

Happy New Year, Team MCV!

We hope your 2024 has started off with a bang! The holiday break was just what Team MCV needed to refuel our tanks and get ready for the New Year. It also didn't hurt to finish 2023 strong with all your support. My goodness are we grateful to have each and every one of you on Team MCV.

As candidate filing begins and we put plans into place, we're beyond excited to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Montana Conservation Voters and the MCV Education Fund.

When Googling about the significance of this anniversary, I found that 25 years symbolizes a strong, unbreakable bond. And isn't that fitting with Team MCV and Montanans?!

Help us celebrate this momentous occasion by joining our Super Volunteer program (learn more below), helping us celebrate through our Annual Member Celebration in Helena (3/1) and continuing to stay active in your communities.

We can't do this work without you. So from the bottom of my heart - on behalf of our staff and board - thank you and let's go!

GO, FIGHT, WIN!



Whitney Tawney
Executive Director
Montana Conservation Voters

Help Make 2024 Unforgettable...Join Our Team As a Super Volunteer!

We've said it many times that we can't do our work to protect Montana without our members and supporters. So to kick off 2024 and meet the moment for one of the most critical elections in recent history, Team MCV is embarking on a new effort to work closer with YOU.

Picture this... a league of Super Volunteers, armed with passion for our values and mission, ready to champion our cause across the diverse landscapes of our great state. As a statewide organization, staying connected with communities can be challenging for MCV's compact yet mighty team.

Enter the Super Volunteers – the game-changers. Super Volunteers, as dedicated and active MCV members, will become the face of our movement in their communities. We're talking about being the swift responders in the dynamic worlds of conservation and politics.

Super Volunteers will write and sign powerful opinion pieces, share their insights in print and radio stories, testify at critical legislative hearings and other official meetings and more. These superheroes will be on the frontlines, helping support local events while also participating in phone banking and door knocking.

We're hosting a series of community conversations to launch this program and we would love to see you and your loved ones there.

MISSOULA: Meet us at ImagineNation Brewing, 1151 W Broadway St, on Thursday, January 18, 2024. We will be there from 5:30-7 pm. [RSVP HERE](#)

HELENA: Meet us at Brothers Tapworks, 40 S Last Chance Gulch, on Friday, January 19, 2024. We will be there from 5:30-7 pm. [RSVP HERE](#)

BILLINGS: Meet us at Meadowlark Brewing, 3970 Pierce Parkway, on Wednesday, January 24, 2024. We will be there from 5:30-7 pm. [RSVP HERE](#)

BOZEMAN: Meet us at Shine Beer Sanctuary, 451 E Main St A, on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. We will be there from 5:30-7 pm. [RSVP HERE](#)

WHITEFISH: Meet us at Blackstar, 2 Central Ave, on Thursday, February 1, 2024. We will be there from 5:30-7 pm. [RSVP HERE](#)

Live elsewhere or can't make the time? No worries! You can still be a part of the revolution by filling out our questionnaire [HERE](#).

And we're not stopping there - our grand launch of our Super Volunteers Program includes an exclusive Zoom meeting for all Super Volunteers in mid-March. From there, expect monthly updates to keep you up to date on the current MCV happenings and upcoming opportunities.



Together, let's protect Montana as the Last Best Place by protecting clean air, clean water, public lands, and democracy. If you're already a part of our team, it's because you share our commitment. Please consider taking it to the next level and joining us as we continue to champion all that makes Montana the Treasure State. The adventure awaits!

MCV Member Celebration March 1: Ain't No Party Like a Member Party!

Mark your calendars for an evening of celebration, camaraderie, and shared commitment! Montana Conservation Voters invites you to our [Annual Member Celebration on Friday, March 1, at the Windsor Ballroom in Helena from 6pm to 8pm](#). This special event promises an unforgettable experience as we come together to connect, enjoy local flavors, and celebrate our collective achievements with special guests, including Montana's Poet Laureate Chris La Tray.

Event Details

Date: Friday, March 1

Time: 6pm to 8pm

Location: Windsor Ballroom, Helena

This is your chance to mingle with Team MCV, fellow members, and Montana's vibrant conservation community. Immerse yourself in the lively atmosphere, savor local flavors, and enjoy entertainment that embodies the spirit of our great state.

