



Partners in Stewardship

Seeds Sown Long Ago Yield Conservation Actions in Washburn County

By Eric Olson, Director & Lake Specialist, Extension Lakes

On April 29, 1954, Frances Andrews, a Minneapolis grain corporation heiress, gifted lands and an endowment to the National Audubon Society to establish a camp at the family's farmland outside of Sarona, Wisconsin. Frances had been raised with a close connection to the land and was a vocal advocate for the creation of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area and Isle Royale National Park. She wished that the Audubon Society would both use the camp as a learning center and maintain its landscape in a minimally-managed fashion, noting, "It is good to live with large and old trees."

Now known as Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary, several hundred acres of rolling forestland, wetlands, and lakeshore have been host to thousands of learners young and old seeking to reconnect with the outdoors. The original farmstead house and barn are complemented by a range of learning and activity buildings as well as ample parking. And while most of the land has been left alone in keeping with Frances' wishes, the active area of the camp has been a regular source of stormwater management challenges.

Excess Nutrient Challenges

Built on a sloping spot above the shores of Twin Lake, the old barn is accompanied by the newly renovated Richard Grand Recreation Hall, a storage shed, and roads and paths needed to get people from one place to another. The extra runoff generated by the building roofs, sidewalks, gravel drive, and parking areas (impervious surfaces) generates an annual load of 30 pounds of additional phosphorus to Twin Lake, which eventually works its

(Continued on page 2)



Grade school students learn about water quality as part of the Youth Education Stewardship (Y.E.S.) Program at Hunt Hill.

Provided by Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary, Inc.

(Partners in Stewardship, cont.)

“The original rain gardens serve as wonderful educational resources, but are mostly hidden on the backside of our buildings; these new gardens will be much more visible and accessible to the public, which will enhance educational opportunities for our visitors.”

~ Nikki Janisin, Hunt Hill Executive Director

way downstream to Long Lake and the Red Cedar River basin. Long Lake is the largest lake in Washburn County at 3500 acres, with over 1000 shoreland homes and cabins. It is also facing long-term nutrient challenges from runoff and internal loading of phosphorus. In 2014 the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) placed the lake on the state’s impaired waters list. To keep Long Lake healthy, all controllable sources of additional nutrients in its watershed need to be actively managed.

Partners in Education

The neighbors at Long Lake have long recognized the potential of Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary to serve as a stewardship partner. Starting in 2005, the Long Lake Preservation Association (LLPA) began hosting “Cakes at the Lake” at Hunt Hill, a breakfast

social followed by an educational presentation. Held monthly during the summer, the event

provides an opportunity for the lake association to connect with its members and provide family friendly educational programs. As partners in education and with a mutual interest in protecting our natural resources, Hunt Hill provides office and meeting space for the lake association to use for their operations. Leaders from the LLPA began serving on Hunt Hill’s board of directors, and the two groups collaborated on small demonstration rain gardens at the camp to show what stormwater management could look like.

Mother Nature Spurs More Action

The summer and fall storms of 2018 highlighted how much more still needed to be done in order to control and infiltrate runoff at the camp. Heavy downpours led to deep ruts on the main road through the camp, creating hazards that needed regular repair. It became obvious that something more drastic needed to be done. Wayne Sabatke, a former LLPA president who serves on the Hunt Hill Board, recommended that the camp reach out

Cakes at the Lake

The audience for this free educational program continues to grow; 2018 saw over 300 people attend one of the events!

The final 2019 *Cakes at the Lake* will take place on Saturday August 24. Breakfast is served from 8:00-9:45 am. At 10:00 am, a representative from the Long Lake Preservation Association will give updates about the lake and John Haack will give a free presentation on wild rice. The event is open to the public and all are welcome. Learn more at the LLPA website: longlakellpa.org



Provided by Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary, Inc.



to Washburn County Land and Water Conservation Department to explore their options. Brent Edlin, the county conservation specialist, scoped out a Surface Water Grant proposal for installing rain gardens large enough to capture all the stormwater coming from the gravel parking lots, roads, buildings, and lawn areas that would otherwise run into Twin Lake. The Hunt Hill Board agreed to provide finances and volunteer time to generate the match needed for the grant. This past spring, the WDNR awarded the county over \$34,000 to pay for the construction, materials, and plants needed to make the project happen.



Grade school students from northwest Wisconsin visit Hunt Hill through the Youth Education Stewardship (Y.E.S.) Program.

Nikki Janisin, the Executive Director at Hunt Hill, is excited to add the larger rain gardens to the sanctuary’s main campus. “The original rain gardens serve as wonderful educational resources, but are mostly hidden on the backside of our buildings. These new gardens will be much more visible and accessible to the public, which will enhance educational opportunities for our visitors.” She

also noted that the Audubon Sanctuary will be leveraging one of their long-term partnerships with UW-Green Bay in order to complete the installation of native plants. “Every year UW-Green Bay’s Regional Center for Math and Science Upward Bound group visits for

(Continued on page 5)



Provided by Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary, Inc.

