Protecting our water, air, and land for all

2018 Annual Report

cleanwisconsin
A note from our president

I want to extend a warm and gracious thank you to the many generous supporters who made our work in 2018 possible.

This year, our science, legal, policy, and communications staff have tirelessly working to protect our water, air, and lands for everyone who loves Wisconsin, with great successes in the court room and in the Capitol.

The election of Tony Evers to the Governor's office in November shows signs of great things to come, and we look forward to building on our successes this year by working with the new governor to protect our natural resources for future generations.

I hope you enjoy reading about the successes from this year your support helps make possible.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and dedicated staff, thank you for your support of Clean Wisconsin.

Mark Redston
2018 success stories

A win for Wisconsin's wetlands

In May, Administrative Law Judge Eric Defort ruled in favor of Clean Wisconsin and co-petitioner the Ho-chunk Nation to invalidate a wetland fill permit for out-of-state frac sand company Meteor Timber. Clean Wisconsin argued that DNR did not follow the permitting processes required by law. While staff scientists found ample evidence to deny this permit, it was ultimately approved. Much of the 16.25-acre parcel consists of a unique White Pine-Red Maple wetland considered "imperiled" by the state. This is a significant victory for the people of Wisconsin, our pristine wetlands, and the integrity of our environmental laws, and it reinforces DNR’s duty to protect our natural resources for the public.

Clean Wisconsin sues EPA over smog rules

In August, Clean Wisconsin filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in federal court for failing to protect Wisconsin residents from ozone pollution. The lawsuit challenges EPA’s final decision designating areas in Wisconsin that meet the 2015 ozone air quality standard. The final decision dramatically modified “intended designations” which EPA announced just six months earlier—thereby reducing the areas in Wisconsin required to reduce emissions that cause or contribute to unhealthy ozone levels. It's critical that EPA, whose mission is to protect human health and the environment, adequately safeguards the health of Wisconsinites from dangerous ozone pollution. We are committed to holding our federal and state agencies to account so that every Wisconsin resident has clean air to breathe.

Water protections for Northeast WI take effect

In July, a new rule stipulating where, when and how manure could be spread in Northeast Wisconsin went into effect. This is the result of years of work by Clean Wisconsin and other stakeholders to find a common-sense solution that supported the farming community while also protecting drinking water. We will be watching to ensure DNR fully enforces these rules in the coming years.
Looking forward to 2019

Working with our newly elected governor.

In November, voters elected Tony Evers as the 46th Governor of Wisconsin. Gov-elect Evers has voiced strong support for clean water and energy initiatives in our state.

Many challenges are harming drinking water for thousands of Wisconsin residents. Lead pipes are still delivering water to people in 81 communities across the state. People with private wells face high levels of bacteria and nitrate pollution in places like Southwest Wisconsin. We’re seeing signs that an emerging contaminant called PFAS is threatening clean drinking water for many people in Marinette, Manitowoc, and Madison.

Additionally, Wisconsin is lagging behind other states in moving state policy around clean energy and climate change. Renewables like wind and solar energy are now cheaper than coal and gas, presenting an opportunity for Wisconsin to cut carbon emissions while boosting our economy and protecting public health.

Gov. Evers has shown strong interest in recommitting the state to environmental protection that is a part of our state's history, and we look forward to working with his administration in the coming years to protect water, air, and natural resources.

Championing clean energy in Wisconsin.

Wisconsin is in a prime position to be a regional and national leader in clean energy. The science is clear: we're already seeing the impacts of climate change hit our state, as we saw with massive statewide flooding in 2018. With a new governor, we see this as a critical opportunity to double down on our ongoing efforts to advocate for clean energy like wind and solar and be a leading voice on statewide issues to reduce carbon emissions and curb climate change.

Protecting a clean environment for everyone.

Everyone deserves clean water and fresh air, regardless of where you live or who you are. To that end, Clean Wisconsin has initiated efforts around diversity, equity, and inclusion. In 2018, our Board of Directors approved an organizational statement on diversity, equity, and inclusion. In 2019, Clean Wisconsin will continue this process through staff trainings and organizational review in order to be the strongest advocate for a clean environment for all people.
Fueled by your generosity

2018 SUPPORT & REVENUE: $2,302,794

- Grants, 65%
- Membership & Legacy Fund, 18%
- Other, 12%
- Events, 5%

2018 TOTAL EXPENSES: $1,835,730

- Programs, 78%
- Admin, 11%
- Fundraising, 11%

Our Foundation Supporters

- Alliance for the Great Lakes
- Brico Fund
- Brookby Foundation
- Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
- CLIF Bar Family Foundation
- Community Shares of Wisconsin
- Energy Foundation
- Freshwater Future
- Joyce Foundation
- McKnight Foundation
- Outrider Foundation
- RE-AMP Network
- Sweet Water
- The Comer Family Foundation
- Wisconsin Coastal Management
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Protecting and preserving Wisconsin’s clean water, clean air, and natural heritage.

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