

CONSERVE SAUK

FILM FESTIVAL

2023 Film Guide



Welcome to the 2023 Conserve Sauk Film Festival!

Thank you for taking the time to attend the 3rd Biennial Conserve Sauk Film Festival. We are excited to share a variety of conservation focused films at this event, including several films produced locally and regionally. We encourage you to engage in facilitated discussion with other attendees following the films.

The film festival will kick off at 10:30am with the screening of the film, ***Rise Up Again - Exploring Our Shared Humanity*** in Giese Lecture Hall, Room A-104. We hope this film will inspire you to take action in making your home, backyard, and community a better place to live.

There will be a lunch break from 12:30pm to 1:30pm. Attendees are encouraged to visit the Bluff View Café on campus and enjoy the view overlooking the City of Baraboo and the Baraboo Hills. During the lunch break, local organizations will have information on display about their conservation efforts and opportunities for involvement.

Thank you for attending and we hope you enjoy the festival!

Rise Up Again: Exploring Our Shared Humanity

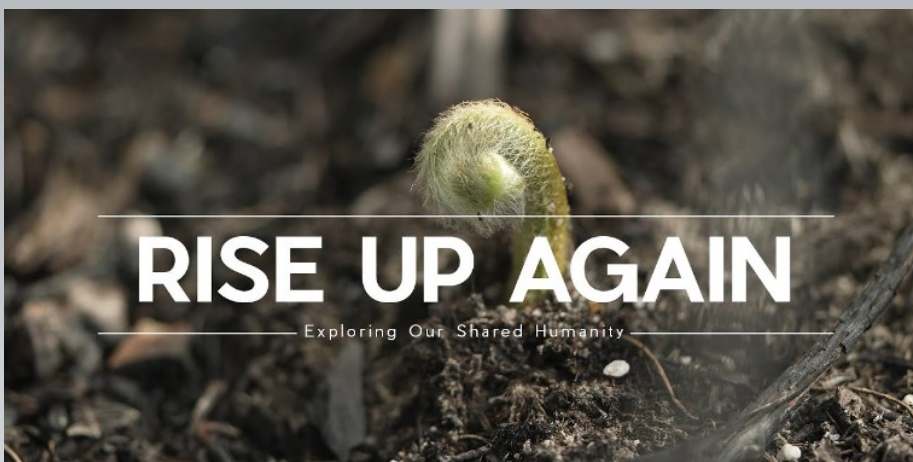
Documentary • USA • 2021 • 9 MIN

10:30 AM • Giese Lecture Hall, A-104

Editor: Jackie Viviers; Sound: Tamryn Breakey

It's not realistic to expect to always be thriving. Life can be messy and we can't separate the highs and lows or have one without the other. But we can learn to accept the process, to understand that it's part of the journey, and to build our own inner resilience. It's about bouncing forward and using adversity as a catalyst to get better and become stronger. And we also need to remember that we are part of a community - that when we are vulnerable, we can lean on each other and lift each other up. And together, we are so much more resilient than we know.

"This work is not for yourselves – kill that spirit of 'self'. If you can rise, bring someone with you" - Charlotte Maxeke.



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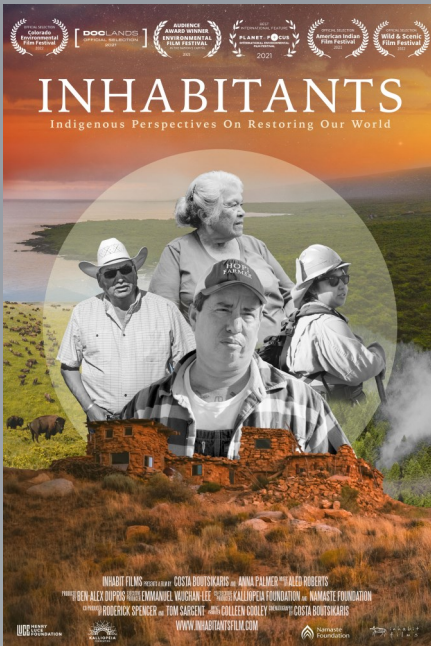
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Please enjoy **\$1 off** any one item at the Bluff View Café. Present this ticket at the counter to receive discount. Offer valid only on 11/4/2023. Limit one per customer.



