



# WSNetwork News

November 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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**Award-winning outdoor & conservation writer Michael Furtman to speak at WSN conference Feb. 6-7**

**The WSN is pleased to announce that noted outdoor writer ([more](#))**



## Arrowhead-Weston Line

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

### Nov. 14 Ladysmith A-W hearing draws many critics

At 3 p.m. Nov. 14 after a rally/gathering at the Veterans Memorial, the final segment of the Public Hearings on the Arrowhead-Weston Transmission Line hearings got underway. The room was packed throughout the session, with 35 people choosing to speak publicly against the project, and scores leaving a stack of written testimony. The result was a resounding “no line” sentiment, spoken in many different ways. Construction of a transmission line sharing a corridor with two, soon to be three, gas/oil pipelines without conducting any studies was questioned. Underestimation of property values, with some of the corridor traversing the most expensive lake properties in Wisconsin was also questioned. Was the cost of condemnations, more than the utilities have estimated, accurate, given both the municipal and public opposition? What would the cost be not only to today’s ratepayers, but for the future generations living in northern Wisconsin who would have to not only pay for, but live by a “dinosaur technology” as one speaker so termed the project. Cost, the topic for the reopening of these proceedings, coupled with testimony regarding changes in the generation-transmission system were repeatedly addressed with the addition of over 100 supporting documents (exhibits) which, due to the cumulative testimonies received, and the late hour of conclusion will have to be reviewed by the parties next week.

In other words, people had done their homework. While landowners promised condemnation proceedings, neighbors promised solidarity should bulldozers ever be seen cutting a corridor And

neighbors did appear to testify. A gentleman from Sturgeon Bay, a college undergraduate from Eau Claire, residents who are forming a solid opposition to the project in Midway Township, by Duluth, Minnesota. Testimony was also submitted to the Public Service Commission over the last month, with a more than 10-1 margin from every county in the state saying “no line” for environmental, cost, social injustice to Cree, stray voltage-electrical pollution issues, all supported by a lack of need, or corporate greed statements.

The evening ended with the Mole Lake Tribal Drum, hosting spiritual prayers for lands and animals that needed to be spoken for. This ceremony, while conducted after midnight, resonated with all who were there. All attending, including utility engineers and attorneys were enraptured and moved, and all stood to give a standing ovation. And all will take away some of this spirituality to continue the struggle, now into its fifth year, to continue to fight for exactly those voices that were spoken for by the drum.

SOURCE: Linda Ceylor, SOUL.

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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: open  
[Contact the WSN](#)

### **Farm Manure Management & Polluted Runoff Enforcement**

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

## **DATCP task force to develop large farm citing standards**

A task force the DATCP formed this summer underscored the need for making these decisions locally, and the dept. is now putting together an “expert panel” to develop state standards (not unlike shoreland and non-metallic mining) for siting big farms. That means local governments still make the decision whether or not, and where, to site a farm, based on their land use plans, but they will need to review those proposals based on state standards. The standards ought to make it easier for both local governments and farmers to know what’s expected of them.

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SOURCE: Denny Caneff, River Alliance of Wisconsin, [dcaneff@wisconsinrivers.org](mailto:dcaneff@wisconsinrivers.org).

## **U.S. Senate reduces large farm EQIP payments**

Groups across the nation are celebrating passage yesterday of an amendment in the Senate to reduce the per farm EQIP payment limitation from \$450,000 to \$300,000. This provision, now a



and most controversial, is the resolution in support of the Bush administration's Healthy Forests Initiative. Although years of fire suppression have made some of the western forests more prone to devastating wildfires, the proposals of the Bush administration would only add more fuel to the fire. Even though Bush presents this as a way to protect homeowners from the fires, it is actually a backdoor attempt to allow timber companies to "thin" backcountry areas under the guise of protection. Rather than taking trees with smaller diameters, thinning will be used to extract more commercially viable, large-diameter trees leaving large amounts of fuel for the hot, devastating fires.

The Bush administration also scapegoats environmental groups as the reason for the fires, citing NEPA as a major roadblock, when, in reality, it has been shown that environmental reviews delay very few projects. The second resolution that ALEC is promoting would "ensure proper timber harvesting to ensure forest health." The resolution erroneously suggests the increased timber harvesting will improve watersheds, that so called proper timber harvesting will decrease fire loads, and that timber programs have been eliminated out west. The third and final resolution is in support of the Sustainable Forest Initiative. ALEC wants us all to believe that voluntary management in the private sector is better than government regulations. Would the national forests still be standing if that were the case? Probably not. ALEC's forest management resolutions promote the interests of timber companies — not forests.

