

# Clean Water Action Council

OF NORTHEAST WISCONSIN

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

SPRING 2018

## Take Action Against Significant Environmental Threats in Northeast Wisconsin



### Introduction by CWAC President Dean Hoegger

Wisconsin citizens have watched the war on environmental protection be waged in the state and at the federal level. First, they saw Governor Scott Walker destroy Wisconsin's environmental legacy. The Scientific American's Siri Carpenter observed that Walker consistently dismissed science and sided with polluters while silencing the state's scientists. Deep cuts were made to both the science staff and science educator positions.

With Walker's push for reduced mining protections, wetlands were to become a casualty of this war, and our phosphorus impaired waterways would be further sacrificed to cost savings for industries, municipalities, and industrial farms.

During the past year, we saw similar attacks at the federal level with the repeal of many Obama Era

environmental protections. President Donald Trump's proposed EPA funding cuts and reductions to staffing is thought to return the EPA to 1970 levels.

If these reductions continue, and more seriously, the philosophical shift of placing industry over human health and the environment, where will Wisconsin residents turn to seek assistance to enforce and improve environmental laws?

Turning to the courts may be more difficult than in the past with the recent federal court appointments and the makeup of Wisconsin's Supreme Court. This makes the midterm elections this November even more important. See *Searching for Candidates with Beautiful Environmental Minds*, CWAC Fall 2016 before going to the polls.

<http://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org/newsletter/>

# Cuts to WDNR Makes Wisconsin Open for Business to Polluters and Developers

By David Verhagen

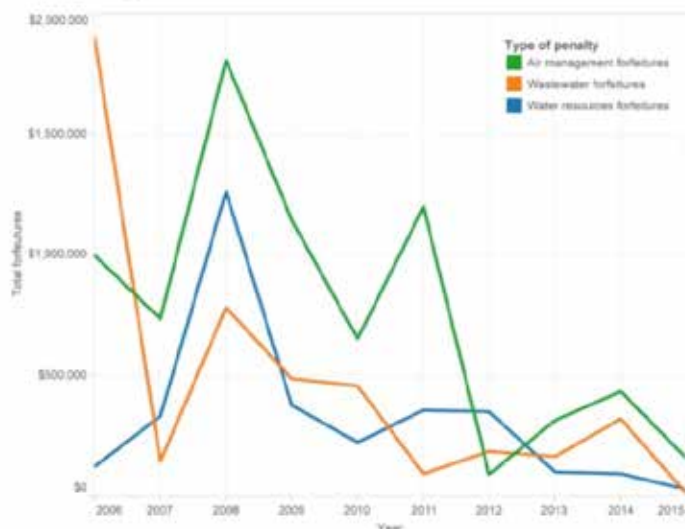
Wisconsin's Dept. of Natural Resources (WDNR) has been hit with severe budget and staffing cuts the past decade. The deepest cut, however, may be in its' mission, as the governor and the legislature has in recent years changed how the agency does business.

Staff cuts are nothing new to the WDNR. Governor Jim Doyle, spurred by the Great Recession, made deeper personnel cuts than the current Administration has done. The staff cuts hurt, but its mission to utilize the best science available in its work was never questioned.

What is different now is that the decision-making process has been changed. It started in 2010 with the announcement that "Wisconsin is Open for Business!" and the appointment of Secretary Cathy Stepp. Immediately, forfeitures for environmental violations dropped, as can be seen in the chart below. (source: Wisconsin Wildlife Federation)

## Forfeitures for environmental violations plunge in Wisconsin

Financial penalties for violating Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources rules have decreased sharply since 2011 when Gov. Scott Walker took office.



Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources data provided by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation.  
Credit: Haley Henschel, Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism.

State Rep. Christine Taylor (D-Madison) was quoted by the Midwest Energy News: "The DNR should be called the polluter's protection agency because all they [leaders] care about is protecting polluters, not all of our very important landmark environmental protections," said Taylor. "They're firing scientists who are doing very important research on responsible conservation management practices." (Jan. 30, 2017)

The Wisconsin State Journal reported: "Just as budget cuts, retirements and high job vacancy rates have shrunk the workforce, the agency has had to regulate a booming

frac sand mining industry, growing agricultural demand for high capacity wells, expansion of huge dairy feedlots and regular changes in state and federal regulations."

They further reported; "The DNR has come under fire from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for deficiencies in Clean Water Act enforcement and by the audit bureau for failing timely inspections of large dairy operations or adequately review of manure spreading plans or annual compliance reports. The DNR issues permits for feedlots and approves "nutrient management plans" on spreading tens of millions of gallons of manure annually." (11/10/2016).

Changes in WDNR policy since 2010 include:

**Wetlands:** WDNR policy has been changed so that economic impact of regulations must be considered. A more recent law strips urban wetlands from state protection, despite the role they play in flood control and water quality.

**High-Capacity Wells:** These wells draw down the level of nearby lakes and streams, as well as the water table for wells. The WDNR changed its policy in 2016 so that nearby water resource levels could not be considered in the permitting process.

**Nutrient Pollution:** The Governor put regulations on phosphorus on hold and in 2014, and signed a law delaying them indefinitely.

**Pipelines:** Condemning private land for pipeline expansion was made easier by legislation passed in 2015.

**Shorelines:** In 2015 the legislature prohibited counties from enacting shoreline zoning more strict than state zoning.

**Iron Mining:** A 2013 law was passed that removed wetland and stream protections for the proposed Gogebic Taconite iron mine. Gogebic was found to have contributed \$700,000 to Republican lawmakers to get favorable treatment.

**Community Recycling:** After proposing the elimination of all state support for recycling, the governor allowed the program to continue with a nearly 40% reduction in state aid to local governments to run their programs.

**Plastic Bags:** In 2016, the legislature made it illegal for local communities to ban plastic shopping bags.

## Can we no longer look to the EPA for support?

By Dean Hoegger

Will we no longer be able to look to the U.S. Environment Protection Agency for help enforcing environmental laws in Wisconsin? The weakening of environmental laws and their diminished enforcement in Wisconsin under Governor Scott Walker's "The State is open for business" policy has led to citizens and environmental groups to look to the EPA for support for



enforcement of the federal Clean Air and Clean Water Acts. However, under the Trump Administration, EPA support is fading quickly.

The first blow came with the appointment of Scott Pruitt to head the EPA. As Oklahoma Attorney General, Pruitt sued the EPA 14 times over challenges to Obama era air and water protections. The Environmental Defense Fund further notes that in all but one Oklahoma challenge to federal law, co-litigants in the suit had contributed in some way to his campaign fund.

During the past year, the Trump Administration has rolled back numerous environmental protections to appease the fossil fuel industry who claims this will save millions of dollars. However, the \$100 million the Washington Post reports that the electric utilities would save per year, and the \$16 million to be saved by oil and gas operators over 17 years, is a very modest cost compared to the human suffering and increased health care costs of from reduced air quality. The Environmental Defense Fund estimates that this would put 25 million Americans at greater risk.

The EPA under Pruitt is also proposing rules that would allow states greater flexibility with disposing of coal ash containing heavy metals such as lead and arsenic. The waste is typically dumped in unlined pits, allowing the toxins to soak into groundwater or our lakes and streams. These favors to the coal industry will reverse years of progress



Wastewater draining from Duke Energy's Riverbend coal plant into the oldest of two unlined, high-hazard coal ash ponds. January 2011

toward clean, renewable energy production.

Another blow to Wisconsin occurred when the Trump Administration appointed former Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Secretary Cathy Stepp to head the EPA's Region Five office in Chicago. Wisconsin is in Region Five.

As the WDNR Secretary, Stepp used her background as a real estate developer to carry out Walker's anti-environmental policies. Unless Stepp changes her philosophy, we can only expect her to reinforce EPA Secretary Pruitt's efforts to dismantle the agency.

