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Safe operation of DNR's heavy equipment taught on location

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Heavy equipment operators in the bureaus of Parks and Recreation, Wildlife Management, Forestry, Fisheries Management and others are able to avoid time consuming and costly "windshield time" traveling to training as, for the first time, heavy equipment training will come to them.

The Office Fleet Management is offering this new training effort, led by **Patrick Kelly**, natural resources program specialist and heavy equipment operator with the office, stationed in Wild Rose.

"Patrick is bringing heavy equipment and trailer safety training to a job site near you," wrote DNR safety manager **Marsha Present**, Peshtigo. "He's traveling the state providing this unique safety training to staff using their own equipment and at their locations."



Barney Protheroe, fisheries heavy equipment operator in Wild Rose, demonstrated how he manages an excavator as fleet manager **John Leighty** (center) and Patrick Kelly (right) observed close-at-hand.

WDNR Photo

Kelly described the training as including a wide range of topics and “customized to help any one of the DNR’s shops and or programs to fit their individual needs or concerns.”

In addition to safety and proficiency of equipment, trucks and trailers, Kelly is helping field staff by teaching how to perform “regular in-field maintenance of their equipment and the proper transport techniques.”

“The other aspect of the new program is on site safety audits to our operations crews. These audits are not surprise visits, but rather a scheduled visit to one of our crew’s job sites. In a nut shell, just being able to see our different unit’s trucks, trailers and equipment, and how they transport, operate and maintain that equipment, will give me the opportunity to help them by seeing where they need specific training the most.”

Some of the points included in Kelly’s new training include:

Safety audits

- Making sure job sights are as safe as possible by removing unnecessary equipment, vehicles, tools, debris, people, etc.
- Every person on the job sight has all of the necessary personal safety equipment.
- Verifying that operators are using the three-point climbing procedure. More operators are injured climbing in and out of equipment than by any other heavy equipment related incident.

Machine maintenance

- Identifying whether operators are checking their machines prior to use.
- Cleaning the tracks out everyday saves a lot of unnecessary wear on the machine’s moving parts.
- Loose tracks can create unnecessary wear on the undercarriage and a good possibility of throwing a track.

“One of the shortfalls I recognized right away is that many of those I’ve trained hadn’t previously been taught how to safely and securely load their equipment for transport, one of the most important steps to know,” said Kelly. “By going to their specific location and using their specific equipment, those attending received hands-on experience not available through centralized training.”



Warden’s arson case work lauded by statewide group

By: Hailey Alfred, Bureau of Law Enforcement

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Conservation warden **Ryan Volenberg** got the right people to talk to each other after three boats docked at the Salmon Harbor Marina in Kewaunee County were bombed by an arsonist.



Ryan Volenberg (right) accepts the 2011 Key Award for Wisconsin from Jeffrey Kubitz, president of the state chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators.

It was Volenberg's liaison skills, along with his investigative know-how, that proved pivotal in helping to solve the 2009 case, earning the Green Bay warden top honors from a group that knows what it takes.

The International Association of Arson Investigators presented its 2011 Key Award for Wisconsin to Volenberg at its June 8 banquet in Stevens Point. Only one recipient is selected each year.

For Volenberg, this case also was personal. "I knew all these charter captains who had their boats burned. I knew how much they were attached to their boats and how important their businesses were to them."

Volenberg was instrumental in arranging communication between a confidential source and arson investigators. This proved to be a key turning point for the case that resulted in the conviction of Joseph Sloma, who is serving a six-year prison sentence. He also was ordered to pay \$320,000 in reparations to the boat owners.

Northeast Region warden supervisor **Byron Goetsch** noted that Volenberg's award reflects his professionalism and public service dedication. "Ryan is an excellent investigator, one who is willing to work on issues beyond his regular responsibilities for the benefit of everyone in Wisconsin," Goetsch said. "I am not at all surprised by this recognition."

Footnote: *Hailey Alfred is a TOPjobs communications intern in the Bureau of Law Enforcement.*



DNR honored for work on Kinnickinnic River cleanup

By: Marcus Smith, Southeast Region

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Several DNR employees were among those honored on June 7 recently for their role in successfully dredging PCB (Polychlorinated Biphenyls) and PAH (Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons) contaminated sediments from Milwaukee's Kinnickinnic River. Department employees are on the team of federal and local stakeholders who received the First Annual Environmental Excellence Award from the Western Dredging Association (WEDA), which covers North, Central and South America, at the

organization's annual conference in Nashville.

WEDA selected the [Kinnickinnic River Environmental Restoration Project](#) from among six projects located nationwide in Louisiana, Maryland, Texas, Oregon, Washington and Wisconsin.

According to WEDA, the Kinnickinnic River Project was selected for the award because it's a model for multi-stakeholder collaboration, technical innovation, workforce development, and waterfront revitalization.

