

Email Body:

Hello [Representative/Senator Last Name],

I'm writing as a Wisconsin resident and supporter of our state parks, forests, and trails—places that are essential to our state's identity, economy, and quality of life.

These public lands support local businesses, promote public health, provide outdoor recreation opportunities, and protect natural and cultural resources for future generations. However, the current "user fee" funding model is not keeping pace with growing demand and long-term needs.

Key challenges facing Wisconsin's State Park System include:

- **Wisconsin ranks last in the nation** in state funding per state park visitor, investing significantly less per visit than the national average
- A growing deferred maintenance backlog exceeding **\$1 billion**
- Volunteer Friends groups are increasingly asked to raise millions of dollars to support aging infrastructure and understaffed properties
- Visitation continues to grow, with nearly **21 million visitors** in 2025 alone

While Friends groups and local communities are proud to support these places, a more sustainable and dedicated funding model is necessary to ensure Wisconsin's public lands remain accessible, well-maintained, and resilient.

I respectfully encourage you to support efforts to explore and advance long-term, sustainable funding solutions for Wisconsin's state parks and trails.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our state.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
[City]