

2020 | 2021 CALENDAR

WISCONSIN'S GREAT WATERS!



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES | OFFICE OF GREAT WATERS

NATURALLY RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

How can we care for our waters in the face of disturbances, surprises and uncertainty? Resilience. Think of resilience as the ability of a system—be it a person, a community, a lake, river or watershed—to deal with change or disturbance and continue to thrive. Here are a few examples of ways to build ecological resilience.

We can look to nature's tools for addressing hazards like flooding, erosion and polluted runoff. These are forests, wetlands and floodplains. Natural systems can absorb up to 90% of the precipitation they receive.

One acre of wetlands can store and filter up to 330,000 gallons of water. Forested areas along rivers reduce the amount of water entering waterways. Trees slow down rain before it hits the ground, giving it more time to evaporate or slowly soak into the ground instead of becoming erosive runoff. Deciduous trees can collect up to 700 gallons per year and evergreens up to 4,000 gallons per year.

Floodplains give rivers more room during times of high water and reduce pressure on dams and levees. Because they filter pollutants that degrade water quality, floodplains also provide cleaner water for our communities.

Nature-based solutions use natural systems, mimic natural processes, or

work in tandem with traditional built infrastructure approaches to address hazards. All communities—along rivers or coasts, large or small, rural or urban—can incorporate nature-based solutions in local planning, regulations, and built projects to reduce our exposure to flood and pollution hazards.

Greenseams® is an example of a flood management program by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and The Conservation Fund that permanently protects key lands with water-absorbing soils. By storing and draining water into the ground naturally, Greenseams® helps prevent future flooding and water pollution while protecting MMSD's structural flood management investments. The program makes voluntary purchases of land in areas expected to have

major growth in the next 20 years and open space along streams, shorelines and wetlands—with 4,082 acres protected so far.

Online mapping tools such as Wetlands by Design: A Watershed Approach for Wisconsin and the Mississippi River Basin Floodplain Prioritization Tool help communities determine where best to restore wetlands that will control flooding or provide other benefits. Tools like these guide restoration investments and help us better understand the impacts of development choices we make.

COVER PHOTOS

Background by **NATHAN FARVOUR**

Inset photos by **JOANNE SOBOLIK** (left), **COLLEEN ANDRASKO** (center), **NICK BAHR** (right)

Photo by JENNIFER RASMUSSEN

The Office of Great Waters is pleased to present our 12th annual calendar. We hope this calendar will be a daily reminder of how magnificent Wisconsin's Great Waters are and how we all can help protect them. The calendar is a collection of photos from our 2020 photo contest, creative writings submitted by Wisconsin authors, and descriptions of stewardship projects. As these photos and writings clearly show, the Great Lakes and Mississippi River are among Wisconsin's most scenic and beloved natural resources.

Thank you to all 2020 photographers and authors for sharing your talent with us!

Visit the Office of Great Waters website to see more photos and writing submissions dnr.wi.gov (Search: Photo and Writing Submissions).

The Mississippi River, Lake Superior and Lake Michigan— these vast and beautiful waters are part of Wisconsin's heritage and economic strength. Wisconsin is working together with local communities, tribes, nongovernmental organizations, businesses and industries to restore and protect these vital resources. These actions are improving Wisconsin's economy, environment and quality of life. I applaud all the dedicated stewards who are working throughout Wisconsin to improve and restore these amazing resources.

- Governor Tony Evers



The Great Lakes and Mississippi River are vital to our communities, industries, tourism, and our way of life. Throughout Wisconsin, people are working together to protect these important resources by cleaning up pollution, restoring habitat, monitoring fish and wildlife, and improving water quality for today and for generations to come. This work is essential to maintaining our economy and quality of life. I deeply appreciate all the hard work of the good stewards who take care of our Great Lakes and mighty Mississippi River.

