

Environmental Sustainability District 6220 Task Force Newsletter

Vol. 1 No. 3 – October 2023

Introduction

This is the third issue of a quarterly newsletter which will inform Rotarians of what clubs in District 6220 are doing for the environment and environmental education. It rounds out a fantastic final Rotary quarter for environmental conservation and sustainability! – Trey Foerster

What Rotarians Are Doing


In this portion of the newsletter, we will present clippings from club Facebook pages which have to do with environmental work and education. If we have missed an environmental post by your club, please send a clip of it to: Trey Foerster at trey.foerster@outlook.com.

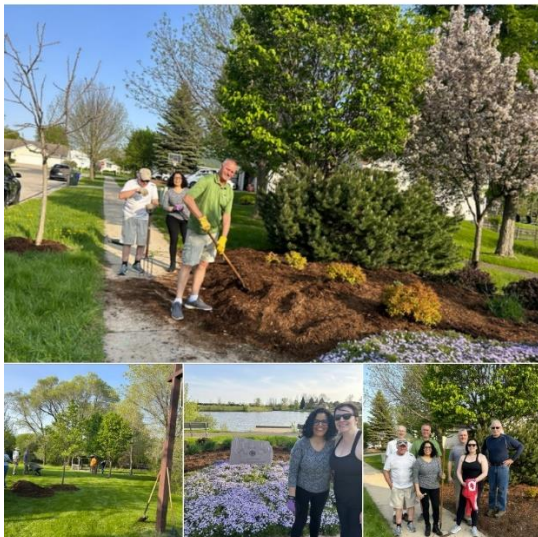
 Green Bay West Rotary Club is at Green Bay Botanical Garden. June 13 · Green Bay, WI · 🌍
Having fun in the rain at our morning meeting Green Bay Botanical Garden. Thank you GBBG for hosting us!
#green #bay #no #greenbaybotanicalgarden #greenbaywestrotary #rotaryinternational #rotary #Rotary #rotaryclub #rotarypower



 Hancock Rotary May 21, 2018 · 🌍
The Hancock High School Interact Club donated their time this past Saturday for the annual highway clean-up. What a great group of young people who make our Rotary Club proud!



 De Pere Rotary May 16 · 🌍
Thanks to several of the Rotarians from our club, the Rotary Park in De Pere, WI has a refreshed vibe to it and is ready for local residents to enjoy this summer. Great work to all those who helped out!!



Rotary Club of Iron Mountain-Kingsford
August 24

In conjunction with Dickinson Trail Network, we just installed new signage for Millie Hill's Bat Viewing Site, which has seen many improvements over the years. The new sign below the bat now reflects not only the picnic area and Samuel Bassett Viewing Platform, but the many new trailheads put in by DTN. Shown here from left to right are DTN president Chad Susott, Rotarian Keith Huotari, and Rotarian Ethan Brisson. Brisson is Sales Manager at Loadmaster, which manufactured the... See more



Ironwood-Hurley Rotary Club
May 10

Thank you to the volunteers for Rotary Service Project at the Penokee Range Little League Ballfield
Weather was a little cool and damp but we still had a great turnout for the Penokee Range Little League Club spring cleanup. We repaired fencing, moved the batting cages and did some general cleanup. It was busy and we got a lot of good work done. Thanks to Will, Pat, Paul, Staci, and Garth manning the shovels. Also thanks to Barb for the hot coffee which we barely had ti... See more



Marquette Breakfast Rotary
September 27 at 4:39 PM

Great job by everyone who came out to help with the highway cleanup Monday night. Cleaning that stretch of highway from Division Street to the uphill side of Mt Marquette is always interesting. Thanks to the members of the Breakfast Club and Satellite Club who spent several hours Monday evening getting the job done.



Marquette Breakfast Rotary
16 hours ago

Thanks to everyone who came out to help with the Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling Event. It was a great collaboration with the three Marquette Rotary Clubs including our Marquette Breakfast Rotary, Marquette West Rotary, and The Rotary Club of Marquette. With the people who drove through the event, the individuals who gave me batteries, and the help from Steve Finley and the Gwinn Lions Club Gwinn Lions Club, we collected from over 60 individuals. It was fun working together, serving our community, and helping to Protect the Environment (Rotary's 7th Area of Focus). For more environmental service project ideas, check out the ESRAG website at ESRAG.org.



Want to serve on the District Environmental Sustainability Task Force?

We are eager to have other Rotarians serve on this Task Force. If you have an interest in local conservation or national or international climate agendas, contact: trey.foerster@outlook.com

The Rotary Club of Marquette
18h · 🌐

Today's speaker was David Allen, award-winning scientist and author. He formerly worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from 1992 through 2001, directing the natural resource damage assessment of the Lower Fox River and the Bay of Green Bay. Allen is the lead author of a book about the \$1 billion cleanup of the Fox River. He has also published scholarly book chapters and scientific papers.

He then worked on environmental issues as a consultant to governmental agencies in 25 states from 2001 until 2013.

