



# WSNetwork News

June 15, 2002

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

Click to jump to news on these WSN priority issues:

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## Arrowhead-Weston Transmission Line

### Thompson states position on Arrowhead, Crandon Mine

*[The following note was forwarded to the WSN from someone who contacted the Ed Thompson campaign for his position on the Arrowhead-Weston line and the Crandon Mine.]*

“Thank you for asking about Ed Thompson’s opinion on the environmental concerns related to the Crandon mine and the Duluth-Wausau powerline. Ed’s approach to these two issues is based in his strong support for protecting the environment and private property rights. The environment is so important because it is the air we breath and the water we drink. A clean environment is necessary for a healthy life. Ed Thompson loves the beauty of Wisconsin and will fight to protect that beauty as governor. Property rights are so important because they are the basis by which we can say, “This is ours, you cannot pollute it or take it away.

Ed Thompson has not had access to all the reports concerning the environmental consequences that could result from the Crandon mine and the Duluth-Wausau powerline. As governor, Ed Thompson will review the science regarding environmental damage and the potential property damage from the mine and powerline and make a decision uninfluenced by special interests. Ed Thompson can promise to make the decision that is in the best interests of our rights and our environment because he has refused in his campaign to take political action committee money.

### Heads up — WDNR changing its e-mail address protocol June 16.

On June 16 the Exchange Internet e-mail addresses of all DNR employees will change from the current format of “Userid(or Alias)@dnr.state.wi.us” to “First Name.Last Name@dnr.state.wi.us”. Any new Exchange addresses set up after this date also will use this format. This e-mail address formatting change will occur automatically. For example, if Bucky Badger’s current default e-mail address is BadgeB@dnr.state.wi.us it will be changed to Bucky.Badger@dnr.state.wi.us.

### Postal rate are going up June 30

Click [here](#) for a handy table for your office stamp box.

As governor, Ed Thompson will look to good science to determine whether a mine or proposed mine pollutes the environment. Pollution of neighboring private or public land or pollution of the air or water will not be tolerated. Companies operating mines that pollute would have to clean up the mess and either (1) find a way to continue mining without harming the environment or (2) terminate mining.

Regarding power lines, Ed Thompson would as governor look to good science to determine whether powerlines are dangerous and reject forcing on people powerlines that may harm their health and the environment. Ed Thompson would also require the payment of just compensation, as required by the U.S. Constitution, for the condemnation of land for the building of powerlines. Too often, market value compensation is not paid in condemnations, forcing private individuals to shoulder a financial burden that should be shared. Requiring just compensation will make clear the full cost of electricity transmission projects, encouraging powerline builders to find alternatives such as alternative energy sources, local energy production, transmitting the energy in a manner causing less interference, or reevaluating the need for so much energy.”

SOURCE: Adam Dick, Operations Director, Friends for Ed Thompson, [www.EdThompson.com](http://www.EdThompson.com), (608) 374-2537.

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## DNR Independence and PIO Restoration

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### Factory Farming

#### AG files suit against Racine duck farm

The Attorney General’s Office has filed an environmental lawsuit against a Racine County duck farm for allegedly violating state water and air pollution prevention laws, according to a June 7 article in the Racine *Journal Times*. The lawsuit, filed against Maple Leaf Farms, Inc., is part of ongoing concern over the spreading and distribution of duckling manure by the farm. According to the lawsuit, Maple Leaf routinely washes manure-laden duck hauling truck trailers into a pond, affecting area groundwater; has missed a deadline (by almost three years) for upgrading a storage lagoon (work which would stop leakage into groundwater); and has failed to report upgrade the storage lagoon in accordance with DNR-approved engineering plans for the project. Maple Leaf, headquartered in Milford, Indiana, processes nearly 14 million ducks per year and generates up to 90,000 tons of manure annually. More at [www.journaltimes.com/archives/index.inn?loc=detail&doc=/2002/June/07-1649-742mapleleaf.txt](http://www.journaltimes.com/archives/index.inn?loc=detail&doc=/2002/June/07-1649-742mapleleaf.txt).

SOURCE: WDNR “Basin Briefs,” 6-12-02.

## Shawano County zoning body denies Birnamwood farm expansion

The Shawano County Planning, Development, and Zoning Committee unanimously voted to deny a request by Matsche Farms near Birnamwood to expand its operations, according to a June 6 article in the Shawano *Evening Leader*. Matsche Farms had requested a variance to construct a 116-foot by 224-foot freestall barn with a road setback of 190 feet, instead of the 250 feet required by county ordinance, in addition to another setback of 225 feet (instead of 250 feet) from nearby property. Committee members agreed they needed to revise the county's animal waste management ordinance so it is less difficult to approve expansions for existing dairy operations

SOURCE: WDNR "Basin Briefs," 6-12-02.

## Science magazine: organic farming benefits outweigh standard methods

This month's issue of *Science* magazine contains the results of a 21-year study which concludes that the benefits of organic farming far outweigh the slight reduction in yield. The study, conducted by the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture and the Swiss Federal Research Station for Agroecology and Agriculture, compared organic and conventional means of growing potatoes, winter wheat, barley, beets, and clover. Researchers found that while organic plots yielded about 20% less per acre, they were much more efficient than conventional methods, when the energy costs of pesticides and fertilizers was figured in. Organic fields also had much higher biodiversity and healthier soil, with pest-eating insects and fungi that help plant roots absorb nutrients. More at [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/english/sci/tech/newsid\\_2017000/2017094.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/english/sci/tech/newsid_2017000/2017094.stm).

SOURCE: Scotty Johnson, [defenders.returns@reply.net](mailto:defenders.returns@reply.net).

## Oklahoma AG says chicken factory farms must be accountable for runoff

The 6/4 *Oklahoman* reported that as Arkansas and Oklahoma state leaders started discussions last week regarding reducing phosphorus polluting in six waterways that flow between the states. Attorney General Drew Edmondson said that poultry industry must be the center of such discussions. "It is absolutely essential that the industry assume the responsibility for the safe disposal of chicken waste. That is the primary source of degradation." In the past, Edmondson has threatened to sue poultry companies based in Oklahoma and Arkansas over the phosphorus issue.

SOURCE: SERC *Wildlines* Report #23, June 10, 2002, [jud@serconline.org](mailto:jud@serconline.org).

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## Forest Fragmentation

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## Groundwater Protection

### **Federal judge tosses out MI tribal suit against water bottler**

An Associated Press story date 5-31 reports that a federal judge has dismissed a lawsuit filed by three American Indian tribes against the Perrier Group of America to stop Perrier from continuing operations at its newly opened MI plant. More at [www.boston.com/dailynews/151/region/Federal\\_judge\\_tosses\\_out\\_tribe.shtml](http://www.boston.com/dailynews/151/region/Federal_judge_tosses_out_tribe.shtml).

SOURCE: Associated Press.

### **CSWAB is featured group in *Orion* magazine**

Merrimac, WI-based Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger is the current featured environmental group at the Orion Society's website.

SOURCE: WSN.

### **Vermont House passes new septic regulations**

The 5/30 Rutland *Herald* reported that the Vermont House has given preliminary approval to a bill re-writing the state's septic and water system regulations, a measure that puts all such systems under state control but also allows new technologies that could open up most of the state to development. By a 75-58 margin, the House advanced H-103 amid criticisms — mostly from Republicans — that it was more government intrusion on peoples' lives and would cost homeowners more money to comply with new regulations. At the heart of a bill is a trade-off: Allowing new types of septic systems to be used in Vermont in exchange for closing the "10-acre loophole" that allows many septic systems to avoid state and local regulations because they are on lots larger than 10 acres. Environmentalists have long sought to close the loophole for three decades, saying it leads to pollution by unregulated systems that fail and sprawl by encouraging large lots designed to avoid regulation.