DNR employees **Xiaochun Zhang**, water resources engineer/modeler, Bureau of Watershed Management; **Marsha Burzynski**, water resources specialist, Milwaukee; and **Deb Johnson**, attorney, Bureau of Legal Services have worked on the project since 2001 with tremendous support from many DNR employees (past and present) including: **Ted Bosch** wastewater engineer, Milwaukee; **Dan Derr**, accountant, Bureau of Finance; **Mark Dudzik**, archaeologist, Bureau of Facilities and Lands; **Bill Fitzpatrick**, contaminated sediments engineer, Bureau of Watershed Management; **Sharon Gayan**, basin supervisor, Milwaukee; **Greg Hill**, retired sediment management section chief, Bureau of Watershed Management; **Ben Hung**, water resources engineer, Bureau of Watershed Management, **Jim Killian**, water resources specialist, Bureau of Watershed Management; **Rachel Sabre**, water management specialist, Milwaukee; **Candy Schrank**, fisheries toxicologist, Bureau of Fisheries; **Frank Schultz**, waste and materials supervisor, Milwaukee; **Greg Searle**, Monitoring and Management Section chief, Bureau of Watershed Management; **Bizhan Sheikholeslami**, waste management engineer, Waukesha; **Kim Walz**, water resources engineer, Office of Great Lakes; **Will Wawrzyn**, fisheries biologist, Milwaukee; **Steve Westenbroek**, water resources engineer, Milwaukee; and **Jonathan Young-Eagle**, waste management specialist, Bureau of Remediation and Redevelopment.

Plaques were presented to staff from DNR and EPA Great Lakes National Program Office. DNR employees who worked on the project were unable to attend the ceremony because of travel policy.

In addition to DNR, other project participants included: the U.S. EPA Great Lakes National Program Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Detroit District, Port of Milwaukee, City of Milwaukee Business Improvement District 35, CH2M Hill, Ryba Marine Construction Company, Gillen Company and Freeman Environmental Services. After assessing the extent of contamination, the Kinnickinnic River Project began in 2001, followed by engineering design and sediment removal that was completed in 2009. Approximately 170,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment were removed, and the project achieved the goal of cleaning up the river with the support and involvement of the public.

Within in the department, staff crossing various programs in the central and regional offices contributed their expertise to the project. The Bureau of Remediation and Redevelopment supported engineering design; the Bureau of Waste and Materials Management assisted in managing the disposal of dredged materials; the Bureau of Facilities and Land provided archeology review of the site; and the Bureau of Legal Service assisted in entering project agreements.

Footnote: Marcus Smith is the public affairs manager for the Southeast Region and assists the Northeast Region with its communications needs.



Department completes Wisconsin watershed map series

By: Amalia Baldwin, Office of Communication

Editor's note: This story was published in the July 2011 national Project WET newsletter.

Four years ago, the Wisconsin (Project) WET office "set sail" on an adventure: creating a series of posters to depict and explain the three major watersheds in the state. The first poster, "Lake Michigan," was released in 2008.



The front of DNR's new "Lake Superior" Project WET poster.
WDNR Image

The front of the poster is a color-enhanced view of Lake Michigan with a bold line showing the location of the Lake Michigan watershed boundary and drawings of plants, animals and vessels found within the watershed. The back of the poster provides details about the history, economy and environment of the Lake Michigan watershed and has a Project WET activity for educator use.

This poster was funded by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and by a grant from the Wisconsin Natural Resources Foundation.

The poster was very well received by formal and non-formal educators across the state and led to the funding of the second poster, "Upper Mississippi."

The "Upper Mississippi" poster looks very similar to the "Lake Michigan" poster and was funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Upper Mississippi National Wildlife and Fish Refuge). It was released in 2010 and distributed to collaborators in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, Iowa and Illinois.

With two posters completed, it wasn't hard to find funding for the third poster. "Lake Superior" ([front](#)) and ([back](#)) was published in 2011 with funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes National Program Office.

The three posters beautifully complement each other and are great resources for use in Project WET's "Branching Out" activity and others. They help our office explain the details of the Great Lakes Compact and spark meaningful discussions about the importance of knowing your watershed. A sample set can be ordered (via email) from [Kim Anderson](#), Wisconsin Project WET program assistant, or by calling her at (608)264-6280.

Footnote: *Amalia Baldwin is assistant coordinator for the department's Project WET and Project WILD education programs.*



2011 aquatic invasive species "Landing Blitz" surpasses last year, considerably

By: Jon Fischer, Bureau of Watershed Management

The 2011 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) "Landing Blitz" took place over the holiday weekend of June 30 to July 4, and the impact in numbers exceeded those of last year, by a lot.

This year's event was a true team effort featuring Clean Boats, Clean Waters inspectors; DNR staff and wardens; Wisconsin Sea Grant interns; and UW-Oshkosh interns conducting boat inspections and sharing AIS prevention information at more than 90 Wisconsin water bodies.



