

# MyDNR Digest

Connecting with one another and the work we do for Wisconsin

March 22, 2012

Editor: Diane Brinson

## In this issue

1. As Legislature completes session, several new laws impact DNR's work	2. Wildlife statewide meeting celebrates Pittman-Robertson's 75th anniversary
3. Deputy Secretary Moroney stresses environmental compliance and enforcement	4. Links of interest...don't miss them
5. Purchasing agents save your program \$\$\$ and time	6. Activate new system for improved care of your username and password
7. Around the state...DNR employees shine	8. Images of us at work
9. GEF 2 Natural Resources Building achieves LEED® Gold status	

[Secretary's Corner](#) | [Weekly News](#) | [News Releases](#) | [Outdoor Report](#)

## As Legislature completes session, several new laws impact DNR's work

By: Paul Heinen, Office of the Secretary

[Index](#) [Next](#) [Top](#) [Print](#)

The Legislature has completed its work for the 2011-2013 session. Following is the final list of the 32 DNR-related bills that passed both the Assembly and Senate, this session. Committees may hold hearings on certain issues, but all bills that didn't pass must be re-introduced in the 2013-2015 Legislative session, beginning next January.

This is the list of the 32 bills that passed in both houses. Gov. Scott Walker has signed some of these into law and is expected to sign the remaining bills in the near future. A brief description is provided for each bill, along with its number and author(s).

### Departmentwide

- **Rulemaking:** This is the new rulemaking process for all state agencies. Special Session SB 8 (Senate Organization Committee)
- **NRB membership:** The Natural Resources Board must have at least one member with an agricultural background and four of the seven members have hunting and fishing licenses. AB 104 (Rep. LeMahieu)
- **Regulatory reform:** Makes a number of changes to the Chapter 30 permitting process, grandfathers existing piers and gives DNR the ability to create additional Chapter 30 general permits. Sets approval timelines for permit applications and gives presumptive approval for some permits if the DNR fails to meet these timelines. SB 326 (Sen. Kedzie and Rep. Mursau)

### Water Program

- **Wetland Exemption for Green Bay:** Allows for a wetland fill in Green Bay near

Lambeau Field. Special Session SB 10 (Senate Organization Committee)

- **Disinfection Exemption for Municipal Water Treatment:** Exempt some smaller communities from having to perform disinfection of the public water supply. SB 19 (Sen. Harsdorf)
- **Pier Registrations:** Extended the deadline to register piers by one year. Regulatory reform law eliminates pier registration requirement. SB 59 (Senator Kedzie)
- **Tournament Fishing Culling:** Allows culling during fishing tournaments SB 62 (Sen. Moulton and Rep. Kleesfisch)
- **Statewide Wetlands:** Creates a new wetland mitigation process, allows for the creation of wetland general permits, and establishes a payment in lieu of program for wetland fills. SB 368 (Sen. Kedzie and Rep. Mursau)
- **Geothermal Regulation:** Establishes a new regulatory framework for well drillers who drill wells for geothermal heating and cooling systems. SB 156 (Sen. Kedzie and Rep. Al Ott)
- **St. Croix River Floating Toilets:** Floating toilets are authorized in the St. Croix River system. SB 262 (Sen. Harsdorf)
- **Clean Water Fund Remedial Bill:** Archaic language is removed from the statutes concerning the Clean Water Fund loan program. SB 288 (Law Revision Committee)
- **Agricultural Pilot Project:** Clarifies budget provision exempting pilot program from specific permit requirements, not all permitting requirements. SB 402 (Sen. Harsdorf)
- **Shoreland Zoning Changes:** Local units of governments cannot have more restrictive shoreland zoning requirements than the state. SB 472 (Sen. Lasee)
- **Aquaculture:** Makes a number of changes to the regulation of aquaculture facilities and exempts some facilities from paying fees. SB 537 (Sen. Holperin and Rep. Marklein)
- **Water Quality Trading:** Allows municipal governments to work with non-point source polluters to reduce their pollution rather than pay to upgrade their municipal treatment plants. SB 557 (Sen. Moulton and Rep. Knilians)
- **Crossbow Fishing:** Allows crossbows to be used to harvest rough fish. AB 377 (Rep. Craig and Sen. Kedzie)
- **Minimum Catch Requirements for Commercial Fishers:** Commercial fishers will no longer have a minimum catch requirement in order to hold a Commercial fishing license. AB 176 (Rep. Bies and Sen. Lasee)

#### **Lands Program**

- **Hunting with a Lesser Weapon:** Allows a lesser weapon to be used during the gun seasons. AB 384 (Rep. Tauchen)
- **Voluntary Contributions for the Natural Resources Foundation:** Allows individuals who purchase DNR licenses to make a voluntary contribution. SB 441 (Sen. Schultz and Rep. Petryk)
- **Bear Hunting:** Numerous changes were made to bear hunting regulations, including allowing a Class B license holder to shoot a bear in certain situations. SB 72 (Sen. Moulton and Rep. Severson)
- **State Trails Council:** Adds a motorized vehicle representative to the State Trails Council. SB 77 (Sen. Leibham)
- **Unloaded and Uncased Weapons:** Allows unloaded and uncased weapons in a vehicle during hunting seasons. SB 228 (Sen. Moulton)