The Trump budget is now asking for about a 31% cut to the EPA. CNN reports that this level would compare

to funding to the 1970 levels in real dollars. Pruitt is also proposing to cut the budget of EPA's Office of Inspector General (OIG), the agency's "watchdog office," from \$62 million to \$41 million. The OIG is required to make regular audits of programs and grants and to investigate allegations and congressional requests.

If we are to fight President Trump's campaign promise to slash the EPA, we will need to make our concerns known at the mid-term elections in November! See our newsletter, Searching for Candidates with Beautiful Environmental Minds: [http://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org/newsletter/archives/2016/CWAC\\_Fall%202016\\_WebRev.pdf](http://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org/newsletter/archives/2016/CWAC_Fall%202016_WebRev.pdf). Printed copies are also available for you to share with your friends.

Sources:

<http://www.edfaction.org/scott-pruitts-web-fundraising-and-lawsuits>

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/371241-epa-watchdog-trump-budget-cuts-would-be-a-significant-challenge>

<https://www.cnn.com/2017/12/16/opinions/epa-cuts-make-public-health-emergency-krupp-opinion/index.html><http://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/promises/trumpometer/promise/1436/dramatically-scale-back-epa/>

## It's Not Your "Grandpa's Farm" Anymore

By Andy Wallander

The modern concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) is not your "grandpa's farm" anymore. That is not meant to be a value statement or judgement about CAFOs or CAFO owners. It is just a confirmed fact of the present state of dairy agriculture. A sixty cow milking herd back in "grandpa's day" was a big farming operation.



Even though a family can still make a decent living from a smaller dairy operation by utilizing techniques such as managed grazing and manure composting, the large industrial-sized dairy business model will be around for a while. Too much effort and dollars have been poured into them already to merely wake up one morning and decide to “farm smaller”. But, these farms could exert less of an environmental impact if they were required to follow the same levels of rules and regulations required of other industries.

Today’s industrial-sized dairy farms pollute the air in many ways. Through foul odors, airborne particulate matter, greenhouse gases, and numerous other toxic chemicals, large industrial-sized dairy farms can produce greater impacts to the air we breathe, and thus human health, than their smaller-sized counterparts.

In the United States, farms alone produce more than 400 different gases<sup>1</sup>, in addition to dust and airborne particles known as endotoxins generated during the handling and disposal of manure<sup>2</sup>, the production and use of animal feeds, and the shipping and distribution of farm products. In varying degrees, based on farm size, air pollution from farms can cause health problems in agricultural workers, in residents of neighboring communities, and in farm animals.

Industrial agriculture remains consistently ranked among the leading causes of water pollution in the United States. In the National Water Quality Inventories conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), agricultural activity is always identified as a major source of pollution of surface water and groundwater. The effect CAFOs have on water pollution increases greatly due to their factory model of production. Cows are not depositing manure on pastures but rather are typically contained within the production areas for 24 hours a day. This creates a reliance on huge volumes of water to move, store, and then spread manure at rates sometimes exceeding 10,000 gallons per acre.



Factory farm liquid manure storage.

Although state-of-the-art strategies exist to reduce air and water pollution and water usage impacts, the political and legislative will to require scientifically sound

environmental rules and regulations that are already in existence for other industries is sorely lacking for the CAFO model.

Between 2007 and 2013 alone, corporate agribusiness interests (including businesses that profit from supplying factory farms with the tools of the trade, from the provision of feed, to the construction of animal pens, to the financial services, to the manufacturing of dairy equipment and provision of veterinary services) spent \$427,000 on campaign contributions and \$4.4 million on lobbying in order to influence Wisconsin state legislators.<sup>3</sup>

In the next election cycle, ask the candidates what their views are on agribusiness lobbying. Ask them how much agribusiness has donated to their specific campaign. What are their views on enacting campaign finance reforms?

If you have internet access, Google the topics “The Power to Pollute” and “Campaign Finance Reform”.

Sources:

1 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (2006). Inventory of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions and sinks: 1990-2004.

2 Hoff, S.J., Hornbuckle, K.C., Thorne, P.S., Bundy, D.S., O’Shaughnessy, P.T. (2002, Feb). Chapter 4: Emissions and community exposures from CAFOs. In Iowa Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Air Quality Study: Final Report. Environmental Health Sciences Research Center, University of Iowa.

3 Burr, Judee; Davis, Benjamin and Severson, Megan (2013, December). The Power to Pollute: Big Agribusiness’s Political Dominance in Madison and It’s Impacts on Our Waterways. Wisconsin Environment Research and Policy Center.

## Reduce Particulate Pollution and Reduce Threats to Human Health and the Environment

By Maryssa Paulsen, Intern

Particle pollution, also referred to as particulate matter, is a term for the mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets in the air. Common examples of particle pollution include aerosols, smoke, fumes, dust, ash and pollen. Particulates are classified and regulated based on size.

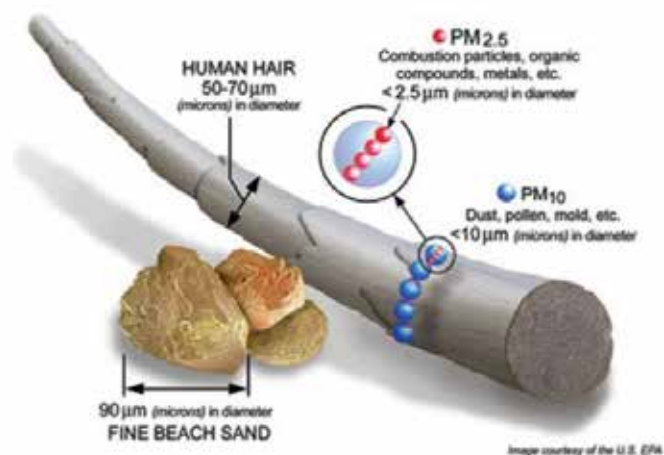
Coarse dust particulates are those with diameters of 10 micrometers or less. They are visible to the naked eye and come from dust, pollen, mold, and other like sources. Fine particulates are smaller and far more dangerous, with a diameter of 2.5 micrometers or less. This type of particulate is a result of chemical reactions in the atmosphere and fuel combustion.

Particulate matter in general poses many threats to human health. According to the Spare the Air organization, particulate matter pollution can cause lung irritation

leading to increased permeability in lung tissue, changes in blood chemistry that can result in clots that may lead to heart attacks, and an increase in susceptibility to viral and bacterial pathogens.

Particulate matter also aggravates the severity of chronic lung diseases, causing rapid loss of airway function. Further, particulate matter causes inflammation of lung tissue, resulting in the release of chemicals that can impact heart function.

More specifically, fine particulates are an extreme risk to human health and the environment. At 2.5 micrometers in diameter, these particles cannot be seen without an electron microscope. For reference, the average human hair is 70 micrometers in diameter.



Where do fine particulates come from? Sources of fine particulates include motor vehicles, power generation, industrial facilities, residential fire places, wood stoves and agricultural burning, all common in the Northeast Wisconsin.

Those most at risk to the negative health effects of fine particulates include children, elderly, and those with heart or lung diseases. Even healthy people may feel temporary side effects. Fine particulates are linked to deaths due to lung and heart disease. These particles are so fine and can so easily make their way into your lungs. They can even make their way into your bloodstream. What may be most concerning are the effects of fine particulate matter on the developing brain.

Dr. Bruce Lanphear, MD, MPH, explains these effects in his video “Little Things Matter.” Developing brains are permeable and lack enzymes that detoxify, which make them extremely susceptible to the negative health effects of fine particulate matter.

Environmentally, particulate matter has a negative effect. Specifically, fine particulates cause haze, corrosion, soiling, and damage to vegetation. Particulate matter has been linked to effects on weather, drought, increase in greenhouse gases, and ocean acidification.

