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Horicon Marsh 2011-2012 speakers' series begins October 5

By: Liz Herzmann, Horicon Marsh Education Center

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As part of its education program, the [Horicon Marsh International Education Center](#) is continuing its popular guest speaker program, running from fall 2011 through spring of 2012. These presentations cover a wide range of natural resource and environmental topics of interest to the public.

Kicking off the 2011-2012 lecture series on Wednesday, October 5, will be fisheries biologist **Ron Bruch**. He'll update the audience on management strategies for sturgeon on the Winnebago system, one of largest lake sturgeon populations and fisheries in North America. The sturgeon management program dates back more than 100 years and is a world model for how to conduct sturgeon management effectively. Learn about one of Wisconsin's most unique fish, the sturgeon, and what we're doing to ensure this fish continues to prosper.



Britt Bunyard holds Amanitas, a type of mushroom. He'll talk about edible

mushrooms of Wisconsin on December 7.

WDNR Photo

All lectures are on the first Wednesday of the month and begin at 7 p.m. They are free and open to the public, no registration is required. Each lecture will be held in the education center's auditorium, accessible via the lower entrance. The center is located between the cities of Horicon and Mayville on Hwy. 28. Check out "[Horicon Marsh Maps](#)" online.

Following is the full schedule of 2011-2012 speakers and topics:

- **October 5, 2011:** DNR fisheries biologist Ron Bruch: "Lake Sturgeon Management on the Winnebago System"
- **November 2, 2011:** Board members of the International Wolf Center Jerry Sanders and Debbie Hinchcliffe: "Wolves"
- **December 7, 2011:** Publisher and editor in chief of "Fungi" magazine Britt A. Bunyard: "Morels to Maitake: the Edible Wild Mushrooms of Wisconsin"
- **January 4, 2012:** DNR wildlife biologist **Doug Fendry**: "Cougars in Wisconsin"
- **February 2, 2012:** DNR environmental enforcement specialist **Pam Kober**: "Making the Connection, Environmental Protection and the Public Health"
- **March 7, 2012:** Master designer Shannon Barniskis: "Creating a Bird Friendly Garden"
- **April 4, 2012:** DNR recycling educator **Elisabeth Olson**: "Get the Scoop on Keepin' It in the Loop"
- **May 2, 2012:** International Crane Foundation outreach coordinator, Joan Garland: "Whooping Cranes"

Footnote: *Liz Herzmann is a natural resources educator at the Horicon Marsh International Education Center.*



Last chance to get copy of the "Wisconsin Land Legacy Report"

By: John Pohlman, Bureau of Facilities and Lands

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DNR's "Wisconsin Land Legacy Report" is one of the foundations upon which the department and others set priorities for protecting and managing the places that make Wisconsin "Wisconsin." You still can get your own copy of the report until the middle of October.

"I strongly encourage staff and supervisors to take advantage of this last opportunity to get copies for their use. The report summarizes three years of collaborative study with our partners and the public on the places most critical in meeting conservation and recreation needs in the decades to come," said **Steve Miller**, director of the Bureau of Facilities and Lands and the primary sponsor of the study leading to the report.

Wisconsin Land Legacy Report

*An inventory of places to meet
Wisconsin's future conservation and recreation needs*



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Photos of Wisconsin adorn the cover of the "Land Legacy Report"
WDNR Photo

"The 'Legacy Report' is the foundation from which the department and many others throughout the state make decisions about which lands and waters are the highest priority to protect. It's the 'greenprint' to ensure that we pass on the wealth of Wisconsin's resources to future generations."

Customer service staff across the state will be coordinating employee orders and setting out signup sheets, with a deadline to order by October 14. Some service centers already have copies of the report, and will order additional copies to fulfill orders, once their supplies run out. You'll need to indicate how many copies you'd like. You also can request copies by calling the DNR Call Center at 1(888)937-7463, which will forward your request to your local service center.

If you're in the central office and would like to place an order, go to the information center on the first floor of GEF 2.

