



Cultivating Environmental Stewardship in the Lakeshore Region

MEMBERSHIP

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The Source

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A Message from the Executive Director

Hello from Cleveland, Wisconsin. Hope you all are enjoying the warm days of summer (while dancing through the mosquitoes!).

I have a couple of exciting messages to share in this our third newsletter.

Great Lakes Compact

This past July, The Great Lakes Compact received approval in Pennsylvania, the last state needed. All eight States in the U.S. and two provinces in Canada that surround the Great Lakes Basin now have approved it. On July 23rd, it was introduced to the U.S. Congress by a resolution co-sponsored by 13 Great Lakes senators including Wisconsin Senators Russ Feingold and Herb Kohl.

We all need to keep the pressure on to support the Compact through the next phase. If ratified by Congress, it will become a binding international agreement that forever protects the Great Lakes and gives significant support for restoration and habitat enhancement.

Champion of Conservation

Summer 2008



News from LNRP

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- EARTHFEST 2008: SUSTAINABLE SHEBOYGAN
- GOING GREEN, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AND FARMS CONFERENCE

Environmental Award Program

The Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership (LNRP) and Dominion are proud to announce a new Lakeshore Basin - Champion of Conservation Environmental Award Program.



LNRP Executive Director paddling with the Wisconsin Maritime Museum Manitowoc River Rendezvous Program

The environmental award program recognizes and honors the outstanding achievements of any group, program, organization, business or individual in a wide range of environmental initiatives throughout Northeastern Wisconsin. The award seeks to pay tribute to those that have demonstrated a commitment to environmental excellence, leadership, and accomplishment in their respective fields.

By sponsoring these awards, LNRP and Dominion hope to encourage our communities to emulate the achievements of the successful nominees -- promoting innovative environmental efforts and enhancing the quality of life in the Lakeshore Basin.

The awards are open to any group, program, organization, business, or individual located and working in the Lakeshore Basin. Nominations can be made by the person or persons involved in the activity or by a third party.

Two Champion of Conservation awards will be given per year at receptions in early December and early May. The program will also continue to support the LNRP "We All Live on the Water" Seminar series with the award reception the same venue for the seminar series.

The series will bring regionally and nationally recognized speakers that can reflect on timely and topical issues impacting the Wisconsin watersheds flowing into Lake Michigan. Speakers will reflect on the waterscape of Wisconsin through our history, through the eyes of our citizens, decision makers, and artists, through the fabric of life – our food, music, and politics.

You'll find more in the Notes from the Seminar Series later in this newsletter.

For more information on the Champion of Conservation Award Program continue to check our website for nomination forms in the upcoming weeks. LNRP Members will automatically receive a reminder in an electronic postcard.

Jim Kettler, *LNRP Executive Director*

Email: jim@lnrp.org

Office Phone: 920-693-2199

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GLACIAL LAKES CONSERVANCY

Lake Monitors Wanted For Invasive Species

Volunteers patrol our lakes looking for Aquatic Invasive Species, so that if an AIS comes into a lake, it can be caught at the early development stage. Most volunteers monitor for invasive plants, but some volunteers also monitor for rusty crayfish, zebra mussels and the Chinese and banded mystery snails. Woodland Dunes will be sponsoring a training session for volunteer monitors in early October. If your interested in learning more about monitoring or signing up for the training contact Tom Ward (920-588-0047 or e-mail tomward@tm.net)

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Event Date: September 13th from 11:00 am until 4:00 pm

LEDGE VIEW NATURE CENTER

W2348 Short Road (two miles south of Chilton off of County Hwy G)
920-849-7094

Fall Food and Energy Fest. A full day of activities including delicious samples of local seasonal food prepared by local chefs, cheese-carving, fiber-spinning, mushroom identification, rain garden and prairie plant demonstrations, renewable energy workshops and displays, along with live music! Sponsored by Eastern Wisconsin Sustainable Farmer's Network and Glacierland RC&D.

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Event Date: September to November

WOODLAND DUNES NATURE CENTER

New LNRP Task Force on Membership and Sustainability

Dear Reader: The Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership is at a crossroads.

Thanks to a creative, energetic and dedicated staff, our program menu has expanded considerably. LNRP is now embracing new initiatives such as LERN and the "We all Live on the Water" campaign, refocusing Dairy Gateway into an expanded Agricultural Watershed Improvement Network (AWIN) that actively promotes and implements new, environmentally-sensitive farm management practices. These programs focus on better protection to our surface and ground waters. LNRP is also beginning a twice-yearly awards program to celebrate "Champions of Conservation" from throughout the lakeshore basin.

Thanks to an expanding and multi-talented Board of Directors, LNRP is taking a critical look at organizational needs that will better brand us, provide greater financial stability, and strengthen our community base, and that's the piece that I want to bring to your attention.

The above-mentioned programs are made possible almost exclusively through project-specific grants from Wisconsin DNR, and from local and regional foundations such as the Peterson, Joyce and Dominion Foundations. What's missing from the equation is a membership- and community-derived financial base that will sustain our general operations requirements and finance LNRP's flagship community grants program. And that's the path we need to aggressively pursue, which is why the organization has created a task force on membership and sustainability, which I chair.