Since then, he has volunteered as the chair of the Marquette Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. And, as if he's not busy enough, he plays trombone in two orchestras, a concert band, and a swing band.

He is on the board of both the Marquette County and State of Michigan League of Women Voters. In those capacities, he has closely followed the workings and results of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission. The Commission was established following an Amendment to the State Constitution in 2018 and prepared the election maps used in the 2022 election. It was successful in its goal of eliminating gerrymandering.

<https://www.michigan.gov/micrc>



Marquette West Rotary
2h · 🌐

Happening TODAY until 1:00 p.m.

Recycle your lithium-ion batteries at the Westwood Mall parking lot in Marquette! Popular rechargeable items to bring to the Mall include cell phones, electric toothbrushes, laptops, wireless headphones, tablets, and power tool batteries. You may even bring the entire item if it's difficult to remove the battery. Remember to delete your personal data off of any relevant items.



The Rotary Club of Marquette
16h · 🌐

The Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling Drive-Thru Event co-sponsored by all 3 Marquette Rotary Clubs is tomorrow, Sat Sep 30, 2023, at the Westwood Mall (behind Applebee's) from 09:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Club member volunteers (three or four) are needed to work at the event!!! Please note: many of the Breakfast Rotary Club's members won't be able to volunteer due to a club member-related funeral. If you can/will volunteer to assist with the collection tomorrow, please click on the following link to watch the 4 minute training video: Mandatory Lithium-Ion Battery Collection Safety Training Video

Whether or not you are able to volunteer, please take a look around your home for products you no longer use containing lithium-ion batteries and drop them off tomorrow to be recycled, if you can. What can be recycled?

For additional information on where in your home to look for lithium-ion batteries to recycle, as well as for the answers to frequently asked questions about lithium-ion battery recycling, check out the attachments to this email.

The link below is to a cool video (approx. 6 min.) about lithium-ion battery recycling and the company our clubs have partnered with for this collection event.

This Tesla co-founder has a plan to recycle your EV batteries | FT Energy Source

Rotary Club of Greater Portage County
July 29 · 🌐

The Salvation Army Hope Center solar project will provide clean energy, reduce energy costs, and reinforce the Hope Center's mission to provide secure and safe housing for the temporarily displaced and homeless in Stevens Point.



RENEWWISCONSIN.ORG

Sunlight for Shelter: Rotary Club Partners with Salvation Army for Solar Project - RENEW Wisconsin

Rotary Club of Appleton
September 27 at 7:34 PM · 🌐

Downtown clean up 🍷



Rotary Club of Stevens Point
August 24 · 🌐



Highway cleanup day at the 139 & Hwy 54 interchange and north about 2 miles.

Thanks to Rotarians Ardie Lange, Sharon Stratton, Dave Acaley, John Bergin and his grandson, & Bob Stack for getting the job done.



Environmental-related Grants from District 6220

The following environmental-related grants have been awarded by District 6220 to the following Clubs:

Antigo Rotary Club

Grant Amount: \$2,600 to \$7,500

Recipient: Avail Domestic Violence Shelter

Project(s): Garden area for client emotional healing. Includes 15 raised garden beds with a relaxing park-like sitting area and compost. It is intended for growing vegetables and fruits for clients of the shelter, including an area with seating, swings, and a pergola sun shield where families can spend time relaxing and enjoying nature in a safe space.

Rotary Club of Marquette Breakfast

Grant Amount: \$2,600 to \$7,500

Recipient: 906 Adventure Team

Project(s): Preparation of a new playground by removing fencing, trees, and debris and install a split rail fence to beautify and prepare the vacant lot in preparation for construction of the playground. The proposed playground will expand to the overall community by being available to everyone.

Rotary Club of Stevens Point

Grant Amount: \$2,600 to \$7,500

Recipient: Friends of Emerson Park

Project(s): Phase 2 objective is to complete a backstop installation, followed by completion of the urban green space. Funding supports back stop installation and green space improvement. The Club will apply again in 2024 for additional funding for the project. The Club will secure naming rights of the backstop. The Club will “adopt” the city-maintained park for the next five years and do a spring and fall garbage pickup events, aid in landscape weeding and turf maintenance.

Rotary Club of Waupaca

Grant Amount: \$2600-\$7500

Recipient(s): City of Waupaca, Friends of Jorgens Park Preserve

Project(s): In Rotary Riverview Park, installation of LED lighting in 10 fixtures, replacement of wooden slats in two benches, refurbish park donor commemorative plaque and Rotary sculpture, paint fixtures on Rotary Square, park cleanup, funding and planting of trees at ECO Park for educational purposes for elementary students, funding and planting of trees and prairie pollinator plants and funding educational signage at Jorgens Park Preserve in Scandinavia, Wisconsin. Rotarians will do the work with assistance from the City of Waupaca and direction from the Friends of Jorgens Park where needed.

