



## GREAT WATERS GROUP NEWSLETTER

WWW.GREATWATERSGROUP.ORG greatwatersgroupsc@gmail.com

Spring, 2017 NO. 1



*This red tailed hawk will be getting plenty of attention at the live raptor exhibit when GWG teams up with the Washington Park Urban Ecology Center for its annual Earth Day celebration Apr. 22.*

### Earth Day at Washington Park

Once again Great Waters Group will be partnering with the Washington Park Urban Ecology Center on Saturday, April 22 for an Earth Day of Service and Celebration. Registration starts at 9 a.m. and continues throughout the morning. Members are invited to take part in work crews for a variety of service projects in the park, such as weeding and planting native flowers.

Starting at 10 a.m., tabling and demonstrations will take place on

a number of environmental issues. Topics include protection from lead in drinking water, the secret life of bees, and live raptor birds. During the same time, free bike repair will be offered at the Dream Bikes tent.

A free lunch will be served at noon. Entertaining song and dance will be provided by the Young Scientists. At 12:15 p.m. Congresswoman Gwen Moore will share an inspirational keynote address. Please join us. It's  
(Continued on page 4 )

### Spring Programs

Free and open to the public

*Mayfair Mall lower level  
Community Room G110,  
Garden Suites East. Enter east side  
of Mall under AMC theater.*

**Lead in Drinking Water:  
Separating Fact from Fiction**  
*Monday, Feb 20, 7 p.m.*

“Is there a problem with lead in my water? How does lead affect people? What can be done to protect our health?” Kirsten Shead of Milwaukee Water Commons and Paul Biedrzycki of the City of Milwaukee Health Dept. Disease Control address the safety and environmental justice of our drinking water, with short and long-range solutions.

**Food We Eat Affects  
Mother Earth**  
**Monday, Mar. 20, 7 p.m. following  
St. Patrick’s Day green potluck at  
6:15 p.m.**

“Have you ever considered the environmental impacts of your food choices?” Jamie Ferschinger from Urban Ecology Center will explore how food choices impact our planet, and how small changes in our diet can have large effects on the environment.

Join us before the talk for an Irish Potluck. Please bring a dish to share. Baked potatoes provided; toppings  
(Continued on page 7)

# Sanctuary Woods threatened

By Dianne Dagen, Conservation Chair

Developers in a new Master Plan\* for suburban Wauwatosa want to build roads, high-rise apartments and an “urban center” on the last remaining 60 acres of natural wilderness on Milwaukee County Grounds.

Known to Tosa residents as “Sanctuary Woods,” this land of woods, prairie, meadow and wetlands is habitat to long-eared and great horned owls, northern flying squirrels and the endangered Butler garter snake and forked aster plant. It is part of a migratory bird route. The County Board-requested environmental study for this area has not yet been completed.

## Current Master Plan

The area is identified by city officials as the “Life Sciences District,” and the mayor and city administrators want to clear cut 20 acres for 5-10 story buildings with 6,500 housing units and 445,000 square feet of office, retail and restaurant space. There would also be a 60 foot-wide “Scenic Driveway” with intersecting streets and a concrete plaza, all adding to current run-off problems.

City officials say this “growth” will be “in balance” with the remaining 40 acres, most of which is an undevelopable deep ravine, and that this development is the only way to “preserve green spaces and quality of life” in the area.

In fact, the Wauwatosa Common Council has the legal authority to re-zone the entire 60 acres as “parkland” today if their alders



*Sanctuary Woods at the County Grounds is home to great horned owls and many other species, including northern flying squirrels and the endangered Butler garter snake.*

*Photo by Eddee Daniel*

want to preserve the area. It could be done even temporarily, to press the pause button on development. The land is owned by Milwaukee County and can be sold by County Executive Abele without approval by the Board of Supervisors – unless Wauwatosa re-zones the land as “parkland”.