So what can we do? First, to protect yourself and your family, you can check out [www.airnow.gov](http://www.airnow.gov) for daily updates on air quality. Next, you can reduce the amount of particulate matter produced through smoke: stop smoking (and definitely don't do it indoors), limit your use of fireplaces and wood stoves that are not EPA certified efficient and make sure they are burning properly, and take action to reduce wildfires by practicing careful use of campfires.

The reduction of vehicle emissions would better protect everyone from particle pollution. Follow the recommended maintenance schedules for your vehicle. Diesel vehicles are a key source of fine particles. The reduction of diesel emissions can be done by replacing older engines with newer, cleaner engines. We should also restrict vehicles with diesel engines from releasing large amounts of particulates while idling close to schools, playgrounds, and parks where children are present.

And of course walk, cycle, take public transit and carpool whenever possible and reduce your use of electricity produced by coal-fired boilers, such as those operated by Wisconsin Public Service in northeast Wisconsin.

Sources:

Dr. Bruce Lanphear MD, MPH, explains these effects in his video ‘Little Things Matter.’ Developing <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E6KoMAbz1Bw>

Energy Efficient Wood Stoves  
<https://www.epa.gov/burnwise/ordinances-and-regulations-wood-burning-appliances>

## Protecting Yourself from Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDC's) A Biological Assault on your Body at the Cellular Level

By Lora Jorgensen, Intern

Nonpoint source pollutants are prevalent in well water in Karst regions. Sources of these contaminants include: land spread manure and sewage sludge and sewage effluent from improperly constructed septic systems. High levels of nitrates and bacteria are commonly found and pose extreme health dangers to humans and wildlife alike. Also found in high concentration, are EDC's, or Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals.

EDCs are mostly man-made chemical compounds, found in various materials such as pesticides, metals, additives or contaminants in food, and many personal care products. Because the body does not have the ability to break these chemicals down, they occur in human waste and animal waste.



EDC's are highly prevalent in well water in rural agricultural areas where manure is land applied and does not have adequate topsoil to filter out such contaminants. Common agricultural sources of EDC's include hormones injected into livestock such as estradiol, estriol, and estrone, and synthetic steroids which are administered to cattle as growth enhancing agents.

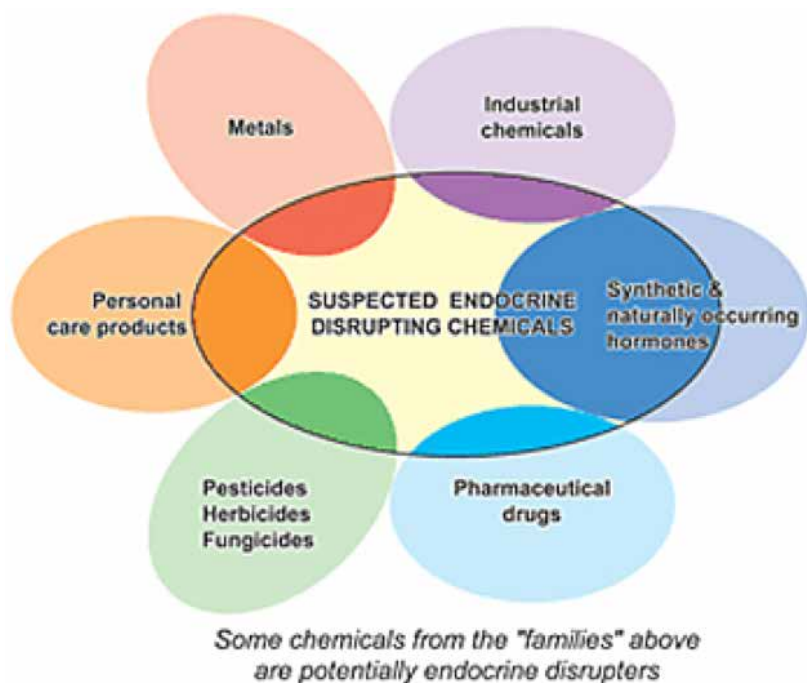


Image courtesy of <http://www.public.iastate.edu/~bsbowen/ZOOL-EEOB507/pages/endocrinedisrupt.htm>

EDCs mimic or interfere with the natural cellular processes. They can interfere or disrupt the hormone biosynthesis pathway, affect metabolism, and have been suspected to be associated with altered reproductive functions in humans as well as wildlife. Increased occurrences of breast cancer, auto-immune diseases, thyroid issues, reduced metabolism and obesity, cardiovascular endocrinology, neuroendocrinology, abnormal growth patterns and neurodevelopmental delays in children have all been linked to EDCs. Cumulative exposures to estrogen (or EDCs that mimic

estrogen) is a major risk factor for developing breast cancer, male infertility, testicular cancer, and prostate cancer.

What can you do to Protect yourself and reduce your exposure of EDC's?

It is important to educate yourself about the threat of endocrine disruptors. A great resource for information on EDC's is the

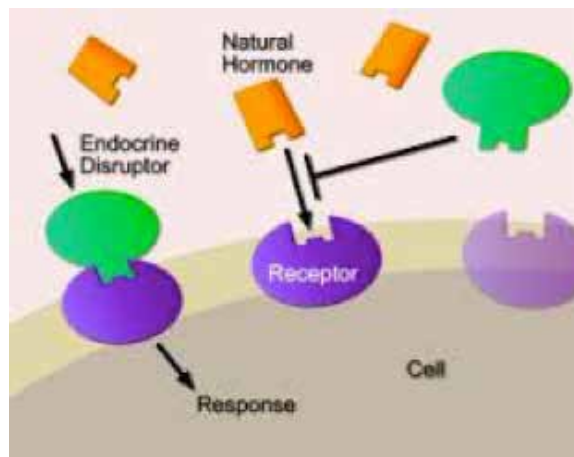


Image courtesy of: <http://www.international-peeling-society.com/cosmetic-endocrine-disruptors>

Endocrine Society website: <https://www.endocrine.org/> Making conscious choices can help to reduce your exposure and will also result in less EDC's accumulating in our already impaired waters.

Improve your homes water quality by using treated water for drinking, food preparation and bathing are vital. Reverse Osmosis treatment systems remove the highest concentration of contaminants including EDC's. Using granular activated carbon and powdered activated carbon can remove most EDCs below maximum contaminant levels (MCLs), as noted by the EPA.

Buy organic food whenever possible. Rinse fruits and vegetables thoroughly with treated water, scrub them with a brush, and peel when appropriate. Cooking and baking will reduce residues of some pesticides even further.

Avoid using pesticides in your home or yard. Use natural, non-toxic alternatives. Find out if pesticides are used in your child's school or day care center and campaign for non-toxic alternatives.

If you consume locally caught fish, check with your state to see if they are contaminated. Support efforts to get strong government regulation of and increased research on endocrine disrupting chemicals. The WI Department of Natural Resource website: <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/consumption/questions.html>

Choose Phthalate and Paraben free cosmetics and body products for yourself and your family to reduce skin absorption of EDC's and reduce EDC levels in wastewater. Use the EWG's "Skin Deep" database to see how your current products rate for safety. <https://www.ewg.org/skindeep>

The most important thing you can do to help protect you and your family from EDC's, is to Take Action! Supporting the efforts of local action groups, such as The Clean Water Action Council, is how change is made! The continued lobbying of government by such groups to further restrict the standard levels of these chemicals allowable in water, soil and air is what helps to make changes. The CWAC's mission is to educate the community on the harmful effects of these chemicals, and promote the use of safe, natural alternatives.

# Impacts of Passing the WI Sulfide Mining Bill

By Jason Reeve, Intern

On December 11, 2017, Governor Scott Walker signed AB499/SB395. This bill was initially introduced by Senator Tom Tiffany for the purpose of taking away mining protections that were previously put in place. More specifically, the bill revoked the moratorium bill on sulfide mining, which set requirements to ensure safety and environmental protection. The moratorium also established conditions that needed to be met before a company could receive the required permits for building a mine.

