

Clean Water Action Council

OF NORTHEAST WISCONSIN

— CELEBRATING 33 YEARS OF WORKING TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN NORTHEAST WISCONSIN —

FALL 2018

Barriers to Protecting the Waters of Wisconsin



Introduction by CWAC President Dean Hoegger

With each passing year, protecting Wisconsin's water resources falls more upon citizens and environmental organizations. Whether it is testifying about pollution permit renewals, some with unsafe variances, or to monitor for compliance with existing permits, citizens have needed to act to protect our waters. Rather than looking to state agencies to pass, interpret and enforce laws in favor of human health and the environment, citizens are seeing all branches of state government becoming more anti-environment.

This trend needs to be reversed! Read this issue to find out how.

**Vote for
Clean Water!**



Image courtesy of the National Resources Defense Council

Wisconsin Citizens Must Work to Overcome State-Imposed Barriers to Protect Our Waters

By Jimmy Parra

As with any job, being an environmental attorney has its ups and downs. One of the most inspiring aspects of my career as an attorney at Midwest Environmental Advocates is the opportunity to work alongside the many citizens of Wisconsin determined to protect the natural resources of this state. On the other hand, I have the unfortunate responsibility of tracking our state government's seemingly relentless efforts to silence the voices of those dedicated citizens.

Citizens have long played an important role in the implementation and enforcement of our federal and state environmental laws. Beginning with the enactment of the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and Endangered Species Act in the 1970s, citizens have had the right to participate in the environmental rulemaking and permit drafting processes, sue polluters, and even sue government agencies for failing to properly implement the law.

These tools have proven to be powerful, and many observers credit the relative success of environmental regulation in the United States to these broad rights of public participation.

Despite these guarantees enshrined into law, or perhaps in spite of them, our state government has embarked on a calculated attack to undermine the public's voice. From the Legislature, to the Governor's Office, to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), there is no shortage of examples from just the last several years illustrating these efforts:

- The Legislature has failed to change a state law restricting the ability of citizens to challenge water pollution permits despite being informed by the U.S. EPA over 7 years ago that the law violates the federal Clean Water Act.

- Shortly after the Wisconsin Supreme Court upheld a county's decision to deny a permit to a frac sand mining company based, in part, on evidence submitted by citizens at a public hearing; the Legislature passed a law limiting the amount of weight that can be given to citizen testimony in certain types of zoning hearings.

<https://www.lwm-info.org/DocumentCenter/View/1930>

- After privately meeting with the Dairy Business Association in 2016, Governor Walker directed DNR to narrow the scope of rules it was developing to reduce health hazards from manure spread on farm fields. The initial proposal for the rules was developed following a lengthy scientific study and extensive public discussion.

https://madison.com/wsj/news/local/govt-and-politics/dairy-group-bridles-at-first-targeted-rule-to-protect-drinking/article_ce26931a-d19f-55fa-8acf-77bb9e901b9a.html

- This past fall, the state exempted the Foxconn development from a number of environmental regulations, including the requirement that the state prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the project. The Environmental Impact Statement is an important tool that involves significant public participation, sheds light on the full environmental impact of a project, and requires the state to consider less harmful alternatives.

The good news is that the public does not seem to be dissuaded. If anything they seem to be emboldened. Alongside these attacks on the public's voice, the state has seen a steady growth in the number of citizens organizing and speaking up for their rights to a healthy environment.

From established citizen groups like Clean Water Action Council, to relative new comers like the Save the Hills Alliance and Citizen's Water Coalition of Wisconsin, there is a wide network of citizens across Wisconsin organizing and demanding that their voices be heard. It's important that we all play a role and join these groups (and the countless others) in their efforts to secure the public's seat at the table.

Jimmy Parra is a Staff Attorney at Midwest Environmental Advocates (MEA), Wisconsin's only public interest environmental law center. While at MEA, Jimmy has provided representation to citizens and community groups on a variety of issues related to public rights in the environment.

The DBA Pushes to Move CAFO Regulations Out of DNR Control

By Charlie Frisk



The Dairy Business Association (DBA) is pushing to make major changes in how large livestock farms are regulated in Wisconsin. The DBA is working to move regulation of Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP).

The DBA provided draft language to guide the transition



Water Quality Harmed by Trickle-Down Effect of Budget Cuts

By Caitlin Malott, intern

States depend on a large share of their support from federal funding, or at least it has been this way until the most recent administration. With state budgets becoming more stretched, federal assistance has allowed states to spread the cuts throughout all sections of the budget. Therefore, a cut to one part of the state budget affects all sections of the budget.

While President Trump continues to make budget cuts to environmental services and agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), state agencies are forced to try to create more action with less capital. Environmental conditions continue to worsen all around the country and it is the state's obligation to enforce federal laws to protect its citizens. However, as more budget cuts go into effect, the task of citizen protection becomes increasingly arduous.

The lack of adequate funding will result in jobs being lost, shortcuts being taken, and cooperation and communication between departments will be reduced. Federal budget cuts have created a negative trickle-down effect. A cut to federal funding means less money for each state, resulting in the weakening of state agencies. This is then followed by a reduction of aid to local agencies. The outcome is a lack of environmental protection and enforcement. Ultimately, these consequences will negatively impact citizens and the resources we depend on.

After the federal budget cuts were announced in 2016, the White House's Office of Management and Budget written narrative stated, "State and local groups are engaged and capable of taking on management of clean-up and restoration of water bodies." Clearly, that has not been the case in all states.

According to *USA Today*, federally funded state grants for 2018 have been cut by 45 percent. State agencies are spending money on fighting rising noncompliance issues instead of spending money on assistance programs that protect our land and water. Protection programs are not receiving the sufficient state and local focus that they deserve. This change in focus has put a halt on the progress of environmental protection programs and has left citizens with unsafe air and water conditions.

Some states, like California, have taken action by ramping up their environmental agencies, recognizing that people cannot live without clean air and water. Other states have unfortunately allowed protections to diminish.

In Wisconsin, Governor Scott Walker has appeared to follow suit with President Trump. Severe cuts have been made to environmental protection within state agencies. In 2015, Walker targeted the science and educational departments within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The department is responsible for protecting air and water quality, as well as managing our forests and wildlife. In his 2015 budget proposal, he approved eliminating one

from the DNR to DATCP and emailed talking points to Governor Walker to assist him in promoting the change. There was a time when an industry writing the language under which they will be regulated would have been considered corruption of the highest degree, but under the Walker administration it is business as usual.

This proposal would not require legislative approval. If Governor Walker makes the recommendation for the change, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would make the decision as to whether the transfer could be made.

The change would only apply to farms with more than 1,000 animal units. Small and medium size dairy farms would still be regulated by the county land and water offices and the DNR. One of the selling points used by proponents of this proposal is that it would streamline regulation, but that is hard to envision when there would now be two different agencies regulating waste disposal from dairy farms.

One of the major concerns of this transfer is that DATCP does not have a history of enforcing environmental regulations. Their relationship with agriculture has been primarily one of promotion, not regulation.