- Preston Cole, DNR Secretary



WISCONSIN'S GREAT WATERS 2021 PHOTO CONTEST

The DNR's Office of Great Waters invites you to submit your best photos of the mighty Mississippi, Lake Michigan or Lake Superior for our 2021 photo contest. We're looking for beautiful shorelines and river fronts, people enjoying the water, cultural and historical aspects of these waters, and people involved in stewardship activities. *Photos of all seasons are needed!*

Winning photos will be used in the 2021-2022 *Wisconsin's Great Waters* calendar and in other DNR publications, presentations, websites and displays. Photo submission deadline is February 1, 2021.

Entry Categories:

- 1. People enjoying Wisconsin's Great Waters** – Great Lakes and Mississippi River. Images of the many ways people interact with our waters.
- 2. Historical and cultural features.** Lighthouses, harbor towns and river towns, shipping, festivals, etc.
- 3. Natural features.** Show us the awesome beauty of the Great Lakes and Mississippi River waters and shorelines in all seasons. Sunrises, sunsets, vistas, storms, waves, flowing waters and ice formations are examples in this category.
- 4. Wildlife.** Images of the many species of wildlife that rely on the Great Lakes and Mississippi River.

Rules and instructions:

1. The contest is open to everyone. Photos must be submitted electronically.
2. Attach each photo (jpeg format) to a separate email. In each email, please include the photo title, where in Wisconsin the photo was taken, the entry category, your name, email address, mailing address and phone number.
3. Photos must be high resolution (maximum file size 20 MB), horizontal in orientation, and taken in Wisconsin, with some exceptions for border areas. Photo editing is OK!

4. The Wisconsin DNR reserves the right to use an electronic or print copy of any image entered in the contest for non-commercial educational or promotional use with credit to the photographer. For example, photos may be used for DNR displays, slide shows, videos, publications and website.

Email photos and entry information to:

DNRGreatWatersPhotoContest@wisconsin.gov

Judging:

Photos will be judged by a panel of Wisconsin DNR staff. Criteria for judging will include creativity, visual and technical merit, and composition.

Awards:

Winning photographs will be included in the 2021-2022 Wisconsin's Great Waters calendar and featured on the DNR website. Winning photographers will be contacted by mail or email and will receive the calendar by mail.

WISCONSIN'S GREAT WATERS 2021 WRITING PROJECT

Is your talent writing? Share your original short essays, stories or poems inspired by your connection to our waters. Or describe stewardship efforts to protect and restore healthy habitats for Lake Michigan, Lake Superior or the Mississippi River. Submissions should be approximately 200 words. Share your favorite writings with us and you may find your words in our calendar, website and publications! All authors will be credited. Deadline is February 1, 2021.

E-mail writings and entry information to:

DNRGreatWatersWritingProject@Wisconsin.gov

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ABOVE: "Black Swallowtail"
 By **LORI SHILTS**
 Washington Island

Butterflies are Free to Fly
 By **REBECCA SEYMOUR**

It was Labor Day weekend and our family took a trip to Lake Michigan near Sturgeon Bay. One morning, we woke up early to walk along the beach. It had been windy the day before, so the shoreline was littered with bits of treasure offered up by the frothy surf.

Suddenly, our daughter Katie screeched as she picked up something off the beach. Half buried in the soupy, wet sand was a beautiful black butterfly. At first we thought it was dead, but then one free wing started to flutter as it tried to free itself from the heavy, wet sand. I gently placed it in Katie's hand. We watched as it crawled up to her sleeve and clung on, slowly opening and closing its wings. Looking around, we discovered there were hundreds of butterflies along the stretch of beach caught in the same predicament. "We have to save them," Katie whispered.

So we walked down the beach gently plucking Mourning Cloak and Monarch butterflies from the sand and placing them on Katie's outstretched arms. The butterflies helped each other by flicking grains of sand off wings with their proboscises. We watched in wonder as the nearly drowned butterflies slowly came back to life; one by one as their wings were freed from sand and dried in the sun— they flew off into the sky.

