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Redesigned "MyDNR Digest" makes its debut, today

By: Diane Brinson, Office of Communication

"Connecting with one another and the work we do for Wisconsin"

Editor's Note: To automatically bring up the "MyDNR Digest" homepage in subsequent emails generated when an issue is posted, right click on the the box above in this email and select "Add the Domain to Safe Senders List."

The day has arrived to "take the wraps off" the new and improved "MyDNR Digest." Born of insights you offered in a 2008 readership survey, and features found on our Intranet and Internet pages, the goal was to enhance the "Digest" to make it more useful to you as you do your job.

Several people contributed their ideas on the new look. It was business automation specialist **Jeff Margenau**, Bureau of Technology Services, who committed to making it happen.

With the new look comes our commitment to continue high quality content. And, that depends on you. By clicking on the new "Submit Article" button at the top of the "Digest" homepage, you'll find information on how to get your idea or story into print. You'll also read that the "mission of 'MyDNR Digest' is to communicate about the department's work, policies and issues that matter to DNR employees, as well as recognize the accomplishments of employees."

Just as important, on the "Submit Article" page I encourage you to send me feedback that you believe will help accomplish this mission. Survey respondents said they value the "Digest," and they and other readers can assure that this newsletter remains relevant

Here's a snapshot of what you'll find waiting for you in your redesigned "MyDNR Digest," starting at the top:

- As you asked for, you're getting improved searching capabilities. The "Digest Archives" button will list previous issues for the past five years. To fine tune your search, type a word or phrase in the "Search Digests" box, and you'll receive all pertinent stories.
- The "Employee Tools" button will expand your search to commonly searched locations, e.g. external site, dictionary, weather, etc. Once you've indicated what you want to search, you'll be returned to the search box on the top of the "Digest" homepage.
- Photos from the "MyDNR Scenes of Wisconsin Gallery" will reflect the current season. Left click on a photo, and you'll be redirected to the source, where the view will be larger and a caption will be included. Hit the "refresh" button, and new seasonal photos will appear.
- "Inside this issue" is laid out for our left-to-right reading style. Stories are numbered to provide an easy reference. As before, merely click on the title and you'll be transported to the specific story.
- In an effort to bundle DNR's communication tools, links just above the line on the homepage will connect you to the "Secretary's Corner," "Weekly News," "News Releases" and the "Outdoor Report."

You'll continue to receive an automatically-generated email alerting you that a new "MyDNR Digest" has been posted. From this message, you can go to the full issue or click on a story title and blurb to bring up a story of particular interest.

This new look and enhanced features are a work in progress. Ongoing quality improvement is a goal. As I'm able to develop new segments, such as "Thanks to DNR employees," I'll look for feedback and contributions from readers.

For all of this face lifting, let's not forget the content of "MyDNR." I depend on readers to send me stories or story ideas. Ask yourself as you consider contributing "Is this information that will make DNR employees statewide aware of my program, proud of our agency, better informed about the challenges we are tackling? You are the "face of the DNR. The Office of Communication wants your help providing the information that allows you to better represent DNR in your community."

Footnote: "MyDNR Digest" editor Diane Brinson produced the "DNR Digest" when all work was done by hand and readers received paper copies. Today, the Office of Communication strives to take advantage of technology to meet the information needs of those who read "MyDNR Digest."



Turkey Federation names Nate Kroeplin 2009 Warden of the Year

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Every year at their statewide convention, the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) recognizes one of DNR's conservation wardens for his/her outstanding work when it comes to enforcement, education and community involvement that compliments the NWTF mission.



Nate Kroeplin is the National Wild Turkey Federation's Wisconsin "Warden of the Year" for 2009. He'll compete for national honors at the federation's annual convention.

WDNR Photo

For 2009, the NWTF chose South Central Region warden Nate Kroeplin, Fitchburg, to honor as its "Warden of the Year." Kroeplin's area of responsibility covers northern Dane County, including lakes Mendota and Monona.

Kroeplin, a Minoqua native, joined the Wisconsin warden force in 2000 and has been based at Fitchburg since spring 2002.

"The NWTF nominees for Wisconsin "Warden of the Year" were Nathan Kroeplin, Joe Paul, Lakewood; Rick Peters, Merrill; and Bob Jumbeck, Alma. The NWTF awards committee informed me that they struggled in making the final selection given the outstanding quality of work all four of these folks do," said DNR chief warden **Randy Stark**.