A "Clean Boats, Clean Waters" volunteer watercraft inspector talked with anglers about how they can stop invasive aquatic species. Photo courtesy of Sue Jones, Dane County Office of Lakes and Watersheds

Inspectors did a great job demonstrating the required steps for boaters, providing "Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!" stickers for boaters to place on their trailers, handing out AIS towels, and educating others on the importance of AIS prevention.

Preliminary reports indicate a huge increase in the number of boats inspected, people contacted and hours spent compared with 2010, numbers more than tripled. Here are the facts as of August 9:

- **Total boats inspected:** 7,793 (in 2010: 2,078)
- **Total people contacted:** 18,295 (in 2010: 4,652)
- **Total hours spent:** 3,098 (in 2010: 927)

The "Blitz" also received a great deal of news coverage, which helped spread the AIS message to the general public and boaters who weren't inspected over the course of the weekend. More than 40 news agencies featured the "Landing Blitz" as a part of their content, and AIS prevention appeared on nine TV news networks across the state.

"Thank you" to all of the volunteers who participated in this year's "Landing Blitz." Your efforts are invaluable to protecting the beautiful natural resources that Wisconsin has to offer. For a full list of participating groups and to learn how you can make a difference in the effort to "Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers," visit the ["Invasive Species/Prevention/Aquatic"](#) webpage.

Footnote: *Jon Fischer is an aquatic invasive species outreach assistant in the Bureau of Watershed Management.*



Secretary Stepp joined crew banding loons for research

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Secretary Cathy Stepp and DNR research technician Doug Killian cared for an adult, male loon while taking feather and blood samples for mercury analysis. The loon then underwent surgery to implant a transmitter. WDNR Photo

Secretary **Cathy Stepp**, Bureau of Science Services director **Jack Sullivan**, research technician **Doug Killian** and research scientist **Mike Meyer**, along with Kevin Kenow from the U.S. Geological Survey spent part of the night on July 27 banding and surgically implanting satellite transmitters in loons on Trout Lake in Vilas County.

Via use of satellite transmissions, the department will receive information on the loons' migration and wintering grounds.

In 2010, 10 Wisconsin loons and two Minnesota loons received transmitters. This year, 13 transmitters were put in place on loons in Minnesota, five in Wisconsin, and three in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

According to Meyer: "The goal is to evaluate the risk posed to migrating loons by botulism E toxicity in the Great Lakes where thousands of waterbirds, including loons, have died during fall migration over the past decade. The data also is useful in tracking loon use of wintering grounds, especially those grounds that may have been adversely impacted by the British Petroleum (BP) Gulf of Mexico oil spill."



More DNR employees leave to begin next chapter of their lives

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More DNR employees have chosen retirement as the next chapter in their

lives, leaving the department between April 1 and July 15. Stories in the [February 10, 2011](#) and the [April 21, 2011](#) issues of the "Digest" contained lists of retirements reaching back to October 2010. If you're wondering who replaced the person(s) you'd previously worked with, call the general phone number for your former colleague's program or their supervisor.

DNR retirements since April 1, 2011:

Dan Adams, Northern Region (NOR), program supervisor
Bruce Bacon, NOR, wildlife biologist
Steve Bade, NOR, Real estate specialist
Fred Bailey, Northeast Region (NER), water supply specialist
Jerry Bartelt, Madison, program manager
John Blayney, NER, forester
Barb Boettcher, NOR, customer service representative
Mike Bohn, Madison, information technology manager
Scott Boran, Madison, wastewater engineer
Raymond Briggs, NOR, forestry technician
John Bronikowski, South East Region (SER), recreational safety warden
Don Bush, South Central Region (SCR), team supervisor
Jane Cummings-Carlson, Madison, staff specialist
Greg Dahl, West Central Region (WCR), area supervisor
James Dalton, WCR, forester
Ken Denow, SCR, wastewater specialist
Steve Dewald, WCR, warden supervisor
Derek Duane, SCR, property supervisor
Jeanne Dukerschein, WCR, team supervisor
Genny Fannucchi, Madison, educator
Fletcher Flansburgh, SCR, wildlife technician
Marlys Foley, Madison, financial specialist
Kirby Foss, NER, ranger/assistant property manager
Mary Fradette, WCR, service center supervisor
Jackie Frase, WCR, program supervisor
Audrey Gantenbein, Madison, air management specialist
James Gobel, NOR, forestry technician
Robert Goerlinger, NER, warden team supervisor
Joe Golbach, NER, fisheries technician
Jim Grafelman, NOR, water regulation & zoning specialist
Gary Greene, SCR, heavy equipment operator
Bonnie Gruber, Madison, program and policy analyst
Airling Gunderson, SCR, wildlife technician
Paul Hainstock, SER, wildlife technician
Mark Hambrecht, Madison, construction representative
Karl Hansen, Madison, real estate specialist
Curt Hare, NOR, forestry technician
Terry Jensen, SER, property supervisor
Diane Johnson, NER, customer service representative
Ron Jones, NER, area supervisor
Neal Kephart, NOR, parks & recreation specialist
Brian Klobuchar, NOR, forester
Dennis Kobes, NOR, fisheries technician
Cheryl Krull, Madison, accountant
Ron Kurowski, SER, educator