As the morning unfolded, more people ventured onto the beach. It was like a ripple effect— as others picked up butterflies too in effort to save them. It was a morning I will never forget.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 ○ Full Moon	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10 ◐ Last Quarter Moon	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 ● New Moon	18 Rosh Hashanah Begins at Sundown	19
20	21	22 Autumn Begins	23 ◐ First Quarter Moon	24	25	26
27 Yom Kippur Begins at Sundown	28	29	30			



ABOVE: "Incoming"
 By **CHRIS SCHULTZ**
 Milwaukee Pierhead Light
 2nd place – Cultural & Historical Features

A River's Life
 by **ELIZABETH SPROEHLICH**

The Milwaukee River, like all rivers, has a life and purpose of its own. No repetitive lapping, but a mindful sense of purpose, heading in one direction. An unwavering motion of twisting and turning to get to its destination and become part of something bigger—a Great Lake.

Along this journey you can bask on the surface, experiencing the gentle serenity as colorful dragonflies lite on tiny islands of green. In moments of trust or curiosity they touch down on your sleeve, as you watch in awe.

The heron flies overhead, waits for you to catch up, then flies ahead again, wings outstretched to glide. Painted turtles sun themselves on the fallen logs letting you glimpse their ease until you get too close. They lazily drop into the water saying, "show's over."

Tucked beneath the surface, all is not calm. The juxtaposition of tranquil and galvanizing. Down below, the tiniest of minnows swim in synchronized schools. Portly, amorous carp thrash about wildly. Sleek, nimble ducks dive into the water, submerging before your eyes only to reappear far upstream. From miniature clawed crustaceans to majestic snapping turtles, the wonders down under are vast.

Unlike the river's movement to the lake, my life has taken me from the lake to the river. The trip has not disappointed me for one moment.



Photo by **LORRI HOWSKI**

October 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Photo by CORRINA SMET	 Photo by MICHAEL KWAPSTEIN			1 ○ Full Moon	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 ◐ Last Quarter Moon	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 ● New Moon	17
18 Clean Water Act Signed in 1972	19	20	21	22	23 ◑ First Quarter Moon	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween ○ Full Moon



ABOVE: "Sunlit Feathers"
 By **RANDY KOEHLER**
 On the Mariners Trail, between
 Manitowoc and Two Rivers

November 2020

Forest Restoration

By **JENNIFER KLEIN**

Woodland Dunes Nature Center
 and Preserve

Where the Emerald Ash Borer has caused deforestation, it's also harmed communities by higher death rates due to heart and lung disease. To protect our coastal water quality and enhance our public wellness, Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Preserve in Two Rivers planted approximately 5,600 trees and shrubs in an ash tree dominant wetland forest in 2018 - 2019. Species included: maple, oak, willow, birch, elm, white spruce, tamarack, hackberry, dogwood, witch hazel and others. Invasive woody plants were also removed from 100 acres.

In 2020 - 2021, staff and volunteers will plant and protect an additional 5,000 new trees and shrubs. The goal of this project is to improve coastal wetland filtration, fortify the forest against the threat of emerald ash borer and improve public health.

This important project was funded by grants from the U.S. Forest Service Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Natural Resources Foundation CD Besadny Conservation Fund, and Wisconsin Public Service. Special thanks to our superheroes! A total of 2,566 volunteer hours have gone toward both tree planting and invasive species removal!

Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Preserve contains over 1,500 acres of forests, wetlands and prairies between Two Rivers and Manitowoc. This rare land and its creatures attract thousands of visitors year-round and serves as an interactive outdoor classroom for thousands of students. To learn more visit: <https://www.woodlanddunes.org/>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Daylight Savings Time Ends	2	3 Election Day	4	5	6	7
8 Last Quarter Moon	9	10 Edmund Fitzgerald Sinks in Lake Superior in 1975	11 Veteran's Day	12	13	14 New Moon
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 First Quarter Moon
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29	30 Full Moon	 Photo by MATIE VIDAS		 Photo by SHAWN HENNESSY		 Photo by DAVE ERICKSON



ABOVE: "Cave Walk"
 By **SHERI ERICKSON**
 Apostle Islands National Lakeshore,
 near Cornucopia
 1st place – People Enjoying our Great Waters

December 2020

After the Solstice
 By **DAWN HOGUE**

From now on—at least for a while—our days will be longer, tick by tick. Not wanting to waste a moment, I went out this morning with the dog and wandered along the river teeming with emerald-topped mallards, at ease on open water, rippling deep blue against a clear, bright sky.

Near the harbor, remnant ice floats jam and crash against each other, blending with a now-and-then quack for today's symphony.

What a sublime season if all of winter were like today, temperatures so mild grass emits its scent, a day the Sun, who longs to touch the earth, travels alone through cool air to whisper hello and wrap us in a brief embrace. Soon enough his passion will exhaust us, but not today.

Today is a day for breathing light.

We exhale—with carefree lungs—a breath that does not seize with icy grasp, but soothes and reminds us that it is a gift to breathe.

The lake knows this, too.

The shoreline is banked with mounded spray—frozen in time, glitter-white crystal hills—but at their edges, the lake rocks gently, taking back one glimmer at a time.

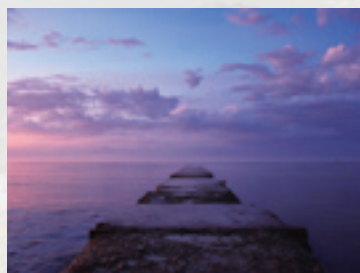


Photo by LYNN THORNTON

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Pearl Harbor Day ☾ Last Quarter Moon	8 Great Lakes Compact Enacted in 2008	9	10 Hanukkah Begins at Sundown	11	12 Wisconsin Great Lakes Strategy Released in 2005
13	14 ● New Moon	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Winter Begins ☽ First Quarter Moon	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa
27	28	29 ○ Full Moon	30	31 New Year's Eve		



ABOVE: "Blue Ice Cave"
 By **STEVE BENSING**
 Apostle Islands National Lakeshore,
 near Cornucopia

January 2021

In Praise of Cycles

By **PATRICIA WILLIAMS**
 – from her collected poems,
Midwest Medley, Kelsay Books, 2018.

Freed of ice, rivers murmur rippled melodies. Butterflies, befuddled by plum-scent, frenzied by desire, cartwheel in the breeze. Gaunt pines survive time and weather, tease with promise – old stalwarts cloaked in new glitter.

Rain and sunlight bathe kaleidoscopic blossoms, bring gaudy lushness – scarlet scent anoints the air. Tomatoes ripen on the vine, melons drip richness, shapely potatoes mature without concern for lurking frost or future ice and snow.

Visitors gone – serene, almost noiseless, only the rustle of painted foliage – ideal days, gold with leisure. No wish to wear the skin of former times or waste irretrievable moments in idle banter, no hurry for the bitter clasp to come, a minor-key lament.

Minimalism rules – a pared landscape, elegant, crisp in black and white – little means, utmost effects, limits of endurance tested. So much more than teasing promise, gaudy lushness, lurid color – less is more.



Photo by **SHERI ERICKSON**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Photo by MICHAEL HENDERSON			Photo by MICHAEL HENDERSON		1 New Year's Day	2
3	4	5	6 Last Quarter Moon	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 New Moon	14	15	16
17	18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	19	20 First Quarter Moon	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	Remember to submit your best Great Waters photos and writings! See information on the first pages of this calendar. Deadline is February 1, 2021.			Full Moon		






