



# WSNetwork News

September 1, 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

# ENERGY FORUM



**It's the first ever energy forum designed by, and for, the citizens of Wisconsin.**

**Come to learn. Come to share. Come to help ensure that Wisconsin has a sound energy policy for future generations.**

**\$10 Fee Includes Lunch**

**The Citizen's Energy Forum is the place for you to have a voice in Wisconsin's Energy future.**

Friday, September 13, 7PM  
**Keynote speaker: Doug Lafollette**  
Guest speaker: Steve Hiniker, CUB

Saturday, September 14, 10AM  
Join together to develop Energy White Paper  
**Buffet Luncheon**

**Westwood Center, 1800 Bridge Street, Wausau, Wisconsin**  
For more information or to pre-register, call 715-474-2271 or email [soul\\_wis@yahoo.com](mailto:soul_wis@yahoo.com)

## SOUL energy forum to address power and property concerns

The Wisconsin Stewardship Network is pleased to be a major sponsor of Save Our Unique Lands' Energy Forum Sept. 13-14 in Washy as one of our Arrowhead-Weston working group's major activities of 2002. We hope to see many of you there. Contact SOUL using the information above to get further details, including a complete program agenda.

## SOUL meeting Sept. 1 in Ladysmith

Soul will meet on Sept. 1 at the Ladysmith library at 11 a.m. Can someone take the bull by the horns in Washburn county and rally the people to attend the next board meeting [since] they will vote on allowing ATC in their forests. We will all come if the local people need more attendance and care about what is going on.

SOURCE: Robert Ringstad, [wb9hwh@jrec.com](mailto:wb9hwh@jrec.com).

## Washburn County surveyor access — two views

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This is what the American Transmission Company said happened in Washburn county:

“Washburn County Committee Votes Unanimously To Recommend Access for Transmission Line Surveyors

“WAUKESHA, Wis.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Aug. 22, 2002--The Washburn County Power Line Exploration Ad Hoc Committee voted unanimously yesterday to recommend that Washburn County allow American Transmission Company to proceed with survey work on county land.

“We view this vote as a significant development,” said [Mark Williamson, vice president of ATC]. “It breaks a political stalemate that has existed on the project. It’s the first vote from a county committee to support the project. They have come to understand how vital this transmission line is to ensuring electric reliability in northern Wisconsin. We hope this sets an example for the other counties. It shows that we can work together.”

This is what actually happened in Washburn County:

“Survey permission for powerline not granted in county

“Holly Solveson, *Spooner Advocate*, Friday, August 23

“Permission was not given to powerline officials to survey land in Washburn County, as stated in recent media news reports.

“According to Mike Peterson, Washburn County Forestry administrator, officials from the American Transmission Company requested permission to access lands in Washburn County to survey for a high-voltage transmission line to run between Duluth and Wausau, including through Washburn County. However, during a meeting of the Washburn County Powerline Exploration Ad Hoc Committee on Wednesday, permission was not granted, rather, the committee agreed to refer the request to the Washburn County Forestry and Highway committees to make a referral to the Washburn County Board of Supervisors, Peterson said.

“The powerline ad hoc committee is not allowed to take such action, but is allowed to make a recommendation or referral to the committee from which it was formed, Peterson said.”

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SOURCE: comparison compiled and forwarded by Logan Edinger, SOUL.

## Wisconsin counties may fall for ATC “informed consent” strategy

The American Transmission Company (ATC) recently published a press release announcing that the Washburn County Power Line Committee agreed to recommend that ATC be allowed access to proceed with survey work on county land before construction can begin on the 250-mile 345 KV transmission line ATC wants to build from Duluth to Wausau. ATC is a for-profit group of

utilities that wants to take private and county land for this major transmission line project through Northwestern Wisconsin.

Washburn county denies they granted ATC access. In the past, Washburn county opposed the transmission line. However, after a meeting with Mark Williamson, a utility executive hired by ATC to lobby and promote the line, the ATC erroneously announced that Washburn county had changed its mind.

Unfortunately, many people are unaware of ATC's secret weapon — a course called “Informed Consent.” This is a course that teaches utilities how to get people to grudgingly go along with what they want — and how to use public participation to get information that can be used against opponents. Last year, ATC executives attended this intensive 3 1/2 day course designed by Hans and Annemarie Bleiker called “The SIDC Course: Systematic Development of Informed Consent.” A copy of the ATC meeting notice can be found at [http://www.atcllc.com/ATC\\_SDIC\\_General\\_Info.html](http://www.atcllc.com/ATC_SDIC_General_Info.html).

In this course, utility executives are taught how to be “Implementation Geniuses” and fool the brightest citizens and public officials into going along with them. A complete subject summary can be found at <http://www.ipmp-bleiker.com/sdicinfo.htm>.

Tom Kreager, President of SOUL, a group of Northwoods landowners against the line, wants the public to be aware that ATC's recent public relations campaign for the line is based on these very tactics, “ATC is very smart and will use the information they learned from this course to try and get good people like those in Washburn county to change their minds.”

“Mark Williamson said in a recent press release that he wants to be sensitive to the concerns of landowners and county officials, yet according to the tricks of “Informed Consent,” ATC uses citizen participation not to get information or to form a compromise but only as a means to an end, that is, to get opponents to go along with what they want.”

“Unfortunately, ATC has lots of ratepayer money to take these courses and to spend on advertising and public relations. We only have the truth on our side. I only hope that others see through this before it's too late.”

SOURCE: SOUL.

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## DNR Independence and PIO Restoration

### BCCA candidate poll results mails to state sporting, conservation groups

The Wisconsin Stewardship Network's PIO-DNR working group has mailed the results of the Brown County Conservation Alliance's recent statewide candidate poll to just under 2,000 sporting, conservation, and environmental groups and leaders asking them to pass the results along to their members. The last issue of *WSNetwork News* listed these results, and the following late additions were received in time for the mailing:

- Assm. District 71 — Julie Lassa, Yes on PIO, Yes on DNR.

- Assm. District 96 — DuWayne Johnsrud, No on PIO, refused to respond on DNR.
- Assm. District 95 — Vicki Burke, Yes on PIO, Yes on DNR.
- Assm. District 59 — Thomas Thompson, Yes on PIO, Yes on DNR.

(NOTE: to get an updated list of all the candidate positions for Governor, Lt. Governor, State Senate, and State Assembly, visit the WSN web site at [www.wsn.org](http://www.wsn.org).)

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## Factory Farming

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### New “EQIP” meant for factory farms?

While a progressive alliance of rural advocates helped to advance the most generous conservation title in Farm Bill history, one particular program, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), received the lion’s share of the new funding. Why? Everyone watching the Beltway’s political scene knew the well-heeled agribusiness lobbyists were buzzing the hill like bees around honey. They knew the family farm-conservation lobby was strong and instead of fighting the conservation trend, they decided to co-opt it and helped steer the federal honey pot towards a program that could, with a small change, benefit agribusiness — EQIP.

Livestock facilities over a certain size used to be ineligible for EQIP funding — not anymore. The recent Farm Bill removed all safeguards that prevented Factory Farms from qualifying for EQIP funds. Now the factory farms that have been rural environmental nightmares that undercut sustainable producers are eligible for billions in federal subsidies. To add insult to injury, CAFOs (confined animal feeding operations) can use up to 60% of the entire program funding! Rural Updates! will be keeping you posted on upcoming efforts to minimize the impact of this change.

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

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## Forest Fragmentation

### Senate fire logging rider expected Sept. 4

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The Senate Interior Appropriations bill is scheduled to be considered on September 4 — the first day that Congress returns from August recess. President Bush is expected to announce his “forest vision” — a plan to cut down the trees to protect them from fire.... Please call your Senators TODAY! Calls are urgently needed to alert your Senators to this threat. Please contact your Senators at (202) 224-3121 or at their district office and urge them to:

1. Make community protection from fire risk the #1 Forest Service priority.
2. Oppose any riders that suspend environmental laws or limit public involvement for forest management decisions. The last time this happened under the Salvage Logging Rider, the Forest Service abused their authority to cut green trees under the guise of salvage and to cut old growth

forests in the name of forest health. There is no need to suspend or weaken environmental laws to carry out legitimate fuels reduction to protect communities.

3. Direct 90% of the fuel reduction projects to where it is needed - in the immediate vicinity of homes and communities. Right now, only 39% of the acres treated by the Forest Service and BLM are spent in the “Community Zone”; this number should be increased to 90%. The latest scientific review from top Forest Service fire researchers Jack Cohen and Bret Butler, indicates that a zone of 60 meters from structures and up to 500 meters for firefighter safety are the maximum areas needed for legitimate fuel reduction treatments for community and firefighter protection.

4. Increase funding that would go directly to communities that need protection through state block grants. A substantial amount of the Community Zone is on private property. To get the work, more funds should directly to states — not the Forest Service — to ensure that flammable brush is cleared and small diameter trees are thinned in the Community Zone.

5. Oppose stewardship contracting authorities that would log older forests to pay for restoration. Logging to restore forests will perpetuate the problem. Congress needs to invest in ecologically sound forest restoration, not more logging.

We will keep you up to date over the next two weeks. Time is very short to defeat these riders. With your help we can stop this “smokescreen” and put community interests ahead of special interests.

SOURCE: American Lands via John Schwarzmann, ECCOLA.