- **Utility Terrain Vehicles on State Trails:** Allows riding UTVs on state trails. SB 354 (Sen. Leibham)
- **Wolf Hunting:** Creates a wolf hunting season in Wisconsin. SB 411 (Sen. Moulton and Rep. Suder)
- **Stewardship Land Maps:** DNR must produce or contract for maps of all stewardship lands in Wisconsin. AB 48 (Rep. Jim Ott)
- **Niagara Escarpment Eligible for Stewardship Funds:** Parcels of land in the Niagara Escarpment will receive priority points for Stewardship purchases. AB 411 (Rep. Al Ott and Sen. Cowles)

#### **Air and Waste Program**

- **Indirect Sources of Air Pollution:** DNR is prohibited from requiring air pollution control measures on indirect sources of air pollution like parking lots. SB 111 (JCRAR)
- **Agricultural Air Exemptions:** Removes the requirement that agricultural facilities have to get air permits for emissions of hazardous air pollutants from the handling and management of waste. SB 138 (JCRAR)
- **Landfill Liability Remediation Change:** Allows for landfills to be cleaned up and used for recreational purposes. SB 253 (Sen. Galloway and Rep. Petrowski)
- **Disposal of Oil Absorbent Materials:** The ban on disposal of used oil absorbents in landfills is limited to products containing free flowing oil. AB 383 (Rep. Steineke)
- **Air Permits for Biofuels:** DNR is prohibited from considering carbon dioxide emissions originating from biogenic material when considering air permit applications. AB 467 (Rep. Klenke)
- **Vapor Recovery Systems Changes:** DNR is prohibited from mandating that vapor recovery systems are installed in any new gas station. SB 518 (Sen. Lazich)

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



## **Wildlife statewide meeting celebrates Pittman-Robertson's 75th anniversary**

By: Helen Hartman, Bureau of Wildlife Management

[Index](#)
[Prev](#)
[Next](#)
[Top](#)
[Print](#)

Wildlife Management program staff came together for their 2012 Statewide Meeting and Awards Banquet on Tuesday, February 28, in Rothschild. The meeting's theme was ["75 Years of the Pittman-Robertson \(P-R\) Wildlife Restoration Act in Wisconsin."](#)



In 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the P-R law, also known as the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act. Via an 11 percent federal tax on sporting arms, ammunition and archery equipment, P-R provides a stable source of funding to each state for habitat development, land acquisition, research, hunter education,

restoration, wildlife health, etc.

Notable P-R-funded accomplishments in Wisconsin include acquisition of 620,000 acres for wildlife areas; restoration of wild turkey, fisher, gray wolf and trumpeter swan populations; conducting approximately 350 wildlife research projects; certification of one million hunter education students; and development and maintenance of a comprehensive wildlife health database.

Logo representing anniversary of "Wildlife and Sports Restoration 75 Years, It's Your Nature."

**Keynote speakers from USFWS and natural resources survey research firm**



Executive Assistant "**Gundy**" **Gunderson**, Bureau of Wildlife Management Director **Tom Hauge** and Secretary **Cathy Stepp** joined John Organ following his keynote address. DNR Photo

John Organ, chief of Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration for the Northeast Region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, was one of two keynote speakers addressing the gathering on "Celebrating 75 Years of Wildlife Restoration Funding: An Overview of the History, Accomplishments, and Future of Federal Wildlife Restoration Funding" and the "North American Wildlife Model."

An adjunct associate professor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and a visiting professor at Andres Bello University in Santiago, Chile, Organ administers grant programs totaling around \$200 million per year and supervises graduate students conducting research on carnivores in Canada, the U.S. and Chile.



Mark Damian Duda is a researcher and author on natural resources issues.

Mark Damian Duda also addressed those attending on "Hunter recruitment and

retention." Executive director of Responsive Management, a survey research firm specializing in wildlife and natural resource issues, Duda has managed more than 500 studies on outdoor recreation and attitudes toward natural resources. He's the author of four books on wildlife, including the newly released "The Sportsman's Voice: Hunting and Fishing in America."

### **Presentation of annual awards recognizes colleagues and partners**

#### ***2011 Leadership Award: Bill Ishmael***



Bill Ishmael's family was on hand as he received the 2011 Leadership Award. DNR Photo

Initiated in 1993, the "Leadership Award" provides field staff an opportunity to recognize an individual who has provided exemplary leadership in the wildlife management field. Bill Ishmael, Southern Region wildlife area supervisor in Dodgeville, received the "2011 Leadership of the Year Award." Noted for his ability to guide and mentor his staff, Ishmael's nomination specifically referred to his work with partners and other programs within DNR on projects such as the Lower Wisconsin Riverway and the Southwest Savannah Grasslands Initiative.

He tackles every task that comes his way and takes on the roles of supervisor, biologist and technician with ease. Ishmael had the foresight to initiate a campaign to educate the public about living with bears and set up a bear survey, as the critters move into the southern part of the state. The Wildlife Management program is fortunate to have Bill as a leader

#### ***2011 Wildlife Technician of the Year Award: Dave Wyman***

Dave Wyman, who retired recently after 30 years with DNR, was named Wildlife Technician of the Year. His excellent management skills and meticulous attention to detail led to the smooth operation of bear, deer and turkey registration stations. His heavy equipment expertise and operating skills have been imperative to improving wildlife habitat improvements in a four-county area. He served as a burn boss, coordinating all prescribed burning activities on Wildlife Area, State Natural Area and Fisheries Area lands.