The task force's challenges are simple and direct: stimulate individual, family and business and other organization memberships; recommend to the Board, and carry out, program refinements and marketing that define our "niche"; and build organization capacity – Board, staff and financing. How we do all that is not fully fleshed out, but we're working on it.

Meanwhile, LNRP could use your help getting started with a tax-deductible membership contribution. And when you send your check, please also give us your thoughts on how we're doing - new ideas that we should pursue, what we should be doing better, and what we shouldn't be doing at all. We may ask you to join the task force as a means of solidifying your contribution to LNRP's future and perhaps creating a pathway for even greater involvement.



You'll be hearing more from me in the months ahead. Let us hear from you, too.

Chris Goebel, Chair
LNRP Task Force on Membership and Sustainability

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Sept. 20: An evening program called the Amazing Campfire- star viewing, night nature hikes, and songs and stories around the campfire.

Sept. 27 at 7 pm: Five Buck Hootenanny featuring local folk musicians.

Oct. 18 from 8am until noon: The annual Owlfest, featuring family activities and owl banding demonstrations.

Nov. 8 at 6:30 pm: Our annual Winnie Smith Harvest Dinner, featuring guest speaker Bill Volkert, who will talk about his travels in Bolivia.

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Event Date: Throughout August and September

WISCONSIN LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

You can help make sure the conservation legislative agenda reflects Wisconsin's strong natural resource values. Come and share your ideas at the Conservation Priority Listening Sessions!

Now that the 2007-2008 legislative session has ended, it's time to pick the Conservation Priorities for 2009-2010. In order to get community feedback, The Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters will be holding 11 Conservation Listening Sessions around the state in August and September. If you are a member of a conservation organization, involved in a local group, or simply concerned about conservation, we encourage you to attend and share YOUR OPINION!

An RSVP is not required, but would be appreciated. Below is a list of Conservation Listening Sessions throughout the region.

Green Bay
Wednesday, August 20

New LNRP Board Member



LNRP is pleased to introduce Andy Wallander as the newest addition to our Board of Directors.

Andy has been the Head and County Conservationist of the Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department for the last 19 years.

Andy was born and raised in

Sheboygan where his wife Kim is also from. Kim works for the Luxemburg-Casco School District as a Speech Pathologist. They have two children, Ben (15) and Emma (12).

Andy attended the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and Fox Valley Technical College earning a degree in Natural Resources Technology. Andy started his environmental career at the Sheboygan County Land Conservation Department as an intern and the Conservation Planner for the Farmland Preservation Program. He also spent some time at the Manitowoc County Soil and Water Conservation Department as a Wildlife Damage Technician for the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program. Andy first came to Kewaunee County Land and Water Conservation Department as a Watershed Project Technician.

At home, Andy is most proud of their kids, Ben and Emma. They're involved in many activities, have many friends, and still manage to be in the top of their class at school. As Andy so proudly says, "They're great kids to be around. What more could a Dad ask for?"

At work, he's most proud of the continuing great relationship his department has established with local partner agencies such as the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, the Farm Service Agency, and of course the Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership.

Welcome aboard Andy!

LNRP is now looking for additional Board members from Brown and Door Counties.

If you are interested in becoming a Board member, please contact Jim Kettler at jim@lnrp.org! We're looking for those who have a passion to protect and restore the natural environment, and to preserve the quality of life.

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Restoration Efforts at Kohler-Andrae State Park

6:30-8:00 pm, Downtown Library,
515 Pine Street, Downstairs
RSVP to
kim@conservationvoters.org.

Sheboygan
Wednesday, August 27
6:30-8:00 pm, Public Library, 710
N. 8th St, Rocca Room
RSVP to
kim@conservationvoters.org.

Appleton
Monday, September 8
6:30-8:00 pm, Public Library, 225
N. Oneida St.
RSVP to
kim@conservationvoters.org.

See you at the Listening Sessions!

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Event Date: Throughout August

PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR TERRESTRIAL INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL!

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will hold a series of public hearings around the state in August on proposed rules relating to the identification, classification and control of invasive species. To access the official public hearing site for this rule, go [here](#). To access the DNR's web site with more detailed information on the rule, go to the [DNR site](#)

If you choose to comment via email, please send it [here](#):

If you choose to comment in writing, please address it to:
NR 40 Comments, Endangered Resources-6, DNR, Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921

August 14, 2008, Fitchburg:
Gathering Waters/Glacier's Edge conference room, WDNR South Central Region Headquarters, 3911 Fish Hatchery Rd, at 10:00 am.

August 14, 2008, Milwaukee:
Room 141, WDNR Southeast

Volunteers came together in July to accomplish native plant restoration at Kohler-Andrae State Park (KASP). This effort is the latest development in a program called "Beetle Mania", that is advancing effective biological control techniques to manage the invasive species Purple Loosestrife (see the LNRP Winter 2007 Newsletter for more information on the Beetle Mania program and the founder, Terri Lyon).