Following distribution to staff, remaining copies of the report will be offered again for free to conservation organizations, teachers, agencies and libraries. Any remaining copies will be available to the general public for the cost of shipping, or they can receive a free copy by visiting a DNR service center. The public and organizations can place phone orders by calling the DNR Call Center at 1-888-937-7463.

For additional information, contact your service center staff or me, [John Pohlman](#), or at (608)264-6263.

Footnote: *John Pohlman is a wildlife biologist.*



DNR warden named national boating officer of year

By: Joanne Haas, Office of Communication

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Treml is second to earn prestigious honor, which comes back to Green Bay

The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators named DNR marine conservation warden **Ben Treml** of Green Bay as their national Boating Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. Upon receiving this award, Treml brings it back to Green Bay where the first recipient also served more than a decade ago.

Retired marine conservation warden **Roger Hansen** was the first to win this national award in 2000. Treml, an 11-year veteran of the warden force, was mentored by Hansen.



DNR warden Ben Tremel (center) accepted the National Boating Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award from National Association of State Boating Law Administrators president James Graybeal (right) and Scott Swanby of Revere Survival Products, which co-sponsored the award.

WDNR Photo

"Just like the Green Bay Packers and the Lombardi Trophy awarded to the team after the Packers' victory at the 2011 Super Bowl, this national award for outstanding warden service to the public and the natural resources has returned to Green Bay," Northeast Region warden supervisor **Byron Goetsch** said of the award presented to Tremel on September 13 at the association's 52nd annual meeting in Milwaukee.

The non-profit organization, which represents authorities in all 50 states and U.S. Territories, initiated the national award in 2000 to honor the work of marine officers. Forty-two officers nationwide this year were nominated for the national award.

Tremel's dedication to clearing the public waters of intoxicated boat operators and developing warden water survival training are two reasons behind his top honor from the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and Revere Survival Products.

Tremel also was named Northern Region Boating Officer of the Year by the Northern Association of Boating Administrators. The award announced in late June symbolizes the highest level of achievement among boating law enforcement officers in the United States.

Warden Tremel has shown a strong boating safety initiative by increasing working relationships with other agencies that patrol his area (including the U.S. Coast Guard). He also is one of the department's two certified water survival instructors and has been critical in developing and providing water survival training to all of the wardens in the state.

For more information on the Boating Officer of the Year Award, visit the website.

["National Association of State Boating Law Administrators"](#)

Footnote: *Joanne Haas is the public affairs manager for the Division of Science and Enforcement.*



Worth a thousand words: images of us at work

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DNR at the 2011 Wisconsin State Fair



Kay McConnell, water supply specialist in the in the Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater, worked at the Office of Great Lakes display.
WDNR Photo



Executive assistant "Gundy" Gunerson explained the rules of the bean bag toss game to children at the fair.
WDNR Photo



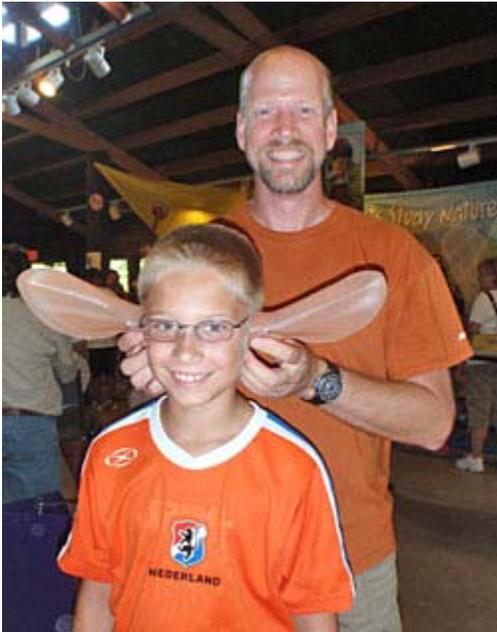
Fisheries field operations team supervisor John Komassa, from Eagle, helped a young fair visitor to the casting tent.

