

MCV MATTERS

CONNECT. PROTECT. ELECT. TURNING MONTANA VALUES INTO PRIORITIES.

October 2025

Happy October, Montana Conservation Voters!



Our Annual Gala in Livingston on October 11 was a great success with conservation champions joining us from across the state. Keynote speaker U.S. Congressman Gabe Vasquez's leadership in the fight to protect our public lands energized the crowd. It was great to hear his message with old friends and new, and it is a reminder that the work done by MCV and our community is as important as ever. Of course, this event would have not been a success without the generosity of our sponsors, auctions donors, and dedicated staff members. Thank you.

October is all about the lead up to Election Day. We've rolled out our final endorsements for the 2025 municipal elections — your votes matter and have real impacts on our communities. Inside this newsletter, you'll find the candidates MCV endorsed in your area, and you can learn more about them and the process at mtvoters.org/endorsements.

I would like to give a heartfelt thank you to the MCV members who served on an endorsement panel. This work would not be possible without the time and effort you so graciously offered. Election Day is November 4. If you're voting by mail, return your ballot as soon as possible to avoid postal delays — or better yet, drop it off in person at your county elections office by Election Day to ensure your vote is counted. Grassroots organizing and local elections are how we achieve big wins for Montana. Please get out and vote!

Yours in conservation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Super".

Ben Super
Executive Director
Montana Conservation Voters

Help MCV Action Fund elect pro-conservation candidates up and down the ballot today!



Scan the QR code to donate and learn more about the MCV Action Fund.

mtvoters.org/actionfund

P.S. Even in a tough year, your support made big wins possible — and with local elections coming up next month, we still need you in the fight. Will you chip in today to help elect conservation champions across Montana? Donate today at mtvoters.org/donate.

MCV 2025 ENDORSEMENTS

Billings



Mark Nicholson
City Council Ward 1



Kassi Strong
City Council Ward 2



Amy Aguirre
City Council Ward 3



Andrew Lindley
City Council Ward 4



Patrick Olp
City Council Ward 5



Mike Nelson
Mayor

Bozeman



Emma Bode
City Commission



Douglas Fischer
Mayor

Columbia Falls



Marijke Stob
City Council

Great Falls



Casey Schreiner
City Commission

Havre



Wade Bitz
Mayor

Helena



Ben Rigby
City Commission



Melinda Reed
City Commission

Kalispell



Kyle Waterman
City Council Ward 3



Bruce Guthrie
City Council Ward 4



Ryan Hunter
Mayor

Livingston



Jessica Wilcox
City Commission

Missoula



Andrea Davis
Mayor



Betsy Craske
City Council Ward 1



Justin Ponton
City Council Ward 2



Jennifer Savage
City Council Ward 3



Mike Nugent
City Council Ward 4



Sean Patrick McCoy
City Council Ward 6

Whitefish



Andy Feury
City Council



Nathan Dugan
City Council

For more information,
please visit the endorsement
page on our website.
[mtvoters.org/resources/
endorsements/](https://mtvoters.org/resources/endorsements/)





Strong conservation leadership begins right here at home. We're proud to endorse candidates who will stand up for Montana's clean air, clean water, public lands, and democracy while working tirelessly to strengthen their communities."

— MCV Action Fund Chair Jill Lombardi

How MCV Endorsements Work

Candidates seeking endorsement completed a detailed questionnaire and participated in an interview conducted by a panel of MCV staff and members. All municipal endorsements are ultimately made by the board of MCV's affiliated political action committee, the MCV Action Fund, which is committed to supporting candidates who prioritize Montana's Constitution and pro-conservation policies.

Bozeman WARD Issue

This November, Bozeman residents will vote on the proposed Bozeman Water Adequacy for Residential Development Initiative. Developers of three or more housing units would only be allowed to use cash-in-lieu of water rights if 33% of those units are restricted as affordable. Currently, developers are allowed to pay the city for water rights instead of acquiring water rights on their own.