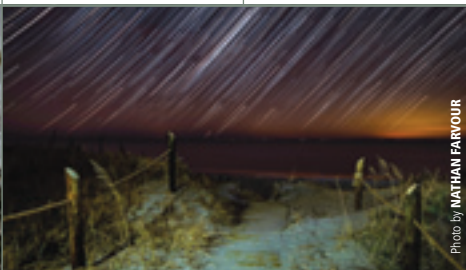
ABOVE: "20 Below Zero"
 By **KEVIN LAMAR**
 Wisconsin Point Lighthouse

Memories of the Big Lake

By **TIM BOYLE**

My one blue eye stays open to the sky
 and when it rains
 thoughts pour in
 then as the wind fades and the blustery
 sky clears
 my thoughts become drops that were
 once sailors' tears
 soon thoughts from the rivers flow in
 from the sides
 becoming a soup that is mixed by the
 tides
 some thoughts running off the farm fields
 are muddied
 with logic from places where chemicals
 are studied
 and deep thoughts burbling up from icy
 wells and warm seeps
 at times carry particles where
 insidiousness creeps
 yet some thoughts are like gems in clear
 pools and reflected
 gleaming insightfully from sources
 undetected
 like the sun rises, mists rise from my eye
 to again feed the clouds with me
 wondering why
 as it seems like I've thought all these
 thoughts so many times before
 but through all of the fogginess
 my eye can't be sure
 I can't fathom why or know how far
 down
 the ripples and currents and eddies
 abound
 that bring these thoughts to my surface
 again to go free
 to maneuver and cycle and come back
 to me
 I vow that someday I will get it all straight
 but the wind again returns
 and my thoughts evaporate

February 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 1	2	3	4	5	6	
		Groundhog Day		Last Quarter Moon		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
				New Moon		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Valentine's Day	Presidents' Day				First Quarter Moon	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
						Full Moon
28						
	Photo by JENNIFER RASMUSSEN	Photo by EMIL TONEY	Photo by NATHAN FARVOUR			



ABOVE: "Towing The Line"
 By **MARK STRAUB**
 Milwaukee
 2nd place – People Enjoying our Great Waters

March 2021

On the Empire Builder During Spring Floods

By **MARYANN HURTT**

The Portland to Chicago passenger
 train passes over and by the
 Mississippi River on its way
 through Wisconsin.

the Mississippi licks
 the train tracks
 you wonder about young bass
 believe some must get an itch
 to hop on
 a way to see beyond
 their watery world
 fins might make it difficult
 to leap on
 but there's always a gutsy one
 who goes for broke
 believes the grass really is greener
 on the other side and
 if not, oh my
 the stories she will tell



Photo by **DEREK VICTOR**



Photo by **ERIKA LAMBERT**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 7	1	2	3	4	5 Last Quarter Moon	6
8	9	10	11	12	13 New Moon	
14 Daylight Savings Time Begins	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Spring Begins
21 First Quarter Moon	22	23	24	25	26	27 Passover Begins at Sundown
28 Full Moon	29	30	31			



ABOVE: "Pelican Prom"
 By **MASON MORRIS**
 Sheboygan
 1st place – Wildlife

**A Squadron of Pelicans
 and One Black Bear**
 By **MARYANN HURTT**

so on this week
 of strange and amazing
 happenings
 a black bear shows up
 placid and cozy
 up a neighborhood tree
 right here in *Spirit on the Lake*
 Sheboygan, Wisconsin
 while downhill North Point
 ribbons of pelicans pose and preen
 for human squawkers
 yearning for that one more glimpse
 into what we don't know
 but crave to touch
 maybe grow wings
 or at least climb to that next height
 a way to see
 the world fresh and new
 a perspective we all desire
 some time anyway
 in what seems
 our too common lives