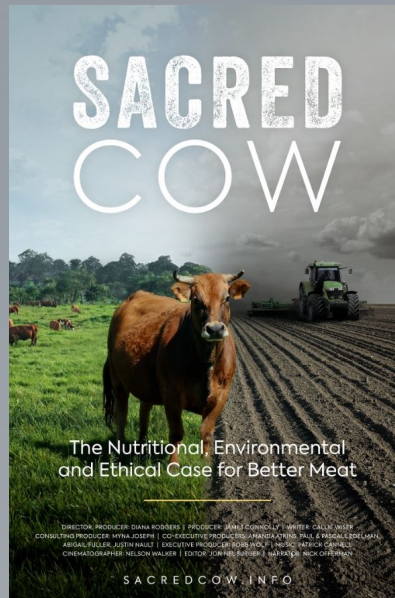
Inhabitants

Documentary • USA • 2021 • 76 MIN

11:00 AM • Giese Lecture Hall

Directors: Costa Boutsikaris & Anna Palmer

Inhabitants follows five Native American Tribes across deserts, coastlines, forests, and prairies as they restore their traditional land management practices. For millennia Native Americans successfully stewarded and shaped their landscapes, but centuries of colonization have disrupted their ability to maintain traditional land management practices. From deserts, coastlines, forests, mountains, and prairies, Native communities are restoring their ancient relationships with the land. As the climate crisis escalates these time-tested practices of North America's original inhabitants are becoming increasingly essential in a rapidly changing world.



Sacred Cow

Documentary • USA • 2020 • 80 MIN

2:45 PM • Giese Lecture Hall

Director, Producer: Diana Rodgers, Producer: James Connolly; Writer: Callie Wiser; Consulting Producer: Myna Joseph; Co-Executive Producers: Amanda Atkins, Paul & Pascale Edelman, Abigail Fuller, Justin Nault; Executive Producer: Robb Wolf, Music: Patrick Cannell, Cinematographer: Nelson Walker; Editor: Jon Neuberger; Narrator: Nick Offerman

At our grocery stores and dinner tables, even the most thoughtful consumers are overwhelmed by the number of considerations to weigh when choosing what to eat—especially when it comes to meat. Guided by the noble principle of least harm, many responsible citizens resolve the ethical, environmental and nutritional conundrum by quitting meat entirely. But can a healthy, resilient and conscientious food system exist without animals?



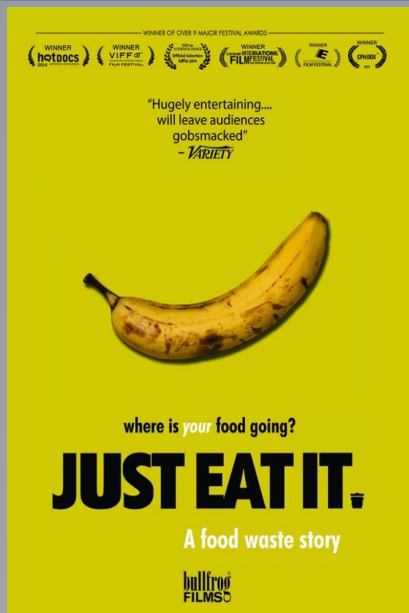
Monty and Rose 2: The World of Monty and Rose

Documentary • USA • 2021 • 50 MIN

1:30 PM • Giese Lecture Hall

Director and writer: Bob Dolgan; Editor: Sharon Filipkowski; Videography: Mitchell Wenkus; Narrator: Greg Neise; Animations: Bill Fogarty

The World of Monty and Rose” is a feature-length documentary film about the endangered Piping Plovers that have nested at Chicago’s Montrose Beach. They were the first Piping Plovers to successfully nest in Chicago since 1948. The film—a 2021 sequel to the “Monty and Rose” short—tells the story of how the birds took up residence on one of the busiest stretches of the busiest beach in Chicago. It also follows their story from hatching in western Michigan in 2017 to the present day and the 2020 and 2021 nesting seasons.