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The Rotary Club of Wausau

Grant Amount: \$2,600-\$7,500

Recipient(s): City of Schofield, Wausau and Marathon County Parks and Recreation Foundation

Project(s): Great Pinery Waterway ADA Kayak Ramp for access to water trail and ramps will accommodate disabled and elderly. The ramp is located at Brooks and Ross Dam. Club members will work “hands on” with City of Schofield employees to attach the ramp to the existing dock.

Information you can use



Pollinator Friendly Yards · [Join](#)

Laurel Lea · 3d ·

THESE ANIMALS ARE MADE POSSIBLE BY FALLEN LEAVES

American Bumble Bee

Ring Neck Snake

Wood Frogs and American Toads

Luna Moth

Spotted salamander

Fritillary and Checkerspot Butterflies ...and many more

LEAVE LEAVES ALONE

Hart Nursery · [Follow](#)
1d ·

DID YOU KNOW?

that sunflowers are not just pretty faces? They're often planted to help clean up contaminated soil. Sunflowers are known as **phytoremediators**, meaning they can absorb and accumulate **heavy metals** and **toxins** from the soil, effectively detoxifying it. These cheerful flowers not only brighten up gardens but also contribute to environmental cleanup efforts!

GARDENTABS.COM

Environmental speaker ideas

Here is a list of organizations, private and governmental, which may have speakers available for your weekly meetings either in person or via online.

State & Local

1. Trout Unlimited

- a. Wisconsin contact number 920-855-6669
- b. Michigan contact number 248-919-2916

2. Earth Day (April 22)

- a. Wisconsin DNR & Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies
- b. Michigan DNR

3. Local and county government

- a. Land and Conservation Office
- b. Land & Water Department
- c. Conservation Department

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d. Parks & Recreation Department

e. Solid Waste & Recycling Department

f. UW-Extension agents

g. Highway Department for highway cleanup

4. Nature Conservancy (preservenature.org) (WI) - 715-358-5305

5. Natural Resources Foundation (WI) - 866-734-1485

6. North Central Conservancy Trust (WI) - 715-344-1910

7. UWSP speakers - Jennifer Hess

ihess@uwsp.edu

a. Christopher Hartleb, Ph.D, areas of expertise: aquaculture, aquaponics, fish culture, locally grown sustainable food sources

8. National Park Conservation (npca.org)

9. American Forests (americanforests.org)

10. The American Bird Conservancy (abcbirds.org)

11. Golden Sands Resource Conservation - 715-343-6215

12. Wisconsin Association for Environmental Education - 715-346-4973

13. Natural Resources Conservation Service - 715-258-7162

14. 25 Environmental Agencies and Organizations

(<https://www.momtastic.com/webecoist/200909/24125-environmental-agencies-and-organizations/>)

15. Local school districts

16. Local garden clubs and Master Gardeners on pollinator plants and gardens

17. State DNRs for tree plantings, pollinator plantings, pollution challenges, conservation practices,

etc.

18. State Departments of Agriculture for environmental challenges

Rotary affiliated

Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (<https://esrag.org>) - North Central American regional group

(<https://esrae.orelcentral-north-america/>) and its Facebook link (@ESRAGCentralNA)

Rotary Climate Action Team Network

(<https://rcatnow.com>) – Contact 415-720-0165

District 6220, John Townshend, Global Grant Scholarship chair, contact for Global Fellowship scholars who may be studying Environment **Rotary Operation Pollination**, Tina Hall, 906-235-1169 or dgtina2017@yahoo.com

A report on “Greenwashing” From Bloomberg

Amazon, Nestle and Procter & Gamble are among the companies that have signed up to slap store drop-off symbols — complete with the three-arrows recycling logo — on tens of thousands of consumer products found in American homes. Target, Home Depot and Kroger are among those collecting the packaging.

Just one problem: *Bloomberg Green* found that the packaging dropped off for recycling at US retailers often ends up in landfills.

We placed trackers in 30 bundles of plastic packaging, wrappers and shopping bags — all marked with store drop-off labels — and deposited the recycling at stores in nine states and Washington, D.C. All of the bundles contained up to 12 pieces of recyclable plastic, including wrappers from Ritz crackers and drink packaging on Coca-Cola Co. products.

Thirteen of the trackers — more than 40% — ended up at landfills. Only four arrived at locations that recycle plastic, and the others stopped sharing location data before reaching a final destination. [GreenBlue](#), a Virginia-based nonprofit whose board includes executives from consumer brands, packaging companies and Dow Chemical Co., oversees the How2Recycle labeling program. It declined to comment.

One company, Virginia-based Trex Co., received three of the four plastic bundles that did ultimately make it to a recycler. Trex turns plastic from drop-off programs, among other sources, into decking material and lumber. But executive David Heglas says there isn't enough demand for plastic packaging recycling to make the drop-off system successful. Few companies want to pay the higher costs to use recycled plastic.

“All the claims the companies are making are just greenwashing,” Heglas says. “Recycling’s failed.”