## Additional Future Development

If the proposed Life Sciences District Master Plan is approved  
(Continued on page 8)



*The pavement on this popular pathway is a legacy of the asylum grounds that formerly occupied the site at Sanctuary Woods. This is where a planned road would go.*

*Photo by Eddee Daniel*

## Sanctuary Woods site is a natural treasure

Join us for an outing on May 6 as we learn about some of the flora and fauna that call the Sanctuary Woods home.

Nestled in heavily developed Wauwatosa, the 60-plus acre site is an historic natural area at the Milwaukee County Grounds. Inhabited by long-eared owls and flying squirrels, it is a woods, prairie and wetland treasure threatened by plans for roads and high-rise buildings.

We’ll talk about how this habitat could be affected by those plans and the different roles that the land has played over the last hundred years.

**Date:** Saturday, May 6.

**Time:** 11 a.m. to approximately 1 p.m.

**Level:** Easy

**Location:** Sanctuary Woods, Milwaukee County Grounds. Contact Dianne Dagen for exact meeting location. Please RSVP at [ddagen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ddagen@sbcglobal.net) or 414-232-3208.

## Notes from the Chair

On the evening of Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016 I stood in front of the TV for a long time until I had to sit down beside my distraught wife. The next day, while in conversation with my daughter on the phone, she cried. We cried for the environment. We cried for women's rights. We cried for the oppressed of the world. We cried because we knew we could be "better together" than hating and fearing others.

But, especially, we cried for the almost half of American voters, our neighbors and coworkers, who were taken in by the rhetoric of a wholly unqualified person with the morals of someone who you would not let your daughter date. I keep asking myself, "What were they thinking?" and "What kind of people are these neighbors of mine?"

And then comes the deflation, the feelings after so much work only to lose when victory was so close and expected, wondering should we just give up because our cause is lost.

But you and I know that our cause is just, that protection of the earth and its living things is in our hands and we must fight for it. And we in the Great Waters Group of the Sierra Club will, with a strong Volunteer Leadership Com-

mittee rededicating itself to the fight, and with your help, enlighten the uninformed to the earth's cause.

We hope you will attend activities, outings and events that we and our non-profit partners offer as we environmentalists move ahead, including contacting leaders like our Volunteer Coordinator, Chris Zapf, with offers to help or outings leaders with offers to attend. We especially are looking for a new political chair as Ed Anderson, who has held the position for so long and so well, is moving over as Membership Chair.

Following in the footsteps of several strong group leaders and thanking Dianne Dagelen for her service, we now enter a short transition period in our search for a new group chair, but with no break in your leadership's dedication to our motto to Explore, Enjoy and Protect the environment.

Say hi at our monthly programs, Earth Day at the Washington Park UEC April 22 or the Climate March on Washington April 29.

Bill Moore  
Interim Group Chair

# Cast your vote on DNR proposals

"Do you favor reducing the size of (or eliminating) three wildlife refuges on wildlife management areas to allow for hunting and trapping in those areas?" "Do you favor applying daily bag limits for certain fish or lakes?" "Do you favor listing the collard dove as an unprotected species?"

These are some of the 49 proposed rule changes up for balloting at the annual Department of Natural Resources Fish and Wildlife

hearings and Wisconsin Conservation Congress meetings. They will be held April 10 in all 72 counties.

Go to [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) for the full roster of proposals. A short DNR video will be shown summarizing key fishing proposals. You can vote on any or all of the proposed rules at the following locations between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. whether you attend the meeting or not.

Milwaukee County: Nathan Hale High School,  
11601 W. Lincoln Ave, West Allis.  
Ozaukee County: Webster Traditional School,  
W75N624 Wauwatosa Road, Cedarburg.  
Washington County: Washington County Fair Park,  
3000 Pleasant Valley Rd, Co. HW PV, West Bend.  
Waukesha County: Waukesha County Technical College,  
Richard Anderson Education Center,  
800 Main St., Pewaukee.