The Sierra Club, a nonprofit organization that focuses on the advocacy of environmental issues, noted there were mandatory requirements for companies to fulfill under the old bill. These requirements included documented proof that there has been a mine in the United States for at least 10 years that has not caused any pollution or safety concerns within 10 years of closing. These requirements are crucial to prevent the imminent hazards of sulfide mining.

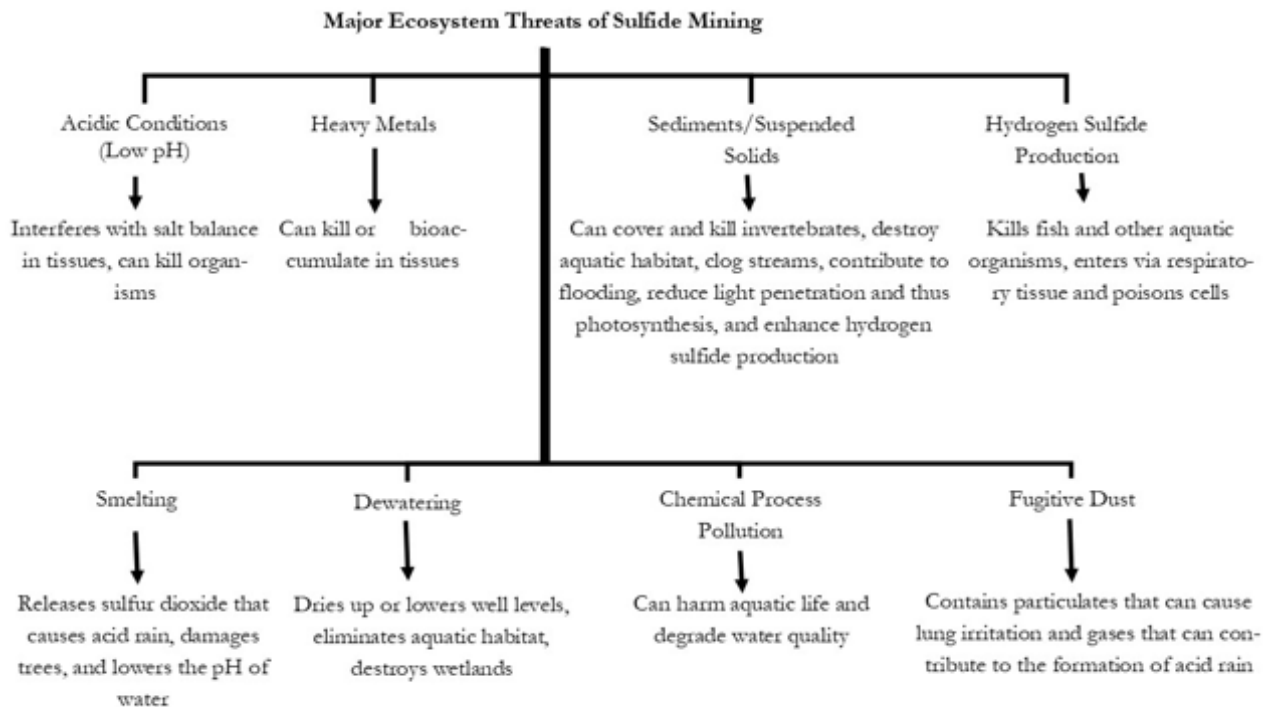
When it comes to water quality standards and potential threats to water ways, what standard will the courts not recognize when permits under the new law are challenge?

Sulfide mining is a method to extract metals such as gold, zinc, copper, and silver from sulfide-rich ore. There are two ways to mine metals in sulfide ores: underground mines and open-pit mines. Open-pit mines are significantly less expensive to construct and operate, but produce a greater amount of pollution. Unfortunately, 97 percent of mines in the United States are open-pit mines, and this would be the case in Wisconsin.

When deep pits are dug, they will usually need to be dewatered. This impacts surface waters, private wells, and aquatic ecosystems by creating a cone of depression in the

groundwater in the surrounding areas. By-products of the mining process include cyanide, heavy metals, and sulfuric acid, all of which are extremely toxic to humans and wildlife. Sulfuric acid is formed when an exposed sulfide ore reacts with air and water.

Once the acid is formed, it can contaminate both surface and ground water, and is known as acid mine drainage. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, this unavoidable and disastrous by-product is considered to be one of the most significant hazards to water quality. It is important to understand how widespread the pollution can be. This type of mining has been known to pollute waters miles away from the actual source, which is a threat to many of the interconnected water ways in Wisconsin.



Typically, once a bill is signed by the governor, it takes effect immediately but amendments made by Representative Jerry Petrowski delay the effective date for six months. This was done to give more time to local governments for establishing their own mining ordinances. During this time period, citizens should urge their local government officials to create local ordinances that will ensure the safety of the local environment and surrounding water resources. Because the mining industry has yet to show any example of a sulfide mine that can operate without polluting, it is unclear what the future will hold for Wisconsin water resources.

Resource

<https://www.glifwc.org/publications/pdf/SulfideMining.pdf>

# Fluoride Compounds Pollute Marinette Groundwater Wells and Heads to Lake Michigan

Brenda Staudenmaier, CWAC member and former intern

Marinette has a problem with fluoride compounds that made their way into resident drinking water wells. Tyco Fire Products LP in Marinette, WI has contaminated soil, groundwater, and surface water from their Fire Fighting Training and Research Center of Excellence with per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFASs).

Residents were notified of the issue in early December, 2017. Over 11 wells have confirmed levels above the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) health advisory level (HAL) of 70 parts per trillion (ppt) and at least another 25 wells have detected levels as of March 1.

Arcadis, "an environmental consulting firm specializing in the evaluation and remediation of environmental issues," is working on the testing and solutions for residents. As a precautionary step, Arcadis is providing free bottled water for drinking, cooking, and brushing teeth to those living on the two mile wide plume that appears to be discharging to Lake Michigan.

with the immune system are also thought to be caused by exposure.

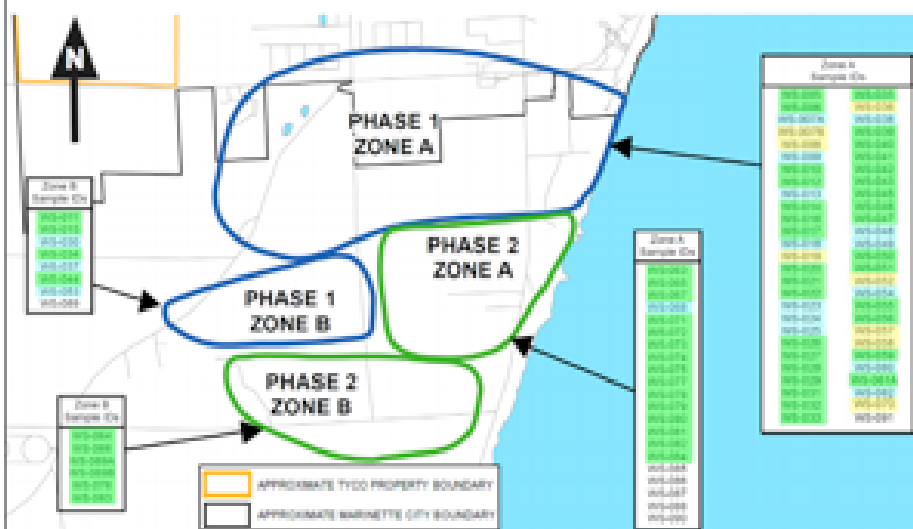
Some of the Marinette residents living in the plume have complained of thyroid issues, cholesterol, and cancer. DuPont and 3M are responsible for making perfluorinated chemicals (PFC), which they halted production of over a decade ago. 3M voluntarily phased out PFOS between 2000 and 2002. Hundreds of millions of dollars in lawsuits are being won today, over 3M and DuPont contamination of water supplies with PFCs.

