

Clean Water Action Council

OF NORTHEAST WISCONSIN

— CELEBRATING 28 YEARS OF WORKING TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN NORTHEAST WISCONSIN —

SUMMER 2013

ARE YOU GOING ORGANIC?

This issue of the Clean Water Action Council of Northeast Wisconsin newsletter is meant to encourage you to continue on the path of living healthier by choosing more organic options for your diet, home, and property. The following articles may give you affirmation for things you are already doing or it may bring you new information. Maybe it will do both. We encourage you to consider the following articles and to share your thoughts with us on our Facebook page.

Are You Choosing an Organic Diet for Your Family?

By Dean Hoegger

Organic foods are starting to enter the mainstream American diet for good reason. Research has shown that organic foods frequently have higher levels of nutrients than conventionally-produced foods. More importantly, organic foods have far less pesticide residue. Even organic foods may contain some amounts of pesticides due to exposure to wind-blown chemicals from conventional farms or from water or packing materials in processing plants. However, that amount is far less, often 10-20 times less, than residue found in conventional foods.

Although organic certification requirements vary, these foods are generally grown without the use of synthetic fertilizer, toxic synthetic pesticides, antibiotics, and artificial hormones. Choosing organically-raised foods can also limit your risk from genetically modified organisms, or GMOs (see *GMO article on page 2*).

Children are at a greater risk from exposure than adults. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says, "Protecting children from the potential effects of pesticides is one of EPA's most important responsibilities. Pesticides have widespread uses and may affect children's health in a variety of settings. We recognize that children are at greater risk from pesticide exposure." While the risk to a given child is small, Dr. Alan Green, M.D., explains

that the risk to the population is substantial. He notes that studies have shown children from infancy to age five have lost IQ points from exposure to organophosphate pesticides. Nationally, the loss could add up 16 million IQ points.

Pound for pound, children are exposed to more pesticides than adults, and this exposure is during key developmental years when the brain and nervous system develop, especially during fetal development through the first two years of life. Choosing organic foods, or even conventionally raised foods known to have lower pesticide residue, may have significant benefits for children.

Since 2000, when the EPA banned nearly all home use of a class of pesticides called chlorpyrifos and placed limits in commercial use, organophosphate exposure has decreased significantly. However, limits have not decreased much on imported fruits and vegetables. While there is general knowledge by the public that imports may have more pesticide residue than domestic produce, a risk index prepared by Washington State University research professor Charles Bembrook can provide a guide for purchasing produce. (For the complete guide go to:

<http://www.cspinet.org/nah/articles/going-organic.html>)

Bembrook's Dietary Risk Index (DRI) compares the average pesticide levels found in a food to the maximum level the EPA regards as safe. When those levels are equal, the DRI is 100. Some foods with very high DRIs are imports and include peaches (596) and nectarines (424) from Chile, sweet bell peppers (608) and hot peppers (585) from Mexico, and cucumbers (172) from Honduras. Imports from Canada, however, are generally significantly lower than those same products grown in the U.S.

Dr. Greene suggests three guides to determine when to choose organic fresh foods. The first choice is to go organic for fruits and vegetables with a thin skin because of the high level of residue remaining after washing. He recommends going organic with apples, peaches,



strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, blackberries, grapes, pears, nectarines, peppers, celery, potatoes, and carrots. He suggests saving cash and purchasing conventionally-raised avocados, eggplants, pineapples, bananas, corn, kiwi, mangoes, papaya, sweet peas, oranges, grapefruit, and squash.

His second category includes all leafy greens, due to the large amount of surface area on these vegetables. Some vegetables do not retain or need a lot of pesticides, so conventionally-grown produce such as broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower may be safe choices.

Greene's third category is milk products. He recommends going organic for milk, yogurt, and cheese due to the potential for contamination from hormones and antibiotics and because there is evidence that organic milk has higher levels of heart-healthy omega-3 fatty acids. Organic milk also has a decreased chance of contamination from GMOs.