Just Eat It.

Documentary • USA • 2014 • 75 MIN

1:30 PM • Room A-238

Director, Editor, Composer, Director of Photography, Writer: Grant Baldwin; Producer/Writer: Jenny Rustemeyer; Executive Producer: Melanie Wood

We all love food. As a society, we devour countless cooking shows, culinary magazines and foodie blogs. So how could we possibly be throwing nearly 50% of it in the trash?

Filmmakers and food lovers Jen and Grant dive into the issue of food waste from farm, through retail, all the way to the back of their own fridge. After catching a glimpse of the billions of dollars of good food that is tossed each year in North America, they pledge to quit grocery shopping cold turkey and survive only on foods that has been discarded. In a nation where one in ten people is food insecure, the images they capture of squandered groceries are both shocking and strangely compelling. But as Grant's addictive personality turns full tilt towards food rescue, the 'thrill of the find' has unexpected consequences.



Stewart Udall and the Politics of Beauty

Documentary • USA • 2021 • 78 MIN

1:30 PM • Room A-241

Director: John de Graaf; Producer: Zelig Pollon; Photographer/Editor: Greg Davis; Narrator: Kate Udall; Executive Producers: Kevin White & Vada Manager; Manager Music: Michael Bade; Consulting Producer: Laurence Cotton

Stewart Udall left a profound legacy of conservation and environmental justice as Secretary of the Interior during the Kennedy and Johnson Administrations. His social and environmental successes stemmed from his ability to bring together people with disparate interests, and inspire them to achieve common goals. His example can serve us well today!

More importantly perhaps, Udall called on all Americans to move away from our emphasis on economic growth and consumerism and toward quality of life, and a new politics centered on beauty, frugal living, appreciation of nature and the arts, and a recognition of the Earth's limits.



Breaking Trail

Documentary • USA • 2021 • 30 MIN

3:15 PM • Room A-127

Director, Producer, Cinematography: Jesse Roesler; Producers: James Edward Mills, Jen Larson Roesler; Executive Producer: Daniel Satorius; Editor: Sam Kaiser; Sound: Tom Hambleton

Emily Ford, 28, Black, LGBTQ, sets out with Diggins a borrowed female Alaskan Huskie sled dog as her companion and protector to hike the entire 1200-mile Ice Age Trail in winter. As the 69-day journey through subzero temperatures tests her physical and mental endurance, Emily and Diggins develop a powerful bond.

She posts on IG throughout and discovers they are being followed by more than friends and family, receiving encouragement and survival packages from strangers along the way. As her story gathers momentum in local, national and international press Emily learns she's become a figurehead to encourage those who don't feel like they belong in wild places, especially people of color, to spend more time in nature. What begins as an extraordinary physical challenge also becomes a spiritual adventure. If successful she will be the first woman and person of color to finish.



Era of Mega Fires

Documentary • USA • 2014 • 60 MIN

11:00 AM • Room A-241

Director: Jeff Ostenson; Written by: Jeff Ostenson, Paul Hessburg, Steve Scott; Producer: Charles Atkinson; Edited by: Steve Scott, Chad Yenney, Oly Mingo

Wildfires have always been a part of our ecosystems in the Western U.S, but their steady increase in size and destructive power over the last 40+ years has been unprecedented.

The cost to our communities has been devastating.

The good news is that we can actually change the way many of these fires come to us! By managing our forests for resiliency, preparing our communities, and adapting to climate change, we can live better with wildfire.