Allen Larson, NOR, forester
Loren Larson, WCR, facilities repair worker
Kay Leege, NER, visitor services associate
Todd McCourt, NER, forester
Gloria McCutcheon, SER, regional director
Dennis McLain, SCR, ranger-enforcement
Tom Meier, WCR, property supervisor
Judy Meierotto, NOR, customer service representative
John Melby Jr., Madison, bureau director
John Nelson, WCR, operations team supervisor
Tom Nigus, NER, area supervisor
Jeff Norris, WCR, forestry technician
Dave O'Malley, SCR, real estate specialist
Ken Parsons, Madison, information management chief
Jon Peterson, NER, ranger-enforcement
Josie Pradella, Madison, air management specialist
Mark Putra, Madison, program manager
Joe Renville, Madison, attorney
Ron Retallick, SCR, facilities maintenance specialist
Marty Ringquist, Madison, environmental enforcement specialist
Doug Rinzel, NER, fisheries technician
Joan Rockwell, SER, customer service representative
Bruce Rodger, Madison, air management specialist
Kenyon Rosenthal, WCR, wildlife technician
Richard Roth, Madison, water supply specialist
Mark Saunders, NER, forestry technician
Greg Scalissi, Madison, agency electronics technician
Steve Schuenemann, Madison, air management specialist
Charles Schuler, Madison, wastewater specialist
William Schultz, NOR, waste management engineer
Barb Sosinsky, Madison, office operations associate
Nina Stensberg, WCR, forester
Al Stranz, NER, environmental analysis & review specialist
Al Tatzel, NOR, forestry specialist
Kathleen Thompson, Madison, program specialist
Danielle Valvassori, Madison, real estate specialist
Linda Van Pay, NER, office operations associate
Ken Von Ruden, WCR, fisheries technician
Scott Wardell, Madison, purchasing agent
Rich Wilcox, NER, facilities repair worker



DNR again supports jobs opportunity program

By: Rudolph Bentley, Bureau of Human Resources

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This year, DNR once again participated in the annual "Targeted Opportunity Program-jobs (TOPjobs)" intern program. It's the department's second time supporting this statewide program coordinated by the Department of Administration Division of Affirmative Action.



DNR's 2011 TOPjobs participating supervisors and interns posed together in the GEF2/GEF3 plaza.

WDNR Photo

Now in its 37th year, TOPjobs provides college students the opportunity to work in internship positions in Wisconsin state government. The program has placed more than 2,700 student interns in more than 30 different state agencies and university campuses.

Agencies such as the DNR can use TOPjobs as a way to encourage a diverse group of soon-to-be-graduates to think about the benefits of working for state government. TOPjobs provides valuable experience for the students, leading many to pursue permanent state employment after graduation.

DNR and its participating supervisors can be proud of the fact that in both years in the program, the department has lead all state agencies, including the University of Wisconsin, in the number of interns hired.

DNR divisions, supervisors and their 2011 TOPjobs interns:

• ***Customer and Employee Services Division***

Rudolph Bentley, Bureau of Human Resources: DeLaina Siltman

Carrie Mickelson, Bureau of Human Resources: Anthony Lindsey

Levon McAllister, Bureau of Technology Services: Shameeka Thomas, Matthew Polcyn, Dennis Wills and Brian Williams

Jane Lauderville, Bureau of Finance: Mee Lor and Mai Kar Lee

Natasha Kassulke, Office of Communication: Richard Billings

• ***Enforcement and Science Division***

Todd Schaller, Bureau of Law Enforcement: Hailey Alfred

• ***Forestry Division***

Tim Beyer, Southeast Region: Emily Boden

• ***Land Division***

Kimberly Currie, Bureau of Parks and Recreation: Michael Vang

Davin Lopez, Bureau of Wildlife Management: Kayla Martens

• ***Water Division***

Mike Luba, Bureau of Watershed Management: Alyssa Offut

Mike Lemcke, Bureau of Watershed Management: Corey Larson and Samantha Spiering

Susan Sylvester, Bureau of Watershed Management: Kimberly Thomas-Britt

Footnote: *Rudolph Bentley is director of DNR's Office of Diversity*



Around the state...DNR employees shine

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Central office success stories