Another category for us to consider is other animal products raised organically. For eggs, that means hens are fed 100% organic feed, no growth hormones are used, and antibiotics are limited. For organic meat and poultry, the same conditions are required, plus the animals must have access to outdoors and not fed animal byproducts.

Bembrook believes the EPA could reduce the dietary risk from pesticides by one-half, or more, by selectively targeting just a few pesticides found on our food. Of the 200 pesticides used, six account for 66% of the total risk, including chlorpyrifos, one of the most hazardous. It may take an organized lobby effort to bring the EPA to act on our behalf.

As consumers, we must support a form of agriculture that supports rather than degrades the health of ecosystems. Be sure to ask your farmer's market vendors about their use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers. Choose organic when possible. You can support Wisconsin organic farmers and organic food retailers by searching the Wisconsin Organic Food Store Locator at:

<http://www.organicstorelocator.com/all-wisconsin.html>

Are Your Foods GMO Free?

By Carla Martin



Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) have entered the mainstream of food products sold in the United States. From baby formula to corn syrup, the presence of GMOs has become pervasive. These advances were purported to be the answer to feeding the nine billion humans projected to inhabit the planet by 2050, but at what expense to human and environmental health? What are the impacts of GMO products? Do you know what you are eating and feeding your family?

We all have choices when it comes to purchasing the food that we eat. Here are some facts to know before you

purchase or consume products that have been grown or processed with genetic modification. Genetic modification is when a gene from one species is forced into the DNA of another. In the U.S., the top five crops being genetically modified are: soy, corn, cotton, canola, and sugar beets.

These crops are produced with a virus or bacterium that modifies the crop. Often these modifications allow the organism to create its own insecticide which results in animals and humans ingesting it. Monsanto's GM corn seeds are even registered with the EPA as an insecticide.

Genetic modifications are also creating organisms that are immune to herbicides, such as Roundup. Farm fields are treated with Roundup, killing all plants, reducing the need for traditional plowing. Then "Roundup ready" corn, corn with genetic modification that creates immunity to the herbicide, is planted. This results in farm animals and humans ingesting corn with high residues of the herbicide, and a greater incidence of herbicide entering the groundwater.

Some of the harmful health effects evident in animal testing are allergies, digestive disorders, immune disorders, reproductive problems, and inflammatory diseases. Those harmful effects may also be transferred to non-GMO products due to cross pollination, which means that these GMOs can contaminate the seeds of non-GMO plants like corn. That corn is then modified by that cross-pollination. These health concerns have caused many countries to ban GMO food crops in the European Union. BASF, a German chemical company, recently pulled out of Europe because of opposition to GM products from consumers, farmers, and politicians. They have instead sought more attractive markets in the U.S. and Asia.

Until a ban is in place in the U.S., consumers are entitled to know if food products contain GMOs. At this time, such labeling is not required and consumers must seek products that are labeled non-GMO or certified organic. While this labeling may give the consumer some assurance, there is no legal guarantee as in some countries. India, for instance, passed a law, effective Jan. 1, 2013, that all GMO-containing packaged foods must be labeled as such, and the law carries penalties for violators.

When you look at the problems that GM has, it is unimaginable that the technology is still growing and has more applications affecting our food supply. If the greater public were more informed and educated on the technology and its applications, there might be public outcry as to what we are eating in our diets every day, just as there was in Europe. There are claims that the biotechnology industry plans to extend their reach to fish, crustaceans, livestock, poultry, and salmon. That is an alarming thought. Until consumers stand up and voice their disapproval GM foods, we will continue to be the subjects of the GMO experiment. For more information visit:

www.thefutureoffood.com, www.healthiereating.org,
www.nongmoproject.org
<http://www.responsibletechnology.org/health-risks>

Is Your Lawn Chemical Free?

By Dean Hoegger

Just as the movement to eat chemical-free food has become mainstream, so too has the movement to have a chemical-free lawn. Just as it makes sense to choose safer, more natural food, we would also want to have a more natural and safe landscape for ourselves, our children, and our pets. Studies by the Environmental Protection Agency, The National Academy of Sciences, and other respected researchers say there can be serious health effects from long-term exposure to lawn chemicals. The National Cancer Institute reported that lawn care professionals are three to seven times more likely to acquire non-Hodgkins lymphoma than the national average and that lawn pesticide applicators are two to three times as likely to suffer prostate cancer. Even low-dose exposure to agricultural and lawn care pesticides may cause injury to developing embryos, according to a study conducted by researchers at Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation.