“It is good to live with large and old trees.”
~ Frances Andrews

In 2018, these Upward Bound high school students helped install this pondless waterfall feature as part of a nature playscape. This year, students will help install native plants in the new rain gardens.

Capacity Corner

Relational Capacity

By Eric Olson, Director and Lake Specialist, Extension Lakes

Creating shared networks of volunteers is a key method for developing reciprocal relationships with external groups.



Organizational capacity concerns how a lake association or lake district conducts its internal affairs, and organizations develop relational capacity by collaborating and networking with external people and groups. Lake groups leverage these first three types of capacity to increase their ability to get things done: programmatic capacity.

Each issue of Lake Tides is highlighting one of these four dimensions. We first discussed relational capacity last summer/fall (Lake Tides Vol. 43 No. 3) and this issue picks up where we left off. You can find all the Capacity Corner articles in the Lake Tides online archive (uwsp.edu/uwexplakes).

Relational capacity is expressed through a lake organization's ability to network with external people and groups and leverage their connections to accomplish more than they could by themselves. A group with a high level of relational capacity:

- identifies people and groups for collaboration,
- partners with others to carry out a project,
- creates shared networks of volunteers,
- participates in efforts to learn where the lake organization's priorities fit into the broader community's needs, and
- forms working relationships with local and state elected officials.

Last year we shared some thoughts on the different ways that lake organizations can partner with others to carry out projects. For this edition, we will look more closely at creating shared networks of volunteers. This is a key method for developing reciprocal relationships with external groups.

Lake districts in Wisconsin have a built-in mechanism for establishing cooperation between the district and other local units of government. Chapter 33 of Wisconsin state statutes describes how most lake district boards are composed: in addition to elected commissioners, one commissioner is appointed by the county and another by the town, city, or village with the largest property valuation in the district's boundaries. In most cases, the county and municipal appointee to the lake

Partnership Opportunities for Relational Capacity

If you are looking for nature centers like Hunt Hill in which your lake group can partner, Travel Wisconsin has a searchable online directory: <https://www.travelwisconsin.com/things-to-do/outdoor-fun/science-nature-centers>

Gathering Waters is the statewide umbrella organization for nearly 50 local and regional land trusts in Wisconsin. They have an online map that allows you to click on your lake and see the land trust (or trusts) that operate in your area. <https://gatheringwaters.org/find-land-trust-near-you>



district board is an elected local official. This helps ensure that the other local governments overlapping the district are aware of what the lake organization is working on, and it provides a way for more seasoned elected officials to share their expertise within the lake district. In some cases, the relationship between the locally-elected commissioners and the appointed members is weak or underdeveloped; we encourage all lake districts to make sincere efforts to include appointed members as fully-equal board members. This includes consulting with them when planning regular commissioner meetings and welcoming their input on lake management issues.

Lake associations do not have the default arrangement for intergovernmental cooperation, but they have a wider set of possible strategies to share volunteers and engage community leaders in their

organization, since they are not governed by state statute. This issue's cover story about projects at Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary, Inc. highlights some of these possibilities, including shared board members across two separate groups with aligned missions. If needed, a lake association can increase the number of board seats to allow for greater involvement by local partners. We also encourage lake organization leaders to seek out volunteer and board member opportunities with groups like nature centers and land trusts. The informal networking accomplished by volunteering at an event or a conservation project could form the basis of a long-term collaborative partnership.

We also encourage lake organization leaders to seek out volunteer and board member opportunities with groups like nature centers and land trusts.

You likely have additional examples of how lake associations can leverage relationships with other groups to maximize lake protection and restoration. Share them with us, and send your capacity questions to eolson@uwsp.edu 🌊



(Partners in Stewardship, cont.)

a week, and during their stay, they complete a stewardship project. This year, these 30-50 high school students will learn about rain gardens and then help Hunt Hill install the plants.”

Keys to Success

Janisin credits the collaborative spirit of both organizations and the crossover of board members between the sanctuary and the lake association as keys to their success. “Several years ago the LLPA asked me if I wanted to be on their board, and I said, ‘sure!’ It was a great opportunity to further develop our partnership and keep the lines of communication open.”

The LLPA, Hunt Hill, and the Washburn County Lakes and Rivers Association also collaborate on the Youth Education Stewardship (Y.E.S.) Program, an initiative that allows grade school students in northwest Wisconsin to visit Hunt Hill, at no cost, to learn about improving and measuring water quality. With these robust and intertwined roots, it is clear that the vision planted by Frances Andrews over 65 years ago is producing admirable results. 🌊

The newly renovated Richard Grand Recreation Hall, along with several recently-paved paths, make Hunt Hill more accessible. Additional hard surfaces also meant that a plan for stormwater runoff is necessary.