- To **Mark Giesfeldt**, director of the Bureau of Remediation and Redevelopment: "Please accept this brief note of thanks for arranging the arsenic call on short notice last week for the Oak Creek Lakefront Project. This is a very difficult and important brownfield project for the city and it is much appreciated that you are devoting your valuable time to this project." *Thanks again, Art Harrington, Godfrey and Kahn*
- To **Shari Koslowsky** (conservation biologist, Bureau of Endangered Resources): "I just wanted to personally thank you for helping us (Jackson Electric) out on the KBB (karner blue butterfly) survey and habitat assessment you performed in a timely fashion to help expedite Jackson's time-sensitive underground project required for a casino expansion project they will serve. Sometimes it may seem that your work/efforts goes unnoticed or unappreciated, but I wanted to let you know that I greatly appreciate working with you on these matters along with other ER issues as you're very professional and pleasant to work with." *Darren Westby, senior consultant, Power System Engineering, Inc.*

Northeast Region success stories

- **Byron Goetsch**, region law enforcement leader, shared this [letter of gratitude](#) with **Andy Lundin**, conservation warden, Green Bay: "Andy, thanks for taking the time to participate in events like this and for making your presentations very meaningful! Well done!" *Byron Goetsch*
- **Ben Heimbach** (fisheries technician, Wild Rose Fish Hatchery): "Congratulations and job well done on the walleye propagation program. After almost 20 years of not raising walleyes at Wild Rose and then asking you to raise them in "artificial" lined ponds, you and your crew did a fine job. The total of 259,373 fish that reached sizes of 2.09" and 428/lb. and doing that in only 31 days was a great first year!" *Randy Larson (hatchery supervisor)*
- To **David Minkey** (air management engineer, Green Bay): "I found it (The air permit draft on the DNR's website) after a little playing around and discovering which permit to go into. Thanks for your help. You can be proud of your organization, everyone was very professional and helpful--very good group of people." *Thanks, John Berggren, resident who attended the Oneida 7 Generations Public Hearing on Friday July 29*
- **Laurie Neumann** (customer service representative, Oshkosh): "THANK YOU!!!! You really went above and beyond on this one. Your supervisor should be made aware of this example of EXCELLENT Customer Service. Please forward this to him/her or give me the name and I'll send my thanks. You not only diagnosed my problem, you went so far as to email me the PDF document of my non-resident fishing license, not requiring me to sign back in and go through all

the steps to print it myself. Again, thank you and have a most pleasant weekend!"
Chuck K.

"Laurie: I just received an email from a customer that you helped to get his fishing license. He was very appreciative and felt that you provided above and beyond service to him. He said you were "a fine employee and genuinely nice lady" and that you "kept the customer's needs in the crosshairs." It is always a special treat for me to receive a customer's compliment about a staff person, and you obviously provided exceptional service to this person. Thank you very much and keep up the great work." *Barry Gilbeck, customer service supervisor*

- **Tammie Paoli** (fisheries biologist, Peshtigo), **Steve Hogler** (fisheries biologist, Green Bay), **Rod Lange** (fisheries technician, Green Bay), and **John Huff** (wildlife biologist, Peshtigo): "Thank you so much for your excellent work yesterday for the NRDA (Natural Resources Damage Assessment) tour. Your discussion points were great and you were very engaging on so many aspects. Your expertise and passion came through loud and clear, and everyone loved it and learned a lot. No doubt it's tough for each of you to set aside the time it took for yesterday's program. Trust that it's a good investment as we strive to advance the program. Onward and upward - and have a great weekend." *Beth Olson, water program manager, Green Bay*

- A kudo for **Chris Lilek**, (Remediation and Redevelopment hydrogeologist, Plymouth): "We want to express our appreciation of the outstanding work that Chris Lilek has been doing. In her new position, she inherited at least four of our most challenging cases, and has been extraordinarily responsive and proactive in advancing our cases. None of these projects has been easy either. All of the cases involve offsite contamination, two of them are in the VPLE (Voluntary Party Liability Exemption) program, three of them are in DERF (Dry Cleaner Environmental Response), one was a Ready for Reuse loan recipient. She acknowledges (by phone or e-mail) receipt of every submittal and lets us know when she plans on reviewing it. She invariably has met or exceeded any target dates that she sets. She understands the fact that many of these responsible parties are struggling financially to remediate their sites and rely on her to make expeditious decisions. It is evident that she cares very much about her customers, and we wanted to convey this to you." *Don Gallo-attorney, Michelle Williams-consultant with Reinhart, Boerner & VanDeuren SC*

- **Don McKinnon** (supervisor, Potawatomi State Park) received the following note from a recent visitor to the park praising **Rock Island staff**: "Don, my family and I recently returned from an 8 day stay at Rock Island State Park. We have been going to Rock Island for 25 years and over the years have seen many changes. On our most recent visit we found the park clean and in the best shape we have seen. We know this doesn't happen by accident. The staff at the park was courteous and friendly and doing a wonderful job to maintain a special Wisconsin state park. I mentioned to park ranger **Randy Holm**, how nice the park looked, and his response was, 'I have a great staff.' I know a great staff is only as good as its leadership, and Randy should be commended for the fine job he is doing on Rock Island. Good and conscientious leadership is hard to find, and people like Randy are rare, the WDNR is lucky to have him."