## Northern WI Stewardship Fund wild land purchase announced

It was announced on Aug. 16 that the WDNR will buy access and development rights to 35,337 acres of wilderness in Iron, Oneida, Marathon, and Lincoln counties from Tomahawk Timberlands. The rights are valued at \$13 million, but Tomahawk Timberlands is giving the state a \$6 million discount. Of the remaining \$7.2 million, \$2.2 million will come from the state stewardship fund, which contains money that is set aside specifically to buy land for conservation. Another \$5 million will come from grants from the federal Forest Legacy Program.

SOURCE: Wausau *Daily Herald* via Ken Walsh, Martin Schreiber & Associates.

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## Groundwater Protection

### Judge to rule soon on SURE’s Hwy 164 suit

Federal Judge Lynn Adelman is expected to rule any day now on a lawsuit by citizen group Stop Unnecessary Road Construction (SURE) that asks to demolish the Hwy. 164 bridge being constructed south of Slinger and stop the widening of 164 in Waukesha and Washington counties. SURE’s suit alleges the WDOT violated the National Environmental Policy Act by going ahead with bridge construction without monitoring the proximity of known polluted groundwater at the

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site. SURE is asking those interested in fighting what they see as heavy-handed DOT practices to help them in their efforts by contacting Jeff Gonyo at (262) 644-8334 or [jmgonyo@execpc.com](mailto:jmgonyo@execpc.com).

SOURCE: Milwaukee *Journal Sentinel* and WSN.

## Kannos attending Johannesburg sustainability conference

WSN Groundwater Issue Chair Hiroshi Kanno sends the following update from the World Summit on Sustainable Development....

"We are here in JoBurg, South Africa. There is much to see and do including a march on Sat. broken up by the police with stun grenades. One of our people from Canada was burned and went to the hospital. She is OK. I have some interesting pictures which I will share with anyone interested.

"George Bush is getting slammed along with the U.S. in general. There are very few press from the states, but over 50,000 delegates are here from around the world. We attended a two-day forum put on by the International Forum on Globalization. It was very interesting. Had a good talk with Maude Barlow and Tony Clarke. In fact, the person injured works for Tony and the Polaris Institute on water.

"We hope to shortly hear Nelson Mandela at this parallel WSSD event, so I am off."

SOURCE: Hiroshi Kanno, [HiroK8@aol.com](mailto:HiroK8@aol.com).



MAUDE BARLOW, AUTHOR OF "BLUE GOLD," AND HIROSHI KANNO AT THE WSSD CONFERENCE NOW UNDERWAY IN SOUTH AFRICA.

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## Underground water storage begins in WI

A Milwaukee *Journal Sentinel* story by Don Behm on Aug. 17 noted that "Wisconsin communities have been given a green light to save millions of dollars by storing treated drinking water deep underground. Pumping clean water down wells during winter and spring will enable municipalities to retrieve it quickly in summer to slake thirsts and refresh vegetable gardens." The complete story is archived at [www.greatlakesdirectory.org/wi/082102\\_aquifer.htm](http://www.greatlakesdirectory.org/wi/082102_aquifer.htm).

## Sauk landfill wastewater to treatment plant for next 40 years

From the August 8 Baraboo *News Republic*: Tracy & Sons, a waste management company in Watertown, has been selected by Sauk County to collect waste water flow from the Sauk County landfill and bring it to the sewage treatment plant in Baraboo, to avoid a polluted runoff problem that has the potential to contaminate groundwater. Waste water builds up in the landfill as precipitation comes in contact with the trash. The trash also decomposes, releasing some moisture. Over

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time, the waste water needs to be removed to reduce possible runoff. By hauling the waste water from the landfill to the treatment plant, the water is decontaminated, with the cleaned water being released into the Baraboo River. Sauk County Solid Waste Manager John Carroll said the treatment procedure will need to be done for at least 40 years after the landfill is closed. More at <http://baraboo.scwn.com/archives/index.inn?loc=detail&doc=/2002/August/08-373-news1.txt>.

SOURCE: WDNR 8-14-02 "Basin Briefs."

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## Mercury Reduction

### DNR taking comments on WEPCO 'self-regulation' agreement

Currently DNR is receiving comments on...an Environmental Cooperative Agreement with Wisconsin Electric Power Company (WEPCO). Marc Looze and I agree that it threatens to undercut the mercury rule (less ambitious reduction goals and wide-open trading) in return for voluntary reduction of CO2 at all WEPCO plants. The deadline for comments is Sept. 23rd. In mid-Sept. the Wisconsin Internetwork (WIN) will send out a "fax-your letter" electronic alert. Please contact me if you want your group's e-mail alert list included in either or both of these WIN alerts.

SOURCE: Caryl Terrell, Sierra Club.

