

Happy July, Montana Conservation Voters!

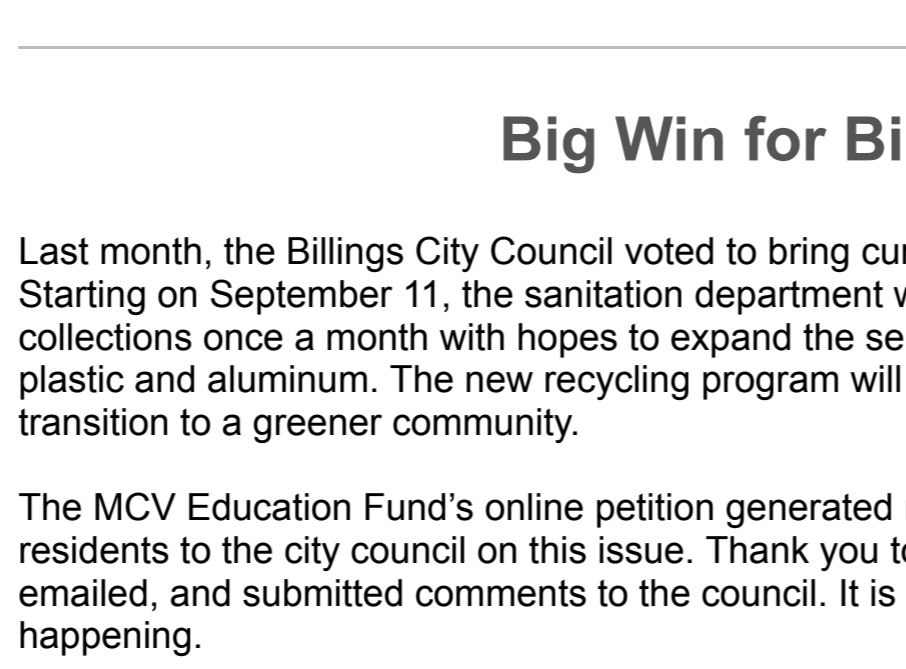
It's a special time of year in Montana, with long, warm days and seemingly endless opportunities to get outside and explore our state. It's always a challenge to fit it all in, and this summer is no different for Team MCV as we've got a heck of a lot happening in the coming weeks.

First, what's summer without a road trip? MCV's summer Pint Night Tour continues, with upcoming stops in Helena, Bozeman and Billings. Join us to hangout with veterans, visit national monuments and talk about some exciting and important opportunities to protect Montana's clean air and waters and public lands.

Two issues stand out. U.S. Senator Jon Tester reintroduced the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act (BCSA)—a public lands protection bill made by Montanans, for Montanans, and with the support of over 80 percent of the folks in the state. BCSA will add nearly 80,000 acres to the Bob Marshall, Scapegoat and Mission Mountains Wilderness Areas while safeguarding the four most crucial tributaries of the storied Blackfoot River.

Meanwhile, Senator Daines is doing the opposite. He has introduced the absurdly named "Montana Sportsmen Conservation Act," a bill to remove Wilderness Study Area protections from tens of thousands of Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management managed acres. Areas targeted by Daines' bill include the Middle Fork of the Judith, Hoodoo Mountain, and Wales Creek Wilderness Study Areas. Not only do both the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management oppose Daines' bill, only 6 percent of Montanans support eliminating protections.

Now is the time to get involved and speak up about both of these bills. We'll tell you how in this newsletter, and watch your inbox and your social media feeds for the latest on these critical issues. Hopefully we'll see you at a Pint Night soon, so we can fight for public lands and conservation together over a good Montana beer.