With the gubernatorial election coming up, there has been little mention of this proposal. Considering all the controversy over runoff from the CAFOs, it would appear that the Walker administration is laying low on this issue until after the election. This is one more reason why your vote matters in the November elections. Vote for those who will help with conservation and protection of our environment.



third of the DNR's scientist positions and 60 percent of its environmental educator positions. Large cuts, such as these, also dramatically decrease the influence of public awareness and outreach. The

lack of funding supporting research and education affect how the DNR preforms as a whole.

In 2016, federal regulators visited the DNR to investigate claims that the agency was failing to enforce water pollution laws and regulations. Over the past decade, the Legislative Audit Bureau report revealed that the DNR failed to send violation notices in 94 percent of the nearly 560 instances in which its policies said it should have. The report found that permits have been extended without review for years due to a backlog and lack of time to thoroughly monitor violators.

In a 2016 report done by Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, data showed forfeitures paid by polluters for violations totaled \$306,834 in 2015. A 78 percent decrease from nearly \$1.4 million paid out in 2014. Governor Walker presented this positively, stating "declining enforcement was a good sign because it showed the DNR has been working upfront with the public to avoid problems." When an agency is experiencing massive employee cuts, declining enforcement should not be taken as a 'good sign.' Forfeitures for violations received a dramatic decrease because the agency was not able to enforce the violations.

Andy Wallander, retired Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department specialist, discussed how his department was personally affected by budget cuts. He explained that conservation efforts of his department were placed on the back burner, when compared to other sectors. His department experienced what he called a "chasing money loop" that wasted resources and failed to keep long term, invested employees.

The land and water conservationist said, "Chasing money creates temporary project positions, not people who stay

committed and invested in the job long term." These projects also created a loss in focus on Land and Water Resource Management Plans. Lastly, Andy stated that, "working with the land and water conservation department was the most controversial work I've ever done, even though everyone wants clean water."

Andy's experiences show that state agencies have not only been affected by the decrease in the number of staff, but they are also weakened in other ways. Conservation departments have also failed to attack issues with a forceful approach or publish research and results in an accurate manner. Employees that have managed to keep their jobs may fail to confront issues due to fear of losing their job. The weakening of environmental agencies has curtailed workers' rights to speak and cooperate effectively.

Gordon Stevenson, engineer and former senior DNR manager, now Midwest Environmental Advocates board secretary stated, "DNR management has made it clear to staff that environmental advocacy is no longer the core mission of DNR and staff are disallowed from doing so." This policy creates a lack of faith and trust Wisconsin's citizens have in state government. People want to believe their environment is being protected to the fullest extent. Agencies should be allowed to perform in the way they were designed to do so.

It is clear that cuts to state and local environmental agencies have also weakened their ability to communicate, cooperate effectively, and thus adequately protect our water resources.

It is apparent that the trickle-down effect is harmful for the public and the environment. The increasing burden on nonprofit environmental organizations to monitor pollution permits and sue polluters has only intensified. These groups can only do so much.

So, what can be done? We need to vote this November for candidates who will protect our precious water resources.

Legislative and Judicial Actions Weaken Groundwater and Surface Water Protections

By Charlie Frisk

Unless people have a private well, they generally don't think much about groundwater. However, groundwater levels and water quality affect a considerable number of people in Wisconsin. The general public has a tendency to have two independent notions of groundwater and surface water, but they are inexorably linked.

Most of Wisconsin's lakes are simply an area where the land surface dips below the water table (the water table being the top of the groundwater aquifer). Almost all Wisconsin trout streams are fed primarily by groundwater. Only groundwater can provide the cold water that trout need to survive.

Unless your community is within either the Lake Superior or Lake Michigan basin, your municipal water supply most likely comes from groundwater.

Demands on groundwater are continually increasing. Irrigation use has increased dramatically in recent decades. **In the early 1950's, there were fewer than 100 high capacity wells (HCWs) in the Central Sands region and today there are more than 3,000. HCWs are those pumping at least 100,000 gallons a day.**

Industries use tremendous quantities of groundwater, and companies such as Nestle are bottling midwestern groundwater and shipping it around the world.

Recharging of groundwater aquifers is also being reduced. The more impervious surface being built; think houses, driveways, big box stores, roads, parking lots, etc.; the less surface area is available for water to soak

into the ground. Drainage of wetlands eliminates the ecosystem that most effectively recharges groundwater. Crop fields and bluegrass yards do not allow infiltration of water to near the same degree as natural ecosystems, such as forests and prairies.

With the reduced recharge and increased demand, it would seem logical that the politicians and judges in Madison would be doing everything they can to protect groundwater, but the reality is quite the opposite

In 2011, the Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled that the DNR has the power to consider cumulative impacts when deciding whether or not they will grant a permit for a new high capacity well. But in 2016, Wisconsin Attorney General Brad Schimel issued an opinion that the DNR can't consider the cumulative effect that hundreds of HCWs exert on lakes, streams, and groundwater when deciding whether to approve new wells. It is Schimel's decision that the DNR is presently operating under.

Schimel's decision defies all reasonable logic. The depletion of groundwater is rarely due to one single well. It is the thousands of wells concentrated in areas like the Central Sands region that is shrinking lakes and drying up streams. Schimel's decision makes it impossible for the DNR to do their job of protecting Wisconsin's water resources.

In 2014, as part of the two year budget, the WI Legislature took away citizens' ability to challenge well permits issued by the DNR, even when evidence suggests the new well would contribute—along with other neighboring wells—to drawing down nearby surface waters.

In 2017, the Wisconsin Legislature passed Act 10, a bill that removed DNR checks on permit adherence when wells are repaired, rebuilt, or sold to a new owner.

The general pattern of both the Wisconsin Supreme Court and the Legislature has been to weaken protections that would prevent over-pumping of groundwater. This is occurring at a time when lakes are drying up and streams are disappearing in the Central Sands.

“Every gallon of water that gets pulled out of the ground is a gallon that's not going to the stream or lake it's supposed to,” said George Kraft, a hydrologist with UW Stevens Point and the UW Extension. While water levels fluctuate based on rainfall, Kraft's research shows that water in lakes near



high capacity wells has declined steadily since 2000, while those farther away have not.

Kraft envisions the possibility that some parts of the state will experience major problems if HCW regulations continue to be weakened. He stated, “I don't foresee a case where we run out of water, but quite seriously, we may dry up every lake and stream in the Central Sands.”

We need tougher regulations to prevent depletion of groundwater. Be on the alert for any new legislative attacks on our groundwater resource, and this November vote for politicians who will protect our water resources, not reduce protections.

Local Control of Industrial-Size Farms Lost to the Livestock Facility Siting Law

By Dave Verhagen

Large concentrated animal feeding operations, known as CAFOs, have become increasingly common across Wisconsin. Their sheer size and the resources they consume have far reaching environmental impacts. Even while Kewaunee County's potable water contamination is well recognized, damage is spreading across the state. Dead zones in Lake Michigan and the Bay of Green Bay add mounting concern that uncontrolled growth in the size and number of CAFOs cannot be sustained.

In 2004, the Wisconsin legislature passed a law governing the zoning of CAFOs known as the Livestock Facility Siting Law. Rules enacted to enforce the law took effect in 2006. Their stated purpose was to establish uniform state standards governing the siting of CAFOs, and establish explicit processes for application and approval that local governments are now required to use. Additionally, the law restricted local government's use of zoning to control the location of these operations.