The year 2024 holds significant challenges and opportunities for Montana's conservation efforts. With a U.S. Senate seat to protect, congressional and statewide seats up for grabs, and crucial decisions about our state's pro-conservation Supreme Court, it's a pivotal moment.

As we gather, we'll also be celebrating MCV's 25th anniversary. It's a testament to the enduring commitment of our members and the impact we've collectively made on Montana.

Connect, Commit, Celebrate: Our Member Celebration is more than an event—it's an opportunity to connect with fellow conservationists and renew our shared commitment to protecting the Last Best Place. Together, let's continue building Montana's legacy of clean air, clean water, and accessible public lands.

Don't miss out on this memorable evening - this event will sell out! Get your tickets [HERE](#).

For those interested in elevating their support for Team MCV, please check out our 2024 sponsorship opportunities [HERE](#) or reach out to Jessica at jessica@mtvoters.org with any questions. Sponsorship for the member celebration starts at \$250 and includes event tickets plus special recognition in event materials, the MCV newsletter and more.

MCV has a [discounted room block available at the Best Western Premier Great Northern Hotel in Helena the weekend of our 2024 Member Celebration!](#) Rooms ranging from \$160-\$190 per night (pre-tax) are available for folks checking in Friday, March 1 and checking out Sunday, March 3. [Click HERE to reserve your room online or call \(406\) 457-5500 to reach the hotel directly and request a room within the Montana Conservation Voters room block!](#)

For anyone flying into Helena, the hotel offers free shuttle service to and from the Helena Regional Airport. Call (406) 457-5500 to get on the schedule.

Be sure to plan ahead! There are a limited number of rooms, it's a busy weekend for Helena, and the [group rate expires on Thursday, February 1!](#)

Celebrating 23 Years of National Monuments

Twenty-three years ago on January 17, 2021, the Upper Missouri River Breaks and Pompeys Pillar National Monuments were established, so join us in wishing these iconic Montana landscapes a very HAPPY BIRTHDAY!! 🎉

National Monuments are particularly special tracts of public lands that have been identified for their unique cultural and historical significance. Since 1906, 17 Presidents from both political parties have designated 158 national monuments under the authority of the Antiquities Act - one of our nation's most important conservation tools.

Montana's smallest National Monument is a striking sandstone outcrop looming over the Yellowstone River. It's also a signpost, a lookout, and one incredible collection of graffiti. Pompeys Pillar National Monument covers 51 acres on the banks of the Yellowstone River, all around its namesake monolith, a massive sandstone outcrop covering about two acres at its base and rising 120 feet.



When a lot of Montanans talk about "the Breaks," they get a dreamy look in their eyes. From the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge to Fort Benton, the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument traverses 149 miles of the Upper Missouri River, the neighboring Breaks country, and parts of Arrow Creek, Antelope Creek, and the Judith River. The Monument lies in the heart of one of the most uniquely beautiful parts of Montana, a wild region of canyons, coulees, buttes, and steep bluffs that is thick with interesting biological, geological, and historical objects and places.



There is so much to love about our national monuments in Montana, so last summer we developed a first of its kind travel guide. This guide is chock-full of history, details, and tips on how to best visit Montana's national monuments.

So join us in celebrating public lands and 23 years with these special places. [Download the guide here](#) and start planning your next adventure!

2024 Candidate Filing IS LIVE

Candidate filing opened on January 11 for the Montana 2024 election cycle. As in every election since our founding, MCV will support conservationists running for office at all levels of government. Do you want to run for office or know someone who does? Running for office is a great way to show up for conservation and your community. Click [HERE](#) to get more information on how to file. Filing closes on March 11 at 5:00 pm. MCV will be rolling out our endorsement process for candidates soon so stay tuned for more information on our endorsement process. And ICYMI... We've already announced a few MCV endorsements for this year [HERE](#). We are excited for the year ahead and look forward to making public lands, clean air, and clean water a priority in this cycle.