SOURCE: *SERC Wildlines* Report #22, June 3, 2002.

### **Oregon groups wants permits halted until water quantity determined**

A 5/30 AP article reported that twenty groups — all of them involved with conservation and commercial fishing — have petitioned the state to stop accepting new claims for water in the parched

Klamath Basin. The petition asks the Oregon Water Resources Commission not to accept applications for new wells or other water rights in the basin until studies clearly determine how much water is available. A drought last summer led federal agencies to save water for threatened and endangered fish instead of irrigation, creating a rift between farmers and the government. The groups involved with the petition argue that the crisis proved the basin's water supply is running out. "If the drought of last year taught us anything, it is that we have already promised too much water to too many interests," said Karen Russell of WaterWatch of Oregon.

SOURCE: *SERC Wildlines* Report #22, June 3, 2002.

## **New rules mandate water testing in private wells**

The 6/5 Philadelphia *Inquirer* reported that state Department of Environmental Protection recently approved rules to address the growing worry over contamination in private drinking wells — which serve about one million New Jersey residents. Under the rules, drinking wells must be tested for bacteria, nitrates, lead, volatile organic compounds, and other contaminants whenever a property is sold or leased. In addition, testing for arsenic and mercury contamination will be required in many counties. Test results submitted by labs will be collected in a database that will give regulators greater insight into the extent and types of well pollution in the state, said Sandi Krietzman, an environmental scientist with the DEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water. Officials estimate 20,000 to 30,000 real estate transactions a year will be subject to the rules. Compliance is expected to cost between \$450 to \$650 per drinking-water system.

SOURCE: *SERC Wildlines* Report #23, June 10, 2002, [jud@serconline.org](mailto:jud@serconline.org).

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## **Mercury Reduction**

### **RI sponsoring mercury thermometer exchange program**

The 6/7 Providence *Journal* reported that the Rhode Island Department of Health, in conjunction with Clean Water Action and CVS/Pharmacy, held a one-day mercury thermometer and thermostat exchange. Participants received a free \$5 CVS "ExtraBucks Coupon," good for \$5 off a purchase at CVS/Pharmacy, by trading in a mercury fever thermometer or mercury home thermostat.

SOURCE: *SERC Wildlines* Report #23, June 10, 2002.

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## Metallic Mining

### Senator Hansen Requests Mining Study Committee

Hansen asks for Legislative Council study on Mining Senator Dave Hansen recently presented legislative co-chairs of the Legislative Council (Senator Fred Risser and Representative Kitty Rhoades) with a formal request asking for a Legislative Council Special Committee on mining. The request came on the heels of the Legislative Council making its initial round of decisions on study committees for the next year.

Gubernatorial candidate Ed Thompson states his position on Crandon Mine in [this story](#) in our Arrowhead-Weston newsletter section.

“I think this issue is certainly deserving of a closer look, and the best way to do that without making it too political is through a Legislative Council Committee”, said Hansen. “Given the current level of concern for both protecting the environment and the need to create jobs, this might be the right time to bring people together on this issue and see if there is legislation we can all agree on.”

SOURCE: Sen. Hansen’s office.

### Groups ask retailers to stop sales of toxic mine waste-laced Ironite

Public health and environmental advocates from around the United States called on Home Depot, Lowe’s, and Target today to stop selling a fertilizer made from mining waste that is heavily contaminated with arsenic. Twenty-three groups signed letters to the retailers asking them to put the safety of their consumers first. Retailers can obtain information about the levels of heavy metals in fertilizers at the following website at [www.wa.gov/agr/pmd/fertilizers/index.htm](http://www.wa.gov/agr/pmd/fertilizers/index.htm).

SOURCE: Jackie Hunt-Christensen, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, (612) 870-3424.