Dave Matheys' family joined him when he received the Technician of the Year Award. DNR Photo

Wyman has a special interest in native prairies and was instrumental in helping countless private landowners establish prairies. He set up a managed hunt in the La Crosse area when a burgeoning deer population was creating problems, providing many people with disabilities their first-ever opportunity to hunt deer.

### ***2011 Wildlife Biologist of the Year Award: Dave Matheys***

In addition to his biologist duties, Dave Matheys dedicates a significant amount of time to eradicating invasive wild pigs from the landscape. His proactive approach resulted in great working relationships between DNR Law Enforcement, Wildlife Management, UW-Richland Center, and private landowners. Hog numbers have declined in the area due to the persistence of this group.



Sec. Stepp presented Dave Wyman, seen here with his family, with his Biologist of the Year Award. DNR Photo

Matheys is the Southern Region representative on the Deer Committee. He serves on the statewide Pig Task Force, as well as the Invasive Species Committee. As a member of the Forestry Division's Private Lands Management Team, Matheys provides input from a wildlife perspective, enabling the team to consider decision-making from a broader perspective. In that role, he assists with the development of the WisFIRSystem. In keeping with his commitment to be a good steward of Wisconsin's natural resources, Matheys also is a non-toxic shot instructor.

### **Special Service Awards**

#### ***Bureau of Wildlife Management: Larry Gohlke***

Larry Gohlke is a citizen with a passionate interest in deer. He is a member of the Conservation Congress and the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation wildlife committee.



Sec. Cathy Stepp presented Larry Gohlke his special service award. DNR Photo

Gohlke has donated countless hours to ensure responsible deer management in Wisconsin, including setting aside opening weekend to age deer, when he could be hunting. He enters, summarizes and analyzes deer aging data from across the state, thereby freeing up wildlife managers to address their workloads. This information then goes into DNR reports, which are nationally recognized for their excellence due to accurate data and sound science.

Gohlke helps farmers in the crop damage program meet their deer harvest quotas and he's arranged for donation of significant amounts of venison to food pantries. DNR has benefited from Larry's invaluable assistance over the years.

***Northern Region: The Wisconsin County Forest Association (WCFA)***



**Chuck McCullough**, Headwaters Area wildlife supervisor, presented a special service award to Jane Severt, executive director of the Wisconsin County Forest Association. Sec. Stepp congratulated Severt. DNR Photo

The Wisconsin County Forest Association is comprised of 29 member counties in northern and western Wisconsin. The WCFA owns and manages more than 2.3 million acres of working forest, nearly all of which are open to hunting. These large blocks of working forest are an important part of the uninterrupted miles of forests and trails in northern Wisconsin. County forest timber sales are important to the northwood's economy and the resulting young forests are key to Wisconsin's ranking as a premiere grouse/woodcock hunting state. Member forests work closely with DNR wildlife staff on habitat conservation for popular games species, endangered species, and species of greatest conservation need.

WCFA administrators and staff advocate for professional forest management and participate in DNR wildlife management issues such as wolf management and the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative. WCFA has testified before the legislature in support of deer herd management that assures a sustainable habitat. WCFA is

commended for their special role in conservation and their important contributions to outdoor recreation.

***Northeast Region: Erich Pitz***

Erich Pitz, a citizen in Manitowoc County, loves waterfowl. His amazing contributions have benefited waterfowl enthusiasts, as well as the birds themselves. He donates his professional skills and equipment to repair and/or modify the dated mechanical dam at Collins Marsh dam. His efforts maintain habitat for the ducks and free up duck stamp and conservation organization dollars for other projects.

Pitz instilled his love for the marsh in his children, who accompanied him to help with duck banding when they were youngsters. Eric learned that a new blind, which would provide opportunities for the public to experience duck banding, was on the slow track due to initial estimates. He stepped in by donating metal decking, engineer drawings and a used staircase, saving DNR many thousands of dollars. Erich is passionate about waterfowl conservation and has donated much time and effort, allowing many to experience the wonders of Wisconsin's wetlands.

***West Central District: North Central Wisconsin Chapter of the North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association (NCW NAVHDA)***



West Central Region Wildlife Biologist **Cortney Schaefer** nominated Gary Engebretson for his efforts to recruit new and young hunters through the use of versatile hunting dogs. DNR Photo

West Central District Wildlife Supervisor **Kris Belling** commented on the dedication and significant contributions of the North Central Wisconsin Chapter of the North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association upon recognizing the chapter: "Very few organizations have done more for the future of our hunting heritage on a local level, and I am happy to recognize NCW NAVHDA with our 2011 Special Service Award."

NAVHDA International's mission is to foster, improve, promote and protect the versatile hunting dog in North America. NCW NAVHDA has taken this one step further by using versatile hunting dogs to encourage and develop new and youth hunters. NCW NAVHDA is involved with several events that require volunteers from the chapter, as well as help from their four-legged companions, to be guides and dogs for DNR's Learn-to-Hunt programs and Becoming an Outdoors Women (BOW) pheasant hunting workshops.

***Southern Region: Wade Oehmichen***

Wade Oehmichen was a wildlife biologist with the Glacial Habitat Restoration Area for more than five years. His exceptional contributions to the wildlife program resulted from the many partnerships he forged with private and public interests. Wade has a



passion for invasive species control. Demonstrating his enthusiasm, Oehmichen has distributed millions of beetles (a safe control method for spotted knapweed) free of charge to DNR staff and other public agencies.



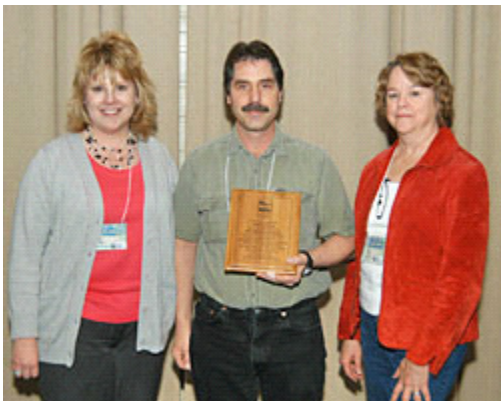
Southern District Wildlife Supervisor **Eric Lobner** (right) presented the 2011 Special Recognition Award to former DNR Wildlife Biologist Wade Oehmichen. DNR Photo

He also established a partnership between DNR and the Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC). The school's surveying instructor, Bruce Cheka and Oehmichen perfected a system to survey the topography of extensive landscapes for wetland design and restoration. They set up ATVs, canoes, an air boat and a Marsh Master with high-tech GPS equipment to complete surveying projects, creating more than 30 wetland impoundments for the enhancement of wildlife habitat. During the project, both FVTC students and fellow DNR staff received education and training.

Oehmichen's work with partners resulted in a million dollar NAWCA grant, product donations for habitat restoration activities and recruitment of prescribed burning volunteers. His energy and enthusiasm are infectious and result in getting the job done.

***Bureau of Endangered Resources: Greg Kessler***

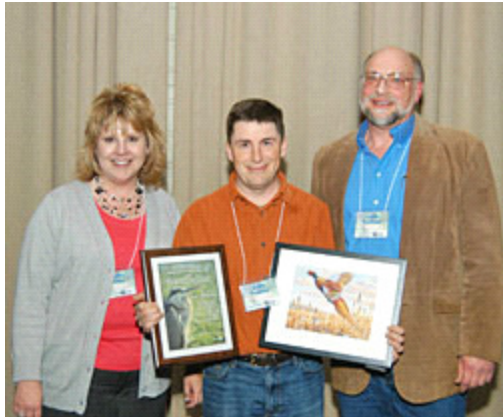
Greg Kessler is a biologist in the Wildlife Management program at the Northern District's rule station. The Bureau of Endangered Resources recognized Kessler for his commitment to the State Natural Areas Program and for protecting Wisconsin's natural heritage for future generations.



Sec. Stepp and Section Chief **Rebecca Schroeder** of the Ecosystem and Diversity Conservation Section joined Greg Kessler upon accepting his award. DNR Photo

***Bureau of Science Services: Andy Paulios***

Since joining the Bureau of Wildlife Management as coordinator of the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative (WBCI), Andy Paulios consistently has demonstrated his commitment to, and belief in the value of sound science as the foundation for wildlife management. To this end, he has fostered partnerships with scientists in the Bureau of Science Services' Wildlife and Forestry Research Section, at UW-Madison, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geologic Service, and non-profits, just to name a few.



Andy Paulios (center) proudly displayed the wildlife prints he received. Sec. Stepp and **Jack Sullivan**, director of the Bureau of Integrated Science Services, helped him celebrate his special service award. DNR Photo

In his role as WBCI coordinator, Paulios sought input from and consulted with SS researchers on issues relating to forest, grassland, and wetland birds. Paulios is noted for fully integrating research from both game and nongame research perspectives in his approach to wildlife management. By doing this, he's gained credibility with both "sides of the fence" in wildlife management and conservation biology. This credibility allows him to be exceptionally effective in bringing together different scientific viewpoints in moving towards a common conservation goal. His work has paved the way for DNR to effectively manage wildlife habitats in an era of declining revenues and shrinking resources.

### ***Sharp-tailed Grouse Society Award***



On behalf of the Sharp-tailed Grouse Society, Area Wildlife Supervisor **Pete Engman** presented Sharon Fandel the society's special award. DNR Photo

The Sharp-tailed Grouse Society (STGS) presented Legal Associate **Sharon Fandel**

with a special award for her tireless work on updating the STG Plan. She recently moved from the Wildlife Management upland game program to her current position as Conservation Congress liaison in the Bureau of Legal Services.

**Footnote:** *Helen Hartman is program associate in the Bureau of Wildlife Management.*



## Deputy Secretary Moroney stresses environmental compliance and enforcement

By: Matt Moroney, DNR Deputy Secretary

[Index](#) [Prev](#) [Next](#) [Top](#) [Print](#)

**Editor's note:** Deputy Secretary **Matt Moroney** recently sent the following message to Enforcement and Science Division Administrator **Tim Lawhern**, Division of Air and Waste Administrator **Pat Stevens**, Office of Business Support and Sustainability Director **Al Shea** and Division of Land Director **Ken Johnson**. Moroney approved sending the following message to all DNR employees to reinforce department management's views on compliance and enforcement.