WDNR Photo



Chris Welch, business automation specialist for the Division of Forestry, gets Smokey's Schoolhouse ready for students at the State Fair.

WDNR Photo



Ricky Lien, Bureau of Wildlife Management's wetland habitat coordinator, showed a fair visitor, who happened to be his son Alex, how a white-tailed deer's ears are adapted to help them survive.

WDNR Photo



Forester Julie Peltier, Southeast Region, shows fairgoers what Emerald Ash Borer looks like.

WDNR Photo



Kelly Kearns, plant conservation biologist in the Bureau of Endangered Resources, is surrounded by invasive plants at one of the many outdoor displays at State Fair.

WDNR Photo



Angler education volunteers (left to right) Tony Lease and Cal Andersen lent a helpful hand at the Fisheries Management bean bag toss game.

WDNR Photo



Amy Klusmeir, from the Public Service Commission, spoke with fair goers about low flow toilet at the Office of Great Lakes/Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater exhibit.

WDNR Photo



Windows 7/Office 2010 pilot underway; rollout to IT staffs is next

By: Becky Brundidge, Northeast Region, and Annette Geringer, Bureau of Technology Services

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On September 9, a few brave volunteers began to pilot the rollout to the department of Microsoft Windows 7/Office 2010, under the watchful eyes of the project team. All is going well with the pilot, and the team is preparing for the next phase of implementation.

The next phase consists of rolling out the new computer operating system and suite of office software to the programs' information technology coordinators (ITCs) and the regional information management specialists (RIMS).

The schedule as it now stands:

- *Pilot rollout: 9/6/2011 – 9/30/2011*
- *Rollout to Bureau of Technology Services and the RIMS: early October*

When ITCs' devices are running Windows 7/Office 2010, and all software packages and applications have tested successfully, they'll provide the project team with a list of devices in their programs to be scheduled for deployment.

As all of this is happening, the Bureau of Technology Services (BTS) moves closer to an implementation start date for the rest of DNR's computer users. In the meantime, the team is doing prep work to assure that the agency's IT assets inventory/problem/change system management tool "ServiceCenter" is ready and able to use to schedule that deployment.

One of the first steps in implementing Windows 7/Office 2010 statewide is to upgrade to PCs/laptops/tablets, otherwise known as "PTDs," (personal technology devices) that can run the new operating system and office suite. ITCs are busy making PTD purchases to complete that initial step of the project.

And, lest you think that that's all our IT folks are doing at this time, the activity concurrently underway with the purchase process is testing all software packages and

applications that now sit on users' PTDs.

With deployment of Windows 7, DNR will transition from a 32 bit operating system (OS) to a 64 bit OS environment. Because of the variety of software and applications used throughout the department, the project team has been testing them in the new environment and is nearly done with this step. Each ITC will be responsible for selecting the method of deployment for their program.

Next up, choosing a method to install the new environment

The next step will involve BTS testing various rollout methods to install the OS and the Office Suite to PCs, laptops, etc. Many of you are familiar with the term "imaging" or "reimaging" of PTDs. If these are new to you, though, it's merely how BTS goes about placing an operating system and office suite on a PTD.

The new generation of Microsoft installation and monitoring systems makes available multiple options to image/reimage a PTD. During the course of the pilot, to be completed at the end of September, the project team has been testing these methods.

Once comfortable with the various methods, BTS staff will be the first to see their software and applications migrate to Windows 7/Office 2010.

Highlights of the pilot, testing and implementation to the new environment:

- During the migration, DNR will have in place an agency-run helpdesk that will handle all questions that arise. Instructions for accessing the helpdesk will be available in a future "Digest" story.
- The department will deploy the image with new virus protecting software. An agreement that DNR entered into with Microsoft includes "ForeFront EndPoint Protection." This new virus protection will integrate and extend security across the agency.
- The image will include interactive training guides, which you'll find on your computer's desktop in a training folder. These guides will help get you started with the new "ribbon" menus layout.
- On the first day of the migration departmentwide this fall, a frequently asked questions (FAQ) document will be available on the ["IT Works"](#) website for easy access.