Faced with the health concerns from chemical lawn applications, we must look at the alternatives to chemical pesticides and synthetic fertilizers. Jim Tukey, founder of SafeLawns (<http://www.safelawns.org/blog/>), was the featured presenter at the Door County Sustainability Fair in April. He recommends obtaining a soil test prior to adding any fertilizer or soil amendments. He suggests that homeowners see weeds as messengers that grow when something is lacking from the soil. When nutrients are needed, Tukey suggests using compost tea for quick nourishment or finely-sieved dry compost to provide nutrients over time. Some companies are providing what they call organic nutrients. Valley Organics (www.ValleyOrganics.net) will come to your home, take soil tests, and then add organic fertilizers and soil amendments according to the test results. AgGrand sells a line of organic fertilizers and soil supplements available through their dealer, Troy Patterson, in De Pere (www.arrowheadmotorcare.com). While there is some disagreement among individuals promoting organic lawns, some consider Miloganite (<http://milorganite.com/>), made from Milwaukee sewage, to be suitable for lawns.

There are also natural herbicide treatments. Corn gluten, a natural product, is recommended by the University of Minnesota Extension Service for pre-emergent crabgrass treatment. It is applied with a lawn spreader just like those used for spreading chemical fertilizers. Tukey recommends blanketing the surface of the lawn soil in the spring with compost or even topsoil to keep crabgrass seeds from germinating. He recommends covering the lawn with a half-inch layer of bulk compost and then overseeding with grass seed directly into the compost. The grass seed will germinate and the compost will give the lawn a layer of nutrients, moisture retention and a biological boost.

Switching to organic products will enrich the soil that

supports the lawn, instead of chemically leaching the soil of all the nutrients that grass needs to flourish. Healthy soil leads to superior grass. Superior grass leads to fewer weeds. Using no chemicals also means we won't be poisoning the bees, butterflies and other pollinators we need for a sustainable ecosystem.

Some home owners have embraced the idea of planting alternatives to lawns. CWAC member Margaret Gerhard wrote about using native plantings in, "Local City Ordinance Supports Native Landscapes," found in the Spring 2013, CWAC newsletter. She noted that Lorrie Otto, founder of Wild Ones (<http://www.wildones.org/>) has been promoting changing monoculture to native plants since the 1960s. Along with other natural landscapers, Gerhard has formed a local chapter of Wild Ones.

The Door County Property Owners Association is also promoting alternatives to chemically treated lawns in Door County (<http://www.doorpropertyowners.org/safe-lawns-in-door-county>). They have formed a local chapter of SafeLawns and are actively working to provide safe places for children and pets to play.

Sometimes changing old habits is difficult. Consider making one change to your lawn management that would have the greatest environmental impact. What change would you undertake to make your lawn a safer place?

Thank you to Eileen Andera, Door County Environmental Council President, for contributions to this article.

Brown County's Community Gardens Transitioning towards Organic

By Karen Early and Cheryl Williams

Volunteer efforts and the support of community partners have allowed local gardens to not only flourish, but expand, grow and improve. Efforts are also underway to enrich the soil and implement organic growing standards within the community.

Members of the Brown County Community Garden Program have issued updated acceptable pesticide guidelines specifying organic pesticides, soaps and sprays as acceptable. Gardeners were surveyed during sign up on their garden practices to determine weed and pest control methods; 110 gardeners are currently registered. All gardeners reported using only natural methods and garden monitors will observe these practices to ensure they match the specified garden rules provided to each gardener. Space needs—along with their volunteer availability in support of the gardens—were also collected in the survey.