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## Metallic Mining

### Wolf Headwaters proponents to meet with Doyle

Those working on developing a proposal to purchase the proposed Crandon Mine site will be meeting with Attorney General Jim Doyle Sept. 5. Attendees include several environmental group leaders, representatives of WI tribal governments, and others.

SOURCE: WSN.

### Mine 'experts group' identified for media, public

A [list of individuals](#) with years of expertise in metallic mining, mine safety, mine economic impacts, mine groundwater impacts, and other topics has been assembled for the public and state media in the wake of the proposed Wolf Headwaters Purchase. This list was assembled by Claire Schmidt of Wisconsin's Environmental Decade and the Southern WI Hub Coordinator for the WSN. The above link will take you to the list at the end of this newsletter. Contact the WSN for the same list as a stand-alone file for more compact forwarding.

SOURCE: Wisconsin's Environmental Decade.

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## Forest County, unions speak against Wolf Headwaters purchase

An Aug. 23 Associated Press story notes that “the Forest County Board and some labor unions have stepped forward to oppose the state’s possible purchase of a proposed underground zinc and copper mine near Crandon....” Besides the Forest County Board, the following unions signed a joint letter to the legislature supporting the mine: Operating Engineers Local 139, Wisconsin Laborer’s District Council, United Steelworkers of America, Iron Workers Local 383, and the Wisconsin Pipe Trades Association.

SOURCE: Bill McClenahan, (608) 259-1212, [bill@martinschreiber.com](mailto:bill@martinschreiber.com).

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## Sokaogon Chippewa bringing mine concerns to Johannesburg

A delegation from Wisconsin [is attending] the United Nations World Summit on Sustainable Development scheduled from August 26-Sept. 4 in Johannesburg, South Africa. The delegation will attend the summit and present the controversial Crandon Mine proposal and its impacts to delegates gathered there. The Johannesburg Summit is focused on implementation of the global plan of action for sustainable development developed 10 years ago at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. The WI delegation consists of:

- Sokaogon Chippewa Community (Mole Lake) Tribal Council member Ken Van Zile,
- Mole Lake Historical Preservation Officer Robert Van Zile,
- Mole Lake Environmental Planner Roman Ferdinand, and
- Mole Lake Attorney Glenn Reynolds.

SOURCE: Dave Blouin, Mining Impact Coalition of WI, (608) 233-8455

## WDNR letters express mine groundwater concerns

New concerns about pollution of groundwater and surface waters by the proposed Crandon mine have been raised by the WDNR in two recent letters to Nicolet Minerals Company. An August 12 letter from the DNR to Nicolet Minerals Company says groundwater models predict pollution at a legal compliance boundary nearly a quarter mile from the proposed mine site. The DNR said the pollution may travel 22 times faster and reach levels five times higher than the company’s predictions. The agency also predicts the pollution will affect the groundwater that provides the sole source of drinking water for the surrounding area.

Another recent letter from the DNR to the mining company says NMC has underestimated runoff from the Tailings Management Area into nearby wetlands and streams. The TMA is a proposed facility for mining wastes. It would cover an area larger than 200 football fields with 90 feet of mining wastes.

SOURCE: Forest County Potawatomi.

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## WI Citizen Action votes mine purchase support

On July 17th, the [Wisconsin Citizen Action] Executive Committee voted to recommend each of the following action items. As a result of the mail ballot, these positions are adopted by the WCA Board:

1. WCA take a position in support of the mine purchase provided the price is reasonable.
2. WCA take a position that the State should work with the Native American tribes and the Town of Nashville on worker training and economic development suitable to the area.
3. WCA is willing to add a powerful citizen voice to the campaign by providing targeted mailing lists for mailing(s) to either the Governor or members of Joint Finance Committee (with the timing and targets to be decided, assuming funds are raised for this purpose).
4. WCA should help spread word of these positions and rationale to affiliates and, in particular, to labor unions, in state and elsewhere.

SOURCE: Sam Gieryn, Wisconsin Citizen Action.

## WWEP to meet Sept. 14

The next meeting of the Wolf Watershed Educational Project (WWEP) will be Sat., Sept. 14, in Wausau, at 2:45 at the Westwood Center, 1800 Bridge St., after the Citizens' Energy Forum planned by our allies in Save Our Unique Lands (SOUL). With all the recent positive developments on the Crandon Mine, it is doubly important that we help SOUL prevent new powerlines that would industrialize northern Wisconsin — one way of preventing future mines.

SOURCE: WWEP.

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## Shoreland/Wetlands

### CORRECTION to DNR water program budget recap

Not sure if this is hugely important, but I wanted to let you know that there are a couple of mistakes in the item that Lisa Conley put together on the DNR Water Budget [in the last issue of *WSNetwork News*].