Learn More About Hunt Hill

The Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary is located north of Rice Lake and east of Sarona at N2384 Hunt Hill Road. The property is open to the public year round. They have over 13 miles of hiking trails through forests, prairies, and along the lakeshore for visitors to explore. The original Andrews family cabins can also be rented for overnight stays. Calendars and more information are available at hunthill.org



Provided by Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary, Inc.



Wisconsin Lakes

A Re-introduction to Your Statewide Non-profit Lake Organization

By Mike Engleson, Executive Director, Wisconsin Lakes

Our work has centered on legislative advocacy for strong statewide policy on clean water and lake sustainability for future generations.

F You've heard of the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership. Maybe you've attended the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention, or a regional lakes event in Wisconsin like the Northwest Wisconsin Lakes Conference or the Red Cedar Watershed Conference. You know your lake organization sends a membership payment every year to something called "Wisconsin Lakes," but you're not even sure what that is!

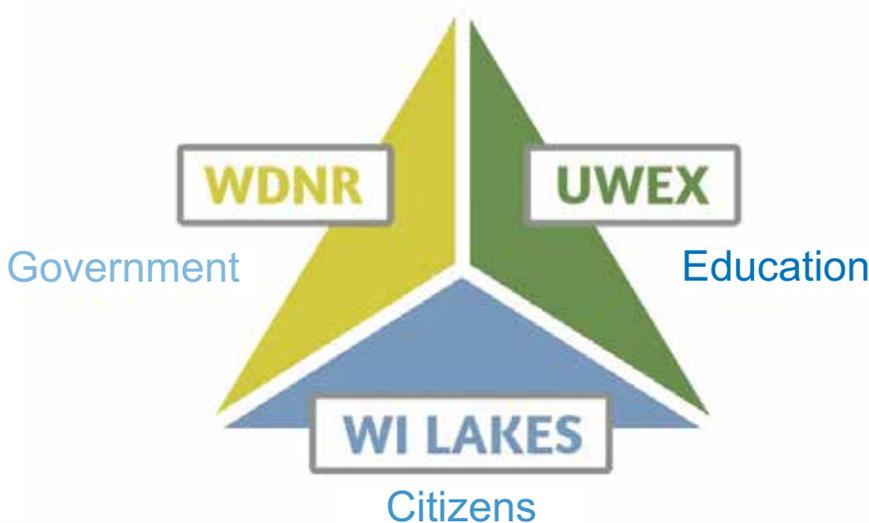
Understanding the pieces of the Lakes Partnership - and especially how you fit into it - can be confusing. With this new column debuting in this issue of *Lake Tides*, we hope to shed some light on the activities, programs, successes, and challenges of your (citizen) piece of the Lakes Partnership: the statewide organization known as Wisconsin Lakes!

The Partnership is made up of three main parts: the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) is the government piece (which supplies scientific research, technical

expertise, and regulatory authority), Extension Lakes (UWEX) is the education piece (which provides supporting educational materials and programs), and Wisconsin Lakes is the citizen piece (which mobilizes and offers tools to citizens to be advocates for lakes). That's where you come in!

In 2019, over 400 individuals and 300 lake organizations, that in turn represent well over 80,000 people, call themselves members of Wisconsin Lakes. In addition to working with the legislature, WDNR, and other parts of government to ensure the enactment of policies that promote clean, safe water, Wisconsin Lakes runs three primary programs:

- **Lakes in Action:** An advocacy training program that teaches lake organizations and individuals how to use their voice to be the best advocates for their own waters.
- **Lakekit.net:** A network of lake organization websites where we handle the "backend" management tasks and provide a community to help troubleshoot website problems to allow your lake group to communicate effectively.
- A new project to study how different stakeholders would react to different strategies surrounding the use of decontamination tools to stop the spread of aquatic invasive species and provide a report to WDNR.



A Little Bit of History

Wisconsin Lakes, born in 1992 as the Wisconsin Association of Lakes (we dropped the word "association" in 2009 to clarify we're not just an association of organizations but have individual members as well), came about when two groups, the Wisconsin Federation of Lakes (representing lake associations) and the Wisconsin Association of Lake Districts



(representing lake districts) merged. We've spent the years since educating and advocating to conserve, enhance, and restore Wisconsin's lakes and other waters. Our work has centered on legislative advocacy for strong statewide policy on clean water and lake sustainability for future generations.

Stay tuned - the next issue of Lake Tides will introduce our current board of directors. For more information about Wisconsin Lakes or how to become a member, go to wisconsinlakes.org or call 608-661-4313.

