



# WSNetwork News

September 15, 2003

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

Click on these WSN priority issue section links or scan the Acrobat bookmarks on the left:

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## Changes to WSN's board of directors announced

## WSN issue selection process begins

The WSN's annual priority issue selection process is underway. WSN member groups select our yearly focus on a one-vote-per-group basis at our February meeting. If we're not covering it, you can *propose* it! Visit our web site for **details**.

## Arrowhead-Weston Line

WSN issue chair: Logan Edinger, Save Our Unique Lands, [edinger@centurytel.net](mailto:edinger@centurytel.net)

## Public hearings on A-W line set for early October

The following public hearings have been scheduled on the Arrowhead-Weston line as a result of recent actions by the Public Service Commission:

- **Wednesday, October 1, 2003, 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.**, Solon Springs Community Center, 11523 S. Business 53, Solon Springs, WI
- **Thursday, October 2, 2003, 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.**, Veterans Memorial Association, 608 Summit Avenue, Ladysmith, WI
- **Friday, October 3, 2003, 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.**, Rib Mountain Municipal Center, 3700 N. Mountain Rd. Wausau, WI

Testimony by the general public may be submitted orally, or written testimony delivered in person. Contact A-W line WSN issue chair Logan Edinger for details on submitting testimony.

## A-W technical hearings to target topics from "guests only"

Technical hearing addressing specific questions from invited guests only have been scheduled by the Public Service Commission from September 16 through 19, and September 22 through 24, 2003, at 9:00 a.m. at the Public Service Commission, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, WI.

## SOUL testimony refutes ATC claims that A-W line the right solution

Save Our Unique Lands (SOUL) has submitted rebuttal testimony in response to the pre-filed testimony of American Transmission Company (ATC) in the Arrowhead-Weston transmission line case. Based on the review of SOUL's engineering expert, Dr. Art Hughes, ATC's arguments focused less on expert engineering and cost review and more on salesmanship and slight of hand when comparing costs of alternatives.

George Meyer, former Secretary of the DNR, also provided testimony on behalf of SOUL and Clean Wisconsin in response to ATC's Vice President Mark Williamson's testimony that no other alternatives have been planned to an adequate extent to be seriously considered by the PSC:

Counsel for SOUL, Pam McGillivray, agreed with Mr. Meyer's concerns: "If the Commission agrees with the assertions of Mr. Williamson, ATC will have effectively usurped the PSC's role in deciding what transmission projects are in the public interest. Given that ATC is the transmission company for this state, if ATC does not submit alternatives to the Commission, there is no one else to do so. The Commission's decisions will be driven by the interests of ATC rather than by the interests of the public to reliable power that also is environmentally and economically sound. Decisions made this way eviscerate public accountability."

Ed Garvey, also counsel for SOUL, added, "It is time for the public to determine the best alternatives rather than allow the utilities to dictate policy."

SOUL's expert Dr. Art Hughes revealed that ATC has used creative math to show an artificial preference for the Arrowhead-Weston line as opposed to other transmission alternatives. In addition, Dr. Hughes has stressed the failure of ATC to perform economic studies that would identify the best transmission solutions to provide Wisconsin with access to low cost electricity from outside our State.

Dr. Hughes also stated that ATC failed to properly study the engineering performance of the Arrowhead line. This is particularly important given the risk of outages that could occur under similar circumstances that led to the recent blackout in the Northeast. SOUL's expert witness has determined that the proposed use of a phase shifting transformer at the Arrowhead substation puts the Arrowhead line at risk for being the first to cascade out of service and therefore would provide little or no reliability benefits for Wisconsin electrical consumers. In other words, the Arrowhead-Weston line puts Wisconsin at risk of widespread blackouts as occurred in the Northeast rather than alleviating Wisconsin's reliability concerns.

Finally SOUL has exposed ATC attempts to use local grid issues that can easily-and cheaply-be solved without a 220-mile transmission line to sell the Arrowhead line. The local grid issues that affect security can be resolved for a few million dollars as opposed to the over \$400 million Arrowhead-Weston line.

