

## **AGENDA**

Eau Claire County

- Land Conservation Commission •

**Date:** Monday, August 1, 2022

**Time:** 1:00 P.M.

**Location:** *Ag Resource Center, Room-103 & 104  
227 1<sup>st</sup> Street West, Altoona, WI 54720*

***For those wishing to make public comment, you must e-mail Chad Berge at [chad.berge@eau Claire County.gov](mailto:chad.berge@eau Claire County.gov) at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.***

## **AGENDA**

The Committee will discuss and may act on any of the following items:

1. Call to order by Chair
2. Roll call
3. Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meeting Law
4. Public Comment Period
5. Review/Approval of June 27, 2022, meeting minutes **Pages 2-3**
6. Staffing updates (Discussion)
7. Review Vouchers and Ledger Update (Discussion) **Page 4**
8. Approval of new and/or previously authorized Cost-Share agreements (Discussion/Action)
9. Lia Landowski with Beaver Creek Reserve – Lake Management & Protection Network (Discussion) **Pages 5-11**
10. Consideration of Kevin Stelljes' application to the Land Stewardship Subcommittee (Discussion/Action) **Pages 12-13**
11. Conservation Award nominees (Discussion) **Pages 14-15**
12. Review draft of Land & Water Resource Management Plan (Discussion) **Pages 16-26**
13. Committee, Staff and Agency Updates
  - a. Eau Claire River Watershed Coalition
  - b. Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) program
  - c. Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV) program
  - d. Water Quality Trading with the City of Augusta
  - e. Land Stewardship Subcommittee
  - f. USDA-NRCS / FSA **Pages 27-30**
  - g. DNR-Forestry
  - h. UW-Extension
14. Future Agenda items
15. Set date for next meeting
16. Adjourn

**EAU CLAIRE COUNTY  
LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**MEETING MINUTES – MONDAY JUNE 27, 2022**

**AG RESOURCE CENTER, RM. 103 & 104**

**227 – 1<sup>ST</sup> STREET WEST, ALTOONA, WI 54720**

Members Present: Robin Leary, Tami Schraufnagel, Dean Solie, Glory Adams, Heather DeLuka, Missy Christopherson, Jodi Lepsch, Ricky Strauch

Members Absent: (none)

Staff Present: Greg Leonard, Chad Berge, Christina Rauh, and Tim Wucherer – Land Conservation Division; Rod Eslinger – Planning & Development

Others Present: Jamie Kraklow – USDA-NRCS

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**1) Call to order by Chair**

Chair Leary called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**2) Roll call**

Roll call was taken. A quorum was present with all members present.

**3) Confirmation of Compliance with Open Meetings Law**

Leary confirmed compliance with the open meetings law.

**4) Public Comment Period**

None.

**5) Review/Approval of May 16, 2022, meeting minutes**

**ACTION:** Motion by DeLuka to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote with none in opposition, 8-0-0.

**6) Staff updates**

Eslinger announced that Chad Berge has been selected to replace Greg Leonard as the Land Conservation Manager. Berge will formally begin the assignment on July 5. Leonard introduced Christina Rauh as the new Environmental Engineer. Eslinger stated the upcoming vacancy of Berge's position will soon be posted.

**7) Review Vouchers and Ledger Update**

The May 2022 expenditures and revenues were reviewed.

**8) Approval of new and/or previously authorized Cost-Share agreements**

No Cost-Share applications were previously authorized. The following Cost-Share application was presented for approval.

- Harley Hutchinson – Nutrient Management - \$916.00 (DATCP-NMFE funds-2021 extension)

Wucherer explained this will commit the final amount of the Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE) grant funds extended from 2021.

**ACTION:** Motion by Solie to approve the cost-share agreement as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote with none in opposition, 8-0-0.

**9) Update of Tree & Shrub and Native Plant sale program**

The program report was reviewed.

**10) Land Stewardship subcommittee policy update – Subcommittee size**

The Land Stewardship subcommittee is wondering about the subcommittee size and the procedure to increase the size. The existing Land Stewardship Fund Policy and Procedures for Program Administration sets out the makeup of the subcommittee, but does not specifically mention the size. The consensus was to not dictate the size of the subcommittee as this may restrict it. If there is interest in an individual to be included in the subcommittee, this can be acted upon at the next meeting of the LCC. No action taken.

**11) Land & Water Resource Management Plan update**

Leonard and Berge provided a summary of the responsibilities for the plan drafting. Leonard will review/update the background data, and Berge with staff will continue with the goals sections. An additional LCC meeting next month may be needed to continue on the timeline for plan completion.

**12) Committee, Staff and Agency Updates**

Brief reviews and updates were provided.

- a. **Eau Claire River Watershed Coalition:** The tour for is June 29<sup>th</sup> in Eau Claire County, and another one will be held the day before in Clark County. Registration numbers are nice.
- b. **Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) program:** Small scale TRM project is scheduled for completion this year, and the Large scale project will terminate at the end of 2022.
- c. **Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV) program:** Funds have been received from participants and projects will be planned.
- d. **Water Quality Trading with the City of Augusta:** The project construction is completed, and required reports will be completed soon.
- e. **Land Stewardship Subcommittee:** No further report.
- f. **USDA-NRCS / FSA:** Jamie Kraklow introduced herself as the new Resource Conservationist for Eau Claire County. Tammy Lindsey is still the District Conservationist.
- g. **DNR-Forestry:** No report
- h. **UW-Extension:** No report

**13) Future Agenda Items.**

Budget updates and review the Land Stewardship Subcommittee request.

