

Title: Mary Ann Krueger Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1959 – 1996

Creator: Mary Ann Krueger

Call Number: UWSP Collection 53

Quantity: 7 boxes, 2 oversized folders (in mapcase)

Abstract:

The collection consists of the papers of Mary Ann Krueger, an environmental activist from Stevens Point, Wisconsin. The main body of the collection dates from 1979 – 1985. Krueger was involved in the pesticide and groundwater controversy that peaked in the mid – 1980's in the Central Sands area of Wisconsin. This area consists of parts of Portage, Wood, Waupaca, Waushara, Marathon, Marquette, Adams and Juneau Counties. The papers are mostly materials that she collected and includes: newspaper clippings chronicling local and national news about pesticides and groundwater; scholarly articles with information on various pesticides and health effects; reports from both environmentalists and industry representatives on pesticides; minutes and agendas of various committees Krueger served on; and correspondence with concerned citizens, environmental groups, Wisconsin Public Intervenor Thomas Dawson, Wisconsin State Senator David Helbach and others from state and national agencies such as the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Biography/History:

Mary Ann Krueger was known as an environmentalist and activist throughout Central Wisconsin. During the late 1970's until the early 1990's she devoted much of her time to fighting the pesticide crisis of the Central Sands area. She was active in the Stevens Point community. Krueger served as Vice President of the Safety Council, Vice Chairman of the Stevens Point Park and Recreation Commission, Secretary of the North Central Area Health Planning Association. She also served on the boards of the Portage County Pesticide Task Force, Leopold Chapter of the National Audubon Society and the Portage County Groundwater Council's Citizen's Advisory Committee. Krueger was one of the founders of the Portage County Humane Society and a grassroots organization, Central Wisconsin Citizens Pesticide Control Committee (CWCPCC), which focused public attention on groundwater contamination.

Krueger became aware of the pesticide contamination issue through two organizations she was involved with—the Portage County Humane Society and the Human Resources Committee (HRC). Both organizations received complaints regarding humans and animals that were thought to be sick because of involuntary exposure to pesticides. In 1979, the HRC hosted a meeting where citizens could voice their concerns. Citizens concluded that they wanted an organization independent of the HRC that would be able to act on behalf of the public. Krueger chaired this group which was named the Central Wisconsin Citizen's Pesticide Control Committee. Initially they focused primarily on aerial spray and pesticide drift. By 1980, however, their attention began to shift to the emerging problem of pesticides, particularly aldicarb, being found in local wells.

Aldicarb is the active substance in the pesticide, Temik, which is used to control pests on various crops including potatoes. It kills pests by attacking the nervous system. There were many uncertainties as to its long and short term effect on humans. In 1980, this pesticide was banned in Suffolk County, New York by the U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the request of the Union Carbide Corporation, makers of Temik because it was found in local wells. Suffolk County had sandy soils and a high water table that made it easier for the aldicarb to filter into groundwater and therefore wells. Much of the Central Sands area had similar soil and ground characteristics. By 1980, University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point Water Quality Expert Byron Shaw discovered aldicarb in Portage County wells. In 1981, both the Wisconsin DNR and the Union Carbide Company confirmed Shaw's discovery of aldicarb in Portage County wells.

The discovery of aldicarb created a controversial climate in Central Wisconsin. The building of new subdivisions near Plover and Stevens Point meant potato fields that were once isolated were now next to dozens of houses. When aldicarb was discovered in some wells, landowners feared for their families' health, and took action to ban aldicarb. Potato growers who were worried about controlling pests on their crops, or staying in business, stated there was no evidence that aldicarb was toxic except in high doses. Emotions were intense on both sides of the argument. Vandalism occurred and threats of violence were heard at times.

In early 1982, The Pesticide Review Board of Wisconsin, which was composed of the secretaries of the DNR, Department of Health and Social Services, and Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, restricted or banned the use Temik in areas of Portage, Barron, Adams, Waushara, Marathon, Langlade and Waupaca Counties. By 1987, Union Carbide voluntarily pulled Temik from the Wisconsin market and restricted its use on potatoes in 1990.

During this time, Krueger was at the height of her activism. To make her opinion known, she wrote numerous editorials to local papers, attended local meetings regarding pesticides, chaired the Central Wisconsin Citizen's Pesticide Control Committee (CWCPCC), and served on numerous committees that were created specifically to handle the pesticide controversy. One of the first committees she served on was the Pesticide Task Force. This organization foundered in approximately 1980, when its membership splintered into environmental and agri-business factions. She also served on the Pesticide Study Advisory Committee which grew stagnant and was replaced by the Portage County Ad Hoc Committee. Krueger was also a member of this group.