### Volunteer Leadership Council (VLC) Contact List

Bill Moore, GWG Interim Chair 262-785-9022  
John Bahr, Vice Chair and Energy Chair 414-256-0932  
Roy Krueger, Treasurer 262-544-6893  
Crystal Hoecherl, Secretary 414-614-3034  
Heather Hansen, JMC Delegate 812-360-0652  
Dianne Dagelen, Conservation Chair 414-771-1505  
William Baurecht, Program Chair 414-882-7218  
Chris Zapf, Volunteer Chair 262-786-9584  
Ed Anderson, Membership and Political Chair 414-520-2751  
Dan Buckler, Outings Chair 330-261-2088  
Communications: E-letter, Face Book, Website, Newsletter  
Janet Anderson, Communication Chair 414-258-5624  
Dianne Dagelen, Newsletter Chair 414-771-1505  
Dave Wehnes, Website Super Administrator 414-453-1689  
Sandy and Dale Hofmann, Newsletter Editors 414-476-8636  
David Hetzel, Newsletter reimbursement facilitator 414-228-9512



Thank you to everyone who contributed through workplace giving to the Sierra Club Foundation and Community Shares of Greater Milwaukee.



*Sierra Club President Aaron Mair (holding a Wisconsin map) spoke to John Muir Chapter members along with more than 300 Milwaukee, Waukesha and other Wisconsin residents about the challenges of the current environmental situation in the wake of the election, and encouraged them to connect with others to seek change.*

# Summit supports fair transport

By Dianne Dagelen, Conservation Chair

More than 300 people gathered for an “Arrive Together” summit at Milwaukee Area Technical College on Dec. 3 to help build a 21st century transportation system that provides transit equity for all.

Organized by the Coalition for More Responsible Transportation (CMRT), transit users and advocates, along with state and national leaders, began with an intense listening session. Bus riders described their experiences and expectations.

Sierra Club National President, Aaron Mair delivered an address and led the chant: “Resist!” “Recruit!” “Train!” “Sustain!” Considering the current environmental situation and the future for our country following the recent election, he said environmentalists should get out of our “silos” of fear and despair,

## Earth Day celebration scheduled

*(Continued from page 1)*

all free and open to the public.

**What:** Native plantings and clean up. Free lunch. Keynote speech by Congresswoman Gwen Moore. Demonstrations of Raptors, Bees, Bikes and Trees. Young Scientist rap dancers. Free Tune Up Tent by Dream Bikes.

**When:** Saturday, April 22, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Where:** Washington Park Urban Ecology Center, 1859 N. 40th St. Milwaukee. Enter just south of Lisbon.

For more information, contact Conservation Chair, Dianne Dagelen: [ddagelen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ddagelen@sbcglobal.net) or 414-771-1505.

which only lock others out and spread disorganization.

He urged his audience to join a faith congregation, civil rights organization or trade union and reconnect with others to form a more powerful force for change. Earth stewardship and environmental justice were his focus.

Leslie Proll, director of the Civil Rights office of the US Department of Transportation (DOT) spoke of how transit rights have been entwined with American civil rights history from the beginning. The first US Supreme Court decision on civil rights (Plessy, 1890) dealt with segregated train cars. Thurgood Marshall’s landmark case of Brown vs. Board of Education (1954) was initiated because of school bus segregation: “separate but equal.”

And in 1955 Rosa Parks’ refusal to give up her bus seat to a white man and subsequent arrest led to our first organized civil rights protest. Her resistance for transit equity inspired a protest movement that continues into the 21st century.

But as Proll pointed out, today it seems that civil rights concerns about transit have moved from the “back of the bus” to: “Where’s the bus?” For example, many people in Milwaukee and other areas do not have sufficient transit access to get to jobs, school, healthcare and community activities, resulting in unemployment, poverty and isolation.

A number of workshops followed on subjects including organizing, bicycling and workforce development. Presenters included state legislators, representatives of Disability Rights, US DOT, WISDOM (a faith-based advocacy group), Bike Fed and Madison Metro.