One hundred and thirty live native plants were added to the KASP wetland where they once flourished. This sensitive wetland environment has been increasingly losing native plant populations to the choking affects of purple loosestrife (PL), an invader from Europe. The re-introduced native species will be studied to determine if the native plants can better compete for space now that the PL is diminished and controlled by PL predator beetles. Native selections included Blue Vervain, Red Milkweed, Joe Pye Weed, Steeplebush, and Queen of the Prairie to name a few. The most successful natives will then be considered for restorations at other PL sites being controlled biologically.



"Beetle Mania" is a citizen volunteer program taking place in the tri-county area that includes Sheboygan, Manitowoc and Calumet Counties. PL is not native to the U.S. and displaces Wisconsin's more beneficial native plants in wetlands and Wisconsin roadsides. Biological control beetles are locally raised, then released, to help increase effective and economical control populations. The beetles, called *Galerucella* (or "Cella" for short), only eat PL and efficiently control existing PL stands and it's aggressive domination. Cella beetles have been proven to have no adverse effects on other species and harbor successfully outdoors over the winter. Cella populations are further controlled by birds, insects, spiders and starvation.

The beetles are raised in mass rearing tents by growing the PL food supply, capturing 1,000 mature mating beetles and adding them to this controlled environment. Predator free captivity allows females to lay three hundred eggs each over a thirty day period. KASP has been host to over 200,000 newly released leaf eating Cella beetles. Well over one million have been distributed in the tri-county area at known PL locations over a three year period.

This biological program is gaining in reputation and success at: Brillion Nature Center in Brillion, Camp Y-Koda in Sheboygan Falls, Woodland Dunes Nature Center & Preserve in Two Rivers, and KASP partnered with the Sheboygan Co. Master Gardeners in Sheboygan.

Cooperative volunteer efforts are funded by Wisconsin's Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) grant program and Windway Capital Foundation in Sheboygan, with added support received from Polyfab Corporation and Superior Lawn and Garden Center in Sheboygan. Groups and



Region Headquarters, 2300 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Milwaukee at 3:00 pm.

August 15, 2008, Green Bay: Lake Michigan room, WDNR Northeast Region Headquarters, 2984 Shawano Ave., Green Bay at 1:00 pm.

August 19, 2008, La Crosse: Room B19&B20, State Office Building, 3550 Mormon Coulee Road at 1:00 pm.

August 20, 2008, Spooner: Large conference room, WDNR Northern Region Headquarters, 810 W. Maple Street, 2:30 pm.

August 26, 2008, Wausau: Council Chambers, Wausau City Hall, 407 Grant Street, at 1:00 pm.

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Event Date: Wednesday August 20th 7:00 pm

DOOR COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

Information: Jerry Viste 920-743-600 or Ralph Valatka 920-743-5094

The Great Lakes Water Wars--The Threat Continues is the topic of the Door County Environmental Council's (DCEC) Annual Summer Program on Wednesday, August 20th at 7:00 PM. Former Newsweek reporter and award-winning author Peter Annin is keynote speaker. Annin is currently associate director of the Institutes for Journalism and Natural Resources. Baileys Harbor Town Hall, Hwy 57, Baileys Harbor. Free and refreshments will be served. For further information, contact DCEC (920) 743-6003 or www.dcec-wi.org on the web.

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Event Date: Tuesday, September 16th 7:00 pm

individuals are encouraged to contact any of the program locations above for additional information on how to participate in this growing program.

Volunteers Pictured Left to Right: Pam Hailer, Lin Zallar, Sarah Johnson, Jeff Lyon, Sherri Speth, and Loren Western. Not pictured Charleen Schloseky and Terri Lyon.

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Rivers at Risk: A new partnership to advance watershed awareness

By Debbie Beyer, UWEX Basin Educator

Last spring, the Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership, Woodland Dunes Nature Center, Wisconsin Maritime Museum and I discussed ways to build on local efforts and spark increased awareness, appreciation, learning and participation in river or watershed stewardship. We proposed that if we developed a river-specific brochure that interpreted the natural and cultural history of a river, listed threats to the river's health, and steps landowners along that river could take to reduce impacts to the water quality perhaps people would see where they can make a difference and would take action.

In May, we were notified that our WDNR River Protection Grant proposal was awarded funding. The project includes four rivers and streams in Manitowoc County: the East Twin River, West Twin River, Manitowoc River, and Silver Creek. For workload and funding reasons, the project uses the county line as a border. Ultimately, of course, it would be ideal to include the entire watersheds of these rivers. We can consider the rest of the watersheds once this pilot project teaches us some lessons!

Our work has begun with researching the rivers and developing the brochures. Our goal is to have all of the brochures ready for mailing to landowners in March 2009. Additionally, Woodland Dunes Nature Center and the Wisconsin Maritime Museum will host river paddling and litter clean-up events in spring 2009, to provide an opportunity for the public to personally experience these rivers.

With the help of UWEX specialists, I will conduct follow-up surveys and analyses to determine the impact of our project on people's level of awareness, appreciation, knowledge and participation in river stewardship.

