

MCV MATTERS

Welcome to October, Montana Conservation Voters!

Montana's wild places, clean water, and democracy belong to all of us, but keeping them strong takes dedicated action. To help you vote your values on November 3rd, Team MCV is proud to share our 2026 Endorsement Guide.

Inside, you'll meet the candidates stepping up to protect public lands and defend our Montana Constitution. We're especially proud to endorse Judge Amy Eddy, a champion for our constitutional right to a clean and healthful environment. We've also endorsed CI-132, an effort to keep our Montana courts proudly nonpartisan, and CI-133, which would secure Montanans' right to affect change directly through citizen-led ballot initiatives.

Each election is your chance to secure the future of Montana's landscapes and natural resources and vote for individuals who will uphold our Constitution for generations to come. Take a look through the guide below to see who is earning our trust this year.

Ben Super
Executive Director
Montana Conservation Voters

SAVE THE DATES

Oct 6: Late registration
Go to the county elections office to register to vote and/or vote early.

Oct 9: Ballots are mailed to those on the absentee ballot list

Oct 27: Absentee ballots MUST be postmarked one week before Election Day. After that, plan to deliver your ballot in person.

Nov 2: County Elections Offices close at 12:00 pm

Nov 3: Election Day!
Polls open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. Same day voter registration ends at 8:00 pm.

Dec 1: Giving Tuesday

MAKE YOUR PLAN TO VOTE!

It only takes a few minutes to make sure you're ready to vote. Use this quick checklist to check your registration, make your voting plan, and find the information you need before Election Day. Scan the QR code below or visit mtvotersedfund.org/voting for more information and links to the State of Montana's official voter information tools.

- [x] **Find MCV's endorsed candidates in this newsletter!**
- [ ] **Check your voter registration status at My Voter Page or scan the QR code here**
- [ ] **Decide whether you'll vote by mail or in person**
- [ ] **If voting in person, check your polling place and have your ID ready**
- [ ] **Mail your absentee ballot back no later than Oct 27. If you can't get it in the mail, make a plan to deliver your ballot in person to your designated election spot!**
- [ ] **Get your "I Voted Sticker"**
- [ ] **Go to My Voter Page to track your ballot**



COMMITTED TO THE CONSTITUTION:

Montana Supreme Court candidate Judge Amy Eddy



It's clear why Judge Amy Eddy was MCV's first endorsed candidate of 2026. With a deep personal and professional commitment to Montana's Constitution, Judge Eddy proudly pledges to support and defend Montanans' in-alienable right to a clean and healthful environment. Raised in Idaho and a graduate of the University of Montana law school, she has been a district court judge since 2015. Over decades of service and more than 10,000 cases, Judge Eddy has earned an impeccable reputation as a fair-minded, nonpartisan voice across Montana's judicial branch.

"On the Supreme Court, I will focus on protecting Montanans' freedoms and rights. I will uphold the Constitution. I will always follow the law, and I'll keep politics out of the courtroom. As a judge, I have always been proud of the fact that everyone who steps into my court gets a fair shake, and I'll continue this approach on our state's highest court."

Her bid for Montana's Supreme Court comes at a vital moment for environmental protections in the state.

"I will uphold the Constitution. I will always follow the law and I'll keep politics out of the courtroom."

- Judge Amy Eddy

CHECKS & BALANCES:

2026 ballot initiatives MCV stands beside

CI-132: Montanans for Nonpartisan Courts

Montana judges should be accountable to Montanans and the Montana Constitution, not politicians, party bosses, or donors. CI-132 would amend our state Constitution to require all judicial elections to remain nonpartisan, protecting Montana's 90-year tradition of an independent, nonpartisan judiciary.

That matters for conservation. Montana's Constitution guarantees the right to a clean and healthful environment, and our courts have been repeatedly called on to interpret and enforce constitutional protections affecting public lands, clean air and water, stream access, and the rights of future generations. Those critical judicial decisions should be grounded in the Montana Constitution, not the shifting demands of a political climate or party platform.

VOTE YES ON CI-132

CI-133: Montanans Decide

Montana is ever changing. As pressure grows on our land, water, wildlife, and communities, ballot measures give everyday Montanans a way to hit the brakes when out-of-state interests and powerful lobbyists try to overreach from the State Capitol.

CI-133 protects our fundamental right to propose and vote on laws without government interference. It also protects the Citizens' Veto, giving Montanans the power to reject bad laws and act as a check when the government oversteps.

For more than a century, ballot measures have given Montanans a direct voice when politicians or special interests fail to respect the will of the people. CI-133 helps you, the Montana voter, preserve that power.

CI-133 protects ballot measures in Montana so voters can step in to defend this last best place.