# Mair visit highlights party

Braving a snow storm, national Sierra Club President Aaron Mair made a special visit by invitation to our Holiday Party fundraiser Dec 4. After addressing earth justice and recruitment, he honored Huda Alkaff as our Environmental Hero of 2016. Although he left soon afterward to catch a return flight to San Francisco, his energy was felt throughout the evening.

Revelers were entertained with holiday tuba music by Cheri and Tom Briscoe while connecting with old friends and making new ones. Aladdin's Middle Eastern buffet was bountiful and delicious, complementing our good time. After dinner, acoustic guitarist Peter Donalds led us on a memorable sing-along, rounding out the evening.

An affectionate thank you to all our volunteers, especially Chris Zapf and Jane Schneider, and to those who donated auction items: Ed Anderson, Mary Kay Anderson, Jon Bales, Bill Baurecht and

Helen Bannan-Baruecht, Dianne Dagelen, Eddee Daniel, Dave Hetzel, Tim Maher, Trish Miller, Jane Stolz, David Thomas and Chris Zapf.

We are grateful to the following businesses who donated auction items and ask you to please show your appreciation by patronizing them:

Clearwater Outdoor Store, Usinger's Famous Sausage, Outpost Natural Foods, Colectivo Coffee, Trader Joe's, Vintage Glass Garden, Four Corners of the World Fair Trade Store, Rainbow Children's Bookseller, Clock Shadow Creamery, Landmarks Gallery, Riveredge Nature Center, Schlitz Audubon Nature Center, Urban Ecology Center, Mitchell Park Domes, Museum of Wisconsin Art, Milwaukee County Zoo, Harley Davidson Museum, Florentine Opera, Sunset Playhouse, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Wild Space Dance Company, Danceworks, Sharon Lynne Wilson Center, Sherper's, Janus Massage & Yoga, Stella's Hair Salon & Spa, Wheel & Sprocket, Rutabaga Paddlesports, Little Read Book Store, Barb & Dick's Wildflower, Empire Fish, Laacke & Joys, Square One Art Glass, Highlands Café, Cold Spoons Gelato, Purple Door Ice Cream.

We need a volunteer committee for our 2017 Holiday Party fundraiser. If you're interested, contact our Volunteer Chair, Chris Zapf.

## Apostles await camping tour

Up to 16 campers are welcome to join us on an Apostle Island Adventure that will include three to six nights of camping, depending on individual preferences.

The full six-night trip beginning Sunday, July 2, features two nights on Stockton Island and three nights on Oak Island. We're hoping for lighthouse tours of Michigan and Raspberry Islands, all by public cruise service.

We will return on Friday, camp on the mainland and do a one-day guided kayak trip on Saturday. Kayaks are provided by the outfitter. Anyone interested in participating should e-mail trip leaders.

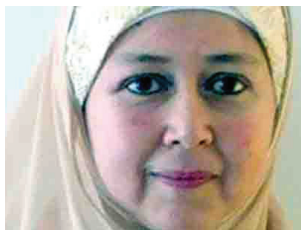
In celebration of the 2016 Centennial of the National Park Service, the John Muir Chapter sponsored this very successful outing last year, and we are looking forward to doing it again.

**Date:** July 2-8, 2017 (3-6 nights; island camp; optional sea-kayaking).

**Leaders:** David Thomas, 414-344-1044, [thomasdp@thomerwald.net](mailto:thomasdp@thomerwald.net), Tom Ryan, 608-807-8245, [thryanl@gmail.com](mailto:thryanl@gmail.com).

**Limit:** 16 participants.

## Huda Alkaff scholar, hero



*Huda Alkaff*

Dr. Huda Alkaff, environmentalist, educator and activist, was honored at GWG's Holiday Party Dec. 4 as our Environmental Hero of 2016.

Dr. Alkaff is the founder and director of the Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin (Wisconsin Green Muslims), formed in 2005. She is an environmentalist with degrees in conservation ecology, sustainable development and environmental education from the University of Georgia, and she has taught environmental studies at the University of Wisconsin.

