




SIERRA CLUB
JOHN MUIR CHAPTER

2017- 2018 Legislative Scorecard



Protecting Wisconsin's Air, Water and Wild Places

www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin

A photograph of a forest landscape. The background is a misty, hazy mountain range with tall evergreen trees. The middle ground shows a dense forest of evergreens, some with yellowing leaves. The foreground is a dark, curved area with dense, low-lying vegetation, possibly a hillside or a path. The overall tone is muted and atmospheric.

**Thank you to all the people that worked hard to put
together Sierra Club- John Muir Chapter's 2017-18
Legislative Scorecard:**

*Elias Baldino, Dave Blouin, Harrison Chalnick, Bill Davis, Hannah Kasun, Cassie
Steiner, Jacob Taylor, Elizabeth Ward*

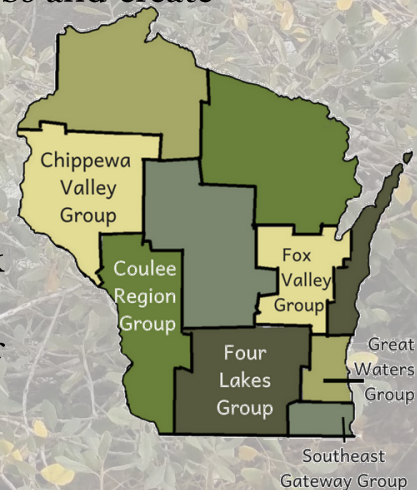
The Sierra Club – John Muir Chapter is your statewide voice of the nation's oldest, largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization. Our members include 18,000 of your friends and neighbors throughout Wisconsin. Like legendary Wisconsin conservationists before us – including Sierra Club Founder John Muir, Aldo Leopold and Gaylord Nelson – we are inspired by Wisconsin's beautiful lakes, forests, and other natural features to work together to protect our communities and the planet.

Priority Issues of the John Muir Chapter:

- 1. Our Wild Wisconsin:** protecting Wisconsin's unique habitats, forested areas, hills, lakes, and rivers for all to enjoy, use, and drink.
 - **Protecting Wisconsin's Waterways:** Wisconsin's rivers, lakes, and other waterways are vast, but vulnerable. Our Water Team works to shine a light on the growing number of communities that do not have access to safe drinking water and the policies that could change that and do uphold our current water laws, including the Great Lakes Compact.
 - **Land and Wildlife Protection:** advocating to restore Wisconsin's proud tradition of science-based natural resource management. Recently, Wisconsin's natural resource management has become politicized and is putting our forests and wildlife, like the endangered gray wolf, at risk.
- 2. Stopping Climate Change:** curbing climate change emissions in Wisconsin from the biggest sources of carbon dioxide:
 - **Beyond Oil through Clean Transportation:** working to prevent additional tar sands oil pipelines that jeopardize Wisconsin's most important waterways from being built and to better balance transportation funding in the state to support non-driving modes.
 - **Beyond Coal to Clean Energy:** working to transition Wisconsin's coal plants to clean energy that will create family-supporting jobs and create cleaner air for all in Wisconsin.

Local Groups:

Our individual members are the heart of the John Muir Chapter. We are organized into six Local Groups, each with its own officers, activities, conservation priorities, programs and activities. We work together on statewide and regional issues, and each group selects a delegate who represents the group members as a voting member of the Chapter Executive Committee.



2017-18 Legislative Session Recap

We all know that we should vote. It is our right and our duty. If you are looking for additional motivation, look no further than the results from the 2017-18 Wisconsin Legislative session for reasons to make sure you cast your ballot this year. Continuing the trend of the last few years, we saw attacks and roll backs on basic environmental protections, loss of local control, and changes to governmental procedure that will make it more difficult for state government to protect public health and the environment in the future. Despite the mounting evidence of harm to human health and the environment from factory farms, high capacity wells, and mining, the legislature continued to weaken our protective standards.