Ideally, federal and state agencies set protective standards on toxins that protect human health. This is rarely done for the thousands of chemicals that man has created. In 2016, the EPA set a HAL of 70 ppt for PFOA. Many states have been proactive at setting their HAL at a much lower level.

In Michigan, a bill is currently moving through the legislature that sets the HAL at 5ppt. New Jersey, where there is serious industrial pollution from manufacturing, has set their standard at 14 ppt PFOA. WI has not set a state advisory level for this fluoride compound. If Wisconsin sets their limit at 70 ppt, this may not be protective for many people. Such a high level reduces the liability of corporations that pollute with these chemicals.



## Drinking Water Wells Investigation Summary



### Phase 1 and 2 Results Summary:

- 89 Wells Sampled to Date
- 82 Results Received
- 7 Results Pending
- 8 Results >HAL (70 ppt)
- 17 Result Detected <HAL
- 57 Results Not Detected

Note: Status as of January 22, 2018

Recent evidence shows PFASs have been harming health for decades before manufacturers phased them out. According to the EPA, the best peer-review evidence suggests perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) causes skeletal and accelerated puberty affects in developing fetuses and breastfed infants. It causes cancer in liver, prostate, kidneys, testes, and thyroid. High cholesterol and problems

Wisconsin needs to adopt a health standard that is protective of our children, the most vulnerable.

PFCs are persistent and fail to break down in the environment. It is denser than water, making it difficult to clean up because it sinks to the bottom of the aquifer. According to the National Institute of Health (NIH), PFCs are similar to other persistent chemicals because of their



extended half-life, or the amount of time it takes for 50% of the chemical to leave the human body.

Doctors need to be aware of the health effects of PFASs and its triggers that harm patients diagnosed with the known disorders. Products to avoid that contain PFCs in our homes include: microwavable popcorn bags, McDonalds food wrappers, fire and stain retardants used on many couches, mattresses and infant crib mattresses, carpet, waterproof clothing, and nonstick cookware. Federal authorities are slow to act at setting standards which benefit corporations with more time to phase out PFCs. It also leads to more people being damaged.

Wisconsin needs help adopting a health advisory level low enough to protect those who are most vulnerable to the fluoride compounds. If they fail to act or set the level to the federal EPA health advisory limit, this may eliminate people with lower levels from being compensated or assisted in remediation.

Additional Resources for PFC Information

[https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfc/docs/Talking\\_to\\_Doctor.pdf](https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfc/docs/Talking_to_Doctor.pdf)

<http://dnr.wi.gov/botw/GetActivityDetail.do?adn=0238580694&siteId=1552500&crumb=1&search=b>

<https://www.epa.gov/pfas>

<http://marinette.tycofpp.com/>

## Invasive Species—A Deadly Biological Storm

By Charlie Frisk

One of the greatest environmental threats to NE Wisconsin is invasive species. Invasives are species that are usually introduced from another part of the world and have the potential to greatly disrupt local biological communities.

The poster child for invasive species in the Great Lakes is the sea lamprey. Sea lampreys were able to enter the upper Great Lakes when the Welland Canal allowed them to bypass Niagara Falls in the early 1920s. Within a few years they had eliminated lake trout, the dominant predator fish, in Lakes Erie, Michigan and Huron.

Since then, hundreds more species have been introduced by dumping ballast water, brought in from around the world, into the Great Lakes. Ballast water is water loaded onto ships to balance shiploads and maintain a lower center of gravity so they are less likely to capsize. Both the zebra and the quagga mussel were brought into the Great Lakes through ballast water.

The zebra mussel got all of the publicity because it got here first; but the quagga mussel now dominates the Great



Lakes. Within a year of its introduction the quagga mussel largely eliminated the zebra mussel. “Without question, the quagga mussels represent the greatest threat to the Great Lakes of any invasive species,” said Tom Nalepa, an emeritus research biologist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory in Ann Arbor and recognized expert on the invader

Quagga mussels are responsible for totally re-engineering the Great Lakes. Lake Michigan alone has 450 trillion quagga mussels. They vacuum the plankton out of the lakes, thus starving all of the steps on the food chain above the mussels.

For some reason, quagga mussels do not like the toxic blue green algae, *Microcystis*, so they spit them out, thus selecting *Microcystis* to be the big winner in the Great Lakes. Microcystin, the toxin produced by *Microcystis*, was responsible for shutting down the public water supply in Toledo, Ohio in 2014 and has also expanded lake bottom dead zones, reduced fish populations, and fouled beaches.

Despite the fact that we have already introduced hundreds of species, there are still many out there that could do even more harm if they get into the lakes. Asian carp, famous for leaping out of the water and terrorizing boaters, have been found in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal just nine miles from Lake Michigan. Currently, the only thing keeping these carp out of Lake Michigan is an inadequate electrical barrier.

What can private citizens and organizations like CWAC do to combat the problem of invasives in the Great Lakes? Contact your U.S. Senators and Representatives and urge them to fight President Trump’s efforts to reduce funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. A major focus of the GLRI is to combat future introductions and to reduce the negative impacts of invasives already in the Great Lakes.

Contact your Senators and Representatives and urge them to support tougher regulations on dumping of ballast water into the Great Lakes and to create a permanent, physical barrier between the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal and Lake Michigan.

The most visible invasives are those on land. Buckthorn and garlic mustard threaten our forests and Phragmites is taking over our wetlands. There are many more invasive plant species but those are the most visible in NE Wisconsin.

Private citizens and environmental groups can do a great deal to combat these invasive plants. Learn to identify the harmful species. DNR, U.S. Forest Service, and County Land and Water Conservation Offices have brochures that will help with identification. If you find them on your property, remove them before they spread. If you spot a new outbreak, contact the DNR or County LWCO before the colony grows.

Join an organization such as the Baird Creek Preservation Foundation and participate as a volunteer in one of their invasive species removal projects. The next opportunity to volunteer to destroy invasives will be April 21st. Meet at Triangle Hill at 8:00 and you can be assigned to a group to remove buckthorn from the Baird Creek Parkway. For more information go to <https://bairdcreek.org/>

A great read on invasive species in the Great Lakes is *The Death and Life of the Great Lakes* by Dan Egan.

*Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.*

Margaret Mead



## Doing Your Part to Reduce the Ozone Threat

By Jim Wagner

April is going to be a big month for proponents of stronger ozone rules, and it's an area Clean Water Action Council members will want to pay close attention to when the news arrives.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is scheduled to deliver its final decision on Wisconsin's nonattainment areas for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), lowered in 2015 from 75ppm to 70ppm.

Ozone is both a good and bad chemical for human life. In the stratosphere it helps filter harmful ultraviolet radiation from the sun, but in the atmosphere that we breathe, it can cause any number of adverse effects, particularly in children and seniors. Respiratory infections, chest pains, decrease in lung function, and aggravation of asthma are some of the problems. OSHA requires workers not be exposed to more than an average 10 ppm of ozone in an 8-hour span.

The ozone reduction standards come courtesy of the Clean Air Act, which mandated the reduction of six common pollutants – sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide, particles, lead & ozone. The EPA is required to review ozone levels every five years and make adjustments based on the previous five-year threshold. The 2015 NAAQS standard of 70ppm is a long-delayed adjustment from the 2008 75ppm standard, and is part of a decades-long reduction effort that has seen ozone levels drop 22 percent from 1990-2015.

According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) report dated Feb. 28, 2018, the EPA's ozone designation of nine Wisconsin counties (see map) is based on 2014-2016 air quality samples that are not "technically supportable" and do not reflect Wisconsin-supplied technical data, according to WDNR Secretary Daniel Meyer.

