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Bike Week: June 1-8

<https://www.madisonbikes.org/events/bikeweek-2025/>

June 1–8 is Madison Bike Week, and there's no better time to hop on your bike and join the vibrant biking community across our region, whether you're biking to work or school, getting out for some exercise on some of the great trails around Fitchburg, or even just trying a new route and exploring the area. Coordinated by Madison Bikes, the week is packed with events, commuter stations, social rides, and local discounts – all designed to make biking easier, more fun, and more visible. See the full schedule of commuter stations, events, and cyclist discounts at <https://www.madisonbikes.org/events/bikeweek-2025/#discounts>.

- Fitchburg riders will find plenty of local ways to participate and celebrate. Start the week strong on Tuesday, June 3, by stopping at the Velo UnderRound commuter station (Dunn's Marsh bike roundabout), hosted by Bike Fitchburg, the Fitchburg Chamber, and the City of Fitchburg from 7–9am. Grab some coffee and a bagel, pick up an area bike map, and get minor adjustments on your bike if needed. Then on Thursday, June 5, the

bike roundabout commuter station will be back from 7-10am, this time hosted by Saris Equipment and featuring bratcakes!

- This Bike Week will include the [June edition of “Rides for Joe”](#) on Tuesday, June 4, honoring the legacy of local bike advocate Joe Imilkowski with a casual, all-ages (though geared towards seniors) ride meeting at the Fitchburg Senior Center at 10am.
- Then, wrap up the week with the [Fitchburg Draft Picks Bike Ride](#) on Friday, June 7 from 10am-2pm – a scenic ride on several local bike trails, with stops at three local breweries: Hop Haus, Delta, and the Great Dane. It’s a perfect blend of bike advocacy, local exploration, and summer fun!
- Through June 8, BCycle is also [offering a 25% discount](#) on monthly passes, so you can ride around our expanded local bike-share network on one of the many e-bikes parked at one of Fitchburg’s 19 (and growing) docks! Use the code “BikeWeek25” from June 1-8 to take advantage of this deal.

Be sure to also pick up a daily or year-long state trail pass for any riding you plan to do on the Badger State Trail or Military Ridge State Trail!



Get Outside for Great Outdoors Month!

<https://www.industry.travelwisconsin.com/media-and-press/press-releases/post/celebrate-great-outdoors-month-with-the-wisconsin-trail-report/>

There’s no better time to enjoy Wisconsin’s parks, trails, and green spaces than during Great Outdoors Month. Celebrated nationwide every June, this month-long observance encourages people of all ages to explore the natural world around them—whether that’s hiking a wooded trail, paddling a local lake, or simply having a picnic in the park. With Fitchburg’s many parks, bike paths, and proximity to the Capital City and Badger State Trails, it’s easy to find your own way to reconnect with nature right here at home.

Whether you join a Bike Week ride, take in an event or the playgrounds and splash pad at McKee Farms Park, or wander the wetlands of the Nine Springs E-Way, even a few minutes

outside each day can boost mental and physical well-being. Great Outdoors Month is also a reminder of how important it is to protect these spaces for future generations—so get out there, and let the fresh air inspire you to explore, relax, and renew your connection to the world around you.

To help plan your outdoor adventures, Travel Wisconsin has launched an updated [Wisconsin Trail Report](#)—a statewide resource that lets you check current trail conditions for hiking, biking, and ATV routes across Wisconsin. Whether you're staying close to home or heading out for a weekend getaway, the Trail Report makes it easy to find a trail that fits your plans and the weather.

Looking for a little inspiration? The Trail Report also includes trip ideas, safety tips, and hidden gem suggestions to help you make the most of the season. As we celebrate Great Outdoors Month, it's the perfect excuse to explore a new trail or rediscover a favorite one—right here in the heart of Wisconsin.

Three Years of Low-Mow May in Fitchburg

<https://www.fitchburgwi.gov/2861/Natural-Lawns-and-Low-Mow-May>

Fitchburg just wrapped up its third year participating in Low-Mow May, and the momentum continues to grow! While 2025 data is still being tallied, nearly 150 property owners have joined the initiative over the past three years, collectively managing an estimated 20–25 acres of lawn space in pollinator-friendly ways. By letting lawns grow longer during May—when early-season blooms provide vital food for emerging bees and other pollinators—residents are helping to give local ecosystems a much-needed head start each spring.



As we celebrate this milestone, we encourage the community to keep the momentum going year-round. Planting native flowers, reducing pesticide use, and shifting to more natural lawn care practices are all powerful ways to support pollinators and restore local biodiversity. For tips and resources on native plants, natural lawns, and next steps beyond Low-Mow May, visit [Green Fitchburg's Natural Lawns and Low-Mow May page](#). Let's keep growing a more resilient, pollinator-friendly Fitchburg—one yard at a time.

Pollinator Week: June 16-22

<https://www.pollinator.org/pollinator-week>

From June 16–22, 2025, communities across the country will celebrate Pollinator Week, an annual event dedicated to supporting pollinator health and raising awareness about the vital role pollinators play in our ecosystems. This year's theme, "Pollinators Weave Connections," emphasizes how pollinators like bees, butterflies, moths, bats, beetles, and hummingbirds are integral not only to our food systems but also to the cultural and ecological fabric of our world. These creatures are the unsung heroes behind the food we enjoy and the beauty that surrounds us.