Local rules cannot be made more stringent than what the state law allows, and local governments cannot require any additional information than what is found on the state permit application. Operators are presumed to be in compliance simply by completing the permit application. Thus, a properly completed application essentially guarantees local approval, regardless of local opposition. A 2012 State Supreme Court case upheld the State's right to preempt local control.

Midwest Environmental Advocates states, “The Livestock siting law took away local power to regulate CAFOs. Without effective state regulation of industrial farms, the burden of litigating for law enforcement is passed on to citizens.”

Citizens can challenge a CAFO's permit, but they must demonstrate “reasonable and scientifically defensible findings of fact,” proving that higher standards are needed. Language in the law explicitly states that any determination must include economic impact to the CAFO, while assigning no value to public health or safety!

Limited zoning by local government is allowed under the law, but the rules require local governments that create

zoning with a cap on the size of a CAFO must also create a “sacrifice” zone where no restrictions apply. Banning CAFOs from any zone can only be done with “reasonable and scientifically defensible findings of fact,” but also require sacrifice zones if adopted.

There are five standards that CAFOs must meet in order to be granted approval of their permit application. They include: location of structures, odor and air emissions, nutrient management, waste storage, and runoff management.

Nutrient management concerns land spreading of waste manure. The rules state that spreading practices must conform to federal rules published in 2005. Both the federal rules and the State Siting Law were written when the largest farms were one thousand head of cattle. Today, CAFOs can house many thousands of head. The original rules are inadequate for the growth in the size of these operations. Nor do they recognize the advances in soil science that inform our knowledge of the interaction between soils and large scale spreading of manure. A revision and update needs to be made to the rules to introduce safer techniques for the spreading of manure wastes.

While the state regulations for CAFO Nutrient Management require a plan for the land spreading of waste generated by the applicant, water quality need not be a part of the plan. The DNR will also allow manure lagoons to leak up to 500 gallons per day while still being in compliance. Coupled with the requirement in the law that the costs to the CAFO of any regulations protecting human health and safety have to be balanced against the cost to the livestock industry statewide, **the effect of the law is to promote animal livestock operations over local public health.**

Perhaps the one opening in the law is the technical review committee. They are required by law to review the livestock facility siting rules every four years. Nine technical experts comprise the committee. They are aided by nine advisors from state and federal agencies working with land and water issues. Their last report was issued in September of 2015 and the next report is due by September of 2019. Meetings to begin work on this report are being scheduled at this time.

Rule changes proposed by the committee are subject to public comment. This is too late in the process. The public ought to be able to provide input prior to the deliberation of new rules. The Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is in discussion at this time on how to move forward with another review. This timing may provide the opportunity to promote technical changes in the rules.

All changes to the livestock siting law contained in the ATCP51 rules will need to comply with the law as written. Nonetheless, Kewaunee County residents are experiencing economic costs due to degraded water and homeowners are facing costs due to loss of their home’s appraised value. The local economy is declining as a result of their impaired water resource which is the very definition of need required by the law to make rule changes.

We know that the ability farm fields have to absorb spread manures is a function of soil depth and the organic content of the soil. These are easily measurable parameters and should be determined for every parcel of land on which wastes are spread. Moreover, the rate of application per acre should be limited by those factors as well. Taken together, these factors can reduce land spreading where necessary, and provide a working definition for “carrying capacity” regarding nutrient management on all lands in our state.

What You Can Do—

Contact Sheila Harsdorf, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, 2811 Agriculture Dr., P.O. Box 8911, Madison, WI 53708-8911. Ask her to include a means for public input into the upcoming working sessions of the ATCP51 Technical Expert Committee meetings.

What can you do? Take action today and at the polls in November!

Vote! What do candidates with a beautiful environmental mind look like?

See our fall 2016 newsletter: http://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org/newsletter/archives/2016/CWAC_Fall%202016_WebRev.pdf

Vote for Clean Water in the midterm elections.

See the voter scorecards for pro conservation votes of Wisconsin legislators: <https://conservationvoters.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/TrackingYourLegislators.pdf>

Stand up for science in the midterm elections.

Find out how from the Union of Concerned Scientists at www.ucsusa.org/2018midterms

CAFO Toolkit: Protecting Your Community from Existing and Proposed Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations

When an industrial animal farm proposes to locate or expand in your community, know the basics of water and air regulations and your property rights. This toolkit covers how to stay informed and participate in CAFO permitting processes.

http://midwestadvocates.org/assets/resources/citizenguides/MEA_CAFO_Toolkit.pdf

Make your concerns known about livestock facility problems.

Members of the public may communicate with the board by mail to Livestock Siting Review Board, DATCP, P.O. Box 8911, Madison, WI 53708-8911 or by e-mail SitingBoard@wisconsin.gov. Contact your state legislators to ask for repeal or modifications to the law to give greater local control.

Donate!

Support candidates that will protect our water resources. Support environmental organizations working to educate the public and take action in the community and in the courts such as Clean Water Action Council at <http://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org/> and Midwest Environmental Advocates at <http://midwestadvocates.org/>.



The Action in Clean Water Action Council

By Dean Hoegger

Thank you to the many members who renewed their membership for 2018. Please renew for 2018 if have not done so. You can mail your membership donation or go online to <http://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org/membership/> Membership dues are based on a calendar year. Please see your newsletter label or email notice which indicates the last year that you donated and consider a more generous donation if you missed 2017 or 2016.

Read below about actions we have taken in the last three months. Be sure to contact us if an environmental issue arises in your community. CWAC is here to support citizen action. The following are our most significant activities since June.

Legal Actions



As a citizen organization, an important function of CWAC is to take legal actions on behalf of our members to protect human health and the environment. Because individual members may be reluctant or unfamiliar

with how to file a legal action, the CWAC board of directors believes that taking legal action on behalf of our members is an important part of our mission. Here are some current legal actions and our efforts to improve environmental laws.

CWAC supports citizen opposition to a manure pit construction in Oconto County.

A year ago this May, CWAC was asked to support citizen efforts to stop construction of a manure pit near some rural homes. At that time, B&D Dairy asked for a variance for the pit setback from a roadway. CWAC researched the requirements for a variance and found B&D did not meet the requirements. We wrote an appeal to the pit permit granted by the county which was then overturned by the county board.

This summer, B&D obtained a new permit and began construction the day after the permit was granted. Our review of the permit found it to be deficient with both state and county requirements. Again, CWAC wrote an appeal, however, this appeal did not go before the county board but rather a review board made up of some of the same people who granted the permit. The appeal was denied.

Several neighbors hired an attorney who will bring the deficiencies we found before the Oconto County Circuit

Court on September 24. We will report the court's decision in the Weekly Update in late September.

Not receiving the Update? Send us an e-mail request. It is sent out once a week via BCC e-mail.