Funding will be sought to continue the process of soil amendments and developing the gardens. Gardeners have also been surveyed to determine their interest in larger plots, communal plots and different models of gardening to plan for future development. The existing model of the

Brown County Community Gardens Program has been to lease individual 400 to 2,500 sq. ft. gardens. We are piloting plots as small as 35 sq. ft. for beginning gardeners, and plan to implement communal gardeners to address the interest of the Latino community in gardening as determined through focus groups this year.

Without an organic source of compost or resources to plant rotational green manure crops to amend the soil, compromises have needed to be made to provide garden compost. Free city compost will be delivered to the gardens for gardeners to use (except in Oneida, where organic practices must be followed). There are scheduled Garden Mentor hours in each garden to answer gardening questions and a monitoring system to ensure gardens stay weed free and maintained. A task force to develop a source of local organic compost for soil amendments would greatly contribute to the community garden's best practice initiative.

Community gardens are becoming more and more popular across the country—as evidenced by the many TED Talks videos on urban gardening—and many inspiring examples of Urban and Vertical gardening in Milwaukee and other big cities. To coordinate local initiatives, Brown County UW-Extension will soon be forming a Community Garden Coalition, inviting all organizations involved in gardening with the interest of being stronger together in building a sustainable county wide community garden program based on best practices.

The Brown County UW-Extension Nutrition Education Program launched the Brown County Community Garden Program in 1995 with a garden on Chestnut Street. Karen Early and Cathy Huntowski started the program as a food security initiative to promote healthy nutrition, reduce food costs, build food security and strengthen neighborhoods through horticulture. At one point there were 17 acres of gardens ranging from market gardens, which provided supplementary income, to individuals with an interest in growing their own food and caregivers who wanted to experience the joy of sharing a gardening experience with their kids as they pull a carrot out of the ground. Since then, three grants have funded garden coordinator positions, and various garden sites have come and gone, often lost to development pressure.

If you are interested in joining the community garden initiative as a gardener, a volunteer or have a resource to contribute, please feel free to make an appointment or stop

by the Brown County UW- Extension and talk to Abby or Cheryl. Hours are M – F, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The program is currently coordinated by Abby Puckhaber, funded through Ameri-core Vista, and volunteer Cheryl Williams.



Restaurant Provides Compost for Organic Gardener

By Dean Hoegger



Finding a source of organic compost can sometimes be a problem, especially when gardeners are not able to grow their own crops for soil enrichment, also known as green manure. Working with a local restaurant, that problem has been solved for one local organic gardener, Lenny Larson, who works for Hinterland Brewery and Restaurant.

After working at Hinterland, Larson was seeing a lot of food waste going into the containers meant for municipal garbage pickup. He saw this as a source of compost material and soon brought the owners and staff on board with his plan. He set up five-gallon containers in key locations, such as the food prep area, near the grill and stoves, and at the dishwashing stations. Before long, the majority of the food waste was going into the collection containers destined for his garden rather than the landfill. This included meat, vegetable and compostable paper products. “Even the bartenders asked for a container,” Larson explained.

Each container has a lid placed on it when filled. This allows the containers to be stacked in the walk-in cooler and keeps odors from being emitted. He is able to pick up the containers once or twice a week, depending on cooler space.

Larson's plan could be implemented by organic gardeners like you at other area restaurants. There are some things to consider before making contact. You will want to know if you will be able to take all food waste, including meat products. Many large-scale composters take meat products but also have green material to add to the food waste to keep it hot. If you use compost bins which keep animals out, then meat products will be less of a concern. You will also need to have a plan for the frequency of pick-up for the containers. Similar strategies can also be applied at grocery stores where spoiled food often goes into a dumpster for delivery to a landfill.

Larson's efforts are not only good for his organic garden operations but also are good for the environment. Keeping organic waste out of our landfills may be the easiest action we can take to reduce the release of methane gas, a serious threat to global warming.

Will Allen Inspires Others through Growing Power Inc.

By Charlie Frisk

The vision of Growing Power, Inc., is to inspire communities to build sustainable food systems that are equitable and ecologically sound, creating a just world, one food-secure community at a time. Their goal is a simple one; to grow food, to grow minds, and to grow community.