Did you know you can do a simple, no-cost "test" for blue-green algae?

Blue-green algae, or cyanobacteria, are native in every aquatic system in Wisconsin and only become a problem when excess nutrients fertilize their growth to nuisance levels called blooms. It's important to not confuse pollen or duckweed (which are more common) with cyanobacteria. Planktonic (free-floating) blooms are of the highest concern, but mats of cyanobacteria can also dislodge from lake beds and rise to the surface. Some cyanobacteria can make toxins that may cause illness in humans and animals ingesting them or inhaling them in water. You can't tell if a bloom is making toxins by looking at it, so be wary of water that looks like "pea soup" or has any other unusual color, or has floating scums. No test for blue-green algae is perfect, but here are some simple ways to check.

"JAR TEST" (for green lake water)

- Fill a glass jar half full of water from just below the surface (use gloves)
- Leave jar undisturbed out of sunlight for a few hours

"STICK TEST" (for floating green mats)

- Insert a sturdy stick into the green mat (make sure the stick is long enough to reach into the water without getting algae on your hands)
- Slowly lift the stick out of the water

If the algae hangs off the stick like green hair, it is filamentous green algae (not harmful, but bacteria levels may be higher near decomposing mats). If the algae looks like green paint on the stick, it is likely cyanobacteria.

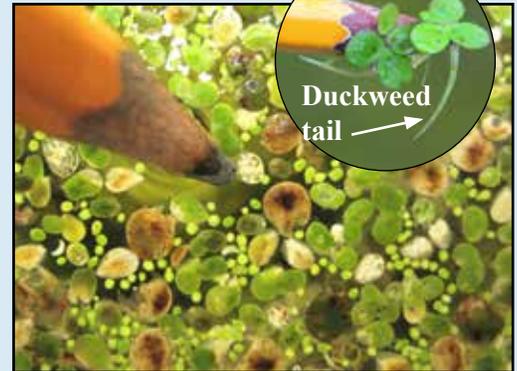
EXCEPTION: If the algae hangs off the stick like BLACK hair, it is the cyanobacterium *Microseira wollei*

When in doubt – stay out!

Please let the DNR know about significant blooms! Email DNRHABS@wisconsin.gov and please include the bloom location with lake, town, and county name, bloom size, duration, and photos for confirmation.

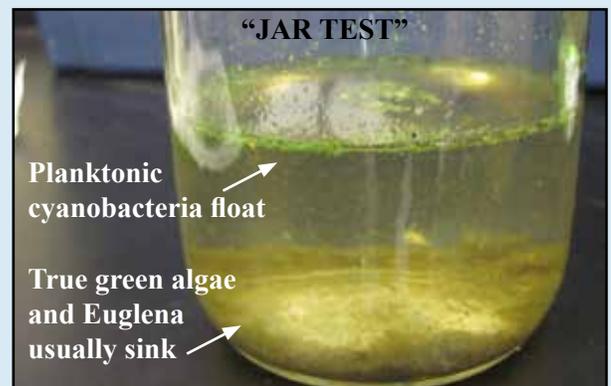
DYK

Photo by Paul Skawinski



Duckweed tail

Duckweed, and the even tinier watermeal, can be mistaken as algae, but are beneficial native plants.



"JAR TEST"

Planktonic cyanobacteria float

True green algae and Euglena usually sink



"STICK TEST"

Filamentous green algae hangs off the stick like green hair

Photo by Gina Lalberre

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Photo by Gina Lalberre

Summer is On the Wing

Look for the American White Admiral Butterfly

By Zack Loken, UW-Stevens Point, College of Natural Resources Graduate

The pupa, more commonly referred to as a butterfly chrysalis, is a vertically suspended structure that oddly resembles bird poop.

Have you ever been walking along a Wisconsin lakeshore and noticed a caterpillar (or chrysalis) that closely resembled bird poop? It may have been the white admiral butterfly—a fairly common species of insect throughout Wisconsin. The white admiral can be found in four different stages throughout its life cycle: egg, caterpillar (larva), chrysalis (pupa), and butterfly (adult). The eggs, which resemble a whitish hexagonal sphere containing spikes, are laid during late-April near the tips of leaves and hatch into larvae after about seven days. The larvae, more commonly referred to as caterpillars, are predominately greenish-brown with a diagonal white saddle on their back. They wield tiny pairs of spiny horns on both their front- and rear-end, which aid in their sense of smell and touch.