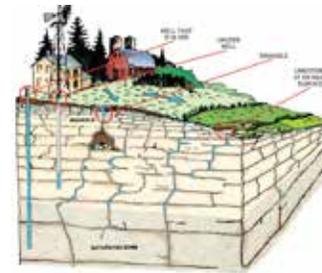
CWAC's Efforts to Intervene in DBA vs DNR Settlement

Midwest Environmental Advocates previously filed the declaratory judgement action and petition for judicial review to challenge the DNR settlement with the Dairy Business Association on behalf of CWAC and several other petitioners. This settlement gave up DNR's authority over requiring manure runoff controls in vegetated calf hutch production areas.

This case is still active and was heard on September 17 after the newsletter went to the printer. See our September 18th and 25th Weekly Updates for the outcome.

CWAC works to pass NR151 revisions.

Although not a typical legal action, influencing the rule changes will have legal implications in the form of administrative rules. After serving on the DNR's Technical Advisory Committee, CWAC helped citizens demand stricter manure spreading rules in karst regions and the NR151 revisions were approved. Nearly all of CWAC's recommendations are in the new rules with the exception of requiring three feet of soil over karst bedrock. (See CWAC Fall Newsletter on page 2 for our recommendations: <http://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org/newsletter/>)



Karst regions have fractured rock with connecting cracks and caverns between them that easily transport water and pollutants to the groundwater.

We are pleased to report that the Kewaunee County Land and Water Conservation Department has proposed the county adopt NR151 revised rules as a county ordinance. The county board is set to consider this on September 18. See our September 18th and 25th Weekly Updates for the outcome.

Update on Safe Drinking Water Act Petition for Emergency Action, filed with EPA October, 2014.

While the revisions to NR151 are a direct result of this Petition, we feel more is needed to protect our groundwater. On September 19, CWAC representatives will attend a meeting in Chicago with EPA representatives to push for their continued involvement with the drinking water crisis in Kewaunee County. See our September 18th and 25th Weekly Updates for the results of the meeting. The petition and supporting documents can be found at:

www.cleanwisconsin.org/kewaunee-safe-drinking-water

Citizen Petition for Corrective Action for the Clean Water Act, filed October, 2015.

On December 20, 2017, the EPA updated the status of their review of the "75 issues" indicating that 56 of the 75 issues

were resolved. See <https://www.epa.gov/wi/npdes-petition-program-withdrawal-wisconsin-0>. The need for further litigation to resolve the remaining issues still needs to be discussed by petitioners and Midwest Environmental Advocate's attorneys.



CWAC promotes ordinances to ban manure spraying.

CWAC continues to offer presentations to residents and town officials. CWAC gave presentations to residents and town officials in the Door County Town of Gibraltar and the Oconto County Town of Little River in the past year. The Town Boards both passed a manure spraying ban. Thus far, at least 17 northeast Wisconsin towns and cities have passed a ban. If your town has not passed an ordinance, contact us to help get a ban and protect your family from this health threat.

The latest town to express an interest in a ban is Ledgeview in Brown County. We met with their code enforcement officer to share documents about the threat and sample ordinances.

For more information on this concern, go to our website for Priority Issues: "Ban Manure Spraying" for more information. <http://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org/issues/spray-irrigation/>. If your town has not passed a ban, contact us for assistance.

CWAC monitors water pollution permits.

We monitor for new permit notices and hearings and publish those in our Weekly Update and at times attend hearings and/or submit comments. See *Mark Your Calendar, page 14* and attend the hearings regarding variances for mercury emissions, which in one case is many times more than the EPA advisory. We are seeing more of those variances for increased mercury emissions being approved by the DNR in NE WI.

Join the Clean Water Act Enforcement Network!

CWAC is sponsoring this group and providing training on how to monitor for pollution permit compliance. Group members monitor for pollution permit violations online and through onsite observations. Midwest Environmental Advocates is providing technical and legal support for the group. Research work can be completed at home, shared with the group online, and then reviewed during a monthly meeting in person or by telephone. Contact us if you would like to work on this enforcement effort to protect the waters of northeast Wisconsin.

CWAC continued to serve on The PFC Contamination, Citizen Steering Committee in Marinette. Committee member and leader Jeff Lamont has this report:

The investigation being done by Arcadis on behalf of Tyco/Johnson Controls has found (per their quote) perfluorinated compound (PFC) contamination from the Fire Training Center (in Marinette) at alarming levels in drainage ways and creeks discharging to Green Bay as well as in several ponds on residential and commercial properties.

In addition, PFC contamination has been detected at high concentrations at multiple locations at their main manufacturing facility on the Menominee River. They currently have a groundwater pump and treatment system for the arsenic contamination onsite. This treatment system is not treating for PFCs so they are being directly discharged to the Menominee River.

Tyco/JCI is now offering Point Of Entry Treatment (POET) systems to homes that have confirmed detections of PFCs. Prior to the study recently released they were only making these systems available to homes with concentrations above the EPA Health Advisory Level of 70 ppt.

Results for the current investigation being conducted should be published sometime this fall.

We continue to try and work with state and federal politicians to get soil, surface water and groundwater standards in place as soon as possible.

In addition we are looking at trying to get the state or Feds to file a suit for Clean Water Act violations for the discharge of PFC to Green Bay and the Menominee River.

CWAC Testifies at Hearings

CWAC President Dean Hoegger testified against the significant expansion of several thousand cows for Ledgeview Dairy in Brown County, pointing out the farm's recent failure to abide by state and local regulations and the vulnerable areas in which they were spreading manure.



He also spoke before the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board. He asked members to recognize that CAFOs are a significant contributor to poor water quality and to be receptive to supporting stricter regulations to control pollution from these operations.

CWAC monitors actions by the state legislature.

Again, not a typical legal action, yet monitoring for harmful bills, and supporting those that provide greater protection, is necessary to insure that laws are not passed without public participation.

Hopefully, the fall elections will end the nightmare of bad environmental bills that we saw in the 2017-2018 session.

CWAC's Educational Efforts in the Community

Health Forums: Protecting Your Family from Toxins in the Home and Environment.

Our Health Forums will begin again in October. Fall presenters include Debra Pearson speaking about the latest research on the benefits of consuming meat, dairy, and eggs from grass-grazed animals. See the Mark Your Calendar more details on this October 16th event.

Please consider sponsoring a health forum at the \$150 level or contact a business who will be a sponsor. The forums focus on protecting our families from toxins in the home and environment.

Workshop to protect our waters for farmers and landowners renting their land for farming.

CWAC is sponsoring this workshop, "Protecting Our Waters, Improving Your Farm's Bottom Line with Managed Grazing" at UW-Green Bay on December 6. See *Mark Your Calendar* for more information.

CWAC volunteers for state water monitoring program.

The Clean Water Action Council volunteered to perform surface water sampling of Baird's Creek as part of the DNR's Water Action Volunteers. We are part of a larger group of volunteers sampling waters in the Lower Fox River Basin. The project focuses on the total phosphorus concentration from 14 tributaries in the Lower Fox Watershed. Once a month, from May through October, volunteers collect a variety of samples and measurements that are sent to the State Lab of Hygiene.



CWAC provides interns with valuable experiences

We welcome Catlin Malott and Danielle Radtke to the office as our fall interns. See bios on page 15.

