

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Ménéwek (Milwaukee) and Wisconsin are the ancestral homelands to the:

Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Brothertown Indian Nation
Forest County Potawatomi
Ho-Chunk Nation
Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
Mole Lake (Sokaogon Chippewa Community) Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians, and
Oneida Nation
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin

Background

Land acknowledgment is an indigenous way of life practiced for time immemorial. It is part of ceremony that is indigenous culture, gratitude, and living in reciprocity with the natural world. Neshnabék – original people – carry a sacred relationship with land. This connection provides lessons for living in accordance with all of creation.

Militarized removal, genocide, and subsequent assimilation policies separated Indigenous People from the land. These historical and ongoing injustices began a great divide with the natural world, and yet Indigenous People endure and continue to act as stewards and protectors of land. This is remarkable and an act of perseverance which is essential for all who call Mother Earth home. With gratitude and intentionality, we honor the relationship Indigenous People have with the land, for our benefit, and that of future generations.

Action by Women's Fund of Greater Milwaukee

Indigenous People continue to live in Greater Milwaukee and are contributing to the cultural and economic landscape of the region in meaningful ways. The Women's Fund uplifts indigenous knowledge and voices. We are working to address the inequities that face all women and demonstrate our support by providing HER Scholarships to women pursuing higher education, and with grants to nonprofit organizations addressing specific needs of Indigenous People. We also convene an inclusive community to explore and better understand the lived experience of Indigenous People. We remain steadfast to advancing equity of women...Indigenous women are included in our efforts.

Posted with counsel from Starla Thompson, Indigenous Consultant and WF Board Director
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