In their caterpillar stage, which only lasts a few weeks, their main objective is to eat as much food as possible so that they have enough stored energy to undergo pupation. The pupa, more commonly referred to as a butterfly chrysalis, is a vertically suspended structure that oddly resembles bird poop. A peculiar attempt at avoiding predation, indeed. This

pupa attaches to a small silk pad at the base of a leaf by a bundle of microscopic hook-shaped extensions (i.e. cremaster) located on the top-end. After a couple of weeks in the chrysalis, the white admiral caterpillar finally emerges as an adult butterfly. The adult spends summer months (July and August) flying in search of a suitable tree canopy to perch itself upon; once perched, mating females are sought out by local males in order to reproduce for the upcoming year.

Adult white admirals can be easily spotted by the upper surface of their black wings, which are edged in iridescent blue patches and have a diagonal white stripe dividing the forewing and hindwing into nearly equal halves. Some individuals may have reddish-orange spots on the outer edge of the front wing's white stripe, but this is more than likely indicative of the red-spotted purple admiral—a closely related, but distinctly different species. Adult wings span anywhere from 2 ¼- to 4 inches long, appearing remarkably different on the undersides compared to the top. The wing's undersides are predominately brownish-black with areas of iridescent blue. Additionally, the undersides contain large orange spots on the innermost edge, a row of bright orange spots



The eggs resemble a whitish hexagonal sphere containing spikes.



White admiral butterfly caterpillar eating a wild cherry tree leaf



Attached to cherry tree branch preparing for metamorphosis



The veins in the wings are already visible



The skin over the wings is now hard



Ready to emerge with wing colors showing through

May 23

Two days later

One hour later

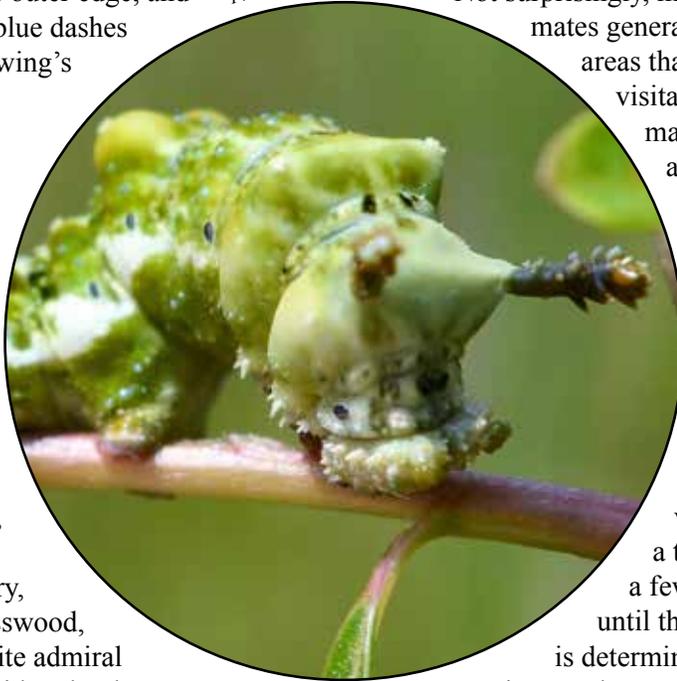
June 1

June 2

towards the wing's outer edge, and two rows of light-blue dashes curving along the wing's margin.

A variety of trees and shrubs common in deciduous broad-leaf and mixed evergreen forests provide food for the white admiral larvae, including wild cherry, aspen, cottonwood, oaks, hawthorn, deerberry, birch, willows, basswood, and shadbush. White admiral butterflies are considered to be generalists, with common sightings in bogs and lowlands. They prefer to feed on tree sap, fermenting fruit, or dung, but do occasionally take nectar from flowers. Additionally, white admiral butterflies frequently snack at wetland mud puddles and sip aphid honeydew to wash it all down.

photo by Rachel Schultz



Not surprisingly, males searching for mates generally try to defend areas that have high female visitation rates. During mating season, males are known to be very aggressive when it comes to defending an area abundant with potential female mates. Male residents perch under the sun until another male comes into the vicinity. If spotted, a tussle lasting up to a few minutes occurs until the dominant male is determined. In their free time, males periodically patrol their territory in search of other outsiders who may attempt to take charge; males have a high fidelity for the territory they are defending.

Keep a lookout in the woods for the beautiful white admiral butterfly. You'll need to pay attention though, because they travel in a very quick zigzag pattern. 💧



They prefer to feed on tree sap, fermenting fruit, or dung, but do occasionally take nectar from flowers.



Less than 6 hours later, the chrysalis is empty



This beautiful white admiral butterfly unfolds to become much larger than its empty chrysalis.

Photos in timeline by Siah St. Clair

Read Siah St. Clair's blog "All of Nature" about the White Admiral Butterfly Life Cycle at <https://allofnature.blogspot.com/2012/05/white-admiral-butterfly-life-cycle.html>



AIS Signs

Reporting Help Needed

By Jeanne Scherer, AIS Outreach Specialist, UW Madison-Division of Extension and Wisconsin DNR



This sign should be posted at all boat launches throughout the state of Wisconsin.

