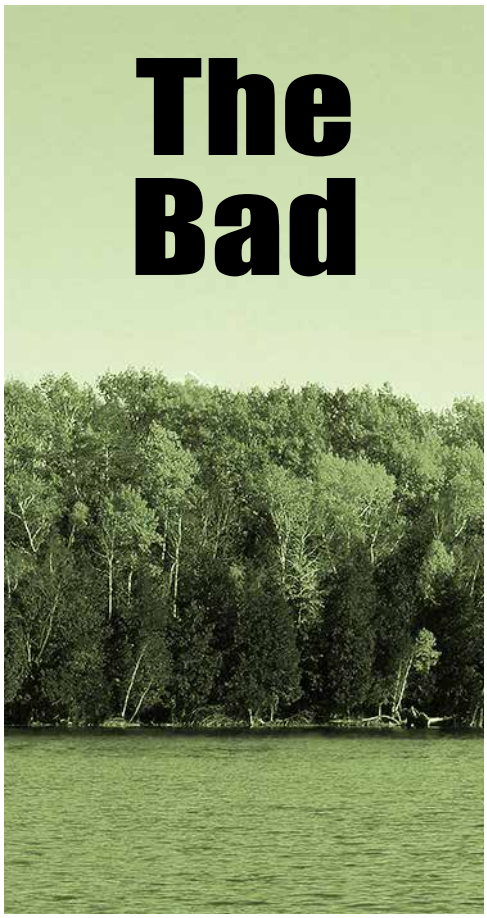
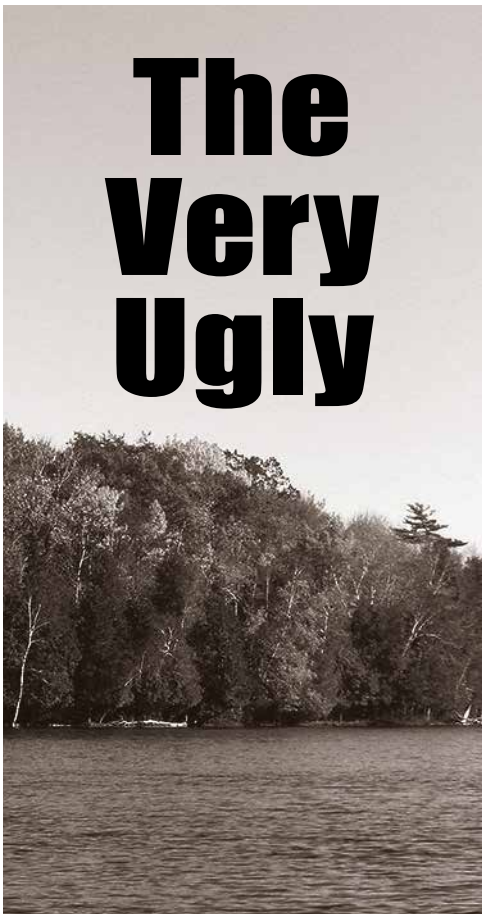
Clean Water Action Council

OF NORTHEAST WISCONSIN

Celebrating 37 years of working to protect public health and the environment in Northeast Wisconsin

FALL 2022





Environmental Gains and Losses in Northeast Wisconsin

Introduction by CWAC President Dean Hoegger

Over the years we have covered some of the topics in this newsletter, but usually with a more singular purpose. For example, we published newsletters focused entirely on the harm from concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), the threat to human health from PFAS chemicals, and advances in sustainable farming. This issue provides the reader with the latest information regarding what we believe to be the most recent gains and losses affecting human health and the environment.

Inside you will find examples of good farming and learn about the recent advances in water conservation in paper making. Unfortunately, you will learn that the threat from manure pollution from CAFOs continues to grow. And, worst of all, you will learn that there is widespread contamination from PFAS chemicals and that we have ignored the threat and therefore minimized its impact on human health. Very ugly indeed!

In recognition of October as **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**, CWAC is hosting a conference, *"Breast Cancer and the Environment, & Advances in Detection and Treatment"* at UW-Green Bay on October 15. See page 14 & 15 for details and registration.

Vote for clean water! Tuesday, November 8.

We rate these as VERY GOOD environmental gains!

Area Farms Apply Principles of Regenerative Agriculture

By Dean Hoegger

The Climate Change Coalition of Door County hosted a regenerative agriculture presentation featuring representatives from several Door County farms. One farm selected was the Polich organic dairy farm who CWAC featured in the Summer 2018 Newsletter: *Good Food, Good Farming.* That article can be found on page 9 at CWAC_SUMMER2018_Newsletter.pdf

Brey Cycle Farm

Lauren Brey, a presenter representing Brey Cycle Farm, provided numerous examples of how their family farm was using regenerative agricultural principles, which caught our attention. First of all, the farm was established in 1904 by George Brey, Sr. making this a fourth-generation family farm. An impressive fact in the age of concentrated animal feeding operations, or CAFOs, dominating the agricultural landscape. Today, the farm is operated by great grandsons Tony and Jacob Brey and their families.

Lauren discussed the efforts the farm was making to reduce runoff and add organic matter to the soil using cover crops. The cover crop is sometimes harvested for feed. When it needs to be terminated, they seek ways to reduce the amount of herbicide needed to do so. They also use cover crop strategies on their corn fields to protect the otherwise bare soil. Green planting is used where corn is planted directly into a living crop and inter-seeding is used where a cover crop is planted into growing corn. These strategies, in addition to planting winter triticale after the corn is harvested, protect the soil and add organic matter to the soil.

Inter-seeded cover crop protects the soil, sequesters carbon, and adds organic material. Photo courtesy of Brey Cycle Farm.

Rotational grazing is used on the farm for their beef cattle and heifers. By frequently moving the animals to different paddocks, the grasses have time to recover. Therefore, the soil is protected from erosion and a "living root" is established. The milking cows are not pastured grazed. They are maintained in, Lauren explained, "Freestall barns with fans and sand bedding where the animals are free to walk around, lie down, eat and drink as they please except for about 30 minutes three times per day when they go to the milking parlor to be milked."

While the Breys work to apply sustainable practices on their farm, they believe much of their success is from providing their animals with quality feed and applying animal genetics to raise cows that live long and have strong immune systems. Nevertheless, the Brey farm is often a featured demonstration farm by the Door-Kewaunee Watershed Demonstration Farms Network for their sound environmental practices. The Network is supported the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative or GLRI.

You can learn more the Brey Cycle Farm and how to contact them at https://www.facebook.com/CycleFarm/

CWAC MEMBER'S FARMS DEMONSTRATING REGENERATIVE SOIL PRACTICES

Full Circle Farm grows organic foods.
Rick Adamski and Val Dantoin.

The farm's focus is on Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) and selling shares of organic vegetables to be delivered throughout the season. They are also part of a farmers' market cooperative — a meat CSA — and Full Circle Farm provides the 100% grass-fed beef as well as pastured pork. The eventual goal is to create a full diet CSA which includes fruits, vegetables, grass fed beef, pastured pork, and eggs.

A recent study by Organic Dairy Cooperative, reported by Wisconsin Public Radio, found that the carbon footprint of organic dairy farms is about 24 percent lower that the U.S. conventional average. This reduction would be similar to any farm using managed grazing methods, which reduces the amount of tractor emissions and increases carbon sequestration in the soil.

Full Circle Farm is located at W2407 Hofa Park Rd, Seymour, WI 54165, where it is generally open for visitors who make an appointment and order products for pick up through their online portal. Orders can be made online at https://www.fullcircle.farm/ or *call 920-373-2325* for more information about halves or quarters of grass-fed beef. You can also find the farm represented at the Green Bay F armers Market and the Appleton Farmers Market, both on Saturday mornings.

