



2022 Agenda

*44th Annual
Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention*



*Wisconsin
Lakes
Partnership*

**April 6-8
Stevens Point**

Photo by Andreae Molly



Welcome

to the 44th annual Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention!

Finally! After two years of virtual existence, we are able to come together again - IN PERSON - to learn, network, and grow as the caretakers of our lakes and rivers.

My name is Sara Windjue, and I am the newest member of the Extension Lakes team, the education and outreach arm of the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership. I started on March 1, 2020... two weeks before we all went home to work remotely. We were in the final stages of preparing for the 2020 Lakes and Rivers Convention, which went completely virtual within a three-week time frame. I was looking forward to attending my first Convention and meeting you all, but it wasn't meant to be. After two long years, I'm finally able to experience this wonderful event!

Our theme this year is *Protecting What We Love for the Future*, and we all love Wisconsin's water resources. Along with that love, we all bring something unique to the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership, whether it be our technical skills, out-of-the-box ideas, communication strategies, writing styles, etc. Our diversity is what makes this Partnership so strong.

Speaking of diversity, there are a few ways we're working to reach new audiences and grow this network. First, we've taken on the challenge of coordinating a dual-audience event (both in-person and virtual). We want to be inclusive by providing equal access to opportunities and resources for people who might otherwise be excluded, whether it be by distance or other circumstances. We want to be purposeful in our strive for equity by providing various levels of support and assistance so that everyone, regardless of specific needs and abilities, is able to participate. The practice of including and involving people from a range of different backgrounds makes our Partnership stronger and our work more far-reaching. Second, you'll notice that several sessions are denoted with "DEI," meaning they include an aspect of diversity, equity, and/or inclusion.

After two very long years, I hope we all can take some time to rekindle old friendships, make new acquaintances, and further develop skills that will enhance our communities and make Wisconsin even better by protecting what we love for the future. I look forward to interacting and learning with you.

Sara Windjue

Leadership and Capacity Building Specialist, Extension Lakes

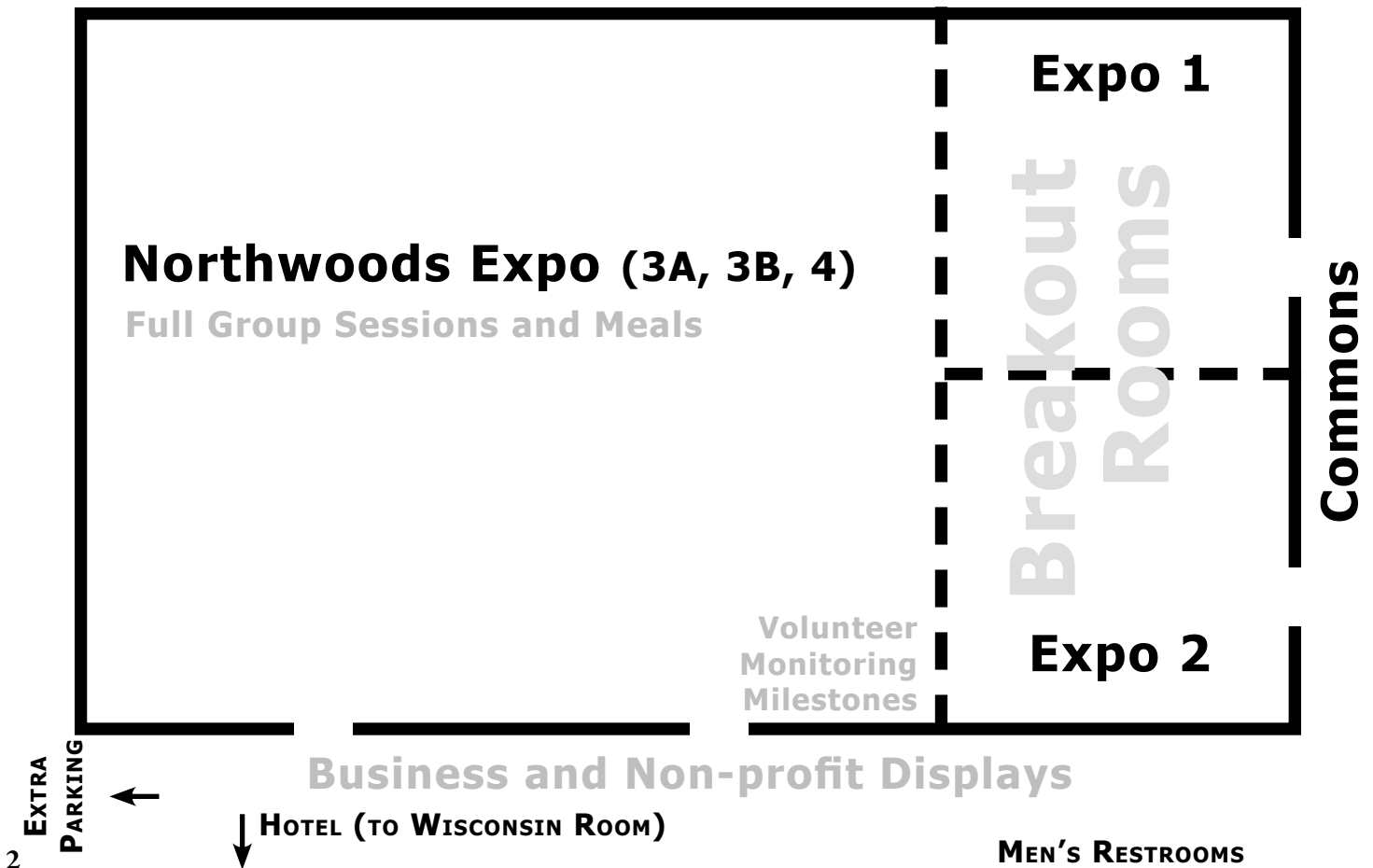


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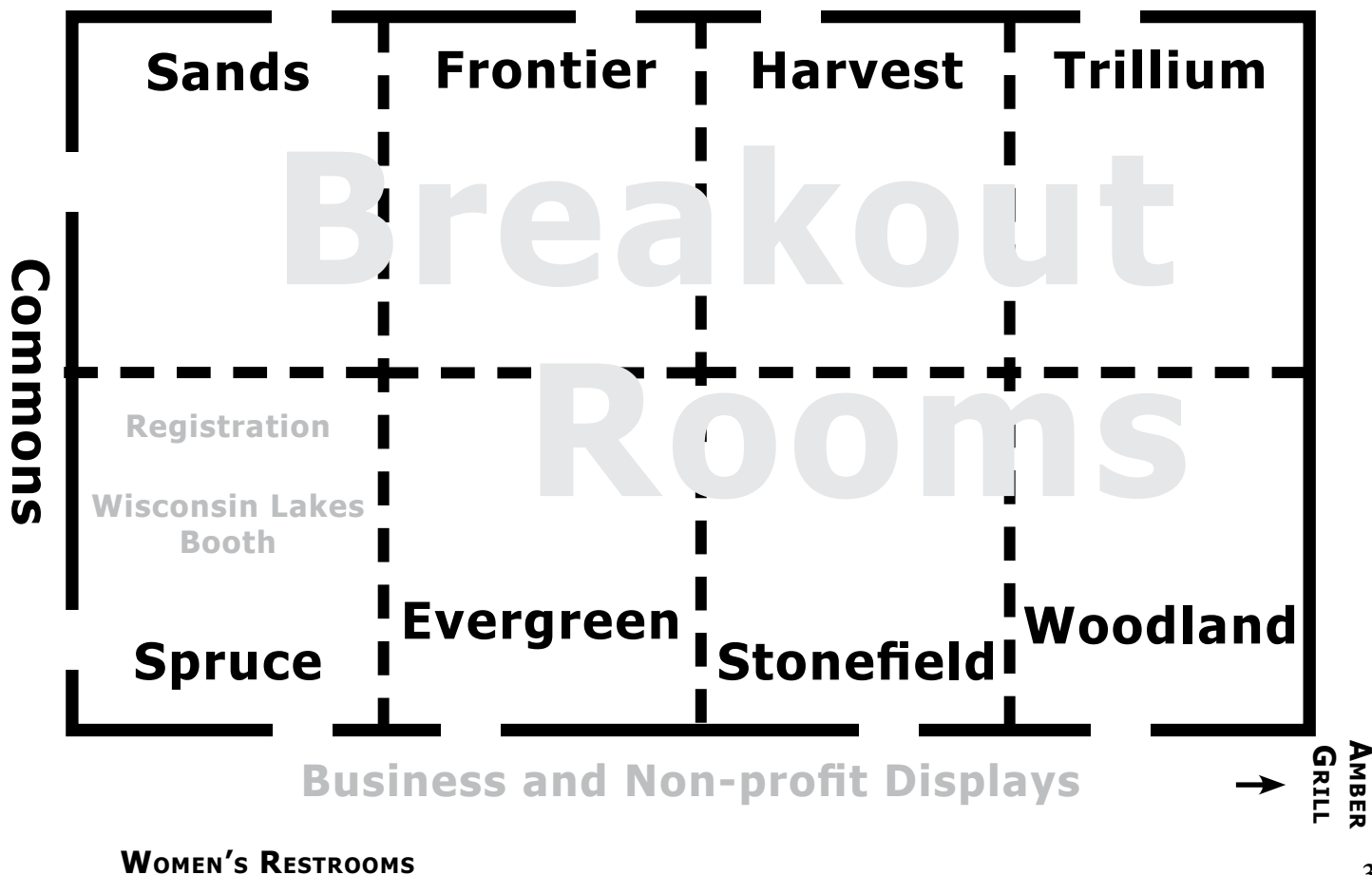
Navigate the Convention “Streams”

Your Thursday and Friday convention sessions are arranged by the following topics, which we call “Streams.” Follow one Stream as it flows through the convention or “Stream hop” to catch a little of everything.

Thursday and

Friday Streams:

- Wildlife/Fish/Natural History
- Citizen Science (Thursday only)
- Building Capacity (Friday only)
- Innovative Practices/Partnerships
- Aquatic Invasive Species
- Water Resource Protection
- Hot Topics (also available to our virtual audience)





Wednesday Agenda

April 6, 2022

Registration Open
8:00 AM-5:00 PM
Spruce

Morning Workshops - Pre-registration Required

Room →	Expo 2	Evergreen	Woodland	Wisconsin
9:00 AM-12:00 PM	Lake District Commissioner Training: Beginner <i>Eric Olson</i>	Surface Water Grants Orientation <i>Sarah Fanning Alison Mikulyuk Laura MacFarland</i>	Shoreland Tools to Protect Your Lake <i>Pamela Toshner Lynn Markham Mike Wenbolz Amy Kowalski</i>	Volunteer Management for Water Organizations <i>Amber DeValk Michele Miller</i>
10:30 AM	Refreshment Break in Commons			
12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch on your own (or pre-registered lunch in Northwoods Expo)			

All Day Workshops

Room →	Expo 1	Stonefield
9:00 AM-4:00 PM	Climate Adaptation for Wisconsin Lakes and Watersheds <i>Madeline Magee, Nancy Turyk, Danielle Shannon, Katie Hein</i>	Managing Recreational Impacts <i>Michael Engleson</i>
12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch on your own (or pre-registered lunch in Northwoods Expo)	

Afternoon Workshops - Pre-registration Required

Room →	Expo 2	Evergreen*	Woodland
1:00-4:00 PM	Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN) Refresher Training/Dissolved Oxygen Meters <i>Kris Larson Catherine Higley Rachel Sabre Sandy Wickman</i>	Water Action Volunteers (WAV) Stream Monitoring Training <i>Emily Heald Katy Bradford</i> <i>*Outside venue possible</i>	Protecting the Wonderful Waters of Wisconsin <i>Aaron Marti Pamela Toshner René Buys</i>
2:30 PM	Refreshment Break in Commons		

Thurs/Fri Mornings

6:45-7:30 AM

Thursday and Friday, 6:45-7:30 AM - Wisconsin Room

Sunrise Yoga

Start the morning with basic yoga poses in a mellow and relaxed environment. Participants should bring a yoga mat or bath towel with them. Comfortable clothing is recommended. Free and welcome to all ages and levels of interest.



Wednesday Agenda



Exhibits Open
12:00-7:00 PM

April 6, 2022

Commons

Morning Workshops - Pre-registration Required

Room →	Sands	Frontier	Harvest	Trillium
9:00 AM-12:00 PM	Wisconsin Mussel Monitoring Program Training <i>Jesse Weinzinger</i> <i>Lisie Kitchel</i>	Native Seed Starting and Propagation: Tricks & Tips from Two Plant Enthusiasts <i>Paul Skawinski</i> <i>Patrick Goggin</i>	Interpersonal Communication Skills: Key Tools and Resources for Lake Organizations <i>Brad Gingras</i>	Integrated Aquatic Plant Management <i>Madi Johansen</i> FULL
10:30 AM	Refreshment Break in Commons			
12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch on your own (or pre-registered lunch in Northwoods Expo)			

All Day Workshops

Room →	Expo 1	Stonefield
9:00 AM-4:00 PM	Climate Adaptation for Wisconsin Lakes and Watersheds <i>Madeline Magee, Nancy Turyk, Danielle Shannon, Katie Hein</i>	Managing Recreational Impacts <i>Michael Engleson</i>
12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch on your own (or pre-registered lunch in Northwoods Expo)	

Afternoon Workshops - Pre-registration Required

Room →	Sands	Frontier	Harvest	Trillium
1:00-4:00 PM	Lake District Treasurer Workshop <i>Dan Butkus</i> <i>Eric Olson</i>	Introduction to Lake Algae and Cyanobacteria: Identification, Ecology, Health Effects, and Tracking <i>Gina LaLiberte</i>	Practical Resilience and Systems Thinking for Long-Term Lake Management Planning <i>Ashley Trudeau</i> <i>Dane Whittaker</i>	Aquatic Plant Ecology and Identification <i>Michelle Nault</i> <i>Susan Knight</i> <i>Paul Skawinski</i> FULL
2:30 PM	Refreshment Break in Commons			

Wednesday Special Sessions

Room →	Expo 1	Expo 2
4:45-5:45 PM	County-wide Lake & River Association Roundtable <i>Facilitator: Cathie Erickson</i> page 14	Travel Log from a Water Trip to Nicaragua <i>Patrick Goggin</i> <i>Quita Sheehan</i> page 14
5:45-7:00 PM	Networking Time (dinner on your own)	
7:00-11:00 PM	Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Welcome Reception Northwoods Expo page 14	

Agenda subject to change.