One of the very troubling trends we've seen is a shortsighted response to a complaint from a single person, local government action, or court decision. We've seen wide-reaching bills that are meant to address a single concern that fundamentally change the role of local government, modify broad environmental regulations and review, or completely eliminate certain protections, like the wetlands (AB547), dredging (AB935) and the changes to the definition of navigability laws (AB599).

Despite all this bad news, with your support there were some bright spots this past session. After numerous attempts from the legislature to slash the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) budget, we worked to stop further budget cuts. We also worked in coalition with a number of groups to draw attention to our misplaced transportation priorities, resulting in increases to local road aid and transit funding, and the cancellation of the billion-dollar I-94 megaproject. Lastly we worked to show opposition to a bill that would have prohibited the state from spending any money to manage wolves or enforce any law that prohibited killing wolves as long as they are on the federal endangered species list. The bill never moved forward.

The Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter 2017-2018 Legislative Scorecard

2017-19 Budget Overview

Every two years Wisconsin adopts its budget. The budget determines how much money the state will raise through taxes and fees, and how it will spend those dollars as well as funding received from the federal government. **The budget is the most important piece of legislation every session.** It demonstrates our values (you value what you are willing to spend your money on). The budget controls how our government is run—funding determines the number of staff working on clean water enforcement, experts and scientists that can be hired, etc. The budget determines whether we prioritize expanding freeways and interstates or filling potholes and investing in transit. The state only has so much funding, so every dollar spent on tax cuts or highways cannot be spent on natural resources protection.

In the past few budget cycles, we've seen significant cuts to funding for the DNR and certain programs within the DNR. We've also seen a shift in transportation funding, prioritizing expanding our highways and cutting funding to local roads and transit systems. **Fortunately, this session we saw a reversal of some of these trends. Here are some highlights:**

HUGE VICTORY: the expansion of the I-94 East-West Corridor in Milwaukee has been nixed for the time being, enabling money to be spent in more sustainable and helpful ways for the state.

GREAT NEWS:

- Increased funding for local road and bridge expenses, rather than larger highway projects was included. Transit also received a small increase, though nowhere near what we need.
- Despite the original proposal, the DNR budget and funding for County Conservation was maintained

BAD NEWS: Although the budget looks positive in some spots, certain drawbacks are noticeable, as well.

- Despite helping to reduce air pollution, hybrid and electric car owners will have to pay extra fees to register their vehicles, including \$75 for hybrid owners and \$100 for electric vehicle owners.
- Funding for state parks was not restored

DISAPPOINTING NEWS:

- The Legislature had added a requirement that all highway proposals include a 'replace in-kind' option. Often, the Department of Transportation recommends two large expansion options and studies which one to choose. This requirement would ensure whether we need an expansion would be considered, not just what kind of expansion. Unfortunately, Governor Walker vetoed this..
- The Governor eliminated the forestry tax and replaced it with general tax dollars, and Joint Finance has accepted this. The Forestry tax has been a certain source of funding for forest fire protection, among other things. While this is not a cut, it means the legislature must approve this money now every budget, which makes it far less stable moving forward.



Press Conference announcing victory on I-94 with Coalition for More Responsible Transportation

Metallic Mining Threatens Land and Water



Repeal of “Prove It First” law for mining: AB 499

At the top of the list of the worst bills passed this session is Senator Tom Tiffany’s pet mining deregulation bill passed for the benefit of the mining industry and Aquila Resources specifically. Aquila is currently trying to permit the Back Forty mine proposal in the U.P of Michigan and has interests in two identified deposits here in Marathon and Taylor Counties. Act 134 has repealed our landmark “Prove It First” requirement along with key financial and environmental protections which had protected Wisconsin’s environment and public health from the negative effects of metallic mining for two decades.

