



WSNetwork News

April 1, 2002

News on issues of common interest to Wisconsin's sporting, conservation, and environmental communities.

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WSN names two new Hub coordinators for Western and Southeastern WI.

Arrowhead-Weston Transmission Line

SOUL makes first appearance in appellate court

March 25 marked SOUL's first appearance in appellate court since filing an appeal in Marathon County circuit court in Wausau. The courtroom was more than filled to capacity with citizens interested in all aspects of the proposed Arrowhead-Weston Transmission Line. Rather than to decide on any of the issues, the court was called to rule on a Motion to Dismiss, regarding a technicality for filing an appeal, in an interpretation of the statutes, uncovered by Foley and Lardner for Wisconsin Public Service (WPS).

Judge Howard listened to arguments by attorneys for Wisconsin Public Service, who additionally represented Minnesota Power, and attorneys for SOUL, who additionally represented Wisconsin's Environmental Decade in a limited capacity. While the motion to dismiss was awarded to the applicants to construct the line, this is NOT a dismissal of the appeal. On June 5th the court will reconvene to consider a timely motion to intervene by SOUL to represent more than 39 individual landowners in this case. Time allowing, a timetable for briefing and arguments on the matter at hand, the appeal of the Public Service Commission's decision by the Commissioners for project construction may be considered.

As a matter of record, today's case included arguments as to whether the utilities did indeed plan to pursue their new alternative route plan with the Public Service Commission. This new route, released to several newspapers in the Superior/Duluth area identifies a route which would impact more than 100 residences and pass through the Brule State Park, headwaters to the Brule and St. Croix Rivers. The utilities stated they were unable to comment on the new route citing possible

compromise on “corporate strategy.” This utility maneuver has created a two-month gain in additional time prior to any actual merits of the lawsuit discussion to begin. Since the decision, SOUL has been circulating cards to the permitting agencies, DNR, National Park Service, Army Corps of Engineers, and Department of Transportation, asking these agencies to please delay any permitting of this project if at all possible, to allow time for the appeal to be reviewed in court. So far, the agencies have indicated receiving in excess of 400 cards.

This court hearing certainly helped our cause along the same lines, while probably doing little to decrease the decision on the real merits of the hearing. On March 26 Rusk County reaffirmed the resolution they had passed in 1999 against the construction of Arrowhead-Weston. The County Board passed a more strongly worded version of that oppositional resolution, agreeing to support other counties efforts against the transmission line.

Research, in regards to comments about a potential transmission line cable to be laid across Lake Superior to link to proposed power plants near Thunder Bay, and connecting to transmission from areas operated by Manitoba Hydro raised several questions. In a study of the 10-year Transmission Plan from the American Transmission Company, it was noted that upgrades for the upgraded infrastructure in the area of the proposed Crandon Mine indeed come from an area to the east of the project. At this time, there is no identification of where the energy source for these upgrades will initiate. We will continue to follow this issue.

SOUL’s work continues with the intergenerational group formed with utilities, business, and citizen group participation toward the creation of interconnection rules that will be understandable and consumer friendly for small scale generators who wish to connect to the grid for possible resale to utilities. This is a much needed step to encourage the use of distributed generation; one that could help promote the use of small scale generation. This is a small step toward the solution to large scale transmission/generation being the only solution to any electrical deficit problem, and may help create a more competitive atmosphere.

SOURCE: Linda Ceylor, hillsidedairyfarm@yahoo.com.

DNR Independence and PIO Restoration

Brown County Conservation Alliance starts PIO restoration effort

The Brown County Conservation Alliance is asking all Trout Unlimited members and conservationists for help in introducing two resolutions at the statewide Spring Hearings on Monday, April 8, and to vote YES on each resolution. The first resolution proposes that the Wisconsin Legislature return the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource to the way it was prior to the change made in 1995. The intent is to remove politicians from resource management and return it to the professionally trained DNR personnel that made Wisconsin the top resource management program in the country, as it was in 1995.