This farm has been in the Adamski Family for over 120 years! Read more at CWAC_FALL2021_Newsletter.pdf.

Guardians of the Field Farm. Lynn and Nancy Utesch.

This Kewaunee County beef farm is using managed grazing practices on 150 acres with more than 100 species of clover, alfalfa and prairie grasses. Again, this farm is a great example of removing carbon from the air to make sugars which are then sequestered in the soil as noted in the Organic Valley study. Contact them to purchase beef at *lnutesch@yahoo.com*

Read more about Guardians of the Field Farm at https://www.farmaid.org/blog/farmer-heroes/lynn-utesch-a-guardian-of-the-field-and-water/

When deciding where to spend your food dollars, ask if your farmer, or the farmers who grow for your supplier, are following these principles:

Kiss the Ground's Guide to Regenerative Agriculture identifies six guiding principals:

1. **Understand Context:** Economic, personal, community, ecological, climate, bioregion, etc.
2. **Minimize Disturbance:** This refers to tillage, chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and more.
3. **Establish a "Living Root":** Have a plant photosynthesize and pump carbon-based exudates into the soil to feed the soil biology for as long as possible throughout the growing season. Perennials are able to do this well.
4. **Provide Soil Armor:** Also referred to as "cover cropping," bare soil exposed to the elements harms soil health, so it's recommended to always have some living or dead debris covering the soil.
5. **Integrate Animals:** Have one or more types of animals move across your fields if it can work in your context, otherwise known as planned grazing.
6. **Enhance Biodiversity:** Add diversity to whatever it is you are growing—this could be planting diverse hedgerows throughout the farm, installing owl boxes, integrating honeybees, or diverse multi-species cover crops.

Green Bay Packaging — An Environmental Success Story

By Charlie Frisk

At this year's CWAC banquet, Will Kress, the current CEO of Green Bay Packaging, received the CWAC "Environmental Citizen Award". If you are curious as to why a paper industry executive received CWAC's top environmental award, read on.

In March of 2022, GBP completed a $500 million update and expansion of their Green Bay facility, which is believed to be the largest single development project in the history of Brown County. Although GBP has always been an environmental leader, the plant update has taken them to the next level for water, energy, and fiber recovery.

When I asked Catharine Rathbone, the Corporate Marketing Manager for Green Bay Packaging, why GBP has been so successful in environmental progress, she responded, "For their entire 90 years in business GBP has only had three leaders, George, James, and Will Kress. The culture of doing right by the environment started with George and has just continued, it has become part of our DNA."

Net Zero Water

Green Bay Packaging's Green Bay Mill is the first in the world to be certified as meeting "Net Zero Water" requirements by Underwriters Laboratories (UL). The net zero concept is that freshwater input to the mill is completely offset by alternative water use.

"Alternative" sources originate from inside the process, and water is returned to its original source. A volume of water at least equal to that used is cleaned and returned to the source water body, in this case Lake Michigan.

There are two key concepts that are fundamental to the success of the Net Zero approach: use as little water as possible in the process, and re-use water as often as possible.

Re-using water in a paper mill is not simply a matter of continually running the same water over and over through the mill. In order to be usable in the mill the water has to be below certain levels of bacteria, sediment and a variety of other components. GBP utilizes a system of biological, chemical, and mechanical separations which allows them to treat water on-site so that it can be reused.

It could be said that GBP scours every source possible to reduce their water demand. They even collect storm water from all their roofs and parking areas and remove 80% of the total suspended solids so it can be utilized in their manufacturing process.

GBP may be the only paper mill in the world that does not hold a "wastewater discharge permit." They do not send any water as effluent to the Fox River and thus have no need for a permit.

GBP and NEW Water have a symbiotic relationship. Some water from GBP does become degraded to the point it can longer be reused. That effluent undergoes an anaerobic treatment to remove pollutants to a point where the municipal plant can handle it. GBP takes an equal or greater amount of water from NEW water and filters it to use as clean water in their plant, so the total system balances out to "Net Zero".

More Recycling

For most of their history Green Bay Packaging has operated on 100% recycling, but the new plant allows them to recycle paper stock that they previously could not use and to be more efficient with the paper stock that they have used in the past.

GBP produces primarily corrugated cardboard containers and in the past that is the type of paper they recycled. They are now able to recycle "mixed" paper, much of which was formerly landfilled, and this has helped contribute to doubling their production capacity compared to 2021. The new plant has also increased their fiber recovery, which makes for more efficient recycling of all the paper they use.

Reduced Energy Demand

GBP uses an anaerobic digester system to pre-treat and recycle their water. The anaerobic system produces significant energy savings over the more commonly used aerobic systems. They also capture methane and other biogases from the digestion process and are currently able to reduce their natural gas usage by 4% as compared to if they just flared off the gas. Their goal is to eventually replace 10% of their natural gas with these biogases.

The anaerobic digestion system reduces their COD (chemical oxygen demand) by 80% and saves GBP 35,000 kilowatts daily, enough to power more than 1,000 average sized households.

GBP's new plant has the largest vertical stacking warehouse in the Western Hemisphere. This warehousing system reduces energy usage and greenhouse gas production significantly compared to traditional warehouses.

GBP participates in an International CDP (Carbon Disclosure Program) scoring system, which rates all climate change aspects associated with their facility. They have consistently ranked in the very top of the industry in this rating system.

In Summary

Green Bay Packaging is truly state of the art in regard to energy savings, recycling and water use. I asked Catharine Rathbone if there was anything in it for GBP other than that good feeling that comes from knowing that they are doing their best to protect the environment.

Catharine responded, "In the long haul doing everything more efficiently is not only better for the environment, but it will also reduce our cost of production. It also makes some companies more likely to purchase their packaging materials from us. Many purchasers have scorecards to rate the environmental pluses and minuses of products they purchase, and GBP comes out at the top on these rating scorecards."

We rate this a VERY BAD ongoing environmental loss.

Liquid Manure Spreading from CAFOs Is Harming Our Water Resources

By Dean Hoegger

Any soil and water conservationist will tell you that all animal manure has the potential to harm our water resources. However, manure in liquid form poses a far greater harm. DNR Runoff Management Supervisor Gordon Stevenson refers to liquid manure as the "5% solution." Five percent because typically that is the amount of solids contained in liquid manure. It could be even more diluted. Stevenson notes that undiluted manure is a very wet product to begin with. But then, added to the typical 20 pounds of dry mater is 100 pounds of urine and wet feces. CAFOs typically add an additional 250 pounds of additional water to the mix to make pumping and piping the waste more efficient and cheaper, he explained.

Why is this a problem? "CAFOs are an ever-expanding source of a dilute soup of nitrogen, phosphorus, pathogens, oxygen-demanding substances, detergents, disinfectants, pharmaceuticals, and other substances that cause pollution. "And virtually all of it is spread in an untreated condition on Wisconsin landscapes," Stevenson explained in his article, "It's time to reconsider liquid manure systems," published in the CWAC Fall 2015 Newsletter.

Lee Luft, former Kewaunee County Supervisor and Chairperson of the Kewaunee County Ground Water Tasks force, put the amount of waste in this perspective. "Kewaunee County lands receive the liquid manure equivalent of human waste from the cities of Green Bay, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, St. Louis, and Detroit." Kewaunee County has 16 CAFOs. Now add this perspective to Brown County with 22 CAFOs and Manitowoc County with 32 CAFOs. We can conservatively compare this additional untreated liquid manure to human waste from Chicago.

Of course, these municipalities treat the waste for pathogens and other pollutants, such as phosphorus.

