

350 Madison Membership FAQ

Q: Do I need to become a member? Will I be allowed to participate at monthly meetings, volunteer on campaigns or other teams, or be on 350 Madison email lists if I am not a member?

A: No, 350 Madison will remain open to any interested person who wants to volunteer their time on 350 Madison projects or activities. However, an individual needs to become a member to vote for or serve on the Coordinating Council. We encourage everyone who is a part of our 350 Madison community to become a member so you can fully participate in the organization. That's why we've made it really easy to become a member.

Q: What is the Coordinating Council?

A: The Coordinating Council is a group made up of representatives of teams and at-large members. It is kind of like a board of directors; however, the purpose of the Coordinating Council is somewhat limited. Campaign decisions are made within teams. The Coordinating Council is responsible for decisions that affect the entire organization and administrative issues.

Q: Why does 350 Madison need to have membership?

A: The Coordinating Council and our greater community of activists decided to incorporate as a nonprofit organization. This decision reflects that we have already grown significantly and have a variety of organizational needs, which require a more formal structure. For example, we have been awarded grants and hired contract organizers to mobilize landowners along the pipeline. This level of organizational sophistication is very difficult to pull off without incorporating. In addition, incorporation will allow us to apply for more grants and to ramp up our impact. Once we decided to incorporate, we had to decide whether to be governed just by the Coordinating Council or to involve our wider community in selecting Coordinating Council members. We decided to involve our larger community in the selection process, and that requires us to establish a formal membership process.

Q: What is the cost of membership?

A: We want to keep membership open to everyone, so we set annual membership dues at an amount of \$5 or more. However, we are asking everyone to consider becoming a Sustaining Member. Sustaining Members fulfill their dues obligation by contributing every month at a level they choose. Becoming a Sustaining Member is incredibly beneficial to the organization because it means we will have a steady revenue stream, which we can then count on to fund our important work.

Q: What is the difference between regular Members and Sustaining Members?

A: As mentioned in the previous answer, Sustaining Members fulfill their membership dues by giving above the minimum amount in monthly contribution of their choice. Both Sustaining Members and regular Members have the same rights to select Coordinating Council members and to serve on the Council.

Q: Can I donate to 350 Madison without becoming a Member?

A: Yes. We encourage you to become a Member if you are active with 350 Madison, but if you simply want to contribute financially, you can certainly do that!

Q: How long does membership last?

A: Membership lasts one year from the date of enrollment. Sustaining Members need not renew their membership as long as their contribution is still active.

Q: What if I am unable to pay \$5 for membership dues?

A: If you assert an inability to pay, you may become a Member without paying the minimum amount.