The Windows 7/Office 2010 Project completion target date is June 30, 2012. The project team emphasizes that the testing and smooth rollout of the new computing environment wouldn't have been possible without those employees and programs that have participated in the pilot testing effort.

For answers to any questions you still have, email project manager [Becky Brundidge](#) or call her at (920)662-5436.

Footnote: *Becky Brundidge is her region's information management specialist and the Win7/Office 2010 project manager. Annette Geringer is the project communication lead.*



Help kids at Toki School "Take a Hike"

By: Carrie Morgan, Office of Communication

If you work in or visit GEF II, keep your eyes open for opportunities throughout the year to participate in fundraising events designed to provide the money needed to send all classes at Madison's Toki Middle School on a spring outdoor field trip.

Research shows that children who have outdoor experiences are more likely to care about the environment.

The department's Diversity Team and others will be sponsoring a number of events to raise enough money to pay for the school buses to transport the students.

I attended the Toki Science Fair last May and got to talk to some of the 7th graders who already had gone to Devil's Lake State Park. By all accounts, they loved it. The 8th graders, who had just finished a geology unit, were headed there the following week and couldn't wait. Many of the kids had never been to a state park.

So, watch for future events and do what you can to help send the kids at Toki Middle School out beyond their classroom walls.

Footnote: *Carrie Morgan is a natural resources educator and publishes ["EEKI"](#), the online "Environmental Education for Kids" website.*



Around the state...DNR employees shine

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Departmentwide

Diane Brookbank, director of the Bureau of Customer Service and Licensing collected the following feedback from customers using the department's chat services:

- "First time user today on webchat. Very nice tool for customers. I will be using it again. Thanks! I was able to obtain the requested information quickly and also was able to print out the chat session so that I can forward it to another person inquiring about a non-resident hunting license and miscellaneous requirements. Thanks - excellent service. Great service thank you!"
- Your live chat is awesome. don't stop.
- Well done...its nice to see a government agency embrace technology. Thank you
- Your chat line is a great customer service feature. Your DNR agent (**Stephanie**) was very helpful and friendly.
- Thanks for this service; one more reason I love to hunt in your state.
- I caught a tagged fish and wanted to report it. **Carrie** was very friendly and helpful. She gave me the information I needed in a very short time. By using the chat it saved me a great deal of time since I am no good with computers. I will definitely use it in the future. Thank you. *Pat*
- I am very grateful for the online chat. My son and I are new to hunting and have many questions. We don't want to get into trouble so we go to the online chat. The answers are always very clear and helpful. Thank you
- I was on live chat with **Lynn** today twice, and she was very helpful both times. I even learned something about serial numbers on a jet ski that I didn't know before. She is a plus to you guys. Thank you Jody

- I often use the DNR website for different information and different topics and the chats are so helpful. The site is truly a treasure and so are the folks that chat with me and help me out.
- Your chat is a very nice option to ask about regulations! thank you very much!
- I just want to say thank you for having this option for contacting the DNR about questions we have. It was so much easier than looking all over the internet for it, much less time consuming and a whole lot more personable. The rep who I talked to was very helpful and that's twice in the same week I've had the pleasure of dealing with a DNR rep. First was on Pike Lake by a **DNR officer** checking in on us (was nice to see them out and about checking for violations), and now with a live chat. Thanks again and may all your officers and everyone have a safe rest of the year.
- The chat worked really well and **Laura** was of great help and provided lots of information I was seeking, Thanks for providing this service. Especially for people seeking additional information from abroad (like myself living in Germany) it is of great value!
- Great service! Your agent gave us a contact phone number to help with an injured eagle. And, it's almost 9:30 p.m., which is extraordinary service. Good for you!