We'll give periodic updates through the next two years as the project develops. Feel free to contact me at 920-459-6644 or deb.beyer@ces.uwex.edu if you have questions or



Wendy Lutzke from the Wisconsin Maritime Museum and Kelly Eskew from Woodland Dunes doing reconnaissance work on the West Twin

DOOR COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

Information: Jerry Viste 920-743-600 or Ralph Valatka 920-743-5094

Threats to Your Drinking Water is the topic of the Door County Environmental Council's (DCEC) third summer seminar on Tuesday, September, 16th at 7:00 PM.

Associate professor of Hydrogeology and Environmental Geology at UW-Oshkosh, Maureen Muldoon PhD, will be keynote speaker. Crossroads at Big Creek, Michigan Street, Sturgeon Bay. For further information, contact DCEC (920) 743-6003 or www.dcec-wi.org on the web.

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Event Date: October 4th from 9:00 am until 3:30 pm

Sustaining Our Food - Our Health, Our Livelihoods

A collaborative group of UW Extension, the Farm Market Kitchen, League of Women Voters and the Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership are hosting a seminar and food fair in Algoma.

The half-day seminar will focus on food sustainability and is titled Sustaining Our Food – Our Health, Our Livelihoods. The seminar will be held at the Farm Market Kitchen, 520 Parkway Avenue, Algoma from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm followed by a food fair featuring locally produced foods. The seminar will begin with coffee and conversations, followed by a series of lectures and panel discussions. Local farmers, grocers, restaurateurs, and growers will be invited to reflect on availability/access, supporting local food systems, and sustainable agriculture practices. After the seminar, participants will be able to sample locally produced foods provided by a range of vendors

ideas to share.

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LNRP Recognizes Two Champions of Conservation

Vickie Mayer



During the first five years of LNRP's existence Vickie Mayer played a critical role in defining the strategic vision for the organization as well as providing wise guidance and inspiration. Vickie started her environmental interest with the 1970 effort to pass the federal clean water bill. She spent the last eight years working with Friends of the Branch River and spent five years with Manitowoc County Lakes Association serving as Secretary for two years.

Vickie has given testimony at several public hearings in support of environmental legislation and administrative codes. She has helped organize public meetings on environmental issues and is currently on a League of Women Voters State Energy Study group. Vickie always brought an intense energy into the Board discussions. LNRP wants to thank her for all the dedication and effort. Vickie is truly a Champion of Conservation! Give 'em hell Vickie!

Carl Scholz

Rarely in our lives do we meet a special person who walks the walk and talks the talk. Carl Scholz is one of these people who stands head and shoulders above the masses because of his environmental principles and his actions. Carl who resides with his wife in Door County has served the community and State of Wisconsin in many ways. He is retired as the principal of Sevastapool High School in Door County. He has recently retired from the LNRP Board of Directors where he provided strong leadership in environmental stewardship.



Over the years, Carl has made his presence known and the world is a better place because of it. A couple of years ago, Carl stood up at the public hearing voicing his concerns over the Coast Guard's proposal to shoot live ammunition containing lead over Lake Michigan. His words were taken to heart after newspapers from throughout Wisconsin covered the story and informed the public. The Coast Guard withdrew their proposal thereafter, and I firmly believe Carl played a critical role in standing up for his convictions.

Carl is part of the Sturgeon Watch Program along the Wolf River during the spring

including cheeses, meats, and other tasty morsels.

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Event Date: On-going

WATER'S EDGE ARTISTS

Although you may have missed the "DAWN TO DUSK" WATER'S EDGE ARTISTS PAINTOUT on August 9 and 10th, stay tuned to the FRANCIS HARDY CENTER FOR THE ARTS in Ephraim, Wisconsin for more plein air paint outs and other events.

www.thehardy.org

Contact Person: Jan Comstock
(920) 854-2210 or (920) 854-5535

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Event Date: October 2

Willow Creek Salmon Safari

Join the Sheboygan River Basin Partnership at 4:30 pm at the Old Plank Road Trailhead (behind Shopko in Sheboygan, 4015 Erie Ave.) to view the fall salmon run in Willow Creek. This small tributary to the Sheboygan River provides a surprising and unique opportunity to view 20 to 30 pound fish up close during their annual migration to spawn. Jon Gumtow, who has been studying the creek for the last 4 years, will interpret the significance of Willow Creek and its fishery, outline work completed thus far and opportunities to protect this stream in the future. Registration required, please call the Maywood Nature Center at 920-459-3906.

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Event Date: September 18

Restoration of Fisherman's Creek

Fisherman's Creek meanders along many backyards in southern

spawning season. As a Master Gardener, he is passionate about gardening and looks forward to reaping the fruits of his labor. As school principal, he promoted environmental stewardship and it is encouraging to see his former students carrying on the positive environmental programs that have meant so much to Carl. The world is a better place for all of us because of people like Carl Scholz.