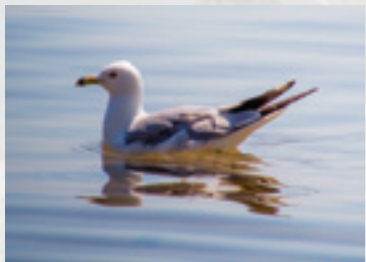




Photo by **JENNIFER KELLY**

April 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Photo by JEFF HALVERSON	 Photo by STEVE BENSING			1	2	3
4 Easter ☾ Last Quarter Moon	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 ● New Moon	12 Ramadan Begins at Sundown	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 ☾ First Quarter Moon	21	22 Earth Day	23	24
25	26 ○ Full Moon	27	28	29	30 Arbor Day	 Photo by NICK DAHR



ABOVE: "Striking Sky"
 By **MASON MORRIS**
 Port Washington
 1st place – Natural Features

May 2021

Poems Inspired by Lake Superior
 By **NANCY FRANZ**

On the Lake

Familiar faces, familiar places
 A sense of home
 New faces from far away places
 Widening horizons
 Learning in rhythm with the sunset
 Trusting and stretching
 Coming together with water and wind
 Consolidating thought
 Discovering wisdom inside and out
 At home on the lake

Lake Song

Waves sing to the shoreline
 Leaves bow to the breeze
 Birds bask in solar melodies
 I search for the rhythm
 To be part of the song
 By hiking along the shoreline
 The tune of the trees
 Is accompanied by a hawk
 And the descants of the goldenrod
 We who hear the song
 Look for harmonies
 To make the world right

Gitche Gumee

The big lake calls me
 She laps at my soul
 And embraces my dreams
 The big lake holds me
 A part of my heart
 Presenting the possibilities
 The big lake changes me
 From hurried and hassled
 To calm and balanced
 The big lake enfolds me
 At home
 At peace

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	☾ Last Quarter Moon		Cinco de Mayo			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Mother's Day		● New Moon				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			☾ First Quarter Moon			National Maritime Day
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31		○ Full Moon			
	Memorial Day					



ABOVE: "Life's a Beach!"
 By **JOSHUA SCHWARTZ**
 Whitefish Dunes State Park

June 2021

Summer Place
 By **THOR RINGLER**

where the shadow of water
 brushes ripples over sand
 or the wind winds its fingers
 through the strands of leaves
 we come here every summer
 play, swim, eat
 toss and twiddle
 the sun between us
 hold at bay
 the season (changing)
 the we (changed)
 hold it
 unfold it
 cup it in our hands
 where the shadow of water
 brushes ripples over sand



Photo by **SHAWN HENNESSY**



Photo by **STEVE BENISNG**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Photo by JEFF MALVERSON	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Flag Day	15	16	17	18	19
20 Summer Begins Father's Day	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	 Photo by MICHAEL KNAPSTEIN		

☾ Last Quarter Moon

● New Moon

☽ First Quarter Moon

☉ Full Moon



ABOVE: "Fog Smoke Fire"
By **MARK STRAUB**
Milwaukee

Wishing in the Dark
By **MS. WILLI SCHARRER**

I wish I could show you the moon
shooting silver arachnoid beams,
guiding wavelets tinier than a
newborn's foot,
lapping at our sandy toes.
Our shoulders would be touching.



Photo by **REBECCA SEYMOUR**

Surfers
By **MARILYN ZELKE WINDAU**

In Sheboygan, Wisconsin, on the shores
of Lake Michigan
myriads of ducks eyeball the water's
surface.
They air-float high above waves,
look for calm stripes of blue.

Some are tourists, not regulars.
They've surveyed the local lakes and
rivers,
tasted recommended sites for duck weed
dinners.

Now they choose to expand their
excursions,
see the possibilities of the huge lake
below them.

These ducks are surfers at heart!
They zoom to the waterflat,
skid splash, push energy,
and away they glide!

Settling in, they become enthralled
watching those humans in wet suits,
those comrades who also attempt
a graceful triumph over waves' arched
flows.