Presentations and Exhibits

Contact us to schedule a presentation for your group on a variety of environmental issues or exhibit at your event. Presentations include The Hazards of Manure Spraying, Protect the Waters of the Northeast Wisconsin, Barriers to Citizen Participation in Environmental Decision Making, The Hazards of Burn Barrels, Communities on the Road

to Zero Waste and more. The presentations can be tailored to your group's age and available time. Also, contact us if you would like us promote or co-sponsor your event or presentation. Below are additional community action efforts.

Since the last newsletter, we gave a presentation to the Appleton Kiwanis Club, exhibited the Door County Water Fest event at Crossroads at Big Creek, and scheduled three more which can be found in Mark Your Calendar.

CWAC serves on Congressman Gallagher's Save the Bay committee for the Lower Fox River watershed

CWAC continues to serve on the committee's education and outreach subcommittee. Intern Caitlin Malott attended the August meeting for CWAC.

Efforts to Stop the Back 40 Mine

Aquila Resources received its Back Forty mine wetland permit opening the door to mine operations beginning. We will continue to use the concept of social license to stop the Back 40 Mine which is now more important than ever.

If you have not already done so, please contact your county supervisor or town officials to place passing a resolution opposing the Back 40 mine on their meeting agenda. These local governments have already passed a resolution: Marinette County, Brown County, Menominee County, WI, Door County, Shawano County, Menominee County, MI, City of Peshtigo, Oconto County, City of Marinette, Town of Porterfield, and the Town of Wagner. Contact us to support your efforts by providing sample resolutions and speakers.

Outreach through Newspaper and Radio

CWAC Vice President Charlie Frisk frequently has his articles published in "letters to the editor" in publications around the state. He is willing to write an article for you.

Website Updates

Articles and resources on our website continue to be updated as new information is available and past newsletter issues can be found at www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org

Get Our Weekly Update by e-mail.

Each Tuesday we email the CWAC Weekly Update of actions, alerts, events, and the latest information on topics of concern. Send your postings by Monday evening. If you are a member with an email address and you are not getting the CWAC Weekly Update, check your spam folder before emailing us to request to be put on the mailing list. If you are reading this newsletter as a non-member, email us to be placed on the free Weekly Update list. E-mails are sent via Bcc to protect your privacy.

Please follow us on Facebook.

Click here for our page:



Is Green Bay's Bay Beach Safe to Open?

Anna Hoesley, former CWAC Intern

As the City of Green Bay prepares to open Bay Beach for swimming, the threat of blue-green algae continues to loom. At the end of March of this year, Mayor Schmitt announced the city has received all the necessary permits to construct a sand beach, fishing pier, boardwalk, and bathhouse at Bay Beach Amusement Park. Having an area in Green Bay to publicly access the water would be a huge asset to the community. However, some researchers are not confident that the city should let the public swim in the bay yet due to the presence of blue-green algae. [1][2]

- Blue-green algae is not actually algae. It is a cyanobacteria, which, like algae, is photosynthetic and grows with the increase of nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus. The watershed surrounding the bay has been releasing excessive amounts of phosphorus over the years, allowing the cyanobacteria to flourish. In addition, cyanobacteria grow fastest in warmer shallower water, such as the water in Green Bay. [3][4]
- Cyanobacteria can release cyanotoxins. Exposing humans to these toxins can cause a variety of symptoms:
 - ◆ Respiratory Symptoms (brought on by swallowing or breathing in (such as from spray from boating) cyanobacteria:
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion
 - Cough
 - Wheezing
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Eye irritation
 - ◆ Dermatological Symptoms (which can be avoided by showering immediately after swimming):
 - Itchy skin
 - Red skin
 - Blisters
 - Hives
 - ◆ Other Symptoms:
 - Earache
 - Agitation
 - Headache
 - Abdominal pain
 - Diarrhea
 - Vomiting

Pets and young children are especially susceptible. Symptoms for pets include lethargy, difficulty breathing, diarrhea, seizure, weakness, and vomiting. Exposure to cyanobacteria can ultimately result in death for humans and pets. [5]

- There has not been enough research in the bay to create a model to properly predict the growth of algal blooms. The WDNR is not required to test for cyanobacteria when monitoring beaches. [6] When the WDNR approved the permits for Bay Beach, they based their decision on a three-year study that was requested by the city. According to other researchers, three years is not enough time to properly evaluate the water quality in terms of cyanobacteria. [7]
- Although the study performed for the city came up with moderate levels of cyanotoxins along Bay Beach's shoreline, they admit they may have missed some samples that could show higher levels because the algae is difficult to catch. [2][8] Additionally, there have been studies by NEW Water that have samples with much higher levels. One in September 2017 presented 4,000 micrograms per liter of cyanotoxins, which is 1,000 times greater than the EPA's recreational guideline set at 4 micrograms per liter. [2][7]
- Blue-green algae is not a threat the entire summer season. Since cyanobacteria develops when the water becomes warmer, swimmers/people recreating will most likely not be affected near the beginning of summer. [3] However, they should be made aware of cyanobacteria as soon as it appears.
- The City of Green Bay is currently working on a monitoring and reporting plan which will be vital to ensure they are not risking the health of their citizens. [2]

To prevent the growth of cyanobacteria in the bay, it is essential to reduce nutrient runoff into the Fox River Watershed. Various groups, such as Clean Water Action Council, members of Congressman Gallagher's Save the Bay group, county land and water departments, and NEW Water, are currently making efforts in the watershed to reduce phosphorus loading into the bay. Encouraging farmers to adopt practices that will reduce runoff and informing the community how they can participate are steps in the right direction, but we have a long way to go.

The health of the watershed is vital in questioning whether Bay Beach is safe to open for swimming. Given the information above, the city and the community must question whether the asset of a public beach is worth the risk at this time.

Sources:

1. <https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2018/03/30/green-bay-gets-approval-restore-bay-beach-swimming/473608002/>
2. <https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2018/07/09/bay-beach-restoration-algae-bacteria-coli-concern-but-wont-slow-return-swimming-green-bay/738672002/>
3. <https://intellegereproject.files.wordpress.com/2018/08/hab-booklet.pdf>
4. <https://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/bluegreenalgae/>
5. <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/water/bg-algae/healthconcerns.htm>
6. <https://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/bluegreenalgae/>
7. <https://intellegereproject.files.wordpress.com/2018/08/new-water-final-white-paper-bay-beach-2-2018-1.pdf>
8. https://intellegereproject.files.wordpress.com/2018/08/blrpc_bay_beach_restoration_action_plan_08-24-15_jn.pdf



CLIMATE CHANGE

Is Thought Control Being Used to Ignore Climate Change?

By Charlie Frisk

George Orwell's book *1984* was about a futuristic government that practiced thought control and discouraged independent thinking. We are 34 years past the timeframe of the book but it appears that under both the Walker and the Trump regime we are being subjected to thought control.

The Walker administration is attempting to scrub all Wisconsin government sites and documents of any mention of global climate change. Walker attempted to kill publication of *Wisconsin Natural Resources* magazine, the bi-monthly magazine produced by the DNR. Although Walker argued that ending the magazine was to save money; the magazine was fully funded by subscriptions, and his main purpose appeared to be to silence the magazine's pro-environmental message. Due to strong protest from magazine supporters, Walker backed off on his bid to kill the magazine. Publication was scaled back from six issues to four a year and no mention of global climate change is now allowed in articles.