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Grant Funded Program to Benefit Dairy Industry and the Environment

Once again, leaders in Wisconsin's dairy industry are volunteering to work with state agencies and environmental groups to pilot and evaluate the use of new tools to improve environmental management and outcomes associated with dairy operations.

Last year, the Wisconsin DNR was awarded a State Innovation Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). As part of this grant, the DNR contracted with a team consisting of the Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership and Perfect Environmental Performance to provide dairy producers training and assistance in the use of environmental management systems (EMS). EMS is based on the functional equivalents of international environmental standards called ISO 14001 standard.

Under terms of the grant, the two-year project will offer free or reduced cost training to dairy producers and processors who are qualified to participate in the project.

Earlier work with dairy producers to develop an EMS for their operations has resulted in a proactive approach to management of environmental issues that reduces risk to the farm operation and the environment. Two of these dairies are now enrolled in a special DNR program, Green Tier that recognizes and rewards superior environmental performance with some key incentives.

Last year, 3 dairy producers in Manitowoc and 3 dairy producers in Kewaunee County participated in the first EMS program for the Lakeshore Basin. Several of these producers are agreed to serve as mentors to participants in this two-year initiative.



This opportunity results from earlier grants that LNRP received from the Joyce Foundation establishing the Agricultural

Watershed Improvement Network or the AWIN project. In the past two years AWIN has evolved into a locally-led and comprehensive effort to inform, educate, facilitate, demonstrate and coordinate agricultural practices that contribute to improving the Basin's water quality.

Sheboygan and the Town of Wilson. Over the years, it has been greatly altered and its capacity to withstand stormwater runoff and function as a healthy stream has diminished. The Sheboygan River Basin Partnership recently received a Wisconsin Coastal Management Grant and Sheboygan County Stewardship Grant to develop a restoration plan for the Fisherman's Creek corridor. Meet at 5:30 pm at the park on Camelot Blvd, near S.12th Street for a field trip introducing this stream's significance, history and ideas for its future. Registration appreciated, please call the Maywood Nature Center at 920-459-3906

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Event Date: August 16th
Fountain Park, Sheboygan

Earthfest 2008: Sustainable Sheboygan

11 a.m. Main Stage Speaker: Greg David

Jefferson County sustainability expert, carpenter, CSA farmer, County Board Supervisor, and vice president of Sustain Jefferson.

Topic: The Natural Step Approach for Sustainable Communities

Sheboygan has signed a resolution to be an Eco-Municipality! Mayor Perez has just formed a Sustainable Sheboygan Task Force. More and more Wisconsin communities have begun to adopt sustainable practices that help to save money and natural resources!

Learn more from expert **Greg David**, who has been active and instrumental in guiding Natural Step Study Circles in ten Wisconsin communities!

11:20 a.m. Community Tent: Learn more

For further information or to inquire about participation in the project, please contact Jim Kettler, Executive Director, Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership at (920) 693-2199 or jim@lnrp.org.

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Notes from the “We All Live on the Water” Seminar Series

The LNRP has been sponsoring a series of seminars with the title, “We All Live on the Water” with a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

We reported on the seminars in Manitowoc and at Woodland Dunes in previous issues of *The Source*. The two seminars in Manitowoc focused on the link between phosphorus loads into Lake Michigan and emergence of cladophora as a major environmental problem. LNRP continues to be engaged in the issue and we hope to hold a regional conference on reducing phosphorus loads in the upcoming year. The seminar at Woodland Dunes explored how to develop a stewardship ethic through the arts. The seminar acted as a springboard for the planned [Lakeshore Waterways calendar](#) (see the side bar in this issue).

The most recent seminar was held in Algoma on April 26th at the Farm Market Kitchen and was titled “Sustaining our water, our health, our livelihoods” and brought a variety of speakers for a series of lectures and panel discussions.

The leadoff speaker was Gary Becker, Mayor of Racine, Wisconsin. His illustrated talk was a testament to the proposition that all the stakeholders in any environmental problem can be brought together, encouraged to find solutions that are a “win-win” for everyone, and then supported as the solutions are implemented. Gary offered several examples of the extraordinary successes they have had in Racine. While he didn’t talk about it specifically, it was clear to the audience that the attitude, positive approach, creativity, and optimism exercised by the Mayor in his leadership role were critical factors. The examples all had one common element: environmental stewardship measures that are well designed, based on good science, and faithfully implemented made money for the community over and above the aesthetic benefits that also were gained.

We then broke into breakout sessions followed by a wrap-up presentation and a wonderful locally grown and prepared meal. A brief description of each session is outlined below.

Davina Bonness, Water Quality Specialist, Kewaunee County; presented “Groundwater Issues, Testing, & Education in Kewaunee County”

Davina reviewed the water cycle with the group. In Kewaunee County, ground water contamination is linked to the karst topography, which is a landscape created when surface water dissolves the limestone sedimentary rock that lies just under the surface of the soil. As the limestone dissolves, sinkholes develop near the surface. The

After Mr. David speaks on the Main Stage, walk to the community tent and join him and other guest panelists for an invigorating discussion with the audience about what Sheboygan, city and county, can do to keep on the sustainability path and how local citizens can help! Sign-up sheet for opportunities to be involved.