The liquid waste is then stored in manure cesspools for extended periods of time where leakage can occur. This can lead to as much as millions of gallons leaked per year, reports the National Resource Defense Council. They also say these lagoons can give off toxic gases, such as ammonia, and they have received reports of illness and death from exposure. Manure lagoons also produce harmful methane, a potent global warming gas.

Two manure cesspools at Dairy Dreams in Kewaunee Co. Note the size of the cesspools compared to the tanker trucks in the foreground.

This untreated waste is then applied to farm fields as a diluted form of fertilizer. It takes about 9,000 gallons of liquid manure to equal about 90 pounds of nitrogen. Allowed rates of liquid manure application are generally based on the crop to be planted, and much less for protecting our ground and surface waters. Corn requires the most nitrogen and could allow for as much as 10,000 gal/acre per application, even in areas where there is fractured limestone bedrock beneath shallow soils as little as five feet.

Liquid manure can then leach into the bedrock and travel great distances both horizontally and vertically. It is no wonder that about one-third of Kewaunee County wells are contaminated with pathogens and nitrates causing human health problems. It is also not surprising that all of Kewaunee County rivers have been classified as impaired by the EPA.

While there are some setbacks from wells, such as 1000 feet from community well and 250 from private wells, we know the liquid waste can travel both horizontally and vertically. This not only places drinking water at risk, but also can impact surface waters through this horizontal transport. This risk is further compounded by the incredibly minimal cultivation setback from bodies of water of five feet. During heavy rains, pathogens, nitrogen, and phosphorus is transported along with soil to streams that flow into rivers that flow into Green Bay or Lake Michigan.

Even though the cultivation setback is so minimal, CWAC has found and reported violations which were reported to soil and water conservation officials. In some cases, conservationists spoke with the violators, but in other cases conservation easements were established 35 feet on each side of the creek. We will monitor again this fall.

There are many documented instances of gastrointestinal illnesses from manure contaminated drinking water in northeast Wisconsin. Some of these illnesses have been life threatening. In some cases, contaminated water has been an ongoing problem for years. Health has been impacted and property values reduced.

The risk to human health from the current practice of storing and spreading millions of gallons of l untreated liquid manure goes beyond drinking contaminated well water and breathing polluted air. When pollutants from manure reach our surface waters, especially phosphorus, agal blooms occur. These can include harmful algal blooms, or HABs which produce toxins that can have harmful effects on people, pets, fish, shellfish, marine mammals, and birds.

Cyanobacteria can also be produced from phosphorus loading and may look like algae. Sometimes called blue-green algae, it is bacteria that can cause serious health problems for humans and pets. Skin irritation, stomach cramps, vomiting, nausea, diarrhea, fever, sore throat, headache, muscle and joint pain, blisters of the mouth, and liver damage can occur. It is advisable to stay out of the water when algae is present. Visually, it is difficult to determine whether cyanobacteria or other HABs are present.

Algae bloom on the Fox River, Allouez. CWAC photo.

People choose to live in northeast Wisconsin for many reasons. But one important one is the enjoyment of our water resources. We must do more to protect our water resources. That may mean going back to composting solid manure or treating liquid waste from factory type farms to remove phosphorus and pathogens. It may mean putting limits on CAFO expansions.

Scientists are predicting a warmer and wetter climate in northeast Wisconsin, which will exacerbate the effects of manure pollution on algae blooms. Increased temperatures and greater runoff will put more nutrients in the water. Besides health effects of HABs, these blooms cause oxygen In the water to be depleted, creating what is known as dead zones. These zones have been increasing in size and duration in Green Bay and are expected to become worse in the coming years.

With elections coming in November, CWAC urges its readers to vote for clean water candidates and to contact us about volunteering to help protect our water resources.

Resources:

Wisconsin CAFOs and EPA Impaired Waters. The spatial distribution of EPA impaired waters and CAFOs. An interactive map. https://arcg.is/1mD4aj

CESSPOOLS OF SHAME: How Factory Farm Lagoons and Sprayfields Threaten Environmental Public Health. The National Resource Defense Council. https://www.nrdc.org/resources/cesspools-shame-how-factory-farm-lagoons-and-spra-fields-threaten-environmental-and-public

We rate this a VERY BAD and unnecessary environmental loss.

Coal Tar Pavement Sealants Cause Toxic PAH Contamination

By Maya Hearden, staff member

Coal tar pavement sealants pose a great risk to humans, especially to children, and to aquatic health due to their content of toxic compounds called polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, or PAHs. Communities across the country, including many in Wisconsin, have made efforts to eliminate the use of coal tar pavement sealants, but progress is still needed. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, 85 million gallons of coal tar-based sealant is applied every year.

Exposure to coal tar pavement sealant is linked to cancer in humans. Coal tar and coal-tar pitch are listed as Group 1 carcinogens and at least seven types of PAHs are classified by the EPA as probable human carcinogens. Coal tar pavement sealant contains at least 200 different types of PAH compounds. According to The National Cancer Institute, exposure to coal tar or coal-tar pitch increases the risk of skin, lung, bladder, kidney, and gastrointestinal cancer. PAH exposure also causes developmental issues. Prenatal exposure is associated with developmental delay, reduced IQ, anxiety, depression, and ADHD.

PAHs can be tracked into homes by sticking onto shoes and they can vaporize into the air, making exposure very likely in areas with coal tar pavement sealants. Homes in close vicinity to coal tar treated pavement have dust with PAH concentrations 25 times higher than normal. Coal tar pavement sealant is worn off by tires, snowplows, and general weathering, causing particles to get into storm drains and waterways. Most PAHs bind to sediments in the water and do not dissolve.

Light gray patches of asphalt show where sealcoat has been worn from the pavement. Applicators recommend reapplication of sealcoat every 1 to 5 years. Photo courtesy of U.S. Geological Survey.

Children growing up near parking lots treated with coal tar pavement sealant have 14-fold increase of developing certain types of cancers. A lifetime exposure can raise the risk 38 times that of an adult who did not live adjacent to parking lots with coal tar sealants.

Aquatic organisms are also at risk from exposure to PAHs. Fish exposed to PAHs experience fin erosion, liver abnormalities, cataracts, skin tumors, and immune system impairments. Insects and other organisms that live at the bottom of rivers and lakes who are exposed to PAHs experience inhibited reproduction, delayed emergence, sediment avoidance, and death.

Cleaning up PAH contaminated water is an expensive process. PAH contaminated bodies of water go through a sediment removal process, and the contaminated sediment requires a special type of disposal in authorized landfills where it won't get back into the soil and water. This can cost about $75,000 to $125,000 per body of water. In one case, Minnesota state pollution officials estimate a cost of over $1 billion to cleanup PAH contaminated waters in the Minneapolis – St. Paul metro area.

American Medical Association:

"RESOLVED, that our American Medical Association advocate for legislation, to ban the use of pavement sealcoats that contain polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons."

There are at least 24 municipalities in Wisconsin who have banned the use of coal tar pavement sealants. Only Green Bay, De Pere, Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Plymouth, Sturgeon Bay, and Luxemburg have done so in northeast Wisconsin. Clean Water Action Council worked with other organizations to obtain these bans and alone achieved bans in Luxemburg and Sturgeon Bay. Clean Water Action Council is also currently working to get a ban in Casco.

However, 70% of Wisconsin residents remain unprotected by bans on coal tar-based pavement sealants. A statewide ban has yet to be implemented, even though efforts were made. Wisconsin Assembly Bill 131 and Wisconsin Senate Bill 152 were introduced in 2021 to prohibit the sale and use of coal tar-based sealants and high PAH sealant products in Wisconsin, but both failed to pass earlier this year. If a ban was eventually passed by the state, it would then take about a year to go into effect.