"I would like to thank you for your efforts to protect the public health and our environment during the past year. Your work has been particularly demanding due to the large number of vacancies. We appreciate your extra efforts to help the agency accomplish its mission during this time. The good news is we are filling a number of greatly needed positions that have been vacant for some time due to retirements and budget constraints. Hiring new staff will ease workloads but it will take time, training and the support of co-workers for new staff to be proficient. Based on past experience, we know you will take leadership roles in ensuring the newest generation of DNR employees receives the training, mentoring and experience to be successful.

"Staffing levels and funding sources will require continued efforts to prioritize work efforts on core responsibilities that produce the greatest benefits to public health and the environment. For example, the Waste & Materials Management program has implemented a pilot complaint response project; the Remediation & Redevelopment and Law Enforcement programs are refining spill response protocols; and there are two Leadership Academy projects underway to develop broader complaint response priorities in the Air & Waste and Water Divisions to maintain focus on core areas and complete our work as efficiently as possible.

"Compliance monitoring, education and enforcement provide the foundation for successful regulatory programs. For decades, the department has successfully used a Stepped Enforcement process to resolve environmental law violations. Our process has been a model for other agencies and other states because it works. Stepped Enforcement seeks to resolve violations at the lowest level appropriate for the circumstances, guiding most people toward voluntary compliance and saving limited staff and court resources for the most significant violations.

"We expect staff to continue to document violations and address them, in alignment with priorities, through the Stepped Enforcement process. Our historical data shows that most violations are resolved at the Notice of Noncompliance, Notice of Violation and Enforcement Conference level, which supports our emphasis on timely notification and response actions following the detection of violations. Clear and timely communication with those responsible for violations often results in a voluntary return to compliance, minimizing the potential for adverse environmental

impacts and leveling the playing field for the many businesses that operate in compliance with the law. I have asked Environmental Enforcement staff to continue their work with the programs to reduce the timeframe from violation detection to resolution.

"While it's our goal to resolve violations efficiently, consistently and without litigation where appropriate, we are committed to investigating and to prosecuting violations that pose or cause significant threats to public health or the environment; that involve willful or negligent conduct; or that are chronic in nature. We support your ongoing efforts to professionally address violations using the law, the best available science and good judgment to guide your decisions.

"Please work with your supervisor and Environmental Enforcement staff to answer questions and forward your ideas for how we can be more efficient or proactively address problem areas to prevent violations from occurring. This will help us meet the ultimate goal of law enforcement; voluntary compliance.

"Thanks again for your dedication to the department and the citizens of Wisconsin. Your efforts are supported and much appreciated."



## Links of interest...don't miss them

[Index](#) [Prev](#) [Next](#) [Top](#) [Print](#)

- **Title & link:** ["2011 Fire Prevention Kit"](#)

**Description:** Spring is here and so is wildfire season! Every year, the Bureau of Forest Protection develops fire prevention messages to target Wisconsin residents and visitors in hopes of preventing unwanted, human-caused wildfires. This year brings an eight-page insert in the April edition of the "Wisconsin Natural Resources" magazine, an on-hold message with a catchy tune, various newspaper advertisements, news releases and much more. Fire Prevention Specialist **Catherine Koele** invites you to take a look at the "2012 Fire Prevention Kit" throughout the season for more fire prevention tools.

- **Title & link:** [The affects of "Regulatory Reform" on DNR water programs](#)

**Description:** On March 19, Division of Water Administrator **Ken Johnson** wrote to his staff about the specifics of the legislation that contains statutory changes to state water and air regulations. As of "Digest" posting time, the legislation was awaiting the governor's signature, following passage in the Senate and Assembly. Johnson provides an overview of the affect on DNR programs of what sometimes is referred to as "Regulatory Reform."

- **Title & link:** ["MacKenzie Environmental Education Center--The Best in Outdoor Education"](#)

**Description:** Thought you'd enjoy this nice video that **Mary Farmiloe**, videographer in the Office of Communication, worked on with staff at the MacKenzie Environmental Education Center in Poynette. Bring on the maple syrup!

- **Title & link:** ["Seeking refuge: Wisconsin's Horicon Marsh"](#)

**Description:** Horicon Marsh was featured in this month's "Midwest Living" magazine. Here's the link to the first of the 12-page article Leslie Covell Hershberger, executive director of the Friends of Horicon Marsh International Education Center, sent in. "We anticipate lots of visitors as a direct result of this article. We are already getting

calls," she said.

- **Title & link:** ["Life of the Forest Posters"](#)

**Description:** Learn about and share the facts about tree rings, seeds, leaves, bark, and needles, as well as how trees eat, drink and breathe using colorful posters from the International Paper Learning Center. Each 16 x 20 inch poster features photos and facts about the topic, e.g. "happy" trees produce evenly-spaced rings, and includes an accompanying handout. You can download them directly from this website.

- **Title & link:** ["Stop the Beetle Website"](#)

**Description:** At this U.S. Department of Agriculture's website, find resources for students ages eight to 12 and above about the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) beetle and how to protect ash trees from this insect pest. The website also has printable activity sheets, an online fact-matching game and a video entitled "The Nature Walk: Understanding the Life Cycle of the EAB.