Panelists: Ald Jeanne Kliejunas (Task force), Jim Hulbert (Co Planner), Susan Buesing (Pigeon River Elem principal), Jenny Heinzen (LTC energy professor and Study Circle member), Mary Ebeling (Non-motorized transportation)

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Event Date: September 11th and 12th
Olympia Village in Oconomowoc

Going Green, Sustainable Communities and Farms conference

This conference is being sponsored by Town and Country RC&D, a fledgling organization dedicating to holistic stewardship of our resources.

Many fine speakers will be there, including: John Ikerd (Sustainable Capitalism), John Magnuson (climate crisis), Mary Rehwald (Chequamegon Bay’s Green Team Network), Lisa MacKinnon (TNS), Rob Frost (our Earth Vicotry Garden Program), Greg David (human needs) and many many other truly fine speakers. The food Thursday evening will be fantabulous!

This is a huge conference with a large investment of time and \$ going into making it happen. Please consider attending and helping make the conference a success by volunteering your time. To find out more, link to the

limestone bedrock is fractured vertically and horizontally with the result that contamination carried by water and unfiltered runoff finds its way along these karst features right through the limestone bedrock and into the aquifer. The aquifer is the source of our drinking water for every one who relies on a well – which is the majority of us.

Davina's program conducted water tests on 173 private wells. Eighteen percent tested unsafe for bacteria and 35% tested beyond the natural background for nitrate-nitrogen. The presence of bacteria makes the well water unsafe to drink. Wells testing positive for bacteria should conduct a retest, inspect the well and surrounding infiltration area for leaks from the surface, and then disinfect the well and re-test. Nitrogen can be harmful to young children and adults with health problems but more importantly nitrogen is an indicator of other contaminants. Water treatment systems are an alternative if you know the types of contaminants and choose a device approved by Wisconsin Dept. of Commerce for the problems found in your water.

Kewaunee County's program is assisted by a Ground Water Guardians Group that promotes stewardship and sound management of their groundwater resource through education and community involvement. They also conduct a Groundwater Festival that engages over 200 5th graders in groundwater activities.

It was inspiring for the seminar participants to get the sense of the involvement of the 5th graders. Clearly they were learning about the critical importance of safe drinking water for our health and for our livelihoods. The passion of these young people gives us some hope that the next generation will be committed to sustaining our water supply.

Patrick Robinson, UW Extension Environmental Restoration Specialist: presented "Our Landscape Legacy: Then and Now"

The Landscape Legacy addresses the changes of the landscape in Kewaunee County from pre-settlement to the present day. It is estimated that at least 90% of the landscape in the County before European settlement was a maple, hemlock, and yellow birch forest with some beech and white pine. It was inhabited by black bear, mountain lion and gray wolf, species now all extirpated.

By 1938 the percentage of forested land had fallen to 20%, with most of that being second growth, as the land had been cleared for farming and meeting the demand for lumber. Today Kewaunee County is only 15% forested with a mix of farmland, wetlands, and urban areas. Much of the remaining woodland is wetland forest with probably less than 10% in upland forest.

As a result of the loss of forested land, sediment and nonpoint pollution has impacted water quality. Watershed studies of the percent of land cover have demonstrated that at least 20% forest cover is the necessary minimum for a healthy stream. The loss of forest cover reduces shade, increasing stream temperatures for coldwater species. Loss of cover also increases storm water inputs and erosion. Fewer trees means less absorption of carbon dioxide and the storage of carbon in trees rather than in the atmosphere, thus impacting climate change.

TCRC&D's website with all the conference material accessible from the homepage.

www.townandcountryrcd.org. You may write to Greg David at W4512 Riverdale Lane, Watertown, WI 53094

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Event Date: September 27

Glacial Lakes Conservancy

Beach Sweep Sheboygan

Last year was a huge success. Please pre-register if you're thinking of attending by emailing info@glaciallakes.org or calling Vickie Hall on her mobile 920-226-0687.

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LNRP River Basin Partners

For a full list of River Basin Partners and useful resources, click here for the [LNRP Community Resources](#) page.

Tri-Lakes Association



Tri Lakes Association will be starting regular meetings again on the 3rd Tuesday of September.

This month, Tri-Lakes Association will be placing completed signage on East Alaska, West Alaska, and Krohns Lake. The expanded kiosks use the LNRP We All Live on the Water signs along with other interpretive materials. The Kewaunee County Promotion and

The biggest threat to the current landscape, Pat Robinson believes, is rural sprawl and fragmentation of the landscape (creation of many small property parcels). Pat's slides clearly demonstrated the change in housing density from 1950 to 2,000. The good news is over 1 million trees have been planted annually in Door, Kewaunee, and Manitowoc Counties.

Andy Wallander, Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department: presented "KewauneeCounty's Groundwater Future - A Local 'Inconvenient Truth'"

Andy has been working as the Kewaunee County Conservationist for the last 19 years. One of the biggest challenges that the department faces is management of Karst soils. The term "Karst" topography is used by geologists to describe areas where bedrock, usually limestone or dolomite, has been, or has the potential to be, easily dissolved by surface water or groundwater.