SOURCE: SERC "Wildlines Report," Nov. 10, 2003, [wildlines@serconline.org](mailto:wildlines@serconline.org).

## Mercury Reduction

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

## Metallic Mining

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

## Mine purchase celebration Dec. 6 at Brown County Arena

As you know, the proposed Crandon mine site in northern Wisconsin has been purchased for \$16.5 million by the Forest County Potawatomi Community and Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa Community. The efforts of everyone in the movement drove away potential corporate partners for Nicolet Minerals Co., and thus drove down the price. As one Potawatomi tribal member said, "We rocked the boat, now we own the boat!"

We are all invited to a CELEBRATION POWWOW in GREEN BAY on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, at the BROWN COUNTY ARENA, 1901 S. Oneida Avenue. Grand entries will be at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., with a feast at 5:00 p.m. There will 11 invited drums (one from each Wisconsin tribe).

SOURCE: Wolf Watershed Educational Project, c/o Midwest Treaty Network, P.O. Box 1045, Eau Claire WI 54702; <http://www.treatyland.com> (715) 833-8552 [mtn@igc.org](mailto:mtn@igc.org).

## WWEP meeting Dec. 6 in Green Bay

Our next Wolf Watershed Educational Project meeting will be at 10:00-1:00 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 6, at the Brown County Arena in Green Bay, before the Powwow (room will be posted). We will continue working on the mining reform bills, and will help with the acquisition in any way we are asked. We will talk about our next steps, and about other issues affecting the Wolf watershed, such as springwater pumping and potential future nuclear waste storage. We will also help our allies to defeat the proposed transmission lines.

SOURCE: Wolf Watershed Educational Project, c/o Midwest Treaty Network, P.O. Box 1045, Eau Claire WI 54702; <http://www.treatyland.com> (715) 833-8552 [mtn@igc.org](mailto:mtn@igc.org).

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## Op-ed refutes mine as example of need for regulatory reform

A guest op-ed by Dave Blouin dated November 3 in the *Wisconsin State Journal* reacted to the paper's Oct. 30 editorial saying the Crandon Mine was a prime example of why the state of Wisconsin needs regulatory reform. Wrote Blouin, "...a review of the facts shows that the ill-fated Crandon proposal is not the poster child for regulatory reform that the *State Journal* and others wish it to be. The editorial stated that the current Crandon mine proposal has been going on for 21 years. The documentation shows it's only been eight years. The current application was not filed until May, 1995. While then owner, Crandon Mining Co. filed a Notice of Intent to collect data for a mine proposal in 1993, the DNR and U. S. Army Corps of Engineers did not receive the formal application for a mining permit until two years later. Regulators can hardly work on permit applications that do not exist, let alone find ways to slow them down. ...

"Let's remember that these weren't 'mom and pop' operations. They were among the largest multinationals on the planet, with deep pockets and expertise to spare. Each understood that there was a risk that permits might not be granted. In fact, one owner, Rio Algom, began warning its shareholders in 1997 that this was a real possibility. Much has been made of the millions of dollars spent by the various companies in pursuit of the permits, as though this alone proves they were entitled to them. Perhaps someday there will be mining permits for sale in Wisconsin, but for now I'm content that the regulatory system kept the burden of proof where it belonged — on the mining companies."

(NOTE: Dave Blouin is co-founder of the Mining Impact Coalition of Wisconsin and the mining committee chair of the John Muir Chapter of the Sierra Club.)

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## Celebrations held at Mole Lake gathering

We had lots of people at the Mole Lake WWEP meeting, with lots of hugs and tears. One of the highlights was Tina Van Zile and Roscoe Churchill jointly cutting a "WE WON" cake, and a photo of everyone in front of Spirit Hill (to be posted soon on the Crandon mine victory page at <http://www.alphacdc.com/treaty/victory.html>). Debi read some statements of congratulations and support that MTN has received from around the U.S., as well as Canada, Australia, Africa,

and elsewhere. Some are now posted with a great cartoon at <http://www.alphacdc.com/treaty/support.html>.

SOURCE: Zoltan Grossman, [zoltan@igc.org](mailto:zoltan@igc.org).

## Montana cyanide ban bill goes to their supreme court

The Montana *Missoulian* on October 28 reported that the long-brewing legal battle over a 1998 voter-passed ban on cyanide leach mining in Montana shifts to the state Supreme Court on Tuesday as lawyers square off in oral arguments. At issue is Initiative 137, which passed by a 52 to 48 percent margin in November 1998. The initiative banned the use of cyanide leaching at future mines in Montana. When the initiative passed, Canyon Resources was in the process of trying to get a permit to construct a large cyanide leach gold and silver mine called the Seven-Up Pete Joint Venture near Lincoln, Montana. At the time, however, the project did not have a permit to mine and wasn't in operation. Lawyers for Canyon Resources Corp., the Colorado company that wanted to develop a large cyanide heap leach gold mine near Lincoln, are expected to ask the justices to either suspend the ban for the Lincoln project or reimburse the company up to \$500 million for what they say the mine would be worth if the ban hadn't passed. However, lawyers for the state contend the mining company lost nothing since the ban on cyanide mining was in effect before the company had a permit to mine. Read more at <http://www.missoulian.com/articles/2003/10/28/news/mtregional/news08.txt>.

SOURCE: SERC "Wildlines Report," November 3, 2003, [wildlines@serconline.org](mailto:wildlines@serconline.org).

## Reporter reflects on 25 years of covering Crandon Mine

*Wisconsin State Journal* reporter Ron Seely has a remembrance on covering the Crandon Mine over 25 years and its ending as announced at a Madison press conference. Read it at <http://www.madison.com/archives/read.php?ref=wsj:2003:11:02:286559:FORUM>.

## Attorney sees three lessons in Crandon fight

Attorney Glenn Stoddard reflects on the "the important lessons" of the Crandon Mine fight in a piece online at <http://www.fightingbob.com/article.cfm?articleID=133>.

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## **AB665 jobs bill holds many threats to public waters**

Assembly Bill 665 entitled “The Job Creation Act of 2003” was introduced Tuesday morning and immediately scheduled for a sole Madison public hearing the very next morning. About 30 people testified at the hearing yesterday. Speaking in favor of the bill were builders, manufacturers, industry trade association spokespeople, and private citizens with stories of DNR permitting problems. Speaking against were labor unions, the leaders of sporting, conservation, and environmental organizations, and several private citizens.

Supporters focused on the need to streamline WDNR and other state regulations for air, water, and other permits. Opponents were critical of the bill’s rush to hearing, its lack of input from natural resources organizations, and its seeming lack of job creation despite being labeled as such.

There is no word on when this bill may be voted on, but a vote could come in a special session of the Legislature. Sporting, conservation, and environmental groups have been meeting to analyze its threats since first becoming aware of it just last week, and all have concluded the bill’s provisions are a major threat to clean air and water.

SOURCE: WSN.

## **AB665 would exempt large set of currently regulated activities**

Despite proponents’ public testimony in Madison on Nov. 13 that AB665 would “not lower the state’s environmental standards,” a review of the 114-page bill by the WDNR shows otherwise. An internal DNR analysis (see below) contains a list of activities that would either be “exempt”

### **How to respond to AB665 threats**

#### **Legislative Calls**

There is an easy way to contact all legislative offices (Legislators and staff, I believe) via e-mail, though I don’t think they’re widely publicized, nor will you find either of these addresses in a Google search. For the Assembly and Senate, respectively: [ALLASM@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:ALLASM@legis.state.wi.us) and [ALLSEN@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:ALLSEN@legis.state.wi.us).

You may also leave messages for any legislator with the Legislative Hotline. The Hotline operators will take messages only for the Senator or Representative for the district in which you live. If you do not know the name of your state Senator or Representative, they can locate that information. For larger cities such as Milwaukee, Madison, or Green Bay, which have multiple Senators and Representatives, it is helpful if you know the ward in which you reside. The Hotline can be reached in Madison at 266-9960 or statewide toll free at (800) 362-9472.

—River Alliance of Wisconsin

#### **WIN alert will target your fax**

Another opportunity for public reaction to AB665 is through the Wisconsin InterNetwork (WIN). An alert is active right now. Visit [http://www.action-network.org/campaign/democracy\\_denied](http://www.action-network.org/campaign/democracy_denied).

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from DNR review or fall into a new “general” permit status where the DNR would be required to issue permits.