- **Title & link:** ["National Park Service, A Living Classroom"](#)

**Description:** The National Park Service has compiled the education resources of more than 110 national parks in a single website. Spanning grades K-12, the resources include virtual field trips, pre- and post-visit activities, and other learning experiences that highlight each park's unique features or special environmental programs.

- **Title & link:** ["Northcentral Wisconsin Land Stewardship Conference Coming April 21st"](#)

**Description:** UW-Extension in Price County announces this 10th annual conference for "landowners interested in ideas on how to manage your land and practice good stewardship," to be held at the Prentice High School. DNR Wildlife Biologist **Laine Stowell** is scheduled to be the keynote speaker and will address the status and challenges of the Wisconsin elk herd.



## Purchasing agents save your program \$\$\$ and time

By: Tim Sell, Bureau of Finance

[Index](#) [Prev](#) [Next](#) [Top](#) [Print](#)

Recently, someone from a program approached a printing manager in the Bureau of Finance with a project that needed a quick turnaround. The program wanted to use a local printer, because they'd done the job before. Not only were they the previous printer, but the program had developed a "relationship" with them and was certain they were a "sole source" for this printing project.

Although this item was unique enough that it didn't fit any State of Wisconsin mandatory contracts, DNR still needed to bid the project, per state statutes.

In researching the job, determining specifications, and learning who had designed the graphics previously, purchasing staff discovered that Dane County had a contract to print a similar item. With permission from that agency and the Department of Administration, DNR was allowed to "piggyback" on that contract, saving the program \$1,800, along with a lot of work and time. Eighteen hundred dollars is a large amount of money when it comes to printing, and DNR's purchasing team has many more

money-saving success stories.

This wasn't an isolated instance. The purchasing team has assisted with similar purchases of items from sonar devices to laptops, and for scenarios involving vendor payments/settlements to contract compliance.

It pays to plan ahead with your projects so that you allow yourself the opportunity to use the resources DNR has, such as: mandatory contracts, piggybacking and consulting with a Bureau of Finance purchasing agent. That extra time you allow yourself could mean that there will be extra cash to purchase a larger quantity of items or services, or put toward something entirely different. You'll be happy you worked with the purchasing staff after you see the savings!

**Footnote:** *Tim Sell is chief of the Purchasing Section.*



## Activate new system for improved care of your username and password

By: Shaun Fischer, Bureau of Technology Services

[●Index](#) [▲Prev](#) [▼Next](#) [▲Top](#) [Print](#)

On Thursday April 5, DNR will migrate to a new "State of Wisconsin Identity Access Management (IAM) Self Care" webpage. This move will improve how you care for your IAM username and password, and requires that **you perform a one-time only activation.**

Beginning on April 5, you'll end up on the "IAM Self Care" webpage when you go into "DNR Tasks" on the department's [Intranet homepage](#) and click on "Email (IAM) Password."

All DNR employees that have a DNR network account also have an IAM account. Although primarily used for email, **the help desk also uses your IAM account to reset your DNR network account password.**

**Upon performing the "Account Activation" process,** the system will ask you to answer five new "Challenge Response Questions" and to validate your "Shared Secret Question and Answer."

Prior to April 5, we strongly recommend that you take the time to familiarize yourself with the "Account Activation" process by reviewing the ["Account Reactivation User Guide."](#)

To perform the "Account Activation" process, **you must complete the above steps after April 5 and before your IAM password expires.** As occurs now, you'll continue to receive password expiration email notices 15 days prior to expiration of your password.

The Bureau of Technology Services will send out further notices and reminders about this change before April 5.

**Footnote:** *Shaun Fischer is a directory services administrator in the Infrastructure and Architecture Section.*



## Around the state...DNR employees shine

[●Index](#) [▲Prev](#) [▼Next](#) [▲Top](#) [Print](#)

**Central office success story**

- "**Catherine (Koele**, forest fire suppression specialist, Bureau of Forest Protection): I just read/listened to your storm damage/wildfire prevention ads where you are clearly promoting our new keywords on the Internet. This is GREAT!! Thank you so much." **JD Smith**, *DNR website redesign project manager*
- "Dear Ms. (**Ann Coakley** (director, Bureau of Waste and Materials Management): I wanted to let you know how much I appreciate one of your staff members, (Waste Management Specialist) **Thomas Portle**. I read a DNR article about the recent increase in sand mining in Wisconsin due to the compatibility of our sand with the hydraulic fracturing process and wanted to learn more about it. I teach an Environmental Science class at Memorial High School and I contacted Thomas and asked if it would be possible for him to come speak to our class about sand mining in WI, with a focus on 'frac sand.'

"Thomas responded very positively to my first query and in subsequent emails and conversations he made every effort to determine exactly what I was looking for in his presentation. Thomas explained his role at the DNR and what he had available already in PowerPoint and it sounded great. I asked Thomas for two presentations, one shorter one for teachers during their lunch hour and a longer presentation for Environmental Science and Chemistry in the Community students.

"Teachers and students enjoyed the presentation very much and we all learned a great deal about mining for frac sand in Wisconsin. I believe it's so important for my students to have guest speakers working in the different fields associated with Environmental Science. Not only are they able to hear from experts in the field, but having professionals like Thomas in our classrooms shows students the types of jobs that are possible in science fields dealing with the environment. Having DNR staff such as Thomas in the classroom who clearly values his position as a reclamation specialist also demonstrates to students the role of the DNR in protecting our state's natural resources.