On page 12, she indicates that the DNR Water Integration Team was restored. Actually, the Department will be losing WIT. They were cut in the Governor's budget as a part of GPR reductions. What was restored was the Assembly cutting WIT again, for a grand total in their budget of a loss of 13 positions in the water program.

Also on page 12, she says that the new invasive species program will be funded with Motorboat Gas Tax revenue. In fact, the Governor's budget gave us this program with no funding or posi-

tions. We will have to figure out a way to run the program with no money or come in for a request to fund it in the next budget.

SOURCE: Elizabeth M. Kluesner, Legislative Liaison, WDNR, (608) 264-6266, [kluese@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:kluese@dnr.state.wi.us).

## **Waters of Wisconsin forum registrations being accepted**

I invite you to attend the Waters of Wisconsin Forum. The Waters of Wisconsin Forum, to take place October 21-22 at Monona Terrace, is the culmination of Waters of Wisconsin (WOW), a statewide initiative that for the past two years has brought together representatives from widely varied areas of water use and management-including agriculture, industry, conservation, all levels of government and public agencies, education, and Native American tribes-to address the use, management, and long-term protection of Wisconsin's waters.

For more information, including registration, visit the Wisconsin Academy website at [www.wisconsinacademy.org/wow/index.html](http://www.wisconsinacademy.org/wow/index.html). The participants at this forum will comprise one of the largest and most diverse groups of water professionals and water users ever gathered in the state. Much discussion at the forum will center on the Waters of Wisconsin draft report, which will be further refined at the gathering and serve as the formal declaration of WOW recommendations for water policy.

SOURCE: Travis Olson, [Travis.Olson@doa.state.wi.us](mailto:Travis.Olson@doa.state.wi.us).

## **MMSD subject of joint Environment/Natural Resources hearing**

A joint hearing of the Assembly Environment and Natural Resources committees will take place Thur., Sept 5, at 10:00 a.m. in room 412-East of the State Capitol to hear testimony and discuss the policies of the DNR and the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) as they relate to sewage treatment, bypass, discharge, and enforcement.

SOURCE: WSN.

## **Sierra Club counters Fox River sediment capping PR blitz**

I am writing on behalf of the Midwest Office of the Sierra Club in response to the letter regarding the capping plan that has been aggressively marketed by Appleton Papers' former French parent company. This capping plan, disingenuously called the Ecosystem Rehabilitation Plan, would leave our river, our ecosystems, ourselves and our children at risk to PCBs for generations to come. We take issue with the plan in five areas:

- First, capping itself is a much less permanent, much more risky solution than actually removing the PCBs from the waterway.
- Second, this plan would leave the Fox River with completely unacceptable risks to humans and the environment.
- Third, it leaves many unanswered questions about costs, liabilities, and long-term care.

- Fourth, it completely mischaracterizes dredging, with false assertions about how long it will take and how effective it will be at reducing risk.
- Finally, and perhaps most importantly, the constant touting of this unreasonable plan diverts money, time, and resources away from our fundamental mission: cleaning up the Fox River. If you have more questions about the capping plan or DNR's proposed solution for the river, feel free to contact me.

SOURCE: Jennifer Feyerherm, Sierra Club Great Lakes Program, (608) 257-4994, [jennifer.feyerherm@sierra-club.org](mailto:jennifer.feyerherm@sierra-club.org).

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## **Annex 2001 forum Sept. 21 in Chicago**

What: Annex 2001 Forum: Update and Opportunities for Outreach. Where: Best Western Inn of Chicago, IL. When: September 20. Who: Lake Michigan Federation will be hosting a forum with Wisconsin's Environmental Decade, the National Wildlife Federation, and Great Lakes United. This is a FREE forum for organizations to learn about updates, outreach, and organizing opportunities around Annex 2001. Further registration information is available from the LMF.

SOURCE: Cheryl Mendoza, [cmendoza@lakemichigan.org](mailto:cmendoza@lakemichigan.org).

## **Fox-Wolf water quality summit planned for early 2003**

We are hosting a basin water quality summit next spring that will have tracks on market-based incentives and new innovations as well as current policy and regulations. Our goal is to determine as best we can, what realistic water quality improvements we can expect from each track and try to put together a plan to reach the management goals for the basin and the Green Bay. The summit will open with presentations of current monitoring and modeling as well as review of the RAP and other management plans for the basin. This will give us ecological targets to shoot for. We are currently looking at the last week in *April or first week in May*. DNR will be listening to the results which has the possibility of shaping program for the rest of the state.

Linda Stoll, [foxwolf@athenet.net](mailto:foxwolf@athenet.net).

## **State Conservationist Leavenworth taking Washington post**

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Patricia Leavenworth, State Conservationist for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in Wisconsin for the past eight years, has been selected to serve in a key post with the agency in Washington, D.C., for the next four months. She will be acting Deputy Chief for Programs, a critical position as the new Farm Bill conservation programs begin to be implemented. Funding for conservation work was increased by 80 percent in this farm bill, including major funding increases for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and the new Conservation Security Program.