The *Prevent the Spread of Invasive Species* sign at Wisconsin boat launches first went up in 2010-11. The continued goal of this project is to place this sign at every boat launch in the state and remove outdated signage. During installation or replacement, the locations are recorded and entered into the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' (WDNR) SWIMS database (SWIMS stands for Surface Water Integrated Monitoring System). Properly reported sign locations can be viewed on an interactive map called the Lakes and AIS Mapping Tool.

Find Your Closest AIS Coordinator

Go to the WDNR's website (dnr.wi.gov) and type "AIS Contacts" into the search box. The first search result will take you to a map where you can search by county, region, or topic.

evolving understanding of the pathways AIS take to enter our waterways, three additional WDNR approved signs have appeared on the landscape. They all focus on the AIS prevention steps: Inspect, Remove, Drain, and Never Move.

How to View Sign Locations Using the Lakes and AIS Mapping Tool

Go to the WDNR's website (dnr.wi.gov) and type "Lakes and AIS mapping" into the search box. The first search result will take you to a webpage where you can click "Proceed" and accept the terms of use to use the mapping tool. Reported sign locations can be viewed by selecting the "AIS Sign Installation" layer under the "Education & Outreach" section.

One of the first questions heard when a new aquatic invasive species is discovered in a lake, stream, or wetland is, "Are there AIS signs out there?" Unless someone has regularly checked and

With the help of lake groups, we can expand our AIS sign monitoring efforts! If you are responsible for checking the signs for your lake(s) or river launches, download and complete a copy of the survey form (see the info. box on page 11). It can be used during a regular check of AIS sign conditions, putting up new signs/cleaning stations, or replacing old signage. You can use the form if a launch has more than one launch sign or multiple sign types, but please use a separate form for each launch. If you have added or replaced a sign this summer, please use the form to bring our records up to date.

These signs are generally grant funded. Your local AIS coordinator can answer questions you have about additional signage at your landings.

maintained AIS signs or reported the location of new signs, we are not able to answer that question. WDNR, county, and regional AIS Coordinators check the signs and replace them as necessary, but many are not well-monitored. In response to new AIS discoveries and our

If you are a SWIMS user and don't have the Sign Installation project for your county in



AIS sign with cleaning tools



AIS stream/wetland access sign



Boot brush station with AIS sign



your project list, contact Jeanne via email (jeanne.scherer@wisc.edu) and she will add it. If you don't use SWIMS, you can find your closest AIS Coordinator and provide the survey to them, or email it to Jeanne. Please include at least one clear photo showing how the sign looks on the landscape.

Important: The survey is only for the four types of approved AIS signs. For any launch, work with the property owner for sign placement and management. If dealing with

[Download the AIS Signage Report from the CBCW Website](#)

Go to the Extension Lakes homepage (uwsp.edu/uwexlakes) and click the CBCW logo. You can find the AIS Signage Report by selecting "Resources" and then "Materials".

signage on WDNR property, you must first have a land use agreement in place with the manager. If you have any questions or need a sign, contact jeanne.scherer@wisc.edu for more information. 💧

2019 Invader Crusaders



Each year, the Wisconsin Invasive Species Council and Department of Natural Resources honor Wisconsin citizens and organizations for their significant contribution to prevent, control or eradicate invasive species that harm Wisconsin's lands, waters, and wetlands.

During the ceremony on June 5, held at Olbrich Botanical Gardens in Madison, Tom Beuchel, chair of the council, thanked award winners for taking it to the next level. "You are transforming local hands-on management into teaching and organizing opportunities to broaden the impact of your efforts."

Listed here are the award winners in each of the four categories:

[Professional Individuals](#)

Maureen Ferry, *Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources*

Emily Heald, *Water Program Coordinator, North Lakeland Discovery Center*

[Professional Groups](#)

Aldo Leopold Foundation
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's Nursery Inspector Team

[Volunteer Individuals](#)

Rod Sharka, *Volunteer Land Manager, Tenderfoot Reserve*

Douglas H. Frazer, *Village President and Weed Commissioner, Village of Fox Point*

Michael Vahldieck, *Volunteer, Dane County Parks*
Donna VanBuecken, *Volunteer, Wild Ones*

[Volunteer Groups](#)

Woodland Dunes Barberryans
Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration

To read more about what each of these individuals and groups contributes in order to slow the spread of invasive species, go to <https://invasivespecies.wi.gov/awareness-month/awards>.



Photo by Jane Sinkins



WELCOME ABOARD!