**Exemptions** — A large number of activities would be exempted from permit review. These exemptions would be limited only if they affected areas of Special natural resource interest (which is defined as state natural areas, outstanding or exceptional resource waters, or areas that “possess significant scientific value, as identified by the Department.”). There is no consideration of public rights in the undertaking of the exemptions below, but only a consideration of “interference with the rights of other riparians.” Apparently the drafters presume that the impacts of these exemptions are minor and are consistent with public rights. This assumption is clearly erroneous, as can be seen when you review the broad range of exempted activities below. The exempted activities include:

- the deposit of up to 2 cubic yards of “sand, gravel or stone” by any riparian owner every five years (this would cover an area of 162 square feet 4 inches deep);
- the placement of a 200 square foot seasonal structure, in addition to their pier structure or boat hoists or shelters, seasonally by any riparian;
- Any dredging not in an area of natural resource interest where the material is not hazardous, and the project is either 1000 cubic yards if the area was dredged historically or 100 cubic yards if it has never been dredged. (These convert into 200 5 cubic yard dump trucks.) There is no limit to the number of times this could be done by a property....
- the placement of a pier up to 6 feet wide and to the three foot water depth;
- the placement of seasonal boat shelters;
- the placement of intake or outfall structures if authorized by a stormwater permit or a plan approval.
- The construction of any artificial water body within 500 feet if the discharge is an overflow device and its authorized by storm water or a plan approval;
- Any grading from the bank where its not located in an area of special natural resource interest and the grading has been approved under stormwater, local ordinance or part of an erosion control plan;
- Rip rap of up to 75 linear feet if no riprap was previously placed and 300 feet if riprap has been placed previously
- There are no limits to the number of times these activities could take place.

**General Permits** — The draft also provides that the DNR “shall issue statewide general permits” to riparian owners to:

- Place bridges to cross a navigable water less than 35 feet wide
- Place culverts less than 60 inches in size;
- Grade where the area exceeds 10,000 square feet but where a storm water discharge permit has been issued;
- Grade where the purpose is to “enhance wildlife habitat or wetlands;
- Place spawning reefs or wing deflectors on the bed;
- Place bird nesting platforms;
- Place a pier up to 500 square feet in size in lakes more than 500 acres
- Replace existing piers that have been in existence for more than 10 years so long as it doesn’t exceed 10 feet in width and 500 square feet in area;
- Place a permanent boat shelter (unless there is already a boathouse or a permanent boat shelter within 75 feet of the water);
- Place an intake or outfall structure that is less than 25% of the width of a channel;
- Change the course of a stream if the length of the relocation is less than 500 feet;
- Change the course of a stream if the average flow is less than 2 cfs;
- Dredge for maintenance purposes where the amount previously removed exceeds 1,000 cubic yards;
- Remove 100 to 1,000 cubic yards where no previous material has been removed;
- Place a vessel for commercial storage on Lake Michigan or Superior (we have been seeing efforts to place abandoned vessels for storage of cement and other commodities on the Great Lakes and have required s. 30.12 review)

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# AB665 lowers environmental standards, says AG office

Testimony yesterday from the Wisconsin Attorney General's office on AB665 countered claims that the proposed bill would not lower state

environmental standards. The bill would allow state officials to riprap, dredge, and fill in 0.0-0.0 foot deep lakes

## Examples of Waters that Would be Affected by General Permit and Exemption Provisions in AB-665

- **Wisconsin Dells:** proliferation of riprap, permanent boat shelters, wharves and swim rafts/water trampolines interferes with natural scenic beauty, affects tourism (p11, s 15, et. seq.)
- **West Shore Green Bay:** This entire area is a wetland complex with critical northern pike spawning habitat. During spring flooding, pike migrate along intermittent streams and roadside ditches to spawn. Unregulated culvert construction, channelization, riprapping, dredging and filling will block migrations and collapse fish populations.
- **Well-known trout and smallmouth bass streams:** 500 feet of these streams themselves or of most tributaries could be relocated, culverts blocking fish passage, channelization and dredging destroying habitat and reducing annual mean flows, riprap destroying natural bank cover, and habitat destruction and sedimentation associated with bridge construction will destroy game fisheries in affected areas.

The last 15.3 miles of trout waters in Brown Co. (Haller, Lancaster, Thornberry and 13.4 creeks)  
 Chippewa River, Upper Wisconsin River  
 Rock River, southcentral WI  
 Fox (Illinois) River, southeast WI  
 Black River, west central WI  
 Menominee River, northeast WI  
 Fox/Wolf rivers, central WI  
 Yahara River, southcentral WI  
 Bad Axe River, Vernon Co.

