



Cultivating Environmental Stewardship in the Lakeshore Region

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CONTACT US

The Source

Inside This Issue

- A Message from the Executive Director
- Spring 2009 Champions of Conservation Awards
- Lakeshore Waterways Art Sale
- Fred Depies Joins LNRP Board of Directors
- LNRP and Dominion Select Champions of Conservation
- League of Conservation Voters Define Priorities for 2009 - 2010
- Preserve Groundwater: Wisconsin's Buried Treasure

A Message from the Executive Director

Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends of the Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership –

It's been a winter worth remembering with record snowfalls in December and frigid temperatures in January. However, at the time of the writing of this newsletter, spring seems to be right around the corner!

We're looking forward to another banner year for LNRP in 2009 in our efforts to find Solutions through Community. Our Board of Directors has just finished going through strategic planning to come up with our 2009 Action Plan.

Our [We All Live on the Water Campaign](#) has been a great success in the last year with a series of seminars, workshops, and strategically placed signage. We are also



Winter 2009



News from LNRP

- EVENTS CALENDAR
- BASIN PARTNERS
- BRILLION NATURE CENTER
- SPRING IS IN THE AIR

Events Calendar

- SILVER CREEK NATURE HIKE AND LITTER PICK-UP
- EAST TWIN RIVER PADDLE AND LITTER PICK-UP
- WEST TWIN RIVER WATERSHED A RIVER, CAVES AND A FOREST – EXPLORATION AND LITTER PICK-UP
- COLLINS MARSH PADDLE AND LITTER PICK-UP
- MARITIME RENDEZVOUS ON THE MANITOWOC RIVER
- WOODLAND DUNES NATURE CENTER IN TWO RIVERS
- COMMUNITY DAY CELEBRATING MARITIME ART
- 33RD ANNUAL MIDWESTERN MODEL SHIPS AND BOATS CONTEST & DISPLAY
- RIDGES SANCTUARY

continuing our efforts in developing locally based environmental education curriculum through the [Lakeshore Environmental Resource Network](#) and working to protect and enhance water quality in our [Agricultural Watershed Improvement Network](#).

We're planning on continuing our quarterly newsletter with a Spring, Summer and Fall edition to follow this, the Winter 2009 Newsletter.

We're launching an art sale of the [Waterways Calendar](#) paintings this spring, and we're hosting our [Champion of Conservation Award Program](#) in spring and fall. See below for the [full announcements](#).

Remember, the Lakeshore Basin provides an unsurpassed quality of life - a quality of life worth protecting and enhancing.

Become a member of LNRP!

It's as easy as visiting our [membership](#) page.

Jim Kettler, *LNRP Executive Director*

Email: jim@lnrp.org

Office Phone: 920-726-2199

[Top](#)

BUILDING FOR THE BLUEBIRDS WORKSHOP

Explore and Restore Your Local Rivers

A Free Backyard River Adventure Series

These programs are supported by a Wisconsin DNR River Protection Planning grant and in partnership with the Woodland Dunes Nature Center, the Wisconsin Maritime Museum, the University of Wisconsin – Extension and Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership, Inc.

[Top](#)

Silver Creek Nature Hike and Litter Pick-Up

Saturday, May 2, 9:30-11:00 am

Join Professor Emeritus Dr. Sontag on an exploration of Silver Creek Park's riparian community. A retired professor from Manitowoc Community College, Dr. Sontag has spent years studying Silver Creek Park. Learn about some of the little-known critters living in the park, like star-nosed moles and the invertebrates and amphibians that start their life in the creek. See and hear some of the early spring bird migrants as they return from their southern vacations. Meet at the Silver Creek field house parking lot. If you own a pair, please bring binoculars. Gloves and a plastic bag will help with litter pick-up. Call Kelly at 920-793-4007 or email kellye@woodlanddunes.com with questions, or to register.

[Top](#)

East Twin River Paddle and Litter Pick-up

Saturday, May 9, meet at the

Spring 2009 Champions of Conservation Awards

The Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership (LNRP) and Dominion are proud to announce that nominations are now being accepted for the Spring 2009 Lakeshore Champions of Conservation Awards.



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, thereby promoting innovative environmental efforts and enhancing the quality of life in the

Lakeshore Basin.