Kudos for **Wisconsin Conservation Congress committee liaisons** (central office and field staffs from wildlife management, fisheries, law enforcement, science services, and endangered resources; specialize in matters of interest to the congress): I just wanted to pass on the appreciation of the WCC. I was talking with Larry Bonde yesterday about recent committee meetings he has been to. As part of the new executive committee, he or another exec committee member, have tried to be present at most study committee meetings. He hasn't had the opportunity to interact with many of the committees and their liaisons in the past.

During our conversation, he mentioned how impressed he was with the department staff who attended these meetings. He thought that at all of the meetings he had been to, the liaisons were very happy to engage the committee members and discuss issues, helpful and well prepared, and just over-all did a tremendous job. He was so impressed that I thought you all should know that your hard work does not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

So, thanks...and keep up the good work. **Kari Lee-Zimmermann**, *Wisconsin Conservation Congress liaison from DNR.*

Northeast Region success stories

- To **Joan Voigt** (assistant naturalist guide at the Wild Rose Hatchery): Thank you very much for the excellent tour you gave to me and my family several weeks ago. You were very gracious, answered all our questions and really promoted the hatchery and the whole program in general. The kids and the adults in our group enjoyed the visit and the tour. We were at the hatchery in early August and came back again with my grand kids this past weekend. I appreciate your enthusiasm and hope you can continue to keep doing the job you appear to love. *Mike Graverson*
- **Christine Lilek** (hydrogeologist in Plymouth): Thank you for assisting us with this project, on behalf of Momentive, we really appreciate your efforts and

involvement in guiding us through this project. We strive, each and every day to make sure that our employees, communities, neighbors are safe and that the environment we work in is never negatively impacted by our manufacturing processes. As we continue to grow, we are making improvements to make sure our employees go home safely at the end of the day and that we have safeguards in place to prevent negative impacts to our environment. Thanks again and it has certainly been a pleasure working with you throughout this project. Once we complete the well abandonment, I will make sure we have the forms completely filled out and submitted in the near future. *Jeff Nelson*

- The **staff at Point Beach State Forest** received the following note from a woman who brings her children and grandchildren camping: "To everyone at Point Beach--**Guy, Ryan, Brian, Erin, Joan, Melany, Tracy, all others:** Thank you for being so nice and caring. This is just such a "special place" for me. Many wonderful memories and good times. It's very special to my family, too. I hope to see all of you in 2012. God bless each of you."

South Central Region success story



New waterfowl hunter Tylor proudly displayed his take on the first day in the field.
WDNR Photo

- To **Charlie Kilian**, wildlife biologist, Wild Rose: I just wanted to thank you for letting us know that there were a lot of ducks at Zeloski Marsh. I took my 12 year old, Tylor, out to the marsh and we had unbelievable hunting. Saturday he limited out with six ducks and Sunday he brought home five ducks and two geese. I enjoyed watching him hunt, more than hunting myself. Thanks for all the hard work you do to restore and manage our wetlands. If there is ever anything that I can help you with, please call. Thanks again, *Phil & Tylor*

Southeast Region success stories

- Pike Lake Trails Praised: **Joe Fieweger** (park ranger) recently received the following email from a visitor: "I was at Pike Lake today and hiked virtually every inch of your trail system. I was extremely pleased with how you and your staff have maintained these trails. I've been hiking for over 30 years all over the country, and your trail system has to be one of the best I have ever experienced."

In some places, the entire system is bad, in others it's a mixed bag, but at Pike Lake, every trail was flawless, all the intersections are signed with meaningful maps, and the actual trails were in complete agreement with the map (and vice versa). I haven't been to Pike Lake for many, many years...back when it was still a State Park. As such, everything was new to me, so it was great to have accurate maps and no confusing unmarked "surprise" trails.

I'll bet Pike Lake is a real treat once the leaves start to turn.

Please extend my compliments to your **maintenance staff**. I noted they were up by the Astronomy Trail today with their saws, perhaps taking care of some downed trees or something. I did not come across one trail obstruction the whole time. I even noted where you have put down boardwalks in those areas prone to mud or standing water, thereby making it easier on the hiker and protecting the trail, too. I liked that little attention to detail.