"Thank you to the DNR and also to Thomas Portle for making such a positive contribution to my class." *Nancy Piraino, Teacher, Environmental Science and Biology*

- "Just wanted to mention that the WCC big game meeting on Saturday (March 17) was a very well-run, productive and informative meeting. It is rather exciting to have a guy like **Kevin (Wallenfang**, Bureau of Wildlife Management's liaison to the Conservation Congress Big Game Committee big game specialist) in the big game position who is willing to listen to the sportsmen and think outside the box. With the deer research, Dr Kroll's input, and Kevin on board, I think Wisconsin Deer management will finally get the long needed change it needs. I for one am looking forward to what the future will bring." *Larry Bonde*

### ***Northeast Region success stories***

- **Heidi Springborn**, biologist, Green Bay: "I enjoyed your presentation at the Wildlife Society meeting, and I think those that were there enjoyed your style. I especially liked the part when you were asked about the chemical, and without any hesitation, you told the audience all about the herbicides. You know your stuff and you showed that to all that were there. Great job!" *Ellen Barth*
- "Just wanted to say the guys down at Asylum Bay Fish Camp bailed me out again! **Tom Schlavensky** (fisheries technician and **Bob Hoodie** (equipment operator) helped me chisel up a large abandoned wooden ice shanty that was left

on the ice of Lake Winnebago straight out from camp today. The shanty was abandoned from the sturgeon spearing season and potentially posed a huge boating navigation hazard being that it was left right in the main channel area for boating operation. With the warm weather here today (50 degrees) the shanty would certainly have been in the water by the end of today. The shanty was supposed to be off the lake on the fourth of March but was never removed. With short notice both Tom and Bob were willing to help. They were ready with the appropriate supplies and knowledge of the ice and we were able to get the shanty off. We were able to make our way out on sketchy ice wearing float coats, boot creepers, throw ropes and life jackets to the shanty. We used a spud bar to chisel up the shanty (and by "we" I mean Bob). After removing it from its location, Bob and Tom helped pull it into shore. I applaud these guys for the work they do. On a daily basis they are keeping busy with work that most would not consider glamorous. Yet the work they do is critical to the everyday function and efficiency of our department. Time and time again, I call on them for assistance whether it is needing a bolt, welding something, fixing something or fabricating a piece of equipment, and they are always there to help! I realize they do a tremendous amount of work in keeping things up to speed for the fisheries section but they always help us out in the law enforcement section as well. My guess is most people don't realize how valuable they are but I certainly know firsthand! Thanks a bunch!" **Jason R. Higgins**, *conservation warden, Oshkosh*

- **Liz Victor**, Remediation and Redevelopment hydrogeologist, Oshkosh:

"Thanks so much for your prompt response to the WE Energies Lawrenceville Substation Closure Review. Your attention and assistance with this matter is greatly appreciated." *Frank Dombrowski, senior environmental consultant, WE Energies*

- Addressed to **Christine Halbur**, grant manager/government outreach team leader: "The NRB (Natural Resources Board) just approved purchase of RR (railroad) grade for us to build the preferred trail route. It may be a few months before the purchase is complete. Many, many thanks. You DNR folks are the best!" *Sam Tobias, Fond du Lac County*

- "Thanks go out to **Al Nass, Matt Schaeve, Denise Danelski, Bobbi Winebar, Lisa Thetreau, Mark DeBaker**, and **Chris Halbur** for helping with the early spring cleanup at the Green Bay Headquarters. Not only did we cleanup the front area, we also removed the overly zealous honeysuckle by the customer entrance and also cleaned up the rain garden west of the break room patio. When you see one of these hard workers give 'em a pat on the back for a job well done!!  
*Thanks, Annette.*"

**Mary Rose Teves**, director of the Bureau of Community Financial Assistance, noted that "In Northeast Region, Fond du Lac County works with CFA grants, Real Estate and Parks staffs. I believe the compliment below (above) is directed to all those bureaus."

### ***Statewide success story***

- "I've got to take a minute and express some thanks. Although I've been living in CO (Colorado) a few years and work for the Denver Broncos, I am a 'green & gold cheesehead' at heart.



"Grew-up in Fond du Lac and then college in Stevens Point, where I majored in Forestry & Soil Science. I always had a dream to work for our state's DNR. But then, the aviation bug bit, and I've been flying airplanes ever since (Often wonder if I should've stayed in WI and pursued a life as Ranger Rick?) Life has been good, however, and I get back to Fondy a couple times each year to see family. WI still rocks. As does the DNR. What you guys have done with the website, and notably how you've empowered your team of people to provide real assistance.

"Yesterday, I called the department's toll-free number thinking there's NO WAY I'll get to a person, and even less chance I'll get what I ultimately need: a copy of my Hunter Safety certificate from 35 yrs ago. I was wrong!

"**Jamie Adams** (customer service representative) was on the line promptly with a can-do attitude from the first second. Jamie helped me get exactly what I needed; she even spotted a small typo error in my records and fixed that.

