
<https://swibirds.org/all-events?tag=mighty+migrations>

8/28: Purple Loosestrife 5:30 pm Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge <https://explorelacrosse.com/event/purple-loosestrife-presentation/>

8/28: Universe in the Park 8-10 pm Perrot State Park
<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/events/127371>

8/29: Macroinvertebrate Mayhem 1 pm Vets Park Shelter 2, West Salem <https://tinyurl.com/laxparks26>

8/29: Wildlife Rehabilitation 2 pm Goose Island Park Shelter 2 <https://tinyurl.com/laxparksgi26>

August 16 - Wild Inside

On February 2, 2023, Flaco — a male Eurasian eagle-owl, the largest species of owl in the world — was discovered missing from his cage at the Central Park Zoo in Manhattan. What follows when Flaco, who had lived his entire life in captivity, was released in New York City is a surprising story revealing the delight, concern, and fascination of millions in the city and beyond.



Join the International Owl Center to view and discuss the film at the Rivoli in La Crosse on August 16 at 5:30 p.m.

Sign up for FREE tickets at <https://tinyurl.com/816owlfilm>

Note: contains themes and situations around animal death that may be troubling for very young children.

Crawford Stewardship Project, Sugar Creek Bible Camp, and Carleton Hydrology Research present:

KARST EXPLORATION

AUGUST 15 @ NOON MEET MORE DRIFTLESS SPRINGS & ...

Sugar Creek Bible Camp - Manna Center
 13141 Sugar Creek Bible Camp Rd, Ferryville, WI

OUR PRESENTER!

Chloé Fandel, Asst. Professor of Geology at Carleton College: "Surveying Springs in the Driftless" Chloé and team visited 302 springs across the region! See a project overview, photos, maps and more:

Free and family-friendly event! voluntary donations welcome

12:00pm
 Free lunch from the camp kitchen! While you enjoy our groundwater models and other informational materials.
 To help us plan enough food, please RSVP by August 1.

1:00pm
 Presentation on 2025 Summer Season Springs Survey.

2:00pm
 Walking tour of Sugar Creek springs and seeps.

SOME WALKING ON GRASSY SLOPES FOR THE FIELD TRIP. PLEASE WEAR WEATHER-APPROPRIATE CLOTHING!

Free and family-friendly event! voluntary donations welcome

SUGAR CREEK

Carleton