The WDNR further states that the EPA relied on national emissions data rather than data collected in Wisconsin. This data shows local emissions do not contribute to the ozone that pushes it above 70ppm but come from out-of-state sources (notably Chicago), and affect the entire eastern coast of Wisconsin. The EPA, in its determination, believes out-of-state pollution is best handled through the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule, which designates Ozone Transport Regions (OTR) that must take additional actions to control emissions that cross state lines. Currently, Illinois is not one of those OTRs.

The WDNR, for its part, has determined all of Wisconsin should be considered in attainment of ozone standards. Depending on the outcome, expect a fight if the EPA continues with its designation of the Wisconsin counties as nonattainment.

"EPA reliance on nationally generated analyses and traditional factors at the expense of state-specific information is not supported legally or technically," the report concludes.

While the reductions have been a boon for Wisconsin communities, Republican-led state legislatures have decried the increased controls required of businesses to reduce their emissions, repeating the oft-mentioned mantra of regulation



equaling job-killing in their repeated criticism of regulations protecting the environment.

“EPA's intended designations threaten Wisconsin's economic engine and could result in severe and unnecessary economic consequences,” Meyer, the Secretary responsible for managing Wisconsin's natural - not economic - resources, wrote to the EPA. “It is important that EPA recognize and incorporate the appropriate data and science when making nonattainment designation decisions to ensure the economic consequences of such designations are minimized.”

As is usually the case, cost is a matter of perspective. According to a report by the Congressional Research Service, the EPA estimates the cost for businesses in the U.S. to comply with the 70ppm standard will cost them \$1.4 billion annually, while the monetized health benefits associated with the cleaner air range from \$2.9-5.9 billion annually.

So, what can you do? The public comment period on EPA's web site for designation of nonattainment areas in Wisconsin has closed but that doesn't mean you can't take action. This fall will determine whether the state continues in the direction of the past eight years or corrects the damage done by reduced environmental protections.

The link to the following PDF shows who is up for re-election in 2018 and their challengers. Your most powerful voice is in the voting booth. Select the candidates that will best represent the interests of your family and your community: <http://elections.wi.gov>

## Wetlands Bill--All Waters are Connected

By Charlie Frisk

The Wisconsin legislature recently passed a bill, AB 547/SB 600, which in its original form was written to remove all protections for non-federal wetlands, also called isolated wetlands. Federal law only protects wetlands that have a surface connection to navigable streams or lakes.

Wisconsin has over one million acres of isolated wetlands. These isolated wetlands perform all of the same functions as the federally protected wetlands; the only difference is that they are connected by ground water to other water bodies rather than surface water. Examples of isolated wetlands are prairie potholes, spring ponds, bogs and fens.



All wetlands help prevent flooding by acting like a sponge, they hold water during high precipitation events and then gradually release it. Isolated wetlands not only reduce flooding, they also help maintain base levels in streams and lakes during dry periods.

Wetlands reduce nutrients and sediments entering our streams and lakes by filtering them out. Wetlands are sometimes referred to as the kidneys of the water cycle because of their ability to purify water.





Typical pothole wetland.

in the wetland to generate profits, but the retention ponds are paid for by taxes from the general public.

Wisconsin politicians are not done with this issue. The anti-environment zealots in Madison will be back with a bill to eliminate protection for all isolated wetlands. Those of us who care about Wisconsin's environment need to be ready to respond with phone calls, letters, and e-mails against that action. Even better, we must do everything possible to win in the upcoming elections and replace the anti-environmentalists with pro-environmentalists. We need to get back to Wisconsin being progressive on environmental issues.

Source: Wisconsin Wetlands Association

Photo: Tracy Hames of the Wisconsin Wetlands Association

For certain types of wildlife, isolated wetlands are actually more important than the federally protected wetlands. Amphibians reproduce more successfully in wetlands that do not have a surface connection to streams or lakes. This is because those wetlands are less likely to support fish which prey on their eggs and tadpoles. Isolated wetlands recharge the groundwater which is very important for maintaining the low temperatures required to support trout.

The original bill was far worse than the final product. Phone calls, letters, and e-mails from CWAC, Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited, Wisconsin Wetlands Association and River Alliance members resulted in an amendment being added that somewhat reduced the scope of the bill.

Rob Cowles wrote an amendment that reduced the area that this bill would impact isolated wetlands to within a half-mile radius of every city and village in Wisconsin and in all towns served by a sewerage system; with the first 10,000 square feet, about ¼ acre, exempt from mitigation.

The bad news is the bill could still allow for the destruction of tens of thousands of acres of wetlands. As urban areas continue to sprawl, wetlands that are currently protected would lose that protection.

An ironic thing about wetland destruction in urban areas, is that when wetlands that are functioning as a sponge are replaced by impervious surfaces, such as buildings and parking lots, the water will have nowhere to go. In response to this problem, municipalities build retention ponds, sometimes referred to as engineered wetlands, to deal with this runoff problem. However, there are winners and losers in this solution. The developer profits by being able to fill



**CWAC received a memorial gift in memory of Peter Wyatt. Peter was a member and strong supporter of our work, and he contributed to our Silent Auction with his photography. We will miss Peter and his great sense of humor!**

# The Action in CWAC

By Dean Hoegger

## **Make plans to attend the CWAC Dinner, Dance and Silent Auction, and Banquet on April 28, at the Riverside Ballroom in Green Bay.**

We have a great lineup for this year's banquet. The menu will include about 80% locally produced foods thanks to Full Circle Farm, The Sustainable, Local and Organic Food Cooperative (SLO), and Trust Local Foods. Organic grass-fed beef will be served as beef tips with mushrooms and onions on a wild rice mix with local carrots and salad greens. For vegetarians, the roasted portabella mushroom with marinara sauce will be offered with the same sides.

Our program will feature Valerie Dantoin-Adamski a farmer, environmentalist, and educator who teaches Sustainable Foods and Agriculture at the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College. She also operates a 180 acre managed grazing beef farm with her husband Rick. Join us as Valerie discusses the inspiration for the documentary film "Searching for Sustainability" as well as the source of the passion that helps her keep moving forward as a sustainability leader.

Music will be provided by the Third Degree, a high energy band playing Pop, Country, Classic Rock, 50s, Dance, Funk, and much more.

**See page 18 for the banquet order form.**

**It is time to renew your membership for 2018. 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 December.**

### **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 to file a legal action, the CWAC board of directors believes this is an important part of our mission. Here are some current legal actions and our efforts to improve environmental laws.

#### ***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 DBA 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.



Unlike shown in this photo, calf hutch production areas can have hundreds of these units.

This case is still active. MEA has filed a brief with the court in response to DNR's "Motion to Dismiss" our challenge to the settlement. At the time of this writing, the hearing is scheduled for March 19. We will share the result of the hearing in our Weekly Update.