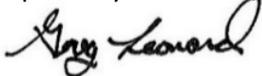
**14) Set date for next meeting**

The next meeting was set for Monday, August 1, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.

**15) Adjourn**

Leary adjourned the meeting at 2:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Greg Leonard, LCC Clerk



Buffalo, Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin, & Rusk Counties

# Lake Monitoring and Protection Network

## Cooperative Agreement, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report



Written and compiled by:

Lia Landowski

Citizen Science Center

June 2022



**CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE**



# Lake Monitoring & Protection Network

## June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Quarter 2 Regional Report

### Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN)

**5/4:** Met with Mike Mueller and Karen Schneider of Lake Eau Galle (WBIC: 2056600) to select CLMN secchi monitoring sites.

**5/26:** Trained Ann Hansen of Jacks Lake (WBIC: 1855700) to conduct water clarity monitoring and paddle out for site selection.

**6/16:** Trained Jackson Gregory, Land and Water Technician for Chippewa County Land Conservation and Forest Management Department on water clarity and chemistry CLMN procedures.

### Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW)

**5/23:** Two watercraft inspectors were trained for two different waterbodies in Chippewa County. Shelby Robinson will be working on Lake Wissota (WBIC: 2152800) at the Hwy X and Hwy S landings. Blayde Lecher will be working on Lower Long Lake (WBIC: 2351400) at the Morris-Erickson landing.

**5/31:** One watercraft inspector, Mackenzie Curtis, was trained for inspections at Chippewa Rod & Gun Club of Lake Wissota (WBIC: 2152800).

**6/3-6/5:** CBCW watercraft inspectors (WCI's) participated in the Drain Campaign at three boat landings (listed above). Towels were handed out to lake visitors.

### Early Detection Surveys

**6/3:** Meet with Don and Pam Gunderson of Island Lake (WBIC: 2350200) to scout a potential aquatic invasive species in Rusk County. An immature plant was taken as a sample, and pictures were sent to Paul Skawinski for assistance in verification. Potential identification is *Decodon verticillatis*, a native but aggressive wetland species.

**6/15:** Surveyed Potato Lake (WBIC: 2355300) in Chippewa County with Tyler Mesalk (DNR) and Ben Ewoldt (DNR). Found and verified new populations of AIS including Japanese knotweed, yellow iris, Eurasian watermilfoil, and aquatic forget-me-not.

**6/21:** Began Buffalo County trout stream surveys; targeted easements and bridge access points documented on Buffalo County's website. No new AIS found.

**6/23:** Surveyed Lake Hallie (WBIC 2150200) for AIS. Found previously undocumented populations of Yellow Iris, Aquatic Forget-me-not, Japanese Knotweed, and an unknown specimen (Figure 1) sent to DNR AIS Specialist, Ben Ewoldt.

Lia Landowski AIS Coordinator & Citizen Science Technician

S1 County Road K | Fall Creek, WI 54742 | Phone/Fax: (715) 877-2212 | [lia@beavercreekreserve.org](mailto:lia@beavercreekreserve.org)



# Lake Monitoring & Protection Network

## June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Quarter 2 Regional Report



**Figure 1.** Unknown specimen from Lake Hallie early detection survey completed on June 23, 2022. The specimen was thought to be native *Elodea canadensis* but has whorls consisting of four to eight leaves with some leaves showing signs of serration.

## Lake Groups

### Amacoy Lake Property Owners Association

**6/6:** Surveyed Lake Amacoy (WBIC: 2359700) in Chippewa County with Bob Lorkowski and two volunteers to assess the the curly-leaf pondweed population on the lake before contracting a weed harvester.

### Chippewa County Lakes Group

Four emails were sent to the Chippewa County Lakes Group with AIS topics, news, and outreach. The topics are as follows:

**4/18:** Invitation to Invaders in 15: Eurasian Watermilfoil

**4/27:** Forwarded AIS survey from UW-Madison targeting water gardeners



# Lake Monitoring & Protection Network

## June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Quarter 2 Regional Report

**4/29:** Request for volunteers to scout purple loosestrife populations and verified beetle damage

**5/20:** Invitation to Invaders in 15: Purple Loosestrife

### Lake Altoona and Lake Eau Claire

**6/8:** Attended bathymetric map equipment training on Lake Eau Claire (WBIC 2133200) in Eau Claire County (cover photo).

**6/27:** Attended water chemistry equipment training on Lake Eau Claire in Eau Claire County.

### Lake Wissota Improvement and Protection Association (LWIPA)

**4/15:** Hosted and directed a surface water grant projects meeting. Brainstormed project ideas and started the grant pre-application writing.

**6/23:** Hosted and directed a follow up surface water grant projects meeting. Provided technical assistance for pre-application grant writing, helped assign responsibilities in the lake group, finalized project ideas.

