
Water Law Still Makes Waves

40 Years of Citizen Involvement



If you think about the word “water” in the year 1974 what comes to mind? For many of you, Watergate is probably high on the list, but let’s stick to Merriam-Webster’s definition of water: “the clear liquid that has no color, taste, or smell, that falls from clouds as rain, that forms streams, lakes and seas, and that is used for drinking, washing, etc.” In the literary world, 1974 is when Peter Benchley published “Jaws,” and Julie Ann Junkin won the National Spelling Bee with the word “hydrophyte.” But, for Wisconsin lake lovers, May 28, 1974 marked a pivotal day when citizen-involved lake management was signed into state law. It is the 40th anniversary of a keystone piece of the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership.

On that day, Governor Patrick Lucey came to the shore of Lake Mendota to sign into law a comprehensive state program for protecting and rehabilitating lakes. The bill established a \$1.3 million grant program for inland lake protection and rehabilitation. Funding was also provided for staff from the University and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to administer the effort and provide public education about the new law. It included the creation of Chapter 33, the statutes governing lake districts, and established the process for districts to work with the DNR to complete lake studies and receive cost-share funding for plan implementation.

At the bill’s signing, Governor Lucey noted, “This legislation gives us the opportunity to make amends for the shameful abuse of state waters.” Lucey, who passed away in May at age 96, went on to stress the important economic linkage between healthy waters and a prosperous Wisconsin: “Our inland lakes represent not only an irreplaceable natural resource, but an important economic resource to the state of Wisconsin.” This is a point that his predecessor, Governor Gaylord Nelson, was fond of making and it still stands true today.



Courtesy of Associated Press

“This legislation gives us the opportunity to make amends for the shameful abuse of state waters.”

~ Governor Patrick Lucey

The new lake law was one of the many outcomes from the Inland Lakes Demonstration Project, a federally funded research and outreach endeavor administered through the Upper Great Lakes Regional Commission. The law called for state and local funding that was designed to leverage federal money from the newly-created Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

(Continued on page 2)

Volume 39, No. 2 Spring/Summer 2014

Wisconsin Lakes Partnership

Lake Tides

The newsletter for people interested in Wisconsin lakes

Steve Born shown in center.

Wisconsin Lakes Partnership



Lowell Klessig, Stephen Born, Jon Kusler, and Douglas Yanggen were among the authors of the program and the law. Their ideas were based on six years of experience working with lake stakeholders and attempting a range of experimental methods for managing lake health.

In their proposal, the authors noted that fixing lake problems would not be easy or straightforward:

“...several problems complicate lake renewal and improvement efforts. Government policy and program options will be dependent upon lake conditions, economics, and the status of lake rehabilitation technology. Lakes are complicated ecosystems, and predictive abilities of scientists concerning the response of lake systems to various treatments are as yet somewhat limited. Each lake has its own ‘unique personality,’ which frustrates attempts to directly transfer results from one lake to another with apparently similar problems. There are also time constraints associated with lake renewal programs. The public wants action and prompt results. However, in the scientific community, there is substantial disagreement as to how much information is required to adequately formulate a remedial program and evaluate its results.”

These complications have been fairly persistent over a forty-year span, and yet there remains tremendous interest and enthusiasm in advancing lake rehabilitation across the state.

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In addition to DNR staff, the law created a specific role for UW-Extension to form a bridge between the academic community and industry, local interest groups, and local government. The proposal called for two water resource specialists in UW-Extension who would “assume broad public education responsibilities regarding lake related problems (a prerequisite for long-term awareness and solution of such problems), and achieve a link with the wide scope of university research that will complement and support the ongoing lake protection and rehabilitation program. They will develop educational programs which include local informational meetings for interested groups, organization and assistance in development of subsequent activities of lake rehabilitation and protection districts and preparation of informational publications and educational materials.”

Lowell Klessig went on to be hired in one of the two water resource positions, and by 1976 he was mailing the *Lake Tides* newsletter to lake district commissioners and other interested parties statewide.

Courtesy of UW-Extension



Lowell Klessig



Chapter 33.001 Declaration of intent:



The legislature finds environmental values, wildlife, public rights in navigable waters, and the public welfare are threatened by the deterioration of public lakes; that the protection and rehabilitation of the public inland lakes of this state are in the best interest of the citizens of this state; that the public health and welfare will be benefited thereby; that the current state effort to abate water pollution will not undo the eutrophic and other deteriorated conditions of many lakes; that lakes form an important basis of the state's recreation industry; that the increasing recreational usage of the waters of this state justifies state action to enhance and restore the potential of our inland lakes to satisfy the needs of the citizenry; and that the positive public duty of this state as trustee of waters requires affirmative steps to protect and enhance this resource and protect environmental values. To this end, the legislature declares that it is necessary to embark upon a program of lake protection and rehabilitation, to authorize a conjunctive state and local program of lake protection and rehabilitation to fulfill the positive duty of the state as trustee of navigable waters, and protect environmental values. The legislature finds that a state effort of research, analysis, planning and financing, and a local effort undertaken by lake rehabilitation and protection districts of planning and plan implementation is necessary and desirable and that the local districts should be formed by persons directly affected by the deteriorated condition of inland waters and willing to assist financially, or through other means, in remedying lake problems. The legislature further finds that state efforts are needed to aid and assist local efforts, to ensure that projects are undertaken only if they promote the public rights in navigable waters, environmental values, and the public welfare, and to administer a program of financial aids to support rehabilitation projects with benefits to all state citizens.

Some items originally envisioned in the bill have come and gone. The lake law established an “interagency lake protection and rehabilitation council” whose members were appointed by the governor; this council was repealed in 1998. The law also planned to take advantage of funds in the EPA’s Clean Lakes program. That funding source was largely eliminated in the 1990s, although the EPA still provides funding for lakes and rivers that are heavily polluted through the 303(d) program. The authors of the program also discussed funding lake protection and rehabilitation through apportioning gasoline tax revenue paid by motorboat users, but the 1974 law drew instead from the state’s general fund and only allowed local governments and lake districts to apply for cost-share grants. Thanks to continued lake citizen vision and advocacy, today’s grants and staff of the lakes partnership are being maintained largely through the motorboat gasoline tax. In 1996, eligibility of these grants was broadened to include non-profit organizations, including lake associations.

The preface to the 1974 bill (at right) lists a number of “findings of fact” that still resonate today. All of us who work towards lake protection and rehabilitation do so in the wake of the researchers, lawmakers, and citizens who made the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership a reality. 💧



The Inland Lakes Demonstration Project focused on ten lakes throughout the state. Scientists looked at both the ecological and social dimensions of lake protection.

Wisconsin Lakes Partnership



Summertime, and the living is... green?

By Gina LaLiberte, Bureau of Science Services, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Like the return of migrating loons, the reappearance of algae heralds the start of another growing season in Wisconsin's lakes. Mention "algae" and many people think of blue-green algae, which are photosynthetic bacteria also known as cyanobacteria. However, there are many different kinds of algae in lakes, and they play an important role as the base of aquatic food webs.

There are many different kinds of algae in lakes, and they play an important role as the base of aquatic food webs.

Filamentous green algae such as *Spirogyra* usually appear in lakes in early spring through early summer. They are distinguished from cyanobacteria by their long, hair-like texture. At the end of their lives they form floating mats that turn brown and smelly as they decompose. These mats are often mistaken for cyanobacteria, but the hair-like strands indicate that the mats are filamentous green algae.

Photo by Gina LaLiberte



Filamentous green algae (Spirogyra) can be distinguished from blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) by its hair-like strands.

Cyanobacteria - Blue-green Algae

Cyanobacteria become more numerous as lake water warms in mid-summer. Common planktonic cyanobacteria are very small and resemble pale green dust on the water's surface, pinhead-sized balls, irregular green blobs, or tiny clumps of grass clippings.

Cyanobacteria or blue-green algae aren't always blue-green in color. Cyanobacteria are usually green when actively growing, but when they accumulate in surface scums or start to decompose, colors such as teal, sky blue, white, purple, and brown may appear. Images of cyanobacterial blooms are available in the presentation linked at the end of this article.

Cyanobacteria are in every water body in Wisconsin, but they are only problematic when excess nutrients support their growth in nuisance blooms that appear as colorful scums, foams, or opaque pea soup-like water. Some bloom-forming species may produce toxins that cause illness in people and animals if they ingest them. Skin contact with cyanobacteria can also cause rashes, especially in people with allergies or other underlying health issues.

In 2009-2013 the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) received funding from the Centers for Disease Control to evaluate illnesses from cyanobacterial exposure in humans and animals in Wisconsin. The DHS received 146 illness complaints, with gastrointestinal illness, cold and flu-like symptoms, and dermal rashes as the most common symptoms. The DHS is continuing to seek illness reports via their website at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/eh/bluegreenalgae/index.htm, in order to track where illnesses from cyanobacterial exposure continue to be a problem.



Stay Safe

Common-sense measures can help you to safely enjoy Wisconsin's many opportunities for lake recreation.

- Use the "knee deep" test to gauge cyanobacteria levels in lake water. If adults wade into knee-deep water and can still see their feet, there is low to moderate risk of illness from swallowing cyanobacteria or inhaling them in water droplets. You should still avoid swallowing untreated surface water as other bacteria, viruses, or parasites may be present.
- If you can't see your feet in knee-deep water, there is a high risk of illness from swallowing cyanobacteria or inhaling them in water droplets. If the water has an opaque, pea soup-like appearance, or if surface scums or foams are present, avoid swimming in these conditions. Keep small children and dogs out of the water!
- Avoid boating, water skiing, or jet skiing through waters that are opaque pea soup-like green, or if surface scums or foams are present, to avoid inhalation of blue-green algae in water droplets.

- Shower after swimming in any body of water, and wash off dogs too.
- Eutrophic lakes which offer good fishing may experience cyanobacterial blooms. Algal toxins are more likely to accumulate in the viscera and guts of fish, so discard those parts and eat only the fillet. Wash your hands after handling fish, and rinse fillets thoroughly before cooking or freezing.

For more information about cyanobacteria or blue-green algae, please visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/bluegreenalgae/> and <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/eh/bluegreenalgae/index.htm>. To view the presentation "Harmful Algal Blooms in Wisconsin Waters 2009-2013" from this year's Lakes Convention, go to www.uwsp.edu/uwexlakes, click on "Convention" at the left, then scroll down to the Thursday afternoon agenda and click on "Special Technical Sessions." 💧



This heavy mat of filamentous green algae (Spirogyra) on Lake Mendota is at the end of its life and is starting to decompose.

Cyanobacteria are in every water body in Wisconsin, but they are only problematic when excess nutrients support their growth.

Did you know "brookies" need cold water?

DYK

Let's start by saying a brookie is a brook trout, otherwise known as a speckled trout. With 10,000 miles of classified trout streams, it is no wonder the brookie calls Wisconsin home. These coldwater streams provide the perfect place for brook trout to spawn in the fall where they create their nests in the gravel close to spring-fed portions of the stream. This brightly colored fish is Wisconsin's only native stream trout and could face some adversity if water temperatures continue to rise. Coldwater fish like the brookie are quite particular about their habitat and can only tolerate water temperature below 71.6° F (22° C), and will start stressing at about 63-65° F.

Given the fragility of the brookie's habitat, the Coldwater Fish and Fisheries Working Group was asked to identify the potential impacts of climate change on coldwater fish and fisheries. This group used watershed-scale models to predict possible changes in three mid-century climate-warming scenarios. The "best-case" scenario included summer air temperatures rising 1.8° F and water temperatures rising 1.4° F, which would result in a 44% loss of brook trout. A "moderate-case" showed air temps going up by 5.4° F and water temps increasing by 4.3° F, resulting in a 94% loss of brookies. The final, and "worst-case," scenario showed a total loss of brook trout due to increased air temperatures of 9° F and increased water temps of 7.2° F! You can see the full technical report at www.wicci.wisc.edu.



Killdeer

This Shorebird Introduces Itself

By Jeff LaMarche, UWSP student

With its long legs and long black and white striped throat, the killdeer is among the most attractive of the shorebirds. Despite its good looks and impeccable sense of style, it is named for its call – a shrill ‘kill deer,’ which displaying males will repeat over and over while in flight. Its binomial name, charadrius vociferus, translates directly as ‘screaming plover,’ while in French it is known as a ‘Pluvier Kildir,’ so we recognize this creature as a noisy bird in any language.

You may also identify the killdeer by its long legs and muted color. Male and female alike can be recognized by their brown and black wings, white belly, and a double band of dark color set against a white breast. Breeding females may have additional brown markings on their face. The killdeer stands apart from other shorebirds as it tends to make its nest on the ground, in open, dry uplands with short or little vegetation, in farmlands, or in meadows. They are known to frequent golf-courses and can be tempted to nest on gravel rooftops.

Photo by Glenn Loos-Austin (Creative Commons)



If shorebirds could be on the list of recipients, surely, the female killdeer would be awarded “best actress” by the Academy for her dramatic broken wing routine.



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Despite its long legs well-suited for wading, the killdeer prefers to forage for earthworms, insects, and their larvae found on the shore. They can be seen running and pausing repeatedly while

foraging, and may run away from a threat rather than flying. If you wander too close to their nest while hiking, a killdeer may employ a distraction display, feigning a broken wing to lure potential predators away from their offspring.

Wikimedia Commons Author=w:User:Basil



The killdeer is not shy with people, and has become one of the most successful shorebirds in the western hemisphere due to its willingness to employ open spaces created by industry and agricultural development. It prefers to nest in a small depression on open ground, surrounded by pebbles, grass, and weeds. Its eggs are pear shaped and gray with brown or black spots, which, even when left out in the open, are quite camouflaged. Breeding pairs are monogamous, and both males and females will incubate the eggs over a 24 day period, usually twice per breeding season. Killdeer leave the nest as soon as they are hatched and fledge about a month later. They look just like Mom and Dad except are covered with down and have only one breastband. Non-migratory breeding pairs may stay together for years and produce many offspring.

In the winter months, the killdeer takes up residence in the southern half of the United States, going as far south as is necessary to find food and open water. During the summer it migrates throughout the U.S. and all but the most northern regions of Canada. It lives year round throughout the Southern U.S., as far South as Columbia and along the coast of Peru. Although they may not live year round in the North, we should still find them among us during the summer months, sharing the cool breeze and bounty of our Wisconsin lakes. 💧

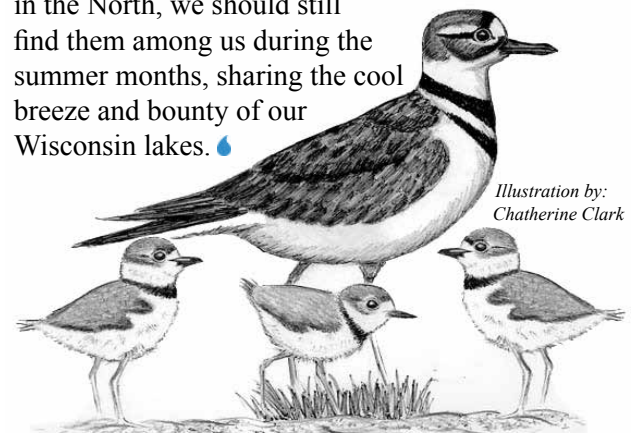


Illustration by:
Chatherine Clark

July is Lakes Appreciation Month

After the winter we had here in Wisconsin, I'm sure we will all be happy when we turn that calendar to read JULY! Although there will no doubt be days that push us to the limits of our tolerance for heat, we are blessed with thousands of natural places to cool ourselves. Yep, that's right, I'm talking about Wisconsin's lakes! No matter how you like them best, our lakes are undeniably part of your life! Take time to enjoy and appreciate these magnificent freshwater resources!

The North American Lake Management Society sponsors this international event, and in 2012 asked each state Governor to proclaim July as Lakes Appreciation Month. Wisconsin was one of the 14 states to oblige, with good reason. Our 15,000 plus lakes are not only a place for tourists to visit and spend their money, but they are a precious, limited natural resource that are a life source to thousands of birds, mammals, plants, and insects. This biodiversity helps Wisconsin thrive in so many ways.

So, head on down to the lake and make some new memories this summer. 🌊



Q & A Lake Districts

We often get phone calls and emails from Lake Tides readers with a variety of questions about lake districts. Do you have a question about lake districts that you would like to see answered in Lake Tides? Send it to uwexplakes@uwsp.edu so we can include it in a future issue.

Q: Does a lake district have to pay sales tax?

A. No, as a local unit of government, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts are exempt from sales tax. However, retailers and others doing business with districts are likely to request a copy of your State of Wisconsin Certificate of Exempt Status (CES). These certificates are issued by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue. While Lake Associations can also receive a CES, they need to provide proof of their exemption status. Lake districts need only complete and submit the form. The exemption can be used when participating in training and other programs on behalf of the district. For example, district commissioners participating in the annual Lakes Partnership Convention should provide their CES to their hotel to save the expense of state and local sales taxes. You will find a link to the CES application form on the newly-revised Lake District resources page on the UW-Extension Lakes website. Go to www.uwsp.edu/uwexplakes, click the "Lake Organizations" link on the left, then click "Lake Districts."

For more information on lake districts, see *People of the Lakes: A Guide for Wisconsin Lake Organizations*, at that same link.



It's, It's a Landing Blitz

By Michael Putnam, Water Resources Management Specialist, Dept. of Natural Resources

adapted from Sweet's Ballroom Blitz

*And the man in the boat, said you better take note,
Because this is the Landing Blitz.
And the girl on the landing said thanks for understanding,
Yeah, this is the Landing Blitz.
Landing Blitz.
Landing Blitz.*

*It's, It's a Landing Blitz.
It's, It's a Landing Blitz.*

Building on growing enthusiasm and participation, Wisconsin's sixth annual Landing Blitz is preparing to rock the July 4th weekend.

The Landing Blitz is one of many efforts initiated through the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to slow the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS). It highlights the hard work citizens put into the Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) watercraft inspection program. Enthusiastic CBCW inspectors are educating boaters on what they can do to prevent the spread of AIS.

The 2014 Landing Blitz will extend from Thursday July 3rd through Sunday July 6th, and the DNR is happy to assist you in advertising for your event. Let's get the word out about preventing the spread of AIS!

Past participants are encouraged to participate, and we most certainly welcome new folks. Free promotional towels will be available for boaters who are practicing the AIS prevention steps:

INSPECT boats, trailers, and equipment.

REMOVE all attached aquatic plants and animals.

DRAIN all water from boats, vehicles, and equipment.

NEVER MOVE plants or live fish away from a waterbody.



Photo by Robert Korfh

- ✓ *Inspect*
- ✓ *Remove*
- ✓ *Drain*
- ✓ *Never move*



The Landing Blitz has grown in each of the previous five years. Last year, nearly 170 participating groups provided outreach in 53 counties across the state! After seeing our success in Wisconsin, Michigan is starting its own Landing Blitz event this year. Let's show them how it's done!

Whether you are a seasoned CBCW inspector, or this is your first year inspecting, we encourage you to head down to the boat landing and have a conversation with your fellow lake users. Please join us in keeping aquatic invasive species out of the lakes and rivers we enjoy and value so much.

Contact Michael Putnam at 608-267-9868 or michael.putnam@wisconsin.gov to sign up for this year's Landing Blitz. We look forward to hearing from you. 💧



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!**



Photo by Paul Ogie



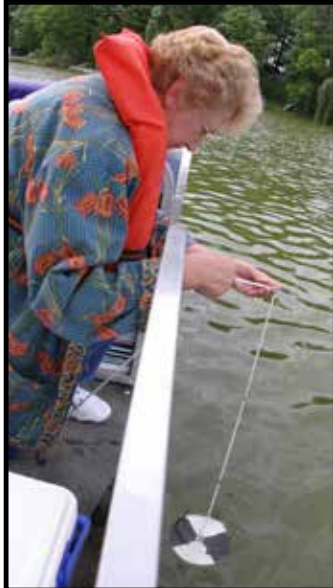
Protect the Places Where You Play: Keep Invasives Out!

This year Wisconsin is celebrating 10 years of making June Invasive Species Awareness Month (ISAM). There are several events happening around the state - check out the calendar on the Wisconsin Invasive Species Council website at <http://invasivespecies.wi.gov/awareness/>.

Join your fellow lake lovers and dedicated state specialists in protecting the places we all play by keeping invasives out.



Photo by Robert Korth



Secchi Dip-in

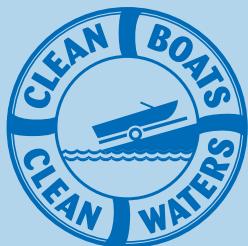
It may not be the latest "cold water challenge" craze, but it's a great way to get out on the water and help contribute to our understanding of water quality around the world. Find out more about the 2014 Secchi Dip-in at www.secchidipin.org/.

June 28 - July 20

Photo by Bob McVety



CBCW inspectors help musky tournament participants prepare for a successful day on Lake George.



Updates to CBCW Materials

Based on feedback from our watercraft inspectors from across the state, we have simplified the Watercraft Inspection Report form, also known as the CBCW data form, to allow inspectors to have a more conversational approach at the boat landing. There is also a new handout accompanying the data form that assists inspectors in explaining the reasons for our AIS prevention steps and localizing their outreach message. Inspectors can refer to the AIS Prevention Steps Prompt handout as needed during their conversation with boaters and anglers. You can find the latest CBCW form, Prompt handout, and instructions on how to use them (as well as other resources) on the CBCW website: www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/cbcw.



Lakes Convention Wrap-up



Photos by Doug Moore

For several decades, the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention has provided an exceptional opportunity for people to come together and network with others on lake and water interests.

This year, nearly 600 attendees united to celebrate and protect Wisconsin's legacy of lakes. The convention theme, "Back to the Point," marked the return of the statewide meeting to the city of Stevens Point where it began in the late 1970s.



Rollie Alger, Vilas County, asks a question of the panel made up of (L to R) moderator Glen Moberg, Wisconsin Public Radio, and panelists Tim Kratz, director of Trout Lake Station, Susan Knight, botanist and aquatic invasive species specialist, and Carl Watras, research scientist.

This year's convention offered interactive workshops, plenary sessions, a poster session, nearly 50 concurrent sessions, and several opportunities to create new partnerships and bolster seasoned ones.

The opening plenary session on Friday featured a panel of three distinguished lake scientists who had recently concluded a thirty-year research project on acid rain and its impacts on lakes. Glen Moberg from Wisconsin Public Radio moderated the discussion and helped field questions from the audience. The researchers noted that because acidification had such major negative impacts, their work led directly to state and federal rules that protected lakes from continued pollution.

Robin Vos (right) and Bernie Patterson (below) were this year's lunch speakers.



Photo by Amy Kowalski



Photo by Doug Moore

Luncheon speakers included Wisconsin State Assembly Speaker Robin Vos and Chancellor Bernie Patterson from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point. Speaker Vos reinforced the notion that lake stakeholders need to engage in the policy-making process and develop working relationships with their lawmakers. Chancellor Patterson thanked participants for their efforts to protect lakes and rivers and noted that boat-lovers like himself are the beneficiaries of water quality improvements.

Lake professionals and enthusiasts from around North America listened intently during the many concurrent sessions ranging from native plants and animals, to county-level land and water resource activities, to advocating for Wisconsin's lakes. Researchers, lake managers, citizen volunteers, and agency personnel shared ideas and approaches for enhancing lake water quality and bolstering wildlife habitat.

(Continued on page 11)



Photo by Amy Kowalski

The din intensified as researchers, students, and citizens shared their work with convention participants during the Poster Session Friday afternoon.



2014 Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Award Winners

Photos by Amy Kowalski



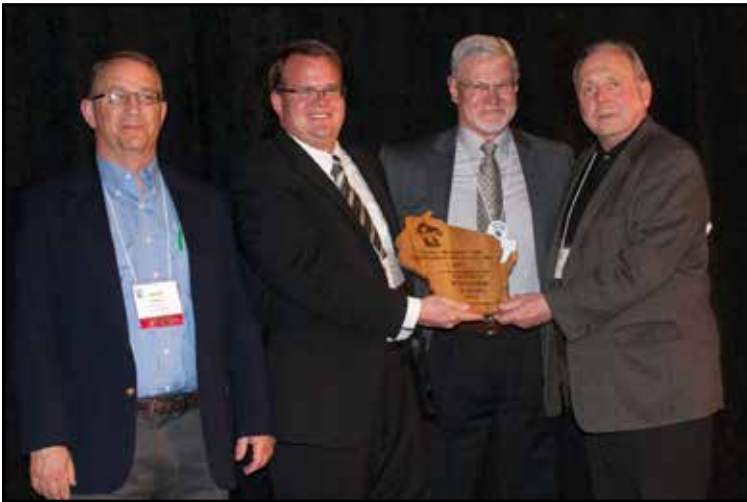
Citizen

Carol LeBreck



Group (Multiple Lakes)

Washburn County Lakes and Rivers Association



Group (Single Lake)

Tainter/Menomoin Improvement Association



Public Service

Center for Watershed Science and Education,
UW-Stevens Point, UW-Extension

In addition to these concurrent sessions, a wide range of pre-convention workshops and tours on April 24th offered hands-on training and discussion on many important lake topics, including aquatic invasive species prevention and control, lake planning and assessment, shoreline erosion control, aquatic plant management, citizen volunteer monitoring, lake district commissioner training, interpreting and using lake data via the web, and groundwater.

On Friday, April 25th, leaders from the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership presented the 2014 Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Awards to people and groups doing outstanding work for Wisconsin's lakes. This year's recipients

(Continued on page 14)



Youth

Girl Scout Troop #2789 (Lisa Conley accepting)





CLMN Superstars



Wisconsin is fortunate to have many talented and knowledgeable people acting as Citizen Water Quality Scientists on their lakes. We would like to highlight some of the accomplishments of the volunteers in the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN). Want to see a CLMN volunteer acknowledged in Lake Tides? Please contact Amy Kowalski at Amy.Kowalski@uwsp.edu or 715-346-4744.

Photo by Bob McVety



Lake George is a 435 acre drainage lake located just east of Rhinelander. The Lake George Lake Association (LGLA) was incorporated in 2004. Since then, the group has been very active in a number of management activities, including donating more than 2000 hours at the boat landing through the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program.

Pam McVety is a trained biologist and has logged over 220 hours monitoring the water quality in the lake through the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network. Pam enjoyed a long career with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and is a strong advocate for reducing phosphorus pollution in Wisconsin lakes.

Since 2008, the LGLA has trapped and removed over 30,000 rusty crayfish in an effort to reduce the spread of this aquatic invasive species (AIS)!

For the last seven years, Joan May and Doug Ceranske have

Photo by Bob McVety



Pam McVety is a strong advocate for clean and healthy lakes.

organized a Lake Monitoring Day to look for curly leaf pondweed and Eurasian water-milfoil. They ask shoreland property owners to collect samples of each species of aquatic vegetation in front of their property and bring them to the Town Hall for identification. The plants are collected twice a year, once in late June and once in late August. Participation has grown each year and it has turned out to be a valuable learning experience. Doug and Joan visit the public areas to collect plants and visit those properties whose owners are not able to get down to the lake. To date, no aquatic invasive plants have been found, and Joan has used the data collected to calculate a Floristic Quality Index (FQI) for the lake based on the plant inventory. Not surprisingly, the FQI is quite similar to that calculated based on the point intercept survey.

Pictured here volunteering at the landing for the Clean Boats, Clean Waters watercraft inspection program are Doug and Shirley Ceranske.

LGLA has partnered with local boat rental companies to encourage cleaning of rental boats prior to use on the lake in an effort to prevent the spread of AIS.

Under President Chuck Faber's leadership, the LGLA submitted a grant proposal for funding for a lake management plan in 2012. With several public access locations, nine resorts, one campground, and two fishing tournaments, there is a strong desire to properly manage the lake for its ecological and recreational potential. The proposal was successful. Chuck has been a steward of Wisconsin lakes for many years.

The members of the LGLA are a remarkable group of people and are valued partners in the effort to protect water quality in northern lakes. Thank you to each member of LGLA!

Courtesy of Bob McVety



Young stewards of Lake George.

Preserving Water Quality in Wisconsin

WELCOME ABOARD!

Congratulations and a hearty “welcome aboard” are due to several folks who are new in their positions at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Water Quality Bureau and will be working closely with lake and river organizations.

Tim Asplund is the first ever Chief for the newly created Monitoring Section at the DNR central office in Madison. Tim is familiar to many people from his previous role as Statewide Aquatic Ecologist/Limnologist.



Katie Hein is the new Lakes Monitoring Lead in Tim’s Monitoring Section. Katie has been on board for about a year and is helping to develop a new water monitoring strategy for the DNR. Previously, Katie spent 4 years working in Arctic Sweden where she studied the impacts of climate change on Arctic and boreal lakes. She is a Wisconsin native and received her M.S. in limnology at University of Wisconsin-Madison and her Ph.D. in ecology at Utah State University.



Scott Provost was recently named Statewide Aquatic Plants Management (APM) coordinator. Scott will continue as a Lakes Coordinator in the Central Wisconsin region and split his time between the two positions.



Carroll Schaal has been selected to replace Jeff Bode as the Lakes and Rivers Section Chief. Carroll is familiar to many for his long role as Lakes Team Leader where, among many other things, he administered the DNR’s lake grant program.



Shelly Thompsen has been selected to replace Carroll as Lakes and Rivers Team Leader. Shelly is new to Wisconsin, having worked most recently at Lake Tahoe on the California-Nevada border. Shelly has hit the ground running, joining Crew 10 of Lake Leaders as a participant and networking with many lake partnership members from across the state. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of California – Santa Barbara and her master’s degree from Yale University.



(Convention, cont.)

“Your life is your story. Live it well... Tell it well.”

~ Tyrone B. Hayes,
on walking
three hours to work

Photo by Amy Kowalski



Kaycie Stushek gets up close and personal with Billy the bullfrog during Randy Korb's Saturday session, "Getting to Know Wisconsin's Amphibians: A Hands-on Experience with the Frog Guy."

Photos by Amy Kowalski



Tyrone Hayes engages with John Ruf at the 2014 Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention during Saturday morning's question and answer session following Hayes' presentation.

graciously accepted the awards acknowledging their networks of support, described so eloquently by Carol LeBreck as, "those who encourage us to pursue our new ideas and projects and who willingly and enthusiastically jump on board adding their own energy and expertise to the effort at hand. Those who, in fact, invite us into their collaborations

to achieve even greater goals. And those, in the end, who pick us up when snags and hurdles arise, as surely they will."

One Saturday morning Dr. Tyrone Hayes graced the stage to tell us a story about a little boy who likes frogs. This

prolific storyteller, biologist and herpatologist presented "From Silent Spring to Silent Night: A Tale of Toads and Men," which covers his studies on frog hormones (which are similar to human hormones) and how they are affected by chemicals such as the herbicide atrazine.

People from 60 Wisconsin counties and 11 other states participated in this year's convention. The Wisconsin Lakes Partnership, a nationally recognized and successful collaboration of Wisconsin Lakes, UW-Extension Lakes, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, hosts the event each year. Next year's Lakes Partnership Convention will again be held in Stevens Point on April 23rd through 25th.

To find photos, videos, presentations, and additional materials from the 2014 Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention (and previous conventions), go to the UWEX Lakes website at www.uwsp.edu/uwexlakes and click on "Convention" in the left navigation bar. 💧



www.uwsp.edu/uwexlakes
click on "Convention" in left navigation bar



2014 Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Photography Contest Winners

This year's contest was the largest to date and included 90 entries! Check out the convention archive online to view the winners.

Natural Features In and Around Lakes and Underwater

- 1st – *I am Feeling a Little Crappie* by Linda Glenzer
(also voted *People's Choice Award*)
2nd – *Sun Bathing* by Paul Skawinski
3rd – *Bivalves Rule!* by J. H. Arnold

Honorable Mention:

The Lonely Cool at Dawn - Steven Lepak
Fording Menards Island Rapids - Kathy Noel
Life "just" Below the Surface - Barb Gajewski
Love at First Flight - Linda Grenzer
The Follower - Becki Giese
Young Reflections - Stephanie Wittman



"I am Feeling a Little Crappie" by Linda Grenzer took first place in the 2014 Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Photography Contest in the "Natural Features Around and In Lakes and Underwater" category, as well as winning the "People's Choice award."

People Enjoying Lakes

- 1st – *With the Greatest of Ease* by Steven Lepak
2nd – *Cooling Off* by Becki Giese
3rd – *Nature's Ice Curtain* by Linda Glenzer

Honorable Mention:

First Paddle - Paul Skawinski
Fishing - Chris Hamerla
Last Cast - Sandy Sabel

Lazy Day - Becki Giese
Swimming with Mama - Paul Skawinski
Catch of the Day - Carol Warden
"Northern" Shadows - Carol Warden

CALENDAR

June 10: Invasive Species Education Summit, Beaver Creek Reserve, Fall Creek

Join the Wisconsin Invasive Species Council, the Department of Natural Resources, and educators from around the state at this 2nd annual event.

For more information: <http://invasivespecies.wi.gov/awareness/section.asp?linkid=808&locid=63>

June 13: 2014 North Central WI Lakes Conference, Nicolet College, Rhinelander

Learn more about the economic and social values of our lakes, and the role we can all play to help care for them. Just stop in (no registration needed) for this 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. workshop.

For more information: www.wisconsinlakes.org or 1-800-542-5253

June 20: 2014 Northwest WI Lakes Conference, Drummond High School, Drummond

This 16th annual regional conference will feature keynote speaker Dan Small, the face and voice of the public television show "Outdoor Wisconsin." There will be 15 breakout sessions covering a wide variety of lake topics, and nonprofit and business exhibitors. Registration of \$35 includes admission, continental breakfast, lunch and materials - students attend free of charge!

For more information or to register: www.wisconsinlakes.org or 1-800-542-5253

June 21: Lac du Flambeau Annual Lakesfest, Lac du Flambeau Tribal Campground

Held at the Lac du Flambeau Tribal Natural Resources Building Complex from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free Admission! Displays from State and Tribal departments, Enjoy Live Entertainment, Canoe Races open to the public with cash prizes, Kids Games & Activities, Free Hot Dogs and Soda PLUS Raffles every hour as well as a Grand Prize raffle. For more information call the Lac du Flambeau Chamber of Commerce, 877-588-3346 or email at info@lacduflambeauchamber.com

June 30-July 2: AWRA Summer Specialty Conference, Reno, NV

Theme: "Integrated Water Resources Management - From Theory to Application"

Featuring: Mr. Randy Fiorini, Chair of the Delta Stewardship Council; Dr. Peter Goodwin, Lead Scientist for the Delta Stewardship Council; Dr. Levi D. Brekke, Water Resources Planning and Operations Support at the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation; and Mr. Gary B. Bardini, Deputy Director for Integrated Water Management at the California Department of Water Resources

For more information: www.awra.org/meetings/Reno2014/



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Reflections

A Taste of Wisconsin Lakes

*The true flavor of our lakes comes to life
when served with...*

A cool beverage in the shade of an old oak tree.

A splashing grandchild.

A paddle at sunset.

A cool dip at dusk.

A fishing pole at sunrise.

A ski and a fast boat.

A windy day and a sail.

A snorkel, mask, and sense of adventure.

A pencil and sketchbook.

A full picnic basket.

A camera.

Friends.

Volunteers like you!