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## Shoreland/Wetlands

### DATCP modifying nonpoint rules to line up with those from DNR

The loose ends on the nonpoint rules look like they will finally be tied in the near future. Dept. of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) secretary Harsdorf is currently considering the revisions requested by the Senate Environmental Resources Committee on April 24th. These include:

- expansion of the definition of ‘local regulation’ to include standards set by county Land Conservation Committees,

- narrowing of the required Land Out of Production payments to address implementation cost issues raised by counties, and
- clarification of the criteria for approval of Land and Water Conservation plans for cost share eligibility.

Earlier this week, DNR indicated that it would wait for DATCP to complete its revisions before sending their own rule revisions back to the Environmental Resources Committee for final approval. That way the rules stay together. DATCP is not sure exactly when their revisions will be completed, but they estimate that the whole process and rule finalization could be done by mid-September of this year. However, there is some indication that the counties are still unsatisfied about the overall cost of implementation and more specifically may push for further limitations on the Land Out of Production payments required.

SOURCE: Juniper Garver-Hume, Clean Water Coalition INTERN, River Alliance of Wisconsin, 306 E. Wilson Street, Ste. 2W, Madison, WI 53703, [cleanwater@wisconsinrivers.org](mailto:cleanwater@wisconsinrivers.org).

## **First statewide “Citizen Stream Monitoring Conference” Sept. 21-21**

Several state organizations are co-sponsoring a Citizen Stream Monitoring Conference Sept. 20-21 at the Hotel Mead in Wisconsin Rapids. Participants will learn how to design, collect, and use stream water samples. Sponsors include the River Alliance of WI, Trout Unlimited, UW Extension, UW-Stevens Point Environmental Task Force Program, and the WDNR.

SOURCE: Peggy Compton, (608) 342-1633 or [Peggy.Compton@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:Peggy.Compton@ces.uwex.edu).

## **WI CREP payment contracts average \$1,764**

From the June 6 *Agri-View*: The average CREP payment to eligible Wisconsin farms over the life of the contract is \$1,764 per acre. As of May 29, 45 of 51 eligible Wisconsin counties are participating in CREP.

SOURCE: WDNR “Basin Briefs,” 6-12-02.

## **TU considering conservation buyer registry for WI trout waters**

At the State Council Meeting June 1 a “Conservation Buyer Registry” was discussed. A Conservation buyer is anyone who is willing to invest in land for the purpose of preserving it. This can be accomplished in a variety of ways: buying it and doing nothing more than enjoying it; buying it, adding protective covenants, then reselling it; buying it, donating it to Trout Unlimited, selling it to the State of Wisconsin or to a land trust for protection. There are many other scenarios, anything that protects the natural condition of the land. If you are interested in buying or selling land

in this way let us know. One of the biggest threats to trout water today in Wisconsin is development.

SOURCE: Jim Hlaban, WI Council of Trout Unlimited Vice Chair, [wiscpr@wolfnet.net](mailto:wiscpr@wolfnet.net).

## **Lakes Leadership Conference June 28 in Trego**

From the June 11 Ashland *Daily Press*: The Northwestern Lakes Leadership Conference will be held June 28 at the Schwan's Conference Center near Trego. The conference, hosted by county-wide lake organizations from Douglas, Bayfield, Sawyer, Burnett, and Washburn Counties and the Wisconsin Association of Lakes, will bring together hundreds of lakes advocates and included sessions on grant writing, lake monitoring developments and technology, and a wide range of exhibits. Volunteers who have made particular contributions will receive Recognition of Excellence awards during the daylong gathering. More at [www.ashlandwi.com/placed/index.php?sect\\_rank=4&story\\_id=107605](http://www.ashlandwi.com/placed/index.php?sect_rank=4&story_id=107605).

SOURCE: WDNR "Basin Briefs," 6-12-02.

