



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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Subject: Land Use Impact Assessment Tools Workshop, March 31 and April 1

Dear Colleague:

You are invited to participate in the upcoming *Changing Landscapes: Anticipating the Effects of Local Land Use Decisions* workshop to be held Monday, March 31 and Tuesday, April 1 in Madison.

The Department of Natural Resources has a responsibility to support Wisconsin's comprehensive planning ("smart growth") process. One component of this effort is to promote the use of decision support tools by the general public, public officials, and others who make land use decisions. Along these lines, we are pleased to be sponsoring this workshop to evaluate tools for assessing impacts of land use decisions.

Other workshop sponsors include the Wisconsin Departments of Transportation (DOT) and Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), UW-Madison's Land Information and Computer Graphics Facility (LICGF) and Urban and Regional Planning Department, UW-Extension's Cooperative Extension and Environmental Resources Center, 1000 Friends of Wisconsin, Gathering Waters Conservancy, and the Rock River Coalition. The involvement of these organizations helped shape the workshop goals, content, and audience.

Over the course of two days, we hope to introduce participants to a variety of impact assessment tools, ask for feedback regarding the tools' utility and accessibility, and determine a strategy for promoting use of the tools by the public at large. An agenda for each day can be found on the enclosed flyer. We hope this workshop will be a foundation for future regional workshops where technical assistance providers will connect with interested citizens and local decision-makers thereby raising the quality of local discussion regarding land uses.

We hope you will join us for this dynamic session. There is no fee to attend, but registration is required and enrollment is limited. So, please register soon. Should you have any questions regarding the workshop or to register, please contact either Matthew Murrell (matthew.murrell@dnr.state.wi.us; 608-267-0579) or Dana Lucero (dana.lucero@dnr.state.wi.us; 608-266-5227).

Sincerely,

Dreux J. Watermolen
Chief, Science Information Services