- **Bob Hannes** (construction management engineer, Green Bay Thanks for spending so much time on fixing the lighting issue you...the Regional Office. You, along with Karen Nelson and Ray Sobiesczyk go above and beyond for each of us every day on the work done on this building. I wish I could give you three an increase in salary for these extra jobs we've begged you to do. **Jean Romback-Bartels**, regional land leader

- Written to **Jennifer Borski** (construction management engineer, Green Bay) and **Kathy Halbur** (government outreach supervisor, Green Bay): "Regarding a contaminated dry cleaner site: I want to THANK YOU both very much for spending time with the Sterling folks and myself on Tuesday. Following our meeting, we met for another hour, and I think everyone feels pretty good about the information you provided. Everyone has clarification now on what can happen, and I believe we will be able to move forward with the transfer of ownership."
Tonni Larson, president, CEO KimCentral Credit Union

- **Jenna Borski** (hydrogeologist, Oshkosh), **Jean Romback-Bartels** (regional land leader) and **Bruce Urben** (air and waste program manager, Green Bay): "I just wanted to send you all a quick note to say "Thanks" for your part in awarding the City of Neenah and Neenah CDA the Northeast Region Natural Resources Award. The award means a lot to both groups and it is very much appreciated."
Chris Haese, director of Community Development and Assessment, City of Neenah

Northern Region success stories

- "Please pass this on to **Dan Thill**, superintendent of Gov. Knowles State Forest and his staff: Just wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed using the Gov. Knowles State Forest this past weekend. (A weekend at the end of May.) I participated in the Run for the Border Endurance Ride. This is about the 5th or 6th year that this ride has been using trails on the state forest but it was also the best. The trails were in excellent condition on Friday but had deteriorated in some of the heavier soils by Sunday after almost 4 inches of rain. Speaking not only for myself but also for the members of the Upper Midwest Endurance and Competitive Rides Association I greatly appreciate the cooperation of the Department staff who assisted in making this ride happen." *TJ Edwards*

- "I did want to take a second to point out what a pleasure it is to work with **John Gillen** (forester ranger, Rhinelander). That guy never has any complaints about doing some work, ever. I've asked for John's help with a variety of forest tax issues in the past and now with this MFL Tree Farm audit, and he's just one of those guys who accepts the work with no complaints and gets things done. I even remember him back in marking camp where it seems half the time was spent complaining about that year's steaks, the color of sweatshirts, or the quality of timber we were marking. Not John, he would just throw an extra can of paint in the vest and hump it up to get some marking done." *Ken Symes*

- Compliment for **Don Tatalovich** (heavy equipment operator, Woodruff) and **Ron Rogers** (facilities repair worker, Woodruff) that work on boat landings: "Those guys do an excellent job. I see them often and they are always working hard, fixing or cleaning up, or mowing. Yesterday (June 22) they were fixing the

bumps in the ramp at Pelican Lake, it was pouring rain, but it didn't slow them down a bit! I use many of the landings for my job, and see the good job they do, not only for the public launching their boats either...the county guys, cops and numerous other people stop at these landings to use the restrooms, have lunch or whatever. I'm sure they don't get enough credit (or pay) for the good work they do. They should get a Gold Medal for all they do! A Big Thanks!" *Joelle Underwood*

- Compliment for **Steve Bade**, retired, real estate specialist: "We have been assisting the WDNR with acquiring 824 acres and about 10 miles of land along the White River. The person that has been behind all of this acquisition is Steve Bade, the Lake Superior Basin Real Estate Specialist for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. At our last meeting Steve informed us that he was retiring from the WDNR after 33 years of service. Steve has been wonderful to work with ever since the Friends (group) was formed. Even though we thought that Steve only worked for us and we gave him a lot of grief when acquisitions did not come fast enough, he had been responsible for the acquisition and provided the assistance for land management activities in the five northern counties of Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, Sawyer and Iron. I think back to when the Friends were first formed and to where we are now with the 824 acres protected in the watershed and I just marvel at what Steve has done. THANKS Steve for all of your hard work and good luck in the future. It has been a pleasure working with you." *Bill Heart, chair, Friends of the White River*

- "FYI, the Murphy Oil construction permit was signed today (June 1). **Andy Stewart** (program manager, Bureau of Air Management) did a great job working with Murphy Oil to reach a resolution to the outstanding issue! Thanks for your excellent work, Andy!" *Pat Stevens, administrator, Division of Air and Waste*