Whitney Tawney
Executive Director
Montana Conservation Voters

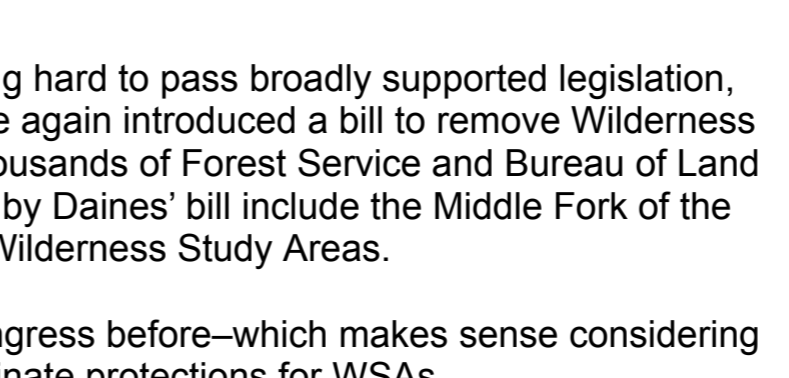
Big Win for Billings!

Last month, the Billings City Council voted to bring curbside recycling to the Magic City. Starting on September 11, the sanitation department will begin picking up cardboard collections once a month with hopes to expand the service to eventually include newspaper, plastic and aluminum. The new recycling program will help Billings reduce waste and transition to a greener community.

The MCV Education Fund's online petition generated nearly 50 comments from Billings residents to the city council on this issue. Thank you to all the Billings residents who called, emailed, and submitted comments to the council. It is because of your work that this is happening.

The Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act: Urge Sen. Daines to Support this Montana-Made Bill

Hopefully you've heard the great news that U.S. Senator Jon Tester reintroduced the [Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act](#) (BCSA)—a public lands protection bill made by Montanans, for Montanans. BCSA will add nearly 80,000 acres to the Bob Marshall, Scapegoat and Mission Mountains Wilderness Areas while safeguarding the four most crucial tributaries of the storied Blackfoot River.



The [bill was heard](#) in the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on Wednesday, July 12, so [now is the time to voice your support](#).

BCSA will help grow Montana's \$7.1 billion outdoor recreation economy, protect tens of thousands of acres of wilderness, provide for appropriate forest management, and establish two outdoor recreation areas north of Ovando. The recreation areas provide new winter motorized access and preserve mountain biking opportunities. BCSA protects Montana's outdoor heritage and is a true grassroots solution to increasing pressures from development, extraction, and population growth in the state.

According to the [2022 University of Montana Voter Survey on Public Land](#), BCSA has the support of over 83 percent of Montanans. You would be hard pressed to find something else that many people agree on.

At the same time that Senator Tester is working hard to pass broadly supported legislation, Senator Daines is doing the opposite. He once again introduced a bill to remove Wilderness Study Area (WSA) protections from tens of thousands of Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management managed acres. Areas targeted by Daines' bill include the Middle Fork of the Judith, Hoodoo Mountain, and Wales Creek Wilderness Study Areas.

[Several iterations](#) of this bill have failed in Congress before—which makes sense considering that [only 6 percent](#) of Montanans want to eliminate protections for WSAs.