Welcoming Grizzly Hackle: Our Newest Partner for the Outdoors

We are thrilled to announce the latest addition to our Partners for the Outdoors program: Grizzly Hackle! As we continue to build bridges between businesses and conservation, we are honored to have Grizzly Hackle join us in securing a sustainable future for Montana.

The [MCV Education Fund's Partners for the Outdoors program](#) is on a mission to create lasting connections with businesses, corporations, and organizations that share our commitment to preserving Montana's natural beauty.

In the Words of Brendan Bannigan, Owner of Grizzly Hackle:

"When people have experience with a resource, I think they are more apt to work toward its preservation and fight against its degradation. Our business is here to support anglers who can steward the careful use and preservation of our State's fisheries."

Brendan's insight captures the symbiotic relationship between supporting small businesses and natural resource conservation in Montana. Grizzly Hackle, as a small business in Missoula, plays a crucial role in connecting people with the outdoors, fostering a deep appreciation for Montana's public lands and waterways.

By uniting businesses, corporations, and organizations, we amplify our collective impact on preserving Montana's environment.

If you're inspired by the work we're doing and want to make a tax-deductible contribution to the future of Montana, visit mtvotersfund.org/partners to learn more about the program and how you can get involved.

Team MCV Launches its First Canvass of 2024

The MCV Education Fund has officially launched its first canvass of 2024! Despite the weather (hello, winter!), we're hitting the ground running this month with NINE Field Organizers getting out on the doors in Flathead, Gallatin, and Yellowstone Counties. By focusing on topics like energy costs, land/air/water quality, and veteran-related issues, we are learning directly from Montanans about the issues that matter most to them!

Know anyone who might be interested in becoming a Field Organizer? We're still hiring in the Flathead - learn more at mtvoters.org/opportunities



Join Our Team: MCV is hiring a Communications Manager

MCV is excited to announce we're hiring our next Communications Manager! This role is key to our success in the 2024 cycle as well as our conservation policy goals. If you or someone you know is a talented communicator, passionate about conservation, creative, organized and ready to make a significant impact - we hope you'll apply or share this opportunity!

Our Communications Manager will take the lead on planning and carrying out internal and external communications to support Team MCV. The ideal candidate will be a self-starter who is flexible, media- and tech-savvy and a superior writer and oral communicator. The best news, you can live anywhere in Montana!

To learn more about this exciting opportunity and to submit your application, click [HERE](#). If you're not applying but know someone who fits the bill, we encourage you to share this fantastic chance to make a difference in Montana's conservation landscape!

Member of the Month!



Dick Thweatt
Helena, MT

Why are you an MCV member?

I support conservation, and I know that a lot of whether it happens or not depends on voting and politics.

What's your top conservation issue and why?

It's gotta be climate change...because it's gonna be a severe disruption to our global ecosystem and global civilization, not to mention Montana. I think this fall's election will be crucial, especially the federal election. The most important thing we in Montana can do is re-elect Senator Jon Tester.

Where is your favorite outdoor spot in Montana?

Oh, I think I'd have to say the Scapegoat Wilderness.

ARE YOU FOLLOWING US ON SOCIAL MEDIA?

📱 Stay Connected with Team MCV! Follow Us on Social Media! 📱

Want to dive into the latest updates, behind-the-scenes action, and exciting news from Team MCV? Follow us on our social media platforms and be part of the conversations!

📧 Instagram: [@mtvoters](#)

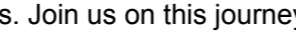
📘 Facebook: [@mtvoters](#) and [@mtvotersfund](#)

🌐 LinkedIn: [Montana Conservation Voters](#)

📺 X: [@mtvoters](#)

By following us on these platforms, you'll be the first to know about our conservation initiatives, events, and the incredible work we're doing to protect Montana's natural treasures. Engage with us, share your thoughts, and let's build a stronger community dedicated to environmental stewardship!

Your support means the world to us. Join us on this journey - together, we can make a difference! 🌱🌍 #TeamMCV



Paid for by Montana Conservation Voters
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MCV is a 501(c)4 nonprofit organization. Membership dues and contributions are not tax-deductible. Tax-deductible contributions may be made to the MCV Education Fund, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Visit mtvotersfund.org to learn more.

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