While we commend the effort to address both water scarcity and affordable housing, this initiative would likely create serious unintended consequences. The policy could:

- Disincentivize construction within city limits, ultimately reducing — not increasing — the overall housing supply and thus increasing housing costs.
- Push development outside city limits, increasing sprawl, traffic, and reliance on polluting septic systems and less efficient water wells. More traffic and sprawl ultimately could disrupt wildlife corridors and result in a loss of open spaces.

For these reasons, we recommend a "NO" vote on this initiative. Instead, we urge city leaders to pursue policies that truly lower housing costs while safeguarding Bozeman's limited water resources. For a comprehensive overview, check out this recent Op-ed in the Bozeman Daily Chronicle.



Thank you! MCV's 2025 Gala on October 11 was a deeply impactful celebration of our Montana landscapes and shared conservation values, in huge part because of our attendees and sponsors! Your support fuels the fight for Montana's clean air, clean water, public lands, and democracy.

A Big THANK YOU to Our Sponsors:

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In Memory of Bob Brent

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Jock Conyngham	Navigate Campaigns
Sally Ericsson & Tom Garwin	Reilly Neill
Heather White Strategies, LLC	Protect Our Winters
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Robert Landis	Montana Environmental Information Center	Jeanne-Marie Souvigney & Bob Raney
Jill Lombardi & Max Croes	Roy O'Connor	Juanita Vero
	OnSite Energy	Kathleen Williams

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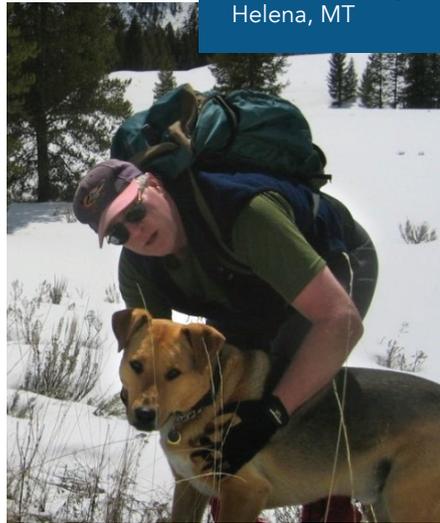
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MCV Member of the Month

Pat Clancy
Helena, MT



Why are you an MCV member?

I support several conservation/environmental Montana NGOs; I especially appreciate MCV efforts to educate the public and policymakers about conservation issues, and identify policymakers and candidates who deserve support and those who don't.

What's your top conservation issue and why?

Pressures of development on land, water & air resources; homogenization of the environment.

Where is your favorite outdoor spot in Montana?

I can't say I really have one single favorite spot in Montana. Over my working career with Fish, Wildlife & Parks and recreational activities I have been all over the state. Favorite sites/activities include winter SCUBA among pallid and shovel-nose sturgeon and paddlefish in the Missouri River below Fort Peck Dam, spending time in Wilderness and remote/undeveloped areas anywhere in the state, Glacier National Park.

That's a wrap on Pups for Public Lands 2026!

Last month we celebrated Public Lands Month with our fourth annual Pups for Public Lands photo contest. We want to send a special thank you to all of our sponsors, judges, and each and every one of you who shared your pups with us. It truly is one of our favorite times of the year.

Team MCV is hard at work narrowing down the hundreds of entries to the top 40 that will be sent to our independent panel of judges. The judges will choose the final 12. The top three dogs will receive a grand prize package from our sponsors, including Dee-O-Gee Missoula, Toiffer Pet Outfitter, and Dee-O-Gee Kalispell!

All 12 winners will be featured in our 2026 calendar (and receive a Pups for Public Lands dog bandana)! The calendar will also be on sale to the general public starting in November, so keep an eye on our social media for the winners announcement and the calendar sales to go live!



Misiu, our 2025 Calendar cover pup. Who will grace our cover for 2026?

Montana Conservation Voters is a 501(c)4 nonprofit organization, and 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 mtvotersedfund.org for more information.

SAVE THE DATES

OCTOBER 15: Watch for ballots in the mail!

OCTOBER 18: "No Kings" Rally, 12-2 pm
Yellowstone County Courthouse, Billings

OCTOBER 28: "Steps towards Stewardship,"
6-7 pm, Kim Williams Riverfront Trail, Missoula

NOVEMBER 4: Municipal Elections



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