## Newsletter

**6/14:** Sent June AIS Newsletter to 98 contacts. This newsletter highlighted our Organisms in Trade Exotic Pet Surrender event, an AIS feature for Flowering Rush, local lake groups and AIS/water quality work, an intern spotlight, and 2022 AIS calendar events (Figure 2).



# Lake Monitoring & Protection Network

## June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Quarter 2 Regional Report



### Lower Chippewa Aquatic Invasive Species

Buffalo, Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin and Rusk Counties

June Newsletter, 2022

### Organisms in Trade—Keeping Waters Native

Organisms in trade and aquatic invasive species tend to go hand-in-hand within Wisconsin and the Great Lakes region. Vectors such as the aquarium trade, nurseries, water gardens, aquaculture, and the bait industry all act as potential pathways for nonnative species to unintentionally, and sometimes intentionally, enter Wisconsin waters.

In March 2022, Beaver Creek Reserve teamed up with [J&R Aquatic Animal Rescue](http://www.jraar.org) to host an exotic pet surrender event. All exotic pets, and plants, were welcome to be surrendered. Events like these provide pet, garden, and aquarium owners a secure surrender, rather than resorting to releasing or dumping. **43 animals were surrendered at this event**, all of which will be rehomed to partners, educational organizations, or exotic animal advocates.



To learn more about organisms in trade, contact Lia at [lia@beavercreekreserve.org](mailto:lia@beavercreekreserve.org) (715)877-2214



Regional AIS Coordinator: Lia Landowski  
715-877-2212  
[lia@beavercreekreserve.org](mailto:lia@beavercreekreserve.org)

Figure 2. Cover for the June AIS newsletter.



# Lake Monitoring & Protection Network

## June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Quarter 2 Regional Report

### Presentations and Outreach

**4/20:** Presented the third installment of my mini-webinar series “Invaders in 15”. This month’s focus was on Eurasian Watermilfoil. Invaders in 15 covers the introduction, biology, ecology, and identification of an invasive species of the month.

**5/2:** Presented the fourth installment of my mini-webinar series “Invaders in 15” with this month’s focus on purple loosestrife.

**6/11:** Present on the Lake Monitoring and Protection Network and services available through the LMPN for Island Chain of Lakes Association ~ 50 audience members

### Purple Loosestrife Biological Control

**5/2:** Met with Kent Gierhart and Tom Frank of Island Lake (WBIC: 2350200) in Chippewa County to dig purple loosestrife root stock and plant the root stock (Figure 3).

**5/31:** Met with Kent Gierhart and was accompanied by Mackenzie Curtis to collect *Galerucella* beetles at the Sand Creek Station (10056035). Transported the beetles to Clear Lake where the purple loosestrife plant biological control set-up is being maintained (Figure 3).

**6/13:** Met with Jeanne Scherer and Molly. Visited the Island Chain purple loosestrife biological control set-up. Met with Sandra and Kent, two volunteers working on the project.



**Figure 3.** Purple loosestrife root stock (left) and biological control project set-up (right).



# Lake Monitoring & Protection Network

June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Quarter 2 Regional Report

## Signage

**6/17:** Reached out to Island Chain (WBIC 2350200) for cleaning station installation for a boat landing. I have reached out to the boat landing owner (Rusk County) and have sent land use agreement forms.

**6/21:** A project has been initiated with partnership from Ellen Voss (River Alliance) and Cale Severson (Buffalo County) to install AIS trout stream signage at easement access points across Buffalo County. I am currently working on surveying and choosing sites for installation.

## Travel and Meetings

- 4/8:** Attended WI Lakes & Rivers Convention \*virtual
- 4/18:** SWIMS Basics AIS/LMPN Coordinator Meeting, Part 1
- 4/20:** Attended Golden Sands Clean Boats, Clean Waters training \*virtual
- 4/21:** Attended Small Bites Training – AIS Management Plan \*virtual
- 4/25 – 4/26:** Attended Spring AIS Meeting \*virtual
- 4/28:** Attended Small Bites Training – How NR40 Impacts Our Work \*virtual
- 5/4:** Attended Snapshot Site Leader Training \*virtual
- 5/23:** Lake Hallie visit, train WCI's on AIS surveying at landings
- 5/28:** Check-in with WCI's on Long Lake and Lake Wissota
- 6/1:** Scouted Snapshot Day Sites in Chippewa County
- 6/2:** Attended Small Bites Training – Surface Water Supplemental Grants \*virtual
- 6/6:** Picked up CLMN supplies for boy scout troops – Lake Wissota
- 6/9:** Attended Small Bites Training – Project RED \*virtual
- 6/16:** Attended Small Bites Training – CLMN \*virtual
- 6/28:** Attended Paul Skawinski's Plant ID training in Woodruff, WI

**From:** [Chad Berge](#)  
**To:** [Chad Berge](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Application for Stewardship  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 20, 2022 10:30:30 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin Stelljes <[krstelljes@gmail.com](mailto:krstelljes@gmail.com)>  
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 8:08 AM  
To: Greg Leonard <[Greg.Leonard@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:Greg.Leonard@co.eau-claire.wi.us)>  
Subject: Application for Stewardship

WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.

Greg-

This is patterned after the Parks Advisory application.

Please consider this my request for appointment to the Land Stewardship Sub-Committee.

>>

>>

>> Name: Kevin Stelljes

>> \_\_\_\_\_

>> \_\_\_\_\_

>> Address: 9926 Pine Rd. Fall Creek, WI

>> 54742 \_\_\_\_\_

>> Occupation:Retired

>> \_\_\_\_\_

>> \_

>> Date: \_\_\_\_\_4/5/22\_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone:

>> \_\_\_\_\_715/338-6031\_\_\_\_\_ Work/Other Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

>>

>>

>> 1. Are you a member of any conservation/outdoor related organization? If so, please list the organization(s), your year(s) of membership, and any office(s) held.

>>

>> Founding member of and donor to Eau Claire County Stewardship Program

>> Former member of Parks and Forest Committee

Member and donor to Landmark Conservancy (FNA West Wisconsin Land Trust.

>> Sierra Club

>> Trust For Public Lands

>> Prairie Enthusiasts

>> Lower Chippewa River Alliance

>> Pheasants Forever

- >> Trout Unlimited
- >> Wisconsin Natural Resource Conservation River Alliance
- > Wisconsin Wetlands Association
- > Wis. DNR Managed Forest Law Program
- > USDA Conservation Reserve Program
- > Natural Resource Conservation Service Programs US Fish and Wildlife
- > Habitat Improvement Project

>>  
>>  
>>

>> 2. Please comment on how your background, interest, and experiences would benefit the county as a member of the Stewardship sub-committee, and list any specific training you have had relating to natural resources.

>>

>> Past experience with the Parks and Forest Committee and Stewardship program provide a strong background. I also manage personal private forestry land and restored prairie.

I have been the leader on every Stewardship acquisition or donation since it founding, including many unsuccessful endeavors. Refer to the evaluation matrix for a list of these.

>>

>> 3. Why do you wish to be appointed to the Stewardship sub-committee?

>>

>> To continue conservation work for the County. Specific interest in developing the a long term vision of a cross county greenway connecting the City of Eau Claire, east through various recreation nodes, to the Fairchild area, back toward the Chippewa River area and back to the City. This would provide a wide band of protected area for human recreation and un-fragmented environmental protection.

>>  
>>  
>>

>> 4. What do you feel are some of the biggest issues that need to be addressed by the Eau Claire County ?

>>

>> Acquisition of private parcels to preclude fragmentation of the county forest block.

>>  
>>  
>>  
>>

>> Sent from my iPad

Eau Claire County Land Conservation Commission "Award Recipients"

Year	Conservation Farmer	Forestry Award	Special Recognition	Water Quality
1982	Howard Johnson	---	---	---
1983	Dale Noel	---	---	---
1984	Eldor and Allan Henning	---	---	---
1985	Steve Haldeman	---	---	---
1986	---	---	---	Forde Farm
1987	---	---	---	Wes and Greg Restad
1988	Mueller Hilltop Farms	---	---	Tom & Kristie Cousin
1989	Dale Noel Family	---	---	Schwoch Farms
1990	Seguin Valley View Acres	---	---	Everette and Jim Stenson
1991	Joe & Marian Smith	---	---	Arlen & June Johnson
1992	Russ Krenz Family	---	---	Wallace & Myrtle Smith
1993	Iner Stenson Jr. and Family	---	---	Richard & Donna Cleasby
1994	Marv & Dione Sell	---	---	Harley & Pam Hutchingson
1995	Ken & Roselyn Dowiasch	---	---	Ken Vance
1996	Gabler Farms	---	---	Dennis & Tami Schacht Family Farm
1997	Mike and Roland Fischer	---	---	Kindercrest Farm
1998	Ron & Donna Steinke and Family	---	---	Geske Farms
1999	Jim & Bonnie Jackson	---	---	Jim & Barb Nicolet
2000	Dutter Farms	---	---	Jerry Stenson
2001	Merv & Gloria Lemmon	---	---	Ristau Farm
2002	Zimmerman Farms	---	---	Skyglo Farms
2003	Bischoff Family Farm	Mark & Barb Goings	---	Robert and Ron Perry
2004	Bill and Joel Matz	Thomas, Bradley, Peter Grewe	John Paddock, John Luechrson, John Tinker and Joe Smith	Todd Stanek
2005	Don and Matt Krenz	Bill Nielsen and Sarah Burgess	Marlo Orth	Larson Dairy
2006	Jim Volbrecht	Marlo Orth	WRR Enivronmental Service	Evergreen Organic Dairy (Andy & Bonny Glodowski)
2007	Greg & Jennifer Stanek	Forrest & Jill Schoen	Bob Bosold, WAXX Radio	Wier Farms-- Armond & Kay Wier
2008	Greg Erickson	---	Mahlon Peterson	Chad Doberstein
2009	Ricky Strauch	Richard Myren	Rod Zika	Bears Grass Dairy
2010	Fedie Farms	Randy Risler	Greg Erickson	Castle Rock Organic Diary