Where Cranes Dance

Where Cranes Dance

Documentary • USA • 2023 • 15 MIN

12:00 PM • Room A-238

4:00 PM • Room A-238

Produced by: International Crane Foundation

The International Crane Foundations, headquartered in Baraboo, Wisconsin, works worldwide to conserve cranes and the ecosystems, watersheds, and flyways on which they depend. In our new introductory film, Where Cranes Dance, we will take a journey around the world, with some of our charismatic cranes as our guides. Along the way, we will meet extraordinary people, who are working tirelessly to save cranes and the places where cranes dance. When we fly together, everything is possible.

<https://savingcranes.org/>



Dear Mother Nature

Documentary • USA • 2019 • 30 MIN

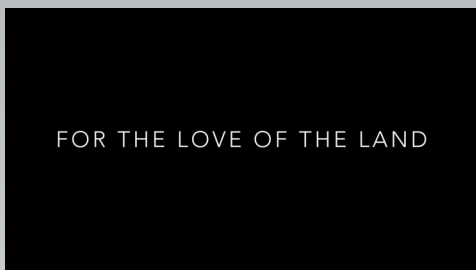
11:00 AM • Room A-127

4:00 PM • Room A-241

Starring/Directing: Pattie Gonia, Wyn Wiley; Production Company: Wondercamp; Director/Editor: Tim Kressin; Producer: Davis Goslin; Assistant Producer: Jenny Dugan; Manager: Dayna Turnblom

Wyn Wiley (he/him), aka Pattie Gonia (she/her), has made waves over the past year as an environmental advocate drag queen. We follow Wyn as he travels to Hawaii to see firsthand the impacts of careless consumption and plastics on Mother Nature (or as Pattie says, "Mother Natch"). Wyn meets with scientists, non-profit leaders, volunteers, then rallies the Pattie community to lead a beach clean-up. Ultimately, Wyn partners with sustainable fashion designer, Angela Luna, to create three dresses that personify the plastics crisis.

Earth Focus: For the Love of the Land



Documentary • USA • 2022 • 56 MIN

3:15 PM • Room A-130

Created by: Raisa Scriabine; Executive Producers: Juan Devis, Nicky Milne, Kim Spencer; Producer & Director: Nicky Milne; Producer: Jon Christensen; Associate Producer: Luis Alfonso De la Parra; Co-Producer: Angela Boisevert

Discussing mental health has historically been taboo in many rural communities. As climate change pushes farmers, homesteaders and herders to the edge, this film pierces the mental health taboo through personal, poignant stories of struggle, resilience, and hope.



	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM
Aural M. Umhoefer Building				
Giese Lecture Hall A-104		Rise up Again: Exploring Our Shared Humanity 10:30 AM • 9 min	Inhabitants: An Indigenous Perspective on Restoring our World 11:00 AM • 76 min	Lunch Break
Room A –127		CLOSED	Dear Mother Nature 11:00 AM • 30 min	Persistence: Midwestern Farmers & Their Uncommon Crops 12:00 PM • 15 min Lunch Break
Room A –130		CLOSED	sym-bee-o-sis 11:00 AM • 18 min	Running Free: The Baraboo River Restoration Story 11:30 AM • 15 min Flowing Free: Recovering Native Trout & Restoring Communities in WI 12:00 PM • 9 min Lunch Break
Room A –238		CLOSED	The Good Land 11:00 AM • 13 min	Protected: A Wild and Scenic River Portrait 11:30 AM • 12 min Where Cranes Dance 12:00 PM • 15 min Lunch Break
Room A –241		CLOSED	Era of Megafires 11:00 AM • 60 min	Lunch Break