Tia Nelson, daughter of Earth Day Founder, former WI governor and U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson, and a well-known environmentalist in her own right, was recently pushed out of her state job due to a gag order on global climate change. Tia was the Executive Secretary of the Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (WBCPL); a state board responsible for oversight of all state agencies working with public lands. Two out of three board members of the WBCPL ordered Tia to never discuss climate change on state time. Realizing the futility of trying to develop rational land management strategies while ignoring the impacts of global climate change, Tia decided she had no choice but to resign after eleven years in the position.

Florida governor Rick Scott went a step further than Walker; employees of the Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection are barred from using the terms global climate change, global warming, and sustainability. I'm not sure that even George Orwell could have imagined a world in which discussion of policies designed to maintain a livable world with sufficient resources to sustain our descendants would be banned by a state government.

This is particularly ironic because most scientists agree that Florida is the state with the most to lose from global warming; sea levels there are rising one inch every three years and rising sea levels now cost Florida \$4 billion annually. Sea level rise is expected to eliminate 30% of Florida beaches over the next 85 years and major portions of several Florida cities will be underwater. The Trump administration has scrubbed the mention of climate change from governmental sites and documents, declining to formally recognize it as a national security threat. The U.S. Navy is now faced with the rather bizarre task of preparing for all of the problems that global climate change will cause, without actually mentioning global climate change. Nearly all Navy bases are either on coastal sites or islands. With sea levels predicted to rise anywhere from 2 feet to 8 feet in the 21st century virtually all U.S. Naval bases are at risk. A 2016 survey by the Union of Concerned Scientists listed 128 naval bases in the U.S. alone that are at risk from rising seas.

Classic examples of military bases threatened by climate change are Naval Base Guam and Andersen Air Force Base. Naval Base Guam houses two submarine support vessels, four nuclear fast attack submarines and over 10,000 soldiers. Andersen Air Force base on Guam serves as the launching pad for B-52 bombers for the entire South Pacific. These bases are extremely important because Guam is on U.S. soil; we are not dependent on other countries for our military readiness there.

The EPA warned in 2016 that Guam's air and ocean are warming, the sea level is rising and the ocean is becoming more acidic. Combined, these changes stress and kill the ring of coral that protects against storms and coastal erosion. Guam is beginning to see a reduction in freshwater during the dry season, increased damage from flooding and typhoons, and an increased average air temperature, which means more frequent extreme heat index days that may impede military operations.

The military is not the only branch of government that suffers when word and thought control dominates science. According to the Union of Concerned Scientists, the Environmental Protection Agency has reported the biggest challenges of any government agency. They have experienced the highest levels of political interference in their scientific work, and see staff reductions and shifts in priorities as hurting their ability to carry out the agency's critical mission of protecting our health and environment.

The most disturbing aspect of the Trump and Walker's attack on words is that it represents a blatant attempt to subdue Americans. They believe that if they don't allow the usage of words like global climate change then they can convince the public that it just isn't happening. The frightening thing is that this thought control strategy is working, particularly among Republicans. According to a 2018 Gallup poll, only 42% of Republicans agree that most scientists believe global warming is occurring and only 18% believe global warming will pose a serious threat in their lifetime.

The late scientist Stephen Hawking believed that climate change will be the greatest challenge ever faced by society.

He stated, "We are close to the tipping point where global warming becomes irreversible. Trump's actions could push the earth over the brink, to become like Venus with a temperature of 250 degrees, and raining sulfuric acid." Trump and Walker's thought control may be delaying the point at which society takes the necessary actions to save the world as we know it.

Sources:

U.S.A. Today, July 15, 2018, "Climate Change Imperils Navy's Reach in Pacific"

Miami Herald, March 8, 2015, "In Florida Officials Ban Term, 'Climate Change'"

Union of Concerned Scientists Website



"We are close to the tipping point where global warming becomes irreversible. Trump's actions could push the earth over the brink, to become like Venus with a temperature of 250 degrees, and raining sulfuric acid."

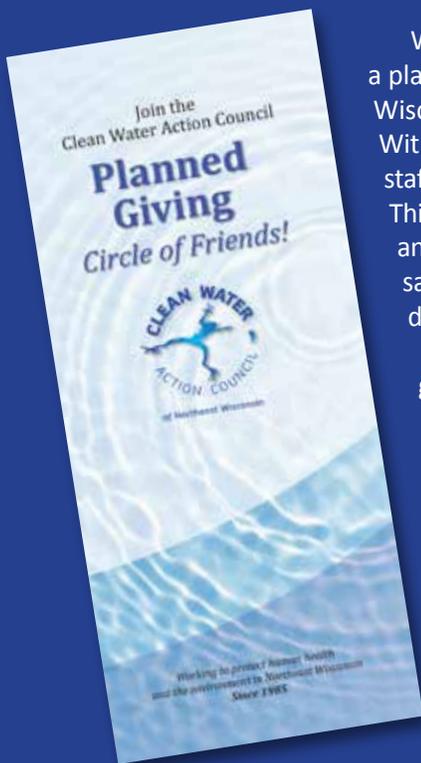
~ Stephen Hawking



MISSION STATEMENT

The Clean Water Action Council of Northeast Wisconsin Non-Profit Corporation is organized to promote a safe, healthy, and sustainable environment in northeast Wisconsin, to educate and inform members and the public on environmental issues, and to take action on behalf of members and the public to protect the environment and human health. All operations are exclusively for charitable and educational purposes and for the promotion of environmental justice.

Join Our Planned Giving Circle of Friends



With the support of your membership donations, our annual fundraiser, and a planned gift from Roger C. Simurdiak, Clean Water Action Council of Northeast Wisconsin is able to do the work you read about in *The Action in CWAC* on page 7 Without Mr. Simurdiak having included CWAC in his estate, we would not have the staffing that his gift provides, which is a half-time paid executive director. This gift has provided funding for six years at the half-time salary, making CWAC an active force in NE Wisconsin. The gift will likely provide another eight years of salary before being depleted. But, it is being depleted! So we need your help to do a small thing now, to make a big difference in the future, after you pass away.

Planned gifts can take many forms which are explained in the planned giving brochure we provide with each thank you letter or email we send to you when you make a membership donation. Many of our board members have found the Payable on Death (POD) classification on a CD, bank account, or other asset to be the easiest gift to make, and it was done at their financial institution. Others have found a designation in a will or trust to be a good instrument for helping secure CWAC's future.

Please join our Planned Giving Circle of Friends. Help give Clean Water Action Council a strong voice for human health and the environment into the next decade. E-mail us for a copy of the brochure or go to www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org and click on Planned Giving.

If you are renting out your farmland, you may want to attend this workshop to learn how managed grazing can protect ground and surface waters.