Don Baloun will be acting State Conservationist for Wisconsin until Leavenworth returns, which is anticipated to be by January, 2003. He was previously Assistant State Conservationist in charge of Programs, including the Resource Conservation and Development program.

SOURCE: Renae Anderson, NRCS, (608) 276-8732x227.

## Door County shoreline parcel to remain public

A Milwaukee *Journal Sentinel* story by Meg Jones on Aug. 17 reports that a “valuable undeveloped strip of Lake Michigan shoreline in Door County will remain in the public’s hands” by a vote of the state Natural Resources Board. The 16 acre Spikehorn Campground property “has been involved in a tug of war between local property owners, Door County, conservationists and the Department of Natural Resources over whether it should be sold to a private landowner or remain public property.” The DNR Board acted to add the property to the adjacent Baileys Harbor Boreal Forest and Wetlands State Natural Area.

SOURCE: Milwaukee *Journal Sentinel*.

## Volunteer monitoring programs, resources compiled

Here, at long last, is the list of volunteer monitoring programs and resources I have been able to find so far for Wisconsin. WHEW!! We need a WI monitoring council, as discussed at the NWQMC conference this spring. I know this list will never be final, but here is the best I can get together as of this date. As always, corrections and additions are welcome.

[NOTE: Lisa’s background paper and volunteer monitoring program list will soon be housed on the WSN website. In addition, it will be on the WSN 2003 Conference CD, free to those attending the WSN conference Feb. 14-15, 2003. To get copies sooner, please e-mail Lisa directly.]

SOURCE: Lisa Conley, [iconley@usa.com](mailto:iconley@usa.com), (262) 567-5947.

## Wetlands overview and monitoring course Sept. 21

The Woodland School of the Aldo Leopold Foundation will be presenting a course entitled “Wetland Basics: ecology and evaluation” Sat. Sept. 21 in Stevens Point. The course will be taught by Jeff Nania of the WI Waterfowl Assn. and Alice Thompson of the WI Wetlands Assn.

SOURCE: The Woodland School, Baraboo, WI [rob@aldoleopold.org](mailto:rob@aldoleopold.org).

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## WDNR targeted runoff/urban stormwater grant figures released

The 2003 Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) grant application deadline for TRM grants was May 1, 2003. A summary of the applications which we received, follows:

- 43 grant applications received for this grant cycle.
- 2 grant applications submitted did not make basic screening criteria and were not scored due to ineligibility.
- 41 projects were scored.

Seven projects did not pass the minimum qualifications in the application and won't be offered funding. The remaining 34 projects that passed the minimum qualifications may be offered funding in the approximate amount of \$2.7 million

SOURCE: WDNR.

## WDNR 2003 urban NPS & stormwater grants summarized

The purpose of this program is to control polluted urban storm water runoff. In contrast to TRM, point sources designated under NR 216 are eligible to apply. A summary of the applications which we received, follows:

- 57 grant applications received for this grant cycle.
- 53 grant applications met basic screening criteria and were scored.
- 46 projects met the minimum qualifications of eligibility and were ranked for funding.

DNR anticipates funding all eligible projects

SOURCE: WDNR 8-14-02 "Basin Briefs."

## EPA awards UW grant to study runoff

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has awarded a \$750,000 grant to 7 UW-Madison researchers, along with 1 researcher from UW-Platteville to study how fertilizer runoff from yards, farms, and water treatment plants affects water quality, according to an August 13 article in the Wisconsin *State Journal*. The research team is targeting Lake Mendota and the Yahara River, which feeds into the lake, as their testing ground during the 4-year project, which begins this fall. The researchers will try to trace the path of phosphorus through the ecosystem and measure the impact of various known remedies, according to lead researcher Richard Lathrop (an honorary associate/fellow at UW-Madison who works at the campus Limnology Lab). The EPA grant is one of four awarded nationally. For more, see [http://proquest.umi.com/pqd-web?Did=000000148799861&Fmt=3&Deli=1&Mtd=2&Idx=32&SK=3&ScQ=000007463|0000002076101|\\*&RQT=309](http://proquest.umi.com/pqd-web?Did=000000148799861&Fmt=3&Deli=1&Mtd=2&Idx=32&SK=3&ScQ=000007463|0000002076101|*&RQT=309).

SOURCE: WDNR 8-14-02 "Basin Briefs."

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## Call for most endangered river nominations

Is your river endangered? Nominate it for the Nation's Most Endangered Rivers report of 2003 by visiting [www.amrivers.org/mostendangered/2003nominationform.htm](http://www.amrivers.org/mostendangered/2003nominationform.htm).

