



# The Monitor

The newsletter of Wisconsin's Citizen Lake Monitoring Network

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Jan-Feb 2016

## Highlights from 2015

Happy Holidays to all of you, and thank you for your dedication during another great year of lake monitoring! It has been the year of never-ending open water for some of you, with many lakes in the southern part of Wisconsin just beginning to freeze. Here are some highlights from the past year.

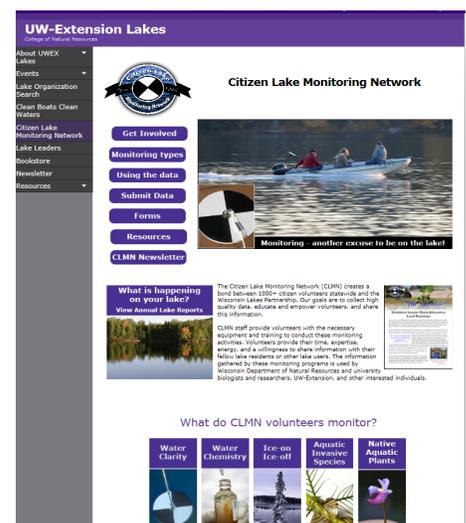
Four volunteers who started monitoring water clarity in 1986 with the launch of the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (then called the Self-Help Lake Monitoring Program) are still monitoring today, 30 years later! These amazing volunteers will be recognized for their contributions at the 2016 Wisconsin Lakes Convention in Stevens Point, March 30-April 1.

In 2015, 934 volunteers collected data on 725 lakes. Since 1986, over 1,400 lakes have been monitored by volunteers like you, and nearly 150,000 water clarity measurements have been recorded. The greatest number of Secchi readings by one person this year was 84 readings by Ted Ludwig of Dunn County, followed by Sam Picone of Langlade County (74), and Tom Ittner of Menominee County (65)! The earliest ice-on date recorded this year was November 11th at Hiawatha Lake in Vilas County.

The CLMN website [www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexplakes/clmn](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexplakes/clmn) was re-designed to be more informative and intuitive, and less cluttered. Our website will soon include videos that explain how to perform each type of CLMN monitoring. Check back often - we are frequently updating the website to reflect changes in the program and volunteer feedback.

To assist with understanding the CLMN annual water quality data reports, we created the *Interpretive Guide to CLMN Water Quality Reports*, which is available on our website or at this link: <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Documents/programs/CLMN/InterpGuide-WaterQualityReports.pdf>

*The Monitor* made its debut as a bi-monthly E-newsletter with the May-Jun 2015 issue. Click here to visit the archive of previous issues <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/clmn/training.aspx#news>



The home page of the re-designed CLMN website

# Announcements

## Still Seeking Ice-on and Ice-off Data

This year has been a strange one in terms of ice-on dates across Wisconsin lakes. If you aren't reporting ice-on and ice-off dates for your lake, please consider doing so.

Contact Jennifer at [Jennifer.filbert@wi.gov](mailto:Jennifer.filbert@wi.gov) to get set up to enter your ice data.

## National Water Quality Newsletter Published

The National Water Quality Monitoring Council has published their bi-annual newsletter, highlighting some of the major water quality projects occurring around the nation, including several volunteer monitoring projects. [http://acwi.gov/monitoring/newsletter/national\\_monitoring\\_news\\_fall2015.pdf](http://acwi.gov/monitoring/newsletter/national_monitoring_news_fall2015.pdf)

## 2016 Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention to Focus on Citizen Science

The 2016 Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention will be held from March 30th to April 1st at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Stevens Point. A CLMN refresher training will be offered for water chemistry monitors, and many other training opportunities will be available to all attendees. Immediately following the Lakes Convention (April 1st-2nd) will be the Wisconsin Citizen-based Monitoring Network conference, and the Water Action Volunteers Annual Symposium, also at the Holiday Inn. All three of these events will focus on citizen science programs in Wisconsin, including the Citizen Lake Monitoring Network. See more information and register here:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/convention/default.aspx>

## 2016 Satellite Schedule Posted for Water Clarity Monitors

The Remote Sensing webpages on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' website have been re-designed. <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/clmn/remotesensing/default.aspx>

The 2016 satellite schedule has also been posted. Click on the link above and then click "Satellite Schedule" in the right sidebar to see the schedule. If you don't know the path your lake is in, click "Satellite Paths" and find your lake in the list.

## Nominations Sought for Lake Leaders Institute and Lake Stewardship Awards

Consider nominating yourself or others for the Wisconsin Lake Leaders Institute, a series of three 2-day seminars held around the state. These seminars focus on three themes - Society and Environment; Aquatic Ecology and Watershed Management; and Organizations, People, and Politics.

Visit the Lake Leaders Institute website to learn more:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/lakeleaders/default.aspx>

The Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Awards celebrate extraordinary citizens, groups, and professionals who protect and improve lakes in Wisconsin. Nominate an extraordinary person or group by Feb. 5th.

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/convention/2016/stewardship.aspx>

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