The second resolution proposes that the Office of the Public Intervenor be restored to its original status as it existed prior to 1995. Since that time special interests have had and continue to have a devastating impact on our natural resources. These resolutions are supported by many organizations and conservationists including:

- The Brown County Conservation Alliance,
- The State Council of Trout Unlimited,
- The Wisconsin Stewardship Network,
- Northeast Wisconsin Audubon Society,
- Green Bay Area Great Lakes Sports Fishermen,
- Dr. Nina Leopold Bradley of the Aldo Leopold Foundation,
- Former Secretary of the DNR George Meyer, and
- Numerous Wisconsin Conservation Congress delegates.

After the April 8th vote is tabulated, Governor Scott McCallum, his challengers, all Senators and Assembly Representatives running for re-election will be asked to state their positions as follows: Yes, I support the resolutions; No, I do not support the resolutions; or I refuse to answer! The results of their position statements will be published statewide to over 600+ sports organizations, and to all media outlets, so the voters will be informed on where their own elected official stands. We need your help to get the resolutions introduced into each county.

Please call, write, fax, or e-mail Paul Mongin for a copy of the resolutions so you can introduce them at your county meeting. Please help restore the great legacy left to us by the great conservationists like Aldo Leopold and John Muir.

SOURCE: Paul J. Mongin, 1151 Delray Drive, Green Bay, WI 54304 1-888-741-2141, aefajm@cs.com.

Baumgart calls for Stewardship Fund help

In a March 20 letter to conservation leaders, Sen. James Baumgart asked for help in keeping current levels of funding for the state's Stewardship Fund. "If the Assembly has its way, this valuable program will be slashed from \$60 million to \$35 million annually. This will affect you directly!" wrote Baumgart. "Hunters, fishers and recreation enthusiasts stand to lose over 20,000 acres of land each year that are protected with these funds if we cut back the program. It has been estimated that the cuts endorsed by the Assembly would total over \$200 million in ten years, yet would actually save only \$500,000 in the near future due to the nature of the program's funding. The negative repercussions of this action will far outweigh the potential financial savings. The loss of hunting and fishing lands could be staggering and is definitely unfair."

SOURCE: Jim Baumgart, State Senator, 9th Senate District.

Annual reports documents where fish and wildlife funds are used

Hunters and anglers spent \$85.5 million on hunting and fishing licenses in the last license year, which paid for activities to support hunting and fishing in Wisconsin, according to the 2000-2001 Wisconsin's Fish & Wildlife Annual Report. In the license year that ran April, 2000, through March, 2001, the state Department of Natural Resources sold more than 773,000 hunting licenses and 1.39 million fishing licenses, according to report, which is available this week in both hard copy and on the DNR Web site. A brochure summarizing the report, *Your Investment in Wisconsin's Fish & Wildlife 2000-2001*, also is available.

The annual report and brochure are available at DNR service centers statewide or on-line in pdf format on the DNR web site by clicking on the "About the DNR" and then "Special Reports" buttons to find:

- <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/aboutdnr/specialreports/>
- http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/publications/publce258_2002.pdf
- http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/publications/publce259_2002.pdf

SOURCE: WDNR.

BACKGROUND: How is the DNR's license money spent?

Money from licenses sales goes into a segregated Fish & Wildlife Account, which by law must be used for activities to support hunting and fishing in Wisconsin. License fees pay for things such as

- managing and maintaining fish and wildlife populations,
- purchasing land for public hunting and fishing grounds,
- improving and protecting natural habitats,
- issuing licenses and permits,
- promoting public education and outreach,
- enforcing conservation laws, and
- protecting public safety.

The \$85.5 million generated in 2001 represents about 17.2 percent of the agency's total budget of \$498 million for the same period.

Factory Farming

Proposed water cuts would affect livestock monitoring

As the state Senate considers legislation aimed at cutting the DNR's budget, Wisconsin may lose one of the most important water quality protection programs in the state — livestock factory waste management. The legislation, known as the Budget Repair Bill, was passed by the state Assembly last week, and eliminates the DNR's livestock waste management program. All livestock waste permits, compliance programs, complaint follow-up, enforcement and technical assistance would be handed over to the federal government. The Assembly's version of the Budget Repair Bill comes on the heels of Wisconsin's most recent catastrophic manure spill. The Department of Justice may pursue formal enforcement of the violations. According to the DNR, the Maple Ridge Dairy of Marathon County spilled thousands of gallons of manure from almost 1,000 cows into the Big Eau Pleine River on February 27. The violations by Maple Ridge include:

- Dumping manure on a field not authorized by the DNR for manure disposal,
- Dumping manure on frozen and snow covered ground within 200 feet of a stream,
- Dumping manure on steep slopes, and
- Failure to report its annual manure disposal and other information.

