

Clean Lakes Alliance
Renew the Blue Council
Letter of Intent

We, the undersigned, recognize that the lakes, lands, and waters of the Yahara Watershed define our sense of place and nourish our communities' economic vitality, recreational appeal, and local quality of life. These include the interconnected system of waterways, wetlands, and lands of our watershed, including our five major lakes: Mendota, Monona, Wingra, Waubesa, and Kegonsa.

We believe we are stronger together and that everyone has a role to play in watershed stewardship.

We acknowledge and commit to learning more about the "Rights of Nature" policy adopted by the Ho-Chunk Nation, the ancestral stewards of this watershed. The core idea of this policy and movement is that natural ecosystems should be treated as living entities that are entitled to exist, thrive, and evolve.

We recognize the value of agriculture in our watershed and its important role in providing food, generating economic vitality, sustaining undeveloped land that absorbs water, and contributing to the scenic beauty of our region.

We celebrate the science, collaboration, and shared values represented in the Yahara CLEAN Compact's *Renew the Blue: A Community Guide to Cleaner Lakes & Beaches in the Yahara Watershed*, recognizing the 12 priority impact action recommendations as the most effective way to achieve water quality goals, and committing to implement those recommendations.

We commit to working together to renew and strengthen this Renew the Blue partnership alliance to accelerate progress around runoff, phosphorus, and *E. coli* reduction in order to protect the health and resilience of the waterways, wetlands, and lands of our watershed.

We believe we have greater impact working together across sectors, jurisdictions, and organizations to align implementation, coordinate outreach, and galvanize collective action.

We recognize Clean Lakes Alliance as the organizing body to convene and align our shared goals to support action and communicate progress.

We value the current collaboration among governments and nonprofit organizations that generates *State of the Lakes* – an annual water quality report shared with the public.

We commit to supporting *State of the Lakes* as it expands into measuring progress around priority urban and rural land-management practices. This includes tracking our large-acreage undeveloped urban and rural lands; conducting a shoreline survey; tracking acres permanently protected from development; and counting rain gardens.

We commit to becoming a Clean Lakes Alliance Partner, providing data, resources and participation to support the work and goals of the Renew the Blue Council. As part of this commitment, we will designate two delegates to the Council — at least one of whom will be an elected official or serve in an official capacity on a common council, committee, or organization board. We will also make an annual financial contribution to Clean Lakes Alliance and actively participate in Council meetings, held approximately three to four times per year.

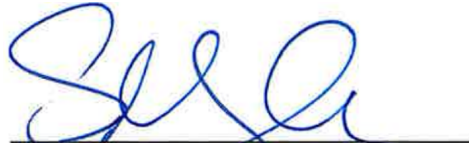
By signing this letter, we pledge to adhere to the values and fulfill the commitments listed above.



Melissa Agard, County Executive
Dane County

5-13-25

Date



Satya Rhodes-Conway, Mayor
City of Madison

5/13/2025

Date



Jon Greendeer, President
Ho-Chunk Nation

7/2/2025

Date



James Tye, Executive Director
Clean Lakes Alliance

5/12/25

Date

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Karen Hyun, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

5/13/25
Date


Randy Romanski, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade
and Consumer Protection

5-13-2025
Date


Eric Dundee, Executive Director
Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District

5/13/2025
Date


David Pfeiffer, Chair
Capital Area Regional Planning Commission

5-13-2025
Date


Emily Kuhn, Mayor
City of Middleton

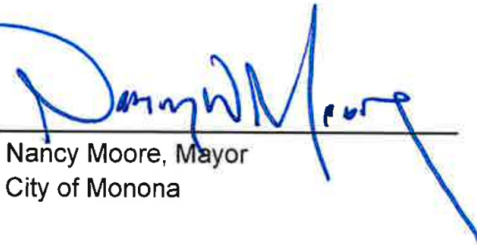
5/13/25
Date


Jeff Endres, President
Yahara Pride Farms

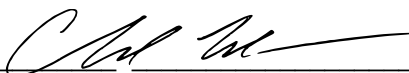
5-13-25
Date


Jayme Powers, Chief Executive Officer
Madison LakeWay Partners

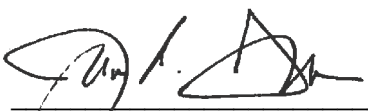
5/13/25
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Nancy Moore, Mayor
City of Monona

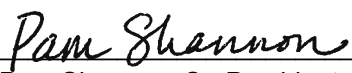
5/13/25
Date


Chad Lawler, Executive Director.
Madison Area Builders Association

7/29/2025
Date


John Imes, Village President
Village of Shorewood Hills

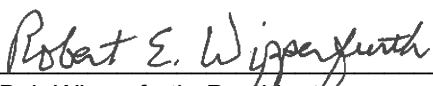
9/1/25
Date


Pam Shannon, Co-President.
Friends of Pheasant Branch Conservancy


9/6/25
Date


Lisa Marshall, Chief Executive Officer
REALTORS® Association of South-Central Wisconsin

9-8-2025
Date


Bob Wipperfurth, President
Dane County Cities and Villages Association

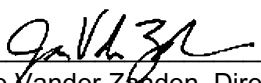
9-10-2025
Date


Britt Reynolds, President
Yahara Lakes Association

9-16-2025
Date

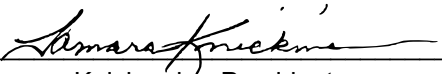

Dean Grosskopf, Town Administrator
Town of Westport

9/25/25
Date


Jake Vander Zanden, Director
UW-Madison Center for Limnology

9/30/25
Date

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Tamara Knickmeier, President
Lake Waubesa Conservation Association

10/1/2025

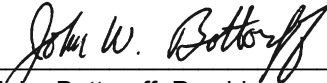
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Heidi Habeger, Executive Director
Groundswell Conservancy

10/15/2025

Date



John Bottoroff, President
Friends of Lake Kegonsa Society

Oct 23, 2025

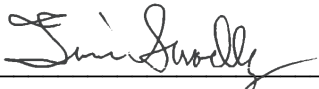
Date



Martye Griffin, Director of Ecosystem Services
Yahara WINS

10-27-2025


Date



Tim Swadley, Mayor
City of Stoughton

11/11/2025

Date



Karl Martin, Dean & Director
UW-Madison Division of Extension

11/18/2025


Date



Tanya Zastrow, Executive Director
Olbrich Botanical Gardens

12/19/2025

Date



Kevin O'Driscoll, Village President
Village of Maple Bluff

Jan 8, 2026

Date



Cristina Carvajal, President
Wisconsin EcoLatinos

1/7/26

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All ethics so far evolved rest upon a single premise: that the individual is a member of a community of interdependent parts. . . The land ethic simply enlarges the boundaries of the community to include soils, waters, plants, and animals, or collectively: the land.

- Aldo Leopold