In an effort to get bans implemented in Northeast Wisconsin, Clean Water Action Council sent letters to more than 50 municipalities about the threat, and then contacted an equal number of members to ask that the concern be placed on their municipality's meeting agenda. CWAC is offering to give a presentation at the meeting. We also have a *YouTube* presentation about the dangers of PAHs and coal tar pavement sealants, which is included in the *Weekly Update* (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xjvi-leDHg&feature=youtu.be).

Coal tar pavement sealants are dangerous to human and aquatic health. These sealants are absolutely unnecessary!

There are safe and cost-effective alternatives such as asphalt and latex sealants. Although some effort has been made to eliminate the use, we must continue to fight to protect everyone, especially our children, from the toxic PAHs contained in these sealants. If your community was not listed above as having a ban, act now! Contact us. We can help.

References:

https://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2016/3017/fs20163017.pdf

Coal Tar and Coal-Tar Pitch - Cancer-Causing Substances - NCI

Facing hefty cleanup costs, Minnesota cities sue refiners over PAH in retention ponds - Stormwater Report (wef.org)

Coal Tar Sealant Lawsuits | Cleanup Costs and Liability (consumernotice.org)

Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) | Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Exposure to Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) | Human Health Exposure Analysis Resource (HHEAR) Program (hhearprogram.org)

We rate this a VERY UGLY environmental loss.

PFAS Chemicals, Wisconsin's Worst Nightmare

By Dean Hoegger

PFAS refers to a class of man-made chemicals found in firefighting foam and many household products such as non-stick cookware, stain resistant carpets and furniture, food packaging such as microwave popcorn and pizza boxes, and water repellent clothing. While the manufacturing of these chemicals has mostly been phased out in the U.S., this is not the case worldwide. Even in the U.S., as one PFAS chemical is found to be harmful, often another one is created with yet to be discovered health risks.

Older Teflon coated pans contained a type of PFAS. Only purchase coated pans that say PFAS free or use non-coated pans such as cast iron as shown in the background.

The nightmare was first revealed to the public in 1999 when attorney Rob Bilott filed his first lawsuit against Dupont on behalf of a West Virginia farm family living near a landfill where Dupont had been dumping Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). That lawsuit failed, but a subsequent one in 2021, filed as a class action suit with approximately 70,000 clients, resulted in Dupont paying benefits valued over $300 million. (Read *Exposure: Poisoned Water, Corporate Greed, and One Lawyer's Twenty-Year Battle Against DuPont.* See the film, *Dark Waters*, based on the book.)

Yet, nearly 15 years later, Wisconsin residents, living near sites where firefighting foam containing PFAS chemicals were used, were kept in the dark about its existence. In Marinette, Wisconsin for instance, the location of a firefighting foam testing center, PFAS foam was left to soak into the ground or enter nearby streams. The Wisconsin Attorney General alleges that the responsible companies, Johnson Controls and Tyco, knew about the resulting contamination as early as 2013.

It was not until the spring of 2018 that some area residents learned of the contamination. At that time, CWAC participated in the local PFAS Advisory Group that was to become Save Our H2O, and we did so until attorneys were hired by area residents to take legal action. In June of 2018, Tyco put out a press release that seemed to suggest that they were just learning about the contamination, which subsequently has been found in Marinette and Peshtigo area wells.

The *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* reported that, "Testing has shown concentrations of more than 400 parts per trillion of PFOA and more than 5,000 parts per trillion of PFOS in the Marinette and Peshtigo area."

Military sites with serious PFAS contamination, including Volk Field, Truax ANG, and Fort McCoy, were identified by the Department of Defense in 2018. A year later, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) finally issued "responsible party" letters to these military sites thus making the public aware of the potential health threat.

Citizens for Safe Water Around the Badger (army munitions plant) led the fight at this time. CWAC signed several letters of concern to the WDNR, and state legislators drafted by CSWAB. These letters included a request for the assessment of exposure and the biological impact of PFAS chemicals. Another request focused on proper cleanup that would fully protect human health and the environment.

The push to do more testing resulted in finding over 100 PFAS contaminated sites in Wisconsin. In addition to Marinette and Peshtigo, the worst sites include areas around the Dane County Airport, French Island near La Crosse, and communities around Wausau. The Citizens for a Clean Wausau has been active in educating the public and elected officials. They are also one of our partners in the legal actions to defend the WDNR in the lawsuit brought by Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce seeking to reduce the agencies control over hazardous chemicals including PFAS. See *Press Release WMC v DNR Stay Extended 2022-06-07.docx.pdf* https://midwestadvocates.org/issues-actions/actions/request-to-intervene-in-wmc-v-dnr

For several years the WDNR and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (WDHS) were preparing to make recommendations to the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board (NRB). Their recommendation was for a standard of no more than 20 ppt in drinking water. However, the NRB raised the standard to 70 ppt for public drinking water supplies and 8 ppt for waters that support

Panfish tend to have higher levels of PFOS.

fish. There was no rule made for private well water. The state legislature approved those recommendations and moved them forward for administrative rule making, which could take 1-2 years.

PBS Wisconsin then ran this headline, "Wisconsin Republicans approve diluted PFAS limits as regulators urge tougher standards. The new state regulations set 'forever chemical' limits in drinking water that are much weaker than those proposed by the state health department and updated EPA guidance." The EPA guidance the headline referred to had more stringent guidelines. The EPA stated that based on the most recent research, it recommends levels of two of the most common PFAS chemicals, PFOA at 0.004 ppt and PFOS at 0.02 ppt.

The new EPA guidance is a warning that almost no level of PFAS chemicals is safe. Now with PFAS showing up in drinking water across the state and in the fish from Wisconsin's lakes, these forever chemicals, and the resulting harm to human health, may be with us for a long time.

It is important to know what your public water utility's test results are for PFAS chemicals and to have your well water tested if you live in a known area of contamination. (See the link in resources to map.)

Fortunately, there is some good news from the EPA. It is proposing to designate these chemicals as hazardous substances through federal rule making. This could speed up efforts to clean contaminated sites and hold polluters responsible for the costs.

Resources:

A one-page resource about sources of exposure and health risks:
https://freshwaterfuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/information-on-pfas-for-residents.pdf

An interactive map showing PFAS contaminate sites in Wisconsin:
https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=1ZCpqp1UElQOFPs_3E4hy-oc3hMprysW4&ll=44.77760938187383%2C-89.41046186007816&z=6

PFAS in fish. WDNR advisory. See page 11.
https://widnr.widen.net/s/cprtrnbhdr/fh824

Green Bay Water Utility, 2021 test results for PFAS and other chemicals.
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/602146733f51f617d953afce/t/62a0deacd9f3833b28ee-58b4/1654710005083/2021AnnualWaterReport_English.pdf

Human Health Impacts of PFAS Exposure

By Gracyn Holcomb, CWAC Intern

PFAS is short for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances and includes chemicals known as PFOS, PFOA, and GenX. These synthetic chemicals are extremely persistent in the environment and our bodies, and growing research has pointed to the harmful health impacts PFAS exposure can cause. Commonly referred to as "forever chemicals," PFAS chemicals do not break down easily over time and are able to dissolve in water causing increased concern regarding chemical build up in the human body.

PFAS can enter the body in numerous ways, most commonly through forms of ingestion. However, exposure to levels of PFAS can come from everyday products, and it is important to note that PFAS contamination is not limited to firefighting foam. Products used in industries like aerospace, construction, electronics, and military operations.

Low levels of PFAS exposure can happen through soil and water that helps grow the food we consume. The DNR reports, "PFAS can get into your garden plants if they are grown in soil or water containing PFAS. PFAS can be transferred from the water through the soil, where they may be taken up by the plant's roots."