"A huge THANKS for your service as a department. I insisted that Jamie give me your email contact so I could pass this along. Highest Regards." *Greg Kremer, Englewood, CO, chief pilot for the Denver Broncos Football Club*

"Jamie: Now this is customer service!! Great work Jamie in helping make the DNR the best customer service agency in Wisconsin. Keep up the good work!!" **Matt Moroney**, DNR deputy secretary

• **Wisconsin Natural Resources** magazine Editor **Natasha Kassulke** thanks the following DNR employees for their contributions to the April 2012 issue: **Lisa Gaumnitz**, Office of Communication; **Laura Wyatt**, Bureau of Forest Management; **Eric Ballas**, Bureau of Remediation and Redevelopment; **Karl Scheidegger**, Bureau of Fisheries Management; **Jolene Ackerman**, Bureau of Forest Protection; **Julia Riley**, Bureau of Watershed Management; **Kevin Harter**, Office of Communication; **Johanna Schroeder**, Bureau of Watershed Management; **Kathy Kahler**, Office of Communication; **Amy Luebke**, Bureau of Forest Protection; **James Gobel**, Division of Forestry; and **Marty Kasinskas**, Bureau of Forest Protection.



## Images of us at work

By: John Jorgensen, Bureau of Forest Protection

[● Index](#) [▲ Prev](#) [▼ Next](#) [▲ Top](#) [Print](#)

The Division of Forestry's Aeronautics Team held its annual "Winter Pilot Meeting: Air Attack Training" event at the DNR hanger in Siren from March 6-8. The theme for this year's meeting was "It's All About the Blow-down!" and focused on the thousands of acres of forest resources downed by a major storm that swept through northwestern Wisconsin on July 1, 2011. Holding the training in Siren provided access to learning tools specifically developed to support this unique training experience and the remaining work on the ground.



Those attending the annual DNR aeronautics training, from left to right: Dan Cardinal, Dave Dodge, Leo Bunderson, Larry Last, Dean Tabor, Mike Weinfurter, Dave Lemke, Phil Miller, Bev Paulan, Joe Sprenger, John Chmiel, Mike Callahan, Bob Pearson, John Jorgensen, Bob Clark, Larry Wascow, Jeff Oimoen and Luke Wuest. Darrel Gilbertson is missing from this photo because he took it. DNR Photo

Items of special note during the three days of training included:

- Pilot **Phil Miller** helped wrap up the first afternoon with the PowerPoint “Head's-Up, It's All About the Blow-down.”
- Scott Hurst of Dallas Avionics closed the day's business speaking about the Technisonic Radio (TDFM-7000).
- Early on the second day, national sales manager Jerry Lee spoke to the gathering about his company's “Spidertracks--Flight Following,” real-time flight tracking technology.
- “Civil Air Patrol--Role & Mission” was the title of CAP Major Rose Hunt's presentation.
- On the third and final day of the session, those who took part in the Eastern Area Aviation Training Academy provided personal summaries of their experiences.

**Footnote:** *John Jorgensen is the Aeronautics Team leader.*



## GEF 2 Natural Resources Building achieves LEED® Gold status

By: Department of Administration News Release

[●Index](#) [▲Prev](#) [▲Top](#) [📄 Print](#)

The Department of Administration (DOA) recently announced that the State Natural Resources Building (GEF 2) has received the LEED® Gold Certification for Existing Buildings, established by the U.S. Green Building Council, and verified by the Green Building Certification Institute.

DOA owns and manages GEF 2 and the La Crosse State Office Building, which also achieved Gold Status. Along with other state agencies, DNR rents office space in the La Crosse building. DOA operates 27 office buildings throughout the state.

The LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System is the internationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings. LEED® promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human environmental health:

- sustainable site development
- water efficiency
- energy efficiency
- materials selection
- indoor environmental quality

The achievement of LEED® Certification brings economic benefits to the State of Wisconsin and its taxpayers, and is a model sustainability standard in the building industry. Current and former building management staffs worked diligently to develop and maintain energy-efficiency and sustainability practices over the past three years at these facilities.

Highlights of the sustainable features and practices implemented include:

- 56.94 percent of all waste diverted from landfills;
- 37.5 percent reduction in water use through the use of low flow fixtures and other updated end-user devices;
- Green Cleaning Programs in which 78 percent of all cleaning products and chemicals are sustainable because they're biodegradable and/or made from natural materials.
- Achieved an Energy Star Performance Rating of 96 points out of a possible 100 points, exceeding the national average for similar sites by 51 percent;
- 100 percent of non-potable process water diverted from the storm sewer and re-used for outdoor irrigation;
- Native and adaptive plant and tree species introduced to the landscape to lower maintenance costs and provide native habitat for indigenous animals;
- Building upon the previous energy savings of approximately 14percent, these LEED® efforts produced an additional five percent savings, or about 22,800 kilowatt hours valued at approximately \$2,500;
- At least 60 percent of readily consumable items purchased meet sustainable use criteria, at least 40 percent of all furniture purchased uses salvaged material or is acquired through an internal reuse program;
- and at least 90 percent of lighting purchased meets low mercury standards.

The State Natural Resources Building serves as DNR's central headquarters. The State of Wisconsin constructed the 212,000 square foot building in 1978.




---

**Produced by:** Department of Natural Resources, Office of Communication

**Legal notices and disclaimers:** [Website Legal Information](#)

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

**Document Retrieval Date:** Wednesday, March 28, 2012 at 11:28:45 AM