SOURCE: SOUL, Linda Caylor, (715) 474-2271 [hillsidedairyfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:hillsidedairyfarm@yahoo.com).

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## New conductor technology offered as way to upgrade transmission lines

Just last week Dave Steffenson asked me about a new discovery concerning a more efficient type of electrical conductor. I told him that I had not heard of any new discoveries of that nature. Just today my brother Harry sent a clipping from the *Minnesota Star Tribune* titled “3M offers power remedy.” I went to Google and found the following article.

If the 3M product is as good as is described, there should be no need for a new Arrowhead Weston transmission line. The present infrastructure (towers) should be able to handle all of the power that is needed. The story is at [http://www.3m.com/market/industrial/mmc/comp\\_cond.html](http://www.3m.com/market/industrial/mmc/comp_cond.html). In part it reads:

SOURCE: Wayne Stroessner, [wstroessner@wi.rr.com](mailto:wstroessner@wi.rr.com).

### Xcel’s link to big blackout probed

A story in the Sept. 12 St. Paul *Pioneer Press* reports “Just hours before the nation’s worst blackout last month, an official overseeing the Midwest’s electric transmission grid expressed concerns that Xcel Energy might try to drive up the price of its electricity by limiting output at its biggest power plant, according to transcripts of telephone conversations released this week. Minnesota regulators said Thursday they have launched an inquiry into the comments. They want to know whether Xcel reduced production at its Sherco plant in Becker, Minn., for anything other than mechanical reasons.” Complete story at <http://www.twincities.com/mld/pioneerpress/business/6750195.htm?template=contentModules/printstory.jsp>.

#### BACKGROUND: a new tech fix to A-W?

An advanced power-line cable from 3M, designed to reduce electrical transmission congestion by increasing overhead electrical power-line capacity, is undergoing advanced field testing by utilities in three states. Concurrently, it is the subject of a pilot program under way at the National Transmission Technology Research Center at Oak Ridge National Laboratories in Tennessee with the support of the U.S. Department of Energy.

The product, which has performed well in field tests so far, may help provide near-term solutions to some of the bottlenecks and overload problems afflicting the nation’s power grid. Known as the 3M composite conductor, the new cable is capable of transmitting two to three times more electricity than conventional power-line cables of the same diameter without additional weight or the need for more towers. Composed of a ceramic fiber-reinforced aluminum core wrapped in aluminum-zirconium wires, the 3M conductor is lightweight and can be installed on existing towers using conventional installation equipment. The new conductor, also known as aluminum composite conductor reinforced (ACCR), sags less than conventional power lines -- so it could potentially be used to span difficult geographic features, such as wide rivers, canyons or lakes.

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**DNR Independence & Public  
Intervenor Office Restoration**

WSN issue chair: Caryl Terrell, Sierra Club —  
John Muir Chapter, [cterrell@execpc.com](mailto:cterrell@execpc.com)

**Fair Motorboat Gas Revenue Allocation**

WSN issue chair: Donna Sefton,  
[dfsefton@charter.net](mailto:dfsefton@charter.net)

## State settles with longstanding polluter Jon De Farm, Inc.

In a settlement agreement signed yesterday, advocates for the Rush River scored a major victory in protecting the river from Jon De Farm, Inc. a livestock factory that had caused polluted runoff to tributaries of the Rush River for the past several years. The Rush River is a highly prized trout stream in northwestern Wisconsin and receives special protection under state law.

In November 2002, the Wisconsin Department of Justice, at the request of the Department of Natural Resources, filed a lawsuit against Jon De Farm for violating federal environmental and public health protections by illegally discharging untreated animal waste directly into the Rush River. Several local groups from over four counties have been working together to raise thousands of dollars to help pay for stream projects on area streams including Rush River.

According to Harold Fosmo, Jr., of the Western WI Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, the restoration efforts led by the DNR are being completed with money and labor from the area sportsmen's clubs.