She was also one twelve American environmentalists to meet with President Barak Obama at the White House on July 15, 2015 to be honored as a Champion of Change for their efforts in protecting our environment and communities from the effects of climate change.

A founding member and leader of the Interfaith Earth Network, which is part of Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee, she is president of Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light. Nationally, IPL has greened 4,000 houses of worship while growing a network of congregations from every major religion who see the transition to clean energy as a moral issue.

Huda is an activist and advocate with Milwaukee Inner-city Congregations Allied for Hope (MICAH) and Coalition for More Responsible Transportation (CMRT). She is a supportive member of Sierra Club, John Muir Chapter.

# Members to travel to Climate March

The climate is changing in Washington and around the world. In the wake of the recent Women's Marches, activists have announced a major People's Climate March on Apr. 29 in Washington D.C.

The effort is being organized by the coalition formed out of the 2014 People's Climate March, which brought more than 400,000 people to the streets of New York City and the United Nations, and many more around the world.

Sierra Club and Climate Action Round Table (CART) are joining with [350.org](http://350.org) to send two Milwaukee busses to Washington, D.C. on the weekend of Apr. 29. Go to [ps://peoplesclimate.org](http://ps://peoplesclimate.org) to register. For more information, go to [facebook.com/350Milwaukee](https://facebook.com/350Milwaukee) or contact them at [350mke@gmail.com](mailto:350mke@gmail.com) or view their webpage at [350milwaukee.weebly.com](http://350milwaukee.weebly.com).

Plans are also being made for a local People's Climate Rally to Action. Tentative schedule is Pere Marquette Park in Milwaukee on Apr. 29, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Organized by The Next Four Years, go to their Facebook page for details, or to the websites [greatwatersgroup.org](http://greatwatersgroup.org), [MilwaukeeEnvironmentalConsortium.org](http://MilwaukeeEnvironmentalConsortium.org) or [MilwaukeeRiverkeepers.org](http://MilwaukeeRiverkeepers.org) or email [MKEpeoplesclimaterally@gmail.com](mailto:MKEpeoplesclimaterally@gmail.com) as the date approaches.

Keep up-to-date on the Peoples Climate March, nationally and locally, by our GWG e-letter. Send an email to [gwg.e-letter@wi.rr.com](mailto:gwg.e-letter@wi.rr.com) to be on our listserv. Also, check our great Waters Group Facebook page and website [sc.gwg.org](http://sc.gwg.org) and our Facebook at [Sierra Club Great Waters Group](http://Sierra Club Great Waters Group).

## Riverside Park event features farmers, CSAs

An excellent opportunity to meet local farmers and learn more about Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs will be available Saturday, March 11 from 1 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Riverside Park Urban Ecology Center, 1500 E. Park Pl. in Milwaukee. It is free and open to the public.

This year the Milwaukee Public Museum will be joining the event with a "pop-up" museum and information about its Global Kitchen special exhibit. Workshops include "CSA Basics" and "Cooking from Your CSA Box" with recipes for seasonal cuisine.

Contact Anne Steinberg for more information at [asteinberg@wi.rr.com](mailto:asteinberg@wi.rr.com) or call UEC Riverside Park at 414-964-8505. Or go to the Facebook Event page: [facebook.com/events/1702149886768952/](https://facebook.com/events/1702149886768952/).



*The spectacular cliffs of Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore will be featured on a 10-mile Chapel Falls hike.*

## Scenic Pictured Rocks on display for hikers

If you like untouched forests, pristine lakes and impressive scenery then we have the trip for you. Join us at the Pete's Lake Campground near Munising, Mich., to hike Bruno's Run and the Chapel Falls-Mosquito River trail Aug. 4-6.

Fortunately, our campsite is on the Hiawatha National Forest trail that takes us through towering forests and past nine untouched lakes. We'll hike past two crystal clear lakes for a break to swim. So bring your suit.