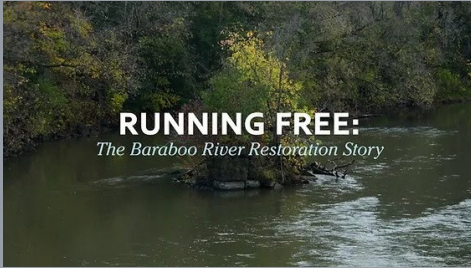
CONSERVE SAUK

FILM FESTIVAL

Saturday, November 4

10am until 5pm

	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM		
	<p>Monty & Rose 2: The World of Monty and Rose 1:30 PM • 50 min</p>		<p>Sacred Cow 2:45 PM • 80 min</p>	<p>Running Free: The Baraboo River Restoration Story 4:30 PM • 15 min</p>		
	<p>Seed Opportunities: The efforts of SSWIG in Southwest WI 1:30 PM • 9 min</p>	<p>The Brix Project: Black Currants in the Driftless; A Richer Experience; Taking Care of the Land & Water 2:00 PM • 16 min</p>	<p>Protected: A Wild and Scenic River Portrait 2:45 PM • 12 min</p>	<p>Breaking Trail 3:15 PM • 30 min</p>	<p>Last Wild Places: American Prairie Reserve 4:00 PM • 13 min</p>	<p>Persistence: Midwestern Farmers & Their Uncommon Crops 4:30 PM • 15 min</p>
	<p>Last Wild Places: American Prairie Reserve 1:30 PM • 13 min</p>	<p>Game Hawker: A Wild Journey to Falconry 2:00 PM • 25 min</p>	<p>The Good Land 2:45 PM • 13 min</p>	<p>Earth Focus: For the Love of the Land 3:15 PM • 56 min</p>	<p>sym-bee-o-sis 4:30 PM • 18 min</p>	
	<p>Just Eat It 1:30 PM • 75 min</p>		<p>Milly Zantow: Local Recycling Pioneer 3:15 PM • 15 min</p>	<p>Spearfishing A Living History 3:45 PM • 5 min</p>	<p>Where Cranes Dance 4:00 PM • 15 min</p>	<p>Flowing Free: Recovering Native Trout & Restoring Communities in WI 4:30 PM • 9 min</p>
	<p>Stewart Udall and the Politics of Beauty 1:30 AM • 78 min</p>		<p>Game Hawker: A Wild Journey to Falconry 3:15 PM • 25 min</p>		<p>Dear Mother Nature 4:00 PM • 30 min</p>	



Running Free: The Baraboo River Restoration Story

Documentary • USA • 2021
• 15 MIN

11:30 AM • Room A-130

4:30 PM • Giese Lecture Hall

Directors: Melissa Schlupp, Chris Schellpfeffer; Producer: Tucker H. Boyd

Throughout the late nineteenth century, as many as eleven low head dams were built along the Baraboo River in southwest Wisconsin. As time passed, maintaining these dams became a financial burden to the private landowners and communities that owned them. Beginning in the late 1990's, a number of conservation groups along with city officials and citizens developed plans to remove dams along the Baraboo River. In October of 2001, the Linen Mill Dam was removed, resulting in a free-flowing river that had not been seen there since the 1930s. This film commemorates the 20 year anniversary of the dam removal project by revisiting the personal experiences of those involved and exploring the improvements to the water quality, fisheries, and adjacent communities since.



Milly Zantow: Local Recycling Pioneer

Documentary • USA • 2020/2012
• 15 MIN

3:15 PM • Room A-238

Producer: Mia Forslund; Executive Producer: Megan Monday; Illustration: Mickey Willard of The Brave Union; Animation: Brandon Ribordy; Voice over: Maureen McCollum; Sound design-Beauxregard Neylon

Milly Zantow changed recycling in Wisconsin and the world. When she learned about a problem facing her Sauk County community - a landfill closing much earlier than it should - she took action. Seeing for herself that there was too much plastic waste, she thought it should be recycled. At that time, no one was recycling plastics, but through her own ingenuity, Milly found a way. She developed the idea for the numbering system to identify plastics for recycling, making recycling easier to do all over the world, and she helped to write Wisconsin's recycling law. (From the Wisconsin Biographies collection).