## **Riverkeeper group seeking fish kill examples**

Riverkeeper Alliance needs your help identifying fish kills associated with power plants. They are looking for examples to include in comments on EPA's Proposed Cooling Water Regulation For Existing Facilities. Please see the fact sheet below for more information on the rulemaking and contact Reed Super at (845) 424-4149, ext 224, with your examples or questions. Riverkeeper is mounting a comprehensive legal, technical and policy campaign to stop this needless killing of fish and evisceration of the Clean Water Act. Please contact us.

SOURCE: Reed Super, Senior Attorney, (845) 424-4149, ext 224, [rsuper@riverkeeper.org](mailto:rsuper@riverkeeper.org).

## **Court says EPA can set runoff limits for rivers**

A June 2 Associated Press story in the Champaign (IL) *News Gazette* reports that a federal appeals court has ruled that the EPA can "set limits on pollution of rivers from logging and agricultural runoff." The ruling upholds a federal judge's interpretation of certain provisions of the 1972 Clean Water Act that the EPA began enforcing in 1991 because of pressure from environmental groups. Those provisions allow the EPA to force states to come up with ways to reduce pollution in rivers and waterways contaminated solely by runoff, as opposed to industrial waste or sewage. Before 1991, the EPA set pollutant limits only on discharges from "point sources," such as drain pipes from sewage systems and industrial plants.

SOURCE: Associated Press via the River Alliance of WI.

## Lake fairs help people learn about and protect Wisconsin lakes

Anglers, boaters and lake shore dwellers can gain the knowledge and tools they need to better help protect their favorite water at any number of lake fairs scheduled across Wisconsin this summer. Controlling Eurasian watermilfoil, zebra mussels and other invasive species, minimizing the impacts of development on water quality and shoreline habitat, and more effectively working with state and local government are some of the topics headlining the events. For more information on various planned events across the state, contact me.

SOURCE: WDNR, Susan Tesarik (608) 662-0923.

## Franklin hearing to consider proposed wetland setback

Amendments to the City of Franklin's Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) has been scheduled for: Thursday, August 22nd at 7 p.m. Your attendance is greatly appreciated. Your input (as well as support) on water quality protection is welcome! You do not need to live in Franklin to support water quality. Require further info? Contact me.

SOURCE: Kristen M. Wilhelm, Vice Chairman City of Franklin Environmental Commission, [dwilhelm@execpc.com](mailto:dwilhelm@execpc.com).

## Riparian area management publication available

The National Research Council (an offshoot of the National Academy of Sciences) has just completed "Riparian Areas: Functions and Strategies for Management." It's not published yet, but you can access it on line free at the NRC web site, [www.nap.edu](http://www.nap.edu) or directly at [www.nap.edu/catalog/10327.html](http://www.nap.edu/catalog/10327.html). The overview is very positive on the ecological significance of riparian areas. It's four primary conclusions are:

1. Restoration of riparian functions along America's waterbodies should be a national goal.
2. Protection should be the goal for riparian areas in the best ecological condition, while restoration is needed for degraded riparian areas.
3. Patience and persistence in riparian management is needed.
4. Although many riparian areas can be restored and managed to provide many of their natural functions, they are not immune to the effects of poor management in adjacent uplands.

SOURCE: 6-05-02 WDNR "Basin Briefs."

## **Kinni Land Trust voices concerns over St. Croix treatment plant**

From the May 31 River Falls *Journal*: A sewage treatment plan that has been proposed for a site between the Villages of Hammond and Roberts in St. Croix County could harm the Kinnickinnic River, according to Kinnickinnic River Land Trust representative Rick McMonagle. “We have 2 villages that have not been informing the rest of us that live in the watershed about what they are planning,” McMonagle told the River Falls City Council. “That treated sewage will end up in somebody’s wells, either private wells or community wells or both.” McMonagle said the original plan for the treatment plant called for pumping treated sewage into the ground near the mouth of the river. More at [www.riverfallsjournal.com/site/news.cfm?newsid+4296007&BRD=1265&PAG=461&dept\\_id=160925&rfi=6](http://www.riverfallsjournal.com/site/news.cfm?newsid+4296007&BRD=1265&PAG=461&dept_id=160925&rfi=6).