Deadline for Nominations: April 15th, 2009

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.

Individual award nominees should focus on one of the following four areas of concern:

Water Resources Protection: Projects that monitor or improve streams, rivers, lakes or wetlands. Also, projects to improve access to public waterways for passive, water-related recreation.

Environmental Education and Outreach: Projects that establish or improve communication and education about basin environmental issues for the general public, youth and stewardship programs.

Land Use Protection and Habitat Restoration: Projects that focus on improving land development decisions to restore or protect natural areas.

Pollution Prevention and Clean-Up: Projects that focus on reducing and preventing water, air or soil pollution from rural or urban sources.

LNRP uses community-based Selection Committees to determine the selection of our champions. Selection Teams are composed of knowledgeable volunteers from throughout the Lakeshore Basin including natural resource professionals, scientists, teachers and leaders of environmental organizations.

Each selection team will rank the nominees in each of their specific areas with the highest ranked nominee sent forward to the final selection committee.

The final selection committee is made up each selection team chair, two representatives of Dominion Energy, and the LNRP Executive Director (7 individuals). The committee will choose one Champion of Champions from the four recommendations coming from each selection team. Two Champion of Champions awards will be given per year. Each comes with a monetary award of \$2000.

The selected individual will be notified by LNRP and invited to an award reception. The reception will also be the venue for the [We All Live on the Water](#) seminar series. The series brings speakers that can reflect on timely and topical issues impacting the Wisconsin watershed flowing into Lake Michigan.

Please see our website www.lnrp.org for nomination forms and instructions.

[Top](#)

Lakeshore Waterways Art Sale

Mishicot Dam 10:00 a.m., launch at 11:00 a.m.

Join the Lakeshore Sea Kayakers and Woodland Dunes Nature Center on their annual paddle of the 9-mile stretch from the Mishicot dam to Paddlers Park in Two Rivers. End with a leisurely lunch while learning about the ecology of the East Twin River. Kayaks and canoes are available. For more information contact Kelly at 920-793-4007 or kellye@woodlanddunes.com or Phil Rohr at 920-794-8500 or philslunch@charter.net.

[Top](#)

West Twin River Watershed A River, Caves and a Forest – Exploration and Litter Pick-up

Saturday, May 30, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Join Woodland Dunes naturalists and local experts on an easy hike to experience Maribel Caves County Park and Drumm Memorial Forest - areas that harbor unique natural features and protect an especially scenic portion of the West Twin River. A picnic style lunch will be provided. Gloves and a plastic bag will help with litter pick-up. Meet at Maribel Caves County Park. Registration is required one week in advance. Call Kelly at 920-793-4007 or email kellye@woodlanddunes.com with questions, or to register.

[Top](#)

Collins Marsh Paddle and Litter Pick-up

Saturday, June 13, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Join Collins Marsh naturalist, Terry Paulow, on a land and water exploration of one of the largest wetlands remaining in the Manitowoc River watershed. Learn about the diverse animal life in the

Many of you may have bought the [2009 Lakeshore Waterways Calendar](#) produced by LNRP's collaborative group of artists: Water's Edge Artists.



An exhibit and reception was held last fall at the Rahr-West Art Museum in Manitowoc. Six of the 14 paintings were sold at the reception but now you have a chance to purchase the remaining paintings. Every couple of months, LNRP will send an electronic reminder that will open an auction. The auction

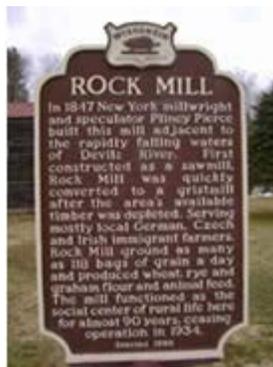
will remain open for three weeks with the highest bidder getting their favorite painting!

The first painting to go on sale has been bought by Jim Kettler, the LNRP Executive Director. He bought Bonnita Budysz's painting "Seeking the Source" painted on the Devil's River at Old Mill Park near the town of Maribel in Manitowoc County.

From the very beginning of our collaboration, Jim and Bonnita felt that the painting would be a perfect complement to the LNRP newsletter: The Source!

Bonnita had these words to describe the setting – "Swirling around my easel legs, water, water, everywhere creates an intimate communion with the source of all life."

The Old Rock Mill is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The mill is one of the oldest in Manitowoc County and is very well preserved. The mill site sits at a very picturesque location cascading across a rocky portion of the Devil's River.



Sales of the art will continue to support LNRP's [We All Live on the Water Campaign](#). Please consider the purchase of one of the paintings as they are auctioned in the upcoming months.

[Top](#)

Fred Depies Joins LNRP Board of Directors

The Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership is happy to welcome Fred Depies to our Board.

Fred brings experience related to agriculture and local food systems as well as good business sense. From 1974 to 1999, Fred was a small business owner in Northeast Wisconsin operating a floor covering store, a health and fitness store, and as a motel owner/operator. In 2000, Fred moved to the Ariens Company in Brillion Wisconsin

marsh and how the marsh influences and is influenced by the Manitowoc River. A limited number of canoes are available, but you are welcome to bring your own. If you own a pair, please bring binoculars. Gloves and a plastic bag will help with litter pick-up. Call Terry at (920) 772-4258 to register.

[Top](#)

Maritime Rendezvous on the Manitowoc River

Saturday, June 27, 10:30-11:30 a.m., meet at Mill Street Bridge Park

Paddle your own canoe or kayak, or reserve a spot to paddle in a 20' voyageur canoe past natural and historical points within the urban portion of the Manitowoc River. Bring gloves and a plastic bag for litter pick-up along the way. Free admission to Wisconsin Maritime Museum all day and its Maritime Rendezvous event. Interact with fur trade re-enactors; learn how habits at home help care for the Manitowoc River watershed. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Wendy Lutzke at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum at 1-866-724-2356 ext. 115 or wlutzke@wisconsinmaritime.org.

[Top](#)

OTHER CALENDAR EVENTS

Woodland Dunes Nature Center in Two Rivers

Learn 70 birds by this spring! Have you always wondered who is flitting around the trees or serenading you with that beautiful song? Join us for this series of weekly programs and learn the key shapes, markings, habits, calls and secrets to identifying our most common area birds. You'll learn

where he was a model shop parts expediter. Fred retired from Ariens in 2007.

Fred got involved in agriculture beginning in 2001 when he organized a Sustainable Farm Fair. He helped organize the second fair in 2003. From 2003, Fred has been producing the Farm Fresh Atlas of Eastern Wisconsin which lists producers and processors that practice sustainable agriculture.

In 2004, Fred was appointed the Calumet County Representative to Glacierland RC&D Coordinating Council where he still retains his seat. In the same year, he began coordinating the annual Fall Food and Energy Fest at the Ledge View Nature Center.



In the last two year, Fred has been a Technical Service and Education Provider for Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) grant. He also has been the project manager for GLCI research projects on Fish Foliar Spray and Compost Tea. He has started NEW Food, a regional food development organization, and the Sheboygan Area Local Food Alliance (SALFA). Finally, in April 2008, Fred was appointed to Wisconsin's Buy Local Buy Wisconsin Legislative Advisory Committee.

LNRP is very excited to have Fred as part of our Board!

[Top](#)

LNRP and Dominion Select Champions of Conservation

The Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership and Dominion, owner of the Kewaunee Power Plant, hosted the Fall 2008 Lakeshore Champions of Conservation Awards Ceremony on Thursday, December 4, 2008 at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum in Manitowoc.

The environmental award program honors the outstanding achievements of groups, programs, organizations, businesses or individuals 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.

The Fall 2008 Champion of Champions was awarded posthumously to Helen Dicke-

five birds per meeting, with our experts making it easy and fun.

Thursdays through April 9, 7 to 8 p.m.

For ages 11 and up and \$4 per lesson

Registration is appreciated a week in advance.

[Top](#)

Wisconsin Maritime Museum in Manitowoc

Community Day Celebrating Maritime Art

Sat, Mar 14, 2009

Join us for a free community day! Interact with woodcarvers, put together a model boat, create a fish print, or take in a maritime related documentary throughout the day.