Worse yet, Act 134 had a “poison pill” side effect that forced counties and other local governments to scramble to update and reduce their local protections for mining within six months after passage. The local governments were threatened directly by Sen. Tiffany with legislative action to limit their powers if they attempted to exceed their authority to enact protections for their residents. The local governments were also

threatened with lawsuits by a mining industry front group, the Natural Resources Development Association, if they enacted protections that could be considered as enacting barriers that make it too difficult to obtain mining permits. These twin attacks on local control from the industry and Sen. Tiffany forced the local governments to act conservatively and reduce their existing restrictions that were part of the backstop meant to protect local taxpayers and resources.

Metallic mining proposals are the largest and most complex and destructive land uses considered in the state, obliterating land and wetlands permanently and causing long-term surface and groundwater pollution that would threaten existing economic engines such as tourism and agriculture. The legislature has taken a giant step backwards with Act 134.

PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE: NAY

STATUS: The bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Walker, becoming 2017 Wisconsin Act 134

The Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter 2017-18 Legislative Session Recap

Access to Clean Water Threatened

Wisconsin has thousands of lakes, and thousands of miles of rivers and streams that provide opportunities for boating, fishing and hunting, swimming, and enjoying scenic beauty. All of the surface waters – lakes, streams, rivers- and groundwater belong to us, the people of Wisconsin. Clean water is vital for our industrial, agricultural and tourism industries. Protection of water quality and water quantity was hit particularly hard in this session. The bills relating to water that were scored are as follows:

Wetlands Destruction Bill: AB547

This bill exempts certain nonfederal and artificial wetlands from permit requirements regarding filling, discharge of waste, dredging, or dumping. Wetlands serve many important functions such as flood control, water purification and wildlife and fish habitat. While there are some mitigation requirements when it comes to wetlands location matters. If a wetland is destroyed in a watershed that will increase flooding risk in that watershed; creating new wetlands elsewhere will not change this.

PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE: NAY

STATUS: The bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Walker, becoming 2017 Wisconsin Act 183 on March 28, 2017.

High Capacity Wells Deregulation: SB76

High capacity wells withdraw more than 100,000 gallons of water per day. Having assured access to sufficient quantities of clean water is necessary for Wisconsinites to live and raise their children without fear and creates the bedrock of our economy. This bill removes the DNR's ability to review, and if necessary amend High Capacity well permits when they are replaced, reconstructed or transferred. The bill essentially grants high capacity well owners the right to pump in perpetuity which is an affront to our current system of water law of reasonable use.

PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE: NAY

STATUS: The bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Walker, becoming 2017 Wisconsin Act 10



Attacks on Navigability of State Waters: AB599

This bill establishes conditions under which, if the Department of Natural Resources has determined that a stream is not navigable, DNR's ability to change that determination is restricted. The bill also exempts certain impoundments from regulations relating to navigable waters. Wisconsin's Public Trust Doctrine holds that navigable waters belong to all state residents.

PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE: NAY

STATUS: The bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Walker, becoming 2017 Wisconsin Act 164

Watershed Protection Grants AB946

This bill increases the amount of funding for producer-led watershed protection grants from the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection. These grants allow farmers in a watershed to work together to address non-point pollution issues.

PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE: AYE

STATUS: The bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Walker, becoming 2017 Wisconsin Act 196

The Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter 2017-18 Legislative Session Recap

Access to Clean Water Threatened

Lake Dredging Deregulation: AB935

Assembly Bill 935 allows riparian owners to remove up to 50 cubic yards of material a year from the bed of inland navigable waters affected by a man-made impoundment. Dredging can re-suspend sediment which can have an adverse impact on water quality and spawning areas. This is the equivalent of removing five dump truck loads of material by every landowner every year without any review. This bill requires the Department of Natural Resources to issue a general permit for this activity, but general permits lack the necessary protections, like notice of dredging and sediment testing to ensure the protection of the water body involved.

PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE: NAY

STATUS: The bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Walker, becoming 2017 Wisconsin Act 214

Lead Water Pipes Assistance: SB48

Lead water pipes present a significant risk of harmful lead exposure, especially to young children whose brains are in a critical stage of development. There is no safe level of lead exposure, and with thousands of lead service lines still active all across Wisconsin. This law will allow water utilities to provide financial assistance towards the replacement of lead lines for customers.

PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE: AYE

STATUS: The bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Walker, becoming 2017 Wisconsin Act 137

Deregulation of Waste Metal Slag: AB941

This bill provides that the definition of “solid waste” does not include certain iron and steel slags. Under the guise of “economic reuse”, the waste slag does not have to be disposed of properly as a waste and allows producers to avoid environmental controls when storing and stockpiling the wastes.

PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE: NAY

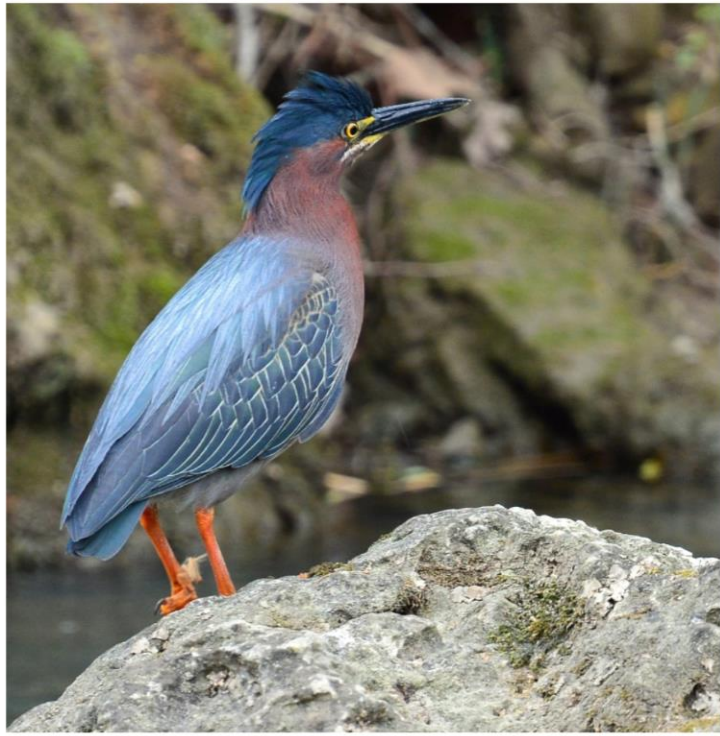
STATUS: The bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Walker, becoming 2017 Wisconsin Act 285



The Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter 2017-18 Legislative Session Recap

Clean Air Protection Rollbacks

Air pollution can cause respiratory illness, cardiovascular disease, and a slew of other health, environmental, and quality of life problems. It is a fundamental right that everyone be able to breathe clean air. The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Agency are responsible for considering different air pollutants and creating rules that protect them. Wisconsin's air is just starting to get cleaner and better; we need to be continuing to make improvements to ensure all have the ability to live their lives with the devastating impacts of dirty air. However, similar to the attacks to our water protections, the state legislature worked to rollback our air protections.



SB466: Updating Clean Air Rules

Sheboygan Air Monitor:

This bill is to remove the ozone air quality monitoring station in Kohler-Andrae State Park because much of the pollution the station picks up is from Illinois and Indiana. This bill would remove information that is important for Wisconsin families to have to protect themselves. Ozone can cause breathing problems and coughing even among the relatively healthy but is particularly bad for those with asthma or other breathing disorders. Regardless of where the pollution is coming from the monitor show it is there. To remove the monitor is the equivalent of telling people to go home and take the batteries out of their smoke alarms.

PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE: NAY

STATUS: The bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Walker, becoming 2017 Wisconsin Act 159

FOXCONN

Unprecedented Taxpayer and Environmental Giveaway: 2017 Special Session AB1

On top of giving Foxconn more than \$3 billion in taxpayer subsidies, the legislature and Governor also exempted them from important environmental safeguards. For example, the facility does not have to write an environmental impact statement and is allowed to fill non-federal wetlands and straighten streams without permits. A project of this size and scope is complex. This requires a thorough review of the environmental impacts to fully understand the effects of the Foxconn development, as well as to understand how that impacts can be minimized. Removing permit requirements and environmental review will open the door to many avoidable negative environmental outcomes. Allowing wetlands and navigable waters to be filled and streams to be straightened without a permit is a particularly bad mistake as it can lead to increased flooding problems. The permit process exists to ensure that negative impacts on the waters at the affected site, as well as downstream, are minimized.

PRO-ENVIRONMENTAL VOTE: NAY

STATUS: The bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Walker, becoming 2017 Wisconsin Act 58

The Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter

2017-18 Legislative Session Recap

Legislative Power Grabs

The legislature continues to concentrate power in itself by making it harder for our state agencies, like the Department of Natural Resources, to create administrative rules. Why is this so bad? State government protects public health in myriad ways; it does that by setting rules that we all have to abide by. The administrative rule process requires public notice, public participation and legislative review. It allows those with expertise to fill in the fine detail laid out in statutes. For example, it would be overwhelming and nonsensical for the legislature to set the bag limits for fish on every lake, river and stream in Wisconsin; that level of detail should be left to the agency with the expertise in that area. These bills further politicize decisions that should be made by professional experts and not elected officials with little or no expertise.

Loss of local control

For the last seven years the legislature had been taking power away from local governments – counties, cities, towns – and concentrating at the state level. There have been over 100 such laws passed since 2011. The trend continued this year with passage of a law that makes it harder for local government to manage the land within their borders by making harder for them to deny conditional use permits or variance requests among other things.

Zoning Limits: AB 109

This bill changes some county zoning rules, allowing a town of at least 485,000 to withdraw from the county zoning requirements. The bill changes the time in which the town has to notify the county of their intent to remove themselves from county zoning, and also no longer requires a town map to be delivered to the county clerk.

PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE: NAY

STATUS: The bill passed the Assembly but failed in the Senate

Rules Takeover: SB15

With the passage of this bill, a state agency which wants to create a rule, cannot do so without legislative approval if the proposed rule would cost more than \$10 million over any two-year period. This affects programs having to do with public health, consumers, and the environment. For example, under this law if a state agency wanted to adopt a rule to remove lead pipes from buildings to prevent further lead poisoning of our children they would have to stop until the legislature acted.

PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE: NAY

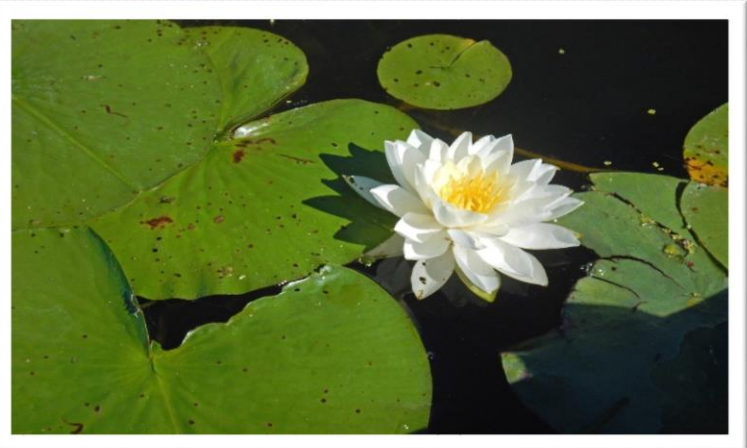
STATUS: The bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Walker, becoming 2017 Wisconsin Act 57.

Automatic Rule Repeal: AB384

This bill would repeal all administrative rules on a rolling nine-year time frame. All administrative rules would expire every nine years; in the 8th year, agencies would have to provide a list of rules to the legislature that they want to keep. If the Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules or the two standing committees objects a rule, it is repealed. The agencies would then have to go through the whole promulgation process again which takes more than two years to complete; in the meantime, public health and the environment will not be protected.

PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE: NAY

STATUS: approved by the Assembly but failed in the Senate



The Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter

2017-18 State Senate Votes

Last Name	First Name	D	Score	AB 946	AB 935	SB 466	AB 599	AB 547	AB 499	SB 48	SB 15	AB 76	SS AB1
Bewley	Janet	25 D	90%	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Carpenter	Tim	3 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Cowles	Robert	2 R	50%	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+
Craig	David	28 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Darling	Alberta	8 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Erpenbach	Jon	27 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Feyen	Dan	18 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Fitzgerald	Scott	13 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Hansen	Dave	30 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Harsdorf*	Sheila	10 R	0%	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	-	NV	-	-	-
Johnson	LaTonya	6 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Kapenga	Chris	33 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Larson	Chris	7 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Lasee*	Frank	1 R	0%	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	-	NV	-	A	-
LeMahieu	Devin	9 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Marklein	Howard	17 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Miller	Mark	16 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Moulton	Terry	23 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Nass	Stephen	11 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Olsen	Luther	14 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Petrowski	Jerry	29 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Ringhand	Janis	15 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Risser	Fred	26 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Roth	Roger	19 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Shilling	Jennifer	32 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Stroebel	Duey	20 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Taylor	Lena	4 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Testin	Patrick	24 D	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Tiffany	Thomas	12 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Vinehout	Kathleen	31 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Vukmir	Leah	5 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Wanggaard	Van	21 R	20%	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
Wirch	Robert	22 D	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-

*NV-Harsorf resigned in Nov. 2017, Lasee resigned in Dec. 2017; **Schachtner won Jan. 2018 Special Election

The Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter

2017-18 State Assembly Votes

Last Name	First Name	D	Score	SB 466	AB 935	AB 599	AB 547	AB 941	AB 384	AB 499	AB 15	SB 76	AB 109	SS AB1
Schraa	Michael	53 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shankland	Katrina	71 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Sinicki	Christine	20 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+
Skowronski	Ken	82 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Synder	Patrick	85 R	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
Spiros	John	86 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spreitzer	Mark	45 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Stafsholt	Rob	29 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NV-P	-
Steffen	David	4 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Steineke	Jim	5 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuck	Amanda	57 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Subeck	Lisa	78 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Summerfield	Rob	67 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swearingen	Bob	34 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tauchen	Gary	6 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-
Taylor	Chris	76 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Thiesfeldt	Jeremy	52 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tittl	Paul	25 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NV-P	-
Tranel	Travis	49 R	21%	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Tusler	Ron	3 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
VanderMeer	Nancy	70 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	NV-P	-	-	-	-
Vorpagel	Tyler	27 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	A	NV-P	-	-	NV-P	-
Vos	Robin	63 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vruwink	Don	43 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Wachs	Dana	91 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV-P	+
Weatherston	Thomas	62 R	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wichgers	Chuck	83 R	9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Young	Leon	16 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Zamarripa	Jocasta	8 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Zepnick	Josh	9 D	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Zimmerman	Shannon	30 R	0%	A	A	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	-

*Gundrum won Jan. 2018 Special Election to replace Rep. Gannon who died in Oct. 2017. **Neubauer won Jan. 2018 Special Election to replace Rep. Mason who retired. ***Rep. Ripp left office in Jan. 2018. NV-P: Paired votes are not counted in roll call. A: Absent. NV: Not voting (not in office).

The Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter Thanks Environmental Champions

The Sierra Club – John Muir Chapter thanks the lawmakers who scored a perfect 100% on the Scorecard (12 in the Senate, 32 in the Assembly).

In the Senate, Tim Carpenter, Jon Erpenbach, Dave Hansen, LaTonya Johnson, Chris Larson, Mark Miller, Janis Ringhand, Fred Risser, Patty Schachtner, Jennifer Shilling, Lena Taylor, and Kathleen Vinehout.

