

Lake Leaders Crew 11 Commitment Statements

Linda Anderson

I am so fortunate to be included in this Lake Leaders Institute. It has been a phenomenal experience. My commitment going forward is to:

Share and grow the information I have received

Maintain and deepen the relationships I have formed

Develop new connections and relationships with others committed to preserving Wisconsin waterways

Use the information I have learned and networks I am developing to make a difference in protecting our beautiful waters for future generations

In short, I would like to make Aldo proud.

Dan Butkus

I, Dan Butkus, commit to adopting the principles and lessons learned through Lake Leaders, to be a caretaker of not only my lake, but all lakes, and to use these lessons to be more effective. To that end, I commit my knowledge, skills, and resources to anyone who seeks them, but especially my fellow Crew 11 friends. Shared knowledge is shared strength.

Anna Cisar

I, Anna Cisar, will utilize my passion for and dedication to the outdoors to advocate for the health of lakes and our environment. I will focus on education and outreach of lake health and how that in turn affects each of us. To do these things to the best of my abilities I will maintain my relationship with those in Lakes Leaders, WDNR, UW-Extension, and other lake lovers. I will work to include the practices and ideas discussed in Lake Leaders into my career. Above all, I hope to instill my love of nature in those around me, provoking a similar need to protect and maintain our environment.

Wes Dawson

The presenters & reading materials confirmed that we have the science to protect our resources. We are developing additional social –economical tools to use as well. But what I found to be most compelling in our readings, presentations, and networking is the passion and persistence that was demonstrated during our sessions that is required to engage our communities. It is my hope to not only use available tools and resources but also to bring a passionate persistence in my interactions with others in my community to preserve, protect and improve our watershed as well as nurture others to do the same.

Scott Frank

I will work with the Waterways Association of Menominee and Shawano Counties (WAMSCO, Inc.) to reach common goals. I will lead the development of 9-Key element plans for waterbodies in Shawano County designated as impaired due to phosphorus. Then, with our partners, we will begin implementing those plans to get the waterbodies removed from the impaired list.

Art Freiberg

Compile contact list to include: Crew members involved in citizen water quality testing, experts on water quality testing, crew members involved with impoundments, experts on working with impoundments, crew members involved with doing or starting newsletters.

Use the lists to: start citizen water quality monitoring programs using local high school students for the Red Lakes Districts, start water quality newsletter for; Red Lakes District to educate & promote responsibility of riparian land owners, WAMSCO- same as Red Lakes but adding an agricultural aspect.

Jim Giffin

As an engineer the "Hard Science" of lakes has come easily to me. As a retiree my time has been free to be a do-er. "Soft science" is less comfortable to me. However, as we undertake the lake management planning process I commit to find a way to accelerate our progress, leveraging the resources of our stakeholders; living & leaving a lake legacy.

Lisa Griffin

The responsibility of protecting & preserving our natural resources lies with all of us. As a graduate of the Lake Leaders Institute, I pledge to continue to foster stewardship of our lakes and water resources through education, scientific knowledge, leadership, growing and preserving partnerships, and empowering citizen action.

John Kennedy

I will use what I learned at Lake Leaders to help BEPCO reinforce existing partnerships as well as seek out new ones as we work through our Lake Management Plan and begin the process of Lake Protection. I will also work to prepare my grandsons to follow in my footsteps.

Mary Marks

My commitment is to continue to be an advocate for protecting our water resource and to perform whatever role is necessary to get the job done.

Katie Nicholas

As a result of participating in lake leaders, I will have a network of fellow lake leaders and instructors to share project ideas and outcomes with. I will have the tools to help strengthen my leadership in my community.

Brenda Nordin

I will do my best, given the resources available to me, with the help of our resource partners.

Lindsay Olson

The Lake Leaders Institute has broadened my knowledge of the history, challenges, and solutions regarding lake management in Wisconsin. This program helped me to assess the work I am doing

relative to the lakes within my county and be able to focus in and strengthen my efforts. I have been able to identify areas my organization is strong in, and those where we could use some improvement. I am committed to working towards a better water quality future for Dunn County, and I will be able to do this with the knowledge and networks I have acquired through this program.