In 1984 the Portage County Board approved the establishment of the Portage County Groundwater Council. This council's goal was to learn more about aldicarb, plan for a Groundwater Management Plan, to hear public concerns and to educate Central Wisconsin. Krueger was a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee branch of the Groundwater Council. This branch became a permanent fixture in the Portage County Government in 1989 after the Groundwater Council was disbanded.

Krueger also made contacts with many others who were involved with the issue. In state government two of the more notable contacts she worked with were Wisconsin Public Intervenor

Thomas Dawson, Wisconsin State Senator David Helbach. She also worked with University of Wisconsin Stevens Point scientists Water Quality Expert Byron Shaw who conducted water quality studies and Wildlife Biologist Raymond Anderson who conducted studies on air quality and wildlife. She became a spokesperson for many citizens who were afraid to complain because they worked for the agriculture industry or were afraid of backlash. She went out of her way to make sure reporters knew about and attended local meetings. She was interviewed frequently in regards to her opinion when pesticide pertinent news occurred locally or statewide. Krueger not only drew much attention to the pesticide situation, but also served as a liaison between citizens and officials who were attempting to solve the controversy. It was because her contacts, the overall knowledge of the situation and her prominent voice during the controversy that allowed her to play a role in the passing of the 1984 Wisconsin Groundwater Law.

The Groundwater Bill was written and researched by the Legislative Council Committee of Ground Water Management, which was headed by Mary Lou Munts. To gauge public opinions, the legislative council hosted numerous hearings around Wisconsin, including one in Stevens Point at the local high school. After the bill was introduced as AB 595, many environmentalists, including Krueger, complained of its lack of funding, monitoring, enforcement and compensation for victims. Some said the bill made it legal to pollute groundwater. Krueger testified at the state capital against AB 595 and instead she offered her support to AB 696. This bill was similar to AB 595 and was created by state Senators Thomas Crawford and Joseph Stroh. Their bill proposed more strict enforcement and a more developed plan for action.

At the local level Krueger's activism had a significant impact. Due to the work of the CWCPC, more people were aware of the situation and took action against groundwater pollution. The University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point was chosen as the site for the University of Wisconsin – Extension's Groundwater Center in 1985 because of its location to the Central Sands area. The Center's goal is a place to educate citizens and government and to assist with research and technical assistance. Also Portage County became more proactive in their groundwater protection. The Groundwater Council created a Groundwater Management Plan. Part of it was Stevens Point-Whiting-Plover Wellhead Protection Plan which protected the wellhead of the three cities for future generations.

Scope and Content:

The collection is divided into seven sub-series, CORRESPONDENCE, ORGANIZATIONS, LEGISLATION, NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS, INFORMATIONAL, SUBJECT FILES, and PUBLICATIONS. The collection has research value at the local, state and national levels. It documents a significant time in Portage County and State of Wisconsin environmental history. Wisconsin was one of the first states to attempt a comprehensive law relating to groundwater which makes this collection valuable on a national.

CORRESPONDENCE is organized into three categories, "sent", "received" and "other". The majority of the correspondence is photocopied letters contained in the "other" category. They include letters between other environmental groups, the EPA, DNR, Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection; politicians such as United States Senator Gaylord

Nelson, Wisconsin Governor Lee Sherman Dreyfus and state employees such as Wisconsin Public Intervenor Thomas Dawson. “Received” correspondence not only include all individuals and organizations above but also Wisconsin Senator David Helbach, citizens who had concerns or wanted to support Krueger. There is little “sent” correspondence. It contains numerous form letters. Note that the letters sent or received by the CWCPCC are included in the “other” correspondence.

ORGANIZATIONS are divided the Central Wisconsin Citizens Pesticide Control Committee (CWCPCC), Miscellaneous, Ore-Ida, Ad Hoc Committee, Advisory Study Committee on Pesticides, Pesticide Task Force, Portage County Planning and Zoning, Groundwater Citizens Advisory Committee, Stevens Point City Council, and the Wisconsin Legislative Council. When applicable within each org the material is broken down by contacts, minutes, agendas, and membership lists. The majority of organizations were run by local government and were not in existence for long. Although this group of records provides a timeline and goals of some of the organizations, most have only small amounts of non-consecutive information.

LEGISLATION is organized each bill and then chronologically at the folder level. Legislation files may include the final law, drafts, and testimonies. Since both AB 595 and AB 686 impacted the final bill that was enacted as the Groundwater Law they are filed as a unit under Groundwater Law.

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS are divided into subjects and then chronologically at the folder level. This sub-series is useful to understand the various organizations, legislation, and basic background of the problems with aldicarb, aerial spraying, other issues Krueger was interested in, and for the many editorials she wrote. Note that there are numerous clippings that are undated or incomplete. The majority of clippings are from local papers such as the Stevens Point Journal, Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune, Wisconsin State Journal, Milwaukee Sentinel and other local papers.

INFORMATIONAL files are divided into types of information: advertisements, handbills, information sheets, pesticide/chemical information sheets and statistics. The Pesticide Chemicals Fact Sheets are useful to not only obtain background information on the pesticides but also to know what chemical Krueger was most interested in. Handbills include public notices for local meetings.

SUBJECT FILES include petitions from the Wisconsin Department of Justice – Public Intervenor’s Office and also some originals of local petitions. There are local surveys that cover concerns of health problems caused by pesticides and aerial spraying. There also are news releases, conferences that Krueger attended or was invited to, and speeches from individuals such as Mary Ann Krueger, Senator Gaylord Nelson, and Thomas Dawson.

The bulk of the collection is divided into PUBLICATIONS. These are divided into the following categories: environmental, scholarly/popular magazine, state of Wisconsin publications, other states publication and federal publications. Publications are then furthered divided into what agency created such as the State of Wisconsin is broken down into the Department of Justice, the DNR and the University of Wisconsin –Extension. At the folder level the documents are arranged alphabetically. Some of the more important publications are by Union Carbide scientists Richard Back and James L Hansen, unpublished articles by Gary

Jackson and Bruce Webendorf, and publications done at the local level such as Portage County Planning and Zoning's Mary Jo Seiser, and scientists from the University of Wisconsin – Madison, Katherine Schmidt and Leon John Olson.

BOX LISTING

Box 1	Folder 1	Correspondence, Krueger - Received, 25 October 1979 – 15 February 1996
	Folder 2	Correspondence, Krueger - Sent, 3 October 1979 – 21 October 1993
	Folder 3	Correspondence, Other, 25 July 1977 - 23 February 1983
	Folder 4	Correspondence, Other, 24 February 1983 – 3 March 1995 and undated
	Folder 5	Organizations – Central Wisconsin Citizens Pesticide Control Committee (CWCPCC)
	Folder 6	Organizations – Miscellaneous – Agendas, 1985 – 1991
	Folder 7	Organizations – Miscellaneous-Contacts
	Folder 8	Organizations, Ore-Ida – Minutes, 1986
	Folder 9	Organizations – Portage County Community Human Services Department – Ad Hoc Committee – Minutes/Agendas, 1984
	Folder 10	Organizations – Portage County Community Human Services Department – Advisory Study Committee on Pesticides – Minutes/Agenda, 1983
	Folder 11	Organizations – Portage County Human Services Department - Pesticide Task Force – Minutes/Agenda, 1980
	Folder 12	Organizations – Portage County Groundwater Council – Citizens Advisory Committee – Minutes, 1984
	Folder 13	Organizations – Portage County Planning and Zoning, 1985 – 1993
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	Folder 16	Organizations – Stevens Point City Council – Minutes, 1983
	Folder 17	Organizations – Wisconsin Legislative Council – Public Hearings Summaries, 1976; 1982 – 1983
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	Folder 2	Legislation – Portage County Legislation – Resolutions and Amendments
	Folder 3	Newspaper Clippings, 2, 4 – D, 1976 – 1991 and Undated
	Folder 4	Newspaper Clippings, Aerial, 1972 – 1987 and undated
	Folder 5	Newspaper Clippings, AG 29, 1979 – 1983 and undated
	Folder 6	Newspaper Clippings, Alachor (Lasso) and Atrazine, 1987 – 1995 and undated
	Folder 7	Newspaper Clippings, Aldicarb (Temik), 1980 -1990 and undated
	Folder 8	Newspaper Clippings, Anderson/Shaw Pesticide Study, 1979 – 1983 and undated
	Folder 9	Newspaper Clippings, Animals, 1970 – 1993 and undated
	Folder 10	Newspaper Clippings, Arsenic, 1983
	Folder 11	Newspaper Clippings, Bees, 1980 and undated
	Folder 12	Newspaper Clippings, Bovine Growth Hormone, 1994
	Folder 13	Newspaper Clippings, Carbaryl, 1984
	Folder 14	Newspaper Clippings, Central Wisconsin Citizen’s Pesticide Control Committee, 1979 – 1983 and undated

- Folder 15 Newspaper Clippings, Chemical Pollution and Clean-up, 1979 – 1994
- Folder 16 Newspaper Clippings, Dibromochloropropane (DBCP), 1977 – 1979
- Folder 17 Newspaper Clippings, Dioxin/2, 4, 5-T/Agent Orange, 1972 – 1984 and undated
- Folder 18 Newspaper Clippings, Diquat, undated
- Folder 19 Newspaper Clippings, Duluth-Superior Grain Elevators, 1978 and undated
- Folder 20 Newspaper Clippings, Elections – Local, 1983 – 1984 and undated
- Folder 21 Newspaper Clippings, Ethylene Dibromide (EDB), 1984
- Folder 22 Newspaper Clippings, Groundwater Law, 1982 -1984, and undated
- Folder 23 Newspaper Clippings, Hancock Environmental Station, 1982 and undated
- Folder 24 Newspaper Clippings, Health, 1978 – 1993 and undated
- Folder 25 Newspaper Clippings, Helbach, David, 1982 – 1983 and undated
- Folder 26 Newspaper Clippings, Irrigation, 1978 -1991 and undated
- Folder 27 Newspaper Clippings, Krueger, Mary Ann 1979 – 1995 and undated
- Folder 28 Newspaper Clippings, Krueger, Mary Ann “Letters to the Editor,” 1979 – 1996 and undated
- Folder 29 Newspaper Clippings, Malathion, 1981 and undated
- Folder 30 Newspaper Clippings, Migrants, 1981 – 1991 and undated
- Folder 31 Newspaper Clippings, Mining, 1981 – 1991
- Folder 32 Newspaper Clippings, Miscellaneous, 1975 -1995 and undated
- Folder 33 Newspaper Clippings, Nitrates and Treder, James, 1983 -1984 and undated
- Folder 34 Newspaper Clippings, Nitrates and Waste Management, 1979 – 1994 and undated

	Folder 35	Newspaper Clippings, Nuclear Waste, 1980 – 1986 and undated
	Folder 36	Newspaper Clippings, Ore-Ida, 1977 – 1990 and undated
	Folder 37	Newspaper Clippings, Paraquat, 1983 and undated
	Folder 38	Newspaper Clippings, Pesticide Task Force, 1979 – 1980 and undated
Box 3	Folder 1	Newspaper Clippings, Pesticide Testing, 1983 - 1991
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	Folder 3	Newspaper Clippings, Pesticides and Groundwater/Wells, 1980 – 1995 and undated
	Folder 4	Newspaper Clippings, Pesticides and Town Ordinances, 1983 – 1994 and undated
	Folder 5	Newspaper Clippings, Phosphates, 1983
	Folder 6	Newspaper Clippings, Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), 1978 and undated
	Folder 7	Newspaper Clippings, Portage County Community Human Services Department and pesticides, 1982 – 1983 and undated
	Folder 8	Newspaper Clippings, Portage County Groundwater Council, 1984 – 1986
	Folder 9	Newspaper Clippings, Potatoes, 1979 – 1986
	Folder 10	Newspaper Clippings, Public Intervenor, 1981 – 1995
	Folder 11	Newspaper Clippings, Radon, 1987
	Folder 12	Newspaper Clippings, Reabe Flying Service, 1977 – 1987
	Folder 13	Newspaper Clippings, Stevens Point-Whiting-Plover (SWP) Wellhead Protection, 1988 – 1991
	Folder 14	Newspaper Clippings, Sustainable Agriculture and Organic Farming, 1979 – 1988 and undated
	Folder 15	Newspaper Clippings, Union Carbide Corporation, 1972 – 1986 and undated
	Folder 16	Newspaper Clippings, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Buena Vista Leola and Paul J. Olson Wildlife