Black Earth Creek, Dane Co (Class II waters)  
 Eau Galle River, Dunn, St. Croix, Co.  
 Grant River, Grant Co.  
 Pecatonica River, LaFayette Co.  
 Baraboo River, Sauk Co. (just completed nation's largest river restoration project)  
 Eau Claire River, Langlade Co.  
 Spirit River, Lincoln Co.  
 Onion River, Sheboygan Co. (watershed restoration project in progress)  
 1,592 miles of other Class 3 trout waters

- **Well-known small recreational rivers:** Bridges and culverts could be placed along approximately the first 100 miles of the Upper Wisconsin River (p 20, s53). Likewise the Kickapoo River, Vernon, Co., Crystal River, Waupaca Co., Neenah Creek, Marquette Co., are other examples of small rivers heavily used for canoeing, kayaking and related tourism important in area. Bridge construction, riprapping, channelization and dredging seriously affect scenic beauty and water quality on streams and rivers heavily used for canoeing, kayaking and boating hurting tourism.
- **All recreational rivers:** Riprapping, piers and wharves, dredging, relocation of many tributaries, are exempted or generally permitted activities that will affect the Black, the Chippewa, Yahara, Grant, Pecatonica, Baraboo, Illinois Fox, Rock, Milwaukee and many, rivers used for water recreation.
- **Lakes:** Exemptions and general permits will affect all of our 15,000 lakes except for the 113 designated ORW/ERW or the hundred or so in state natural areas. For example, 20 dump-truck loads of lakebed material could be removed under an exemption, 200 trucks under a general permit, from nearly any lake (p32, s 112).
- **Popular lakes:** Unlimited proliferation of permanent boat shelters, piers the size of large two car garage (500 sq ft), school-bus sized wharves (30'), and yacht-sized swim rafts and water trampolines in our *already heavily used lakes* will severely hurt boating, water skiing, recreation and fishing.

Lake Geneva, Walworth Co.  
 Madison Lake, Dane Co.  
 Nagawicka Lake, Waukesha  
 Pine Lake, Waukesha  
 Lac La Belle, Waukesha Co.  
 Pike Lake State Park, Washington Co  
 Shawano Lake, Shawano Co.  
 Minocqua Lake, Oneida Co.

Big Green Lake, Green Lake Co.  
 Lakes Winnebago, Poygan, and Butte des Morts, Winnebago Co.  
 Spooner Lake, Washburn Co.  
 Bone, Deer, and Balsam Lake, Polk Co.  
 Lake Wissota, Chippewa Co.  
 Half Moon Lake, Eau Claire Co.  
 Lake Superior and Michigan harbors

- **Smaller less-developed lakes:** Cumulative impacts of *unlimited* numbers of 75' riprap, 900 square foot dredging (x3 feet deep), 9000 (x3 feet deep) square foot "maintenance" dredging, and 2 cubic yard dumping of sand, gravel and rock projects could have a major negative effect on the aquatic habitat *and property values* on smaller natural lakes throughout Wisconsin. Lake Wingra in Madison is an example where two major property owners, the City of Madison and the University of Madison could over a number of years transform one of the state's best musky fisheries into a municipal swimming facility with "generally permitted" riprapping, dredging and sand filling. The process would be even faster on the thousands of smaller lakes with more numerous riparian owners.

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## AB665 would limit public input on business expansions affecting them

A business deregulation bill (AB665) would make it harder for people to weigh in on business expansions and locations that affect their lives and the environment is being ramrodded through the Legislature thanks to \$7 million in campaign contributions from the plan's special interest backers, a new Wisconsin Democracy Campaign analysis shows. The full report is online at [www.wisdc.org/pr111203.html](http://www.wisdc.org/pr111203.html).

SOURCE: Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, 210 North Bassett Street, Suite 215, Madison, WI 53703 (608) 255-4260.



## Public input sought at remaining shoreline zoning listening sessions

The second round of WDNR listening sessions on the proposed new shoreline zoning rules will start Dec. 1 (see list at right). The public is encouraged to attend these meetings to offer their opinions on the proposed new rules. Your attendance is particularly useful since many of the more contentious issues faced by the shoreland zoning committee that has met over recent months to craft new rules remain undecided. The WDNR will use feedback from the listening sessions to write the rules package that will subsequently be sent out for formal hearings.