Thursday Morning Agenda

Morning Yoga
6:45-7:30 AM
Wisconsin Room



April 7, 2022

Registration Open
7:30 AM-5:00 PM
Spruce

Concurrent Sessions

Room Stream →	Expo 1 Hot Topics (also Virtual)	Expo 2 Wildlife/Fish/Natural History	Sands Citizen Science
8:00-8:50 AM	<p>The Central Sands Lakes Study: Findings and Recommendations to Guide Groundwater Management <i>Jeff Helmuth</i></p> <p>Evolution of Groundwater Quantity Management in Wisconsin <i>Adam Freihoefer</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 15</p>	<p>Wisconsin, All Natural <i>Joshua Mayer</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 15</p>	<p>Overview of Water-related Citizen-based Monitoring Opportunities <i>Jesse Weinzinger</i> <i>Lisie Kitchel</i></p> <p>Overview of the Wisconsin Citizen Lake Monitoring Network and Water Action Volunteers <i>Katy Bradford</i> <i>Paul Skawinski</i></p> <p>Iron County Loon and Lake Practicum: A High School Citizen Science Project <i>Zach Wilson</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">pages 15-16</p>
9:00-10:30 AM	<p>Welcome and Kickoff Keynote - Northwoods Expo <i>Keynote Speaker: Charley Wooley, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Midwest Regional Director</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 17</p>		
10:40 AM-12:00 PM	<p>2021 WICCI Report Findings <i>Katie Hein</i></p> <p>Building Resilience In Southeastern Wisconsin <i>Nadia Vogt</i></p> <p>Monroe County Climate Change Task Force - A Proactive Approach <i>Bob Micheel</i></p> <p>Adapting to Climate Change through Natural Flood Management <i>Kyle Magyera</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 18</p>	<p>Climate Change Decreases the Diversity of Fishing Opportunities in WI <i>Alexander Latzka</i></p> <p>Overview of Environmental Risks Neonicotinoid Insecticides Pose to WI's Aquatic Ecosystems <i>Michael Miller</i></p> <p>Climate Change is Altering Lake Ice Phenology and Affecting Wisconsin Fisheries <i>Zachary Feiner</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">pages 18-19</p>	<p>Dragonfly Monitoring in your Watershed: Training the Next Generation of Citizen Scientists <i>Hannah Bunting</i> <i>Wade Moder</i></p> <p>Community Science Road Salt Monitoring in the Milwaukee River Basin <i>Katie Rademacher</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 19</p>
12:15-1:30 PM	<p>Lunch in Northwoods Expo ~ Governor Tony Evers</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 21</p>		

Thursday Morning Agenda



April 7, 2022

Exhibits Open
8:00 AM-6:00 PM
Commons

Concurrent Sessions

Room Stream →	Evergreen/Frontier Innovative Practices/Partnerships	Stonefield/Harvest Aquatic Invasive Species	Woodland/Trillium Water Resource Protection
8:00-8:50 AM	<p>Protecting and Defending Our Lake Heritage and Future: Our Five-Year Journey <i>Judy Ruch</i> <i>Bob Ruch</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 16</p>	<p>Eurasian Milfoil Removal at Sunset Lake: Community, Citizen Science, and Education <i>Paul List</i> <i>Sam De Roche</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 16</p>	<p>3, 2, 1: Launching Wisconsin's New Water Resources Protection Program <i>Aaron Marti</i> <i>Pamela Toshner</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 16</p>
9:00-10:30 AM	<p>Welcome and Kickoff Keynote - Northwoods Expo <i>Keynote Speaker: Charley Wooley, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Midwest Regional Director</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 17</p>		
10:40 AM-12:00 PM	<p>Engaging Citizens in Big River Cleanups: The Milwaukee River Areas of Concern (AOC) <i>Rebecca Fedak</i></p> <p>Catalyzing Residents for a Community Rivers Program <i>Patricia Gerber</i></p> <p>Partnering with the Great Lakes Community Conservation Corps to Implement Aquatic Invasive Species Programming <i>Scott McComb</i> <i>Tim Campbell</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 20</p>	<p>Chinese Mystery Snail Population Dynamics in Loon Lake, Vilas County <i>Warren Mueller</i></p> <p>Untying the Invasive Knotweed Complex <i>Matthew Wallrath</i> <i>Nic Tippery</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">pages 20-21</p>	<p>Wisconsin's Wild Lakes: What We Have Left and Why They're Important <i>John Bates</i></p> <p>The Totogatic River: Wild by Law <i>Kathy Bartilson</i> <i>Cathie Erickson</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 21</p>
12:15-1:30 PM	<p>Lunch in Northwoods Expo ~ Governor Tony Evers</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 21</p>		



Thursday Afternoon Agenda

April 7, 2022

Registration Open
7:30 AM-5:00 PM
Spruce

Concurrent Sessions

Room Stream →	Expo 1 Hot Topics (also Virtual)	Expo 2 Wildlife/Fish/Natural History	Sands Citizen Science
12:15-1:30 PM	Lunch in Northwoods Expo ~ Governor Tony Evers		
1:45-2:25 PM	A Tribal Perspective on Environmental Justice <i>Burton Warrington</i> page 22	What Have We Done to Deserve All These Cranes? <i>Stanley Temple</i> page 22	State of Vilas County Lakes: Analysis of Water Quality Trends <i>Catherine Higley</i> page 22
2:35-3:15 PM	A New Graphic Way to Show What Shoreland Zoning Standards Accomplish <i>Mike Wenholz</i> <i>Lynn Markham</i> page 24	Stories From My Teachers: Native Plants <i>Patrick Goggin</i> page 24	Effective Town Lakes Committee <i>Rolf Ethun</i> Hunting Water Hyacinth on the Winnebago Pool Lakes System <i>Valerie Stabenow</i> Restoring Stony Brook: the Last Trout Stream in Calumet Count <i>Joe Bach</i> page 24
3:30-4:30 PM	Lightning Presentations page 27		
5:00-6:00 PM	Author Meet and Greet <i>Eight Authors</i> page 27		
6:00-8:00 PM	Lake Stewardship and Volunteer Stream Monitoring Awards Ceremony - Northwoods Expo 5:30 PM Socializing/Networking ~ 6:00 PM Banquet Dinner ~ awards to follow page 28		

Thursday Afternoon Agenda



Exhibits Open
8:00 AM-6:00 PM
Commons


April 7, 2022

Concurrent Sessions

Room Stream →	Evergreen/Frontier Innovative Practices/Partnerships	Stonefield/Harvest Aquatic Invasive Species	Woodland/Trillium Water Resource Protection
12:15-1:30 PM	Lunch in Northwoods Expo ~ Governor Tony Evers		
1:45-2:25 PM	Fridays on the Farm Series Helps the Green Lake Association Reach a Large Audience <i>Jennifer Fjelsted</i> page 22	New Information on Risks Associated with Trade Pathways for Invasive Species <i>Chelsey Blanke</i> Organisms in Trade in WI <i>Liz Tanner</i> page 23	The Lower Wisconsin State Riverway: 32 Years of Innovative Resource Protection and Collaboration <i>Mark E. Cupp</i> page 23
2:35-3:15 PM	How Trout in the Classroom Program Catalyzed the Restoration of Calumet County's Only Trout Stream <i>Tracy Bartels</i> <i>Danielle Santry</i> page 25	After Phragmites: Effects of Multi-Year Herbicide Treatment in Wisconsin's Lake Michigan Basin <i>Matt Puz</i> Sniffing for Snails: Using K9s for the Early Detection of New Zealand Mudsnails in Wisconsin <i>Ellen Voss</i> <i>Laura Holder</i> page 25	Oconomowoc Watershed Protection Program and Tall Pines Conservancy: A Partnership to Protect and Improve Soil and Water Quality in the Oconomowoc River Watershed <i>Darrell Smith</i> <i>Susan Buchanan</i> page 26
3:30-5:00 PM	Poster Session in Commons <i>Refreshment Break (3:15-3:45 in Commons)</i> page 26		
6:00-8:00 PM	Lake Stewardship and Volunteer Stream Monitoring Awards Ceremony - Northwoods Expo 5:30 PM Socializing/Networking ~ 6:00 PM Banquet Dinner ~ awards to follow page 28		



Friday Morning Agenda

Morning Yoga
6:45-7:30 AM
Wisconsin Room 

April 8, 2022

Registration Open
7:30 AM-1:30 PM
Spruce

Concurrent Sessions

Room Stream →	Expo 1 Hot Topics (also Virtual)	Expo 2 Wildlife/Fish/Natural History	Sands Building Capacity
8:00-8:50 AM	What Do We Know About Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in WI's Surface Waters and Fish? <i>Meghan Williams</i> <i>Patrick Gorski</i> page 29	Wisconsin River Otter <i>Shawn Rossler</i> page 29	Key Ingredients for Membership and Public Outreach Success <i>Stacy Harbaugh</i> page 29
9:00-10:15 AM	Friday Plenary Session - Northwoods Expo From the Bottom Up <i>Keynote Speaker: Chad Pregracke, Living Lands & Waters Founder</i> page 31		
10:15-10:45 AM	Refreshment Break in Commons		
10:45-11:45 AM	A Water Policy in Wisconsin Update: Breaking the Rulemakings? <i>Michael Engleson</i> Integrated Aquatic Plant Management <i>Madi Johansen</i> page 31	Sedges Demystified: Common Species of Wisconsin's Lake and River Habitats <i>Paul Rothrock</i> How to Identify Critical, Sensitive Walleye Spawning Habitats, and Understand Factors that May Be Contributing to Walleye Population Declines <i>Lawrence Eslinger</i> page 32	Characteristics of Effective Lake Organizations <i>Valerie Hogan</i> <i>Cheryl Clemens</i> <i>Karen Engelbretson</i> page 32
12:00-1:15 PM	Lunch in Northwoods Expo ~ Sarah Barry, Deputy Secretary, Wisconsin DNR page 34		

Friday Morning Agenda



April 8, 2022

Exhibits Open
8:00 AM-Noon
Commons

Concurrent Sessions			
Room Stream →	Evergreen/Frontier Innovative Practices/Partnerships	Stonefield/Harvest Aquatic Invasive Species	Woodland/Trillium Water Resource Protection
8:00-8:50 AM	<p>Understanding Phosphorus Loading in Riparian Areas <i>Paul Garrison</i></p> <p>Modeling Phosphorus Reduction from Small Projects on Riparian Properties <i>Paul McGinley</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 30</p>	<p>Early Detection Rapid Response to Invasive Butterfly Dock (<i>Petasites hybridus</i>) in Douglas and Dane Counties <i>Ramona Shackelford</i> <i>Zach Stewart</i> <i>Matthew Wallrath</i></p> <p>Combining Efforts for Effective AIS Control: An EDR Response to Yellow Floating Heart and Graceful Cattail <i>Lindsay Peterson</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 30</p>	<p>Climate Change Impacts and Adaptations for Wisconsin's Great Lakes Ecosystem <i>Madeline Magee</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 30</p>
9:00-10:15 AM	<p>Friday Plenary Session - Northwoods Expo From the Bottom Up <i>Keynote Speaker: Chad Pregracke, Living Lands & Waters Founder</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 31</p>		
10:15-10:45 AM	<p>Refreshment Break in Commons</p>		
10:45-11:45 AM	<p>Tackling Water Quality Through Regional Coalition Building <i>Paul Dearlove</i> <i>James Tye</i></p> <p>The Importance of Watershed Partnerships: Building the Lake Superior Collaborative <i>Erin Burkett</i> <i>MaryJo Gingras</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">pages 32-33</p>	<p>The 7 Things You Need to Know About European Frogbit in Wisconsin <i>Amanda Smith</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 33</p>	<p>The Greatest Places on Earth: Our Lakes, the Threats, the Remedies <i>Ted Rulseb</i></p> <p>Engaging Citizens in Urban Watershed Protection: A Case Study of the Westmorland Neighborhood <i>Katy Bradford</i> <i>Evelyn Hammond</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 33</p>
12:00-1:15 PM	<p>Lunch in Northwoods Expo ~ Sarah Barry, Deputy Secretary, Wisconsin DNR</p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 34</p>		



Friday Afternoon Agenda

April 8, 2022

Concurrent Sessions			
Room Stream →	Expo 1 Hot Topics (also Virtual)	Expo 2 Wildlife/Fish/Natural History	Sands Building Capacity
12:00-1:15 PM	Lunch in Northwoods Expo ~ Sarah Barry, Deputy Secretary, Wisconsin DNR		
1:30-2:30 PM	<p>How Climate Change is Impacting Mississippi River Health: Can We Adapt Quickly Enough to Produce Meaningful Change? <i>Shawn Giblin</i></p> <p>At Risk: Climate, Flooding and Public Health <i>Maggie Thelen</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 34</p>	<p>Lessons Learned from Fish Stick Project, Lake Lucerne, Forest County <i>Jim Zach</i></p> <p>Fish Stocking Policy and Science <i>John Kubisiak</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">pages 34-35</p>	<p>Even If It Takes Decades, We Will Not Give Up <i>John Magnuson</i> <i>Helen Wilkie</i> <i>Peggy Sherman</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 35</p>
2:30-2:45 PM	Refreshment Break in Commons		
2:45-3:45 PM	<p>Climate Resilience and Tribal Adaptation: How the Mashkiiziibii are Protecting the Seventh Generation through Nibi <i>Jacob Slattery</i></p> <p>Manoomin (Wild Rice) Habitat and Phenology <i>Susan Knight</i> <i>Gretchen Gerrish</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 37</p>	<p>Lumos! Taxonomy and Natural History of Wisconsin Fireflies <i>Daniel Young</i></p> <p>Preserving The Health Of Wisconsin's Wetland Forests <i>Bill McNee</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 37</p>	<p>Lake Groups Building Human Capital Across a Watershed <i>Tracy Arnold</i> <i>Scott Provost</i> <i>Don Ystad</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 38</p>

2022 Convention T-shirts

This year's Convention t-shirt is 100% recycled fabric (never re-dyed) and made from reclaimed material that otherwise could end up in a landfill. Soft. Comfy. High-quality. Doing good for the planet feels as good on the inside as it does on the outside. If you didn't pre-order a t-shirt, stop by the registration desk and you might just get lucky enough to purchase one of these limited edition t-shirts!

Quantities limited.



Friday Afternoon Agenda



April 8, 2022

Concurrent Sessions			
Room Stream →	Evergreen/Frontier Innovative Practices/Partnerships	Stonefield/Harvest Aquatic Invasive Species	Woodland/Trillium Water Resource Protection
12:00-1:15 PM	Lunch in Northwoods Expo ~ Sarah Barry, Deputy Secretary, Wisconsin DNR		
1:30-2:30 PM	<p>Partnering with Hwy Depts to Manage Invasive Species <i>Marisa Ulman</i> <i>Patrick Siwula</i></p> <p>Best Management Practices & New Guide for 5 Common Right-of-Way Invasive Species <i>Matt Wallrath</i></p> <p>Pre-Vegetated Blankets: Providing Erosion Control While Preserving the Integrity, Stability & Beauty of the Native Plant Community <i>Robert Livingston</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 35</p>	<p>Homeowner Perceptions of Aquatic Invasive Species: Results From a Survey of Lakeshore Property Owners in Wisconsin <i>Richard James Heinrich</i> <i>Bret Shaw</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 36</p>	<p>Grindstone Lake: Driven to Preserve a Natural Treasure <i>Donna Carlson</i> <i>Cindy Parker</i></p> <p>Perseverance: Lessons Learned Through Failure to Protect a Wetland on Squash Lake <i>Dan Butkus</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 36</p>
2:30-2:45 PM	Refreshment Break in Commons		
2:45-3:45 PM	<p>Building Community around Stormwater Resiliency <i>Alli Wenman</i></p> <p>Adopt-a-Launch: Fostering Ownership to Overcome the Tragedy of the Commons <i>Chris Acy</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 38</p>	<p>If You Build It, Will They Clean? Boater Attitudes in Wisconsin Towards Watercraft Decontamination for AIS <i>Michael Engleson</i> <i>Tim Campbell</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 38</p>	<p>Vilas County: Watershed Protection Planning Project <i>Quita Sheehan</i></p> <p>Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department - Comprehensive Aquatic Restoration Projects <i>Andrew Struck</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">page 39</p>

Additional Focus Areas

In addition to being part of a specific stream, we asked our speakers to let us know if their presentations also highlighted diversity, equity, and/or inclusion (DEI), covered any adaptations for or results from climate change, or would cover introductory information (101 session). These labels are on the large map agenda in the Commons area, as well as within this printed agenda as part of the session descriptions.





Wed. Special Sessions

4:45-5:45 PM

4:45-5:45 PM – Expo 1 Room

County-wide Lake & River Association Roundtable

Join members of other county-wide lake and river associations for a general discussion and networking session! Bring the topic important to your county, region, or county-wide organization - from issues on the water to event ideas to questions on how to run your organization - for an unstructured, free flowing talk. This is your chance to get ideas and inspiration from groups across the state.

Facilitator: Cathie Erickson, President, Wisconsin Lakes

4:45-5:45 PM – Expo 2 Room

Travel Log from a Water Trip to Nicaragua

Get a glimpse of Pat and Quita's recent trip to Nicaragua made possible by the Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners of the Americas, Inc. (W/NP). With the help of amazing guide, Juan Carlos Mendoza, and W/NP staff and volunteers, Pat and Quita connected with local educators and community volunteers around water at three of the established Learning Centers; there are 44 W/NP Learning Centers currently in Nicaragua. The W/NP Learning Center Treks are amazing opportunities to see beautiful Nicaragua, participate in community-based projects, and get to know our Nicaraguan friends. If you are a Lake Leader graduate and have ever thought of taking your knowledge abroad, while learning from another culture, we invite you to stop in to hear more about this trip and discuss future opportunities. Of course, all Convention participants are welcome to join this informal sharing of experiences and ideas.

Presenter: Patrick Goggin, Lake Specialist, Extension Lakes and Quita Sheehan, Conservation Specialist, Vilas County Land and Water Conservation Department, with special guest Juan Carlos Mendoza, Nicaraguan guide



Lake and River Monitoring Milestones

Volunteering as a citizen scientist is a big deal! Recording data on water quality and native plant communities, completing watercraft inspections, and looking for invasive species are some of the ways citizens help protect and preserve our water resources. In many cases, volunteer data are the only data that exist for a specific waterbody. These baseline data are extremely important in helping natural resource specialists manage our public waters. So, to each volunteer, from all of us, we would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU! Check out the southwest corner of the Northwoods Expo for our lake and river monitoring milestones.

Wednesday Evening

7:00-11:00 PM

7:00-11:00 PM – Northwoods Expo Room

Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Welcome Reception

You are invited to the 2022 Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention Welcome Reception on Wednesday evening. Join us in a relaxed environment where we will serve up a few tasty appetizers and beverages (check out the water-themed signature drinks). This informal gathering of water lovers is a great way for newcomers to “get their feet wet,” and for seasoned Convention attendees to reconnect. An exciting lake-focused Pictionary game will be happening during this reception. You can actively participate on a team or just watch the fun! *(Included as part of your in-person registration.)*

You're invited!

Thursday Sessions



8:00-8:50 AM

8:00-8:50 AM – Expo 1 Room - Hot Topics

(Two presentations)

The Central Sands Lakes Study: Findings and Recommendations to Guide Groundwater Management

2017 Wisconsin Act 10 required the DNR to implement a study of groundwater withdrawals on three Central Sands Lakes. This interdisciplinary study, involving over 30 scientists across multiple agencies and institutions, was completed in 2021 and the study's findings and recommendations were sent to the Legislature for consideration. Learn some more about this study and how the impacts to the lakes are not caused by any one well, but rather by the collective impacts from hundreds of wells within about five miles. Due to the large numbers of high-capacity wells and water resources in the Central Sands, DNR recommended a regional approach: the creation of a water use district composed of landowners and other stakeholders to work with the DNR to find workable solutions.

Presenter: Jeff Helmuth, Hydrogeologist, Wisconsin DNR

Evolution of Groundwater Quantity Management in Wisconsin

Although Wisconsin has abundant water resources, access to productive aquifers varies regionally. We experience water level fluctuations resulting from natural climate variability, climate change, and a continued demand for groundwater. The Central Sands Lakes Study and a decision from the Wisconsin Supreme Court further clarified the science of groundwater withdrawals and the legal responsibility to evaluate them. The findings from both the Study and the Court were another step towards a groundwater management framework that began nearly 20 years ago with 2003 Wisconsin Act 310. Ongoing litigation and legislation have resulted in an ever-changing approach towards groundwater quantity management. This talk focuses on the current groundwater management framework and the technical complexities that surround its implementation.

Presenter: Adam Freihoefer, Water Use Section Chief, Wisconsin DNR

8:00-8:50 AM – Expo 2 Room - Wildlife/Fish/Natural History

Wisconsin, All Natural

Josh will describe his journey and goal of visiting each of Wisconsin's state scientific natural areas (SNA). He will share what SNAs are, where to find them, and what you will find when you visit them. Some are standalone sites, others are located within state parks or wildlife areas. Many of the 693 SNAs are DNR-owned, some are owned by land conservancies, some by academic institutions, and a handful are privately owned. Come learn how visiting our state's SNAs can help you engage with Wisconsin's natural world.

Presenter: Joshua Mayer, Research Scientist, Apha Universe, LLC

8:00-8:50 AM – Sands Room - Citizen Science

(Three presentations)

Overview of Water-related Citizen-based Monitoring Opportunities

Citizen volunteers contribute significantly to reporting on many of our rare and common aquatic species. The records of what they observe and where they observe them provides essential information to the Mussel Monitoring Program, Frog and Toad Survey, Turtle Conservation Program, and Odonata Survey. These observations are used to help determine the status, distribution, and long-term trends of these aquatic species, as well as document their habitat requirements. The time and energy of these volunteers contributes to promoting the conservation and management of these species. Volunteers are an integral part of these statewide monitoring efforts ranging from individual observations on mussels, dragonflies, and turtles, to routes for calling surveys for frogs and toads. A summary of the current status of these programs will be provided along with information on how citizen scientists can get involved.

Presenters: Lisie Kitchel, Aquatic Ecologist, Wisconsin DNR and Jesse Weinzinger, Conservation Biologist, Wisconsin DNR



(Continued on next page)



Thursday Sessions

8:00-8:50 AM

8:00-8:50 AM – Sands Room - Citizen Science (Continued)

Overview of the Wisconsin Citizen Lake Monitoring Network and Water Action Volunteers

The Wisconsin Citizen Lake Monitoring Network and Water Action Volunteers provide opportunities for citizens to better understand their lakes and streams, and collect valuable data for scientists at the same time. Well over a thousand volunteers participate in these efforts each year. Paul and Katy will give a brief overview of these programs and how you can get involved.

Presenters: Paul Skawinski, Statewide Educator, Wisconsin Citizen Lake Monitoring Network and Katy Bradford, Water Action Volunteers Program Manager, UW-Madison Division of Extension

Iron County Loon and Lake Practicum: A High School Citizen Science Project

(101 Session, Climate Change, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion)

2020 marked the 20th anniversary of the Loon and Lake project at the Iron County Land and Water Conservation Department. This program was created to provide our small schools with an opportunity to learn about Iron County's bountiful natural resources. The idea was to provide a field research practicum and to engage students in learning about lakes, water quality, invasive species, shoreline habitat, and the common loon. Our local students have studied the species, and helped them thrive. To date, the project has helped loons hatch out 82 loon chicks from artificial nest platforms, maintaining long-term water quality data collection on five area lakes. Come learn more about the project!

Presenter: Zach Wilson, Conservation Specialist, Iron County Land and Water Conservation Department

8:00-8:50 AM – Evergreen/Frontier Room - Innovative Practices/Partnerships

Protecting and Defending Our Lake Heritage and Future: Our Five-Year Journey

Presenters will share Carlin Lake's water resource protection initiative that came about due to a threat of water removal for commercial bottling. They will talk about the peril of eroding R-1 (residential) zoning designations on Carlin Lake and how their lake association responded. Bob and Judy will discuss how they organized lake property owners to support the initiative and how they involved the community at large.

Presenters: Bob and Judy Ruch, Carlin Lake Association



8:00-8:50 AM – Stonefield/Harvest - Aquatic Invasive Species

Eurasian Milfoil Removal at Sunset Lake: Community, Citizen Science, and Education

Several entities have come together to remove milfoil from Sunset Lake, and by doing so are creating community, data collection for citizen science, and partners with a public school to experience hands-on stewardship. It is the hope that this union will benefit the Sunset Lake ecosystem while establishing a central, experiential learning opportunity for those interested in protecting other bodies of water.

Presenters: Paul List, UW-Stevens Point and Sam De Roche, Program Manager, Central Wisconsin Environmental Station, UW-Stevens Point



8:00-8:50 AM – Woodland/Trillium Room - Water Resource Protection

3, 2, 1: Launching Wisconsin's New Water Resources Protection Program

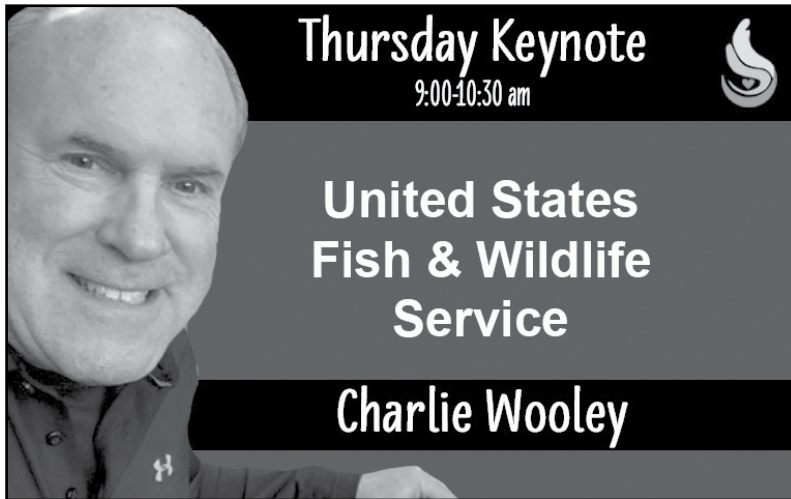
Come learn about a new initiative - Healthy Watersheds, High-Quality Waters - a partnership effort to protect Wisconsin's wonderful waters and our way of life. Not only is Wisconsin blessed with a landscape filled with water resources, but those lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands also provide tremendous public health, recreation, and economic benefits. Now is the time to protect water resources and the values they provide us. Healthy Watersheds, High-Quality Waters is a first step towards greater balance between restoration and protection. The overall goal is to keep 100% of the priority healthy watersheds and high-quality waters within them at or better than their current conditions through 2030. We will share modeling and assessment results, geographic priorities, partner feedback, and an action plan. Come discuss ways we can work together to protect these resources for future generations to enjoy.

Presenters: Aaron Marti, Streams Biologist, and Pamela Toshner, Lake and Watershed Specialist, both from Wisconsin DNR

Thursday Keynote



9:00-10:30 AM



Thursday Welcome and Kick-off Keynote Northwoods Expo - 9:00-10:30 AM

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the lead government agency dedicated to the conservation, protection, and enhancement of fish, wildlife and plants, and their habitats. They are the only agency in the federal government whose primary responsibility is the conservation and management of these important natural resources for the American public. The agency is responsible for implementing some of our nation's most important environmental laws, such as the Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Pittman-Robertson/Dingell-

Johnson wildlife and sportfish restoration laws, Lacey Act and North American Wetlands Conservation Act. The past several years have seen major bipartisan initiatives from Washington D.C. that have bolstered the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and provided major new resources for their state and local partners. The 2020 Great American Outdoor Act permanently reauthorized the Land and Water Conservation Fund at \$900 million annually for the first time since the program's creation in 1964. The 2020 America's Conservation Enhancement Act reauthorizes the North American Wetlands Conservation Act and codifies the National Fish Habitat Partnership, two of the most successful voluntary conservation efforts in the nation. The 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act includes \$1 billion in supplemental funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, helping to clean up polluted hot spots and address invasive species in the Great Lakes basin. In short, this is an incredible moment for the Fish and Wildlife Service to shift into high gear. Charlie Wooley, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Midwest Regional Director, will join us to share how these major legislative and funding victories are poised to fuel on-the-ground conservation and restoration projects impacting waterways, habitat, and fish in Wisconsin. Wooley was honored in 2012 by Secretary Ken Salazar with the Department's Distinguished Service Award, the Department's highest award. Two years later he was chosen by his peers for the prestigious Ira Gabrielson Award, recognizing his leadership qualities. Additionally, in May 2017, Wooley was awarded the Conservation Leader Award from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources, his alma mater.

“Why do you love ‘your’ water?” Video Montage

Northwoods Expo - 9:00 AM

If you've been to the statewide Lakes and Rivers Convention before, you know we often include a digital production as part of our welcome plenary session. This year is a little different, but we hope equally inspiring! As you know, this year's Convention theme is *Protecting What We Love for the Future*. And in Wisconsin, we LOVE our water! Some of you have a specific stream, lake, or wetland that you're fond of, and we challenged you to send in a short video telling us why. As you can imagine, we received many different answers and several different types of videos. Sit back and enjoy this compilation of entertaining and inspiring clips.

Photo by Viktoria Slowikowska from Pexels





Thursday Sessions

10:40 AM-12:00 PM

climate change

10:40 AM-12:00 PM – Expo 1 Room - Hot Topics

(Four presentations)

Findings from the 2021 Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts Report

Wisconsin is getting warmer and seeing more extreme precipitation events. In December 2021, the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts released a new report summarizing the impacts of climate change and offering adaptation strategies. Katie will briefly describe how Wisconsin's climate is changing, what this means for Wisconsin's water resources, and what we can do to make our water resources more resilient in the face of change.

Presenter: Katie Hein, Lake Monitoring Lead, Wisconsin DNR

Building Resilience In Southeastern Wisconsin

The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) serves 28 municipalities in southeastern Wisconsin. In 2019, MMSD led the development of a regional resilience plan that identified environmental, economic, and social risks that threatened the region and action strategies to reduce those risks. MMSD is now working to implement these actions with partners to reduce risks associated with climate change, critical infrastructure, financial constraints, and equity. Strategies range from adjusting internal approaches to spearheading the development of a reforestation and wetland restoration program.

Presenter: Nadia Vogt, Senior Project Manager, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District

Monroe County Climate Change Task Force - A Proactive Approach

Monroe County has a history of flooding and intense rain events that have ravaged the southern portions of the county, since 2007. In response to the destruction of infrastructure, private property, and agriculture, the Monroe County Climate Change Task Force (CCTF) was developed in 2019. Hear from a county in the driftless area of Western Wisconsin taking the initiative on climate change. Bob Micheel will share how Monroe County passed a proactive resolution recognizing climate change while supporting the efforts of the newly created Climate Change Task Force. The CCTF will seek local, state, and federal assistance to implement their 10 objectives to address the symptoms of climate change while implementing mitigation practices to reduce the counties impact.

Presenter: Bob Micheel, Director, Monroe County Land Conservation Department

Adapting to Climate Change through Natural Flood Management

Natural Flood Management (NFM) emphasizes strategic hydrologic restoration practices within a catchment area to restore the landscape's natural ability to capture, infiltrate, and slowly release runoff. In this session, participants will learn how restoring wetlands and reconnecting floodplains to streams can help communities reduce flood risks and the hazards associated with the projected increases in severe storms. Kyle will highlight multiple Wisconsin communities and how they are exploring and utilizing wetlands as solutions to their land and water management challenges. Additionally, there will be a discussion of assessment methods and tools that can be used to better understand degraded hydrologic conditions and to prioritize where hydrologic restoration actions can build climate resilience and reduce vulnerabilities on watershed scales.

Presenter: Kyle Magyera, Local Government Outreach Specialist, Wisconsin Wetlands Association

10:40 AM-12:00 PM – Expo 2 Room - Wildlife/Fish/Natural History

(Three presentations)

Climate Change Decreases the Diversity of Fishing Opportunities in WI: What Can We Do About It?

Wisconsin's cherished fisheries depend on fishes adapted to thrive in our lakes. Temperature is a 'master factor' that structures fish communities, but Wisconsin's lake temperatures are warming. As they get warmer, certain fish populations may become threatened or disappear. Alexander will share analyses of climate change and its effects on projected lake temperatures, and how those shifts will affect Wisconsin's lake classes. A lake classification system

climate change

(Continued on next page)

Thursday Sessions, cont.



10:40 AM-12:00 PM

was recently developed by the Wisconsin DNR Bureau of Fisheries Management and groups together similar lake habitats that support similar fisheries. Each lake class represents certain fishing opportunities that are well-suited for that habitat – for instance, action walleye lakes or trophy muskellunge lakes. You will see how the diversity of fishing opportunities will decrease, making some types of fishing rarer and harder to access. Learn about ideas for how to respond to this landscape-level change to best conserve diversity in fishing opportunities.

Presenter: Alexander Latzka, Fisheries Systems Biologist, Wisconsin DNR

Overview of Environmental Risks Neonicotinoid Insecticides Pose to Wisconsin's Aquatic Ecosystems

Neonicotinoids are the most widely used insecticides both in Wisconsin and globally. Over 500 different products labeled for use in Wisconsin contain “neonics,” and the quantities used are not accurately tracked. The vast majority of neonic usage in the Upper Midwest is for treating corn and soybean seeds prior to planting, despite an increasing number of studies showing little or no improvements in crop yields associated with these seed treatments. Neonics are highly toxic to many invertebrate species and have been implicated in honeybee colony collapse as well as for vast reductions in many other terrestrial and aquatic insect populations. Learn how neonics are found in our surface waters at concentrations shown in laboratory studies to be chronically or acutely toxic to numerous aquatic insect species.

Presenter: Michael Miller, Stream Ecologist, Wisconsin DNR

Climate Change is Altering Lake Ice Phenology and Affecting Wisconsin Fisheries

Climate change is influencing the timing of ecological events (in other words, their phenology) in natural systems throughout Wisconsin. In lakes, the timing of important events like ice off, fish spawning, and plankton blooms are not only shifting earlier, they are also becoming much more unpredictable in their phenology from year to year. Such variability has the potential to alter lake habitats, change food web connections, and impact fish recruitment. We will discuss trends and variability in ice-off dates in Wisconsin lakes and the potential for these climate-induced changes to influence spawn timing in walleye and subsequent food web mismatches that may negatively influence walleye recruitment.

Presenter: Zach Feiner, Research Scientist, Wisconsin DNR

10:40 AM-12:00 PM – Sands Room - Citizen Science

(Two presentations)



Dragonfly Monitoring in your Watershed: Training the Next Generation of Citizen Scientists

Do you like being outside and have a passion for finding unique species that are important to watershed health? Then you can be a Dragonfly Monitor! Learn how to both monitor for dragonflies in your watershed and to train other citizen scientists in this practice. You can also learn what dragonflies are telling you about the health of watersheds and ponds in your community and how the presence of certain species may be warning indicators of climate change. This training will equip you with the knowledge and resources necessary to get outdoors to monitor dragonflies. The Upper Sugar River Watershed Association will share what they have learned from their dragonfly monitoring project to help motivate and support the next generation of citizen scientists.

Presenters: Hannah Bunting, Volunteer Coordinator, and Wade Moder, Executive Director, Upper Sugar River Watershed Association

Community Science Road Salt Monitoring in the Milwaukee River Basin

Milwaukee Riverkeeper mobilizes trained community scientists during the chilliest months of winter to monitor our streams for road salt pollution. Often, spikes of chloride in our lakes and rivers is a result of improper road salt application to our roads and driveways and can result in devastating impacts to freshwater organisms. Milwaukee Riverkeeper will discuss the impacts of road salts to our fresh waters, highlight monitoring strategies and results, and share how, as an organization, they are advocating for small- and large-scale applicators to use best practices to prevent road salts from entering our waterways in the first place.

Presenter: Katie Rademacher, Water Quality Manager, Milwaukee Riverkeeper

(Continued on next page)



Thursday Sessions, cont.

10:40 AM-12:00 PM

10:40 AM-12:00 PM – Evergreen/Frontier Room - Innovative Practices/Partnerships

(Three presentations)

Engaging Citizens in Big River Cleanups: The Milwaukee River



Federal funding through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative is making it possible to finalize multi-decade cleanup and restoration projects at numerous designated Areas of Concern (AOC) along the Great Lakes.

To address environmental justice issues, it is important that community members impacted by these projects have a seat at the table and help shape the restoration and future uses of sites. The Milwaukee Estuary Area of Concern Community Advisory Committee (CAC) serves as the voice of the community in the process of cleaning up and delisting the Milwaukee Estuary AOC. The CAC provides a structured way for individual citizens to share their opinions and perspectives on cleanup efforts and on how policies and programs affect citizens who live and work in the watersheds. This presentation will share the goals of the CAC and describe how the Wisconsin DNR and other key partners are bringing resources to the committee and keeping the community engaged in this massive effort.

Presenter: Rebecca Fedak, Lake Michigan Basin Supervisor, Wisconsin DNR

Catalyzing Residents for a Community Rivers Program

The Community Rivers Program (CRP) is a community-based program working to transform the Upper Milwaukee River Watershed through inspiring, informing, and engaging rural village residents in the region. By utilizing an ABCD (asset-based community development) approach, CRP is reaching residents where they are and finding their interests and skills to catalyze residents to become stewards of the Milwaukee River. As relationships are developed within the communities, individuals' strengths and interests are mobilized to assist with planning, implementing, and leading various water education programs for local residents. Successful programs have included a rain barrel workshop co-led by a community member, a retired resident planning lecture series, and an individual who is a connector and community builder for her village. This approach builds upon the assets of local citizens to share their knowledge and create space for bottom-up change rather than top-down regulation from outsiders or experts.

Presenter: Patricia Gerber, Watershed Education Manager and Community Rivers Program Coordinator, Riveredge Nature Center

Partnering with the Great Lakes Community Conservation Corps to Implement AIS Programming

The University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute and the Great Lakes Community Conservation Corps have been partnering to implement aquatic invasive species (AIS) education activities and Clean Boats, Clean Waters watercraft inspections in southeast Wisconsin. Learn more about the GLCCC, their programming, and how we've worked to provide professional development opportunities for GLCCC members while preventing the spread of AIS.

Presenters: Scott McComb, Southeast Wisconsin AIS Outreach Specialist, UW Sea Grant Institute and Tim Campbell, AIS Outreach Specialist, UW Sea Grant Institute

10:40 AM-12:00 PM – Stonefield/Harvest - Aquatic Invasive Species

(Two presentations)

Chinese Mystery Snail Population Dynamics in Loon Lake, Vilas County, Wisconsin



This presentation summarizes eight years of benthic community research on Chinese mystery snails (CMS) in a shallow seepage lake, including research results from 2021. Annual replicate samples were collected with an Eckman dredge at a dozen GPS locations in major plant communities. CMS age classes are based on shell frequencies and opercular regression. Chinese mystery snail fecundity and habitat preferences, as well as density and size correlations with lake elevation and water chemistry, will be discussed.

Presenter: Warren Mueller, Limnologist (retired), UW-Madison

(Continued on next page)

Thursday Sessions, cont.



10:40 AM-12:00 PM

Untying the Invasive Knotweed Complex

Invasive knotweeds are spreading in Wisconsin and pose a significant threat to ecosystems and infrastructure while being very hard to control. These perennials shade out and poison our native plants, while punching holes in roads and promoting erosion. A 2021 study from UW-Whitewater shows that the hybridization of these NR 40 regulated species makes practitioner visual ID uncertain when compared to simple genetic analysis. Professor Nic Tippery will explain his methods and results from his survey. Matt Wallrath will then present best management practices for control and a call for further sampling by regional Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas. We will discuss future implications for understanding spread and seed viability as climate changes and how this could affect wetland management. Join us as we explore these plants and what genetics is showing us about their spread.

Presenters: Matt Wallrath, Invasive Species Program Manager, Upper Sugar River Watershed Association and Nic Tippery, Associate Professor of Biology, UW-Whitewater

10:40 AM-12:00 PM – Woodland/Trillium Room - Water Resource Protection

(Two presentations)

Wisconsin's Wild Lakes: What We Have Left and Why They're Important

Of Wisconsin's over 15,000 lakes, very few wild lakes remain. These are rare places where remarkable peace and beauty abounds, and where native wildlife flourishes. Wisconsin only has around 135 undeveloped, publicly-owned wild lakes over 30 acres. Where are they, and more importantly, why should we care about protecting wild places? This presentation will spotlight a few of these lakes and the many values each offers scientifically, recreationally, aesthetically, emotionally, and ethically.

Presenter: John Bates, Author, Trails North/Manitowish River Press

The Totogatic River: Wild by Law

Through a united partnership, the Totogatic River was officially designated a Wisconsin Wild River in 2009. What does it take to become a "wild river" and why the Totogatic (or is it "Totagatic")? In this presentation, enjoy a photo tour of this 70-mile long river and learn about the 5-year journey from the local idea stage to the day Governor Doyle signed the bill making the designation official. The legal requirements and protections for Wisconsin Wild Rivers will be covered, along with water quality, habitat, and development considerations. The important role of state and local partners in making this designation a reality and providing further shoreland protection will also be presented.

Presenters: Kathy Bartilson, Washburn County Lakes and Rivers Association and Cathie Erickson, President, Wisconsin Lakes

Thursday Lunch

12:15-1:30 PM



Thursday Lunch Speaker - Northwoods Expo - 1:00 PM

Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers

In celebration of his proclamation of April 4-10, 2022 as "Wisconsin Water Week," Governor Tony Evers joins the Convention as our opening lunch speaker. The Governor will discuss his administration's efforts towards clean water for all and the importance of water to the economy and culture of our state.



Thursday Sessions

1:45-2:25 PM

1:45-2:25 PM – Expo 1 Room - Hot Topics

DEI

A Tribal Perspective on Environmental Justice

Environmental justice can be viewed through a variety of lenses. One of the lenses that is often overlooked and misunderstood is the environmental justice perspectives of Native Americans. Perspectives are informed by individual and collective experiences, knowledge transfer, and belief systems. As the longest inhabitants of this land, Native Americans have unique and valuable perspectives on environmental justice. It is worth noting that despite environmental justice principles being evident in the ethos of most Native Americans and Tribal Governments, there isn't just one Native American perspective. This presentation will provide a Native American perspective on environmental justice that is informed by my individual and collective experiences, exposure to knowledge transfer, and exposure to belief systems.

Presenter: Burton Warrington, President, Indian Ave Group, LLC

1:45-2:25 PM – Expo 2 Room - Wildlife/Fish/Natural History

What Have We Done to Deserve All These Cranes?

By 1937, when Aldo Leopold wrote his essay *Marshland Elegy*, sandhill cranes had disappeared from most of their former range in the upper Midwest, and he anticipated their eventual disappearance from Wisconsin as well. Now, flocks of upwards of 10,000 birds converge on the stretch of the Wisconsin River near Aldo Leopold's famous "Shack" each fall, and cranes have now reoccupied much of their former midwestern breeding range. Why did Sandhill Cranes almost disappear from our region, and why has there been such an impressive resurgence in the crane population since Aldo Leopold worried about its impending extirpation 80 years ago? Professor Stan Temple will review the remarkable recovery of our midwestern sandhill cranes, describe his research on their migratory behavior, and discuss some recent controversies, such as crane hunting, that have attended their new status as an abundant bird.

Presenter: Stanley Temple, Beers-Bascom Professor Emeritus in Conservation, University of Wisconsin Madison

1:45-2:25 PM – Sands Room - Citizen Science

101 session

State of Vilas County Lakes: Analysis of Water Quality Trends

Lake water quality is often measured by total phosphorous or chlorophyll a measurements as dictated by Wisconsin's Consolidated Assessment and Listing Methodology (WISCALM) thresholds. Vilas County Land & Water Conservation Department took a deep dive into data collected by both professionals and volunteers and was able to analyze trends on over 80 lakes in Vilas County. We found a very wide range of trends, many being statistically significant. Where possible, we also looked at trends for other parameters such as nitrogen, calcium, pH, and chloride. Perhaps we can consider action when we see a lake speeding towards its WISCALM thresholds, but before it is considered impaired.

Presenter: Catherine Higley, Lake Conservation Specialist, Vilas County Land and Water Conservation Department

1:45-2:25 PM – Evergreen/Frontier Room - Innovative Practices/Partnerships

Fridays on the Farm Series Helps the Green Lake Association Reach a Large Audience

In a year where holding in-person events wasn't possible, the Green Lake Association turned their traditional in-person field day into a virtual tour of three local farms that are putting conservation practices in action. The project titled, "Fridays on the Farm," debuted a five-minute video for each location and focused on the unique and practical land and water protecting techniques that each farm uses. The series featured Avalon Creek Farm, Boerson Farm, and Pollack-Vu Dairy, and was delivered to the public via social media and e-newsletters. This video series has reached over 20,000 people to date! Through creative collaboration, educational initiatives can reach vast audiences even in years when things don't go according to plan. Stop by to hear how new partnerships were formed to complete this initiative.

Presenter: Jennifer Fjelsted, Communication and Project Manager, Green Lake Association

(Continued on next page)

Thursday Sessions, cont.



1:45-2:25 PM

1:45-2:25 PM – Stonefield/Harvest - Aquatic Invasive Species

(Two presentations)

New Information on Risks Associated with Trade Pathways for Invasive Species

Global trade drives invasive species introductions to the United States and upper Midwest. Trades built on the movement and possession of live plants and animals have historically led to invasive species introductions. The horticulture, pet, food, bait, and classroom and laboratory biological supply trades are some of the known pathways for invasive species. Recent work at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has generated new information on the risks associated with these pathways. This presentation will include results from surveys of live organism sellers, aquarium and water garden hobbyists, a study assessing the availability of invasive species in aquarium stores and seafood markets, and much more. These new data provide an improved understanding of risks that is essential for informing invasive species prevention efforts in the Midwest and beyond.

Presenter: Chelsey Blanke, Invasive Species Pathways and Plans Analyst, Minnesota DNR

Organisms in Trade in Wisconsin

Organisms in Trade (OIT) is a major pathway for invasive species introduction into the state. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources seeks to limit the introduction of invasive species through commerce and trade by outreach efforts focused on preventing NR 40 regulated species from being sold in the state. Relevant industries include plant nurseries, aquatic plant retailers, pet and aquarium dealers, plant and seed wholesalers, and horticulture, among others. This presentation will discuss the state's efforts relative to the OIT pathway.

Presenter: Liz Tanner, Organisms in Trade Coordinator, Wisconsin DNR

1:45-2:25 PM – Woodland/Trillium Room - Water Resource Protection

The Lower Wisconsin State Riverway: 32 Years of Innovative Resource Protection and Collaboration

The Lower Wisconsin State Riverway and Riverway Board were created in 1989 after years of planning and eventual political compromise. The presentation will provide background on the making of the law, an overview of regulations and resource management and a look at continuing and future challenges. Attendees will take away a greater appreciation of this unique and innovative project.

Presenter: Mark E. Cupp, Executive Director, Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board

Thank You for protecting what we love!

Tracy Arnold

Katy Bradford

Erin Burkett

Becca Dymzarov

Michael Engleson

Cathie Erickson

Patrick Goggin

Emily Heald

Katie Hein

Kirsten James

Caroline Joyce

Maureen Kalscheur

Amy Kowalski

Amy Kretlow

Maud LaMarche

Erin McFarlane

Alison Mikulyuk

Michelle Nault

Zofia Noe

Eric Olson

Carroll Schaal

Jeanne Scherer

Paul Skawinski

Tom Slawski

Pamela Toshner

Nancy Turyk

Scott Van Egeren

Sandy Wickman

Sara Windjue

Dave Zelinger

2022 Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention Planning Team





Thursday Sessions

2:35-3:15 PM

2:35-3:15 PM – Expo 1 Room - Hot Topics

A New Graphic Way to Show What Shoreland Zoning Standards Accomplish

Want to SEE what shoreland zoning standards and good waterfront property stewardship accomplish? We've developed a new graphic to illustrate the benefits to your lake or river. This graphic could be a great way to reach more waterfront property owners! Free copies will be available for you to take for your lake group.

Presenters: Lynn Markham, Shoreland Specialist, Author, Center for Land Use Education, UW-Stevens Point and Mike Wenholz, Shoreland Program Coordinator, Wisconsin DNR

2:35-3:15 PM – Expo 2 Room - Wildlife/Fish/Natural History

Stories From My Teachers: Native Plants

Patrick will describe lessons, insights, humorous anecdotes, and other tidbits he has gleaned from 35 years of growing, observing, and learning from his teachers, Wisconsin's native plants. He'll explore seven life lessons and themes in a reflective way from the point of view of native plants.

Presenter: Patrick Goggin, Lakes Specialist/Outreach Specialist, Extension Lakes, UW-Stevens Point

2:35-3:15 PM – Sands Room - Citizen Science

(Three presentations)

Volunteer Water Monitoring Stories

Effective Town Lakes Committee

Training lake residents in lake and watershed monitoring resulted in the discovery of curly-leaf pondweed in Harris Lake, its treatment and control, and ultimately the creation of lake management plans for each of the 10 most populated lakes in Winchester Township, as well as a town-wide lake management plan.

Presenter: Rolf Ethun, Winchester Town Lakes Committee

Hunting Water Hyacinth on the Winnebago Pool Lakes System

Citizen science and invasive plant reporting came together when water hyacinth was found in a channel off Lake Winneconne. Valerie Stabenow, a Master Gardener from Winnebago County, found numerous water hyacinth while conducting an October channel cleanup. With knowledge gained from AIS and Snapshot Day activities, these professional connections made it possible for her to join up with several groups to find and remove water hyacinth from Lake Winneconne and the Wolf River. As a citizen scientist, she continues to assist in preventing water hyacinth from spreading in these waterways.

Presenter: Valerie Stabenow, Master Gardener

Restoring Stony Brook: The Last Trout Stream in Calumet County

This presentation will tell the viewer how Trout Unlimited's Trout In The Classroom helped Chilton High and Middle School students bring together the community, along with state, federal, and national organizations, and collectively changed the last trout stream in Calumet county (abandoned for over 20 years) into a natural reproducing trout stream. This was done by the collective efforts of Chilton Schools, Fox Valley Trout Unlimited, Water Action Volunteers, Calumet County, The Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership, the Fund For Lake Michigan, the WDNR, the NRCS, landowners, other contractors and suppliers, and Friends of Stony Brook.

Presenter: Joe Bach, Secretary and Past President, Fox Valley Trout Unlimited/Friends of Stony Brook

(Continued on next page)



Thursday Sessions, cont.

2:35-3:15 PM

2:35-3:15 PM – Evergreen/Frontier Room - Innovative Practices/Partnerships

How Trout in the Classroom Program Catalyzed the Restoration of Calumet County's Only Trout Stream

In 2016, the Chilton School District began a Trout in the Classroom (TIC) project that entailed raising brown trout in classroom aquariums. Stony Brook, Calumet County's only trout stream, was selected to be the future home of the student's trout. The TIC project has stocked over 2,000 fingerling brown and brook trout to date. The program catalyzed efforts between Fox Valley Trout Unlimited, Wisconsin DNR, Calumet County Land and Water Conservation Department, local land owners, and others to further investigate the potential for Stony Brook to provide a trout fishery. Habitat restoration plans are underway for .85 miles of stream thanks to donated easements. Electro-shocking and tagging by the Wisconsin DNR documented survival and natural reproduction of trout planted by the students. Recently, stakeholders formed the Friends of Stony Brook to ensure momentum continues, with a vision to continue building the program and demonstrating the value of investments in the restoration of Stony Brook.

Presenters: Tracy Bartels, Science Teacher, Chilton School District and Danielle Santry, Water Resource Specialist, Calumet County Land and Water Conservation Department

2:35-3:15 PM – Stonefield/Harvest - Aquatic Invasive Species

(Two presentations)

After Phragmites: Effects of Multi-Year Herbicide Treatment in Wisconsin's Lake Michigan Basin

To ameliorate non-native Phragmites spread and promote native species, the Wisconsin DNR conducted GLRI-funded herbicide treatments from 2014 – 2020 across Wisconsin's Great Lakes Basin. Thousands of sites were enrolled in the program, receiving variable treatment. In 2021, WDNR monitored the effectiveness of this multi-year treatment and observed whether differences in native plant community response resulted from ease of accessibility (road, hydro, or wetland) or the years in which treatment occurred (treatment sequence). Species richness and FQIs were calculated for quality comparisons among 90 selected sites. 'Wetland' sites had the highest mean species richness and FQI, followed by 'hydro' and lastly, 'road' sites. Sites with greater spray counts and initial area had higher species richness and FQIs and no differences associated with treatment sequence. Initial results suggest Phragmites management should be approached at a landscape-scale that prioritizes patch size and utilizes seeding and planting techniques that promote post-treatment native plant growth.

Presenter: Matthew Puz, Wetland Invasive Plant Specialist, Wisconsin DNR

Sniffing for Snails: Using K9s for the Early Detection of New Zealand Mudsnailed in Wisconsin

Fishing license sales spiked throughout Wisconsin during the pandemic, raising concern that anglers and recreationalists may be unknowingly transporting aquatic invasive species via recreational gear to new locations. New Zealand mudsnail (an NR-40 prohibited species) is known to be present in several south-central Wisconsin streams. Early detection of these snails is key to keeping new populations in check and protecting Wisconsin's waterways.

Presenters: Ellen Voss, AIS Program Director, River Alliance of Wisconsin and Laura Holder, CPDT-KA, CNWI, Executive Director, Canine Keeper, Conservation Dogs Collective, Inc.

(Continued on next page)



Thursday Sessions, cont.