If you have seen photos of the stunning cliffs of Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore but want to see them up front for yourself, then join us Saturday for our 10-mile Chapel Falls hike. Learn how the topography of mineral-colored rocks and sea caves were formed beneath Lake Superior's ridge trail. Then experience hiking behind as well as around the Chapel Falls that feeds into the Great Lakes.

In his book "Hiking Michigan's Upper Peninsula" Eric Hansen says of the Chapel Falls-Mosquito River hike: "One hike stood head and shoulders above all others when I asked for nominations for this book."

Bring a dish to pass for both Friday and Saturday night potluck dinners. Despite a moderate pace both day's hikes will be approximately 10 miles, so make sure you are equipped for two very full days of hiking.

**Date:** August 4-6.

**Location:** Munising, Mich.

**Leader:** Ed Anderson. RSVP at 414-520-2751 or Crystal Hoecherl at 414-614-3034.

# Quetico offers canoe adventures

Enjoy the wild north woods by canoe this summer with a choice of adventures at Quetico Provincial Park spanning the international border between Minnesota and Canada. No experience is required.

## Quetico Outing 1 – Christianson, Clear, and McDermott

**July 28-Aug. 6.** (8 days, 7 nights; paddle/portage/camp; two layover days). JMC's inaugural women's trip.

Co-Leaders: Vicki Christianson 715-827-0379 [vicki.christianson@yahoo.com](mailto:vicki.christianson@yahoo.com), Janet Clear - 608-833-1339, [janetclear@gmail.com](mailto:janetclear@gmail.com) and Nancy McDermott 608-238-1421 [njmcderm@gmail.com](mailto:njmcderm@gmail.com). Outing Departure Point: Moose Lake - Ely, MN area.

## Quetico Outing 2 – Brands and Karaskiewicz

**Aug. 11-20.** (8 days, 7 nights; paddle/portage/camp; two layover days.)

Co-leaders: Peter Brands 262-888-3516 [pbrands@gmail.com](mailto:pbrands@gmail.com) and Tim Karaskiewicz 414-397-8768 [tkaraskiewicz@mitchellairport.com](mailto:tkaraskiewicz@mitchellairport.com). Outing departure point: Gunflint Trail, MN  
Coincides with the Perseid meteor shower.

## Quetico Outing 3 – McDermott and Stahl

**Aug. 18-27.** (8 days, 7 nights; paddle/portage/five-night base camp).

Co-Leaders: Nancy McDermott 608-238-1421 [njmcderm@gmail.com](mailto:njmcderm@gmail.com) and Will Stahl 920-725-9185 [wrsy55@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wrsy55@sbcglobal.net). Outing Departure Point: Moose Lake - Ely, MN area.  
Designed for the fishing enthusiast.

## Women's Namekagon River Trip

**July 13-16.** (4 days, 3 nights; women's paddling trip).

Leader: Vicki Christianson 715-827-0379 [vicki.christianson@yahoo.com](mailto:vicki.christianson@yahoo.com)  
Outing Departure Point: Trego, WI. Offers gentle rapids and smooth flowing current.

# Interfaith Earth Network will celebrate anniversary

Interfaith Earth Network, a program dedicated to bridging faith and ecology, will offer a full menu of interactive displays, dynamic workshops, discussions and networking, kids' activities, reflection, education, fun and refreshments at its tenth anniversary open house, "Celebrating Hope," on March 19, from 2-5 p.m..

The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held at the Riverside Park Urban Ecology Center at 1500 E. Park Place in Milwaukee.



IENT is a program of the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee [www.InterfaithEarthNetwork.org](http://www.InterfaithEarthNetwork.org). If you have questions, call 414-276-9050 or email [kirstens@interfaithconference.org](mailto:kirstens@interfaithconference.org).

Spring 2016

# Spring Programs

*(Continued from page 1)*

welcomed. Reservations not needed, but contacting Bill Baurecht [baurecht@uwosh.edu](mailto:baurecht@uwosh.edu); 414-882-7218-h; 920-279-9594-m is helpful for planning.