In the Assembly, Jimmy Anderson, Terese Berceau, Jill Billings, David Bowen, Jonathan Brostoff, Dave Considine, David Crowley, Steve Doyle, Eric Genrich, Evan Goyke, Gary Hebl, Dianne Hesselbein, Gordon Hintz, Fred Kessler, Deb Kolste, Beth Meyers, Nick Milroy, Greta Neubauer, Sony Pope, Daniel Riemer, Melissa Sargent, Katrina Shankland, Christine Sinicki, Mark Spreitzer, Amanda Stuck, Lisa Subeck, Chris Taylor, Don Vruwink, Dana Wachs, Leon Young, JoCasta Zamarripa, and Josh Zepnick.

We will miss the leadership of Environmental Champions who will not be returning to the Legislature: Senator Kathleen Vinehout, Representatives Terese Berceau, Eric Genrich, Cory Mason, Dana Wachs, and Leon Young.



We are also disappointed in the Conservation Zeros who received 0%, meaning they did not vote a single time for pro-conservation legislation:

In the Senate: only Sheila Harsdorf and Frank Lasee scored 0% although both retired from the Senate early in the session and cast few votes.

In the Assembly: Tyler August, Joan Ballweg, Kathy Bernier, Mark Born, Janel Brandtjen, Ed Brooks, Robert Brooks, Cindi Duchow, James Edming, Mary Felzkowski, Rick Gundrum, Cody Horlacher, Rob Hutton, Andre Jacque, John Jagler, Terry Katsma, Samantha Kerkman, Joel Kleefisch, Dan Knodl, Dale Kooyenga, Jesse Kremer, Scott Krug, Mike Kuglitsch, Bob Kulp, Amy Loudenberg, John Macco, David Murphy, Lee Nerison, Adam Neylon, John Nygren, Jim Ott, Warren Petryk, Treig Pronschinske, Romaine Quinn, Jessie Rodriguez, Mike Rohrkaste, Joel Sanfelippo, Michael Shraa, Ken Skowronski, John Spiros, Rob Stafsholt, David Steffen, Jim Steineke, Rob Summerfield, Rob Swearingen, Gary Tauchen, Jeremy Thiesfeldt, Paul Tittl, Ron Tusler, Nancy VanderMeer, Tyler Vorpapel, Robin Vos, Thomas Weatherston, and Shannon Zimmerman.

The Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter Looking forward....

Wisconsin is falling behind our neighboring states. We need to embrace a clean energy economy that will create family-supporting jobs across Wisconsin, clean up our air for all of us, and make Wisconsin a leader once again. Our electricity rates are some of the highest in the Midwest. Our over-reliance on coal plants isn't working for Wisconsin.

Wisconsin's is facing serious and devastating water problems. There are people in Wisconsin that can't drink their water, lakes and rivers that have dried up, and possible lead and other contamination in many communities across Wisconsin. Our local roads and transit systems are crumbling and our current transportation spending is not sustainable.

These are big problems that needs big solutions to fix them. *They also need political will to address them.* In January when the legislators go back into session and kick-off discussions on the next budget (which will guide us for the next two years), we hope to work with the legislature to solve these problems and create a better Wisconsin for everyone.

In the meantime, the John Muir Chapter is working to address many of these issues by organizing our members and supporters to push local governments to move to 100% renewable energy, to fight the proposed tar sand pipeline, to shine a light on water issues around the state and to work with local governments to create safeguards for the worst mining impacts.



The Sierra Club - John Muir Chapter Looking forward....

Thank you for taking an interest in environmental legislation by picking up this guide and for all the other things you do to participate in the democratic process. Your efforts contribute to a cleaner environment and a healthier future for Wisconsin.



Visit us online to find out how YOU can get involved in protecting Wisconsin's natural resources!

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Protecting Wisconsin's Air, Water and Wild Places

www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin