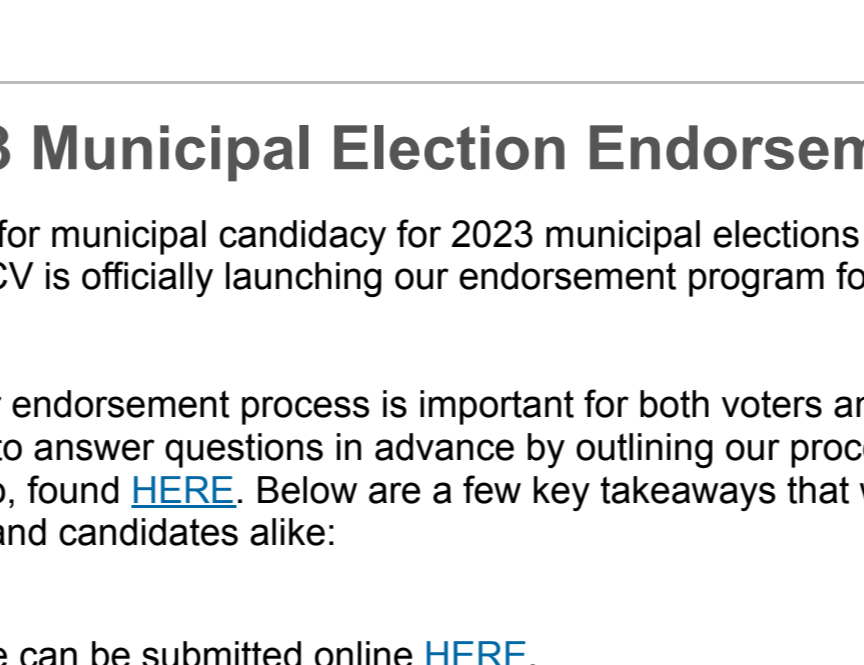
So, while we applaud Senator Tester for championing BCSA, we also need to call out Senator Daines for being out of touch with his constituents. Senator Daines needs to hear from you that Montanans want him to:

1. Stop blocking BCSA—this Montana-made legislation deserves his support.
2. Stop trying to remove protections for our public lands.

[Our goal is to get 500 calls into Sen. Daines' office. CLICK HERE to tell Senator Daines to listen to his constituents.](#)

Do you have a story about the Blackfoot-Clearwater landscape that you'd like to tell? We'd love to hear it, or to help you write an op-ed or letter to the editor. Please get in touch with MCV's Communications Director Anthony Licata at anthony@mtvoters.org.

Tell Governor Gianforte to Listen to the People of MT



Keep an eye out for this poster on the walls of libraries and community centers, coffee shops and breweries, in towns across Montana. It's part of our effort to keep the pressure on Governor Greg Gianforte and to keep fighting to save SB 442. As you know, Gianforte used shady tactics to veto SB 442, a bipartisan bill that garnered over 85% of the legislature's support and support from hunters, hikers, veterans, counties and many other communities across the state. In doing so, the Governor took tens of millions of dollars away from our public lands, rural communities, and veterans.

If you don't see this poster, don't worry. You can still tell the Governor what you think via the link [HERE](#).

2023 Municipal Election Endorsements

The deadline to file for municipal candidacy for 2023 municipal elections has come and gone. That means that MCV is officially launching our endorsement program for 2023 municipal elections!

Transparency in our endorsement process is important for both voters and candidates, so we've worked hard to answer questions in advance by outlining our process in our Candidate Endorsement Memo, found [HERE](#). Below are a few key takeaways that we wanted to highlight for voters and candidates alike.

1. Our questionnaire can be submitted online [HERE](#).
2. We plan on focusing on endorsements in Billings, Bozeman, Flathead County, Great Falls, Havre, Helena, Livingston, Missoula and Whitefish, however, we will still endorse candidates outside of these locations if they apply!
3. The last day to submit MCV's candidate questionnaire is August 15.
4. It is important to note that MCV will not be endorsing candidates in primary races. If you are in a race with a primary and wish to seek an endorsement from MCV for the general election, you will still need to submit your questionnaire by August 15, and we will move forward as appropriate following the primary.
5. All endorsement information can be found online [HERE](#).

If you're not running for office but know a conservation champion who is, please tell them about Team MCV! Anyone with questions about the endorsement process should reach out to Molly Bell, MCV's Political Director, at Molly@mtvoters.org.

Tester Getting it Done for Montana

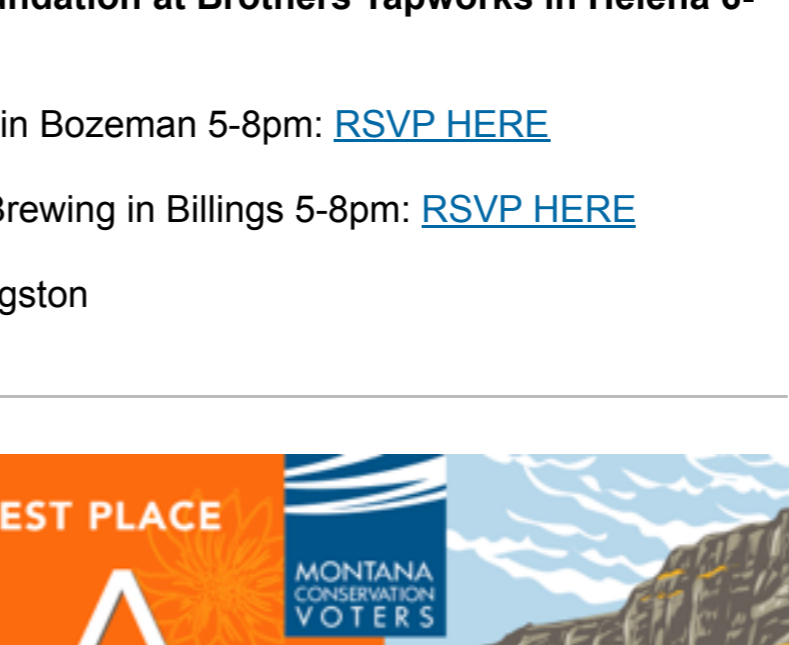
Did you know that Sen. Jon Tester brought home to Montana \$350 million for rural water infrastructure? Or that he secured \$916 million for Yellowstone National Park flood recovery (and was the only member of Montana's congressional delegation to vote for it)? Or that Sen. Tester introduced a bipartisan bill to stop foreign adversaries from buying U.S. farmland. Be on the lookout in our social channels for more "Flattop Facts" and check [testergettingitdone.org](#) for the latest information on wins for Montana.



Vets, Public Lands and Beers! Don't Miss MCV's Helena Pint Night on 7/24

The next stop on our summer tour is in Helena, and this is a Pint Night you don't want to miss. We're honored to be joining forces with [Vet Voice Foundation](#) and three impressive veterans for a "Soapbox" discussion about what public lands mean to Montanans who have served. It's on Monday, July 24, 6-9 PM at Brother's Tapworks.

Major General Paul Eaton will be one of the speakers. You won't find many folks who know more service than the General. He served more than 30 years in the United States Army, including combat and post-combat assignments in Iraq, Bosnia and Somalia. As a Major General, he was assigned to Iraq from 2003 to 2004 as Commanding General of the Coalition Military Assistance Training Team, where he designed, manned, trained and equipped the Iraq Armed Forces for the Iraq Ministry of Defense and the security forces for the Interior Ministry. Before that assignment, he commanded the Army's Infantry Center and was Chief of Infantry for the Army. He's a West Point Graduate, and he and his wife PJ have raised two sons and a daughter—all soldiers.



Join us to hear from the General and other veterans about their experiences and discuss the importance of public lands—including the urgent opportunity to protect the storied Blackfoot watershed by passing the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act!

Monday, July 24 from 6-9PM at Brothers Tapworks (40 South Last Chance Gulch, Helena). And for every pint pulled, Brothers Tapworks will donate \$1 to the MCV Education Fund and VVF. [RSVP today!](#)

If you can't make it to Helena, join us at one of our Pint Nights in Billings and Bozeman, and don't forget about our Gala in Livingston in October.

Upcoming Events

July 24 - [MCV Pint Night with Vet Voice Foundation at Brothers Tapworks in Helena 6-9pm: RSVP HERE](#)

August 2 - MCV Pint Night at Outlaw Brewing in Bozeman 5-8pm: [RSVP HERE](#)

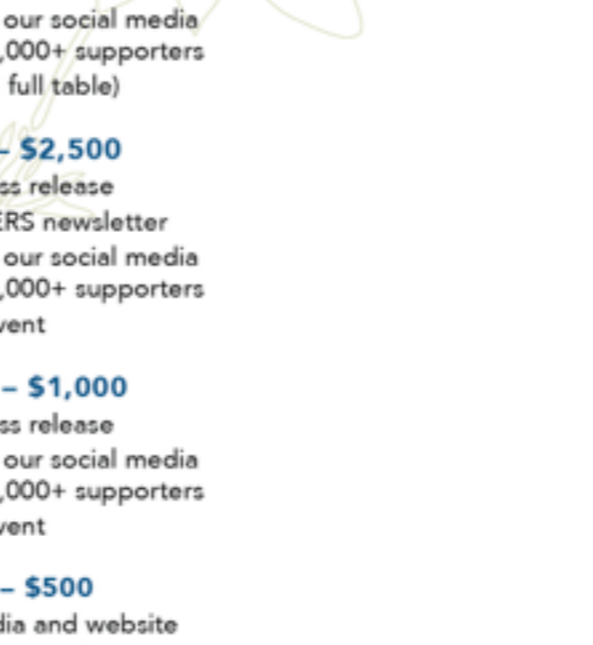
August 10 - MCV Pint Night at Thirsty Street Brewing in Billings 5-8pm: [RSVP HERE](#)

October 13 - [MCV's Gala](#) at the Depot in Livingston



Watch your mailbox this month for an invitation to our [2023 Gala](#) at the Livingston Depot on Friday, October 13! This annual party to protect the Last Best Place brings together Team MCV and 200+ conservationists for an evening of local flavors and entertainment.

This year we're thrilled to be joined by special guest [Supaman!](#) An innovative, award-winning Native American and hip hop artist, [Supaman](#) is a member of the Apsálooke Nation who grew up in Crow Agency, Montana. His work combines Native, comedic, and urban hip hop cultures, captivating audiences worldwide and spreading resiliency, love, laughter, and inclusion.



Don't miss out on this special event! Get your tickets today at mtvoters.org/gala.

Want to help bring this event to life? Become a 2023 Gala sponsor!

Each sponsorship level comes with tickets to the gala and special ways to connect with MCV's supporters before and during the event. Platinum and Premium Sponsors who pledge by this Friday, July 14 can get their logos on the gala invitation!

We also welcome donations of quality gear and outdoor experiences to our silent auction.



PLATINUM SPONSOR – \$10,000

- Top sponsor listing at the event
- Featured quote in our event press release
- Profile in one MCV MATTERS newsletter
- Promotion in event emails, on our social media and website with a reach of 15,000+ supporters
- 16 tickets to the event (2 table)

PREMIUM SPONSOR – \$5,000

- Prominent listing in the event press release
- Feature in one MCV MATTERS newsletter
- Promotion in event emails, on our social media and website with a reach of 15,000+ supporters
- 8 tickets to the event (1 full table)

LEADER SPONSOR – \$2,500

- Listing in the event press release
- Feature in one MCV MATTERS newsletter
- Promotion in event emails, on our social media and website with a reach of 15,000+ supporters
- 6 tickets to the event

PARTNER SPONSOR – \$1,000

- Listing in the event press release
- Promotion in event emails, on our social media and website with a reach of 15,000+ supporters
- 4 tickets to the event

FRIEND SPONSOR – \$500

- Promotion on our social media and website with a reach of 15,000+ supporters
- 2 tickets to the event

We also welcome donations of quality gear and outdoor experiences to our silent auction. Show your clients and community that you care about conservation by supporting MCV and sponsoring the best party in the West at mtvoters.org/gala.

Extra thanks to our early sponsors!

Leader Sponsors

Clearwater Credit Union

Western Conservation Foundation

Partner Sponsors

Hilltop Public Solutions

League of Conservation Voters

Sally Ericsson

Friend Sponsors

Jeanne-Marie Souvigny and Bob Roney

Jenny and Ken Younger

Questions about sponsorships, our silent auction, or tickets? Contact Jessica at jessica@mtvoters.org.