SOURCE: Andrew C. Hanson, Attorney, Midwest Environmental Advocates, (608) 251-5047.

Farm Bill conservation programs controversial in conference committee

Farm Bill conservation programs have proved to be a lightning rod for controversy in ongoing deliberations of the House-Senate conference. The Senate-passed bill, which delivers \$21.3 billion in new funding for conservation programs, must be reconciled with a House bill that provides about 25% less money. The Senate bill also contains significantly better policy provisions.

Buoyed by the recent revelation that the Senate bill will cost \$6.1 billion more than previously estimated, House conferees are demanding that the Senate cut the very provisions that made its bill better than the House version conservation, rural development, nutrition and credit programs that rural America desperately needs. Unfortunately, the Senate seems poised to acquiesce and cut these critical programs. Conferees need to hear how important the Senate provisions are to rural America. Call conferees and tell them to hold firm on conservation! Now, more than ever, it is crucial to contact members of the House and Senate conference committee and let them know that a compromise on conservation is unacceptable.

SOURCE: sjohnson@defenders.org.

Iowa unveils “monumental” CAFO bill

The 3/24 Des Moines *Register* reported that last week a bipartisan task force of Iowa lawmakers unveiled SF 2293, their long-awaited

FARM BILL CONFEREES

- Senator Tom Harkin (Iowa): 202-224-3254
- Senator Patrick Leahy (Vermont): 202-224-4242
- Senator Kent Conrad (North Dakota): 202-224-2043
- Senator Tom Daschle (South Dakota): 202-224-2321
- Senator Richard Lugar (Indiana): 202-224-4814
- Senator Jesse Helms (North Carolina): 202-224-6342
- Senator Thad Cochran (Mississippi): 202-224-5054
- Representative Larry Combest (Texas 19th District): 202-225-4005
- Representative John Boehner (Ohio 8th District): 202-225-6205
- Rep. Bob Goodlatte (Virginia 6th District): 202-225-5431
- Representative Richard Pombo (California 11th District): 202-225- 1947
- Rep. Jerry Moran (Kansas 1st District): 202-225-2715
- Rep. Terry Everett (Alabama 2nd District): 202-225-2901
- Rep. Frank Lucas (Oklahoma 6th District): 202-225-5565
- Rep. Saxby Chambliss (Georgia 8th District): 202-225-6531
- Rep. Charles Stenholm (Texas 17th District): 202-225-6605
- Rep. Gary Condit (California 18th District): 202-225-6131
- Rep. Collin Peterson (Minnesota 7th District): 202-225-2165
- Rep. Calvin Dooley (California 20th District): 202-225-3341
- Rep. Eva Clayton (North Carolina 1st District): 202-225-3101
- Rep. Tim Holden (Pennsylvania 6th District): 202-225-5546
- **Rep. Ron Kind (Wisconsin 3rd District): 202-225-5506.**

plan to limit water and air pollution from livestock confinements, setting the framework for one of the most significant environmental initiatives in state history. Richard Kelley of the University of Iowa Hygienic Laboratory said fulfillment of the proposal would amount to a monumental improvement. The legislation is full of firsts for the state: air-pollution limits on livestock confinements, ban on building livestock operations in floodplains; fees charged to producers to help pay for state environmental inspectors' work, and limits on manure applications based on how much algae-feeding phosphorus the material contains. The bill also includes a new checklist to rate the social and environmental risks of a proposed confinement and a fresh set of stiffer fines for spill-related environmental damage, to be set by state environmental commissions.

SOURCE: Jud Lounsbury, jud@serconline.org.

Forest Fragmentation

Forest biodiversity workshop June 1

A workshop entitled "Managing Forests for Biodiversity" workshop will be held June 1. The Woodland School is sponsoring a course preparing landowners to recognize, understand, and manage the natural diversity of their forested land. The program will also outline federal and state cost-share programs that assist landowners in the development and execution of management plans for their property.

SOURCE: Rob Nelson, Woodland School Coordinator, Aldo Leopold Foundation, (608) 355-0279, rob@aldo-leopold.org.