"Karst" topography may have deep bedrock fractures, caves, disappearing streams, springs and/or sinkholes. These features can be isolated or occur in clusters, and may be open, covered, buried, or partially filled with soil, field stones, vegetation, water or other debris.

One primary reason for the challenge is what is called the soil's Pollutant Attenuation Capacity. This is the capacity or ability of soil's chemical, physical and biological properties to utilize, breakdown or bind potential groundwater pollutants. The parameters affecting attenuation capacity include the depth to bedrock, the depth to groundwater, the texture and total depth of surface and subsoil horizon, the permeability of the soil layers, the soil organic matter content, and soil pH. The pollutant attenuation capacity works in the upper 3 to 5 feet of the soil profile. Where there is a low capacity there is high pollution susceptibility.

Farmers are mitigating the environmental impacts with the application of Best Management Practices or BMPs. These include better practices for soil erosion such as buffer systems and retention ponds, better manure management through barnyard runoff controls, animal waste storage, and nutrient management plans or NMPs. NMPs have become a very effective tool for optimizing the overall resources on the farm. On-farm fertilizer requirements are balanced through nutrient analysis of manure and calculated application rates. Kewaunee County is one of the leaders in the State of Wisconsin with over 27% of the farmed land under nutrient management plans.

Local Kewaunee County farmer Tom Konop then joined Andy and gave an illustrated view of these best management practices including their own manure storage facility, the use of injected manure applications, no till and strip cropping, and waterway buffers.

It was encouraging for seminar participants to learn that some effective practices are being adopted by farmers that will protect the safety of our drinking water. However, there has to be wider participation, not just by farmers but by all of the rest of us in order to adequately protect our water resources.

Recreation Department provided the structural components of the kiosk and helped install the signs at key locations on the three lakes.

TLA will be hearing testimony from at least 2 companies on the proposed Alum Treatment of East Alaska Lake in 2009. Bill Iwen, President of TLA will have this testimony for Sept. or Oct. during their regularly scheduled meetings on the 3rd Tuesday. The exact date is forthcoming.

TLA is also inquiring regarding whether any supportive members of LNRP have used the native beetle called "E.Lecontei" for the control of Eurasian Water Milfoil, (EWM). Information regarding this type of control came from a company by name of "EnviroScience, Inc." located at 3781 Darrow Rd. in Stow, Ohio. This company claims a very high success history in which a natural predator controls the EWM so that it never reaches a nuisance level. Any information shared on this would be greatly appreciated by Bill Iwen, President of Tri Lakes Association at biwen@itol.com.

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DCEC Expands Web Site with Ecological Maps & Resources



The Door County Environmental Council (DCEC) announced at the end of July the expansion of its web site to include rare ecological maps and other important environmental resources. The announcement was made at Crossroads at Big Creek during DCEC's seminar on created

Kevin Naze, Environmental Writer and Fisherman, and Mike Toneys, retired DNR Fisheries Specialist: presented "The State of the Lake Michigan Fishery"

An historical overview of Lake Michigan shows how much impact we've had in the last 50-100 years on fish populations and water quality. We've seen the Great Lakes move from one of the most traveled cargo routes in the world to becoming an internationally significant center of commercial and sport fisheries. The same transportation corridor has seen a series of invasive species enter the Great Lakes, acting as hitchhikers from upland canals to far distant places in Europe, Asia and even the east coast of the United States. Industries have followed suite with the iron and lumber belts creating ports of call that are now becoming economic centers of the tourist activities.

The Lake Michigan fishery has seen the same dynamic changes and in the last 25 years has dealt with incredible extremes from lamprey eels, explosion of alewife population to zebra mussel invasions, from bacterial kidney disease to Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS), from the ups and downs of fish species such as Whitefish, Lake Perch, Chinook, and Coho Salmon.

The communities of Kewaunee and Algoma have moved from supporting large commercial fisheries to being major centers of the sport fishing, as well. Last year was a record year for Chinook salmon with a catch of over 400,000 in Lake Michigan and over 160,000 in Algoma alone. However, Chinook are at an all time low in terms of weight per 30 inches. Factors such as low populations of alewives and higher native reproduction rates may be the cause.

Two current challenges are the massive build up of quagga mussels and the battle against VHS. Quagga mussels have taken over the first step in the food chain by becoming the largest feeder of phytoplankton. The mussels are tolerant of all environmental conditions and have spread throughout Lake Michigan. They are found at any depth the year around. They filter incredible amounts of water with each adult mussel capable of cleanly filtering 1-2 liters of water per day resulting in some of the best water clarity found in Lake Michigan in 100 years. VHS very recently came into the Great Lakes from Europe and the east coast. The difficult management challenge is that the virus morphed to a much more deadly freshwater form that can move through multiple pathways and therefore is very difficult to control.