SOURCE: 6-05-02 WDNR “Basin Briefs.”

## **River Network grants available**

The River Network’s 2002 Watershed Assistance Grants are available. People interested should apply by July 19. River Network is once again teaming up with EPA to disperse Watershed Assistance Grants to watershed groups across the country working on creating and implementing partnerships to improve their watershed. The grant process is highly competitive, but Network members are encouraged to apply for these grants which range from \$1500 to \$30,000 per project. Go to [www.rivernet.org/howwecanhelp/howwag\\_2002cri.cfm](http://www.rivernet.org/howwecanhelp/howwag_2002cri.cfm) for more information and for an application form.

SOURCE: Ami Grace, [cleanwaternt@igc.org](mailto:cleanwaternt@igc.org).

## **Handbook helps activists understand and use pollution control permits**

Prairie Rivers Network, Clean Water Network, and River Network have teamed up to create ‘Permitting an End to Pollution: How to Scrutinize and Strengthen Water Pollution Permits in Your Watershed’. This handbook guides activists through the process of reviewing and commenting on proposed permits with a focus on critical thinking and action.

A PDF version of the handbook is available to download on line at [www.cwn.org](http://www.cwn.org). The on-line version also includes attachments (on issues like how to use EPA’s Permit Compliance System, how to submit at Freedom of Information Act request, and more) not found in the hard copy handbook.

*[NOTE: This download is very long (20 meg). If you can wait, the WSN has downloaded it and will have it on our 2003 annual conference CD along with many other major reports issues by WI and national groups, government agencies, and others throughout 2002. —WSN]*

SOURCE: Ami Grace, [cleanwaternt@igc.org](mailto:cleanwaternt@igc.org).

## **Watershed protection slide show available on CD**

The Center for Watershed Protection is pleased to announce that the latest addition to our family of popular slideshow presentations, *Why Watersheds?*, is finally available on CD-ROM! So many of you asked to be alerted when it arrived that we decided to send out this notice. You can order the CD for \$25 from our on-line store: <http://centerforwatershedprotection.gomerchant7.com/>.

Designed to bridge the gap for people who may not understand the whys and hows of watershed protection, this introductory presentation explains what a watershed is, how development impacts watershed health, and why protecting watersheds is critical. Included are steps that planners, watershed groups, and regular citizens alike can take to protect our own water resources.

SOURCE: Carolyn Betz (608) 266-9262 and Corinne Billings (608) 264-6261.

## **WI-based ag video to air on CNBC June 29**

At long last, there is now an airing date for the video that was filmed last summer on agricultural runoff and the efforts of various states and their farming industries to protect water quality. The program includes Wisconsin as one of the five states featured, and has interview clips from Susan Sylvester and Russ Rasmussen (DNR), Jim Harsdorf (DATCP), Dennis Frame (Discovery Farms), and operators John Vrieze, Carl Theunis, and Joe Bragger.

The show will be aired on Saturday, June 29, at 2:30 Central Time on CNBC. It was produced by Information Television (ITV), and will be a half hour long. Thanks again to all of you who participated — hope you enjoy watching!

SOURCE: WDNR “Basin Briefs,” 6-12-02.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Sen. Paul Simon confirmed at “Fightin’ Bob Fest” Sept. 7 in Baraboo**

Former Senator Paul Simon has agreed to speak at 9:30 in the morning on Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> at the Fightin’ Bob Fest. To me, he is about as close to the spirit of progressivism as anyone. This is good news. For those who don’t know Senator Paul Simon was the US Senator from IL for a number of years also Lt. Gov. He was the editor of a paper in downstate IL when he first won an elected office. Really a great progressive leader and now an author and speaker.

