

# CONSERVATIONVOTER





# Thank you for supporting **Conservation Lobby Day!**





You're building a powerful and inclusive movement to create a healthy environment for future generations.

At Conservation Lobby Day, you could see the movement we've built in full force. People across our state want clean water, clean energy, and a healthy democracy.

On April 25, we were finally together again in Madison, lobbying our legislators for five conservation priorities Governor Evers included in his state budget proposal.

Town of Campbell Supervisor Lee Donahue spoke to participants about the struggles her town – and more than 70 other Wisconsin communities – are facing with confirmed PFAS toxicity. "Living with toxic water affects the health and safety of every resident. Every time you reach to turn on the tap, to make a bottle of formula, fill your child's bathtub, brush their teeth, or fill your coffee pot, you are reminded your water is toxic...I can't even begin to count the number of friends and neighbors who have fought or succumbed to cancer," Donohue said.

"Every time you reach to turn on the tap, to make a bottle of formula, fill your child's bathtub, brush their teeth, or fill your coffee pot, you are reminded your water is toxic..."

Let's be clear – because of your advocacy over the past several years, addressing PFAS contamination in our water is now a top issue for state officials. After years of organizing, they heard you loud and clear: Wisconsinites need clean water.



#### Continued from page 1

A group of Menominee students from the Menominee Tribal School (MTA) came to Lobby Day to advocate for wild rice and clean water.

One of the students, Raeanne Summers, said she made the trip, "because I'm really into wild rice and cultural stuff. So, I thought if I came, maybe it would make a difference." She held up the sign she made, explaining what she wrote: "Wild rice is our culture' – that's my phrase. Without it, we are nothing."



Students from Menominee Tribal School met with Rep. Jeff Mursau to share powerful stories about the importance of protecting wild rice habitats.

Building a powerful and inclusive movement means following the lead of impacted communities. We will continue to fight for our priorities alongside our community partners, sharing personal stories and having meaningful dialog with legislators to ensure clean water for all.

#### **Updates on our Conservation Lobby Day priority issues**

Thanks to you, funding for PFAS remediation and support for a Local Government Grant Resource team are still moving forward in the state budget process.

Some of our Lobby Day asks were stripped out of the state budget, like funding for a clean energy workforce, wild rice restoration, and automatic voter registration, but we'll keep working on these issues.

Conservation Lobby Day is about bringing these issues front and center to our decision-makers. Like we have done with pushing for action on the PFAS crisis, we will continue to organize and put pressure on our legislators until action is taken.

Find the latest updates on these budget priorities:

conservationvoters.org/ clean-water



## Native voters turned out in Supreme Court election

There were striking voter increase numbers in the tribal communities where our sister 501c3 Wisconsin Native Vote program was active. We made a big impact by collaborating with tribal leadership, holding educational events, and focusing on deep relationship building.

- Voter turnout increased in Red Cliff by 130% and Menominee by 75% in comparison to April 2019.
- We collaborated with tribes to send 47,500 pieces of mail to 29,000 households.
- We ran \$45,000 worth of video ads in Indian country.
- We called 1,000 people and texted just under 4,000 people.

Learn more about Wisconsin Native Vote here: www.conservationvoices.org/nativevote



Chairman Christopher Boyd of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa spoke at a dinner organized by Wisconsin Native Vote to educate tribal members about the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

## You did it! Our largest spring election program ever!

Congratulations! We elected a new Supreme Court Justice this spring, along with three endorsed mayors and a raft of conservation champions! Wisconsin's spring election was critical for safeguarding our democracy for the 2024 presidential election and beyond. Not only did we reshape the Wisconsin Supreme Court, we also re-elected Green Bay Mayor Eric Genrich, whose commitment to our freedom to vote in the face of unprecedented attacks has been an inspiration and will help Wisconsin elect a pro-conservation president in 2024!

Wisconsin Conservation Voters Independent Expenditure Committee (IEC) talked to thousands of voters about our endorsed candidates and invested more than \$1.5 million to make sure Wisconsin continues to move forward. The spring program ensured democracy and the environment are the real winners. Here's how we did it:

Knocking on more than 155,000

**DOORS** of voters in Dane, Milwaukee, Waukesha, Washington, Ozaukee, and Portage Counties

Nearly 10,000

**HANDWRITTEN POSTCARDS** sent to voters by more than

volunteers



3.000

**PHONE CALLS** to voters in local elections, where races are often decided by a handful of votes

15,000

**TEXT MESSAGES** to conservation voters ahead of the February primary, helping achieve record turnout in that election

For complete spring election results, visit: www.conservationvoters.org/ elections

weeks of **DIGITAL ADS** to voters in Green Bay

### Winning 100 percent clean energy by 2050

Our clean energy future is arriving. Conservation voters like *you* are making it happen.

Four out of 10 people in the United States now live in a place that has committed to 100 percent clean energy. That's up from one percent just five years ago. Projects are now rolling out from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act – the largest climate investment in U.S. history.

Here in Wisconsin, we elected (and re-elected!) Governor Tony Evers, and he delivered our state's first clean energy plan. Across the country, Conservation Voters secured **100 percent clean energy commitments from more than 1,300 successful local, state, and federal candidates.** 

#### **Meet our newest organizers**

They're working with conservation voters across the state to win more local clean energy commitments and help communities implement exciting new clean water and clean energy projects.







YOU can move Wisconsin's clean energy transition forward in the coming year.

If just 100 conservation voters chip in \$50 today, we can fund a month of climate action organizing ahead of critical decisions on sustainability coming up in Green

Bay, Stevens Point, or another community. Will you join us?

## Let's make sure our elected leaders continue to deliver.

Use the envelope enclosed or go to **conservationvoters.org/ donate** to invest in organizing and accelerate Wisconsin's clean energy future. Thank you for your continued partnership!



Learn more about
Wisconsin's role in
the Clean Energy for
All movement at
conservationvoters.
org/priority-campaigns/
clean-energy-for-all



#### New Victories, New Location! September 20, 2023

Wisconsin Conservation Voters hosted our first Green Tie Gala nine years ago to gather, wear green, and celebrate the people who inspire our movement. Since then our mission and membership has grown, and we have even more reason to celebrate! Join us Wednesday, September 20 in Madison at the Garver Feed Mill for an evening of food, drinks, and fun with the people who make conservation victories possible in Wisconsin. We can't wait to see you, your friends, and your finest green accessories at Green Tie Madison!