As Wisconsin's "Warden of the Year," Kroeplin will attend the NWTF's national convention in Nashville later this month, and will compete with other officers from around the country for the national conservation law enforcement award.

Bill Meddings, a member of the NWTF Black Earth Creek Longbeards Chapter that nominated Kroeplin, praised his "positive attitude and spirit of cooperation" when it comes to promoting and participating in youth education, Learn to Hunt programs, and Women in the Outdoors events.

Warden supervisor **Jeremy Plautz**, complimented Kroeplin for his recruiting and training of new conservation wardens. "He is committed to his roles as a field training officer, defense and arrest tactics instructor, and lead instructor for the Recruit Conservation Warden Fur School." He added that Kroeplin has participated in several public relations events for outdoor activities in Dane County.

"The National Wild Turkey Federation is a great partner of ours in working to pass on the hunting tradition," said Stark.

Founded in 1973, the NWTF is dedicated to the conservation of the wild turkey and the preservation of North America's hunting heritage. Through partnering with state, federal and provincial wildlife agencies, the NWTF and its members have helped restore wild turkey populations across the country, raised and spent more than \$306 million, and conserved nearly 14 million acres of habitat for all types of wildlife, according to the [NWTF](#) website.



DNR's climate change webpages go live

By: Autumn Sabo, Bureau of Air Management

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Wisconsin wildlife, such as this American Marten, will feel the impact of climate change on their habitat. WDNR Photo

DNR unveiled its "[Wisconsin Climate Change](#)" website on February 2, after months of development by a dedicated cross-program team.

On DNR's new climate change webpages, DNR employees and the public can learn about climate change basics, current events and Wisconsin-based initiatives. Examples include:

- A simplified explanation of the greenhouse effect
- Wisconsin and US emissions data
- Wisconsin climate trends and projections
- Videos of climate change presentations
- State and federal climate change legislation links
- Ways you can make a difference
- A quiz called "How green are you?"

The "[Subscribe to Climate Change Updates](#)" webpage will provide GovDelivery updates for showcase stories and tips of the week.

New approach to developing websites used

This web presentation was built using the topic team approach, which DNR will transition to as part of the agency's new web structure. Web governance and duties will be distributed differently, involving more people from multiple programs.

To submit additions or revisions to the climate change webpages, program staff should work with their program content specialists listed here:

- *Wisconsin Clean Energy Jobs Act*: **Al Shea**, administrator of the Division of Air and Waste; **Joanie Burns**, chief of the Environmental Analysis and Outreach Section
- *Air Management*: **Joanie Burns**, section chief Environmental Analysis and Outreach; **Ed Jepsen**, air management specialist
- *Education*: **Mary Hamel**, air quality education and outreach coordinator
- *Energy*: **Dave Siebert**, director of the Office of Energy
- *DNR Facilities and Lands*: **Sanjay Olson**, Engineering and Construction Management Section chief
- *Fisheries*: **Andy Fayram**, fisheries specialist
- *Forestry*: **Avery Dorland**, forest geneticist and nurseries specialist
- *Land Use*: **Sally Kefer**, Land Use Team leader
- *Research*: **David Webb**, Environmental Science Services Section chief
- *Endangered Species*: **Tara Bergeson**, conservation biologist
- *Water Resources*: **Tim Asplund**, water resources management specialist
- *Water Use*: **Steve Elmore**, water resources management specialist
- *Waste*: **Brad Wolbert**, hydrogeologist

The bureau of Air Management and Science Services will continue to collaborate on the management and future development of DNR's climate change web presentation. With input from program content specialists, we'll ensure the climate change web presentation stays current and that new features are developed as business needs arise. Serving in these ongoing roles will be:

- *Executive Sponsor*: Al Shea, Air and Waste Division administrator
- *Climate Change Content Editor*: Mary Hamel, air quality education and outreach coordinator
- *Climate Change Internet Manager*: **Chris Welch**, science communications manager
- *Climate Change Content Coordinator*: **Autumn Sabo**, natural resources educator

Share the news of this resource with your partners and colleagues, and encourage them to link to DNR's climate change webpages.



New Intranet "Air Alert" box added to air quality advisory tools

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There now are three ways to internally receive Air Quality Watches and Air Quality Advisories. On days when DNR employees' health could be impacted by poor air quality or their work could add to air emissions, they'll now be able to access an ["Air Alert Issued" box](#) on the Intranet home page, MyDNR. Clicking on this box will lead them to the same information found by clicking on the companion ["The Wisconsin DNR has issued an Air Quality Alert"](#) link under "Important Updates" on the top of the DNR homepage available to the public.