"Thanks also deserving to **Don Faith** (permit writer, Bureau of Air Management) and **Steve Dunn** (engineer, Bureau of Air Management), **Rhonda O'Leary**, compliance specialist and **Neal Baudhuin** (environmental engineer supervisor, Cumberland) for their work on the permit." *Program manager Andy Stewart, Bureau of Air Management*

"I want to thank you for your work on this. It was also great to see Andy give credit to the team. We are big believers in teamwork. Keep up the good work team!!" *DNR Deputy Secretary Matt Moroney*

- Compliment for **Steve Gilbert**, fisheries biologist, Woodruff: "I wanted to express my gratitude to who ever is responsible for managing a lake located on Hwy. 51 by the name of Sparkling Lake. Upon fishing this lake for the first time on Sunday May 29 and again on May 30, I have to say this is the most productive lake I have ever fished in my fishing "career" for quality fish. The restrictive limits on this lake are really working well and we need more of this in WI as fishing pressure continues to increase. Thank you so much for the great job you are doing with this lake and keep it up. Well done guys!! If I sent this email to the wrong person, could you please forward it to the individual responsible for the management of this lake?" Thank you! *Sam Clapper*

- "**Tanya Meives** (fisheries technician, Antigo), **Rick Halder** (fisheries technician, Antigo), and **Ben Rolling** (fisheries technician, Antigo) conducted the habitat

improvement work on the Evergreen River. Some friends and I just had a beautiful evening on the Evergreen. We appreciated this remote stretch of pristine water. We savored this northwoods trout fishing experience, which your restoration efforts provided. We were on your improved section of the Evergreen. Thank you for the experience." **Mark Peerenboom**, wastewater engineer, Rhinelander; **Brad Bowman and Howard Bowman**

- Warden team supervisor **Rick Rosen**, Spooner, sent out "The real story" to regional director **John Gozdziński** and regional law enforcement leader **Dave Zebro**, also in Spooner, in recognition of a nighttime, high-water rescue by two DNR wardens: "A little known factoid on this one--wardens **Chris Spaight** (Grantsburg) and **Paul Martin** (Webster) rescued each and every one of these stranded canoeists. That's right...all of them! They utilized Chris Spaight's DNR jet boat, yet again, to assist the other agencies that were present. It was some great work and they deserve the praise, though it may never 'make the paper.'" (Read "[Stranded canoeists rescued.](#)")

"Truth be told, Chris and Paul were so "ready to respond" that they actually travelled from Sawyer County (back to Burnett County) from an overbagging investigation, retrieved their gear and launched on the river in time to become the most successful asset in this incident. The river is extremely dangerous right now due to high water levels. This was also a nighttime rescue! I didn't want this moment to slip by. Outstanding work guys!!!" *Rick Rosen*

"Chris/Paul: "Thanks for your outstanding work. As always your equipment was prepared, you acted swiftly and with the courage and professionalism that makes us all look good. Your response certainly minimized any mental or physical harm to these canoeists. Really appreciate the dedication not only to the resources, but most importantly to the citizens we serve. Proud of your efforts." *Dave Zebro*

Southeast Region success stories

- Kudos to **Travis Schroeder** (water management specialist, Milwaukee) and **Brian Glenzinski** (wildlife biologist, Waukesha): "This week I have interacted with both DNR and DATCP employees, regarding a farm in Jefferson County that I'm buying, and all I can say is 'wow!' Everyone has been friendly, educational, and responsive. It is a welcome change to receive excellent customer service from our governmental agencies. Keep up the good work!" *Thank you, Scott Yanke, Dousman*

- Acting regional director **John Hammen** would like to thank all **Southeast Region conservation wardens** who participated in the COPS "Kids Camp" this past week: "Southeast Region conservation wardens hosted the Concern for Police Survivors (COPS) "Kid's Camp" for an eighth consecutive year at the Salvation Army Camp located at Army Lake in Walworth County. This national organization provides support to families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. Thirty-one law enforcement personnel attended the camp, which ran from July 26 through July 30. The camp was at capacity with nearly 140 kids and 95 adults. Conservation wardens coordinated outdoor activities for guests that included archery, gun shooting, fishing, canoeing and T-shirt printing. The camp has ample play areas, piers, rope and wall climbing, and wagon rides. Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch along with Enforcement and Science division

administrator Tim Lawhern visited the camp on Thursday, July 28.”

“Regional enforcement leader **Kevin Mickelberg** added thanks to warden supervisor **Jennifer Niemeyer** for coordinating the camp for the wardens and for doing an outstanding job!”