July 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Independence Day					New Moon	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
						First Quarter Moon
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
					Full Moon	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
						Last Quarter Moon



ABOVE: "Dawn at Big Bay State Park"
 By **MICHAEL KNAPSTEIN**
 Madeline Island

August 2021

Sea Cave

By **THOM SINGLETON**

White-crested waves on the greatest
 of lakes
 Break and thunder on the sandstone
 scarps
 Savage surf for centuries carves caves
 Sandstone caves in the blood-red cliffs
 The blood-red cliffs of the Apostle
 Islands

Explore these caves when the lake
 is calm
 Pull your kayak into a yawning maw
 Inside find the work of the graybeard
 waves
 The sculpting work of water on rock
 Carving waves turn cliff into cave

Venture not here as the foaming
 waves rise
 Superior is subject to seiche tides
 Violent storms arise fast and fierce
 And the work of the waves goes on
 and on
 The work of the waves goes on



Photo by **SHEILA BERNIER**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5 Wisconsin State Fair Begins and Runs Through August 15	6	7
8 ● New Moon	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 ◐ First Quarter Moon	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 ○ Full Moon	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 ◓ Last Quarter Moon	31				

Photo by **CHERYL BOUGIE**

Photo by **COLTIN ESSER**

Photo by **PEGGY CARTER**



ABOVE: "Rocky Shore at Sunset"
 By **JONAH WESTRICH**
 Lake Superior
 2nd place – Natural Features

Agates




By **KRISTIE DEGNER-HANSEN**

As a child growing up in rural Northwestern Wisconsin, I recall many a summer day looking for Lake Superior agates with my siblings. A rock with stripes was our mission. Although at that time we didn't understand exactly what we were looking for, we searched the pastureland and fields of our parents' farm. Each rock with any bit of a stripe I would ask my brother, "Is this an agate?" "No," he would say and explain it needs to have banding all around.

How had we heard of Lake Superior agates? My grandfather had moved his family to the shores of Lake Superior in the 1950's. There he walked the beaches and collected agates. He shared this passion with his children: my mother, her sisters and brother. When he left for the wilderness of Alaska, his collection had long been forgotten in his old tackle box. I rediscovered these treasures after he passed away. His collection was beautiful; no large rocks, but very detailed specimens. After finding that old tackle box, it reignited my excitement to look for the banded rocks.

As an adult I walk many different shores of Lake Superior and I think of my beloved grandfather and how he used to find joy in walking these same shores and finding the occasional gem of an agate. He seems to be with me a lot, as my luck has changed, and I can't recall the last time I visited the shores of Lake Superior and didn't find at least one tiny agate.

September 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	
5	6 Labor Day Rosh Hashanah Begins at Sundown ● New Moon	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 ● First Quarter Moon	14	15 Yom Kippur Begins at Sundown	16	17	18
19	20 ○ Full Moon	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 ● Last Quarter Moon	29	30		



ABOVE: "Finding the Light"
 By **EMIL TONEY**
 Peninsula State Park

October 2021

The Colors of the Season
 By **Karen Gersonde**

Autumn in Wisconsin is a special time,
 When colors on the trees appear and shine.
 In beautiful oranges, yellow and red,
 It really makes one turn their head.

For everywhere one goes, you see,
 Are different colors on different trees.
 Maples, Aspens, Oak and more,
 Abound in colors, color galore.

These colors reflect off the great
 waters around,
 All over Wisconsin, these colors abound.
 The water reflections make gorgeous
 shots,
 For photographers taking photos,
 photos a lot.

The beautiful leaves and the crisp
 autumn air,
 Is truly something only Wisconsin
 can share.
 So people get out and enjoy the season,
 If only to see the colors, if for no other
 reason!