33rd Annual Midwestern Model Ships and Boats Contest & Display

Fri, May 15, 2009 - Sun, May 17, 2009

Join maritime modelers from throughout the nation for fellowship, idea sharing, and a look at some of the most exquisite models anywhere! Whether you are a junior, novice, intermediate, or advanced model builder, you will enjoy this event. It's a fantastic opportunity to talk about techniques with others. Visitors to the Museum on Saturday and Sunday will have the benefit of viewing event models in addition to those in the Museum's galleries. R/C modelers will be running their models in the pond outdoors, too.

[Top](#)

Ridges Sanctuary BUILDING for the BLUEBIRDS Workshop

Friday, March 13 and Saturday, March 14, 10am – 12pm



Krivacek. Helen was one of the founders of Woodland Dunes Nature Center in Two Rivers. She helped develop fundraising materials and individually raised funds resulting in the first land purchase. Helen served on the Ways and Means Committee, oversaw car washes, bake sales and countless other fundraisers. Helen was one of the first volunteer Teacher-Naturalists, a member of the

education committee, and until very recently, the Secretary for the Board of Directors. Helen also fostered conservation efforts in other Manitowoc County conservation organizations: Conservation Education, Inc, the Cool City Garden Club, and the Girl Scouts. She helped protect the exceptional flora of Cherney Maribel Caves County Park. In 1989, Helen was named Environmental Educator of the Year by the Manitowoc County Land Conservation Committee and was a recipient of the Rahr Diamond Award given by the Isaac Walton League.

Dave Pozorski was selected as the Water Resources Champion. Dave organized the Silver Lake Park Citizen Advisory committee in Manitowoc County to design a master plan to restore Silver Lake Park. He single-handedly raised over \$150,000 for the effort and encouraged the county and city to provide representation on this committee that included a very diverse cross-section of the public.

Bernie Brouchoud was selected as Land-use Conservation and Protection Champion. Along with Helen Dicke-Krivacek, Bernie helped found the Woodland Dunes Nature Center. The impact of Bernie's efforts has resulted in the protection of almost 1,200 acres and has educated thousands of school children each year. Woodland Dunes is now recognized as a leader in environmental education in the Lakeshore area. Bernie is recognized as an authority on wildlife of the Lakeshore region and continues to be an active educator and advocate for habitat conservation. Through Bernie's leadership and inspiration, Woodland Dunes has grown to an organization supported by over 500 members with more than 100 volunteers helping out each year.



Lyn Brouchoud, a Board Member at Woodland Dunes, accepted the award for Helen Dicke-Krivacek from Kevin Davison of Dominion.

Each award recipient received a recognition plaque. As the Champion of

Girl Scout Camp Cuesta, 8026 N. Maple Road, Baileys Harbor

We will teach you how to give the bluebirds a helping hand, and share information about a local network of bluebird enthusiasts. You'll also have the opportunity to build a nesting box to take home. Donation of \$8.00 per box requested to cover cost of materials. The same program will be presented each day. Please call 920-839-2802 to preregister for your preferred date, so that we will have enough kits for all attending.

[Top](#)

Basin Partners

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

[Top](#)

Brillion Nature Center

The Nature Center celebrated its grand opening in March of 1987. Located within the Brillion Marsh Wildlife Area, owned by the State of Wisconsin and managed by the Department of Natural Resources, the Brillion Nature Center is a privately funded, non-profit organization and operated by a volunteer Board of Directors.



The Brillion Nature Center consists of a 40-acre parcel of land located within the Brillion Wildlife Area. The Nature Center is leased from the WDNR and operated by the Brillion Nature Center Association, Inc., a non-profit organization which uses private funding to support its mission of providing

Champions, Helen was also honored with a donation of \$2,000. Her family chose to donate the funds to the Woodland Dunes Nature Center that plans to build a "nature-based" play area for young children at the center. The staff of Woodland Dunes will be working with UW Madison on the overall design.

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

[Top](#)

League of Conservation Voters Define Priorities for 2009 - 2010

Each legislative session, the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters holds listening sessions throughout the State to develop four key conservation priorities. And since 2005, the League has sponsored a Conservation Lobby Day that has now grown to become a very strong voice and was attended by over 500 concerned citizens last year. This year's lobby day is scheduled for February 25th in Madison.