Help sought on Roadless Initiative

I realize that many of you have expressed your support for the Roadless Initiative before (many times!), but due to the fact that continued actions by the Forest Service to weaken the Roadless Area Conservation Rule include a new EIS process, new and expanded Categorical Exclusion directive, and the new roads directive, we must AGAIN weigh in. We need Congressional leadership to ensure that our forests are given the strong protection that they deserve. Our Congress members need to take a stand on this issue! Please see the letter to the Wisconsin Congressional Delegation below and a statement to the President following. Please endorse by e-mail or phone to Lnorrsgard@americanlands.org, or (952) 881-7282, by March 27. Pass this to your networks and friends — we a strong show of support.

SOURCE: Lois Norrgard, American Lands.

Groundwater Protection

“Watershed Sensitive Development” conference April 17-18 in Racine

The UW-Extension is holding a conference in Racine April 17-18 entitled “Planning for Watershed Sensitive Development.” The event is targeted to “elected officials, water commissioners, planners, engineers, and others who set policy and make decisions concerning watersheds.” There are many guest speakers and sessions on a variety of groundwater and related development topics.

SOURCE: Bonnie Prochaska at Sustainable Racine, 413 Main St., Racine, WI 53403 (262) 632-6440, bonnie@sustainable-racine.org.

Report on Chicago ‘All Bottled Up’ conference

We had a real good conference in Chicago on Friday’s “All Bottled Up” conference. Canadian officials and U.S. officials of the Great Lakes Council were present along with a number of NGOs including Reg Gilbert from Great Lakes United and Cameron Davis from Lake Michigan Federation and others. Needless to say, I made our presence known at the Q&A period. Several officials from Perrier were also present.

The diversion issue is of great concern to everyone since the Council will turn over in November when many of the states change governors, including ours. I had a good talk with Reg Gilbert, and he is interested in working through the [WSN and WED] to hold a statewide hearing once the draft diversion regulation is passed. I also invited him to our Fighting Back Fest in August and he was receptive to that idea. We might even have the hearing at the Fest, but I think he plans on having it earlier.

SOURCE: Hiroshi Kanno, CCN.

CCN’s Kanno quoted in news service bottled water story

The chair of the Wisconsin Stewardship Network’s (WSN) groundwater issue, Hiroshi Kanno, is quoted in a March 26 Scripps Howard News Service article by Joan Lowy entitled “Bottled-water biz all wet, say critics.” The story makes the point that “there is a growing national backlash against bottled water companies, especially market giant Perrier, by communities that fear local wells, wetlands and streams will be drained dry in the quest for corporate profits.” You can read the story at <http://www.knoxstudio.com/shns/story.cfm?pk=BOTTLEDWATER-03-26-02&cat=FF>.

SOURCE: WSN.

Testimony before Senate committee concerned over water enforcement

The following excerpt is of Arlene Kanno's testimony at the March 26 regional hearing before the State Senate budget committee hearing.

"Thank you for holding these hearings to allow citizens to have a voice in the budget process. My name is Arlene Kanno. I live in the Town of Newport in Columbia County. I am appearing here before you to urge you not to make budgetary cuts to the DNR water program staffing. Our family has been a plaintiff in a lawsuit regarding the safeguarding of the groundwater and the environment by the DNR. This suit, which has gained media attention both state- and nationwide, claimed in part that the DNR did not make a sufficient environmental assessment before it issued permits for drilling and operating high capacity wells to Perrier, aka Great Spring Waters of America, bottlers of Ice Mountain and other brands of spring water. Our concern is that these proposed cutbacks to the DNR Water Division will hinder the ability of the DNR to properly monitor and evaluate the impact of high volume water extraction projects. With reduced staffing, the DNR will have to rely more heavily on the firms hired by companies like Perrier to conduct these important tests and interpret their results. This is analogous to asking the fox to guard the hen house.

"Our lawsuit is part of a two-year struggle to preserve our wetlands, farms and rural community. On December 4, 2001, and January 30, 2002, Judge Richard Wright of Columbia County Circuit Court heard our case. The Judge ruled in part that the DNR will have to comply with State WEPA regulations and must conduct a more thorough environmental assessment before setting pumping rates. They are also required to have public input in the process. The DNR will have to clearly show the impact of the pumping on nearby wetlands, streams and lakes and also determine the recharge rate. The DNR is currently in the process of meeting with Perrier in determining how to comply with the Judge's order. This is taking considerable staff time and resources. Much more intensive work will have to be done by DNR water specialists to comply with the judge's order.