Photo by **JULIE DEUSLE**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Photo by LORI SHULTS	 Photo by EMIL TONEY				1	2
3	4	5	6 ● New Moon	7	8	9
10	11	12 ◐ First Quarter Moon	13	14	15	16
17	18 Clean Water Act Signed in 1972	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Halloween						



ABOVE: "Tackle the Morning"
 By **MASON MORRIS**
 Port Washington

Nature

By **TRACEY LUDVIK**

My hand fondles your round shape
 that feels smoother under the water
 that tumbles down your creek
 When wet, your color is blood red
 receding to gray when exposed to the air
 that would continue smoothing your edges
 if given a chance

Rainy Day

By **TRACEY LUDVIK**

Pearl gray clouds
 blot the sky—
 create a perfect canvas
 for November trees
 ripe with tangerine leaves
 candle-lighting the sky with their flame
 A gentle rain tends the fire
 bringing life-giving dew to
 parched summer faces

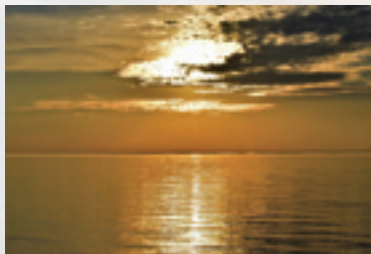


Photo by **NICK BAHR**



Photo by **PAT STREFF**

November 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Election Day	3	4 New Moon	5	6
7 Daylight Savings Time Ends	8	9	10 Edmund Fitzgerald Sinks in Lake Superior in 1975	11 Veteran's Day First Quarter Moon	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Full Moon	20
21	22	23	24	25 Thanksgiving Day	26	27 Last Quarter Moon
28 Hanukkah Begins at Sundown	29	30				

Photo by **GARY STRUCK**

Photo by **JEFF HALVESON**



ABOVE: "North Pier Milky Way"
 By **NATHAN FARVOUR**
 Sheboygan
 1st place – Cultural & Historical Features

December 2021

The Midwinter Night is Long

By **PATRICIA WILLIAMS**
 – from her collected poems,
Midwest Medley, Kelsay Books, 2018.

The full midwinter moon—
 visible longer
 than any full moon of the year—
 lingers above a December horizon,
 travels on a high trajectory
 opposite the low-slung sun.

Skies deepen to icy obsidian.
 The long-night moon
 shimmers over a glacial setting
 polished by winter's breath.

Guided across a pallid prairie of cold
 by a cosmic flashlight,
 we navigate this fallow time,
 survive darkness,
 eager to greet the unseen sun.

Magic in Collapsing Stars

By **PATRICIA WILLIAMS**
 "Somewhere, something incredible is
 waiting to be known." – Carl Sagan

We are made of the stuff of stars,
 a taste of the wild, covered in forests
 and meadows where violets sigh.

We are solitary nights, silent,
 the quiet of space broken only
 by the hoot of an owl.

We occupy a minute place,
 not lofty, not specially charmed.
 Stay— be here with me— just
 breathing.

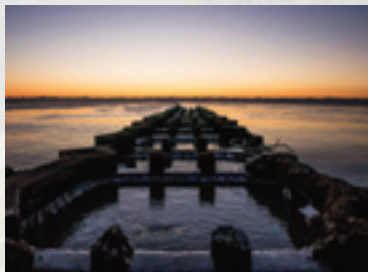


Photo by **RANDY KOEHLER**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4 ● New Moon
5	6	7 Pearl Harbor Day	8 Great Lakes Compact Enacted in 2008	9	10 ● First Quarter Moon	11
12 Wisconsin Great Lakes Strategy Released in 2005	13	14	15	16	17	18 ○ Full Moon
19	20	21 Winter Begins	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day
26 Kwanzaa Begins ● Last Quarter Moon	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	

Photo by **RYAN LEMKE**

Photo by **KEVIN LAMAR**

"The ultimate test of a man's conscience may be his willingness to sacrifice something today for future generations whose words of thanks will not be heard."

GAYLORD NELSON

Former Wisconsin governor and co-founder of Earth Day



Photo by WENDI HUFFMAN

"Fishermen in Silent Awe"
Sunrise on Lake Michigan near Bradford Beach, Milwaukee



Photo by HOWARD VIRANKIN

"Passing Storm"
Near Port Washington breakwater, looking north at sunset



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