Pollinator Week offers numerous ways to get involved. You can participate in activities such as planting for pollinators, hosting garden tours, or joining online bee and butterfly identification workshops. One highlight is the Pollinator Power Party, a virtual event running from June 16–20, featuring a lineup of speakers, conservation and education partners, and exciting opportunities to support our planet's pollinators. Additionally, the Pollinator Week Bioblitz invites community scientists to document pollinator activity in their neighborhoods using the iNaturalist app, contributing valuable data to support pollinator conservation efforts.

For those looking to make a tangible impact, consider carrying over some of the practices emphasized during Low-Mow May: planting a pollinator-friendly garden using native plants; filling in your lawn with pollinator-friendly alternatives like low-growing clover, self-heal, and/or creeping thyme; and reducing your use of pesticides and other chemicals. Pollinator Partnership provides a comprehensive [Pollinator Week Toolkit](#) with resources and ideas to help you celebrate and promote your involvement in this year's Pollinator Week.

Earth Overshoot Day

Text modified from <https://overshoot.footprintnetwork.org/>

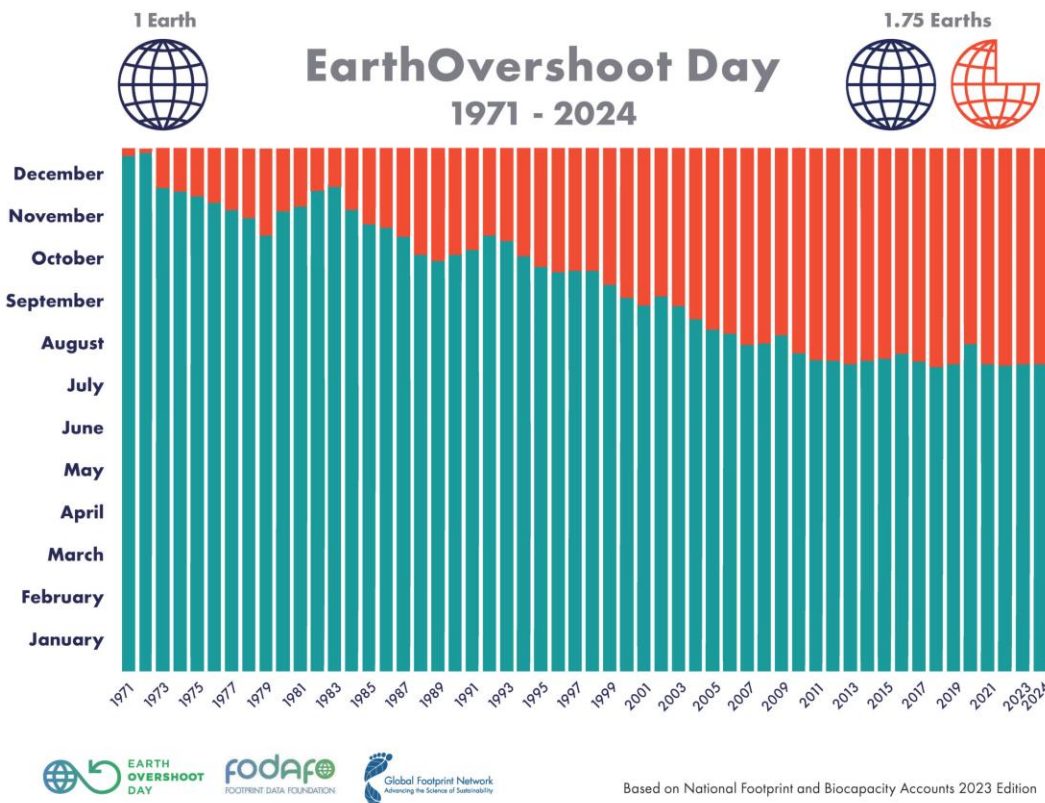
Earth Overshoot Day marks the date when humanity has used all the biological resources that Earth regenerates during the entire year. For over a half-century now, Overshoot Day has been occurring earlier every year. In 2019, Earth Overshoot Day was July 29; in 2009, it was August 7; in 2000, September 23; and back in 1970, the first year Earth Day was celebrated, Earth Overshoot Day occurred December 29. The only significant shift in the opposite direction happened in 2020, when the global lockdown in response to the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic shifted Overshoot



Day to August 22. This year, the Global Footprint Network will announce Earth Overshoot Day on June 5, based on a calculation using National Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts data (see <https://data.footprintnetwork.org/#/>).

Globally, human activity outpaces the Earth’s natural regenerative power by 75%, meaning we would need 1.75 planet Earths to sustain our current way of life, and our planet’s resources are being depleted faster than they can be replenished. You can calculate your own ecological footprint at <https://www.footprintcalculator.org/home/en> to see where you could make changes in your own life to decrease that excess demand on the Earth’s resources.

Individuals have the power to better their homes and communities. The greatest potential for large-scale impact, however, lies with governments and businesses who align their policies and strategies with the reality of our finite planet. More precisely, immense power of possibility can be found in the countless existing solutions that can be implemented at scale. With them, we can make ourselves more resilient and move the date of Earth Overshoot Day. See some of the recommended solutions for moving the date of Overshoot Day back in the right direction at <https://overshootday.org/solutions>, talk with your friends and family about what steps you can take to decrease our ecological footprint, and reach out to your elected officials and companies you purchase from to express your support for actions that make a meaningful impact on our global footprint.



June Events and Observances



NOAA National Ocean Month





June 8



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Please contact Phil Grupe, Sustainability Specialist, at phil.grupe@fitchburgwi.gov or (608) 270-4259, if you have any questions, comments, and/or suggestions for future Green E-News topics.