"People throughout the state share our concern and have joined our effort because they see potential major effects on the human environment, as well as on the natural environment, if water is mined without adequate scientific environmental assessment. The quantity as well as the quality of our state's water is seen by business people, farmers, and homeowners as our most important and vital natural resource. Reducing the ability of the DNR to monitor and protect our ground and surface waters would be a serious public policy mistake. I urge you not to make this budget cut. Thank you."

SOURCE: Arlene Kanno, N9947 Thompson Drive, Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965.

Mercury Reduction

Dane ordinance asks retailers collect mercury items

Last night, an ordinance amendment was introduced to the Dane County Board to have retailers offer a service to their customers for accepting mercury thermostats and fluorescent lamps and

bulbs for recycling. This builds upon current County ordinance which has the same feature for retailers of automobile tires and lead-acid batteries. The amendment was co-sponsored by 23 of 39 supervisors, so the potential for passage looks favorable. The amendment was assigned to three committees before it returns to the board. I will let you know of its progress. Please let me know if you have any questions or comments.

SOURCE: John Reindl, reindl@co.dane.wi.us.

Metallic Mining

Shoreland/Wetlands

Concerns over Assembly budget's effects on water programs

Your State Senators need to hear from you if we are to thwart actions by the Assembly Republican Caucus that could slow or, in some cases, bring to a halt, efforts and programs that preserve the quality of our waterways. As you may know, Wisconsin is finalizing strong water quality standards to reduce polluted runoff that will result in Wisconsin having the toughest law in the country to control polluted runoff. However, we face a new threat to Wisconsin's waters.

The State Assembly recently passed a Budget Repair Bill that, if enacted, would gut Wisconsin's water protections. In the next week, the State Senate will take up that bill. We need your help to convince the Senate to support safe drinking water and clean lakes, rivers and streams. Follow the link below to go to a web page where you can e-mail Senator Chuck Chvala and ask him to support clean water: <http://pirg.org/alerts/route.asp?id=96&id4=ES>.

SOURCE: WISPIRG, wispirg@mail.chorus.net.

Racine County reverses stand on CREP enrollment

Notice to members of the Clean Water Coalition: Racine County has reversed its position and will sign [a federal] CREP contract.

SOURCE: Caryl Terrell, Sierra Club-John Muir Chapter, cterrell@execpc.com.

Concerned about WDOT actions on Rt. 131 project

Tom Wilson has written Judith DesHarnais, Department for Programs & Project Management, US Army Corps of Engineers, the following:

“For quite some time now, I have been concerned with an apparent lack of attention to good science and legal requirements by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation with regard to wetland mitigation needs in conjunction with the Rt 131 Kickapoo Valley Road. When I expressed these concerns to Ms Mary Francis Repko at Senator Feingold’s office, she recommended I bring this to your attention. Without going into detail here in the body of this message, let me simply reference the two attached documents — one being a letter to the editor printed most recently in our local county paper of record and the other being a time line of events and concerns that I have with the procedures demonstrated in this project. I think they both adequately document a total disregard for the safety and failure to follow proper legal procedures by the local DOT officials and I would hope the Corps could remind these functionaries of their need to follow the law and perform good science as the proceed with this multi-million dollar, high-profile project in an environmentally sensitive area.”

SOURCE: Tom Wilson.

Feingold legislation calls for reforming Army Corps wetland mitigation

United States Senator Russ Feingold [on March 29] introduced the Corps of Engineers Reform Act of 2001 in the United States Senate. This legislation is a comprehensive revision of the project review and authorization procedures of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The aim is to increase transparency and accountability, ensure fiscal responsibility, balance economic and environmental interests, and allow greater stakeholder involvement. “It is my hope that this legislation will increase transparency of the Army Corps of Engineers decision-making process through greater accessibility by the public and interested stakeholder groups,” Feingold said.

EPA marine engine standard to help water quality

The federal Environmental Protection Agency has established that by 2006 all new marine engines must meet new air emission standards that significantly reduce the release of pollutants into aquatic ecosystems. Some manufacturers are already producing these advanced two- and four-stroke motors but less efficient, carbureted machines are still available and are usually less expensive than their newer, direct fuel-injected counterparts.