SOURCE: Midwest Environmental Advocates, Inc.,

## Centerville CARES starts federal lawsuit against factory farm

In a move that may change how factory farms in Wisconsin are regulated, a local group of residents in Manitowoc County sent a letter to a nearby factory farm today stating the group's intent to take the operation to federal court unless it takes swift action to reduce its air pollution within 60 days. The local group, Centerville Concerned Citizens for Air, River, and Environmental Solutions (Centerville CARES), is frustrated with the suffocating air pollution that drifts from Maple Leaf Dairy, Inc. toward their homes, forcing them to close their windows and stay inside to avoid the noxious odors and pollution. Some of the air pollution consists of ammonia, a toxic gas that can cause eye, nose, and throat irritation and general discomfort in people exposed to the gas. The WDNR has identified ammonia as a hazardous air pollutant.

Centerville CARES is also worried that Maple Leaf Dairy's air pollution may be contributing to the excessive algal growth in nearby Point Creek, Fischer Creek, Lake Michigan and other waters downwind of Maple Leaf Dairy. When mixed with other atmospheric gases, ammonia can form a

### SETTLEMENT TERMS: State v. Jon De Farm, Inc. settlement agreement in brief

The settlement agreement requires Jon De Farm to:

- pay \$42,898 in penalties for past discharges of manure to tributaries to the Rush River;
- establish and maintain vegetative buffers and grassed waterways adjacent to the fields on which it spreads manure to prevent pollutants from getting into nearby waters;
- improve manure separation technology to capture polluted runoff and perform daily inspections of the conveyors to remove any solid accumulations;
- stop spreading manure on frozen ground or snow; and
- arrange for a crop nutrient management consultant to inspect landspreading manure plans to ensure compliance with the law.

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chemical variant known as ammonium nitrate that can deposit on nearby land and water. The nitrogen-based compound acts as catalyst for algal growth in streams in a manner similar to runoff from animal waste and residential lawn fertilizers.

SOURCE: Midwest Environmental Advocates, Inc., [www.MidwestAdvocates.org](http://www.MidwestAdvocates.org).

## **Farm Bureau lawsuit strikes down corporate farming ban**

In South Dakota a federal appeals court has ruled that a citizen initiative to ban corporate farming is unconstitutional. The corporate ban, called Amendment E, was instituted in 1998 via a voter referendum with 60 percent of the voters supporting the initiative. The South Dakota Farm Bureau was one of the lead plaintiffs in the suit charging that Amendment E violated interstate commerce. Michael Held, administrative director for the South Dakota Farm Bureau, said of the ruling, “Striking down Amendment E legalizes what I would describe as modern business structures.... We think it’s a very good and a very strong opinion.”

Most family farm groups disagree strongly saying the decision paves the way for corporate factory farm takeovers. Luanne Napton, President of the South Dakota Resources Coalition said, “Amendment E was passed to protect family farms and the environment from the economic and environmental degradation corporate animal agriculture has inflicted on other states. This court ruling, if it stands, will turn South Dakota into the next North Carolina, with millions of gallons of manure running in our rivers,” she said. More at <http://www.hpj.com/testnew-stable.cfm?type=story&sid=9654>. To learn more about the Farm Bureau’s connections to factory farming see <http://www.familyfarmer.org/awg.html>.

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the public or undermining our independent judicial system. Contact your legislators and let them know that you support environmental protections for our forests!

SOURCE: The Environmental Association for Great Lakes Education (EAGLE), Jenny Tahtinen [jenny@eagle-ecosource.org](mailto:jenny@eagle-ecosource.org) (218) 726-1828, <http://www.eagle-ecosource.org>.

## Mercury Reduction

WSN issue chair: Marc Looze, Clean Wisconsin, [mlooze@chorus.net](mailto:mlooze@chorus.net)

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### Report says mercury in fish varies in toxicity

A story in the August 29 Milwaukee *Journal Sentinel* summarizes research in the journal *Science* that says “the form of mercury in fish may not be the nail-laced powder keg people thought it was. It may be less toxic.”

According to the story, “For the first time, biophysicists using an advanced form of X-ray technology were able to examine the physical and chemical makeup of mercury found in fish. And they discovered it was different from the variety used in laboratory experiments and less toxic. ‘But you’re not going to see me eating a thick steak of swordfish any time soon,’ said Graham George, a biophysicist at the University of Saskatchewan, in Saskatoon, Canada, and an author of the paper. ‘Mercury is toxic,’ no matter what the variety.’”