- *The Blood Center of Wisconsin* sent thanks to blood drive coordinator **Andy Boettcher** (hydrogeologist, Milwaukee) and the **Southeast Region Department of Natural Resources** for having another successful blood drive earlier this month. Andy reported the following results: “In all, they collected 21 units of whole blood and one unit of red cells. Because they are able to process the blood into various components, we have helped several dozen people. Thanks to everyone who was willing to pitch in and help others, including a number of people who came in on their day off to donate. Thanks for helping and enjoy the rest of your summer!”
- Congratulations to fisheries biologist **Doug Welch** (Sturtevant) *from the Lauderdale Lakes Improvement Association Fish Committee*: “Thank you again for making the fyke net demonstrations such a huge success on Saturday. Everyone was talking about what a great job you guys did and how much the demonstrations added to the event. Thanks again for all your help and support.”
- Congratulations to inland fisheries biologist **Ben Heussner** (Waukesha) *from Donald Gottschalk, an appreciative customer* who was impressed with Ben's Nagawicka fish report: “Your report was very thorough, informative and well written! I never realized the correlation analysis, mathematics, etc. that is used in a study such as yours. I paid close attention to your “future management recommendations” included in your report and am hopeful that they will be implemented. Thanks for what you and your colleagues do here in Wisconsin; your efforts are indeed appreciated.”
- Congratulations to **Michael Thompson** (Environmental Analysis and Review supervisor, Milwaukee) *from Anne Reis of the Urban Ecology Center*: “Thank you so much for drafting this letter. We appreciate the support of the DNR and the time you spent bringing in all the various regulatory and advisory staff that will help us complete the Milwaukee Rotary Centennial Arboretum restoration projects. Again, we appreciate your generous help.”
- To **Brian (Glenzinski, wildlife biologist, Waukesha)** a HUGE thank you to you and **your fellow DNR staff members** for the addition you brought to our Outdoor Family Night at Elmbrook Church last evening. I appreciate your dedication to your profession and the general public and for educating us on wildlife. Thanks for being willing and able to help with the event.

Would you please pass this on to the other members of your team that participated, as I met most of them just last night and did not get a chance to get their information? Thank you once again to all of you at the DNR who helped make this event a huge success.” *Jeff Mass, Elmbrookmen Outdoors*

Note: DNR staff (all stationed in Waukesha) including warden **Kyle Drake**, fisheries biologist **Ben Heussner**, wildlife technician **Molly Lundberg**, and fisheries technician **Gus Gospodarek** hosted Outdoor Family Night at a Waukesha County church and interacted with over 150 people.



Special committee's review of Managed Forest Program moves onto Senate

By: Paul Heinen, Office of the Secretary

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Senate Bill 161, the result of the work of the Legislative Council's Special Committee on Review of the Managed Forest Land Program, was introduced and referred to the Senate Natural Resources and Environment Committee for review and action.

You can view the status of all DNR-related legislation at "[Bill Tracker.](#)"

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



Links of interest...don't miss them

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- **Title:** "Toxics Release Inventory Data Community Right-to-Know" factsheet
Description: On July 28, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released preliminary 2010 data to inform communities and citizens of chemical hazards in their areas. The federal Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act requires industrial facilities that manufacture, process or use significant amounts of toxic chemicals to report annually on their releases of these chemicals. EPA maintains this information in the "Toxics Release Inventory" (TRI) database, and will update the data in August, September and October as it processes additional facilities' reports. Email questions you may have to Science Information Services Section chief [Dreux Watermolen](#) or call him (608)266-8931.

Link: "[Toxics Release Inventory Data Community Right-to-Know" factsheet](#)"

- **Title:** "Gov. Walker's testimony on St. Croix River crossing project"

Description: Governor Scott Walker submitted written testimony to the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on July 28 regarding the St. Croix River Crossing Project Authorization Act (S. 1134).

Link: "[Gov. Walker's testimony on St. Croix River crossing project](#)"

- **Title:** "Birds and Your Landscape Workshop (Grosbeaks Galore!)"

Description: The Wisconsin Stopover Initiative, which includes the DNR Bureau of Endangered Resources, Western Great Lakes Bird and Bat Observatory, and others will host a one-day workshop entitled "Grosbeaks Galore!" on Saturday, October 8. If you attend, you'll learn how to use native plants to attract and sustain migratory songbirds and the insects they feed on, and much more. Doug Tallamy, author of "Bringing Nature Home; and much, much more" will be the keynote speaker. You can pre-register, which is required, by emailing [Kim Grveles](#) or calling her at (608)264-8594.

Link: "[Birds and Your Landscape Workshop \(Grosbeaks Galore!\)"](#)"

- **Title:** "Horse fly and Deer fly Control"

Description: "They're the worst I've ever seen them." If you're a lover of the great outdoors, you've undoubtedly run into horse flies and/or deer flies while trying to enjoy Wisconsin's natural treasures. There are, however, no good repellants for deer and horse flies, because they fly too fast and do a hit-and-run feeding. Phil Pellitteri,

faculty associate in entomology with the UW-Madison, Insect Diagnostic Lab, has written this "University of Wisconsin Garden Facts" to help you and your animals cope with these common Wisconsin pests.

Link: ["Horse fly and Deer fly Control"](#)



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