Dear Friend,

We have just over one month remaining in the 2021 legislative session. In conservation news, a constitutional amendment that would authorize the issuance of bonds for improvements and renovations at Alabama’s state parks has passed the House. According to the Governor’s plan, this bond initiative would focus on improvements for state park campgrounds, which bring money into the parks system. Conservation Alabama strongly supports this bill and we will keep you up to date as it makes its way to the Senate for consideration. We’re also continuing to follow legislation concerning voting access, hiking and biking trails, and government transparency. To hear from us at key moments when your voice can make a difference, make sure you’re signed up for Action Alerts.

This month we also celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd. Beginning in 1970, the first Earth Day inspired people the world over to step up and take action for our planet. These advocacy efforts played a major part in building the modern environmental movement, and led to the passage of landmark environmental laws like the Clean Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts.

Fifty-one years later, conservation matters now more than ever. Communities across Alabama and around the world are dealing with major challenges including climate change, threats to our air and water, biodiversity loss, and more. Our voices are the most powerful tool we have for advancing sound
environmental policies that protect our natural resources. With that in mind, we encourage you to celebrate Earth Day this year by telling your legislator you're a conservation voter, attending a local community event, tuning into Earth Day Live, or telling a friend why you're passionate about conservation.

Sincerely,

Tammy Monistere
Executive Director

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**New Websites Launched**

All good things must come to an end...and be replaced with something new!

This week, we launched a brand new website for Conservation Alabama, and our entire family of organizations.

It's another step in our strategic plan to keep building Alabama's Conservation Voter Movement and keep advancing protections for our natural resources.

- You wanted easy ways to take action on conservation issues? You got it.
- You wanted to track priority bills in real time during the state and federal legislative session? You got it.
- You wanted to connect with other conservation supporters at special events? You got it.

With this major update, we've taken care to incorporate the feedback we've gotten from members over the past year, bringing new tools and features to help you engage more deeply with our mission.

A HUGE thank you to our amazing intern Ruby Krasnow, who dedicated her time and energy to make these new sites what they are. This was her final big project with us before heading off to college this fall.

While we're sad to see her go, we can't wait to see where her journey takes her!

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**Welcome New Board Members**

The Conservation Alabama family of organizations is lucky to have the best volunteer leaders around. Every year, when we elect and appoint new members to our Board of Directors, we are inspired by their excitement and willingness to serve.

Please join us in welcoming Matt McDonald and Myron Penn to the Conservation Alabama Board, and Brent McClure to the Conservation Alabama Foundation Board.

These new board members will provide fresh perspectives and diverse interests that advance our collective work and continue to position their respective organizations as critical leaders in Alabama’s conservation movement.
A Mother's Day Gift that Gives Back

Mother's Day (Sunday, May 9) is still a few weeks out, but it's never a bad idea to start thinking about how you'll celebrate the mom or mother figure in your life!

If you're looking for a gift that gives back, we hope you'll consider making a contribution in her name to Conservation Alabama.

When you make a donation of any amount, your loved one will receive a customized Mother's Day e-card featuring Alabama's beautiful outdoor places and incredible wildlife. You'll also have the opportunity to personalize your card by including your own heartfelt message.

We think this is one of the best gifts around: Mom gets a warm feeling knowing you remembered her on Mother's Day, you get the satisfaction that goes with community giving, and you'll be honoring a special person in your life by supporting vital conservation efforts across our state.

Your Mother's Day contribution will go straight to work, keeping our public lands accessible, our air and water clean, and our communities healthy.

From all of us at Conservation Alabama, Happy Mother's Day!

You're Invited: Virtual Film Screening and Discussion

At Conservation Alabama, we believe threats to our planet and our democracy are intertwined. Access to voting is essential for enabling citizens to hold elected officials accountable and engage in issues like safe drinking water, air quality, and affordable, clean energy.

During the 2021 legislative session, lawmakers from 47 states have considered 361 bills with provisions that restrict voting access -- and 35 of these bills are in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia.

That's why we've teamed up with our friends at Florida Conservation Voters and Georgia Conservation Voters to host a virtual screening and discussion of the documentary RIGGED: The Voter Suppression Playbook. Join us Tuesday, April 20 at 5:00 pm to learn more about barriers to voting and discover opportunities to speak out on this important issue.

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