SOURCE: Milwaukee *Journal Sentinel*.

## Metallic Mining

WSN issue chairs: Jim Wise, ECCOLA [ecowise@newnorth.net](mailto:ecowise@newnorth.net) and Claire Schmidt, Clean Wisconsin, [schmidtc@cleanwiscon-](mailto:schmidtc@cleanwiscon-)

### Didn’t mean it — Connors now wants permit work to continue

The new owner of the proposed Crandon mine has reversed himself, asking the WDNR to continue its review of its mining permit application.

“Gordon R. Connor’s flip-flops and chaotic actions underscore the need for DNR rules that establish minimum qualifications for mining permit applicants. Fortunately, the department is about to start that rulemaking process,” said Dave Blouin of the Sierra Club. “The lack of a qualified applicant for this major environmental threat is appalling and a major step backwards for the Wolf River and Wisconsin’s environment.”

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Bay), and Senate Bill 157, introduced by Sen. Dave Hansen (D-Green Bay). The bills are identical to the ones that passed the Senate last session but were blocked in the Assembly Natural Resources Committee. Its new chair is Rep. DuWayne Johnsrud (R-Eastman). Contact Johnsrud for a public hearing and committee vote on both mining bills. [Johnsrud can be reached at] P.O. Box 8952, Madison WI 53708; 1-888-534-0096 or [Rep.Johnsrud@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:Rep.Johnsrud@legis.state.wi.us). Get your Assembly Rep. to also ask Johnsrud!

SOURCE: Wolf Watershed Educational Project, c/o Midwest Treaty Network, Box 1045, Eau Claire WI 54702 (715) 882-4800 [www.treatyland.com](http://www.treatyland.com) [mtn@igc.org](mailto:mtn@igc.org).

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## Former Nicolet Minerals president to head new consulting group

Dale Alberts, former president of Nicolet Minerals Company, is launching a new business venture known as IBS-21 (Innovative Business Strategies for the 21st Century). The Madison- and Milwaukee-based firm includes former Governor Tony Earl and former legislator J. Sheehan Donoghue as the other two principal partners. The firm, to be launched in September, will also have an affiliate in Washington, D.C. The practice will focus on government affairs, regulatory affairs, and business development.

SOURCE: [www.WisPolitics.com](http://www.WisPolitics.com) via Bill McClenahan Martin Schreiber & Associates, Inc., 7 N. Pinckney St., Suite 300 Madison WI 53703 (608) 259.1212 ext. 4.

## Shoreland Zoning & Water Protection

WSN issue chairs: Jim Wise, ECCOLA [ecowise@newnorth.net](mailto:ecowise@newnorth.net) and Donna Sefton, WI Assn. of Lakes, [dfsefton@charter.net](mailto:dfsefton@charter.net)

## TU State Council OKs \$5,000 to fight Polar water bottling proposal

The Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited approved an initial expenditure of up to \$5,000 for legal help to those fighting a proposed water bottling operation in Polar in Langlade County. A couple local TU chapters have been active in the matter.

Meanwhile, the proposed bottler and owner of a local fish farm, Dennis Hose, has reportedly called the town secretary and requested to be put on the agenda for the next town meeting which is this Thursday, Sept. 18, at 7 p.m. Sources say he is going to propose another bottling plant and has asked that his request not be published so “no environmentalist will show up.”

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SOURCE: Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited and other sources.

## Partners produce “Shoreland Connection” web site

I would like to invite your organizations to participate in a program that WAL has been co-sponsoring with the Wisconsin Stewardship Network and the Headwaters Basin Partnership Team called The Shoreland Connection. This project was created to educate Wisconsinites on the importance of shoreland protection, hopefully resulting in more educated citizens to attend the upcoming NR115 hearings. The Headwaters Basin Partnership Team created an educational CD

called *The Shoreland Connection* and piloted this project in the critical Headwaters Basin area. After press releases and advertisements in 10 local papers were printed to let people know about the free CD, over 200 CDs were mailed to interested residents. A web site with the same information as the CD, [www.theshorelandconnection.org](http://www.theshorelandconnection.org), has been viewed by many more folks as well.

Because of the success of this project in the Basin area, the sponsors are taking the project state-wide. One component of this statewide outreach is to mail approximately 5,000 postcards with the NR115 hearings schedule and [www.theshorelandconnection.org](http://www.theshorelandconnection.org) listed to concerned water conservationists across the state. We invite you to share the names of 3-4 voters from your enhanced list to receive this hearing schedule postcard. WAL is coordinating this mailing and paying for the printing and postage. Is this something that your organization would be interested in? In order to do the mailing we have to wait for the official hearing schedule to be announced so we don't have a specific mailing date as of yet, but we are looking at October or November sometime.

If you are interested in participating in this mailing or have questions, please e-mail me back or call me anytime.

SOURCE: Amanda Schnoor, Development and Communication Coordinator, Wisconsin Association of Lakes, (608) 662-0923, [aschnoor@wisconsinlakes.org](mailto:aschnoor@wisconsinlakes.org).

## Madison considers phosphorus fertilizer ban

The Wisconsin *State Journal* on Sept. 3 reports, "City officials are contemplating a measure that would make it illegal to sell or apply fertilizer made with phosphorus in the city, even as a similar proposal by Dane County is under consideration. The proposed ordinance, intended to help clean up the lakes, was introduced at Tuesday's City Council meeting. It will proceed for review through several city committees."

SOURCE: Wisconsin *State Journal*.

## AG office wins judgment against Appleton groundwater polluter

Attorney General Peg Lautenschlager announced today that the Department of Justice has won a judgment against a Waupaca County resident for violations of the state's hazardous substances discharge law. Larry L. Noack, 54, of Fremont, Wisconsin, was found liable for failing to clean up the petroleum contamination at property he formerly owned at 1850 West Wisconsin Avenue in Appleton, as required by Wis. Stat. 292.11(3).

SOURCE: Brian Rieselman, WI Dept. of Justice, [RieselmanBJ@DOJ.STATE.WI.US](mailto:RieselmanBJ@DOJ.STATE.WI.US).

## Invasive plant symposium Sept. 27 in Madison

Landowners and other interested in learning more about the management and control of invasive species can attend a symposium on invasive plants of the upper Midwest being held Sept. 27 in Madison. The symposium will cover a wide range of topics, with more than 80 talks, panel discussions, and workshops, according to Kelley Kearns, native plant specialist with the WDNR

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Bureau of Endangered Resources. More information on the Invasive Plants Symposium can be found on the association's web site at <http://www.ipaw.org>.

SOURCE: Kelly Kearns, WDNR, (608) 267-5066.

## **Federal appropriations committee proposing 25% cut in lake support**

The U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee has cut by 1/4 (\$42 million) the appropriation for section 319 of the Clean Water Act. This will do serious damage to our State Lakes programs, which now receive important funding from our state's 319 Grant from EPA.

This is a fast moving issue and letters now take a long time to reach anyone in Congress because of anthrax inspections, so make some phone calls to Wisconsin key people — Feingold, Kohl, and Obey, followed up with this e-mail message. Will keep you posted. You can find our senator's contacts at <http://www.senate.gov/>.

Just talked to Feingold's staff, and she said that the full senate has not taken this up yet, and would probably do energy next week, so we probably have a good week to get comments in. Please pass along this message. We need help from the full Senate. If they do not restore the funds it goes to conference committee. Contact me for a sample letter right away.

SOURCE: Lisa Conley, WI Assn. of Lakes, [lconley@usa.com](mailto:lconley@usa.com).

## **House bill would make wastewater funds contingent upon 'privatization' offer**

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee is currently considering HR1560, a bill that would give communities more money to upgrade and improve their wastewater systems. Representatives Duncan (R-TN) and Young (R-AK) introduced this important legislation in April and it will likely pass out of committee in May, 2003.

Unfortunately, the bill currently contains language that makes eligibility for funding conditional on the community's consideration of privatization of their wastewater system. Privatization should not be a pre-requisite to receiving these vital funds. The committee should remove the privatization language from this bill before sending it to the House floor.

Contact your representatives today and tell them you do not support the privatization of wastewater systems, and that the privatization language must be removed from this bill.

SOURCE: The Environmental Association for Great Lakes Education (EAGLE), Jenny Tahtinen [jenny@eagle-ecosource.org](mailto:jenny@eagle-ecosource.org) (218) 726-1828, <http://www.eagle-ecosource.org>.

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employees and several part-time staff, consultants, and volunteers. For additional information, please see our web site at [www.gatheringwaters.org](http://www.gatheringwaters.org).

SOURCE: Vicki Elkin, Executive Director, Gathering Waters Conservancy, 211 S. Paterson Street, Suite 270 Madison, WI 53703 [elkin@gatheringwaters.org](mailto:elkin@gatheringwaters.org).

### **Part-time coaster brook trout coordinator sought**

Trout Unlimited seeks a part-time coaster brook trout program coordinator to be based in the Midwest Office in Madison. This position has the potential to become full-time. Trout Unlimited is North America's leading coldwater fisheries conservation organization, dedicated to the conservation, protection, and restoration of trout and salmon fisheries and their watersheds. Send resume, 1-2 page writing sample, and cover letter by September 22, 2003, to the address below. E-mail submissions are acceptable.

SOURCE: Laura Hewitt, Midwest Conservation Director, Trout Unlimited Midwest Office, 222 S. Hamilton St., Ste. 3 Madison, WI 53703 (608) 250-3534 [lhewitt@tu.org](mailto:lhewitt@tu.org) [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org).

### **Coalition for Peaceful skies alert**

As you may know, I'm the founder of the Coalition for Peaceful Skies. We've been tracking issues out of the Harwood Bombing Range since 1995. Now they have slipped by us all an approval of the use of military chaff and flares in Wisconsin, after a 10-year moratorium. Please go to my new web site and click on the two links that give further information. <http://www.chaff.homestead.com>. I'm hoping the *WSNetwork News* readers can jump on this issue right away. I think the DNR could insist upon a full EIS being done on this question. The DNR required a full EIS on the question of the Expansion of the Harwood Bombing Range in '95. If we could get the word out to all the Peace and Environmental Groups in Wisconsin, we could apply some combined pressure on the DNR. I will appreciate any help you can give us with this issue.

SOURCE: Pat Conway, 21715 Nordale Ave., Ontario, WI 54651 (608) 435-6743.

### **"Green Visions" radio show returning to KUMD**

The Environmental Association for Great Lakes Education (EAGLE) will be coordinating the "Green Visions" show on 103.3 KUMD in Duluth. "Green Visions" is a bi-monthly show focusing on environmental issues, highlighting local events, organizations, people, and issues. The first installment is coming up in late September. EAGLE would love to hear from *WSNetwork News* readers and WSN groups. If you have an upcoming event, an issue you would like discussed, or are interested in being interviewed, contact Jan Conley, Executive Director of EAGLE, at [Jan@Eagle-Ecosource.org](mailto:Jan@Eagle-Ecosource.org).

SOURCE: Jenny Tahtinen, EAGLE, 394 Lake Avenue South, Suite #222 Duluth, MN 55802 (218)726-1828 [Jenny@EAGLE-EcoSource.org](mailto:Jenny@EAGLE-EcoSource.org).

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## WEEB forestry grant deadline

The Forestry Account of the Conservation Fund gifts the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB) with \$380,000 annually to award forestry education and school forest grants to successful applicants statewide. If you know someone who might be interested in applying, please help pass the word about these funds. The submission deadline for pre-proposals is September 26. Locally based forestry education and school forest proposals are due January 17, 2004.

## Sandhill Center's Morning on Marsh campout Oct. 4-5

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The Sandhill Outdoor Skills Center will sponsor its ever-popular Morning on the Marsh campout on October 4 and 5. Participants will get a close-up view of thousands of sandhill cranes, geese, and other waterfowl that utilize the expansive Gallagher Marsh complex. Registration is limited to 20 people on a first-come, first-served basis and is confirmed by mailing in a registration fee of \$25 per person by Sept. 24. Checks should be made out to DNR-Skills Center. Include the name of each participant, and the address and daytime phone number of one person in each party. For more information, visit [www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/wildlife/reclands/sandhill](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/wildlife/reclands/sandhill).

