

## In This Issue

1. Local organizations awarded \$46,000 from Healthy Neighborhood Initiative Grant
2. Special bike tours and activities at Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District – June 2
3. Wisconsin Bike Week at the Velo UnderRound – June 5
4. Electric Vehicles 101/Kick the Tires – June 21
5. “A Smorgasbord of Solutions for Global Warming” – Project Drawdown

## Local organizations awarded \$46,000 from Healthy Neighborhood Initiative Grant

Five organizations were selected to receive this year’s Healthy Neighborhood Initiative grant from the City of Fitchburg for a total of \$46,000. The proposals were selected based on their ability to serve the needs of the community and enhance the quality of life for those living, working, and recreating in Fitchburg.

This year’s recipients work throughout the city. Latino Academy of Workforce Development, awarded \$10,000, will form Latino resident panels to increase civic engagement in the North Fish Hatchery neighborhood. Madison Metropolitan School District - Trails to Success, awarded \$10,000, has staff working at Chavez School to Increase capacity for after-school education program and neighborhood engagement planning. Badger Prairie Needs Network, awarded \$10,000, will undertake food pantry outreach, identify partners, and offer food-related education at several locations. Community Groundworks, awarded \$6,000, works to reduce food insecurity by supporting a gardener-in-residence to oversee community garden and formation of garden committee for neighborhood engagement planning. Unidos, awarded \$10,000, supports culturally-relevant domestic/sexual violence helpline throughout Fitchburg.

“With these grant funds Fitchburg is investing in our neighborhoods. We look forward to seeing the benefits of the activities of these five organizations as part of the Healthy Neighborhood Initiative and appreciate their efforts to enhance the quality of life of our Fitchburg residents,” said Mayor Jason Gonzalez.

The City of Fitchburg Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative is a pilot program designed to work with community partners to address specific barriers to opportunities in specific City neighborhoods. The Initiative is proposed to be data-driven, with desired outcomes to include: enhancing the quality of life for those living, working, and recreating in the city, building on the mission and goals of the city, increasing collaboration of common goals with neighborhood partners, and improving city services.

## Special bike tours and activities at Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District for Parks & Trails Unite Festival - Saturday, June 2, 2018, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

*1610 Moorland Road - Madison, WI 53713*

Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District will be offering bike tours of their plant showing how they protect public health and the environment and will provide activities, restrooms and a bottle filling station. If you are biking to the festival via the Capital City State Trail, this is on your route! Stop in and learn more about the work the district does!

The district will offer free bike tours of the treatment plant at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m., starting in the district's Shop One building. Shop One will be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 3

p.m. with educational activities as well as access to restrooms and drinking fountains. Learn about our resource recovery efforts as we turn your water from flush to fresh.

<http://www.madsewer.org/Education/Take-a-Tour/Take-a-TourSmartSaltUse>

### **Celebrate Wisconsin Bike Week at the Velo UnderRound – Tuesday, June 5th, 7:00-9:00 am**

*Bike Fitchburg + City of Fitchburg + Fitchburg Chamber of Commerce + DreamBikes*

Celebrate Wisconsin Bike Week with a pit stop at the "bicycle roundabout", the confluence of the Badger State and Capital City State Trails and the Southwest, Cannonball, and Military Ridge Paths! Start your day with a bike ride, enjoy bagels and coffee, and meet other cyclists.

<http://bikeweek.wisconsinbikefed.org/madison/trail-roundabout-commuter-station-tue>

### **Electric Vehicles 101/Kick the Tires – June 21, 2018, 6:30-7:30 pm**

*Madison Gas and Electric + Fitchburg Public Library + Fitchburg Sustainability Commission*

Learn about the basics of electric vehicles, their costs and benefits, types, where and how to charge them, and available incentives and programs. Get connected to MGE resources that can make buying, owning and charging your EV easier. See EVs on display -- from hatchbacks to luxury sedans, crossovers to minivans -- and talk with the owners about their EV experience. Come with your questions; leave with a better understanding of what it would mean to own and operate an electric vehicle!

*If you plan to attend, please RSVP to [Rebecca.swanson@fitchburgwi.gov](mailto:Rebecca.swanson@fitchburgwi.gov) or the library's reference desk phone 608-729-1763*

### **"A Smorgasbord of Solutions for Global Warming" – Project Drawdown**

*New York Times opinion article by David Bornstein, April 25, 2018*

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/04/25/opinion/a-smorgasbord-of-solutions-for-global-warming.html>

In an interview with the New York Times, Paul Hawken, executive director of Project Drawdown, said we as individuals can practice solutions to climate change daily,

*"Two of the top four solutions individuals can practice every day. No. 3 is reduced food waste, which particularly applies to America, where we waste 133 billion pounds of food a year — close to a third of the food supply. That is a conservative estimate. In our model we didn't include the methane emissions caused by landfilling our food because we couldn't get the data — and methane is 28 to 36 times more powerful in global warming potential than carbon dioxide.*

*"The No. 4 solution is a plant-rich diet. This means reducing overconsumption of protein to a healthy level — about 50 to 55 grams a day instead of 90 to 100 or more, and shifting a proportion of that reduced intake to plant proteins. It doesn't mean being a vegan or vegetarian; it means more plants. You choose which diet you want. Levels of protein that are medically healthier for you are healthier for the planet and atmosphere, too."*

Project Drawdown is a global coalition of researchers, scientists, economists, and others collaborating to create a comprehensive model of active solutions to reduce impact of greenhouse gas emissions. Other solutions in the top 10 include educating girls, family planning, solar farms, and silvopasture. Read more about Project Drawdown on the website <http://www.drawdown.org/>

Please contact Ellen Geisler, Sustainability Specialist, at [ellen.geisler@fitchburgwi.gov](mailto:ellen.geisler@fitchburgwi.gov) or 270-4274 if you have any questions, comments, and/or suggestions for future Green E-News topics.