Please feel free to forward this e-mail to your superiors in Madison. They should know of your commitment to managing Pike Lake. By the way, it wasn't just the trails that were excellently maintained, but all the grounds, too. Thanks for serving the public and our State!"

- Congratulations to wildlife biologist **Marty Johnson** and water resources management specialist **Craig Helker** *from water management specialist Jen Jerich*: Today Marty Johnson and Craig Helker helped me complete field work for a large scale dredge project on the Waterford Impoundment in Racine County. The group used the DNR boat landing. Upon coming off the water it was noted that the bathroom area had a large amount of garbage surrounding it including a large amount of broken glass bottles. I was impressed with how quickly Craig offered to clean it up and Marty came up with a garbage bag from his car. An individual using the launch walked past us as we worked. The man commented that he was very happy to see that someone was cleaning it up. I thought you both would like to know how quickly and without hesitation both Marty and Craig went above and beyond
- Congratulations to Southeast Region staff, **John Hammen, Andre Ash** and all the members of the **Adopt-A-School committee (Julie Atkisson, Pat Chung, Chris Gengler, Heidi Jasso and Gervis Myles)** (on receiving) this letter *from Dr. Clavon Byrd, principal of the Frances B. Starms Discovery Learning Center*. On behalf of the students, staff, and families at the Frances Starms Centers, I thank you and your staff for your generous donation of school supplies to Frances Starms Discovery Learning Center. You can rest assured that the notebooks, paper, flash drives, monetary donations, and other school supplies have already been put to great use in helping our upper level students achieve success in their classrooms. I appreciate your willingness to support my students and their families with your generosity, your time, and your resources.

It is clear to me that the Southeast Region of the Department of Natural Resources is dedicated to the community you serve. Several members of your team have been phenomenal in serving as liaisons between the DNR and Starms. Andre, especially, has devoted numerous hours toward ensuring that our burgeoning partnership is a successful one. For that, I will always be grateful. Your team is to be commended for the impact that they have upon our overall school program. As we embark upon a new partnership with your organization through the Adopt-A-School program, I

encourage you to think of ways that our school may also support your organization.

- Letter to Sec. **Cathy Stepp** complimenting work done by **Jim Delwiche**, hydrogeologist: I want to express my sincere appreciation for the work done by Jim Delwiche in reviewing public health issues regarding the Waste Management—Brookfield Landfill as it relates to a proposed residential development in the immediate area. Over a period of five years, Jim worked well with City of Brookfield staff, elected officials and members of our Landfill Moratorium Committee on these important matters. His expertise and professionalism were most helpful. *City of Brookfield, Steven V. Ponto, Mayor*
- A big thanks to wildlife management technicians **Chuck Gatling, Ed Alt** and **Brian Laughlin** who successfully removed more than 100, seventy pound sandbags that were illegally dumped in wetlands adjacent to Turtle Lake in Walworth County. *Timothy Lizotte, area wildlife supervisor*



Beginning September 25 “out of office” notices available outside network

By: Richard Doty, Bureau of Technology Services

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Beginning September 25, email senders outside the state network will have access to your “out of office” email messages.

The Bureau of Technology Services will enable the “Out of Office Assistant” to go beyond the state’s computer network. In the past, the message was kept internal to the state computer network.

If you prefer that your message not be available to non-state network users because of privacy concerns, or if you want to change your outgoing message, you’ll need to use Outlook Web Access (OWA), instead of Microsoft Outlook.

Setting your “out of office” message using OWA:

- Go to <https://mail.wisconsin.gov>
- Log in with your accounts\<(username) account
- Select “Options” in the upper right hand corner
- Select “Out of Office Assistant” in the options pane on the left
- Select the “Send Out of Office auto-replies” radial button
- Select or deselect the “Send Out of Office auto-replies to External Senders”
- Type your auto-reply message in the text box for internal and external as needed.
- Click “Save” at the top left of the window

If you have any questions about this change, contact your IT coordinator (ITC) or regional information management specialist (RIMS).