Spearfishing: A Living History

Documentary • USA • 2013 • 5 MIN

3:45 PM • Room A-238

Producer, Director, Photography: Finn Ryan Video; Editor: Lukas Korver; Music: Ashe & Spencer; Historical Footage: David Hestad, Patty Lowe

Jason Bisonette, an Ojibwe of Odaawaazaga'igan and Marine Corps veteran, is a member of the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe. Learn how he takes part in safe spearfishing harvest limits through Ojibwe sovereign nation rights in order to preserve Ojibwe education and tradition and to protect the practice for future generations.

This film is from Wisconsin PBS *The Ways* series. *The Ways* is a collection of language and culture stories from Native communities around the central Great Lakes that explores traditional ways and those of today. The series supports educators in meeting the requirements of Wisconsin Act 31.



Last Wild Places: American Prairie Reserve

Documentary • USA • 2021 • 13 MIN

1:30 PM • Room A-130

4:00 PM • Room A-127

Executive Producer & Director: Vanessa Serrao; Senior Producer: Sarah Joseph

The American Prairie Reserve is assembling land in northern Montana, with the goal of creating a seamless 3.5 million acre grassland habitat. When they reintroduce bison to the landscape, both the ecosystem and local people benefit.

The *Last Wild Places* envisions a world where intact large wilderness areas contain the bulk of biodiversity on our planet, are resilient to—and help us mitigate—climate change, and continue providing the goods and services that are essential for humanity’s survival.



Protected: A Wild and Scenic River Portrait

Documentary • USA • 2017 • 12 MIN

11:30 AM • Room A-238

2:45 PM • Room A-127

Directors: Jeremy Monroe & David Herasimtschuk

Follow river paddler, author, and conservationist, Tim Palmer, through the enchanting waters of Oregon’s Wild Rivers Coast, which has the highest concentration of National Wild & Scenic Rivers in the US. With just a canoe, a camera, and an old van, Tim finds his bliss and his calling on these rivers, and has found a way to share their beauty...while reflecting on the significance of national Wild & Scenic Rivers Act that protects beautiful rivers all across country.

The Brix Project

Documentary • USA • 2023 • 16 MIN

2:00 PM • Room A-127

Program Director: Matt Raboin, Creative Director: Jonnah Perkins, Editor: Jesse Perkins

Black Currants in the Driftless is the story of farmer Wandi Peralta of Branches and Berries and his journey from the mountains of Dominican Republic to the hills of southwest Wisconsin. Peralta produces several varieties of rare perennial fruits - the primary crops being a black currant and aronia berry which sells to bakers and beverage makers around the upper Midwest. Matt Raboin of Brix Cider connected with Peralta through the Savanna Institute and their common passion for agroforestry to conserve the Driftless ecosystem. You can find black currant cider on the menu at Brix Cider in small batches.

A Richer Experience: Learn about the truly farm-to-table-to-farm relationship between Brix Cider and Dorothy’s Range. Follow Farmer April’s story about how she began raising heritage pigs, learn about her farrow-to-finish operation, and discover the rich connections between Brix apples, April’s pigs, and the Brix community.

Taking Care of the Land and Water: Cates Family Farm raises livestock through a deep commitment to land stewardship and conservation. Learn about the impacts of this rotational grazing operation for soil health, water quality, and how this operation furthers Brix’s farm-to-table mission.





Game Hawker: A Wild Journey to Falconry

Documentary • USA • 2022 • 25 MIN

2:00 PM • Room A-130

3:15 PM • Room A-241

Producer/Director: Josh Izenberg & Brett Marty; Producer: Shawn Hayes; Director of Photography: Owen Bissell; Editor: Traci Loth; Executive Producers: Alex Lowther and Monika McClure

Shawn Hayes leads a life of devotion. For him, falconry is more than a deep partnership with raptors: it's his life's work. As an American falconry ambassador, he's carved a space for himself where people of color haven't always been welcome. It's taken him across the globe, into strongholds of tradition and conservation. This film is about more than what humans can train birds to do—it's about what those birds can teach us about living in partnership with wild creatures and wild places.