In 2009-2010, the conservation community will be fighting to make sure:

- Wisconsin manages groundwater resources to protect drinking water supplies, lakes, streams, and wetlands.
- Wisconsin addresses the threats of global warming through clean, renewable energy jobs and energy conservation.
- Wisconsin returns to an Independent DNR Secretary and a timely appointment of Natural Resource Board members.
- Wisconsin protects drinking water supplies by making sure we safely spread agricultural, municipal, and industrial waste.

The League was very successful in addressing the 2007-2008 conservation priorities.

Great Lakes Protection: Even though the rest of the country didn't think Wisconsin could do it, the Governor signed the Great Lakes Compact into law in May 2008, permanently protecting the Great Lakes from water diversions. The Great Lakes Compact was signed by President Bush this past fall, thereby sealing the deal between the 8 Great Lakes states. Much of the credit goes to the 700+ citizens that attended Conservation Lobby Day in 2007 & 2008 to stress the importance of the Compact to their legislators, and the 5000+ citizens that contacted their legislators through postcards, emails, and phone calls!

Land Protection: The 2007-2008 State Budget guaranteed that the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund would be reauthorized for another decade and would receive \$86 million a year to purchase land. At Conservation Lobby Day in February, over 430 citizens from across Wisconsin met in Madison to ask for a dramatic increase over

environmental education and quality outdoor experiences.

The Brillion Nature Center building, a small barn built in the 1940's, is used as a classroom and office. The Nature Center facilities are available for use by educational and civic groups by appointment. A Naturalist is also available by appointment to lead programs for school groups on-site or in the classroom.

The Brillion Nature Center is located off County PP, just 2 miles SW of Brillion, Wisconsin. The Nature Center Trails are open to the public daily from 7 a.m. until sunset.

[Top](#)

"Spring is in the Air, Think Planting"

By Tom Ward

The seed catalogues of January and now the warm winds of February and March start us thinking about gardening and tree planting. Many of us are attracted to the color photos of blooming flowers and colorful foliage of the trees offered for sale in these catalogs. However the old adage of buyer beware still applies. Many of these catalogues are sent to us from beyond our climate zones; others may import plants for sale from other nurseries outside of our growing area. The bad news is that, many of these advertised as easy to care for, fast growing; massive flowering plants; are not native to this area and may not be native to this Country.

I like to call them Exotic because they are usually showy and don't belong here and are non-native. When they escape our yards, water gardens and aquariums some of them can become invasives. Generally because they were easy to grow, fast growing

the current level of \$60 million per year. This victory secures land preservation dollars that will help balance the increasing demands of development.

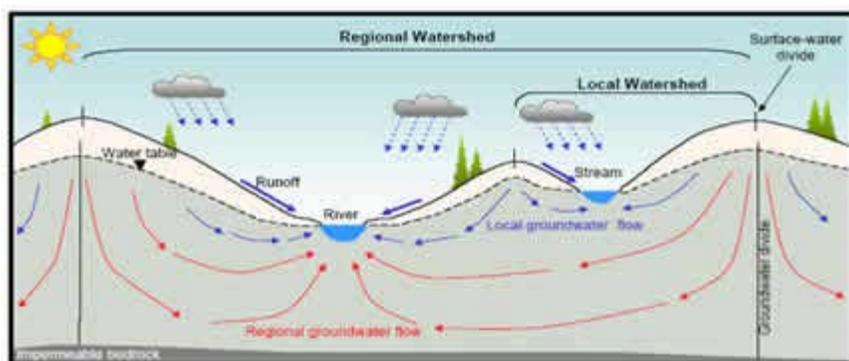
Renewable Energy Loan and Grant Program Creation: The 2007-2008 State Budget created the Renewable Energy Grants and Loans program dedicated to investing in Wisconsin's renewable energy technologies. The budget provides \$22 million to fund these grants. This is a component of a larger energy framework discussed at Conservation Lobby Day-citizens encouraged legislators to position Wisconsin as an energy leader through smart energy use and innovative energy generation.

We'll be sharing extracts of the League's Issue Briefs in the upcoming newsletters. We begin by looking at groundwater in this issue.