#### ***CWAC works to pass NR151 revisions.***

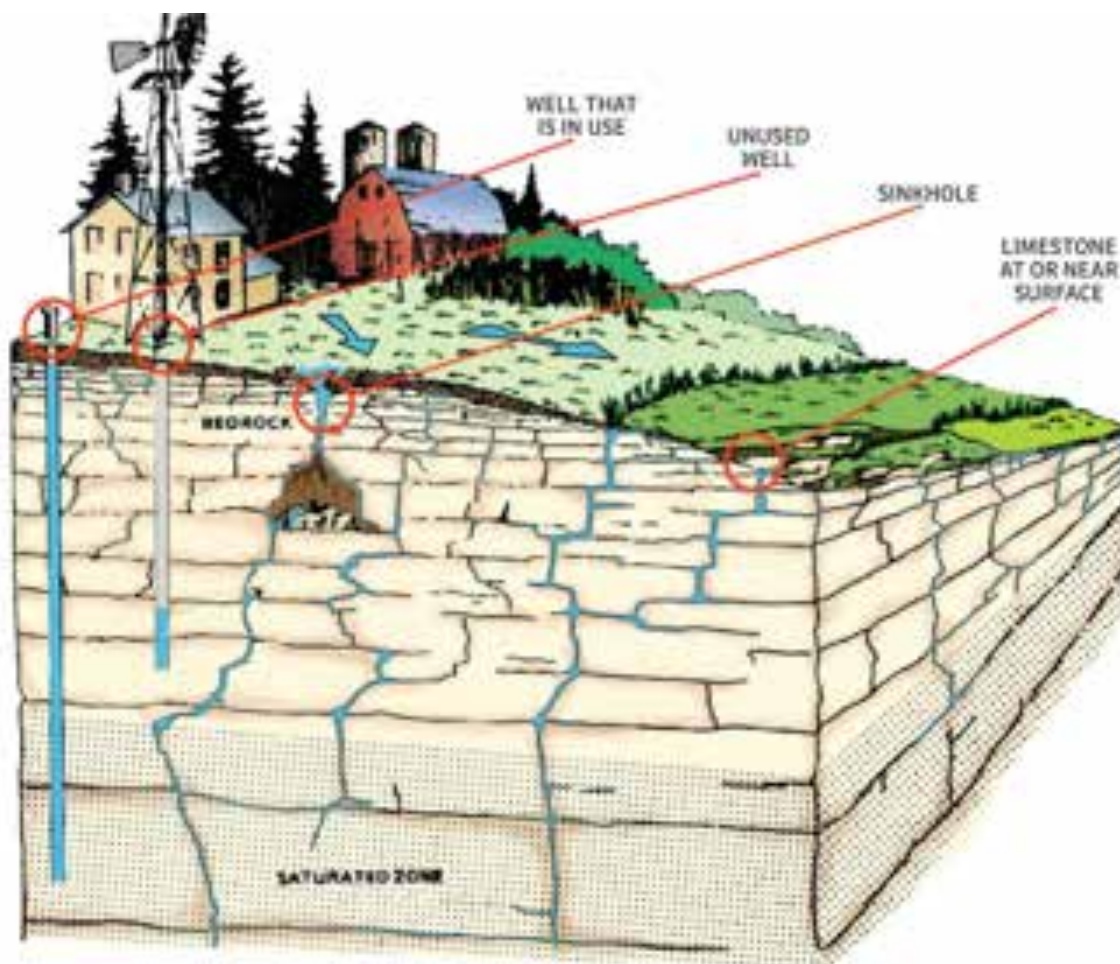
Although not a typical legal action, influencing the rule changes will have legal implications in the form of administrative rules. After serving on the DNR's Technical Advisory Committee, CWAC helped citizens demand these stricter manure spreading rules in karst regions. Nearly all of our recommendations 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/>)

CWAC sponsored a van to Madison for members to attend the Natural Resources Board hearing on the proposed changes. CWAC VP Charlie Frisk and intern Lora Jorgenson urged the NRB to accept or improve the revisions proposed by the Department of Natural Resources. The NRB was very supportive of the revisions and recommended their approval without changes.

The Governor signed off on the rules and sent them to Assembly and Senate where Agriculture Committees are not expected to make any changes either. By the time this newsletter is mailed, the 30 day period for the Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules to make changes will soon expire. State Assemblyman Joel Kitchens reported that he expects no further changes, and the WDNR will work with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection to implement the rules in June of 2018.

It is unfortunate that many Kewaunee County CAFOs have raced to have their permits renewed prior to the new rules taking effect. However, what remains will





**Karst regions** have bedrock with connecting cracks and layers between rocks that easily transport water and pollutants to the groundwater.

be a determination by the WDNR as to what nutrient management plan changes with these permits will require compliance with the new rule, such as a herd expansion or additional fields for manure spreading. This may be an area for future litigation.

While it is true that some residents impacted by CAFOs may feel that these manure spreading rules did not go far enough, the political atmosphere is such that in this case less may be more than nothing. Since there were only several legislative districts that were impacted by manure spreading over karst bedrock, it provided only a handful of legislators to fight against the powerful ag lobby groups who could have worked to block the revisions.

Thank you to all of our members who lobbied to move the NR151 revisions forward.

#### ***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 were resolved. See <https://www.epa.gov/wi/npdes-petition-program-withdrawal-wisconsin-0>.

With the arrival of former DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp as the new EPA Region 5 Administrator, concerns were raised in a letter to EPA as to her objectivity regarding our Petition. Stepp has agreed to recuse herself from this action.

The need for further litigation to resolve the remaining issues will soon be discussed by petitioners and Midwest Environmental Advocates attorneys.

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

There has been no movement on this since the last newsletter. However, the revisions to NR151 are a direct result of

the Petition. The petition and supporting documents can be found at:

[www.cleanwisconsin.org/kewaunee-safe-drinking-water](http://www.cleanwisconsin.org/kewaunee-safe-drinking-water)

#### ***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. Thank you to our members who submitted comments regarding the wetlands bill AB 547/SB 600 which will leave isolated wetlands unprotected. The bill is now waiting for the Governor to sign.

#### ***Promoting ordinances to ban manure spraying.***

CWAC continues to offer presentations to residents and town officials. CWAC gave a presentation to residents and town officials in the Door County Town of Gibraltar in November. The Town Board passed a manure spraying ban. Thus far, at least 17 northeast Wisconsin towns and cities have passed a ban. For more information on the issue, go to our website for Priority Issue: 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.

#### ***Join the Clean Water Act Enforcement Network.***

CWAC is sponsoring this group and providing training on how to monitor pollution permits. 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's Educational Efforts in the Community**

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

Certified Building Biologist Martine Davis presented "Protecting Your Family from Toxic Air Exposure in the Home" on February 27.

**Our next health forum, "Protecting your family from toxic chemicals" will be at 6:30 p.m., April 11, at the Lyric Room in Green Bay. See the details on page 17.**

Please consider sponsoring a health forum at the \$150 level. Presentations focus on protecting our families from toxins in the home and environment.

##### ***Presentations***

Contact us to schedule a presentation for your group on a variety of environmental issues including 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.

##### ***CWAC serves on Congressman Gallagher's Save the Bay committee for the Lower Fox River.***

CWAC continues to serve on the committee's education and outreach subcommittee and attended the December 15 meeting at which the congressman met with committee members. Contact us if you would like copies of the meeting minutes, agendas, and reports.

##### ***Efforts to Stop the Back 40 Mine***

We will continue to use the concept of social license to stop the Back 40 Mine, which is now more important than ever. We just signed on to a letter, along with 50 other community leaders, to Osisko Gold Royalties Ltd., who has a 15% ownership in the project. The letter concludes, "We urge you to seriously consider the widespread public opposition to this project and the financial risks of continuing to invest in a project that is unlikely to produce a single ounce of gold or zinc. Do not be fooled by Aquila's false promises of an economically viable mining project."

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 in 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 with sample resolutions and speakers.

##### ***Outreach through Newspaper and Radio***

CWAC Vice President Charlie Frisk frequently has letters to the editor appear 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](http://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org)

##### ***Get Our Weekly Update by email.***

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. Emails are sent via Bcc to protect your privacy.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**April 11, 6:30-8:00 p.m.**

**Health Forum: Protecting your family from toxic chemicals.**

**Dr. Ann Berhmann, Pediatrician and Dr. Claire Gervais, Family Practitioner**

Lyric Room, 233 N. Broadway, Green Bay

Learn about preventing exposure from a variety of chemicals, such as pesticides and herbicides, both on the farm and in the foods we serve our families. Included will be information about threats from using lawn chemicals, how to make our lawns safer, and a look at what toxic chemicals are showing up in both well water and municipal water systems. Sponsored by the Clean Water Action Council.

**April 16-27**

**Door County Celebrates Earth Weeks 2018**

Movies, lectures, concerts, art, hikes, bikes, walks, Church events, open houses, time to create, and more. For a complete schedule, go to <https://www.facebook.com/Earthweekdoorcounty>

For questions or interest in presenting, contact Wayne at [wjkudick@charter.net](mailto:wjkudick@charter.net) or 920-868-2262, text-able.