SOURCE: American Rivers RiverCurrents, 8-16-02.

## Geneva Lake group says streams affecting lake quality

The Geneva Lake Environmental Agency wants tighter state control over the streams that feed into the lake as a way to improve the lake's health, according to an August 10 article in the *Janesville Gazette*. A study of the navigable waterways feeding into the lake is almost completed, and there is concern that property owners with navigable waterways are contributing runoff into the lake. "I think a lot of people think they're doing good by landscaping and preserving the bank," Ted Peters, director the Geneva Lake Environmental Agency said. But if the projects are not done correctly, they can deliver sediments downstream that restrict flow during heavy rains. And if anyone does any kind of channeling on the streams, it may flood property owners both upstream and downstream, he added. More at <http://www.gazetteextra.com/081002-7.asp>.

SOURCE: WDNR 8-14-02 "Basin Briefs."

## Bird habitat and wetland/shoreland map available

The American Bird Conservancy and the National Geographic Society have produced the first-ever map of Important Bird Areas (IBAs) in the United States. View sections of the map and find out how to get a copy. See where these important habitats coincide with rivers and streams at [www.abcbirds.org/iba/ibamap.htm](http://www.abcbirds.org/iba/ibamap.htm).

SOURCE: American Rivers RiverCurrents, 8-16-02.

## EPA, states defend key nonpoint program from OMB funding assault

EPA and states are defending the agency's Clean Water Act program that finances state efforts to address nonpoint source pollution from an attack by White House Office of Management & Budget (OMB) officials. OMB is questioning the need for the funding, known as the Section 319 program, in light of increased water quality funds in the recently enacted farm bill, which boosted monies for agricultural nonpoint sources.

However, officials from EPA, states and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) point out that the Section 319 program addresses a broad range of nonpoint source dischargers, including stormwater runoff, mining wastes and discharges from septic systems. Farm bill funding, in contrast, assists only the implementation of nonpoint source controls in the agricultural community.

SOURCE: EPA.

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## EPA Launches the Watershed Initiative

On August 20, the Environmental Protection Agency announced the kick-off of a new competitive grant program. In celebration of the Year of Clean Water and the 30th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act, \$21 million has been requested for next year's budget for this new watershed initiative. Once the funds are available, the Agency plans to select up to 20 watersheds throughout the country for grants to support promising watershed-based efforts toward cleaner water.

SOURCE: EPA.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Benchmarking for success workshop Nov. 15-16 in Lake Geneva

Would you like to build a stronger, more effective organization? The Institute for Conservation Leadership is pleased to announce a 1 ½ day workshop at the Lake Geneva campus of Aurora University based on the Institute's popular Benchmarking Workbook. This workshop is part of our Freshwater Leadership Initiative, generously supported by the C.S. Mott Foundation, and is co-sponsored by the Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat Network and Fund (GLAHNF). For more information about the Institute or the Benchmarking Workbook, please visit [www.icl.org](http://www.icl.org) or call Peter Lane at (301) 270-2900.

SOURCE: Institute for Conservation Leadership via River Alliance of WI.

### UW-O 'GreenQuest' fair Sept. 21

The University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh is planning a GreenQuest fair Sat., Sept. 21 in conjunction with our annual Fall Fest on the Fox celebration. We would like to invite you and other groups to participate in our Green Fair and to help you promote your organization. Please e-mail me with any questions or visit [www.uwosh.edu/chancellor/fallfest/](http://www.uwosh.edu/chancellor/fallfest/). GreenQuest is also the beginning of a week-long series of public lectures, seminars, and other events comprising the UW Oshkosh Earth Charter Community Summit.

SOURCES: Laura Rommelfanger, Chancellor's Office, (920) 424-0344, [rommelfa@uwosh.edu](mailto:rommelfa@uwosh.edu) and Dani Stolley, Development Associate & Phonathon Director, UW Oshkosh Foundation, [stolley@uwosh.edu](mailto:stolley@uwosh.edu).

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### MALC files for nonprofit status

The Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy (MALC) has filed for non-profit 501(c)(3) status. The organization will promote conservation of important natural resources and open space. The Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy has a strong interest in supporting the implementation of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's (SEWRPC) Plan 42, a Natural Area

and Critical Species Habitat Plan. This plan was undertaken to identify the most significant natural areas remaining in Southeastern Wisconsin.

SOURCE: Kristen Wilhelm, (414) 421-3087.

### **Wetlands internship available**

I am happy to announce that we are able to support a wetland restoration internship position for this forthcoming semester (and probably spring 2003). The intern will be promoting state and federal wetland restoration programs, especially the Wetland Reserve Program, to landowners in a several county area. The intern will work closely with and be based at the NRCS office in Eau Claire. Please share with appropriate persons, especially in the Eau Claire area. Note the application deadline of Sept. 6.