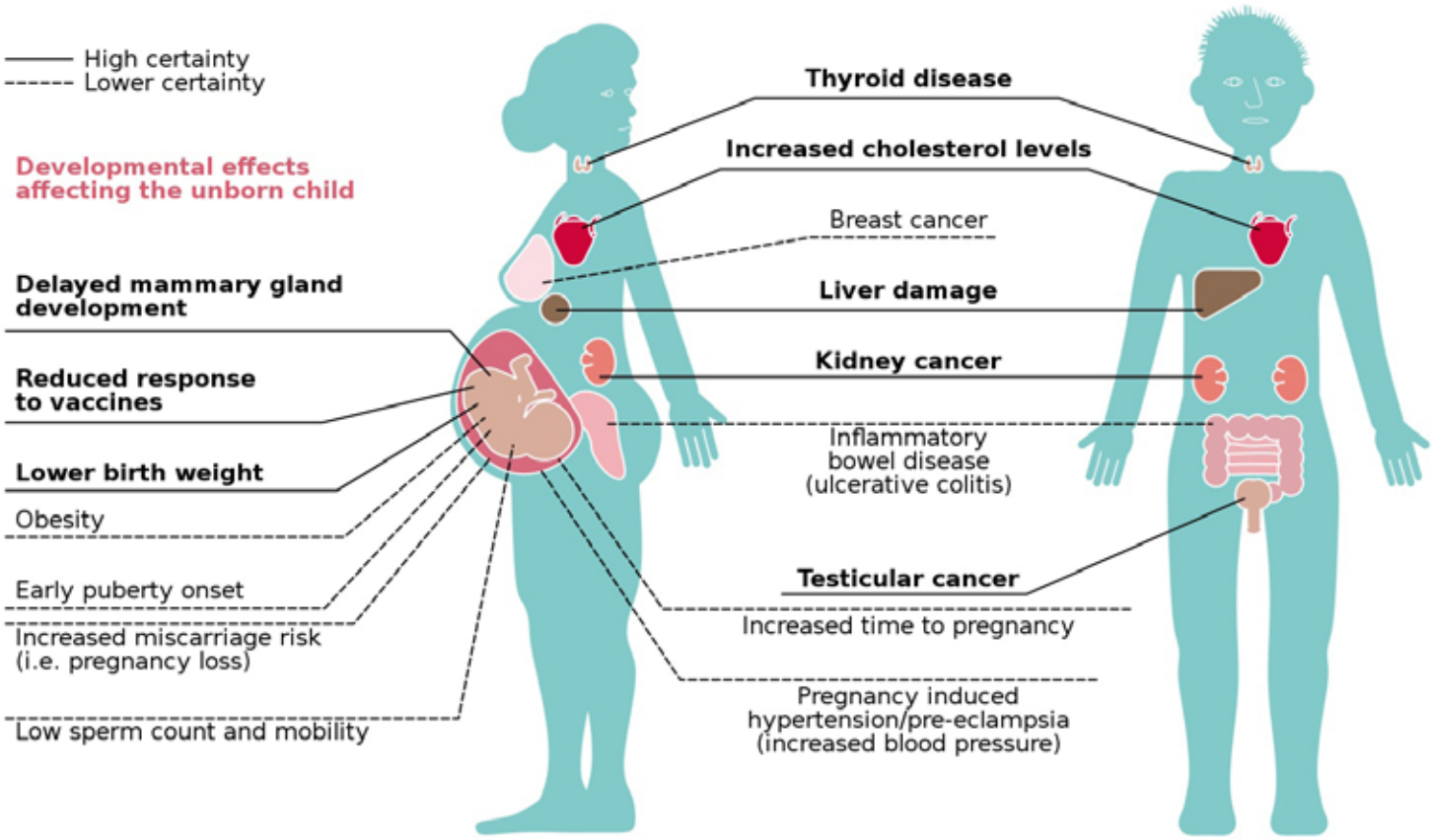
USDA organic certification does not require farmers to test their soil for PFAS. Because biosolids (also known as "sewage sludge") were added to soil before farms became organic, the soil may have PFAS and other toxic chemicals. Extensive spreading of PFAS contaminated sludge has occurred in Marinette County.

Fish may also contain PFAS and the DNR has issued fish advisories for the waters of Green Bay as well as lakes in southern Wisconsin. Avoid those fish.

Certain food packaging with grease resistant properties may also contain the PFAS. Look for PFAS Free labeling and bring your own container to restaurants for leftovers.

The biggest concern for PFAS exposure is through drinking water from public and private water systems. There have already been numerous cases across Wisconsin, in which groundwater contamination has affected drinking water, leaving residents at high exposure rates to PFAS chemicals. This high exposure rate increases the risk that these residents have for developing health problems caused by PFAS., The long-term reliance on bottled water as a form of clean water is not an environmentally or economically friendly solution.

In the spring of 2022, the Wisconsin legislature past passed administrative rules that would require public drinking water to be less than 70 ppt, far less than the recommended 40 ppt the DNR recommended. Shortly thereafter on June 15, 2022, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released an interim advisory of 0.004 ppt for PFOA and 0.02 ppt for PFOS in public drinking water. They noted the most recent scientific research indicated the need for the lower amounts.



EWG'S GUIDE TO AVOIDING PFAS CHEMICALS

A FAMILY OF CHEMICALS YOU DON'T WANT NEAR YOUR FAMILY

ewg

PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES, KNOWN AS PFAS CHEMICALS, constitute a multi-billion dollar family of chemicals that are widely used to make water-, grease- and stain-repellent coatings. They're also used in a vast array of consumer goods and industrial applications. These chemicals are notoriously persistent in the environment and the human body, and some have been linked to serious health effects. Because **PFAS chemicals are so widely used and contaminate the environment in so many ways**—including through product degradation and pollution discharges—scientists and regulators have had difficulty tracing the exact routes that PFAS chemicals may take as they find their way into human blood. Their presence in blood is a near-universal phenomenon in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

WHERE DO YOU FIND PFAS CHEMICALS?

They're used in **coatings on carpets** and **clothing**, in **microwave popcorn bags** and on **fast-food wrappers**. Most **waterproof or stain-repellent clothing** is coated with them, and while many responsible clothing companies are seeking safer alternatives, PFC coatings remain common in the marketplace. The fabric may be labeled with brands such as **TEFLON, SCOTCHGARD, STAINMASTER, POLARTEC OR GORE-TEX**, but these are only a handful of the brands that still contain these chemicals.

TESTS BY GREENPEACE FOUND PFAS CHEMICALS IN:

Jackets made by:
- NORTH FACE
- PATAGONIA
- ADIDAS
- COLUMBIA
- JACK WOLFSKIN

Shoes from:
- NIKE
- PUMA
- ADIDAS

Swimwear from:
- DISNEY
- BURBERRY

THE WRISTBAND OF THE NEW APPLE WATCH SPORT MODEL IS ALSO MADE WITH PFAS CHEMICALS, according to promotional information from the company.

WHERE ELSE CAN PFAS CHEMICALS BE FOUND?

PFAS chemicals pollute water, are persistent in the environment and remain in the body for years. **LEADING MANUFACTURERS OF PFAS CHEMICALS HAVE AGREED TO PHASE OUT SOME OF THESE CHEMICALS BY THE END OF 2015, INCLUDING PFOA, THE MOST NOTORIOUS, WHICH USED TO BE A KEY INGREDIENT IN MAKING TEFLON.** But there's no evidence that the chemicals that have replaced PFOA are much safer.

Find products that haven't been pre-treated and **SKIP OPTIONAL STAIN-REPELLENT TREATMENT ON NEW CARPETS AND FURNITURE.** Many of these coatings are made with PFAS chemicals.