## Earth Day of Service Celebration

*Saturday, April 22, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Washington Park UEC*

*No program at Mayfair. See Earth Day article for details.*

## The Making and Adventure of a Climate Warrior Activist

*Monday, May 15, 7 p.m.*

Miriam Kasha writes: "How did it happen that I'm spending my 'golden years' braving wind and weather, walking across America, sleeping on the ground, being handcuffed and taken off to jail. . . to stand as a 'climate warrior' for justice and a livable future?" Hear her journey. Her motto: "Activism is the Antidote to Despair".

# Bikers to greet official beginning of summer

We'll celebrate the longest days of the year and the official beginning of summer on June 17-18 on the woody bike trails of the extensive Vilas County Trail system in the Boulder Junction-Manitowish Waters area.

Last year we had 18 people join us, and the overwhelming consensus was we should do it again. We'll stop often along the way to learn firsthand about the effects of the last glacier that created one of the most densely packed areas of fresh water lakes in the world, and one of the most beautiful areas of Wisconsin.

On Saturday we will offer rides of 20, 35 and 50 miles depending on your ability. Coinciding with our outing, the community of Manitowish Waters is offering a Friday night ride through the woods as part of their Summer Solstice Bike Weekend, sharing the trail with fire flies.

Camping will be available near Manitowish Waters at the Northern Highland State Forest campground on Big Lake. Bring your swimsuit for a dip after the ride and bring a dish to pass for our evening potluck dinner on Saturday night.

**Date:** June 17-18.

**Location:** Boulder Junction - Manitowish Waters area

**Leader:** Ed Anderson. RSVP at 414-520-2751, or to Crystal Hoecherl 414-614-3034.



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**Protect America's Environment  
for Our Families, For Our Future**

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*Great Waters Group of the John Muir Chapter  
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## Make your voice heard on Sanctuary Woods

*(Continued from page 2)*

by the council, a group of “non-profit” organizations will oversee the “environmental district” (section 3.2)\* for “effective management and utilization.” And a second group of development organizations will make future area development decisions, “autonomous” from city and county governance as long as a decision is “based” on the Master Plan (sections 4&5)\*.

Representatives of these organizations, their manner of selection, and how a decision is qualified are not defined in the plan. Taxpayers would lose their representation as to the land's future. At the Feb. 7 Open House, which more than 500 residents attended, a GRAEF employee said developer Barry Mandel would be an example of a non-profit or development group member.

### **Urban Wilderness or Profit**

According to the city's master plan of 2008, Wauwatosa has already exceeded its projected new housing unit needs of 3,500 units for the year 2030. A development frenzy fueled by TIF funding during the last five years has resulted in numerous rental vacancies (450 as of this month). There appears to be no need for an additional 6,500 new units as proposed in the Life Sciences District Master Plan. Only a desire by a few for development money.

If you live in Wauwatosa or anywhere else in Milwaukee County, be sure your elected officials know what your desires are for this irreplaceable, vanishing urban wilderness. Once it's gone, we'll never get it back.

Grassroots Tosa is sponsoring a County Grounds Forum March 11, 10:30 a.m. to noon at Whitman Middle School. Go to [grassrootstosa.org](http://grassrootstosa.org) or their Facebook for details plus “Key Points in Understanding Wauwatosa's proposed new master plan for the County Grounds and Environs.” by Greg Walz-Chojnacki. Tosa for Good is a group newly formed in response to recent Sanctuary Woods development plans. Go to [tosaforgood.org](http://tosaforgood.org) or their Facebook for more information, including an historical perspective by Jim Price. They recently led a guided tour through Sanctuary Woods and will be doing others in the future.

There will be a third Open House Feb 27, a final draft of the Proposal, a Public Hearing, a Community Affairs meeting with public comment, and then a Common Council meeting to consider final adoption of the Master Plan. Stay posted. Stay involved. See our Sierra Club Great Waters Group Facebook for updates.

\*Go to [wauwatosa.net](http://wauwatosa.net) to view the current Life Sciences District Master Plan.