**Eau Claire County Land Conservation Commission "Award Recipients"**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Conservation Farmer</b>	<b>Forestry Award</b>	<b>Special Recognition</b>	<b>Water Quality</b>
2011	Dan & Pamela Boettcher and Matt & Rebekah Fendry	---	Marlo Orth	Marlo Orth, Fred Poss and Rod Zika
2012	Jim and Ben Books	---	Gary Osborne and Mahlon Peterson	Bush Brothers & Co.
2013	the Anderson Family	---	---	Mayo Clinic Health Systems
2014	James Hampton	---	John Staszczuk and Mike Torud	Rod Zika
2015	Scott & Angela Graff	---	Bears Grass Diary and Dave Carlson	Steve Maciosek
2016	Vic & Mary Price	---	Fred Poss	Dan Zerr
2017	Steve & Leslie Strey	---	Bruce Willett	Mark Zuber
2018	Dan & Dawn Von Haden	Robert Paddock	Christine Yellowthunder and Patrick "Buzz" Sorge	Chris Straight
2019	---	---	---	---
2020	Doug Graff		Doug Burrows and Mark Hagedorn	Mike Lea-Lake Eau Claire Lake Prot. District Lori Bechtel-Lake Eau Claire Association
2021	Derrick & Miranda & Doug Nelson		Bill & Pat Henke	Robin Walsh

## Chapter 3 - Goals & Objectives

**Goals:** Short statement of the desired outcome to be accomplished over a long time frame. A broad statement that focuses on the desired results and does not describe the methods used to get the results. Goals are usually incapable of being measured.

**Objectives:** Specific, actionable targets that need to be achieved within a smaller time frame to reach a goal. Objectives describe the actions or activities involved in achieving a goal. Objectives are narrow and are described in specific tasks

- e. Provide Nutrient Management Farmer Education Workshops
- f. Participate in Rain to Rivers

Objectives are detailed in an annual work plan that work towards the goals.

1. Protect Agricultural Land and Water Resources
  - a. Conduct a yearly Tree Sale
  - b. Utilize Bond Funding & Other funding sources
  - c. Maintain an Invasive Species program
  - d. Administer the CREP program
2. Protect Non – Agricultural Land and Water Resources –
  - a. Provide Technical Assistance to Lake Partners with emphasis on sedimentation
  - b. Maintain an Invasive Species program
  - c. Participate in the Land Stewardship Subcommittee
3. Groundwater Protection
  - a. Participate in the Groundwater Advisory Committee
  - b. Assist with implementing the State of the Groundwater Plan
4. Education, Outreach and Engagement
  - a. 9-Key Element Plan – Eau Claire River
  - b. 9-Key Element Plan – Lake Wissota
  - c. Establish Producer Led Group field days-**Tim Wucherer (HUC 10: Eau Claire River, Otter Creek, Lowes Creek/Chippewa)**
  - d. Conduct Grazing events w partners such as River Country Grazing Network & NRCS

## Chapter 4 - Plan Implementation

### NR 151 Performance Standards and Prohibitions

1. Voluntary Implementation Strategy
2. State and Local Regulations used to implement the plan
3. Compliance Procedures – Example ATCP 50 conservation practices used to achieve compliance
4. Describe how we track compliance of participants within farmland preservation
5. Emphasis on nutrient management, cover crops and grazing
6. How are we considering climate change in what we do?
  - a. BMP designs to 100-year storm event
  - b. Educate and encourage stormwater BMP designs to 100-year storm event
7. How do we plan to implement NR 151 and enforce it? What is a “Priority Farm”
  - a. Voluntary
  - b. Complaint driven
  - c. Systematic – WQMAS?
8. Programs
  - a. Implement NR. 151
  - b. Implement Farmland Preservation
  - c. Provide Nutrient Management Farmer Education workshops
  - d. Provide a No-till Drill rental program
  - e. Transect survey

## Implementation Strategy for State Performance Standards and Prohibitions

As part of the effort to protect lakes, streams, rivers, and groundwater in the state of Wisconsin, the NR 151 rules were established on October 1, of 2002 with modifications to the performance standards in 2012 and 2018. The purpose of NR 151 is to set the performance standards and prohibitions for agriculture facilities and practices that achieve the water quality standards of Wisconsin. This chapter also provides runoff performance standards non-agriculture runoff pollution in construction, transportation, and urban setting. The agriculture performance standards and restrictions of NR151 are implemented in Eau Claire County through the Eau Claire County Title 17, which includes Farmland Preservation (Chapter 17.03) and Agricultural Performance Standards and Manure Storage (Chapter 17.04). Eau Claire County Land Conservation Division (ECCLCD) staff use several tracking and mapping programs to track NR151 compliance within the county. When working with farmers in Eau Claire County, voluntary compliance is the first approach through partnerships through farmers, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension, and agency partnerships. Additionally, ECCLCD is looking at future programs to achieve further compliance.

Administrative Rule ATCP 50 helps identify the conservation practices that farmers need to follow to meet the NR151, with nutrient management planning being the most common practice employed. Of the 111,500 cropland acres in Eau Claire County, approximately 23% are covered by a nutrient management plan. Approximately 90 percent of those plans are written by farmers with 41 percent being handwritten. Majority of the nutrient management plans are written to be compliant under the Farmland Preservation Program. Currently there are 269 landowners enrolled in the Farmland Preservation Program that require to be in NR 151 compliance. Every four years,

land conservation staff do an on-farm site inspection to check for NR151 Compliance for Farmland Preservation participants. The manure storage ordinance also requires an annual update of a nutrient management plan and compliance of NR 151. Since the beginning of the Chapter 17.04 in February of 1990, there have been a total 61 permits approved. This number includes construction, alterations, and closures of manure storages. For information on the history of Chapter 17.04, please see [Table #](#).