Cut back on fast food and greasy carryout food. **THESE FOODS OFTEN COME IN PFAS-TREATED WRAPPERS.**

Do your research, especially when buying outdoor gear, and choose clothing that doesn't carry Gore-Tex or Teflon tags. **BE WARY OF ALL FABRICS LABELED STAIN- OR WATER-REPELLENT,** even when they don't carry a recognizable brand tag.

AVOID PTFE-BASED NONSTICK PANS AND KITCHEN UTENSILS. Opt for stainless steel or cast iron instead.

Pop popcorn the old-fashioned way—on the stovetop. **MICROWAVEABLE POPCORN BAGS ARE OFTEN COATED WITH PFAS CHEMICALS ON THE INSIDE.**

CHOOSE PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS WITHOUT "PTFE" OR "FLUORO" INGREDIENTS. Use **EWG's Skin Deep®** database and **Healthy Living app** to find safer choices. **Oral-B Glide floss,** which is made by **Gore-tex,** is one example of dental floss made with PTFE.

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Scientists are still learning about the health effects from not just individual PFAS exposure, but also to mixtures of PFAS. Preliminary studies have shown the connection to PFAS and health problems. These include a lower chance of getting pregnant, increased chance of high blood pressure, increased chance of thyroid disease, increased cholesterol levels, changed immune responses, and increased risk of cancer especially kidney and testicular cancers.

The lower exposure rates, and effect of exposure to multiple types of PFAS has caused rising concern among scientists which in turn is encouraging public officials to take a more serious approach to reducing PFAS exposure.

Preventing PFAS exposure requires a serious effort. We need to check product labels for ingredients that include the words "fluoro" or "perfluoro" and avoid stain or grease-resistant products which likely contain PFAS. Follow the DNR fish advisories if catching local fish. Reducing possible exposure from drinking water is extremely important. Check with your local water utility to see if it has data on PFAS testing. If you drink water from your own well, have it tested, especially if you are in an area where other wells have tested high for PFAS. If PFAS is present, consider a water filtration system that includes granular activated carbon absorption, ion exchange resins and reverse osmosis.

Sources:

https://www.webmd.com/a-to-z-guides/what-is-pfas

https://publichealthmdc.com/environmental-health/environmental-hazards/pfas/pfas-health-effects-ways-to-reduce-exposure

https://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse/health

https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/money/2022/07/21/company-out-lena-uses-ozone-based-technology-purify-water/10042649002/?fbclid=IwAR2exv5jjDEwYmB5NAS5d99lvEqJ27UANczJNmws5UaSZz7uY3gRmhQaTow

https://www.wpr.org/state-agencies-move-forward-efforts-collect-and-dispose-firefighting-foam-containing-pfas?fbclid=IwAR2exv5jjDEwYmB5NAS-5d99lvEqJ27UANczJNmws5UaSZz7uY3gRmhQaTow

The Action in Clean Water Action Council

By Dean Hoegger, CWAC President

Thank you to the many members who have renewed for 2022! If you have not done so, please help support our work in 2022 by renewing your membership today.

To check your membership status, look at your address label which shows your last renewal year. Emailed newsletters include the last renewal year in the body of the email and a personal request for your renewal. **Membership donations are critical as they account for nearly half of operational funding. Employee salaries are paid from a trust fund and our Packers' concession stands, not donations.**

At the $250 donation level, we also offer the opportunity to sponsor a newsletter ($800) or an intern ($500). You can mail your membership donation with the enclosed form or go online to http://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org/membership/. If we have your current membership information, then all you need to do is click on the "Donate" button on our website's home page or in our email signature block.

We would like to thank the members who have volunteered to help with our Packers concession stands, water sampling at Bairds Creek, and mailing the summer newsletter. There are many volunteer opportunities with CWAC. Contact us to discuss the ways your can volunteer to help us protect human health and the environment.

Read below about the 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.

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. Here is an update on ongoing actions.

The Judge in WMC vs DNR in Waukesha Circuit Court Case Rules Against DNR and the Public but Stays His Decision

The April ruling by Judge Bohren in favor of the Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce seriously jeopardizes actions already ordered by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Such actions include providing emergency bottled water, as well as PFAS investigation and clean-up. Fortunately, the judge stayed his decision following the DNR's appeal.

Midwest Environmental Advocates (MEA) filed a friend of the court brief on our behalf arguing the stay should be extended pending an appeal by the DNR. The brief described the consequences to Wisconsin families if the decision takes effect. Such consequences include the state possibly losing its ability to provide bottled water to families whose drinking water has been contaminated by PFAS, under the Spills Law. We believe MEA's brief was an important factor in having the judge issuing the stay thus ensuring the DNR's continuing authority to protect citizens from these dangerous chemicals.

The DNR has indicated it plans to appeal Judge Bohren's ruling. On behalf of CWAC and our partners, MEA will also be submitting a friend of the court brief in support of the DNR's case appeal.

If WMC prevails in this lawsuit, it will be exceedingly difficult to repair the damage the Spills Law was designed to prevent. Wisconsin will be forced back into the dark ages of environmental protection, where we could remain for a very long time.

MEA is representing our group in the case and we continue to seek support for the legal fees. Your donation can be specifically designated for legal fees if noted on your check or online payment.

CWAC Alerts Readers About Pollution Permits and Other Permits

We monitor notices for new water pollution permits

and renewals, and then alert over 1,200 readers via our emailed *Weekly Update*. Email us at contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org to receive the privacy protected emailed update sent once a week.

The Petitions to the EPA for The Safe Drinking Water Act.

On June 6, CWAC and our partners, represented by Midwest Environmental Advocates, met with Region 5 EPA officials to discuss our expectations for the EPA to protect drinking water in Kewaunee County. At the meeting, the EPA was asked to investigate the water contamination problems in Kewaunee County. We also asked them to review the last six years of records, since their last review of relevant records was in 2016.

An additional concern was for people with contaminated wells. We requested that the EPA work with the DNR to provide additional water kiosks. We also requested arrangements be made to deliver water to people with physical limitations. A follow up meeting has not yet been scheduled nor has the EPA reported they have initiated an investigation or even reviewed records.

CWAC Monitors for Plowing Violations.

We resumed monitoring this summer primarily with tributaries of the East River and small creeks in Manitowoc County. We made use of the drone to find violations where cultivation occurred within five feet of a stream bank. Close cultivation creates a greater risk of soil and nutrients entering the watershed and finding their way to Green Bay and Lake Michigan.

By reporting previous violations, we helped bring about several 35' conservation easements, which provide significant protection to those waterways.

Green Bay Coal Dust Complaint Investigated

CWAC was contacted by a Green Bay resident who was distraught over ongoing dust from coal piles owned by C. Reiss Coal Company along the Fox River. We previously sent dust samples to a laboratory which verified that dust on homes on the east side of the Fox River did contain coal dust. We shared and reviewed files with Midwest Environmental Advocate and found the DNR and EPA were reporting that the company was in compliance with their permit. However, we are still reviewing case law to see if the city of Green Bay has a case for a nuisance claim.

CWAC Alerts Readers about Proposed Legislation

In the last issue, we reported on proposed Michigan legislation that could have an impact on construction of the Back 40 Mine on the Wisconsin-Michigan border along the Menominee River. SB431 would reduce local control in Michigan for issuing permits for mining operations. Our Michigan friends report that it passed out of a Senate committee in June 2021, but did not get a hearing in the House committee. However, it has been introduced in the last three sessions, so it will likely be introduced in the next session.

PAH and Coal Tar Sealant Ban

Letters offering a presentation along with supporting literature were sent to 48 municipalities about the hazards of coal tar-based pavement sealants and the need to ban this product at the local level. A presentation was given to the Village of Luxemburg, who then passed a ban. A CWAC member arranged for us to give a presentation to the Village of Casco. We expect the village will also pass a ban.