Footnote: *Richard Doty is director of the Bureau of Technology Services.*



Northeast Region's Doug Rossberg passed away

By: Jean Romback-Bartels, Northeast Region

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Doug Rossberg, 63, passed away on September 8. DNR employees and many others came together in Door County on September 14 to celebrate Rossberg's life.

The recipient of a double-lung transplant in the late 1990s, Rossberg is described by his former coworkers as a survivor and a fighter, a lover of the outdoors, and a mentor to many in the DNR. He took pleasure in each and every day, something we all can learn from him.

Rossberg culminated his 28-year career working for DNR upon retiring from state service in 2005. He and his wife **Betsy** moved to Door County in 2003. She continues to work for DNR part time in the water program in Sturgeon Bay.

Rossberg spent most of his time with DNR working in the water program. He'd also worked in the solid and hazardous waste program. A strong proponent of working with externals to accomplish the department's mission, Rossberg coordinated citizen academies in the region, providing opportunities for the public to learn more about DNR, its programs and the issues we work on every day.

Born in Chicago, Rossberg is survived by his wife, two sons, a grandson and other family members. Memorials in Rossberg's name may be given to Friends of the Door County Park System, Inc., P.O. Box 562, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235 or the Douglas T. Miller Memorial Transplant Fund, UW Foundation, U.S. Bank Lock Box #78807, Milwaukee, WI 53278-0807.

Footnote: *Jean Romback-Bartels is the acting director of the Northeast Region.*



Check out lineup of fall fun at MacKenzie Environmental Center

By: Ruth Ann Lee, MacKenzie Environmental Center

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A good, old-fashioned "Hootenanny"

Celebrate the fall season with friends and family at the "Hootenanny" on Saturday, October 1. The two hour sing-along will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the main lodge. Bring your voices and/or acoustic instruments and help yourself to refreshments during an evening of free family fun.

The [MacKenzie Environmental Education Center](#) is located at W7303 Co Road CS, just two miles east of Poynette and 25 miles north of Madison.

Be prepared to be frightened on the "Haunted Hay Ride"

Come along and join us for a fun and spooky hay ride around the MacKenzie Center property. Zombies, witches, graveyards, ghosts and more will be "happy" to see you. If you can't make it on Friday, October 21 between 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., have no fear. You'll have another chance to see the resident ghouls the next evening, October 22. The hay wagons will depart from the loading area on a continuous rotating basis.

There will be a \$5 fee for those brave souls nine years old or older. Children between the ages of three and eight years old will cost \$3. The scare factor varies, so younger children can ride on an adult's lap.

Costumes are welcome, but dress appropriately for the weather. If you get chills up

and down your spine, warm up at the campfire with some snacks.
See directions to the MacKenzie Center above.

Footnote: *Ruth Ann Lee is the lead educator at the MacKenzie Environmental Education Center.*



Links of interest...don't miss them

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- **Title:** "Fishing Club"

Description: The September 8 "Digest" story "Fisheries Management breaks down barriers and makes connections" reported on the department's efforts to recruit anglers, young and old alike, from Hmong and Hispanic communities. Independent film maker Yles Munsayac produced and posted to "You Tube" this video account of the recent outing in Madison.

Link: ["Fishing Club"](#)

- **Title:** "Fall Color Report"

Description: Get ready for fall! Wisconsin's most colorful season is about to make a splash on 16 million acres of forests, and Travel Wisconsin is here to help you plan that perfect fall getaway. Over an eight week period, 100 fall color reporters will send in updates from all 72 counties. Available on the usual social network sites from your desktop to your mobile devices, you'll find the information you need to plan a trip to some of the most beautiful places in the state at this time of the year.

Link: ["Fall Color Report" @Travel Wisconsin.com](#)

- **Title:** "Governor Walker and key administration officials to host job creation forums"

Description: DNR's Secretary's Office will be among key economic development cabinet secretaries participating in an upcoming series of Job Creation Forums held by Gov. Scott Walker. Business leaders in various parts of the state will voice the concerns of job creators, and discuss with cabinet officers what the state can do to encourage job growth.