Improving Your Farm's Bottom Line with Managed Grazing

December 6, 2018. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., programs 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

UW-Green Bay University Union in the 1965 Room

Free guest parking in the University Union lot. (Unless a parking permit registered vehicle)



Clean Water Action Council of Northeast Wisconsin, with support from the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program and NOAA, will host this one day workshop which will provide dairy and beef farmers the information needed to consider managed grazing as a way to improve profits and reduce workloads, while protecting water resources. Free for pre-registered guests.*

9:00-9:50 Making the Transition to Managed Grazing with Organic Valley Producer Mike Polich

Organic Valley dairy producer since 2010, Mike Polich will talk about his transition from traditional dairy farming to managed grazing and organic dairy production on his fourth generation farm with 120 cows. He will talk about how he got started using resources from FSA and grants he received from NRCS. He will share strategies for improving pastures including inter-seeding, renovation, and rotation and his costs and results. He will also discuss how managed grazing has reduced his chores.

10:00-10:50 The Economic Competitiveness of Managed Grazing for Dairying with Tom Kriegl

Retired farm financial analyst, Tom Kriegl, has collected data for over 20 years on the economic competitiveness of managed grazing dairy systems for the University of Wisconsin Center for Dairy Profitability. Tom's real farm financial data research shows dairy farms small enough to be operated with one family's labor and dairy farms using managed and organic grazing practices can be economically competitive. Tom will share some of his data and discuss how grazing dairy farms are persistently economically competitive even without a price premium.

11:00-11:50 USDA/NRCS Financial and Technical Assistance Available for Grazing with Julia Hager

Julie is a Soil Conservationist with the NRCS for the last 9 years. She regularly writes grazing plans and coaches producers on managed grazing. Managed grazing infrastructure set up can be cost shared through primarily one main government program EQIP - Environmental Quality Incentives Program. Julie will walk you through how a typical EQIP contract goes from start to finish. You will also get tips on how to work with your local NRCS contact to maximize other program opportunities.

11:50-12:30 Buffet lunch provided by CWAC

12:30-1:15 Decision Making Tools for Managed Grazing with Aaron Pape

Aaron Pape raises 100% grass fed beef on his farm near Peshtigo and works as an ag researcher and educator for UW Discovery Farms. Aaron will present a grazing decision-making spreadsheet tool designed for beef production with future applications for dairy. This tool is used for planning grazing acreage and winter feed needs, estimating financial returns from grazing, and for comparing crop production and grazing returns. By using your own farm data, this tool can help you decide if grazing is right for you.

1:15-2:00 Panel Discussion/Question/Answer Session with presenters and guests.

*Register by indicating your interest with an email to contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org or by phoning 920-421-8885.

Free for pre-registered guests, or \$10 at the door, as space allows.

HEARINGS:

Monday, September 24th 11:00 AM

Hearing to decide the reissue of WPDES permit to Procter & Gamble

DNR NER Headquarters, Lake Michigan Conference Room, 2984 Shawano Ave., Green Bay

Permittee: The Procter & Gamble Paper Products Co. P.O. Box 8020, Green Bay, WI 54302-8020

Proposed Mercury Variance: The Department has determined that a water quality-based effluent limitation (WQBEL) of **1.3 ng/L** for mercury is needed to protect wildlife and human health in the above-named receiving water. The permittee has submitted an application for an alternative mercury effluent limitation (AMEL). The Department and the permittee have mutually agreed upon an AMEL of **14.44 ng/L**. The Department proposes to grant the AMEL. This mercury variance must be approved by USEPA prior to its inclusion in the final reissued permit.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action are invited to do so by attending the public hearing or by submitting any comments or objections in writing to the Department of Natural Resources, at the permit drafter's address.

Monday, September 24th 1:00 PM

Hearing to decide the reissue of WPDES permit to ST Paper LLC

DNR Service Center—Green Bay, 2984 Shawano Ave. Green Bay, Lake Michigan Room

Permittee: ST Paper LLC, 106 E. Central Ave. Oconto Falls, WI 54154

Proposed Changes: Proposed Mercury Variance: The Department has determined that a water quality-based effluent limitation (WQBEL) of **1.3 ng/L** for mercury is needed to protect wildlife and human health in the above-named receiving water. The permittee has submitted an application for an alternative mercury effluent limitation (AMEL). The Department and the permittee have mutually agreed upon an AMEL of **32 ng/L**. The Department proposes to grant the AMEL.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action are invited to do so by attending the public hearing or by submitting any comments or objections in writing to the Department of Natural Resources, at the permit drafter's address.

EVENTS

Sunday, September 23rd 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Citizen actions to protect the Waters of NE Wisconsin

United Church of Christ, Sturgeon Bay

Clean Water Action Council President Dean Hoegger will

speak about the importance of citizen action to protect the waters of Northeast Wisconsin.

Tuesday, September 25th 7:30 AM - 8:00 AM

Citizens actions to protect the Waters of NE Wisconsin

Sturgeon Bay Breakfast Rotary, First United Church of Christ
Clean Water Action Council President Dean Hoegger will speak about the importance of citizen action to protect the waters of Northeast Wisconsin.

Thursday, September 27th 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM

2018 River Bash: Celebrating 25 Years!

The East Side Club, Madison, WI

This is a celebration with a purpose, a chance to bring the best and brightest river and water advocates together to find inspiration and collaboration around the challenges that lie ahead. The evening will include an awards ceremony to recognize Water Heroes and River Champions selected from across the state. CWAC's President, Dean Hoegger, will be recognized as a Water Hero at the event. The event will also include a light dinner buffet featuring seasonal produce from local farms, silent auction, and more. <https://www.wisconsinrivers.org/2018-river-bash/>

October 6th, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Wisconsin Solar Tour

Homes and businesses throughout Wisconsin will open their doors to demonstrate and share strategies for energy-efficiency, renewable energy, and sustainable living. Site tours are free and open to the public. This event is part of the ASES National Solar Tour, involving 150,000 participants and 5,000 solar-energy sites.

October 16, 6:30-8:00 PM

The Effect of Agricultural Practices on the Nutrient Profile of Foods and Human Health

The Lyric Room, 233 N. Broadway, Green Bay

The way we grow our crops and raise our livestock has important implications for the nutrient content of our food. Dr. Debra Pearson will discuss the nutrient differences (particularly the fat, vitamin and phytochemical content) of the foods that come from grain-fed and grass-grazed livestock as well as the differences between conventionally grown and organically/sustainably grown crops. We are what we eat and the same is true for our livestock.

Dr. Pearson teaches courses in nutrition, biochemistry, and nutrigenomics at University of Wisconsin—Green Bay. She is the author of several scientific publications, including a book chapter examining the effect of agricultural practices on the nutritional quality of food.

Food and beverages are available for purchase at this free health forum sponsored by CWAC.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Friday November 2-3

The 2018 Women Food & Ag Network (WFAN) Annual Conference

The Holiday Inn Downtown, Des Moines, IA

This year's conference theme is *Stepping Into Action: Changing Foodscapes through Individual and Community Power*. Our keynote speaker is returning generation farmer Aleya Fraser. She has been farming for the last 5 years on the ancestral lands of Harriet Tubman on the Eastern Shore of Maryland where she grew a variety of fruits and vegetables for market and saved seeds for future generations on the farm that she co-founded named Black Dirt Farm.