Manufacturers of these new motors claim emission reductions of up to 75 percent over their carbureted models with fuel efficiency increased by as much as 40 percent. While these newer motors may cost more to purchase, with today’s higher fuel costs savings in fuel

TIPS FOR WATER-FRIENDLY MOTOR USE

- Limit engine operation at full throttle
- Eliminate unnecessary idling Avoid spilling gasoline
- Use a gasoline container you can handle easily and hold securely
- Pour gasoline slowly and smoothly
- Use a funnel or a spout with an automatic stop device to prevent overfilling the gas tank
- Close the vent on portable gas tanks when the engine is not in use or when the tank is stored
- Transport and store gasoline out of direct sunlight in a cool, dry place
- Use caution when pumping gasoline into a container at the gas station
- Carefully measure the proper amounts of gasoline and oil when refueling
- Follow the manufacturer’s recommended maintenance schedule
- Prepare engines properly for winter storage

can quickly add up. For detailed information on emission reductions or fuel savings for specific models, contact your marine dealer.

SOURCE: WDNR

Trout water mileage increases in latest re-classification

Trout anglers venturing out during this early catch and release season will have 800 more miles of high quality trout waters and 254 more trout streams to fish than they likely knew about. Wisconsin's comprehensive and newly revised list of trout streams, "Wisconsin Trout Streams," is now available in print and on-line. Maps are expected to be available this summer. The list shows significant increases since 1980 — when the list was last published — in both the total number of streams and stream miles that support trout.

Surveys in recent years have shown that trout are found in 254 more streams than when the list was published in 1980, and the total miles of streams supporting trout climbed by 809 to 10,371 miles, according to "Wisconsin Trout Streams," compiled and edited by Larry Claggett and Bob Topel. Maps are expected to be available early this summer.

SOURCE: WDNR.

Wetland Restoration workshop May 11

The Woodland School is sponsoring a course on the basics of wetland ecology, including water conditions, soil types, and vegetation and wildlife communities. Also included is information on regulations and permitting, assistance programs, and how to investigate a site's history.

SOURCE: Rob Nelson, Woodland School Coordinator, Aldo Leopold Foundation, (608) 355-0279, rob@aldo-leopold.org.

Plans sought for National River Cleanup Week May 11-18

Spring is here, and it's time to start planning 2002 river cleanups! National River Cleanup Week begins May 11th and ends on May 18th. The River Alliance of Wisconsin is urging citizens all across the state to become involved in one of the dozens of river cleanups taking place during the spring. Wisconsin is one of the leaders in the nation for river cleanups. Is your group planning a river cleanup? If so, we want to know! Please send us the following information:

- River you'll be cleaning up,
- Date of the cleanup,
- Name of a contact person and organization, and
- Contact person's phone or e-mail.

Please send all replies to events@wisconsinrivers.org. The information will be used to compile a list of river cleanups across the state so all our members and other interested citizens will have the opportunity to take part in Wisconsin's river cleanup tradition. If you would like additional information on river cleanups, please see the America Outdoors web page at www.americaoutdoors.org/nrew.

SOURCE: Ben Monty, River Alliance of Wisconsin.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gaylord Nelson headlines April 20 Milwaukee Earth Day event

Sen. Gaylord Nelson is the featured speaker at an Earth Day dinner and silent auction sponsored by the Friends of Milwaukee's Rivers (FMR) Saturday, April 20, at the Woodland Conference Center, 1721 W. Canal St., Milwaukee. For more information, contact FMR at (414) 476-6042.

Feingold holding listening sessions in Northwest counties April 3

U.S. Senator Russ Feingold will hold Listening Sessions in Clark, Jackson, and Trempealeau Counties on Wednesday, April 3.

- The Clark County Listening Session will be held at 12:30 p.m. in the Multimedia Room at Neillsville Middle School, 504 East 5th Street, Neillsville. The meeting will last up to an hour.
- The Jackson County Listening Session will be held at 2:45 p.m. at the Skyline Golf Course clubhouse, 612 North 11th Street, Black River Falls. The meeting will last up to an hour.
- The Trempealeau County Listening Session will be held at 5:15 p.m. in the Meeting Room at Riverland Energy Cooperative, 625 West Main Street, Arcadia. The meeting will last up to an hour.