We sent a letter in June to members living in or near those municipalities to offer our support to get the sealant banned in their community. If you did not receive a letter and would like to work with us to protect the public from this hazard, then please contact us ASAP.

In July, interns called members who received the letter to encourage them to ask their town officials to request a presentation.

This sealant contains polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), which are known to be a serious health threat. **According to the Army Corps of Engineers, children living near surfaces treated with this sealant have a 13-fold increased risk of developing certain cancers; a lifetime exposure can result in a 38-fold higher risk of cancer.**

Working with local governments to ban the use of the sealant is a top priority for CWAC; Green Bay, De Pere, Sturgeon Bay, and other communities along the lakeshore have already done so. It is imperative that we act to protect our children in schools, daycare centers, churches, and apartment complexes where there is asphalt pavement.

Contact us to help get a ban passed in your community. Click this link for a slide presentation on the topic: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xjvi-leDHg&feature=youtu.be

Other Comments

CWAC routinely comments on other issues of concern to our members that may not necessarily be a legal action, but nonetheless are important to our mission. Our comments during this quarter were limited to those made in the meeting with EPA regarding our petition for clean drinking water under provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Educational Efforts in the Community

Presentation regarding Using Local, State, and Federal Laws to Protect the Waters of NE WI.

A presentation was given on September 8 to UW-Manitowoc LLI members.

Food Waste Composting Education to Reduce Organics in Our Landfills

We ordered 36 composters for this year and received donations to place seven at schools, daycare centers, or community gardens. We have two remaining. Contact us if you would like one for a school or daycare center.

Food waste composters, shown on page 12, are available for purchase at the office for $60. Keep your food waste out of our landfills and make a useful soil amendment. We also

offer composting workshops for groups; just gave one at Unity of Appleton on August 9.

These Presentations Are Available from CWAC

Here is a list of current presentations that can be given in-person or via Zoom. Call or email us for scheduling. The presentations can be tailored to your group's geographic location, age, and available time. Also, contact us if you would like us to promote or co-sponsor your event or presentation.

- Citizen Action to Protect the Waters of Northeast Wisconsin
- Using Local, State, and Federal Laws to Protect the Waters of Northeast Wisconsin
- Communities on the Road to Zero Waste
- The Health Hazards of Burn Barrels
- The Health and Quality of Life Hazards from Manure Spraying
- The Health Threat from Coal Tar Pavement Sealants
- Micro-plastic Pollution from Clothing
- Food Waste Composting Made Easy

Newsletter Outreach

The Summer newsletter, Recognizing and Preparing for Climate Change in Wisconsin, was sent to 550 members in June. There are a limited number of printed newsletters remaining if you would like to distribute them to a friend, group, or organization. Newsletters are also available on our website at: https://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org/newsletter/

Get Our Weekly Update by Email

Each Tuesday we email the CWAC *Weekly Update* with Actions, Permits, Jobs, Events, In the News Updates, and Resources. Send us your information by Monday evening for posting the following day. 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 a member and getting more than one *Weekly Update*, let us know and we will fix that.

If you are reading this newsletter as a non-member, email us at contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org to be placed on the free *Weekly Update* mailing list. Emails are sent via BCC to protect your privacy.

Fall Health Forum to Focus on Breast Cancer.

The heath forum, "Breast Cancer and the Environment, and Innovations in Early Detection and Treatment." (See page 14 & 15 for more information)

Outreach through Newspaper and Radio

CWAC sends press releases to local media, and we are often contacted to comment on developing environmental issues. We recently were interviewed by WBDK radio regarding the WMC vs DNR PFAS case.

Website Updates

Past newsletter issues can be found on the website as well as updated articles and additional resources at https://www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org/newsletter/

Attendance at Conferences and Meetings with Other Environmental Groups

We attended many of the biweekly meetings with the No Back 40 Mine group and monthly meetings with directors of other state environmental groups.

Intern Gracyn Holcomb represented CWAC at the summer meeting of the Save the Bay group and attended the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation open house with Executive Director Dean Hoegger where she was introduced to State Senator Rob Cowles and former Lieutenant Governor Barbara Lawton.

CWAC Provides Interns with Valuable Experiences.

We provide our interns with valuable experiences and strategies for managing a non-profit organization. We were pleased to have Gracyn Holcomb as our Summer Semester intern. Gracyn is considering law school after earning her bachelor's degree. We wish her all the best with her studies!

We are thankful for the 2022 intern scholarships provided by Melissa Roulo, Tom and Elaine Delsart, Marge and Ken Bukowski, and Carl Hardtke of Windows of Wisconsin. Contact us if you would like to learn more about sponsoring a student intern.

CWAC's Non-Profit Status

To learn more about our non-profit status and financials, go to the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions, Credential Lookup, and then go to Credential Search for Clean Water Action Council https://www.wdfi.org/ice/berg/Registration/Financials.aspx?chid=933009&h=1122515367

Citizen Complaints

Many of our more extensive actions, some requiring legal work, resulted from a follow-up of citizen complaints. Keep us in mind if you have an environmental concern, and our support is needed.

Please follow us on Facebook.
Click here for our page: ***Facebook***

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

EVENTS

September 29, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Harvest Your Conservation Potential

Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary, 1660 E. Shore Dr, Green Bay

Celebrate fall and harvest season with other women who share your commitment to land conservation! Gather ideas and information for establishing land conservation plans and how to use the upcoming winter months for planning, research and connections with NRCS. All women farmers, landowners and conservationists from Brown, Waupaca, Outagamie and surrounding counties are welcome to attend — whatever your background, from beginners to experts! Event is hosted by Wisconsin Women in Conservation and is free, but registration is required. Register at: https://www.wiwic.org/event-details/harvest-your-conservation-potential-4

September 30, 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Food Forest Project Discussion

Green Bay Botanical Garden, 2600 Larsen Rd, Green Bay

NEW Food Forum will be holding a learning session to discuss the ongoing Urban Food Forest project. This discussion-based session will be held at Green Bay Botanical Garden and is open to the public. This event is organized and hosted by NEW Food Forum as well as New Leaf Foods, the University of Wisconsin Extension Brown County, and Green Bay Botanical Garden. Topics that will be discussed include the location of the Urban Food Forest project, impacts of the Urban Food Forest project on Brown County, types of plants to be included, sale and distribution of plants to individuals, families, and community groups, and potential partnerships between public and private enterprises. For more information about the Urban Food Forest Project, please contact New Leaf Garden Blitz at GBGardenBlitz@gmail.com or call (920) 32B-LITZ.

October 12, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

The Earth Beneath our Feet: Climate Change and the Soil Loss Crisis

Kress Pavilion, 7845 Church Street, Egg Harbor

Jo Handelsman, Ph. D, will discuss our soil, the causes for its degradation, its relation to carbon transfer and climate change, and our relation to the issue. The Master Gardeners of Door County, Crossroads at Big Creek, The Ridges Sanctuary, and Waseda Farms are co-presenting this event. For more information visit: https://www.climatechangedoorcounty.com/educational-events/the-earth-beneath-our-feet-climate-change-and-the-soil-loss-crisis.

October 14, 5:00-9:00 PM

Brews in the Zoo

Menominee Park and Zoo, 520 Pratt Trail, Oshkosh

Tap into your wild side with a Halloween Party at the Zoo with Craft Beers, Live Music, and Food Trucks. Vitamin R is our live music for the night! Guests are encouraged to come in costume. For more information, go to (20+) Brews in the Zoo | Facebook

Dean Hoegger Moves to Position as Education Director

I have enjoyed my time working as the executive director since 2011. I believed it was time to pass the executive director position on to a new person. In the next article, you will meet the new director, Marcus Rufledt.