Link: ["Governor Walker and key administration officials to host job creation forums"](#)

- **Title:** "DNR attacks invasive grass along the bay"

Description: Recent spraying from helicopter of phragmites on 3,300 acres of private and public lands in Marinette and Brown counties got to the root of the problem caused by this invasive plant. Phragmites choke out native plant and animal habitats in their almost unstoppable quest to take over entire wetlands. DNR staff, along with two restoration companies, with backpack sprayers launched a ground attack in Door County. Green Bay's Channel 2 TV produced this report.

Link: ["DNR attacks invasive grass along the bay"](#)



Activity picks up at capitol, as Legislature begins new session

By: Paul Heinen, Office of the Secretary

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The Assembly and Senate returned to the capitol on September 18. At that time,

the Assembly passed **AB 177** (Rep. Jim Steineke), the bill that creates a simplified general permit for construction in or near navigable waters. The Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee now has the bill for discussion and decision. Check out all legislation pertinent to DNR in the ["Bill Tracker."](#)
Footnote: *Paul Heinen is a policy initiative advisor in the Secretary's Office.*



Dedication of the Heath Van Handel Memorial Forest scheduled for October 15

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On April 8, 2009, while performing fire suppression duties, DNR pilot Heath Van Handel died in an accident in Wood County. On Saturday, October 15, 2011, the department will dedicate the Heath Van Handel Memorial Forest in honor and memory of Van Handel's contributions to the department, and the people and natural resources of Wisconsin.



Pilot Heath Van Handel will be remembered through a state forest named in his honor.

WDNR Photo

The Natural Resources Board at its meeting on October 22, 2010, recognized Van Handel's life and dedication to duty by naming a parcel of DNR-managed land west of Appleton the "Heath Van Handel Memorial Forest." The forest is located in the town of Greenville, in Outagamie County.

Currently at this site, a kiosk conveys Van Handel's commitment:

"This forestland is dedicated in memory of Heath Van Handel who lost his life in an aircraft accident on April 8, 2009. At the time of the accident Heath was performing the duties of fire Air Attack Pilot helping direct firefighters on the ground in the suppression (of) a wildland fire east of the town of Pittsville in Wood County.

"Heath had dedicated his life and career to the Wisconsin DNR as a conservation pilot and died while serving to protect the people of Wisconsin. Heath loved being outside with nature, looking at it from above, and caring for it. Nature held a special place in Heath's heart and woodlands such as these brought him great peace."

The Institute of Paper Chemistry acquired this 38-acre forest in 1956 for use as a nursery, test area and arboretum. New high-quality hybrids of aspen, cottonwood and larch grew quickly for use as pulp for producing paper. An arboretum of aspen trees from around lake states provides flowers for future breeding stock.

DNR purchased the property in 1989. "Several pulp and paper companies contributed funds to enable the formal transfer of land to the State of Wisconsin. A memorandum of understanding provides for continued access to the breeding stock contained in this forest site," reads the kiosk.

A short presentation and dedication is scheduled for 1 p.m., followed by an opportunity to socialize and explore the property.

The site is located at W6379 County Road JJ west of Appleton. It's .7 of a mile west of the intersection of County Road JJ and North Mayflower Rd. on the south side of the road. There's limited parking available on the site. If weather precludes holding the ceremony outdoors, it will be moved to a multi-bay storage garage on the property.

For more information, email or call:

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To read more about Heath Van Handel and the decision to dedicate a forest in his name, read the April 9, 2009 "Digest" story "[Pilot Heath Van Handel died while on fire control duty](#)" and the November 4, 2010 story "[Heath Van Handel Memorial Forest honors downed DNR pilot.](#)"



Produced by: Department of Natural Resources, Office of Communication

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Document Date: Tuesday, September 27, 2011 at 12:32:21 PM