SIERRA CLUB
WISCONSIN CHAPTER

CHIPPEWA VALLEY GROUP

2026 – 2027 **Outings, Education and More!**

NATURE NEEDS US!

The Sierra Club is the largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization in the country. For more than 130 years we have worked to promote clean energy, safeguard the health of our communities, protect wildlife and preserve our remaining wild places through education and legal action.

The Chippewa Valley group:

- Holds monthly meetings at Eau Claire's Unitarian Fellowship Hall 421 S. Farwell Street.
- Offers numerous outdoor events and activities open to members and the public.
- Works on local environmental issues and policies.

Find detailed information online for all Outings and Programs or to join:

https://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/chippewa-valley

https://www.facebook.com/chippewavalley54701sierra/

2026 - 2027 Outings

Details and Registration at **https://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/chippewa-valley**

Please register so that in case of inclement weather we can contact you if we cancel an event. To register click on the event on our homepage.

Tiffany Wildlife Area Train Ride. Saturday, September 26, 2026 at 8:00 am. Ride on an open-air train through the largest floodplain forest in WI. Resident bird expert, Steve Betchkal, will join us to help identify birds along the way.

Bike Ride on the Chippewa River Trail – Meridean to Downsville, Sunday October 18, 2026 at 1:30 pm. Bike the Chippewa River Trail through the forests and fields along the Chippewa River. The total trip is 24 miles from Meridean to Downsville and back.

Hike the Trails of the Lower Chippewa State Natural Area. Saturday, November 7, 2026 at 1:30 pm. Hike the trails of this beautiful State Natural Area through prairie and forest along the Chippewa River.

Winter Tree Identification Hike/Snowshoe. Saturday, December 5, 2026 at 10:30 am. Join Environmental Consultant, Anna DeMers, as she teaches us how to identify trees in multiple ways when leaves aren't present.

Snowshoe Hike / Scat and Track ID at the Chippewa Moraine Ice Age Trail. Saturday, January 23, 2027 at 10 am. Join Master Naturalists, Sue Crisp and Margaret Murphy, as we discover what animals roam the area.

Snowshoe/Hike from Beaver Creek Reserve to Big Falls. Saturday, Feb. 20, 2027 at 1 pm. Check out ice formations and great scenery along the Eau Claire River as we hike/snowshoe from Beaver Creek Reserve to Big Falls County Park and back.

Tour Water Treatment Facility - Fresh Water Distribution. Tuesday, March 23, 2027 at 10 am. Visit the water treatment facility at the wells on Riverview Drive. Learn how raw water is transformed into clean drinking water.

Geology Hike at Interstate Park. Saturday, May 1, 2027 at 11 am. Observe evidence of this unique park's 1.1 billion years of geological history as we hike the trails.

Birding at Kemper Woods. Wednesday, May 12, 2027 at 6:30 pm. Walk, listen, and look with local birding expert Ann Geraghty as we visit one of her favorite local birding locations.

Urban Plant Meanderings. Sunday, June 6, 2027. Short and Long Versions at 1 pm or 4 pm. Join Master Herbalist, Kerri Kiernan, as we explore the plants of Eau Claire's urban trails and waterways.

Learn to Forage. Thursday, July 29, 2027 at 4 pm. Join Beaver Creek naturalist Jim Schwiebert for a taste of summer as we explore the world of wild edibles. Starts at Brewing Projekt.

2026 – 2027 Chippewa Valley Group Programs

Programs can be located in different locations. Please check our website for more information. **https://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/chippewa-valley**

Fall Kickoff Potluck Picnic at Braun's Bay Pavillion, Carson Park. Wed, Sep 2, 2026 at 5:30 PM. Bring a dish to pass, your beverage and utensils. Socialize with fellow Sierrans and hear local state legislature updates.

WI Environmental Updates and Priorities Wed, Oct 7, 2026 at 6:45 pm. 421 S Farwell St, Eau Claire. Learn about the current environmental issues facing our state and the Sierra Club's work to address them. Presenter, Cassie Steiner, is the WI Chapter Senior Campaign Coordinator.

Gardening for Birds. Wed, Nov 4, 2026 at 6:45 pm. 421 S Farwell St, Eau Claire. Paul Wagner, Sierra Club Member, will provide a presentation and time for questions on Gardening for Birds to Attract Our Avian Friends and Improve Biodiversity.

Cool Geology of the Upper Midwest: The Midcontinent Rift. Wed, Dec 2, 2026 at 6:45 pm. 421 S Farwell St, Eau Claire. Learn about this incredible event in the geological history of the Upper Midwest that could have made WI a coastal state. Presenter: Kate Mullins.

Out There: Adventures in the Bering Sea. Wed. Jan. 6, 2027 at 6:45 pm. 421 S. Farwell St, Eau Claire. Join Steve Betchkal as he shares stories and photos of his visit to a tiny island in the Bering Sea, where nesting seabirds, fur seals, blue foxes and other wildlife dwell.

Community Conservation: From Wisconsin to the World. Wed. Feb. 3, 2027 at 6:45 pm. 421 S. Farwell St, Eau Claire. Learn how conservation in Wisconsin has influenced conservation around the world. Dr. Teri Allendorf will describe Community Conservation's research and projects with numerous communities to protect biodiversity.

A Tanzania Safari. Wed, Mar 3, 2027 at 6:45 pm. 421 S. Farwell St, Eau Claire. Join us as Rick Koziel, Judy Dekan, and Bev and Kevin Stelljes share images and stories from their adventure to the Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater and other wildlife-rich national parks during the Great Wildebeest Migration. Visits to several of the local tribes will also be discussed.

Earth Green Award Banquet. Mon, Apr 12, 2027 at 5:30 pm. 310 Broadway St, Eau Claire. Join us for a reception with wine, beer, appetizers, and buffet dinner. An area environmental champion will be honored and then present a program about their great work.

Wetland Diversity in Western WI. Wed, May 5, 2027 at 6:45 pm. 421 S. Farwell St, Eau Claire. Join Dr. Amanda Little as she takes us on a tour of wetland types in our region, considering vegetation, critters, biogeochemistry and threats to their existence.

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