Dan County networking directory available

The publication *Networking and creating partnerships with like-minded organizations* is now available. The directory is free, but we suggest a \$5 donation for the first copy, and \$2 for additional copies. If you choose to make a donation, write a check to Sustain Dane and mail to Sustain Dane, 2134 Yahara Place, Madison, WI 53704.

SOURCE: Sustain Dane, info@sustaindane.org.

Earth Day events listed at site — plan your own!

A month from now, communities around the world will celebrate the 32nd Earth Day, with the theme, “Protect Our Home.” Groups representing tens of millions of people will hold events all around the world. There will be rallies, fairs, tree plantings, demonstrations, educational workshops, cleanups, pickups, recycling, school activities, campus events — you name it! If you can imagine it, it is probably happening somewhere this April. Visit the on-line calendar at <http://www.earthday.net/dir/event.asp> to view what’s in the works, browse for Earth Day event ideas, or add your own Earth Day activity.

SOURCE: Earth Day Network, earthday@earthday.net.

WSNetworkNews is published twice monthly by the Wisconsin Stewardship Network, a network of Wisconsin hunting, fishing, conservation, and environmental groups.

The WSN’s Steering Committee consists of representatives from the following organizations: Concerned Citizens of Newport, ECCOLA, Federation of Fly Fishers, Izaak Walton League of America, Lake Superior Greens, Madison Audubon Society, Muskies, Inc., Northern Thunder, Pheasants Forever, River Alliance of Wisconsin, Save Our Unique Lands, Sierra Club — John Muir Chapter, Wisconsin Association of Lakes, Wisconsin State

B.A.S.S. Federation, Wisconsin Conservation Congress, Wisconsin’s Environmental Decade, and Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.

The WSN’s mission is to build a cooperative network that strengthens Wisconsin’s stewardship ethic for the betterment of its people and natural resources.

Editorial contributions to this e-newsletter are welcome. Send news of your group’s activities relating to the WSN’s priority issues to State Coordinator Todd Hanson at wsn@chorus.net.

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WSN names new Western and Southeastern Wisconsin Hub coordinators

The Wisconsin Stewardship Network has named two new Hub coordinators. Joining the WSN as Western Wisconsin Hub Coordinator is **Kate Hale** of Eau Claire, while **Monique DiGiorgio** is the new Southeastern Wisconsin Hub Coordinator in Wauwatosa. Hub coordinators serve as local points of contact for WSN groups and the public. They also work on the network's slate of state-wide priority issues, especially as those issues affect their local area. Feel free to contact either Kate or Monique with your natural resources questions. If they cannot help you, they will find someone who can — that's what networking is all about, after all!

Kate Hale Western WI Hub Coordinator

1403 Frederick St.
Eau Claire, WI 54701
(715) 836-2761
wsnwest@earthlink.net

Kate Hale is a UW-Eau Claire instructor and a member of Northern Thunder. Kate has lived in Eau Claire and taught at UW-EC since 1987. She has taught environmental issues in first-year composition classes since the summer of 1997, and this has gradually evolved to a specific focus on Great Lakes area environmental issues. She is currently involved in course development to provide writing and literature courses to fit with Environmental Science and other related minors/majors.

A member of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE), Kate serves as one of five faculty directors of the Confluence Center for Chippewa River Studies at UW-EC, which aims at fostering inter-disciplinary activities and research as well as linking to the community.

Monique DiGiorgio Southeastern WI Hub Coordinator

7028 W. State St.
Wauwatosa, WI 53213
(414) 476-6042
(414) 476.6053 fax
milwaukeeesrivers@yahoo.com

Monique DiGiorgio has a B.S in biology from the University of Notre Dame. She conducted field work for the past seven years in ornithology and behavioral ecology in southern California, the Big Island of Hawaii and Australia.

As Executive Assistant with the Friends of Milwaukee's Rivers, Monique helped develop the Milwaukee River Watershed Corridor Plan, a comprehensive watershed outreach effort to educate watershed inhabitants about the SEWRPC Regional Natural Areas Plan (a valuable regional planning tool for Southeastern Wisconsin), and the importance of natural corridors or greenways and their relationship to water quality and sound land use.