SOURCE: Charlie Luthin, Executive Director, Wisconsin Wetlands Association, 222 S. Hamilton, Suite #1 Madison, WI 53703 (608) 250-9971.

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*WSNetworkNews* is published twice monthly by the Wisconsin Stewardship Network, Inc., a network of Wisconsin hunting, fishing, conservation, environmental, and other groups with an interest in protecting and preserving Wisconsin's natural resources.

**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).

**Subscriptions** to *WSNetworkNews* are free. To opt in or out of this distribution list, either visit our web site at [www.wsn.org](http://www.wsn.org) or e-mail us at [wsn@chorus.net](mailto:wsn@chorus.net).

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# Crandon Mine Site Purchase Experts

As the Crandon Mine purchase continues to be debated in Wisconsin, the need for factual information will stay at the surface. The following individuals are Crandon Mine experts who are available to the media and the general public. Feel free to contact the people on this list compiled by Claire Schmidt, the WSN's Southern WI Hub Coordinator, for comments and information.

- **Fred Ackley** \* Mole Lake \* 715-478-7600 Tribal Judge and mining impact committee, Sokaogon Chippewa Expertise: History, local impacts, tribal perspective.
- **Todd Ambs** \* Madison \* 608-257-2424 \* tambs@wisconsinrivers.org River Alliance of Wisconsin Expertise: River systems, political process.
- **Dave Blouin** \* Madison \* 608-233-8455 \* burroak15@aol.com Mining Impact Coalition, Sierra Club Expertise: Permit process, technical issues with mine, history, political process.
- **Herb Buettner** \* White Lake \* 715-882-8610 Wolf River Resort Owner, Trout Unlimited, Wolf River Watershed Alliance, WI Conservation Congress Expertise: Local impacts, sport fishing, recreation, local business.
- **Ken Fish** \* Keshena \* 715-799-5620 \* nomining@itol.com Director of the Menominee Mining and Treaty Rights Office Expertise: Local impacts, history, tribal perspective, economic impact and potential.
- **Al Gedicks** \* La Crosse \* 608-784-4399 \* gedicks.albe@mail.uwlax.edu Professor of Sociology, Wisconsin Resources Protection Council Expertise: Socio-economic impacts, history, technical issues with mine.
- **Zoltan Grossman** \* Madison \* 608-246-2256 \* GROSSMZC@uwec.edu Midwest Treaty Network, Associate Professor of Geography Expertise: Coalition building, history, technical issues with mine.
- **Gerry Gunderson** \* Milwaukee \* 414-543-8474 Committee of Labor against Sulfide Pollution (CLASP) Expertise: Labor perspective, history.
- **Len and Judy Pubanz** \* Shawano \* 715-526-3426 \* pubanzonwolf@WebTV.net Protect our Wolf River (POWR). Expertise: Local impacts.
- **George Rock** \* White Lake \* 715-882-4800 \* riverrocks@dwave.net Trout Unlimited, WI Resources Protection Council, Wolf River Watershed Alliance Expertise: Local impacts to sport fishing and economy.
- **Claire Schmidt** \* Madison \* 608-251-7020 \* schmidtc@chorus.net Wisconsin's Environmental Decade, Wisconsin Stewardship Network Expertise: Alternatives to mining, purchase process, media contact.
- **Chuck Sleeter** \* Nashville \* 715-484-4501 \* townnash@newnorth.net Chairman, Town of Nashville Expertise: Local government, economic impacts and potential, history.
- **Joanne Sleeter** \* Nashville \* 715-484-4501 \* townnash@newnorth.net Town Clerk, Town of Nashville Expertise: Local government, financial perspective, economic impacts and potential.
- **Caryl Terrell** \* Madison \* 608-256-0565 \* cterrell@execpc.com John Muir Chapter of the Sierra Club Expertise: Purchase process, history, technical issues with the mine, political process.
- **Fran Van Zile** \* Mole Lake \* 715-478-7600 Mining impact committee of Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa Expertise: Local impacts, tribal perspective, cultural impacts.
- **Robert Van Zile** \* Mole Lake \* 715-478-5276 Spiritual Leader of Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa Expertise: Local impacts, tribal perspective, cultural perspective.
- **Ken Van Zile** \* Mole Lake \* Mole Lake Mining impact committee Expertise: Local impacts, tribal perspective, cultural perspective.
- **Tina Van Zile** \* Mole Lake \* 715-478-2604 \* tinavz30@newnorth.net Vice Chair of the Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa Expertise: Local impacts, tribal perspective.
- **Jim Wise** \* Tomahawk \* 715-453-3676 \* ecowise@newnorth.net Environmentally Concerned Citizens of the Lakeland Area (ECCOLA). Expertise: Local impacts, tourism, local business, recreation.