SOURCE: Sandhill Outdoor Skills Center, Box 156, Babcock, WI 54413 (715) 884-6333, [greens@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:greens@dnr.state.wi.us).

## First annual Lake Superior photo contest announced

Because Lake Superior is a wild, wonderful, and threatened resource, several environmental organizations decided to hold a photo contest showcasing the best-and worst-of life in, on, under or around its Minnesota or Wisconsin watersheds. In addition to producing a calendar of the winning photos, organizers hope the result will also help educate, and perhaps even inspire, more people to actively protect this greatest of lakes. An official contest entry form must accompany each slide submitted. Forms are available by calling the St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee at (218) 733-9520 or by visiting its web site at [www.stlouisriver.org](http://www.stlouisriver.org).

SOURCE: Joshua Gerads, [Joshua.Gerads@state.mn.us](mailto:Joshua.Gerads@state.mn.us).

## Earth Charter events at MATC and UW-O Oct. 11

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The *first* Earth Charter Community Summit in Madison will be held at MATC downtown campus, 211 N. Carroll St., 10-8 p.m. on Oct. 11. Go to the Madison web site: [www.earthchartersummits.org/](http://www.earthchartersummits.org/) and then click on 2003 Summit Cities and then click on Madison, WI to see the full schedule and information on speakers.

The University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh will hold its *third* Earth Charter Summit and Conference for a whole week beginning Oct. 11, featuring Jonathan Schell as their keynoter and events every night during the week. UW-O was one of 12 core sites in 2001 when the Earth Charter was first introduced at Summits all over the world that were linked by TV satellite downlinks. UW-O this year announced that they are integrating The Earth Charter into their entire curriculum and they

have been carrying out considerable green energy projects. Go to: [www.uwosh.edu/earthcharter](http://www.uwosh.edu/earthcharter) for more information on speakers, schedules, etc.

For more information on the Madison Summit, call Penny Andrews, (608) 839-4509, or [pan-drews@chorus.net](mailto:pan-drews@chorus.net). For more information on the Oshkosh Summit contact Andy Robson, Assoc. Dean, College of Letters & Science, (920) 424-1185 [robsona@uwosh.edu](mailto:robsona@uwosh.edu).

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**WSN Member Groups**  
Get connected...join the WSN

Aldo Leopold Audubon Society  
Anishinaabe Nijiji/ Protect the Earth  
Badger Fly Fishers, Inc.  
Brown County Conservation Alliance  
Central WI Chapter of SOUL  
Central Wisconsin Chapter of TU  
Citizens for a Scenic Wisconsin  
Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger  
Clean Wisconsin  
Concerned Citizens of Newport  
Door County Environmental Council  
Environmentally Concerned Citizens of Lakeland  
Areas  
Families and Friends for Social Responsibility  
Frank Hornberg Chapter of TU

Friends of the Jump River  
Friends of Milwaukee's River  
Green Bay Area Great Lakes Sport Fishermen  
Green Bay Chapter of TU  
Groundwater Guardians  
Habitat Education Center  
Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter of TU  
Inland Sea Society  
Izaak Walton League of America - WI Division  
John Muir Chapter of the Sierra Club  
Lake Superior Greens  
Lakeshore Chapter of TU  
Madison Audubon Society  
Menomonee Valley Partners  
Midwest Environmental Advocates  
Mining Impact Coalition of WI, Inc.  
Neighbors Standing United  
Northern Thunder  
Pheasants Forever - Sugar River Valley Chapter  
Plover River Alliance  
Random Lake Association

