

Wisconsin Conservation Voters

A clean energy future

Human-driven climate change is scientific fact and Wisconsin is already suffering because of it.

Reduced corn harvests, unprecedented flooding, disrupted wildlife migration, toxic algae blooms in our lakes, degradation of water quality in the Great Lakes, even increased mosquito hatches – climate change is already having serious detrimental effects in Wisconsin. (1)

The challenges

Wisconsin relies almost entirely on fossil fuels, particularly coal, for its electricity. Since it has no reserves of fossil fuels, each year Wisconsin imports millions of dollars of coal and other fossil fuels. (2)

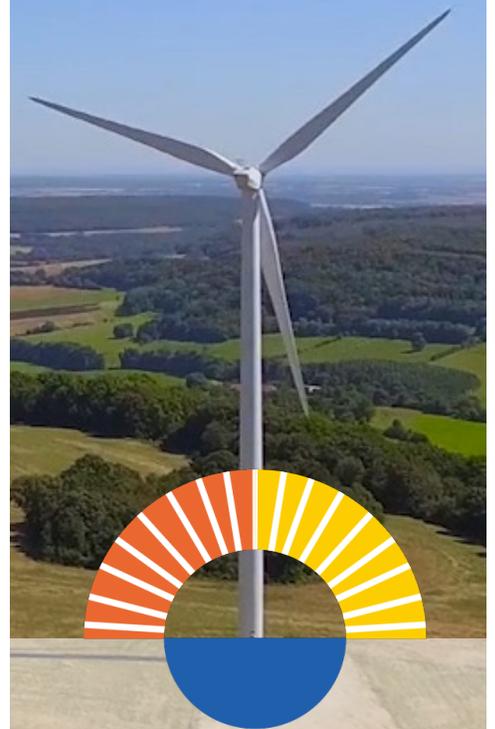


Meanwhile, many of our Midwestern neighbors have invested in clean energy. Wisconsin ranks behind states like Kansas, Nebraska, and South and North Dakota in the creation of renewable energy jobs. (3)

With waning leadership at the federal and state levels, there are abundant opportunities at the local level to improve how we use energy. More and more cities and local governments are making strides toward a clean energy future.

MORE >

CLEAN ENERGY



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The solutions

Local municipalities and counties in Wisconsin have opportunities to make significant contributions to reduce carbon emissions. For example:

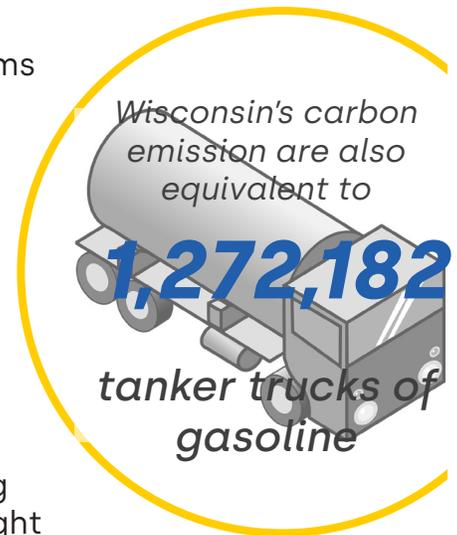
- The Eau Claire City Council pledged to work toward 100 percent renewable energy by 2050.

- The Green Bay City Council recently approved a sustainability commission that will work to find local clean energy solutions.

- Dane County has invested heavily in clean energy programs like methane capture from its landfill to run its snow-plow fleet and solar panels to save millions on energy costs.

- The City of La Crosse has made energy efficiency a priority, taking such steps as installing sensors on lights in city buildings and converting to new technologies like LED light bulbs and fuel-efficient city vehicles. (4)

- The City of Madison became the first city in Wisconsin to commit to a goal of using 100 percent renewable energy by 2050, and also to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero across all municipal sectors including electricity, heating, and transportation.



Will you commit to your community reaching 100% clean energy by 2050?

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SOURCES: 1. August 2016, EPA 430-F-16-05, "What Climate Change Means for Wisconsin," <https://19january2017snapshot.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-09/documents/climate-change-wi.pdf>. 2. January 2019, U.S. Energy Information Administration "Wisconsin State Profile," <https://www.eia.gov/state/analysis.php?sid=WI>. 3. 2018, "Wisconsin Toplines," Clean Jobs Midwest, <https://www.cleanjobsmidwest.com/state/wisconsin>. 4. [lacrossetribune.com/news/local/la-crosse-green-team-to-focus-on-renewable-energy/article_a0421bbd-7c61-5020-9ce3-6a598bdb054e.html](https://www.lacrossetribune.com/news/local/la-crosse-green-team-to-focus-on-renewable-energy/article_a0421bbd-7c61-5020-9ce3-6a598bdb054e.html)