Eau Claire County uses the Ascent Permit Management Suite (© 2019 Transcendent Technologies) system to record results of compliance inspections and assessments. This system can provide a printable report of results that can be provided to the landowner for review of their operation. The primary role of Ascent is to track Farmland Preservation participants compliance and parcel data. Recently, Farmer Inventory Management have been added to the system, which is capable of tracking NR151 Compliance for agricultural land and parcels not enrolled in Farmland Preservation. Manure Storage permit holders are also tracked in Ascent Software; however, NR151 compliance schedule has yet to be applied to the format.

ArcMap 10.8.2 is additional system that Eau Claire County Land Conservation staff use to track NR151 compliance. Tracking with ArcMap is done by a field-by-field basis to determine if the agricultural field is covered by a nutrient management plan. With Ascent not designed to track cost-share programs offered through ATCP 50 or DNR, ArcMap is used to determine if a field or parcel has used cost-share in the past or is eligible to do so. ArcMap also has been used to store location and data for manure storage permits. Maps can also be made to assist with reporting that is done in Ascent and provide visual aids to farmers reviewing report their operation.

The ECCLCD has a responsibility to enforce Eau Claire County Code 17 which was adopted under the authority of Wisconsin Administrative

Code NR 151.05 and ATPC 50.56. Although enforcement falls under the county's authority, the Land Conservation Division will continue to use the voluntary approach to reach compliance prior to enforcement. Partnerships with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, and other agencies is vital in getting financial cost-share to assist landowners in achieving compliance. If Eau Claire County is not able to achieve compliance with through voluntary, cooperative landowner participation, or through Eau Claire County Code enforcement, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will be utilized to accomplish NR151 compliance.

The following steps are proposed as a process to follow for implementation of the state performance standards in Eau Claire County.

1. Provide Education and outreach activities and workshops that help rural landowners understand compliance with NR 151. Voluntary compliance will be expressed with identifying the methods to achieve compliance goals.
2. Determine current compliance with the state standards. The LCD staff will perform a records review of the Farmland Preservation Program certification and Cost Share Agreements (Priority Watershed, County Cost Share, DATCP, etc.). On-site visits will complement this step to evaluate the status of priority sites.
3. Notify landowners of compliance status in accordance with the developed NR151 compliance checklist. Our first priority will be to notify landowners in full compliance with the state standards. The next priority will be to contact landowners who need assistance in complying with the state standards.

4. Provide technical assistance and offers of cost share to landowners in need of conservation BMPs. The County will seek a combination of county, state, federal, and other funding partnerships for cost-share purposes. In accordance with statute, landowners are not obligated to meet the state standards unless this cost share is offered. Farms that decline offers of cost share and are out of compliance will be communicated to DNR. It is our intent that the DNR staff, in consultation with LCD staff, will issue a notice of noncompliance or a notice of discharge for the noncompliant parcel. If the landowner disagrees with the initial LCD determination, the staff and landowner may meet and discuss the concerns. If the landowner disagrees with that outcome, they may pursue an appeal process through the LCC and/or DNR.
5. Sign contracts, administer funding, and construct/implement needed BMPs. If a landowner is unwilling to comply with state standards, the matter will be referred to DNR for enforcement.
6. As landowners comply, their status will be updated, and notices of compliance issued. LCD staff will provide local DNR staff with progress updates. The LCD office will maintain financial records and meet reporting requirements.
7. During other work under various County Codes, cross compliance with Performance Standards and Prohibitions will be assessed as often as possible during these activities.
8. Monitor compliance and maintain records. The LCD will continue to monitor compliance by performing on-site visits and recording the results. We currently visit at least 50 farms

per year for the Farmland Preservation Program alone and find this helpful in maintaining a relationship with the landowner and being able to work with them on any compliance concerns.

9. Review performance standards implementation process. If the DNR referral process is not functioning as intended or is otherwise determined to require a more formal process, a memorandum of understanding will be pursued for NR151 enforcement in Eau Claire County.

### Priority Farm

What is a priority farm within Eau Claire County? Reference 303d impaired waters, watersheds shown to have high levels of erosion, WQMAS?

NR 151 Non-Agricultural Performance Standards

1. Implement NR 151 Requirements
2. Follow the MS 4 Permit
3. Implement Title 17.05

## Enforcement

Enforcement of several local ordinances is the LCDs sole responsibility. This covers most of County Code 17 and includes Farmland Preservation Program compliance, the Storm Water Management and Erosion Control Ordinance, and the Animal Waste Storage Ordinance. LCD also provides technical review for various other County ordinances and programs that can affect private landowners including, but not limited to, Chapter 18 which includes the County zoning ordinances. Copies of these ordinances can be obtained from the Eau Claire County website or by requesting copies at either the Eau Claire County Clerks office, the Eau Claire County Department of Planning and Development (P&D) main office, or the Eau Claire County P&D Land Conservation Division (LCD) office.