During the last 11 years, CWAC has grown in both membership and the number of actions we have been able to address. This was made possible by the support of the members, volunteers, interns, a committed board of directors, and partner organizations such as Midwest Environmental Advocates.

My work for CWAC will continue as the education director, doing just a part of the work I had previously done. The quarterly newsletters, speaking engagements, and organizing and hosting health forums and conferences are my education director responsibilities.

CWAC Hires Marcus Rufledt as Executive Director

I joined the Clean Water Action Council of Northeast Wisconsin (CWAC) in September 2022 as the Executive Director. I have a passion to preserve and protect the environment, so that our future generations can enjoy everything it has to offer.

I served in the U.S. Navy as an analyst with a reserve unit based out of Chicago, this service facilitated my education at the University of Wisconsin - Green Bay. I studied political science, environmental policy and planning, and environmental sustainability while in school; I graduated with a bachelor's degree in Spring of 2020.

Nowadays, I reside a few miles from campus on the East side of Green Bay with my wife and two cats. In addition to my work with CWAC, I also currently serve as a Title Officer with Dominion Title and Exchange Services in Allouez. Majority of my hobbies take place outdoors, from diving for shipwrecks and enjoying the farmers' markets in the Spring and Summer, to bowhunting and trail hiking in the Fall and Winter.

SPECIAL EVENT!

October 15, 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM

Breast Cancer and the Environment, and Advances in Detection and Treatment

UW-Green Bay, University Union, Phoenix Room B

(See next page for information)

Breast Cancer and the Environment

&

Advances in Detection and Treatment

Presented by
Clean Water Action Council of Northeast Wisconsin

Saturday, October 15, 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

with lunch provided.

UW-Green Bay, University Union, Phoenix Room B

REGISTER TODAY!
SPACE IS LIMITED.

CLEAN WATER ACTION COUNCIL of Northeast Wisconsin

Sponsors:

WISCONSIN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NETWORK

The Paul, Barry, & Tanner Family Fund of the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation. Stephanie Heckel • Kellems Family Fund of the Door County Community Foundation. Kent and Kristen Powley Family Fund of the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region. Kimberly Clark Foundation • Carol A Wood • Nau Foundation Fund of the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation.

PROGRAM:

CANCER AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Jennifer Liss Ohayon, PhD, Silent Spring Institute

- Cancer Risk: Conception, overview, environmental contribution
- Environmental Chemicals & Contribution to Cancer Risk
- Cancer Prevention

Jennie Liss Ohayon is a Research Scientist at Silent Spring Institute, specializing in environmental policy, community-engaged research, and environmental justice. She is working on projects to report back to study participants and community partners in the U.S. and Chile their exposures to endocrine disrupting chemicals. She also researches policy approaches to regulating industrial chemicals with Northeastern's PFAS lab, and, in collaboration with co-investigators at the University of California, Berkeley, is evaluating the effectiveness of California-based legislation that aims to reduce or eliminate exposures to toxic substances. Read more at https://silentspring.org/staff/jennifer-liss-ohayon-phd

ADVANCES IN PREVENTION AND EARLY DETECTION OF BREAST CANCER

Colette Salm-Schmid, MD, FACS

- Prevention is more than just a mammogram
- What causes breast cancer
- Advances in early detection

Dr. Colette Salm-Schmid, MD, is a Breast Surgery Specialist in Green Bay, WI. She is affiliated with HSHS St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center and HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital. Dr. Salm-Schmid has been practicing breast surgery in Northeast Wisconsin since 2002. The quality of her work has been recognized locally, regionally, and nationally.

GENETIC COUNSELING AND HEREDITARY CANCER TESTING – WHO MAY BENEFIT

Sumedha Ghate, MS, CGC, Genetic Counselor, Medical Genetics, HSHS St. Vincent Hospital

Objectives:

- Identify red flags for hereditary cancer
- Learn who may benefit from genetic counseling and genetic testing for hereditary cancer
- Understand how hereditary cancer testing results impact cancer risk management and screening recommendations

Sumedha Ghate received her Bachelor of Science (BS) in genetics at the University of Wisconsin – Madison. She completed her Master of Science (MS) in genetic counseling from Sarah Lawrence College, New York. She has been a genetic counselor at St. Vincent Hospital, in Green Bay, Wisconsin, for over 25 years. She enjoys the opportunity to provide genetic counseling services including cancer, prenatal, pediatric and adult medical genetics and for a cystic fibrosis clinic. She also works with the multidisciplinary team at the Hemophilia Outreach Center since 2011.

TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR ADVANCED BREAST CANCER AND RESEARCHED-BASED INNOVATIVE THERAPIES -

Dr. Umang Gautam, MD, Specialty: Hematology & Oncology

Dr. Umang Gautam is an oncologist in Bellevue, Wisconsin and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center and Aurora BayCare Medical Center. He received his medical degree from LLRM Medical College and has been in practice for more than 20 years.

Registration: The registration fee is $15 to cover beverage service and a buffet style lunch with gluten free and other non-allergy choices. Register online at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/breast-cancer-and-the-environment-and-advances-in-detection-and-treatment-tickets-415493471157, mail the registration form with a check for $15 or use the QR code at the bottom.

Breast Cancer Conference Registration

Name:_____ E-mail:_____

Address:_____

_____

_____ $15 enclosed

BY OCTOBER 10, Mail to CWAC, P.O. BOX 9144, GREEN BAY, WI 54308

Meet Our Intern

Arianna Druecke is a senior majoring in environmental policy and planning and minoring in business administration. She is excited to be on the CWAC team for the fall semester and plans on emphasizing her work as an intern in PFAS contamination. Arianna enjoys visiting National Parks in her free time and plans on visiting all 63 parks in the United States, so far, she has explored 11!

Thank you!

Thank You
Fall Semester Intern Sponsors

Thomas and Elaine Delsart
Melissa Roulo

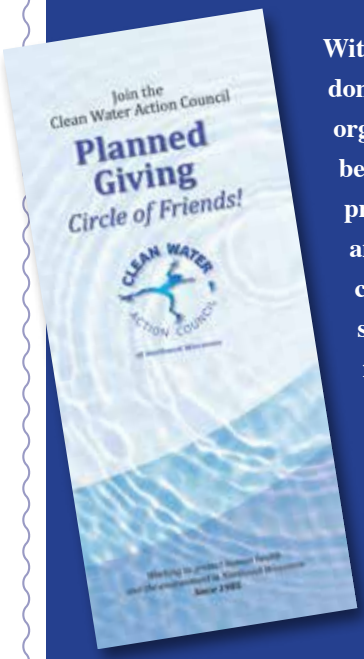
Contact us if you would like to be an intern sponsor.

Thank you
Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross
for your generous support as we work to protect human health and the environment.

Have you renewed your membership?

See your newsletter label or email notice which indicates the last year that you donated.

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

Food and Yard Waste Composters Available

The composter features a locking lid, two doors for removing compost, and comes in two sections plus the lid for easy transport, set up, and take down. It can easily be moved to a new garden location. Made from a sturdy sun absorbing plastic, they have been in operation in Northeast Wisconsin for over a decade.

A limited number of composters will be available from CWAC this fall. Help the environment and produce your own soil amendment by composting your food and yard waste.

ORDER NOW! by contacting us at contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.org or call 920-421-8885.

Join or Renew Your Membership to Clean Water Action Council for 2022!

☐ Renewal ☐ New Member Date_____

( ) $25 Individual ( ) $35 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.

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Don't miss it!

Breast Cancer and the Environment & Advances in Detection and Treatment
October 15 @ UW-Green Bay

(See pages 14 & 15 for more information)

in this issue...

The Good, The Bad, The Very Ugly

Environmental Gains and Losses in Northeast Wisconsin

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