The stories were not good and pointed to a very chaotic ecosystem where new exotics are now feeding on the managed exotics! Yet Kevin and Mike balanced their lack of optimism for the health of the fishery with a call to action –

- Stay alert
- Become informed
- Get involved
- Stay involved

The scenario that Kevin and Mike painted for the participants showed that the theme of this seminar – "Sustaining our water, our health, our livelihoods" – is being challenged severely by man's activities with respect to the water of the Great Lakes.

wetlands.

Fifteen maps, compiled in the 1990's by Dr. James Zimmerman under commission from DCEC and Door County, represent a complete ecological picture of each of the county's townships. DCEC assembled the remaining complete set of these maps, and had been seeking a means to preserve them. With funding from the Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership (LNRP), they were able to preserve the Zimmerman maps electronically and make them available to anyone for viewing or wishing to download full-scale, high-resolution copies at no charge. Anyone wishing to see or download the Zimmerman maps can visit www.dcec-wi.org and click on "view the Zimmerman maps."

Also with LNRP funding, DCEC was able to scan several publications that they had been distributing at all their events. These publications range from guides for small wastewater systems to maps of the ancient Silurian Sea that once covered Door County. Publications can be found at www.dcec-wi.org by clicking on the "publications" button.

"We want our web site to be the first choice for environmental information, past and current, about Door County," explained Jerry Viste, executive director of DCEC. "In addition to being concerned that the valuable information contained in the Zimmerman maps would be lost to time, we worried that they were not easily accessible to people. Now they are, along with several of our publications."

For further information, contact DCEC at (920) 743-6003 or info@dcec-wi.web via email.

The Door County Environmental Council is a 38-year-old not-for-

Jay Moynihan, UW-Extension CRD, Shawano County: presented "Sustainability: From the Uplands to the Lake"

Jay provided an interesting application of sustainability principles to the management and care of our waters. Sustainability has evolved from the Brundtland definition that emerged in the mid-1980's to a community-based engagement called the Natural Step which is finding study groups through the Lakeshore Basin.

The Brundtland Commission report to the U.N. defined sustainability as "meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Sustainability principles need to be applied to whatever we do with respect to our water resources because, as Jay so eloquently stated, "the quality of water determines the quality of life."

Water is critical for all life. It allows organic compounds to react in ways that allow replication. It is vital both as a solvent in which many of the body's solutes dissolve and as an essential part of many metabolic processes within the body. Without water, essential metabolic processes would cease to exist.

Through the recognition of water as a critical to all life, sustainability and the Natural Step create the following **Water Sustainability Concepts**:

- Reduce overall water use
- Solve water quality problems by prevention rather than treatment
- Consider human & ecosystem water needs in all community & business planning
- Match water quality with appropriate use
- Minimize adverse impacts on water
- Improve quality
- Engage all stakeholders

These are great lessons to take away from what was a very successful seminar!

The LNRP videotaped all of the Algoma seminar sessions and the recordings are available on a series of three DVDs at the Algoma Library.

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Connecting Partners Across the Basin - Send us your Events- We'll help spread the word!



In each issue of **The Source** we will list a calendar for all basin river groups and organizations to share their resources, upcoming events, work parties, seminars and meeting times. If you would like to participate and be featured in the newsletter events calendar, please send a list of your events to us by email. We are also interested in hearing about field seasons, projects - and

profit organization dedicated to preserving Door County's environment for the generations to come. Visit DCEC at www.dcec-wi.com on the web.

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New Artists Group Forms

WATER'S EDGE Artists

A very accomplished group of artists have formed to create the Water's Edge Artists group with plans to work with LNRP on a Lakeshore Waterways Calendar.

Our efforts on this project began in the autumn of 2006 when the LNRP met with a number of painters who share a method called plein air (literally, painting in the open air). Plein air painters paint from life using all of their senses to capture the light and colors particular to a place. We then held a seminar at the Woodland Dunes Nature Center on creating a stewardship ethic through the arts. The collaboration evolved into a collection of plein air painters who have combined to create "Water's Edge Artists" a group that is painting waterways in the Lakeshore Basin. From the first meeting, the Water's Edge Artists developed their mission statement:

The Water's Edge Artists is an alliance of plein air artists dedicated to the conservation and protection of water resources in the Lakeshore Basin of northeastern Wisconsin. Through a collaboration with the Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership, our efforts reflect the shared passion for preserving local fragile environments and historic properties – from threatened habitats and farmland to protected natural areas.

Entries have already been collected and from a juried

happenings along the lakeshore- you are welcome to submit articles, anecdotes or send along information about your group for the "Featured Organizations" section. Please list the county of the event and send any website links and other contact information readers may need to jim@lnrp.org

selection, paintings will be used to create a 13-month calendar that runs from December 2008 through December 2009. The calendar will be printed in full-color on high quality paper and show the changing seasons. We will enter various events, notable dates and appropriate "nature" quotes. In this way, we will promote watershed stewardship through the arts in the places where we work, live, and play!

Check out our Fall 2008 Newsletter to find out how you can get yours.

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Want to donate?

I would like to make a tax deductible donation.



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