As part of the original Lowes Creek Small Scale Urban Watershed Project, storm water and erosion control on construction sites become a priority. The County enforces the Uniform Dwelling Code (UDC) that includes erosion control requirements for one and two family dwellings. Stormwater runoff was enforced at residential and commercial sites between 1991 and 2006 via various provisions in the zoning code. The County Board adopted the Storm Water Management and Erosion Control Ordinance (December 2006) which meets the current DNR state standards and draws from various authorities under state law. The Ordinance was updated in 2012 based on five years of implementation and to clarify its relation to new land uses in the County. Several LCD staff are state certified inspectors for the stormwater and erosion control requirements outlined in the UDC. The LCD staff works in conjunction with the DNR staff on sites requiring state involvement. Eau Claire County LCD has been enforcing urban standards since 1991.

LCD will be transitioning in this ten year period to a universal County-City wide database (ACS-LDO) to track ordinance compliance. LCD programs such as the Animal Waste Ordinance, Stormwater & Erosion

Control Ordinance, Working Lands (formerly known as Farmland Preservation) requirements, and Nonpoint Performance Standards (NR151/ATCP50) status will be phased into the software. This information will be linked directly to the tax parcel data and tied to the County GIS system to assist in program implementation. During the transition, the information will continue to be tracked using a Microsoft Access database created in 2011. Mobile computing technologies (beyond the laptop) are intended to be utilized wherever possible and feasible to increase efficiencies within the department.

## Timeline for Review and Approval of County Land and Water Resource Management Plans

Action	Timeline for Land and Water Conservation Board Meeting	Checklist
<p>Contact your Regional Nonpoint Source Coordinator for information. Evaluate benefits of expanding plan to cover EPA 9 key elements.</p>	<p>12 months before Board Presentation</p> <p style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">Complete - Met w/DATCP Staff March 10th</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed</p>
<p>Set up at least one local advisory committee, representing a wide range of interests. You may create two committees: Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). If you do not have a separate TAC, include staff from UWEX, NRCS, and the DNR Regional Nonpoint Source Coordinator on your one committee.</p>	<p>11 months before Board Presentation</p> <p style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">CAC Meeting 4-12-2022</p> <p style="background-color: yellow; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Do 2 committees</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed</p>
<p>Review your "resource assessment" section(s) from your current LWRM plan. Re-assess resource conditions in your county as needed, including the collection of updated data from established sources. Check with DNR NPS Coordinator and/or Biologist to obtain water quality assessment information, identify key water quality problem areas to determine water quality objectives, and to identify pollutant load reduction targets. Interpret data and start identifying trends and developments to share with advisors.</p>	<p>10-11 months before Board Presentation</p> <p style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">Due July 11, 2022</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed</p>
<p>Convene advisory committee meeting(s) to review current LWRM plan. Provide them with any updated resource assessment information. Determine if the goals and objectives have changed and what the department should work on for the next 5-10 years (remember, 5 year plan, 10 year horizon)</p>	<p>9 months before Board Presentation</p> <p style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">Complete - CAC Meeting 4/12/2022</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed</p>

## Timeline for Review and Approval of County Land and Water Resource Management Plans

<p>Based on your advisory committee input, develop a revised draft plan with goals, objectives and action items that will form the basis of your work plan. Review components of plan to determine if they meet DATCP checklist requirements (may consult with DNR to determine if NR 151 implementation strategy is acceptable).</p>	<p>9 months before Board Presentation</p> <p style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">Due July 18th</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed</p>
<p>Convene another advisory committee meeting to review draft plan and gather final committee recommendations</p>	<p>7 months before Board Presentation</p> <p style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">Send in August via email review</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed</p>
<p>Revise draft plan, incorporating committee recommendations if appropriate, and present <b>to LCC for</b> review and approval.</p>	<p>4-6 months before Board Presentation</p> <p style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">Due July 26th to be incorporated into August 1 LCC Agenda</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed</p>
<p>County submits the draft plan to DATCP and DNR Regional NPS Coordinator.</p>	<p>4 months before Board Presentation</p> <p style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">Due August 5th</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> DATCP Completed <input type="checkbox"/> DNR Completed</p>
<p>DATCP and DNR return comments to the county (and copy comments to each other). DATCP comments are provided through checklist.</p>	<p>3 months before Board Presentation</p> <p style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">Hopefully receive comments by September</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> DNR Completed</p>
<p>County works with DATCP and DNR to incorporate comments into plan</p>	<p>2-3 months before Board Presentation</p> <p style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">Sep. 2022</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed</p>
<p>LCC holds public hearing. Note: ATCP 50:12 (5) The county board may approve the county LWRM plan before or after the department approves the plan.</p>	<p>1-2 months before Board Presentation</p> <p style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">Oct. 2022</p>	<p>Scheduled hearing date: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed</p>