Phil Peterson

Our lake district has just engaged a consultant to help develop the first lake management plan in two decades. I have served as the major technical person on our lake association. As a result of participating in the Lake Leaders program I have come to realize the importance of the social aspects of water issues. My role going forward will be much more as a coordinator to build the bridges between the various individuals and organization that will need to work together to develop an effective plan and ensure its implementation.

LeeAnn Podruch

Participating in the Lake Leaders Institute has made me even more aware of the time, energy, education, and money that it will take to improve lake health. I am committed to being a leader in lake health initiatives for lake communities in general and the Pike Lake Community, especially. I am committed to working with my Crew 11 team members, my community, and the State of Wisconsin to develop more interest, excitement, and enthusiasm for the future of healthy lakes in Wisconsin. I am personally invested in improving the health of Pike Lake for my children and their children –to encourage small steps now for the future health of the beautiful lakes we all enjoy in Wisconsin.

John Primozych

I came to these seminars to get to the next level in information gathering, personal growth, and advocacy. Going forward, I commit to continuing that process for myself; as well as, positively impacting others on Bear Lake, and the greater community within this framework.

Vicki Funne Reed

As a Lake Leader, I will commit to talking positively about water as a precious resource. I will encourage people to take a personal assessment of their water usage and to think about the importance of water to the human condition – locally and globally. I will challenge individuals to take steps in their lives to protect water as a natural resource in their homes and in public places.

John Richter

The privilege of living in the lake country comes at a price – a deeply rooted sense of responsibility to protect and defend the water you have grown to love.

It is with passion and resolve that I will go forward as a steward of our lakes and will share my focused vision and sharpened skills with others.

Ted Rulseh

As a Lake Leader, I will seek election as president of Friends of Birch Lake and continue serving on the board of Oneida County Lakes and Rivers, working to promote shoreline buffers and runoff prevention. I will also make sure my own property is not contributing to lake pollution.

Floyd Schmidt

I will commit to maintain a positive healthy attitude about the lake and the people that live, recreate, fish and enjoy the water in God's Country. Then to express ideas on how to keep our water the best we can, now and for future generations.

Tom Schroeder

Lake Leaders provided the forum to present and expose facts, concepts, and philosophies and leadership techniques that at times contradicted some of my long held understanding, positions and beliefs. It did challenge me to view other perspectives on issues, the environment, etc. It provided an opportunity to meet people from the WDNR, other Lake Association, Lake Districts, etc. that through conversation helped dispel my predetermined perceptions. I will continue to listen and represent Beaver Dam Lake District members and tax payers with unselfish devotion to maintaining and improving Beaver Dam Lake. I learned long ago that "commit to things that you can change and don't worry about or commit to what you are unwilling or unable to change". That saying has served me well.

Brad Steckart

Lake Leaders Institute has broadened my knowledge of Wisconsin Conservation efforts, brought me to beautiful places, and allowed me to experience aspects of water conservation I otherwise would not have known. More importantly, Lake Leaders has given me the opportunity to meet fellow pioneers in watershed management. I vow to advance my efforts in water conservation and continue to strive towards a goal of clean and pristine water in Wisconsin. I vow to commit to a Lake Leaders mindset: providing leadership, stewardship, and advocacy for my community. Lake Leaders has provided me with a foundation, and I plan to use the knowledge, skills and resources I have gained for the benefit of Wisconsin lakes and rivers.

Phil Sylla

To raise the level of appreciation of NW Wisconsin's good fortune in clean water. To combat the inclination to take clean water for granted. To face the real threat like oil pipelines and mining that threaten my part of the state.

Elizabeth Osborne

I pledge to maintain positive momentum for high expectations at engagement in water quality issues. I will lead by energetic example and extend my comfort zone and creativity in finding solutions and reaching out to my fellow Watershed Citizens of all kinds.

Zach Wilson

In the words of Aldo Leopold: "We abuse land because we see it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect."

My conservation commitment; is to work with citizens in Iron County to help them better understand that relationship between the land and the water and to instill a land and water ethic. One that promotes a healthy environment for future generations and one that leaves our children's children and earth full of diversity, void of invasive species and one with bountiful clean water. This may seem like it is a monumental task, but as Margaret Mead once said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. "