2:35-3:15 PM

2:35-3:15 PM – Woodland/Trillium Room - Water Resource Protection

Oconomowoc Watershed Protection Program and Tall Pines Conservancy: A Partnership to Protect and Improve Soil and Water Quality in the Oconomowoc River Watershed

In 2015, the City of Oconomowoc began an Adaptive Management Program to prevent non-point phosphorous runoff into the Oconomowoc River by changing land management practices, restoring streambanks, and protecting lakes across an 83,000 acre watershed. The City knew that creating a successful program at this scale would require strong partnerships. Enter Tall Pines Conservancy, an active Land Conservancy in SE Wisconsin with a special focus on conservation in the Oconomowoc River watershed. Tall Pines and the City formed a key partnership that protects ag land in a rapidly developing area while promoting long term solutions for soil and water quality. Ten permanent easements, 45 long term contracts and over 2,200 acres of cropland are now part of this initiative. This presentation will outline how the two organizations have collaborated on long term projects, spawned new community groups, and drawn from multiple funding sources to achieve their goals.

Presenters: Darrell Smith, Watershed Program Manager, Oconomowoc Watershed Protection Program and Susan Buchanan, Executive Director, Tall Pines Conservancy

Thursday Poster Session

Commons

3:30-5:00 PM

Listed by topic, then alphabetically

Topic: Aquatic Invasive Species

Let's Collaborate to Detect New Species

Maureen Kalscheur, Wisconsin DNR

Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Program Updates*

Jeanne Sherer, AIS Outreach Specialist and Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Coordinator, UW-Madison Division of Extension

An Update to the Wisconsin DNR's AIS Program and Staff

Amy Kretlow, Aquatic Invasive Species Policy and Program Lead, Wisconsin DNR

Topic: Building Organization Capacity

DNR Surface Water Grants

Alison Mikulyuk, Lakes and Rivers Team Leader, Wisconsin DNR

Topic: Innovative Practices/Partnerships

Blending Art & Science: FLOW Project Connects Art Students with Water Researchers and Professionals

Amy Kowalski, Communications Specialist, Extension Lakes

Topic: Hot Topics

Integrated Pest Management

Carroll Schaal, Lakes and Rivers Section Chief, Wisconsin DNR

Wisconsin Department of Health Services Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Surveillance Program*

Jordan Murray, Harmful Algal Blooms Program Coordinator Wisconsin Division of Public Health

Topic: Water Resources Protection

Cyanobacteria (Blue-green Algae) Blooms and What You Can Do to Protect the Lakes and Rivers You Love for the Future*

Gina LaLiberte, Statewide Harmful Algal Bloom Coordinator, Wisconsin DNR

"Mussel"ing Up to Stream Crossings

Stephanie Boismenu, Oneida County Land and Water Conservation Department

Use of Diatoms and Macroinvertebrates for Assessing Stream Condition and Developing Nutrient Criteria for Green Lake's Tributaries*

Laura M. Bates, PhD student, Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, UW-Madison

*These presenters are also giving lightning talks and will not be available to chat at their poster until after the Lightning Presentation Session concludes at 4:30 PM.

Thurs. Lightning Sessions

3:30-4:30 PM

3:30-4:30 PM – Expo 1 Room - Lightning Talks

These rapid-fire talks will give you a chance to learn about several different projects and strategies in a short amount of time. If you have questions for the presenters, some have posters where they will be happy to meet with you and answer questions between 4:30-5:00 PM out in the Commons area following this session. Their contact information is also available on the Eventleaf app.

Aquatic Invasive Species Outreach to Gardeners with Wet Feet

Presenter: Jeanne Scherer, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Outreach Specialist and Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Coordinator, UW-Madison Division of Extension

Integrated Aquatic Plant Management

Presenter: Madi Johansen, Statewide Aquatic Plant Management (APM) Coordinator, Wisconsin DNR

Joining Forces: Control of Invasive Purple Loosestrife and Yellow Iris in the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway

Presenter: Katie Sickmann, Invasive Species Coordinator, Wild Rivers Conservancy

Harmful Cyanobacterial Blooms: A Public Health Issue in Wisconsin's Waters

Presenters: Gina LaLiberte, Statewide Harmful Algal Bloom Coordinator, Wisconsin DNR and Jordan Murray, Harmful Algal Blooms Program Coordinator, Wisconsin Division of Public Health

Use of Diatoms and Macroinvertebrates for Assessing Stream Condition and Developing Nutrient Criteria for Green Lake's Tributaries

Presenter: Laura M. Bates, PhD student, Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, UW-Madison

Wisconsin's NEW! Shoreland Evaluation Tool

Presenter: Pamela Toshner, Lake and Watershed Specialist, Wisconsin DNR

Lakekit.net - Websites Designed for and by Wisconsin's Lake Organizations

Presenter: Michael Engleson, Executive Director, Wisconsin Lakes

Author Meet and Greet

5:00-6:00 PM

5:00-6:00 PM – Expo 2 Room

John Bates - multiple books

Diane Daulton - *The Water Column* (published monthly in *Bottom Line News*)

Lynn Markham - *Fish Hotel*, *Magic Goggles*, and *Freshwater Fish Series*

Jeff Nania - *Spider Lake*, *Figure Eight*, and *Bough Cutter* (All *Northern Lakes Mysteries*)

Margaret Noodin - *What the Chickadee Knows*

Paul Radomski - *Lakeshore Living: Designing lake places and communities in the footprints of environmental writers*

Ted Rulseh - *A Lakeside Companion*

Paul Skawinski - *Aquatic Plants of the Upper Midwest: A photographic field guide to our underwater forests*



Thursday Evening

**Want to attend the banquet and awards ceremony,
but didn't sign up? Only \$30 at the door!**

5:30-8:00 PM – Northwoods Expo

Wisconsin Lake Stewardship and Volunteer Stream Monitoring Banquet and Awards Ceremony

5:30 PM - Socializing/Networking

6:00 PM - Banquet dinner (awards to follow)

Please join us in celebrating the 2022 Wisconsin Lake Stewardship and Volunteer Stream Monitoring Award winners at our banquet and awards ceremony on Thursday evening. The Wisconsin Citizen Lake Monitoring Network and Water Action Volunteers Program Leaders will also congratulate several long-term volunteers.

Lake Stewardship

The Wisconsin Lakes Partnership presents the annual Lake Stewardship Awards to recognize the extraordinary volunteer and professional efforts of individuals and groups who protect and improve our lakes. People are nominated for Stewardship Awards by their peers - what a meaningful way to say, "Thank you!" to the people in your community who work so hard to care for our lakes. Winners of these awards join a select group of individuals and organizations whose unmatched dedication, vision, and commitment ensure that Wisconsin's legacy of lakes will be safe and secure for generations to come.

Volunteer Stream Monitoring

The Division of Extension at UW-Madison and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources recognize a small selection of individuals and organizations every year for their efforts leading to increased participation in stream monitoring, collecting stream data and sharing their knowledge and data.

Congratulations 2022 Award Winners!

Wisconsin Lake Stewardship

Programmatic Excellence for Lake Health:

Black Oak Lake Preservation Foundation, Vilas County

Excellence in Public Engagement:

Candy Ramsay, Spider Chain of Lakes, Sawyer County

Excellence in Building Partnerships:

Bill Boettge, Beaver Dam Lake, Dodge County

Volunteer Stream Monitoring

Adult Category:

Paul and Kathy Byrne, Crawford County Stewardship Project

Connie Hagen, Door Creek, Friends of Lake Kegonsa Society

If you pre-registered for the banquet and awards ceremony, it will be printed on the back of your name tag. If you haven't registered, but would like to attend, it's not too late to join us - just pay \$30 at the door.

Know someone deserving of a Lake Stewardship or Volunteer Stream Monitoring award? Nominate them to be included in the running for 2023! Nomination forms can be found on the Wisconsin Water Week website.

<https://wisconsinwaterweek.org/>

Friday Sessions



8:00-8:50 AM

8:00-8:50 AM – Expo 1 Room - Hot Topics

What Do We Know About Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in Wisconsin's Surface Waters and Fish?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are synthetic organic compounds that have been manufactured since the 1940s for use in non-stick coatings, waterproof fabrics and carpets, firefighting foams, food packaging, and many other applications. Human health and animal studies have linked PFAS exposure to negative health effects. PFAS have been detected in surface waters and fish across Wisconsin, and so the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has embarked on a statewide monitoring effort to assess the scope of PFAS contamination. This presentation will discuss the results of this effort, including amounts of PFAS that were detected in surface waters (rivers, streams, inland lakes) and Lake Superior. We will also present data on PFAS detections in fish tissue and discuss fish consumption advisories related to one type of PFAS called perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS). Finally, this presentation will provide an update on DNR's efforts to develop surface water quality standards for PFAS.

Presenters: Meghan Williams, Environmental Toxicologist, Wisconsin DNR and Patrick Gorski, Emerging Contaminants Research Scientist, Wisconsin DNR

8:00-8:50 AM – Expo 2 Room - Wildlife/Fish/Natural History

Wisconsin River Otter

River otter (*Lontra canadensis*) are deeply rooted in Wisconsin history and were abundant throughout the region prior to European settlement and the fur trade. Habitat changes and unregulated trapping into the early 1900s reduced otter populations to near extinction levels. Through protections and recovered habitats, otter populations increased during the mid-20th century and are doing well today. We will look at the ecology of this semi-aquatic mustelid, dive into their current distribution, and cover efforts the Wisconsin DNR is taking to monitor river otter population trends moving forward.

Presenter: Shawn Rossler, Furbearer Specialist, Wisconsin DNR

8:00-8:50 AM – Sands Room - Building Capacity

Key Ingredients for Membership and Public Outreach Success

“Membership Capacity” reflects the value of any organization to the population of its possible supporters. People and households tend to join organizations if they believe doing so will reflect well on them, if they understand and believe in what the organization seeks to accomplish, and perhaps if they may receive something beneficial in return for their support. Lake, river, and watershed associations attract members who believe that by joining forces with neighbors, they can have a collective impact on the health of their lake. This session will draw on the River Alliance of Wisconsin's experience attracting, retaining, and communicating with their members to highlight key concepts that water groups can use to enhance and grow their membership capacity. We will also discuss your membership challenges and successes.

Presenter: Stacy Harbaugh, Communications Director, River Alliance of Wisconsin

(Continued on next page)



Friday Sessions, cont.

8:00-8:50 AM

8:00-8:50 AM – Evergreen/Frontier Room - Innovative Practices/Partnerships

(Two presentations)

Managing Phosphorus Contributions from Lake Riparian Areas

Understanding Phosphorus Loading in Riparian Areas

Land use in the riparian area can have a disproportionate impact on surface water quality because there is only a small amount of land between where precipitation falls and the lake. Water quality monitoring and sediment core analysis can help us understand and quantify increased phosphorus loading from shoreland development. This data can help resource managers confidently use runoff coefficients from various land use to estimate phosphorus loads to various types of lakes. Come learn more about this.

Presenter: Paul Garrison, Paleoecologist, Onterra, LLC

Modeling Phosphorus Reduction from Small Projects on Riparian Properties

Lake organizations are often looking for ways to compare the relative costs and benefits of different shoreland improvement projects. Quantifying the nutrient reductions that might be achieved from installing raingardens or restoring shoreland buffers is one way to help explain why these are important projects for the group to take on. This presentation will walk through some examples of how you can develop reasonable estimates of phosphorus reductions in the riparian areas.

Presenter: Paul McGinley, Water Quality Specialist, Center for Watershed Science and Education, UW-Stevens Point

8:00-8:50 AM – Stonefield/Harvest - Aquatic Invasive Species

(Two presentations)

CISMA Rapid Response to New Wetland Invasives

Early Detection Rapid Response to Invasive Butterfly Dock (*Petasites hybridus*) in Douglas and Dane Counties

Ramona and Zach will present a brief overview of their Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) project to verify and control a recently discovered population of invasive butterfly dock (*Petasites hybridus*) in Superior Wisconsin. They will share this project as a practical example of the EDRR aquatic invasive species management concept, summarize the 2021 EDRR response, and outline plans for follow up in 2022. Then, Matt will talk about how the Upper Sugar River Watershed Association and Dane County partnered to control a stand of prohibited butterfly dock by sharing techniques that were used and the results of their efforts.

Presenters: Ramona Shackelford, Coordinator, Northwoods Cooperative Weed Management Area, Zach Stewart, AIS Specialist, Douglas County and Matt Wallrath, Invasive Species Program Manager, Upper Sugar River Watershed Assoc.

Combining Efforts for Effective AIS Control: An EDR Response to Yellow Floating Heart and Graceful Cattail

This presentation will cover how rapid response efforts, multi-agency coordination, and landowner engagement came together to successfully manage yellow floating heart and graceful cattail in private ponds in Northern Wisconsin.

Presenter: Lindsay Peterson, Coordinator, Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition

8:00-8:50 AM – Woodland/Trillium Room - Water Resource Protection

Climate Change Impacts and Adaptations for Wisconsin's Great Lakes Ecosystem

Both of Wisconsin's Great Lakes are ecologically and culturally important to the people of Wisconsin and are home to over 3,500 different species of fish and wildlife. They provide key ecosystem services to coastal communities through direct uses like fisheries and recreation and indirect uses such as water quality regulation, cultural and family identities, and psychological well-being. But climate change is one of the top concerns for the region. Given the importance of the Great Lakes to the people, plants, and animals that call them home, it is imperative that we protect them as climate changes. The WICCI Great Lakes working group assessed the current and projected impacts of climate change on Wisconsin's Great Lakes ecosystem and developed potential solutions and adaptation strategies. This assessment provides a thorough examination of impacts, solutions, and strategies, that if acted upon, will lead to a more resilient future for the region.



Presenter: Madeline Magee, Office of Great Waters Monitoring Coordinator, Wisconsin DNR

Friday Keynote



9:00-10:15 AM



Friday Keynote

Northwoods Expo - 9:00-10:15 AM

From the Bottom Up

Chad Pregracke, 2013 CNN Hero of the Year, is living proof that one person can make a difference. As the founder of America's only "industrial strength" river clean-up organization, Chad Pregracke tells a compelling, uplifting, and inspiring story about growing up on the river and how his river experiences led to his unique vision to clean up the Mississippi River and start an internationally recognized not-for-profit, Living Lands & Waters.