**April 18, 7:00 p.m.**

**11th Annual Wild & Scenic Film Festival!**

Backstage at the Meyer Theatre in Green Bay

A night of inspiring, award-winning films awaits you.

We're screening films now to create an amazing evening of entertainment.

Last year's show in Madison sold out...Don't miss the fun, please buy your tickets early!

To purchase tickets, visit: [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com)

**April 19, 6:00 p.m.**

**Presentation: Barriers to citizen participation in environmental decision making.**

At the Oconto County Dems meeting, Senior Center, 512 Caldwell Avenue, Oconto Falls

Clean Water Action Council President Dean Hoegger will speak about citizen actions to protect the waters of the state and the increasing barriers to citizen participation.

**April 20, 5:00 pm – 7:00 p.m. & April 21, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Electronics Recycling Drive**

Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary, 1660 East Shore Drive, Green Bay

Recycle your old computer, fax, printer, TV, other electronics and household appliances. A portion of

the fees will go to support the Friends of the Wildlife Sanctuary. There is a fee for TVs (\$15.00 each) and Monitors (\$10.00 each). Volunteers will help you unload our electronics! The drop off area will be the lower lot of the Nature Center. Thank you for your support!

For event details visit <http://www.baybeachwildlife.com/events/large-calendar-display>

**Saturday, April 21, 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.**

**Astronomy Night**

Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary, 1660 East Shore Drive, Green Bay

The public is invited to come out and join the Neville Astronomy Club for a night of star gazing. Telescopes and volunteers will be set up on Resch Falls at the Sanctuary. This event is free for everyone.

For event details visit <http://www.baybeachwildlife.com/events/large-calendar-display>

**Sunday, April 22, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Earth Day at the Wildlife Sanctuary**

Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary, 1660 East Shore Drive, Green Bay

Come enjoy Earth Day at the Sanctuary.

All events are free and open to the public.

For event information visit [http://www.baybeachwildlife.com/events/large-calendar-display/?cid=mc-1fa4a091cc05d31edb3f379445e829fc&mc\\_id=3051](http://www.baybeachwildlife.com/events/large-calendar-display/?cid=mc-1fa4a091cc05d31edb3f379445e829fc&mc_id=3051)

**Sunday, April 22, 9:30 – 11:00**

**Presentation: Protecting the Waters of Northeast WI**

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Door County, 10341 Water Street, Ephraim

Clean Water Action Council President Dean Hoegger will speak about the importance of citizen action to protect the waters of northeast WI.

**Monday, April 23, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

**Chemical Free Cleaning**

Join the Herb Society for an informative discussion on what those chemicals are and what they can do. We'll be making two different products for you to take home and you'll receive recipes for more to make at home with easily obtained and safe products.

Green Bay Botanical Gardens, 2600 Larson Rd, Green Bay

To register: <https://17699.blackbaudhosting.com/17699/Herbal-Cleaning>

## 🌿 MARK YOUR CALENDAR! 🌿

Thursday, April 26, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

### **Composting 101**

Discover how to effectively manage yard trimmings, food waste, and other organic materials generated at home and turn them into beneficial compost for your garden.

Green Bay Botanical Gardens, 2600 Larson Rd, Green Bay

To Register: <https://17699.blackbaudhosting.com/17699/Composting-101-26Apr2018>

Friday, May 4, 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (opening reception)

### **May Exhibition: Water**

James May Gallery, 213 Steele Street, Algoma  
An exhibition about WATER. Please join us in this opening that features artists who deal with water in their work and celebrate its importance in our community. A percentage of sales from the night will go to Friends of Crescent Beach and others focused on protecting the water of our area. Admission is free. For event details visit <http://www.jamesmaygallery.com/exhibitions/art-of-water-ii.html>

Saturday June 15 – Sunday June 16

### **Midwest Renewable Energy Fair**

7558 Deer Rd, Custer

The Energy Fair brings over 13,000 people together to learn about clean energy and sustainability, connect with others, and take action towards a sustainable future. The Fair features interactive workshops, exhibitors, live music, inspiring keynote speakers, family fun, great local food, and more.



## It's Time to Renew Your Membership for 2018!

(See pg. 19 for our membership form or register online at [www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org](http://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org))

## Join Our Planned Giving Circle of Friends



Without planned giving donations or legacies, our organization would not be able to do the work of protecting human health and the environment at its current level. Please consider supporting our endowment fund at the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation with a gift in your will or bequest.

*Contact us for a  
Planned Giving Brochure.*

## PROTECTING YOUR FAMILY FROM TOXIC CHEMICALS



Wednesday, April 11, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM  
Lyric Room, 233 N. Broadway, Green Bay.

Sponsored by the Clean Water Action Council of Northeastern Wisconsin

- ◆ Dr. Ann Behrmann, Pediatrician and Dr. Claire Gervais, Family Practitioner will be the presenters.
- ◆ Learn about preventing exposure from a variety of chemicals, such as pesticides and herbicides, both on the farm and in the foods we serve our families. Included will be information about threats from using lawn chemicals, how to make our lawns safer, and a look at what toxic chemicals are showing up in both well water and municipal water systems
- ◆ This is one in a series of health forums sponsored by CWAC.
- ◆ Free and open to the public. To register, email us at: [contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org](mailto:contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org) or text or send a phone message to: 920-421-8885





# Silent Auction, Dinner & Dance for the Environment

**Saturday, April 28 @ 5:00 p.m.**

Our annual dinner, dance and silent auction will be held at the Riverside Ballroom at 1560 Main St., Green Bay.

Our program will feature Valerie Dantoin-Adamski who will share the inspiration for the film "Searching for Sustainability". Valerie is a farmer, environmentalist, and educator who teaches "Sustainable Food and Agriculture" at NWTTC.

There will Door Prizes, a Silent Auction and **The Third Degree** will play for the dance.

**Please consider ordering a block of tickets to sell to friends. Buy 5 tickets, get one free!**

**Current members are eligible for door prizes at the dinner!**

**Ticket Order Form for \$25 Advance Tickets** (Please place your order by Saturday, April 1)

# of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25 each for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send tickets to (name/address): \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the # of your dinner preference(s):

( ) Organic Beef Tips (Gluten-free)

( ) Vegetarian Portabella (Gluten-free)

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ (in case we have a question)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I have an item for the silent art auction/door prizes. I will bring it by 5:00 or call Dean at 920-421-8885 for prior pickup (preferred).

**Please include payment with your order.**

**Checks payable to: Clean Water Action Council  
P.O. Box 9144, Green Bay, WI 54308**



## A NOTE ON THE TICKET PRICE

After many years of holding the banquet tickets to \$20, we found that we were just breaking even on ticket sales. As we continued to support local and organic growers for banquet food, and to provide vegetarian and gluten free options, the cost of the meal has increased. We will still offer the "Buy 5 tickets, get one free" offer which will bring the ticket price close to \$20. As this is our only fundraiser of the year, we hope you will support CWAC and local producers.

For free posters,  
please e-mail us at [contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org](mailto:contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org)  
or call Dean @ 920-421-8885.



## Join or Renew Your Membership to Clean Water Action Council for 2017!

☐ 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](http://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org)



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

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### INTERNS

**Lora Jorgenson**  
**Maryssa Paulsen**  
**Jason Reeve**



### NEWSLETTER

**Dean Hoegger**, Editor  
**Erik Fischer**, Graphic Designer

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*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](mailto:contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org)



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

of Northeast Wisconsin

## **Silent Auction, Dinner & Dance for the Environment**

**Saturday, April 28  
@ 5:00 p.m.**

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**  
(See page 18)



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- CWAC Membership Form



of Northeast Wisconsin

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