The conference will feature women in our network through regional field tours featuring diverse ag businesses and urban ag projects; day-long Plate to Politics intensives for potential candidates and campaign organizers; a farm-to-table dinner at the Des Moines Art Center; art + story gallery featuring work by women farmers; creative community building; and workshops. <http://www.wfan.org/2018-wfan-annual-conference/>

Monday, November 19th 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

What is the condition of Green Bay and what is being done to keep this body of water and its tributaries clean?

Resurrection Catholic Church, 333 Hilltop Drive, Green Bay

This event will advise communities on how to prepare shorelines to reduce severe storm damage as well as how to deal with runoff occurring in our watershed. Julia Noordyk, a water quality and coastal communities' specialist will be the speaker at the event. She will talk about her work on the water quality of Green Bay and its tributaries.

Thursday, December 6th

Registration at 9:00 AM, programs 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM Protecting Our Waters. Improving Your Farm's Bottom Line with Managed Grazing

UW-Green Bay, Room 1965

CWAC, with the support from Wisconsin Coastal Management Program and NOAA, will host this one day workshop which will provide dairy and beef farmers the information needed to consider managed grazing as a way to improve profits and reduce workloads, which protecting water resources. Presenters will include Tom Kriegl, Mike Polich, Julia Hager, and Aaron Pape. Lunch is included in the event, and it will end in a question and answer session. You can register for the event by sending an e-mail to contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org.

If you are renting our your farmland, you may want attend this workshop to learn how managed grazing can protect ground and surface waters.

Meet Our New Interns



Caitlin Malott is a UWGB senior double majoring in Environmental Policy and Planning and Political Science with a minor in Public Administration. She loves camping and gardening in her free time. After graduation she aspires to use her degree in the sustainable planning and nonprofit sectors.

Caitlin hopes to work with city planning committees to promote a more sustainable planning direction and create a more ecologically healthy future for Wisconsin.



Danielle Radtke is currently an undergrad studying at UWGB majoring in Biology (Animal Biology emphasis), with a minor in Environmental Science, and a certificate for Environmental Sustainability through EMBI. She will be graduating with her bachelor's degree in December

of 2018. Originally from a very small-town south of Milwaukee, she began her college career at UW-Waukesha, moved on to UW-Milwaukee, and finally relocated to Green Bay to finish her degree.

She has over seven years of experience as a veterinary technician and assistant in emergency and critical care and hopes to expand her educational and professional horizons with shifting her focus of study to a more environmental standpoint while interning for the CWAC.

She became especially interested in water quality after taking a Limnology course at UWGB. She is particularly attracted to the study of freshwater plankton, their effect on our water quality, and how their abundance and distribution is affected by global climate change.

Her interests include exercising with her dog, bicycling, hiking, geocaching, gardening, crafting, fishing, and kayaking.

Have you renewed your membership?

See your newsletter label or e-mail notice which indicates the last year that you donated.

The Effect of Agricultural Practices on Food Quality and Human Health.

Presented by Clean Water Action Council of Northeast Wisconsin

With Dr. Debra Pearson

October 16, 6:30-8 PM, The Lyric Room
233 N Broadway, Green Bay

The way we grow our crops and raise our livestock has important implications for the nutrient content of our food. Dr. Debra Pearson will discuss “The Effect of Agricultural Practices on the Nutrient Profile of Foods and Human Health.”

Dr. Pearson will explain the nutrient differences (particularly the fat, vitamin and phytochemical content) of the foods that come from grain-fed and grass-grazed livestock as well as the differences between conventionally grown and organically/sustainably grown crops. We are what we eat and the same is true for our livestock.



Dr. Pearson teaches courses in nutrition, biochemistry, and nutrigenomics at University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. She is the author of several scientific publications, including a book chapter examining the effect of agricultural practices on the nutritional quality of food.



Food and beverages are available for purchase at this free health forum

Join or Renew Your Membership to Clean Water Action Council for 2018!

Renewal New Member Date _____

() \$20 Individual () \$30 Family (**this amount would really help**)

() \$50 Sustaining () \$100 Donor () \$500 Benefactor

() Non-member donation of \$ _____ for _____

() Other \$ _____

() Please send me information about making a planned gift to CWAC

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Receive FREE newsletters with each membership.

Please choose one...

Printed version E-mailed version

PLEASE VOLUNTEER! (BE SURE TO PROVIDE PHONE NUMBER ABOVE)

the newsletter events work at office mailings

joining or leading one of the committees other

Send check or money order to: **Clean Water Action Council**
P.O. Box 9144
Green Bay, WI 54308

*CWAC is a registered non-profit organization.
Your contributions may be tax-deductible. **Thank you!***

Office location:

A307 MAC Hall, UW-Green Bay
2420 Nicolet Drive
Green Bay, WI 54311

www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org



Find us on [Facebook](#) or updates on hearings
and current or upcoming events.

The newsletter, "Clean Water Action Council of N.E. WI" is published quarterly
by the Clean Water Action Council of Northeast Wisconsin, Inc., P.O. Box 9144,
Green Bay, WI 54308, a registered non-profit charitable, educational organization.
Contributions may be tax-deductible.

BOARD MEMBERS

Dean Hoegger

President & Executive Director
Door County
920-495-5127

Charlie Frisk, Vice President

Brown County
920-406-6572

John Hermanson, Treasurer

Door County
920-615-5978

Rebecka Eichhorn, Secretary

Brown County
920-290-2199

Cindy Carter

Outagamie County

Lora Jorgensen

Door County

Richard Kloes

Oconto County

Carol Pearson

Brown County

David Verhagen

Brown County

Jim Wagner

Brown County

INTERN

Danielle Radtke

Caitlin Malott



NEWSLETTER

Dean Hoegger, Editor

Bev Watkins, Graphic Design

CONTACT US

By phone: 920-421-8885

*If you leave us a message, we will try
to get back to you within 24 hours.*

By mail:

Clean Water Action Council
P.O. Box 9144
Green Bay, WI 54308

By e-mail:

contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org



Clean Water Action Council
of Northeast Wisconsin
P. O. Box 9144
Green Bay, WI 54308

of Northeast Wisconsin



in this issue...

Page 1:

- **Barriers to Protecting the Waters of Wisconsin:**
Vote for Clean Water!

Page 2:

- **Wisconsin Citizens Must Work to Overcome State-Imposed Barriers to Protect Our Waters**
- **The DBA Pushes to Move CAFO Regulations Out of DNR Control**

Page 3:

- **Water Quality Harmed by Trickle-Down Effect of Budget Cuts**

Page 4:

- **Legislative and Judicial Actions Weaken Groundwater and Surface Water Protections**

Page 5:

- **Local Control of Industrial-Size Farms Lost to the Livestock Facility Siting Law**



Page 6:

- **What can you do?**
Take action today and at the polls in November!

Page 7:

- **The Action in Clean Water Action Council**

Page 11:

- **Is Thought Control Being Used to Ignore Climate Change?**

Page 12:

- **Join Our Planned Giving Circle of Friends**

Page 13:

- **Improving Your Farm's Bottom Line with Managed Grazing**

Page 14:

- **Mark Your Calendar!**

Page 15:

- **Meet Our New Interns**

Page 16:

- **The Effect of Agricultural Practices on Food Quality and Human Health**

For previous newsletters, go to: www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org