New AIS Coordinators



anna@fwwa.org
920-851-4336

Anna Bartsch is the new AIS Coordinator for Shawano and Menominee Counties, replacing Brady Stockwell at Fox-Wolf Watershed Association. She started in mid-May, and is working to make connections with folks in that area. Anna graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in December 2018 with a major in water resources, and a soil sciences minor. She worked as a watercraft inspector for Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) a couple summers ago and worked for an environmental restoration company last summer, both of which gave her experience and sparked an interest in invasive species control. In addition to expanding the Connecting Our Waters program, she is out at boat landings this summer sharing the CBCW message.

Tom Boisvert is also a recent graduate from UW-Stevens Point, and he is excited to be the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Coordinator for Burnett County. Obtaining a bachelor's of science in wildlife ecology and management, while minoring in biology, Tom brings his knowledge to the Burnett County AIS program. Previously, Tom was an AIS Project Assistant two consecutive years for the Oneida County Land and Water Conservation Department, and he also volunteered heavily with a variety of different organizations to control AIS. His previous work and volunteer experiences in the AIS field have given him a solid AIS background. He is eager to expand his knowledge in the AIS field, and is looking forward to a productive AIS field season.



tboisvert@burnettcounty.org
715-349-2109 Ext. 1382

New Statewide Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan Approved and Available for Public Use



After being approved by the national Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, Wisconsin's recently revised aquatic invasive species (AIS) management plan is now final and available for use by the public. Wisconsin's last AIS management plan was completed in 2002.

“Since the original version of the plan was approved, we have new species that we are concerned with, new pathways of invasion in Wisconsin, and new tools to help us manage the undesirable impacts of aquatic invasive species,” says Bob Wakeman, AIS Program Coordinator for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. “The new plan incorporates these approaches and concerns into our management plan so that we will be using the most effective methods possible to manage AIS.”

The plan can be accessed by navigating to dnr.wi.gov and doing a keyword search for “aquatic invasive species efforts.” The plan will be linked on that page. Printed copies are available upon request by emailing DNRAISinfo@wisconsin.gov.



Aquatic Plant Management Strategic Analysis

Aquatic plants are a critical component of the state's freshwater environment. They help to ensure good water quality and clarity through their influence on sediment stability, nutrient uptake, and oxygen content, while providing habitat and food for fish and wildlife. Sometimes, however, aquatic plants can become overabundant and interfere with water recreation and other uses of lakes, rivers, and ponds.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) is responsible for balancing the protection of aquatic plants with the management of problem species. Aquatic plant management (APM) is important to Wisconsin's people and communities. Recreational users, property owners, and the tourism industry benefit from an effective APM program.

The strategic analysis document summarizes current information on APM, including known and possible environmental impacts, applicable regulations, economic considerations, and potential alternative approaches for the future. It does not establish department policy for the review of specific APM projects or proposals. Rather, it is intended to serve as an informational resource to help decision-makers and the public to better understand the topic, and to aid in the crafting of future policy.

The scope of the analysis was limited to APM. This includes APM for controlling aquatic invasive plant species (AIS) but does not include AIS prevention, such as boater outreach and education. AIS prevention is covered by the Wisconsin Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan (see box to the left).

Strategic Analysis of Aquatic Plant Management in Wisconsin



Photo Credits (horizontal from top left): Paul Swanson, Robert Smith, Jennifer Haurak, Richard Hunt, Alex Work, Paul Swanson, Chuck Doolittle, Brian Mikulak

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
June 2019



SNAPSHOT DAY RIVER ALLIANCE OF WISCONSIN

Saturday August 17, 2019

A statewide search for aquatic invasive species

From 8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Join over 200 volunteers who are helping protect a river or lake near you!

FREE: tote bag, boot brush, & more!

All ages welcome - no prior experience required.
If you want to wade in or stay dry, there is a site for you.

For more information and to find a Training Site, contact: ndutack@wisconsinrivers.org
To register visit: wisconsinrivers.org/events

Hosted by River Alliance of Wisconsin in partnership with: Extension UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

The poster is for "Snapshot Day" on Saturday, August 17, 2019, from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. It is a statewide search for aquatic invasive species. The event is free and includes a tote bag, boot brush, and more. All ages are welcome, and no prior experience is required. If you want to wade in or stay dry, there is a site for you. For more information and to find a training site, contact ndutack@wisconsinrivers.org. To register, visit wisconsinrivers.org/events. The event is hosted by the River Alliance of Wisconsin in partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Statewide Lakes & Rivers Gathering

Photo by Doug Moore



Todd Hanke, Stephanie Boismenu and Tom Boisvert enjoyed networking time during the poster presentation at the 2019 Lakes Convention & WAV Symposium.

If you have ever attended, or heard about the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention or the Water Action Volunteers Symposium, we are here to tell you that these statewide gatherings are not going away. In fact, we have been partaking in a little of our own relational capacity building by pooling our resources and partnering for education.