During his presentation, Chad will take the audience out on one of the world's greatest rivers – the Mississippi – a journey filled with endless challenges and gripping adventures. His delivery is motivating, captivating, genuine, and refreshingly spontaneous. Chad's story will show you that one person can truly make a difference!

Friday Sessions

10:45-11:45 AM

10:45-11:45 AM – Expo 1 Room - Hot Topics

(Two presentations)

climate
change

A Water Policy in Wisconsin Update: Breaking the Rulemakings?

While for the most part the eye of the Wisconsin Legislature has stayed away from water issues, a handful of notable bills from 2021-22 will be discussed in this annual update of water policy in the state. But while legislative traffic may have been down, rulemakings - a state agency's fleshing out of how statutes are implemented - have seen considerable attention. And some interests seem intent on keeping rules that would protect drinking, ground, and surface water from harmful chemicals from ever seeing the light of day. We'll discuss the rules in play and the disturbing trend to prevent their passage.

Presenter: Michael Engleson, Executive Director, Wisconsin Lakes

Integrated Aquatic Plant Management

The DNR's Aquatic Plant Management Program is undergoing rule revisions for NR 107 and NR 109, related to the chemical and mechanical control of aquatic plants on Wisconsin waters. This session will walk you through the proposed program changes and how they will affect you.

Presenter: Madi Johansen, Statewide Aquatic Plant Management (APM) Coordinator, Wisconsin DNR

(Continued on next page)



Friday Sessions, cont.

10:45-11:45 AM

10:45-11:45 AM – Expo 2 Room - Wildlife/Fish/Natural History

(Two presentations)

Sedges Demystified: Common Species of Wisconsin's Lake and River Habitats

Despite there being 239 sedge species in Wisconsin, these diverse, beautiful, and ecologically important species are grossly under appreciated. This presentation will reveal how grasses and sedges differ. A dozen sedges will be highlighted to provide an overview of how to identify these species and their place within wetland plant communities, ecological restoration, and landscaping.

Presenter: Paul Rothrock, Associate Curator of Indiana University's Deam Herbarium, Indiana University

How to Identify Critical, Sensitive Walleye (and other fishes) Spawning Habitats, and Understand Factors that May Be Contributing to Walleye Population Declines

Nearshore spawning habitats are critical for the reproductive success for most all of Wisconsin's fishes. Despite the importance of these habitats, methods to assess and quantify them are limited and laborious. We developed a Nearshore Substrate Inventory (NSSI) protocol that incorporates DNR shoreland habitat assessment methods along with substrate classification metrics to quantify nearshore spawning substrates within Katherine Lake, Oneida County. We then applied these data to literature findings on walleye spawning substrates to identify preferred walleye spawning habitats available throughout the lake. Further developments and application of these methods and associated results could be used to identify critical, sensitive walleye (and other fishes) spawning habitats, in addition to further understanding factors that may be contributing to walleye population declines.

Presenter: Lawrence Eslinger, Fisheries Biologist, Wisconsin DNR

10:45-11:45 AM – Sands Room - Building Capacity

Characteristics of Effective Lake Organizations

We will bring in observations from across a collection of lakes that have managed to have their internal affairs sorted out and organized to make everything they do both a bit easier and more likely to succeed. Lake groups can always benefit from new ideas and examples that help them rethink their organization, how it's structured, and how they carry out their activities. This session will bring together three people who have seen and worked with many groups and have taken time to identify some of the characteristics that lead to success. We will cover the Bone Lake District's committee structure and how it helps facilitate implementation of a comprehensive lake and watershed management plan. We will also explore how recruiting and keeping volunteers can also be key to turning plans into reality.

Presenters: Valerie Hogan, President, Growth Strategies, Inc., Cheryl Clemens, Owner, Harmony Environmental, and Karen Engelbretson, Secretary, Bone Lake Management District

10:45-11:45 AM – Evergreen/Frontier Room - Innovative Practices/Partnerships

(Two presentations)

Tackling Water Quality Through Regional Coalition Building

The Yahara Watershed and its five lakes contribute significantly to the region's economy, recreational offerings, and quality of life. Past investments and actions have laid a foundation for future water quality improvements, but the lakes remain federally impaired and suffer from blue-green algae blooms and E. coli outbreaks. In addition, intensifying climate impacts and other headwinds threaten to mask and overwhelm progress despite efforts to reverse poor water quality. Clean Lakes Alliance is leading the Yahara CLEAN Compact, which seeks to improve the condition and usability of the Yahara lakes and beaches by expanding and strengthening community partnerships and uniting around a common vision and action plan. This presentation will review lessons learned as the Compact sought to combine the power of science with collective community action. It will also describe challenges faced in working productively as a group of 19 organizations and how several key stakeholder groups were engaged throughout the planning process. Learn how decades of research and monitoring were translated into a community user manual and action roadmap for these troubled lakes.

Presenters: Paul Dearlove, Deputy Director, and James Tye, Executive Director, Clean Lakes Alliance

Friday Sessions, cont.



10:45-11:45 AM

The Importance of Watershed Partnerships: Building the Lake Superior Collaborative

The Lake Superior Collaborative (LSC) is a partnership of conservation organizations working on watershed restoration and climate resilience projects in Wisconsin's Lake Superior basin. The LSC facilitates networking, information sharing, and collaborative stewardship by convening partners around shared, multi-year watershed goals. The Collaborative consists of a 10-member steering team, full-time coordinator, and multiple workgroups. This talk will emphasize the importance of aligning local projects with regional priorities and supporting partnerships that lead to sustainable and collaborative conservation projects. Presenters will share examples of landscape restoration projects made possible through collaborative efforts, including Wisconsin's first natural flood management demonstration project in Ashland County. This presentation will also cover the challenges and opportunities that arise through the coordination and maintenance of a regional conservation partnership, including securing funding for a permanent coordinator, generating a shared Action Plan, and evaluating partnership impact.

Presenters: Erin Burkett, PhD, Lake Superior Outreach Specialist, UW-Madison Division of Extension and MaryJo Gingras, Ashland County Land and Water Conservation Department

climate
change

10:45-11:45 AM – Stonefield/Harvest - Aquatic Invasive Species

The 7 Things You Need to Know About European Frogbit in Wisconsin

It's not every day that a new invasive species is discovered for the first time in our state. Hear how partners came together on short notice to respond to a new NR40 prohibited species that was discovered along the coastal areas of Northeast Wisconsin in late summer of 2021. We'll begin with a crash course in European frogbit 101, including its origin, identification (featuring live specimens!), and ecological impacts, before diving into a summary of the 2021 response effort, successes and challenges, and future management plans. Finally, we'll share some "ribbiting" lessons learned and shovel-ready ways to help that'll leave you feeling ready to hop to it.

Presenter: Amanda Smith, Northeast Region AIS Coordinator, Wisconsin DNR

climate
change

10:45-11:45 AM – Woodland/Trillium Room - Water Resource Protection

(Two presentations)

The Greatest Places on Earth: Our Lakes, the Threats, the Remedies

This presentation will outline the major threats facing our lakes: unwise development, weak zoning protections, failing septic systems, wakeboating, invasive species, climate change, short-term rentals. It will explore how things we do as visitors and property owners affect the water, and action we can take to protect the lakes for the long term. This is the subject of my upcoming book with UW Press, planned for fall 2022 release.

Presenter: Ted Rulseh, Author and Lake Protection Advocate, Oneida County Lakes and Rivers Association

climate
change

Engaging Citizens in Urban Watershed Protection: A Case Study of the Westmorland Neighborhood

The City of Madison and Friends of Lake Wingra are collaborating on a study to investigate the effect of green infrastructure (GI) installations in the Westmorland Neighborhood on the reduction of stormwater impacts in the watershed. One of the project's goals is to motivate property owners in the neighborhood to install GI, such as rain barrels and rain gardens, in their yards. We sent a survey to all residents on the Westmorland Neighborhood Association listserv to explore how the Friends of Lake Wingra's outreach efforts and the city's financial incentives have impacted residents' perceptions of GI and their actions to protect their local waters. Most respondents have noticed GI installations in the neighborhood and feel positively about them. Reasons they cited included improving water quality, protecting wildlife habitat, and reducing floods and erosion. Residents highlighted lack of time and not knowing who to contact as barriers to installing GI.

Presenters: Katy Bradford, Water Action Volunteers Program Manager, UW-Madison Division of Extension and Evelyn Hammond, Evaluation Specialist, UW-Madison Division of Extension



Friday Lunch

12:00-1:15 PM



Friday Lunch Speaker - Northwoods Expo - 12:30 PM

Sarah Barry, Deputy Secretary, Wisconsin DNR

Sarah Barry has more than 20 years of experience meeting the complex challenges inherent in public sector organizations. She has also spent the last 15 years as the Chief of Staff to several state senators, including most recently Sen. Brad Pfaff, and providing guidance and leadership on numerous environmental policy and regulatory issues. Sarah also served as the Director of Government Affairs for Clean Wisconsin and was Executive Director at Customers First Coalition, a nonprofit organization dedicated to responsible energy policy.

Earlier in her career, Sarah worked as an analyst at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and as a government-payer healthcare consultant for several years. Sarah holds a Master's Degree from the Robert M. La Follette School of Public Affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and

a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. In her personal time, Sarah and her husband enjoy spending time hiking in the Driftless Area of Wisconsin.

Friday Sessions

1:30-2:30 PM

1:30-2:30 PM – Expo 1 Room - Hot Topics

(Two presentations)

How Climate Change is Impacting Mississippi River Health: Can We Adapt Quickly Enough to Produce Meaningful Change?



Climate change is causing significant degradation to the Mississippi River ecosystem. Increased water and sediment delivery are making maintenance of the navigation channel difficult and diminishing the quality and quantity of critical backwater habitat. Adaptation to these changing conditions requires optimizing connection between channels and backwater habitat, creating deep water refugia in backwaters, planning for increased navigation channel dredging, and making strategic infrastructure retrofits. Many successful adaptations have been implemented on the Mississippi River, but more are needed to keep pace with the rate of ecosystem degradation resulting from climate change.

Presenter: Shawn Giblin, Mississippi River Water Quality Specialist, Wisconsin DNR

At Risk: Climate, Flooding & Public Health

Climate change is increasing the frequency and severity of rainfall events across Wisconsin. These intense storms have led to catastrophic damage and pose an increasingly greater risk to public health. Populations that experience existing public health challenges given their socioeconomic and demographic characteristics can expect compounding health impacts due to flooding. We will demonstrate the relationship between flood vulnerability and health indicators in Wisconsin to identify areas of the state with particularly at-risk populations. We pay particular attention to the intersection of flooding and mental health.

Presenter: Maggie Thelen, Climate and Health Program Coordinator, Wisconsin Department of Health Services

1:30-2:30 PM – Expo 2 Room - Wildlife/Fish/Natural History

(Two presentations)

Lessons Learned from Fish Stick Project, Lake Lucerne, Forest County

Starting in late 2019 as the new chair of the Lake Lucerne Fishery and Water Quality Committee with a background in health care, Jim Zach embarked on a nearly two year endeavor to educate, plan, recruit resources, and coordinate a lake community effort that resulted in placing 43 fish sticks along the shore of the lake during February of 2021.

Presenter: Jim Zach MD, Lake Lucerne Advancement Association

Friday Sessions, cont.



1:30-2:30 PM

Fish Stocking Policy and Science

Kubisiak will give some examples where fish stocking might be an appropriate tool and describe other situations where stocking is not appropriate. He will also outline the Department of Natural Resources policies on fish stocking and discuss the reasons for those rules. Finally, there will be examples of how both stocking success and natural recruitment of young fish are evaluated.

Presenter: John Kubisiak, Fish Stocking Policy and Science, Wisconsin DNR

1:30-2:30 PM – Sands Room - Building Capacity

Even If It Takes Decades, We Will Not Give Up

Big Doctor is a 213-acre seepage lake in Siren, Wisconsin. For decades, the lake has been an idyllic, sandy bottom recreation spot for fishing, boating, and swimming by people using the State owned public boat landing and the fortunate few who own property on the lake. Between 2000-2010, lake residents began to notice an increase in aquatic plant growth and algae blooms that impeded recreation. The Big Doctor Lake Association (BDLA) partnered with Burnett County and DNR staff on an Aquatic Plant Management Plan. Participants learned that excessive phosphorus was the primary cause of these problems. Further study revealed the primary source of elevated phosphorous pollution was the Village of Siren's wastewater treatment facility one mile to the south. The BDLA considered legal action, but instead pursued a collaborative partnership with various government entities to correct the problem. This presentation will summarize these collaborative efforts, results to date, and next steps.

Presenters: John Magnuson, Helen Wilkie, and Peggy Sherman, Big Doctor Lake Association

1:30-2:30 PM – Evergreen/Frontier Room - Innovative Practices/Partnerships

(Three presentations)



Partnering with Highway Departments to Manage Invasive Species

This talk gives a description of the timeline and growth of the invasive species management partnership between Jefferson County's Land and Water Conservation department and Highway department, along with an example from Sheboygan County using roadside mapping to begin a partnership. We will outline invasive species education and resources that were shared, mutual benefits to partnership we've experienced, and ongoing workshop planning to get more partners involved. Final conclusions will provide attendees with ideas and resources on how to begin and grow a partnership.