A "hazecam" view of Milwaukee under an Air Quality Watch.
WDNR Photo

A yellow "Air Alert Issued" box will appear in the upper left corner on the "MyDNR" Intranet homepage on those days when the department's Internet homepage is activated with an Air Quality Watch or an Air Quality Advisory. Clicking on the box leads to the "Air Quality Watch/Advisory" webpage for further information.

"As summer approaches, I want to remind you about the internal department communications for Air Quality Watches and Air Quality Advisories, and the department's commitment to leading in voluntary actions to reduce air emissions on Air Quality Watch Days," said Air and Waste Division administrator Al Shea in his annual air quality watch and advisory message to the Department Leadership Team. "The ['Air Quality Watch Workplace Guidelines'](#) that we adopted four years ago still apply when an Air Quality Watch is issued." Law enforcement, rescue work and critical protection activities are exempt from these recommendations

The Intranet "Air Alert Issued" box joins two other ways DNR staff can learn when an Air Quality Watch or Advisory has been issued:

Listserv sign-up

The listserv is the most direct way of communicating to anyone who wants to be made aware of watches and advisories. All DNR employees are encouraged to sign-up for the listserv, particularly if you have either special health concerns or your work can affect air quality e.g., controlled burns, driving or mowing lawns, etc. To sign-up for the listserv, go to the ["Subscribe to Air Management updates"](#) webpage.



The same view of Milwaukee under ideal air quality conditions.
WDNR Photo

Email notification from supervisors

All DNR supervisors were automatically added to the Air Quality Watch and Advisory listserv to assure that they're directly notified when a watch or advisory is issued. Supervisors are in a unique position of directing the activities of their staffs and are encouraged to send an email to their employees when a watch or advisory is issued for their area of the state.

The brochure "[What is an Air Quality Watch?](#)" also is available and explains watches and advisories, health concerns, actions to take and where to get air quality information. For hardcopies, email [Chris Tall](#) in the Office of Communication.

"The department encourages all employees to lead by example and take actions to help reduce emissions that affect health," said Shea." To learn more, read the June 5, 2008 "DNR Digest" story "[Air Quality Watch guidelines for DNR workplaces communicated.](#)"



Researchers receive grants to study climate change and air quality

By: R. Chris Welch, Bureau of Science Services

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The bureaus of Air Management and Science Services recently acquired close to \$300,000 from the [Wisconsin Focus on Energy's Environmental and Economic Research and Development Program](#) for research projects that will contribute to the future management of Wisconsin's natural resources.



Science Services will assess the long-term hydrologic impacts of climate change on Wisconsin's natural and built environments.

WDNR Photo

These funds are among the \$1,347,418 in Focus on Energy grants recently awarded to scientists to investigate various energy and climate change questions. DNR's grants break down as follows:

- **Adam Mednick**, research scientist in the Bureau of Science Services, received a \$55,841 grant to assess long-term hydrologic impacts of climate change across Wisconsin.
- **Larry Bruss**, chief of the Regional Pollutant and Mobile Source Section in the Bureau of Air Management, obtained a \$243,351 grant to examine public health benefits in Wisconsin derived from biomass energy production.

[Focus on Energy](#) works with Wisconsin residents and businesses to install cost-effective energy efficient and renewable energy projects. Its Environment and Economic Research and Development Program supports research efforts that fill gaps in existing knowledge about the interconnections between energy use, environmental quality and economic stability.

In addition to the Science Services and Air Management researchers, eight other research groups at various University of Wisconsin campuses and one private consultant received funding to address energy and climate change topics including one awarded to the State Lab of Hygiene to study the contributions of fossil fuel-fired electric power generation to PM2.5 (fine particulates) concentrations in Wisconsin. Much of the funded research will directly benefit the [Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts \(WICCI\)](#), a collaborative DNR and University of Wisconsin effort that provides science-based information and recommendations to natural resources managers.

For additional information about these grants and projects, email [David Webb](#) in the Bureau of Science Services or call him at (608)266-0245.

Footnote: *Chris Welch is science communications manager in the Science Information Services Section.*



Ducks Unlimited honors DNR biologist Brian Glenzinski

By: Ducks Unlimited News Release

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Dedicated conservationist named Wisconsin Partner of the Year

Ducks Unlimited (DU) on February 3, named DNR wildlife biologist **Brian Glenzinski**, Waukesha, its "Conservation Partner of the Year." Glenzinski received the award at DU's Wisconsin state convention, in Wisconsin Dells.

Partners are key to DU's conservation efforts, and DU works with these partners—individuals, organizations and state and federal agencies—that allow current projects to move forward and foster the initiation of new ones.



Brian Glenzinski (center) received the "Conservation Partner of the Year" award from Ducks Unlimited chair Nels Swenson.

WDNR Photo

Glenzinski's commitment to waterfowl habitat conservation is unprecedented. In 2009, he collaborated with DU on the Bloomfield State Wildlife Area and the Big Muskego Lake Sediment wetland projects. He also played a lead role in coordinating a \$1 million proposal to protect and restore wetlands in the Mukwonago and Fox rivers. Finally, DU recognized him for co-authoring a \$75,000 small North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant proposal for wetland restoration work at Vernon Marsh State Wildlife Area.

After graduating from UW-Stevens Point with majors in wildlife and biology, Glenzinski went to work at DNR, where he got his first taste of wetland and grassland restoration.

The DNR biologist worked with DU and the U.S. Department of Natural Resource Conservation Service to implement the Wetland Reserve Program in Wisconsin. Glenzinski also serves as coordinator of the department's Glacial Habitat Restoration Area.

DU biologist Jason Hill recognized Glenzinski's efforts as a member of DNR's staff, as well as his personal commitment to preserving Wisconsin's natural resources.

[Ducks Unlimited](#) is the world's largest non-profit organization dedicated to conserving North America's continually disappearing waterfowl habitats. Established in 1937, DU has conserved nearly 13 million acres thanks to contributions from more than a million supporters across the continent. Guided by science and dedicated to program efficiency, DU works toward the vision of wetlands sufficient to fill the skies with waterfowl today, tomorrow and forever.



State's online airline reservation booking tool will change on March 29

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"Travelport," Fox World Travel's online airline reservation booking tool for state of Wisconsin employees will be replaced with "Cliqbook" on March 29. As of next Monday, February 15, all "Travelport" users will be unable to create or update profiles in "Travelport."

On February 15, Fox World Travel will begin moving all existing profiles into Cliqbook. If you need to create a profile or make changes to an existing profile after Monday, contact Fox World Travel at (866)230-8787 for assistance. There is no charge for this service.

The travel page [State of Wisconsin's Fox World](#) travel page, which now features all necessary connections to "Travelport," will include everything needed to work with "Cliqbook."

University of Wisconsin campuses converted to "Cliqbook" within the last two months and are successfully booking travel with the new tool.

As Fox World Travel moves all profiles into "Cliqbook," the new tool will include name, contact information, travel preferences, airline credits and travel coordinator designations throughout the next six weeks.

Some items that will not transfer include:

- Charge card information
- Past trip history
- Information on any upcoming trip booked in "Travelport"
- Guest profiles
- Previously assigned travelers (if you had a Travel Coordinator designation)

What has to happen before March 29:

- Travelers should print off any trip receipts/itineraries/information contained in "Travelport" that may be required after the conversion.
- Trip information will not carryover from "Travelport" to "Cliqbook," and will not be available **after March 29, 2010**.
- The reservation process will not change during the transition. Fox World Travel will maintain the same level of service with e-mailed changes, itineraries and invoices.

What to do on March 29

Log in on Monday March 29 (your user ID will be your business email, and the default password for all travelers is "Cliqbook"); and complete the following:

- Change the default password (you will be prompted to do this upon first login).
- Verify that your profile information is correct and enter your charge card information.

Benefits of "Cliqbook"

"Cliqbook" offers enhanced capabilities and improved ease of use compared to "Travelport." Some of the benefits travelers and travel coordinators will realize with this conversion are:

- Compatibility with all standard Internet browsers including "Firefox," "Safari" and Internet Explorer
- User friendly search including an all inclusive airline fare matrix
- Ability to make reservations on Southwest
- Pre-booking access to existing unused non-refundable tickets, which will allow travelers to make their flight selection based on their inventory.