River Alliance of Wisconsin  
Save Our Unique Lands  
Shaw-Paca Chapter of TU  
Smallmouth Alliance Southern WI Chapter  
SOUL of Kennan/Catawba  
SOUL of Lake Superior  
SOUL of Rusk County  
SOUL of Sawyer County  
Southern Wisconsin Chapter of TU  
The Muskellunge Club of WI  
Twin Lakes Conservancy  
Waterkeepers of Wisconsin  
WI Association of Lakes  
WI State B.A.S.S Federation  
WI State Council of Trout Unlimited  
WI Wetlands Association  
Winnebago Audubon Society  
Wisconsin Conservation Voters Institute  
Wisconsin Resources Protection Council  
WI Public Interest Research Group (WISPIRG)  
Wolf River Chapter of TU

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

The WSN's Board of Directors consists of representatives from the following organizations: Brown County Conservation Alliance, Clean Wisconsin, Concerned Citizens of Newport, ECCOLA, Izaak Walton League of America, Madison Audubon Society, Midwest Environmental Advocates, Inc., Musky Club of WI, 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, and Wisconsin Trout Unlimited, plus individuals who serve as at-large members.

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 WSN Exec. Director Todd Hanson at [wsn@chorus.net](mailto:wsn@chorus.net).

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## Changes to WSN Board of Directors made at Sept. 5 meeting

Three organizations forwarded new individuals to represent them on the WSN board of directors and one new at large member was elected to the WSN board at the Sept. 5 board of directors meeting in Baraboo. New organization representatives include:

- Cornell Stroik (replacing Mike Hoffmann) will be representing the WI State B.A.S.S. Federation,
- Stu Grimstad (replacing Gary Horvath) will be representing the Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited, and
- Peter Murray (replacing Donna Sefton) will be representing the Wisconsin Association of Lakes.

In addition, Mike Shurts of Madison was elected an at large member of the WSN board.

**Cornell Stroik** is a member of the Wisconsin Boating Safety Advisory Council for the WDNR, a member of the Oak Creek Celebrations Commission, and a member of the South Shore Republican Club (affiliated with the WI Republican Party). Cornell has many contacts within both parties of the Legislature. He has a great story about taking former Governor Warren Knowles fishing for walleye on the Wisconsin River and forcing the Governor to eat some of the day's foul-tasting catch to alert him to the need to clean up the paper mills on the river.

**Stu Grimstad** is a former president of the Frank Hornberg Chapter of TU centered in Stevens Point. Stu has also served as chair of the TU State Council's water resources committee. Under Stu's leadership, the water resources committee led a successful effort to force Perrier to abandon their plans to site a water bottling plant on state property at the headwaters of the Mecan River.

**Peter Murray** was hired on August 11 as the new executive director of the Wisconsin Association of Lakes. Peter has a BA in economics and an MBA with a major in finance. For almost five years, he was responsible for all administrative services at the International Crane Foundation (ICF) in Baraboo, WI. In addition to his work at ICF, Peter also has served on the boards and as an officer of several non-profit organizations.

**Mike Shurts** is one of Dane County's delegates to the Conservation Congress. His term expires in April, 2006. Jim is also president of the John M. Keener Chapter of the Ruffed Grouse Society and treasurer for the South Central Wisconsin Chapter of the WI Waterfowl Association. Jim believe that decisions concerning the environment should be made with a combination of your heart, sound science, and practical economics. He has a BS in Education and a law degree, also from UW.

### WSN BOARD OF DIRECTORS — SEPTEMBER, 2003

David Blouin, Sierra Club  
Logan Edinger, Save Our Unique Lands  
George Guyant, Izaak Walton League — WI Division  
Karen Etter Hale, Madison Audubon Society  
Lisa Goodman, River Alliance of WI  
Stu Grimstad, WI Council of Trout

Unlimited  
Sarah Lloyd, Concerned Citizens of Newport  
Marc Looze, Wisconsin's Environmental Decade  
Paul Mongin, Brown County Conservation Alliance  
Russ Ruland, Musky Club of WI  
Melissa Scanlan, Midwest Environmental Advocates, Inc.

John Schwarzmann, Environmentally Concerned Citizens of Lakeland Area  
Jim Shurts, at large member  
Cornell Stroik, WI B.A.S.S.  
Peter Murray, Wisconsin Assn. of Lakes  
Rick Wilke, at large member  
Tom Wilson, Northern Thunder  
Dave Wisnefske, Pheasants Forever