Presenters: Marisa Ulman, Water Resource Management Specialist, Jefferson County Land & Water Conservation Department and Patrick Siwula, Southeast Region AIS Coordinator, Wisconsin DNR

Best Management Practices and New Guide for 5 Common Right-of-Way Invasive Species

Dane County, Upper Sugar River Watershed Association, and the UW Madison Renz Weed Lab have collaborated on a new guide to selected roadside invasive species. In conjunction with this document, we will present best management practices to prevent spread along roads, as well as mowing and herbicide recommendations. We will focus on wild parsnip, invasive teasel, purple loosestrife, invasive knotweeds, and non-native phragmites. Timing and mapping resources will be presented for better cross-department planning. To aid right-of-way managers and practitioners, we will be sharing the guide online and offering copies to be mailed to participants.

Presenter: Matt Wallrath, Invasive Species Program Manager, Upper Sugar River Watershed Association; Contributor: Leo Roth

Pre-Vegetated Blankets: Providing Erosion Control While Preserving the Integrity, Stability, and Beauty of the Native Plant Community

This session will provide information on the benefits of pre-vegetated blankets and how their use is not only effective in erosion control, but also preserves the integrity, stability, and beauty of the native plant community. Whether you are working on a site that is commercial, residential, or municipal, pre-vegetated blankets can be used in nearly any situation with the added benefit of native plant species essential for our environment. Attendees will learn what a pre-vegetated blanket is, how it works, and why it is one of the most effective erosion control methods available today.

Presenter: Robert Livingston, Owner, GreenLine Synergy

(Continued on next page)



Friday Sessions, cont.

1:30-2:30 PM

1:30-2:30 PM – Stonefield/Harvest - Aquatic Invasive Species

Homeowner Perceptions of Aquatic Invasive Species: Results From a Survey of Lakeshore Property Owners in Wisconsin

While much research has been devoted to understanding how to prevent the spread of AIS by boaters and anglers, little research has explored the impact of AIS on lakeshore property owners. As a consequence, it is important to understand how lakefront property owners perceive the risks and benefits of AIS management approaches as well as their overall attitudes towards invasive species. A survey of 747 lakefront property owners in Wisconsin revealed that, while most lakefront property owners know about AIS, they are less familiar with the ways to manage them once they appear in their lakes. Additionally, a significant proportion of respondents reported not being familiar with common management approaches such as mechanical harvesting or chemical treatment. It was also found that chemical treatments were perceived to be the riskiest, with 20% of respondents believing that the risks outweighed the benefits. The least risky approach was found to be manual removal, with 48% believing the benefits outweighed the risks. Additionally, those who believed their lake had AIS were more likely to perceive greater benefits vs risks of chemical treatment compared to those who did not believe their lake had AIS. Implications for communicating with lakeshore property owners will be discussed.

Presenters: Richard James Heinrich, UW-Madison and Bret Shaw, Environmental Communication Specialist, UW-Madison Division of Extension and Co-authors: Dominique Brossard and Tim Campbell

1:30-2:30 PM – Woodland/Trillium Room - Water Resource Protection

(Two presentations)

Grassroots Lake Protection Stories

Grindstone Lake: Driven to Preserve a Natural Treasure

We will discuss the efforts of the Grindstone Lake Foundation in protecting a 57-acre parcel of land on the southwestern shore of Grindstone Lake in Sawyer County. The discussion will include the process of acquiring the former cranberry bog, fundraising through donations and a Wisconsin DNR Surface Water Acquisition Grant, and envisioning a future where the lake is protected and the land is considered an asset to the community.

Presenters: Donna Carlson, President, Grindstone Lake Association and Cindy Parker, President, Grindstone Lake Foundation

Perseverance: Lessons Learned Through Failure to Protect a Wetland on Squash Lake

After success with shoreland protection through land trust donation and conservation easements, over one mile of the just over seven miles of shoreland on Squash Lake has already been protected. However, the road to protecting the largest wetland on Squash Lake proved difficult and elusive. Several options were explored by both the lake association and lake district, but without success. These groups continue to collect useful data that may improve the chances to place the wetland in a protected state. Not every story has a happy ending, but the goal of protection is still within sight. Come find out the important lessons and facts about the wetland that were learned and how this effort continues to be a priority.

Presenter: Dan Butkus, Treasurer, Squash Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District

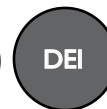


Friday Sessions

2:45-3:45 PM

2:45-3:45 PM – Expo 1 Room - Hot Topics

(Two presentations)



Climate Resilience and Tribal Adaptation: How the Mashkiiziibii are Protecting the Seventh Generation through Nibi

The Mashkiiziibii (Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa) believe that Nibi (water) is lifeblood, whose quality determines the quality of life for all tribal members and the earth. Downscaled climate projections shared between the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission and the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts have found that a 3.4°F to 5.5°F increase in temperature could have significant impacts on the reservation. To help fulfill the tribe’s moral obligations to protect cultural resources for the Seventh Generation, the Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department enacts a range of climate resilience, adaptation, and sustainability strategies that effectively protect and restore its uplands, inland riverine areas, and coastal wetlands and estuaries. These strategies are presented transparently so others may understand and advocate for rehabilitating tribal natural resources, protecting treaty rights and local identity, and supporting harmonious and interconnected relationships with the natural world.

Presenter: Jacob Slattery, Bakaan-Ingoji Gaa Ondaadag (Non-Local Beings) Program Manager, MNRD

Manoomin (Wild Rice) Habitat and Phenology

Manoomin (wild rice) is important in our lake ecosystems and is culturally important to the Ojibwe tribes and others in the Upper Midwest. Unfortunately, many rice populations, especially in the Northern Highlands region of northern Wisconsin, have declined over the last five years. To better understand rice vulnerability, we are studying the ecology of wild rice with special emphasis on early season dynamics like seed germination, rice growth and development through the season, and underwater placement relative to native and non-native plant neighbors, all in the context of water quality, winter ice, and snowpack. Our preliminary results suggest that wild rice struggles to compete with perennial vegetation, may be most vulnerable at the floating stage, is subject to extreme herbivory by waterfowl, and that population recovery may be hampered by a diminished seedbank.

Presenters: Susan Knight, Associate Scientist, and Gretchen Gerrish, Director, UW-Madison Center for Limnology Trout Lake Station

2:45-3:45 PM – Expo 2 Room - Wildlife/Fish/Natural History

(Two presentations)



Lumos! Taxonomy and Natural History of Wisconsin Fireflies

What is a “firefly,” and what is the diversity of the Wisconsin fauna? A current Wisconsin species list forms the backbone of generic overviews for each of our genera. The presentation then examines bioluminescence throughout the greater tree of life, how biological light is produced in fireflies, and its evolution and significance in the biology and natural history of fireflies. The presentation concludes with observations relating to an observed general decline in firefly populations in many parts of North America, along with a few notes on firefly conservation.

Presenter: Daniel Young, Professor of Entomology and Director, UW Insect Research Collection, UW-Madison

Preserving The Health Of Wisconsin’s Wetland Forests

High water levels, invasive plants, and pests, such as emerald ash borer, have had widespread impacts on the health of wetland forests in Wisconsin over the last few years. This presentation will review the recent impacts to wetland forests, likely future impacts, and what can be done to maintain the structure, function and benefits of these forests over the long term.

Presenter: Bill McNee, Forest Health Specialist, Wisconsin DNR

(Continued on next page)



Friday Sessions, cont.

2:45-3:45 PM

DEI

101
session

2:45-3:45 PM – Sands Room - Building Capacity

Lake Groups Building Human Capital Across a Watershed

Water quality starts on the land. This is a panel discussion where we will hear from four lake and/or watershed groups at various stages of development. They will discuss their journey from their first meeting to where they are today. They will also share how they built the human capital needed to address water quality problems by reaching out to shoreline owners, and landowners in the watershed, to address water quality in a holistic watershed approach. They will explain how they collaborated with partner agencies and cooperated with landowners to address issues affecting water quality. Modelled after a farmer-to-farmer communication strategy, this panel is designed to be landowner-to-landowner.

Presenters: Tracy Arnold, Conservation Technician, Portage County Land and Water Conservation Dept., Scott Provost, Water Resources Specialist, Wisconsin DNR, and Don Ystad, President, 14 Mile Watershed Alliance

2:45-3:45 PM – Evergreen/Frontier Room - Innovative Practices/Partnerships

(Two presentations)

Building Community around Stormwater Resiliency

What happens when you provide people the resources and knowledge base they need to solve a problem in their community? For the UW-Madison Arboretum, the opportunity to explore this question arose from a grant to address stormwater in the Lake Wingra watershed, a highly urbanized watershed in the heart of Madison, Wisconsin. Surrounded by a range of developments and high- and low-income housing, the core strategy of the Water Action To Encourage Responsibility (WATER) project was to engage local non-profits with grants to implement their own stormwater initiatives. The Arboretum provided support with online and in-person trainings covering outreach strategy development, effective communication, and the basics of stormwater solutions. The results include new partnerships with and between a variety of community organizations, schools, and residents in an engaged effort to change the narrative around stormwater in a way that can be replicated in other watersheds and communities.

Presenter: Alli Wenman, Outreach Specialist, UW-Madison Arboretum

Adopt-a-Launch: Fostering Ownership to Overcome the Tragedy of the Commons

Many Wisconsinites view water recreation as an eternal given. People desire well-maintained access to waterways but often pass the expectation of maintaining waters or access points on to others. Historically, a real challenge has existed in engaging local communities to taking action as part of a solution. The Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance's Adopt-a-Launch Program was created to engage community members to take ownership of their waterways. Volunteers adopt local boat launches and search for aquatic invasive species while also improving boat launch conditions through litter removal, reporting maintenance issues, and clearing boat launch ramps of washed up vegetation. Through the first year of the program, over 10 launches have been adopted by over 25 volunteers in NE Wisconsin. The success of the novel Adopt-a-Launch Program provides a firm foundation to continue building community ownership of lakes and rivers while recruiting and retaining volunteers dedicated to caring for Wisconsin's waters.

Presenter: Chris Acy, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance

2:45-3:45 PM – Stonefield/Harvest - Aquatic Invasive Species

If You Build It, Will They Clean? Boater Attitudes in Wisconsin Towards Watercraft

Decontamination for AIS

From simple tools like bleach buckets all the way to permanently installed hot power wash stations, various systems are in place or being considered in Wisconsin for the purpose of safely cleaning boats of aquatic invasive species. But if a system is put in place, will it be effectively used? How do/will boaters react to various boat cleaning scenarios?

This session will review survey work conducted by Wisconsin Lakes in association with UW Sea Grant and WDNR to look at boater, riparian, and AIS professional attitudes towards boat cleaning systems and bring together a panel to discuss real work implementation struggles and successes.

Presenters: Michael Engleson, Executive Director, Wisconsin Lakes and Tim Campbell, AIS Outreach Specialist, UW Sea Grant Institute

Friday Sessions, cont.



2:45-3:45 PM

2:45-3:45 PM – Woodland/Trillium Room - Water Resource Protection

(Two presentations)

Vilas County: Watershed Protection Planning Project

Vilas County has so many healthy and unimpaired surface waters that are vulnerable to soil erosion and other forms of non-point source pollution. We are in the process of completing a watershed inventory to assess those threats. Following that inventory, we will write a management plan with a protection focus and implement steps to protect an already healthy watershed. We plan to place soil protection projects on the land, introduce landowners to the Northwoods Land Trust to protect lands, and work with the USFS to improve the function of stream crossings throughout the watershed.

Presenter: Quita Sheehan, Conservation Specialist, Vilas County Land and Water Conservation Department

Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department: Comprehensive Aquatic Restoration Projects

The Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department has been implementing comprehensive aquatic restoration projects throughout Ozaukee County and adjacent counties since 2009. These include holistic stream and wetland habitat restoration projects on the Little Menomonee River and Mole, Mineral Springs, and Ulao Creeks, which were designed to improve aquatic habitat, connectivity (fish passage), and water quality as demonstrated by comprehensive environmental monitoring. Each of these on-the-ground restoration projects are guided by the Department's GIS-based Ecological Prioritization Decision Support Tool. The Department has also conducted stormwater and groundwater studies to guide construction of stormwater wetland restoration projects at Mee-Kwon and Virmond County Parks that address water quality impairments and manage flooding. Together these "case study" on-the-ground restoration projects will provide demonstrated, practical knowledge and models for achieving comprehensive aquatic restoration at a watershed-wide scale, while improving water quality and climate resiliency.

Presenter: Andrew Struck, Director of the Planning and Parks Department, Ozaukee County

Reducing Our Footprint

NEAR ZERO WASTE CERTIFIED

Look for the educational "waste stations" and collection bins throughout the Convention Center. Our friends at Recycling Connections have certified our event as "Near Zero Waste" and will work with kitchen staff to haul compostable materials to a local farm!



T-SHIRTS

This year's Convention t-shirt is 100% recycled fabric (never re-dyed) and made from reclaimed material that otherwise could end up in a landfill. If you didn't order one when you registered, check the registration desk to see if there are any left. Quantities limited.

POSTER BOARDS

The colorful boards and stands that are in the commons area holding up posters for the Thursday afternoon Poster Session and photos from this year's photo contest, as well as the fun collaborative art project, are re-usable and were made from recycled materials from residence halls at UW-Stevens Point.

AGENDAS

This year we asked if you wanted a printed agenda or if you would, instead, use the agenda on the app or website. We were able to cut printed agendas by almost half - saving paper, ink, water, energy, and time! Thank you!

In addition, we are not using any disposable dishes or utensils, and we are sharing reused name badges - please make sure you drop yours off in the appropriate container before leaving the Convention - thank you!

2022 Convention Archives



Not able to attend all of the sessions you'd like? Many presentation PDFs will be available on the 2022 Convention archive page.

wisconsinwaterweek.org

We would love your feedback.

Take a picture of the QR code and let us know how we did!



2023 Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention

SAVE THE DATE

for next year's Lakes and Rivers Convention
(part of Wisconsin Water Week)

Wednesday through Friday, April 19-21, 2023
Holiday Inn and Convention Center, Stevens Point, WI



Have an idea for next year?
Submit a presentation proposal by clicking on this
QR code and filling out the Google form!



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