Program benefits that we will continue to realize include:

- Electronic fare auditor, which searches for and re-books lower fares as found
- 24-hour traveler assistance telephone number
- Ability to book hotel and rental car with air reservation
- Ability to cancel a purchased, non-refundable ticket by 5 p.m. the following business day without penalty within "Cliqbook"

"Cliqbook" fees negotiated in the contract extension that will go into effect upon implementation are:

- Online self-service: \$7.25 (plus \$2.00 airline pass through charge that has been in effect for some time.)
- Online agent assisted: \$18.25 (plus \$2.00 airline pass through charge)

Training scheduled to begin March 22

Fox World Travel will provide both in-person familiarization sessions and online Webinars prior to the conversion during the week of March 22, 2010. Email [Rick House](#) or call him at (608)267-7208 **by February 18**, if you or your co-workers are interested in attending an in-person training session. Once he has an idea how many participants will be attending, House will send out the location, date and times.

Training also will be provided on an ongoing, monthly basis through the online Webinars. House also soon will provide additional information on these Webinars.

Contact Rick House if you have any questions and watch for a follow-up email with information on training opportunities.



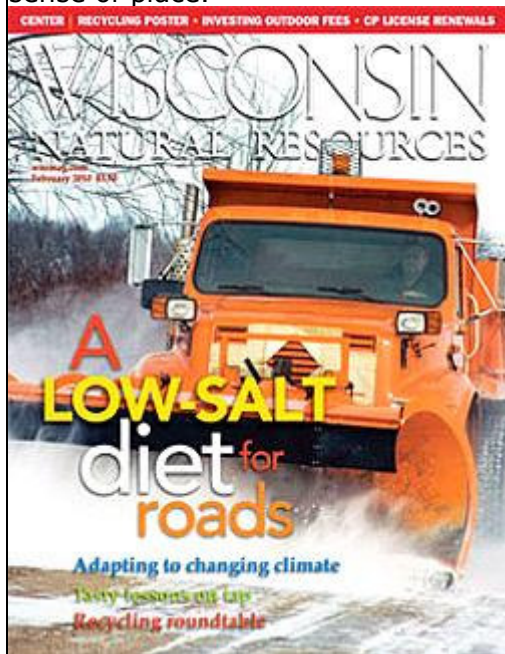
Whether old or young, February magazine has something for all ages

By: Natasha Kassulke, Bureau of Customer Service and Licensing

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Researchers predict climate changes in Wisconsin, recyclers celebrate 20 years of recycling law, winter road crews share ways to make roads safer with less salt, and kids of all ages find a sweet treat in the February issue of **Wisconsin Natural Resources** magazine.

Longtime Wisconsinites believe they've seen it, and new research proves them right. Our state's climate is changing. In this issue, a team of scientists at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies predict changes that could profoundly affect our natural resources, economy and sense of place.



The cover of the February 2010 **Wisconsin Natural Resources** magazine depicts a scene familiar to those driving Wisconsin's roads.

WDNR Photo

Then, a roundtable of some of the state's top players in Wisconsin recycling recall how the law developed 20 years ago, discuss why recycling programs have been so successful, and speculate on what recycling trends might create business opportunities in the future.

And, with the cold and snow upon us, road crews are banking on cautious drivers, new de-icers, and carefully timed applications and calibrated equipment to give them a chance to keep roads clearer and safer with less salt.

A "Regional Reads" story offers suggestions to kick back and enjoy books about Wisconsin's roots, routes and rituals, while a story on the MacKenzie Environmental Center in Poynette takes readers outdoors to get sticky and savor maple syrup making up-close.

This issue of the magazine also contains three inserts: the annual reminder to Conservation Patrons to renew their licenses; a poster on ways to hone your recycling habits; and a brochure highlighting how Wisconsin license and permit fees are spent.

You'll find it all in the February issue of **Wisconsin Natural Resources**. Let us deliver six colorful issues to your door all year for less than \$1.50 a copy. All year long we share the hot spots at the hot times to enjoy the Wisconsin outdoors for only \$8.97. Subscribe toll-free at 1-(800)678-9472, online at [Wisconsin Natural Resources](#) or by mail. Subscription forms and single issues are available from the magazine's circulation office at P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707.

For more information, email magazine editor [David L. Sperling](#) or call him at (608) 266-1510.