**December 1, 2003:** Onalaska  
Session 1: 2:00 pm - 5:30 pm  
Session 2: 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
City Hall, 415 Main Street.  
Directions to City Hall: From Highway 53 in Onalaska, turn east on Main Street. City Hall is on the north side of Main Street.  
Contact: Dan Baumann, 608-785-9014

**December 4, 2003:** Grand Chute  
Session 1: 2:00 pm - 5:30 pm  
Session 2: 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
Town Hall, 1900 Grand Chute Boulevard.  
[Directions](#) to Grand Chute Town Hall.  
Contact: Mike Russo, 920-448-5142

**December 5, 2003:** Crivitz  
Session 1: 2:00 pm - 5:30 pm  
Session 2: 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
Village Hall, 800 Henriette Avenue.  
Directions to Village Hall: From Highway 141, turn west on Henriette Avenue (also County Highway W).  
Contact: Mike Russo, 920-448-5142

**December 9, 2003:** Madison  
Session 1: 2:00 pm - 5:30 pm  
Session 2: 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
Dept. of Ag, Trade, and Consumer Protection Central Office, the Board Room, 2811 Agriculture Drive.  
[Directions](#) to DATCP Office.  
Contact: Toni Herkert, 608-266-0161

**December 11, 2003:** Waukesha  
Session 1: 2:00 pm - 5:30 pm  
Session 2: 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
Waukesha County Courthouse, Room 350, the County Board Room, 515 West Moreland Boulevard.  
[Directions](#) to County Courthouse.  
Contact: Kathi Kramasz, 920-892-8756

### Remaining NR115 Listening Sessions

## Angler education workshops being held around state

Anglers can learn more about passing on their love of fishing — and of Wisconsin lakes and rivers — to youngsters by attending one of a number of angler education workshops that begin statewide Nov. 15. These Department of Natural

Resource angler education workshops train volunteer instructors who can then offer programs in their own communities to introduce children to basic fishing skills and knowledge of Wisconsin lakes and streams, says Theresa Stabo, DNR aquatic resources educator.

“An important goal of the angler education program is to help people make the connection between our actions on the land, how they affect aquatic habitats, and the health of Wisconsin’s fishery,” Stabo says. “so workshop participants will learn how to teach youngsters to tie knots, cast a line, and reduce and improve fish habitat in their community.” Workshop dates and other



details are listed below; more workshops are always being planned so continue to check the program's web pages at [www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/fish](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/fish) for additional event dates.

SOURCE: WDNR, (608) 266-2272.

## **CCN gets grant to fight bottled water**

Good news on our fight against the bottled water industry. Concerned Citizens of Newport (CCN) is pleased to announce that they have received a \$10,000 grant from the Ben & Jerry's Foundation for their corporate campaign against bottled water. Rebecca Golden, Director, in her award letter to CCN stated that the Foundation was "impressed with your project as it was presented."

"Our corporate campaign will target the consumers of bottled water," stated Hiroshi Kanno of CCN. "In the past grassroots organizations have fought individual water bottlers and owners of well sites in places like Adams County, WI, and Mecosta County, MI. These are exhausting and expensive campaigns and can be described as putting out brushfires. Worldwide sales of bottled water increases at a rate of 7% a year. By raising public awareness of the impact of bottled water on water resources and the environment, CCN will work to decrease demand for this product. The CCN market campaign against bottled water will involve many water activists opposed to the privatization and commodification of water."

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

## **Volunteer stream monitors honored**

A La Farge man, a Polk County water resource specialist, a vocational agriculture teacher in the Iowa-Grant school district, a Door County group, and a University of Wisconsin-Extension employee who has trained hundreds of volunteers, are winners of statewide awards to recognize the contributions of Wisconsin's volunteer stream monitors. The 2003 Stream Monitoring Awards Program recipients received plaques Nov. 3 in Brookfield during the Water, Community and the Arts forum sponsored by the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters. Honored were:

- Adult Volunteer — Chuck Hatfield, La Farge,
- Organized Group — Fish Creek Watershed Study Committee, Door County,
- Teacher — Eric Johannesen, Livingston,
- Pioneer — Suzanne Wade, Jefferson, and
- Public Employee — Jeremy Williamson.

SOURCE: Kris Stepenuck at (608) 264-8948.