	Areas, undated
	Folder 17 Newspaper Clippings, Wysocki, Louis, 1982 – 1987 and undated
	Folder 18 Newspaper Clippings, Zoning, 1978 – 1984
	Folder 19 Informational – Advertisements
	Folder 20 Informational – Handbills
	Folder 21 Informational – Information Sheets
	Folder 22 Informational – Pesticide/Chemical Information Sheets
	Folder 23 Informational – Statistics
	Folder 24 Subject Files – Conferences/Seminars
	Folder 25 Subject Files – Court Cases, Plaintiff/Appellant vs...
	Folder 26 Subject Files – Environmental Assessments
	Folder 27 Subject Files – Groundwater
Box 4	Folder 1 Subject Files – Miscellaneous
	Folder 2 Subject Files – News Release, 1980 – 1987
	Folder 3 Subject Files – Notes
	Folder 4 Subject Files – Petitions
	Folder 5 Subject Files – Police Statements
	Folder 6 Subject Files – Portage County Plat Book, 1976
	Folder 7 Subject Files – Rather, Dan – CBS Evening News, August, 1982
	Folder 8 Subject Files – Speeches/Testimonies
	Folder 9 Subject Files – Stevens Point-Whiting-Plover (SWP) Wellhead Protection Project
	Folder 10 Subject Files – Surveys
	Folder 11 Subject Files – Testing – Water
	Folder 12 Subject Files – Wisconsin Department of Justice, Public Intervenor
	Folder 13 Subject Files – Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination

System (WPDES) Permits

Folder 14

Publications, Environmental, 2,4-D Coalition News – G

2, 4-D Herbicide Coalition News. 2 (Summer 1982).

CBE Environmental Review. (November/December 1982).

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Chapman, James. "A Citizens' Guide to Understanding Measurements of Toxic and Radioactive Concentrations." Albany, NY: Citizens Environmental Coalition, March 1990.

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Grezech, Ellen E. "PBB." In *Who's Poisoning America?* ed., Ralph Nader, 60-84, San Francisco: Sierra Club Books, 1981.

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Publications, Environmental, H – W

Horowitz, Charles. "Why Farmworkers Need Field Sanitation." Migrant Legal Action Program. 25 September 1980.

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Mazorra, M. "NAFO Pesticide Desk Reference." National Association of Farmworkers Organization. 5 March 1980.

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Box 5

Folder 1

Publications, Environmental, Friends of the Earth

"Additional Studies on the Impact of Hazardous Substances Upon Birth Defects, Reproduction, and Childhood Health." 20 July 1982.

"Birth Defects: Some Items of Additional Interest." [ca. 1982-1983].

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Jansson, Erik. "Report from Washington on Pesticides." 25 January 1982.

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Folder 2

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Back, Richard C., R.R. Romine, and James L. Hansen. "A Rating System for Predicting the Appearance of Temik® Aldicarb Residues in Potable Water." Research Triangle Park, NC: Union Carbide Agricultural Products Company, Inc., September, 1982.

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of Aldicarb, Aldicarb Sulfoxide, and Aldicarb Sulfone.” South Charleston, WV: Union Carbide Corporation, date unknown.

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- Folder 3 Publications, Industry – Cenex 1983 Ag Chemical Labels
Cenex. “1983 Ag Chemical Labels.” Ciba-Geigy Corporation, 1982
- Folder 4 Publications, Miscellaneous
- Appendix E. Status Reports by Submission Number. 120-122, 497-523, 575-594.
- Appendix II. Groundwater Contaminants for Which Federal Maximum Contaminants Levels are Established: 1 -6
- “Bee/Pesticide Situation Procedures and Guidelines – Interim Suggestions for the 1979 Growing Season.”
- Public Health Service Committee. “Report to the NCAHPA Board of Directors: Health Implications of Pesticide use in North Central Wisconsin.
- Untitled Chemical Index. (Possibly EPA). [ca. 1983]
- Untitled Newsletter. [ca. 1977 – 1978]
- Taylor, Leland B. “Farmer Ripoffs Exposed.”
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- Folder 5 Publications, Scholarly Journals/Popular Magazine Articles, A – J
- Abou-Donai, Mohamed B., and Sandra H. Preissig. “Delayed Neurotoxicity from Continuous Low-Dose Oral Administration of Leptophos to Hens.” *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology* 38 (1976): 595-608.
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- Kimbrough, Renate D. "Human Health Effects of Selected Pesticides, Chloroaniline Derivatives." *Journal of Environmental Science and Health B15* (1980): 977-992.
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Folder 7 Publications, Scholarly – Unpublished, C

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Folder 8 Publications, Scholarly – Unpublished, H – W

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Box 6

Folder 1

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