[Top](#)

Preserve Groundwater: Wisconsin's Buried Treasure (adapted from Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters Priority Briefs)

The water stored in the ground beneath our feet supports industries, communities, and businesses and is the origin for springs, rivers, lakes and wetlands throughout the state. How we manage this precious resource affects every one of us, from the drinking water that comes out of the tap, to our major industries such as beer brewing, cheese making, paper making, agriculture and tourism. Our lives and livelihoods as well as the fish, wildlife and many recreational attributes of our waterways are equally dependent on abundant groundwater.



But increasing demands for groundwater place our supplies and valued natural resources at risk. Seventy percent of Wisconsin residents and 97% of Wisconsin communities depend upon groundwater to meet their day to day needs, but in some regions of the state, water is being pumped out of the ground faster than it can be replenished by rain and snow melt, limiting how communities can grow and prosper.

Current law fails to consider the impacts of groundwater withdrawals on 99% of the state's lakes, 92% of rivers and streams, and 100% of wetlands. Numerous rivers and

and flowery they spread with massive seed production or under ground rhizomes allowing them to out compete our native species.

In Manitowoc County these invasives are threatening our wetlands, lakes, grasslands and woodlands. Many species like Reed Canary grass brought to this area from Europe as marsh hay are too late to stop. One of our goals of the County Lakes Association's project is to identify and prioritize species that we have a chance to reduce or minimize their spread. New outbreaks are even possible to eradicate if identified and acted upon immediately.

Invasive species most threatening to our County wetlands include Phragmites, Teasel and Japanese Knotweed. All of which were introduced as decorative or cut dried plants. Phragmites, a 10 foot tall grass type plant with a sorghum or flag type head, is spreading from colonies on many of our road right of ways on to private property. Common Teasel looks like a thistle; however the 2nd year plants will have large heads that look like a multi-candle holder with branching stems, topped with large dried 2 inch plus cone type heads. Japanese Knotweed can be found growing along the Lake Michigan Shore line near the Yacht Club in Manitowoc. It too grows 8 to 10 feet tall and spreads with rhizomes and is very hard to kill with common herbicides. This time of the year the old canes will be standing in a colony with a reddish brown appearance.

Our woodlands in the County have as many threats. Buckthorn is a tall growing shrub, identified in late fall by its clusters of large purple berries and its' leaves remain green long after other shrubs have lost their leaves. Buckthorn is choking and shading out native tree seedlings and plants. An invasive commonly found in the

lakes around the state are seriously compromised by excessive pumping by municipal and irrigation wells. The Little Plover River, a trout stream in Central Wisconsin, ran dry in the summers of 2006 and 2007. Reduced groundwater supplies disrupt entire ecosystems, reducing habitat for important plants, insects and animals at all levels of the food chain. Fishing, hunting, trapping, boating and the myriad recreational opportunities essential to our quality of life and multi-billion dollar tourism industry are all at risk when groundwater resources are depleted.

Wisconsin's buried treasure belongs to all of us, but overuse by some affects us all. Nothing is more critical to the future of this state and its citizens than the protection of our groundwater supplies, but the current law is not up to the task. Comprehensive management of groundwater resources will ensure responsible and equitable use of water resources and balance the competing demands for drinking water, agricultural and industrial uses while protecting our natural environment.

[Top](#)

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 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

same area is Honeysuckle, planted as an ornamental lawn shrub with abundant berries, also forms dense stands of shrubs cutting off sunlight to the forest floor, preventing native plant regeneration. Other common invasives infiltrating our local woodlots are Garlic Mustard and Autumn Olive.

Of course plant identification this time of year can be very difficult except for the wetland invasives mentioned in this article. To identify invasive plants on your property as they leaf out and blossom this summer, and learn control recommendations, refer to this web site:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/>.

After you have checked for invasive plants on your property or eliminated these plants, you may want to replant with native seedlings that can jump start the site before the invasive plants return. However always select plants for your soil & site conditions as well as your growing area. Because of the threat of another invasive insect, the Emerald Ash Borer, it is best not to plant the Ash tree species.

A local source of native plants (with the exception of Colorado Blue Spruce) selected for Manitowoc County can be ordered now before April 1, from [Woodland Dunes](#) or 4H Camp Tapawingo by contacting [UWEX at the County Offices](#).

If you are interested in helping as a volunteer to eradicate targeted invasive specie sites you can e-mail Tom Ward at: tomward@tm.net.

[Top](#)

Want to donate?

I would like to make a tax deductible donation.

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