Footnote: *Natasha Kassulke is creative products manager for the **Wisconsin Natural Resources** magazine.*



Legislature considering clean energy, deer hunting and bear hunting bills

By: Paul Heinen, Office of the Secretary

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Below are highlights for proposed legislation, at this time. For a complete status of DNR-related bills and laws for this biennium, see the ["2010 Bill Tracker"](#)

Highlighted bills

- The Senate Select Committee on Clean Energy and the Assembly Special Committee on Clean Energy continued to hold hearings on the Clean Energy Jobs Act bills **AB 649** (Spencer Black) and **SB 540** (Mark Miller). Three more hearings remain before the committees vote on their respective bills.
- The Senate Natural Resources Committee held a hearing on **SB 222** (Russell Decker) that makes a number of changes to hunting laws concerning unloaded and uncased guns in vehicles, as well as how long group hunters can have to tag a deer. The committee is scheduled to vote on this bill this week.
- The Bear Bill, **AB 371** (Ann Hraychuck), which recently passed the Assembly, will get a Senate hearing on February 11. The bill will expand the privileges of a Class B bear licensee to allow the hunter to shoot a bear under certain circumstances, and also expands bear dog training opportunities

Footnote: *Paul Heinen is the policy initiative advisor for the Secretary's Office.*



Deadline extended for artists to sign up for wildlife exhibit in August

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If you're a current or retired DNR employee and you'd like to display your wildlife and landscape art but missed the January 30 deadline for submitting your entry, DNR retiree Dave Edwards has extended the deadline.



This photo of a male Blackburnian Warbler is an example of the wildlife art that will be displayed at the Beaver Dam "Guardians of Nature" exhibit later this year.

WDNR Photo

Edwards has heard from about 15 department or retired artists who are interested in displaying their work. Although he's striving for a minimum of 35 artists, he still intends to highlight DNR's talent in this first-of-its-kind show.

The exhibit of landscape and wildlife art will be sponsored by the Beaver Dam Area Arts Association and run from August 29 through October 10, 2010.

Read Edward's original call for entries in the December 17, 2009 "Digest" story ["Retiree seeks DNR artists for 'Guardians of Nature' exhibit."](#)

If you're interested in displaying your artwork, email [Dave Edwards](#) or call him at (920) 887-0962.

Footnote: *Dave Edwards worked for DNR for 28 years in the Waste Management and Environmental Enforcement programs.*



Sauk County town names road after the late Ruthe Badger

By: Greg Matthews, South Central Region

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Thanks to DNR employee

The Town of Merrimac passed a resolution recently designating a road "**Ruthe Badger Lane**" in recognition of the late South Central Region (SCR) director's efforts on behalf of the Sauk County municipality. The one-mile long road primarily serves as the access to homes on Lake Wisconsin's Weigand's Bay and is adjacent to a park that's very existence local officials credit to Badger.



Ruthe Badger served the state and protected its natural resources.

WDNR Photo

Richard A. Grant Park, a 12-acre parcel cooperatively owned and managed by DNR and the Town of Merrimac, is one of the last truly undeveloped Lake Wisconsin properties along its northern shore.

DNR awarded a \$195,000 Lake Protection Grant to the town for buying its portion of the park. "If it wasn't for Ruthe, it wouldn't have happened," said former town chair Dick Grant, the person for whom the park is named.

"We thought about naming the property Grant Park and confuse all the flatlanders," quipped current town administrator, Tim McCumber.

"Ruthe worked with the town in facilitating the (park land) purchase and it's fitting that the road is named after her," said McCumber.

The town kicked-in by raising \$70,000 in private donations to help buy the parcel, which includes 1,050 feet of lake frontage, undeveloped forest, offshore fishing and wildlife such as deer, turkey, eagles, osprey and herons.

"The natural surroundings create one of the oldest growth forests on Lake Wisconsin, as well as one of the largest undeveloped shorelines on the lake," pointed out McCumber.

Although primarily used for fishing, the property does offer a hiking trail and picnic area. DNR has a long-range vision of providing day camping sites and boat access.

The property also adjoins the former Badger Army Ammunition Plant, part of which will be transferred to DNR, possibly this spring.

Badger served as regional director for 11 years until her retirement in June 2005. She passed away in February 2006. To this day, she still is sorely missed by her many friends, colleagues and co-workers, not only in SCR and DNR, but throughout state service.

"We are looking to keep the site natural, protect existing riparian habitat and eventually provide more fishing opportunities with the possibility of a handicap fishing pier, items Ruthe would appreciate," added McCumber.

Footnote: *Greg Matthews is the public affairs manager for the South Central Region.*



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For More information: Contact [Diane Brinson](#) - Digest Editor, Phone: (608) 266-5215

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