## **NPR program deals with drugs in waterways**

A Nov. 14 "Talk of the Nation Science Friday" program addressed the concerns of scientists that some of the drugs we take, including Prozac and birth control pills, are showing up in aquatic ani-

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imals, including fish and frogs. The program can be replayed at <http://www.npr.org/rundowns/calendar/calendar.php?prgId=5>.

SOURCE: National Public Radio.

## Michigan shoreline vegetation law under debate

The Detroit *News Metro-State* on Nov. 6 reports at <http://www.detnews.com/2003/metro/0311/06/d09e-317265.htm> that Gov. Granholm signed legislation in early June making it easier for waterfront property owners to maintain beaches that were formerly submerged. As lake levels began dropping in the late 1990s, aquatic plants, rocks, fish carcasses, and other debris were exposed. The new law lets property owners maintain their grounds by raking out waste and mowing vegetation, but the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has set numerous guidelines and restrictions on these activities. Commercial interests want the law to go further because they say that tourists will go elsewhere for more aesthetically pleasing beaches. Environmentalists argue that the restrictions are necessary to replenish fish and wildlife habitat while preventing erosion and pollution. The process is further complicated because, after shoreline activities are approved by the DEQ, they must also be reviewed by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, who have federal oversight. U.S. Rep. Bart Stupak is sponsoring a bill to make state regulations conform to the federal rules.

SOURCE: SERC "Wildlines Report," November 10, 2003, [wildlines@serconline.org](mailto:wildlines@serconline.org).

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Matching grants available for conservation projects

Conservation organizations and government agencies that are undertaking environmental educational or conservation projects that benefit Wisconsin's natural resources have until Jan. 15, 2003, to apply for matching grants of up to \$1,000 to help fund projects. The Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin makes the grants available through its C.D. Besadny Conservation Grant Program, which is intended to foster responsible stewardship of natural resources at the local level.

Organizations can request a Besadny Conservation Grant application by calling NRF at 866-264-4096, or by downloading one from the NRF web site at <http://www.nrfwis.org/grantOpp/besadny/besadnyapp2003.htm>. Questions about the program may be directed to Camille Zandoni, NRF Program Director (608) 266-1430 or [Camille.Zandoni@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:Camille.Zandoni@dnr.state.wi.us). Applications are due at the NRF office by Jan. 15, 2004.

SOURCE: Natural Resources Foundation, (608) 266-1430.

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## Gathering Water seeks outreach and policy coordinator

Gathering Waters Conservancy, a statewide, non-profit conservation organization based in Madison seeks an Outreach and Policy Coordinator. Gathering Waters Conservancy is a service center and coalition of Wisconsin's 55 land trusts. GWC provides training, technical assistance, and information to land trusts, landowners, and the general public on preserving private lands. In addition, GWC builds awareness and support for land trusts and land conservation through public policy advocacy, education and outreach.

Send resume and cover letter to Vicki Elkin, Executive Director, Gathering Waters Conservancy, 211 S. Paterson St., Ste.270, Madison, WI 53703 by November 24, 2003. For additional information, please see our website at [www.gatheringwaters.org](http://www.gatheringwaters.org).

SOURCE: Gathering Waters.

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

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

Friends of the Jump River  
Friends of Milwaukee's River  
Green Bay Area Great Lakes Sport Fishermen  
Green Bay Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
Groundwater Guardians  
Habitat Education Center  
Harry & Laura Nohr Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
Inland Sea Society  
Izaak Walton League of America - WI Division  
John Muir Chapter of the Sierra Club  
Lake Superior Alliance  
Lake Superior Greens  
Lakeshore Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
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  
Sharp-tailed Grouse Society  
Shaw-Paca Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
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 Trout Unlimited  
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 Trout Unlimited

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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).

Subscriptions to *WSN Network News* are free. To opt in or out of this distribution list, e-mail us at [wsn@chorus.net](mailto:wsn@chorus.net).

## Michael Furtman confirmed as WSN conference speaker

Ducks Unlimited has named Michael Furtman Communicator of the Year at Outdoor Association of America Annual Conference. Furtman has also taken First Place in OWAA's Excellence in Craft Award, Natural History category, and Second Place in the Take Pride In America Conservation category.

View a list of some of Furtman's recent articles at <http://www.michaelfurtman.com/articles.htm>.

For a sample of Michael's writing, visit the Izaak Walton League's Outdoor America magazine at [http://www.iwla.org/OA/summer/s3\\_wetlandsworth.html](http://www.iwla.org/OA/summer/s3_wetlandsworth.html).