SOURCE: Hiroshi Kanno, Concerned Citizens of Newport.

## **Great Waters Sierra Club holding gubernatorial forum July 31**

The Great Waters Group of the Sierra Club is sponsoring a Governors Voter Forum with a focus on environmental issues on July 31 at 7 p.m. at the Irish Cultural Center, 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee. The six candidates for Governor of Wisconsin have been invited and Kathleen Dunn of WHAD radio has agreed to moderate it. We are inviting you to co sponsor this forum with us. No cost to you is anticipated. We are particularly interested in having information about the forum published in your newsletter.

SOURCE: Cheri Briscoe, Great Waters Sierra Club, [cherib@attglobal.net](mailto:cherib@attglobal.net).

## **Conservation Observance Day June 21**

Join hundreds of people from around the state to recognize the conservation accomplishments of Wisconsin's landowners and to highlight how conservation and production agriculture complement each other. Conservation Observance Day will be celebrated on Friday, June 21, 2002, at the Bragger Family Dairy, Buffalo County, Wisconsin. Tours, food and refreshments will be provided. The Buffalo County Land Conservation Department and Land Conservation Committee, the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association (WLWCA), and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) will cosponsor the annual state-wide event. Speakers will include USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service State Conservationist Pat Leavenworth, DNR Secretary Darrell Bazzell, DATCP Chairman Michael Dummer, and USDA Farm Service Agency State Executive Director Ben Brancel.

The 2001 Conservation Farmers of the Year, the Bragger Family, will be recognized. The Braggers' long history of conservation leadership dates back to the 1960's. The farm includes milk cows, pullets, cropland and trout. The Braggers routinely update conservation plans for their land, including a barnyard system they planned and constructed. By volunteering as the first Discovery farm, they promote the important role sustainable agriculture has in our society and test the science, practices, and rules that we all rely on to preserve our natural resources.

SOURCE: Julie Fernholz, [julie.fernholz@buffalocounty.com](mailto:julie.fernholz@buffalocounty.com).

## **Group seeks help with letter on nuclear material traveling through WI**

We are sending [a] letter to Kohl & Feingold asking them to oppose shipping nuke waste through WI communities to Yucca Mtn. Please let me know if your organization would like to sign onto this letter. The vote is likely going to happen right before the July 4th Congressional recess, so we'll want to send this letter to them by June 26th.

SOURCE: WISPIRG, [wispirg@mail.chorus.net](mailto:wispirg@mail.chorus.net).

**Migratory bird workshop at Horicon Marsh July 26**

An Educator Workshop: "One Bird — Two Habitats," a Middle School Environmental Education Curriculum on Migratory Birds, will be held at Horicon Marsh, Friday, July 26, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Educators will receive clock hours, a copy of "One Bird-Two habitats" and the Horicon Marsh Field Trip Guide. Cost is \$20; pre-registration is required. For information and to register, call: (920) 387-2658 X 24.

**First-Class Mail Increasing June 30, 2002**

First-Class mail rates will increase June 30, 2002.

**Letters and cards** — The single-piece 1-ounce First-Class Mail rate will increase from \$0.34 to \$0.37, and the single-piece card rate from \$0.21 to \$0.23.

**Additional ounces** — The additional ounce rate for single-piece First-Class Mail items will remain at \$0.23/ounce.

Here's a handy table you can print for your stamp box:

USPS First Class Letter Rates — June 30, 2002	
OUNCES	\$
1	.37
2	.60
3	.83
4	1.06
5	1.29
6	1.52
7	1.75
8	1.98
9	2.21
10	2.44
11	2.67
12	2.90
13	3.13
14	3.36
15	3.59
<b>(Addl. oz. = .23    Cards = .23)</b>	

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

The WSN's Board of Directors 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](mailto:wsn@chorus.net).

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