Flowing Free: Recovering Native Trout and Restoring Communities in Wisconsin

Documentary • USA • 2022 • 9 MIN

12:00 PM • Room A-130

4:30 PM • Room A-238

Producer: Joshua Duplechian/Trout Unlimited; Photographer/Producer: Mark Taylor

The national forest in the Northwoods of Wisconsin is crisscrossed by streams filled with fat brookies and dotted with ponds brimming with bass, pike, and walleye. "Flowing Free," a new film from Trout Unlimited, takes you there: Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, home to 1,200 miles of fishable streams and 600 fishable lakes.

In and around this forest, Trout Unlimited is working with state and federal agencies to restore streams before the next flood. Thanks to investments from the likes of FEMA, we can fix basic but costly problems that plague rural communities—and hamper efforts to rebuild native Eastern brook trout strongholds.



Seed Opportunities: The Efforts of SSWIG in Southwest Wisconsin

Documentary • USA • 2020 • 9 MIN

1:30 PM • Room A-127

Producer/Director: Matt Oehmichen;

A Wisconsin farmer-led watershed group, the Sauk Soil & Water Improvement Group (SSWIG) is a community of farmers and partners that share a common goal of improving soil health and water quality through regenerative agricultural practices and education to build resilient family farms and thriving rural communities.

This film highlights the passion of SSWIG members as they strive to empower other farmers, conservation professionals and community members to come together and protect land and water resources while supporting sustainable farms.



**Persistence: Midwestern
Farmers and Their
Uncommon Crops**

Documentary • USA • 2019 • 15
MIN

12:00 PM & 4:30 PM • Room A-127

Producer/Director/Photography: Finn
Ryan; Video/Editor: Lukas Korver; Music:
Asche & Spencer; Historical Footage:
David Hestad, Patty Lowe

Eight unconventional Midwestern
farmers share the beauty, hardships,
and highpoints of their calling. This
refreshingly honest mini-
documentary about the ups and
downs of growing uncommon fruit
and nut crops in the Midwest revels
in the moments of poetry, and the
unvarnished truths, found on the
farm.



The Good Land

Documentary • USA • 2015 • 13 MIN

11:00 AM • Room A-238

2:45 PM • Room A-130

Director: Jon Glassberg; Producer: Joshua
Uhl

Devil's Lake state park is home to some
of the best bouldering the Midwest has
to offer. Over the past 10 years the lake
and it's surrounding areas has
experienced a bouldering resurgence. A
group of dedicated climbers have
poured their lives into this place,
reviving old areas and relentlessly
searching for new lines. Devil's Lake is
unique and holds a special place in the
hearts of those who have taken the
time to fully experience it. Welcome to
The Good Land.



sym-bee-o-sis

Documentary • USA • 2020 • 18 MIN

11:00 AM & 4:30 PM • Room A-130

Producers: Neil Losin & Nathan Dappen

Pollination. The ancient partnership
between bees and plants is so
fundamental to life on land that we
often take it for granted. But a team
of scientists is discovering that an
unexpected third partner makes the
bee-plant mutualism possible.
Developing bees rely on microbes –
bacteria and fungi – to consume
nectar and pollen and become a
protein-rich food source for the
bees. Without the microbes, the bee
-plant partnership falls apart. This
discovery presents an urgent
question: how are microbe-killing
chemicals like fungicides affecting
bees? And how can we adapt food
systems that depend on these
chemicals to protect wild
pollinators?

*Conserve Sauk Film Festival is organized by a team of individuals representing a number of local organizations.
Thank you to all those who are involved with making this project a reality.*

2023 Steering Committee members

- Sauk County Land Resources and Environment Department
- International Crane Foundation
- Lake Wisconsin Alliance
- UW-Platteville Baraboo Sauk County
- Friends of the Baraboo River
- Powered Up Baraboo
- Carnegie-Shadde Memorial Public Library

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