## Timeline for Review and Approval of County Land and Water Resource Management Plans

<p>County submits the following:</p> <p>a. Provide one electronic copy of the plan for DATCP and hard copies as needed for Board members who request paper copies.</p> <p>b. Complete LWCB guidance checklist</p>	<p>1 month before Board Presentation</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed</p> <p style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px; color: red;">The Final Plan will need to be on a Nov. 2022 County Board Meeting, otherwise it will be approved after the LWCB meeting</p>
<p>County presents plan to LWCB who may make a recommendation to DATCP to approve or disapprove the plan.</p>	<p>Month of Board Presentation</p> <p style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px; color: red;">Dec. 6. 2022 - Travel to Madison</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed</p>
<p>After reviewing the LWCB recommendation, DATCP approves or disapproves the plan, and notifies the county of its decision</p>	<p>Immediately following LWCB meeting unless DATCP has not received a county board resolution/minutes adopting plan</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed</p>
<p>Address plans to DATCP to:          Lisa Trumble          DATCP- ARM          PO Box 8911          2811 Agriculture Drive          Madison, WI 53708-8911  <a href="mailto:Lisa.Trumble@wisconsin.gov">Lisa.Trumble@wisconsin.gov</a>          Phone: 608-224-4617</p>	<p>Address plan to DNR to:          Andrew Craig or NPS coordinator          DNR, GEF 2, WT/2          PO Box 7921          101 S. Webster St.          Madison, WI 53707-7921          e-mail:  <a href="mailto:andrew.craig@wisconsin.gov">andrew.craig@wisconsin.gov</a>          Phone: 608/267-7695</p>	

additional information is available on the DATCP website here...

[https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs\\_Services/LWCPlanning.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/LWCPlanning.aspx)

**From:** [Burchett, Justin - FSA, Altoona, WI](#)  
**To:** [lynn.fitch@sawyercountygov.org](mailto:lynn.fitch@sawyercountygov.org); [nstadnyk@ruskcountywi.us](mailto:nstadnyk@ruskcountywi.us); [lschweikert@co.chippewa.wi.us](mailto:lschweikert@co.chippewa.wi.us); [Chad Berge](#)  
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**Subject:** Eau Claire/Chippewa/Rusk-Sawyer Farm Service Agency Quarterly Update  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 5, 2022 10:00:43 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
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[2022 3rd Quarter Update.docx](#)

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**WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.**

Dear LCCs,

Attached is a brief update regarding the USDA Farm Service Agency for your next meeting. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or if you'd like to discuss a specific topic. I had meant to get this to everyone last week but the time got away from me – I apologize.

Thanks and take care!

Justin Burchett  
County Executive Director

Phone: 715-832-6547  
Fax: 855-733-0174

**Chippewa County FSA Office**  
1160 Weather Ridge Road  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729-1486

**Eau Claire County FSA Office**  
N1304 Hillcrest Pkwy, Suite B  
Altoona, WI 54720-1601

**Rusk-Sawyer County FSA Office**  
1120 Lake Ave West  
Ladysmith, WI 54848-1002

Please visit [farmers.gov/coronavirus](https://farmers.gov/coronavirus) for the latest information on Service Center status.

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July 5, 2022

Dear Land Conservation Committees,

The following is an update regarding the USDA Farm Service Agency for inclusion in your upcoming meeting. As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or to discuss any topics in greater depth.

Thank you very much and have a great day!

Sincerely,

Justin Burchett  
Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Rusk-Sawyer Farm Service Agency  
County Executive Director

### **LCC Update**

- Both the Rusk/Sawyer County Office and the Eau Claire County Office are in the process of hiring new full-time Program Technicians. Postings will be made on [usajobs.gov](http://usajobs.gov), but interested individuals are welcome to contact the office and ask for County Executive Director Justin Burchett to discuss further.
- PT Lisa Haley in Chippewa County will be retiring at the end of July after 36 years on the job. We wish her well in retirement. We anticipate a posting to replace her position sometime in August/September 2022.
- We are currently seeking a Field Assistant to cover Eau Claire, Chippewa, Rusk/Sawyer, and potentially neighboring counties as well. Field Assistants work almost exclusively in the field, assisting with late file spot checks, measuring bins, and other similar work as assigned. Interested individuals should contact County Executive Director Justin Burchett to learn more.
- The FSA County Committee Nomination Period is currently open. County Committee members are members of the local agriculture community. They oversee the operations of FSA County Offices, hire County Executive Directors, approve producer applications and contracts, and hear and decide upon producer appeals, among many other duties. County Committees typically meet every other month and are compensated for their time and travel.
- Offices are very busy with spring crop reports right now. Producers that wish to crop report must contact us no later than July 15<sup>th</sup> to avoid late file fees.
- The Emergency Relief Program was announced, which is designed to help offset the impacts of natural disasters in 2020 and 2021. Phase 1 runs through July 22, during which time producers may receive a pre-filled application if they had crop insurance and/or NAP data is already on file

showing they received a crop insurance indemnity or NAP payment. Phase 2 will follow with details TBA.

- The Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops Program was announced and will accept applications for 2022 through January 31, 2023. The application period for 2023 will be announced at a later date. The FSCSC program provides financial assistance for specialty crop operations that incur eligible on-farm food safety program expenses related to obtaining or renewing a food safety certification in calendar years in 2022 or 2023. This program helps offset costs to comply with regulatory requirements and market-driven food safety certification requirements.