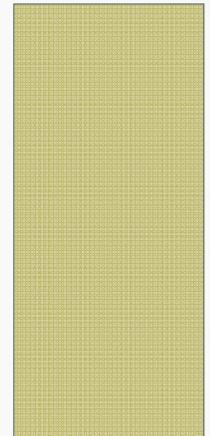


# WATER GUARD PROGRAM

UPDATE: 2016



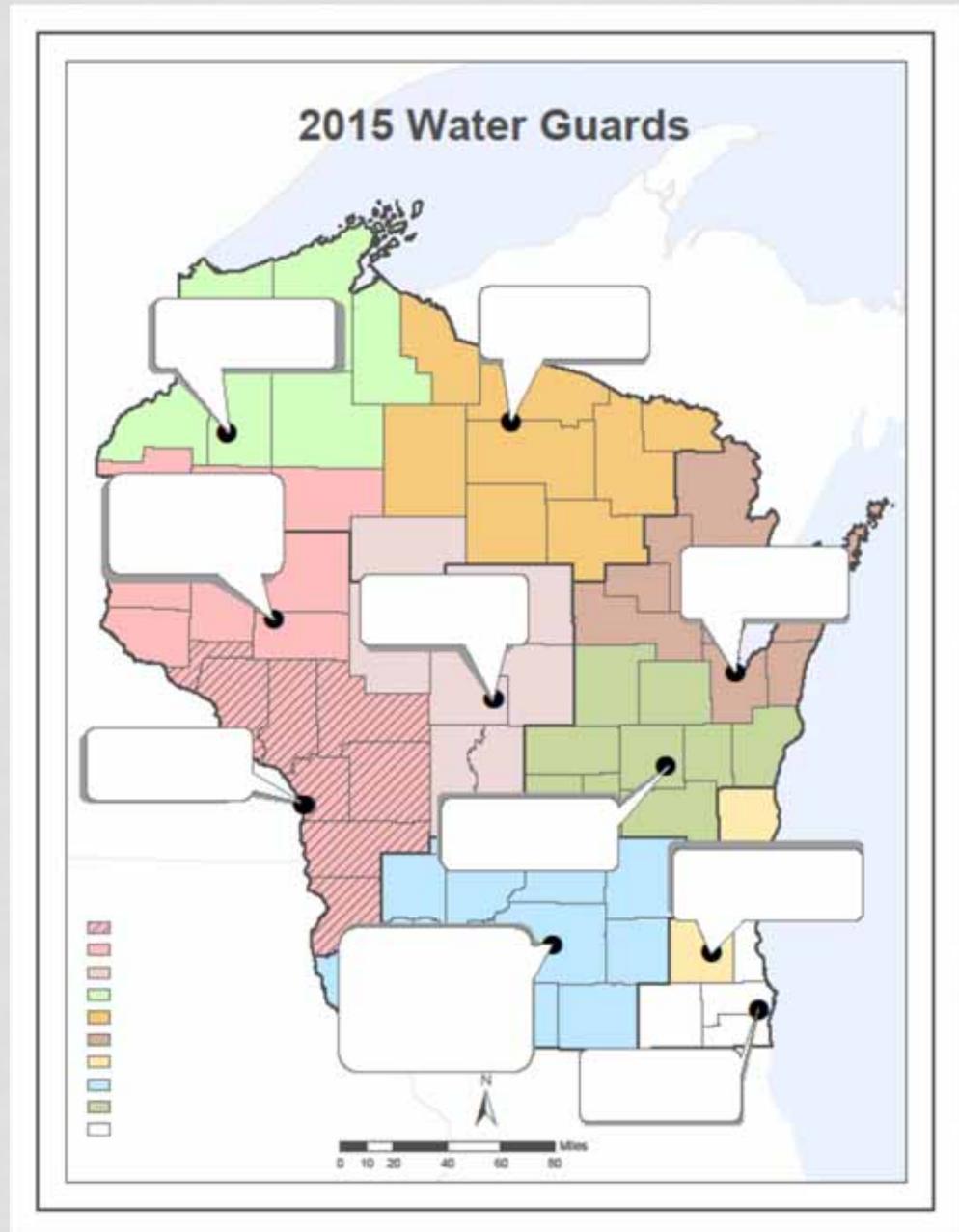
## WG LOCATIONS!

In 2016:

Adding a position in  
Ashland, WI!!

12 WG's

1 WG Coordinator





WATER GUARD LYNDIE GUENTHER

WHAT IS A WATER GUARD!?

# WHAT IS A WATER GUARD??

Water Guards are credentialed and uncredentialed DNR staff that prevent and control the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species in WI waterbodies.

They seek to protect waterways in WI through education and enforcement.

There are currently 11 Water Guards spread throughout the state of Wisconsin.



# WG TRAINING

Classroom and Field work!

AIS Identification

Professional Communication

Enforcement

Boats: Parts and Safety

Decontamination Units

Classroom

Hands on Training

Certification!



# PROGRESS FROM 2015

WHAT WENT WELL!!

# WG INVOLVEMENT 2015

- Landings and Events
- Fishing Tournaments
  - Walleye Weekend
  - Brew City Tournament
  - Cabela's Tournament
- Boating Safety Classes
- Classroom AIS
- Janesville Parade
- Sportsman and Fishing Clubs
- Group Check Involvement in EVERY area
- First Ever WG GROUP CHECK
- Contacts
  - Contacts
    - Contacts!!!
- Other Involvement
  - Partnership with CBCW staff on landings
  - Partnership with DNR AIS staff
  - Community Policing: Presence
  - Public Outreach
  - County/City/Town meetings
  - Enforcement Support for Full Time Wardens
  - NR 40 training for DNR staff
  - Wardens
    - AIS citations
    - OWI offenses
    - Registration and License Issues

# ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Maintenance of Decontamination Units
  - Ready to go at the start of summer
  - Yearly maintenance to save time and money!
- Collection of Contact Data (for EOY report)
  - Spreadsheet made for continuous data collection
- Start of Year Outreach to AIS staff
  - Keep yearly contact information
  - Update at the beginning of the year
- Discovery of Starry Stonewort!
  - Partnership with Rapid Response Team
  - Public reaction

# FUTURE

- Focus on Bait disposal
- Group Checks
- Water vs. Vegetation
- Strengthen Partnerships
- Get Creative!!



# 2016

First ever  
collaboration  
between WI  
and MN!!

- WI/MN Group Check in the St. Croix system.
- **AIS and WG's will team up on the WI side.**
- Inspections
- **Decontamination Units will be available for use.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT!!!!**

ANY QUESTIONS!?

POWERPOINT 2016: SAMANTHA OLSEN  
WATER GUARD COORDINATOR