Over the past four years, the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership and the Water Action Volunteers Stream Monitoring Program have combined their annual statewide gatherings. “Using the same facilities, materials, and people-power

Interested in presenting?

You can submit your presentation idea by clicking “Call for Presenters” on the 2020 convention page. Just go to uwsp.edu/uwexlakes and click “Convention 2020” in the left navigation under *Events*.

just makes sense,” said Eric Olson, Director of Extension Lakes, who are contracted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to “plan and manage the annual Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention.”

After four successful years of bringing together lake and river education and providing a space for researchers, management specialists, citizen scientists, and other lake lovers to share successes and lessons learned, we realize that our face-to-face statewide gatherings continue to create and inspire networking that ultimately benefits our state waters.

One of the problems, however, is combining the names *Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention* and *Water Action Volunteers Symposium*. Whew! We’re in the process of figuring out how to shorten this name and are interested in your thoughts (contact Eric at eolson@uwsp.edu

or 715-346-2192). In the meantime, this year’s theme will be *Wisconsin Waters 20/20: Focusing Our Vision on Lakes & Rivers*. You may have noticed that we are playing off the year 2020 to *focus* our *vision*. It’s *clear* we are a fan of puns.

Just take a *look* at our past convention themes. (Go to uwsp.edu/uwexlakes and click on *Convention Archives* located under *Resources* in the left navigation.)

Wisconsin Waters 20/20 Focusing Our Vision for Lakes & Rivers

April 1-3, 2020 ~ Stevens Point, WI



CALENDAR

August 17, 2019 – AIS Snapshot Day, WI (statewide)

Join other water enthusiasts at a location near you for the annual statewide Aquatic Invasive Species Snapshot Day. Learn how to check for invasive species that can harm waterways.

For more information: <https://www.wisconsinrivers.org/statewide-snapshot-day/> (also see page 13)

August 20-21, 2019 – Northern MI Wetland Plant ID, Marquette, MI

This two-day class will focus on identification of wetland plant species and will be mostly field based. The class will examine both common and unique wetland species in a variety of wetland habitats around the Marquette area.

For more information: <https://miwetlands.org/events/2019-northern-plants/>

September 21, 2019 – Central Sands Water Walk, Rome, WI

Grandmother Josephine Mandamin, originator of the water walk, died on February 22, 2019. The Central Sands Water Walk will honor Grandmother Josephine. It will begin at the Lake Arrowhead Park Pavilion at 8:00 am (Sunrise Ceremony at 6:30 am), and the approximately six-mile walk will be accompanied by a young boys' drumming group from Lac du Flambeau reservation.

For more information: <https://cwnfwi.org/central-sands-water-walk>

September 21, 2019 – Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup

Today, plastic has been found in 62% of all sea birds and in 100% of sea turtle species! Join millions of water lovers to help keep our coasts clean by volunteering your time or donating to the cause. Ocean Conservancy even has an app called CleanSwell to record the trash you collect.

For more information: <https://oceanconservancy.org/trash-free-seas/international-coastal-cleanup/>

September 24-26, 2019 – Wisconsin Counties Association Annual Conference, Wisconsin Dells

This unique opportunity allows county officials to come together and learn from one another, as well as receive updates on county issues.

For more information: <https://www.wicounties.org/events/#conference>

October 9-11, 2019 – Science in the Northwoods, Woodruff, WI

Join your colleagues from universities, state and federal agencies, tribes, and nongovernmental organizations to learn about and discuss science being conducted in the Northwoods.

For more information: <https://kemp.wisc.edu/sitnw/>

October 27-31, 2019 – International Conference on AIS, Montreal, Quebec

Learn about aquatic invasive species research that pertains to species biology, risk assessment, prevention, management and control methods, ecological and ecosystem impacts and restoration, outreach, and policy. For more information: <https://www.icaais.org/>

November 3-6, 2019 – Annual AWRA Conference, Salt Lake City, UT

Join us in beautiful Salt Lake City, Utah for the AWRA 2019 Annual Water Resources Conference and take part in a technical program with a depth and scope that has earned a reputation as one of the most diverse and inclusive conferences in water resources management.

For more information: <https://www.awra.org/> (click *Events and Networking*)

November 11-15, 2019 – 39th NALMS International Symposium, Burlington, VT

The theme this year is Watershed Moments: Harnessing Data, Science, and Local Knowledge to Protect Lakes. For more information: <http://www.nalms.org>



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Reflections

Water

*The water understands
Civilization well;
It wets my foot, but prettily,
It chills my life, but wittily,
It is not disconcerted,
It is not broken-hearted:
Well used, it decketh joy,
Adorneth, doubleth joy:
Ill used, it will destroy,
In perfect time and measure
With a face of golden pleasure
Elegantly destroy.*

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