VOTE YES ON CI-133

MONTANANS DECIDE

2026 MCV ENDORSEMENTS

An MCV endorsement is the beginning of a partnership. Through a thoughtful endorsement process, the MCV Action Fund Board evaluates candidates based on their demonstrated values, priorities, and commitment to protecting Montana's land, water, climate, and communities.

When candidates earn MCV's endorsement, they share where they stand on the conservation issues that matter to Montanans, and we hold them accountable to those commitments. Endorsements are the beginning of a process to cultivate conservation leaders at every level of government across Montana and we are proud to support more than 60 conservation candidates this election cycle.

Learn more about our endorsement process and dig deeper into these candidates at mtvoters.org/endorsements or scan the QR code to the right.

FEDERAL



Sam Forstag, U.S. House



Seth Bodnar, U.S. Senate

EASTERN



Sen. Emma Kerr-Carpenter, SD 23



Julie Hippler, SD 25



Natalie Parker, HD 35



Melissa Smith, HD 39



Rep. Jade Sooktis, HD 41



Rudolf Haden, HD 43



Rep. Denise Baum, HD 45



Rep. Denise Joy, HD 46



Rep. James Reavis, HD 47



Tucker Colvin, HD 48



Rebecca Noell, HD 49



Precious McKenzie, HD 51



Richard Gessling, HD 55

There are nearly **400 candidates running** in races across Montana.

MCV has endorsed 62 candidates, including

51 running for Montana House seats

11 candidates running for Montana Senate

28 incumbent Lifetime Conservation Champions, who have a **100% voting record on key conservation issues** during previous legislative sessions

SOUTHWEST


Kathleen Williams, SD 31


Rep. Becky Edwards, HD 57


Rep. Jamie Isaly, HD 58


Rep. Alanah Griffith, HD 60


Rep. Josh Seckinger, HD 62


Rep. Peter Strand, HD 63


Rep. Brian Close, HD 65


Rep. Eric Matthews, HD 66


Kobi Craddock, HD 70


Rep. Donavon Hawk, HD 72


Marc Lee, HD 74


Patrick Sullivan, HD 75


Shayne Morgan, HD 76


Zach Brown, Bozeman County Commission

CENTRAL


Noy Holland, SD 9


Margaret Mitchell, SD 10


Erin Farris-Olsen, SD 41


Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell, SD 42


Rep. Jane Weber, HD 19


Rebecca Bogden-Richards, HD 23


Rep. Paul Tuss, HD 27


Rep. Mike Fox, HD 32


Rep. Luke Muszkiewicz, HD 79


Megan Lane, HD 80


Janet Ellis, HD 81


Rep. Pete Elverum, HD 82


Joseph Cohenour, HD 83



Did you know?

Across staff and MCV Action Fund leadership, more than 700 hours are spent interviewing and considering prospective candidates for MCV endorsement. Learn more about the process at mtvoters.org/endorsements.

NORTHWEST MONTANA


Kyle Waterman, SD 4


Patrick Fitzpatrick, SD 6


Sen. Andrea Olsen, SD 48


Sen. Shane Morigeau, SD 50


Rep. Debo Powers, HD 3


Paula Koch, HD 4


Luca Welle, HD 5


Kate McLaughlin, HD 9


Catherine Allen, HD 10


Dalton Bradford, HD 13



Rep. Thedis Crowe, HD 15


Evan Schroedel, HD 88


Rep. Mark Thane, HD 89


Rep. Shelly Fyant, HD 91


Benjamin Davis, HD 93


Robin Kendall, HD 94


Rep. Bob Carter, HD 96


Rep. Melody Cunningham, HD 97


Rep. Jonathan Karlen, HD 98


Rep. Tom France, HD 99


Rep. SJ Howell, HD 100


Juanita Vero, Missoula County Commission



MCV'S BOOTS ON THE GROUND

Election Day is November 3, but MCV canvassers have been on the ground since June talking with neighbors about the impact of conservation priorities in our communities.



"I enjoy working as an organizer in Bozeman. I get to be connected to the greater community and work with others who share my passion. It's so much fun being intertwined with the happenings of Bozeman and being part of the difference this election season."

Sage Felker, Bozeman Regional Organizer



"The best conversations I've had on the doors are with older people who are genuinely concerned about Montana's future, whether it be the political landscape, public lands or preserving the individual rights guaranteed by our state constitution."

Will Ryerson, Billings Canvasser

Montana Conservation Voters
CONSERVATION CELEBRATION





Thanks to everyone who joined us last month in Missoula for the 2026 Conservation Celebration!



How did the 2026 Pups for Public Lands photo contest shake out? Based on the photos we received in September, you and your pups had a doggone good time on public lands all across Montana!

Winners will be announced later this month at mtvotersedfund.org/pups.

Thanks to our special sponsors and all of our participants for celebrating Public Lands Month with us. Happy t(r)ails!

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