Will Allen, son of a sharecropper, former professional basketball player, ex-corporate sales leader, and now a farmer, has become recognized as one of the pre-eminent thinkers of our time on agriculture and food policy. The founder and CEO of Growing Power, Inc., a farm and community food center in Milwaukee. He is widely considered the leading authority in the expanding field of urban agriculture. Following a career in professional basketball, and in the midst of a very successful career in corporate sales, Allen found himself at a stage in his life where he felt no passion for where he was headed. He had always enjoyed farming and was already filling most of his weekends and evenings with gardening. While traveling through inner city areas in Milwaukee, he noticed a total absence of healthy food offerings for the local populace. At about the same time he noticed an old rundown greenhouse for sale. He resigned from his job, mortgaged himself to the hilt to purchase the greenhouse, and thus began Growing Power, Inc.

Growing Power, Inc., has now been in operation for 20 years. There were many times in the early years when its survival appeared in doubt, but Allen and his staff always found a way around the many obstacles in their path. Today Growing Power, Inc., has 35 full-time employees, 1,000 volunteers, and uses sustainable agricultural practices to grow 159 kinds of fruits, vegetables, and edible flowers. They also raise honeybees, fish, poultry, sheep, and goats. The bounty is sold at farmers' markets, bundled into low-cost baskets for local families, and served at local restaurants.

The goals of Growing Power, Inc., have expanded far beyond providing healthy, affordable food for inner city residents of Milwaukee. They conduct on-site workshops to educate people from other communities on how to replicate their growing systems. They have established satellite-training sites in Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Massachusetts, and Mississippi. They educate people through local, national, and international outreach for farmers and communities. They also run multiple youth programs, have an active volunteer base, and actively work on policy initiatives regarding agriculture. The Growing Power facility in Milwaukee receives 10,000 visitors a year.

Last fall I visited their facility in Milwaukee. A trip there is an opportunity to witness a special kind of genius in action. Allen, in an extreme example of excessive modesty, says he hasn't done anything that hasn't been tried someplace else. What he does better than anyone else is to come up with ways to combine technologies and systems to maximize efficiency. For example, he uses plants to clean and oxygenate the water from his fish ponds. The fish waste provides all the fertilizer the plants need. The waste from the chickens is used to feed the red worms and provides beautiful compost to grow the plants. Every part of the Growing Power system works together with the other parts.

At Growing Power and in community food projects across the nation and around the world, Allen promotes the belief that all people, regardless of their economic circumstances, should have access to fresh, safe, affordable, and nutritious foods at all times. In 2008, he was named a John D. and Katherine T. McArthur Foundation Fellow and was awarded a prestigious foundation "genius grant" for his work. He is also a member of the Clinton Global Initiative, and in February, 2010, was invited to the White House to join First Lady Michelle Obama in launching, "Let's Move," her leadership program to reverse the epidemic of childhood obesity. In May, 2010, Time Magazine named Allen to their list of the World's 100 Most Influential People.

Sources: "The Good Food Revolution," by Will Allen with Charles Wilson. The Growing Power Inc. website www.growingpower.org

SIGN UP NOW!

Field Trip to Growing Power, Inc. and UW-Oshkosh's Anaerobic Digester

CWAC is sponsoring a field trip to Growing Power in Milwaukee with a stop at UW-Oshkosh for a tour of their Anaerobic Digester.

Friday, June 14

8:30 - 8:45 a.m.: Arrive at CWAC office at 2020 Riverside Dr., Allouez (Eve's Supper Club building).

9:00 a.m.: Leaving promptly, don't be late!

10:00 a.m.: Tour of UW-Oshkosh Anaerobic Digester.

Lunch: Location TBD or bring your own.

After lunch: To Growing Power, Inc., Milwaukee.

Return: Around 5 p.m. to the CWAC office.

Cost: \$10/person non-members (this covers only the cost of the tour). FREE for members.

Car pooling: Arranged and paid for by CWAC.

To Register: Contact Jane Blameuser (920-655-8130) or e-mail her at jane.blameuser@gmail.com by **Monday, June 10.**

Herbicide Carryover, Gardeners Beware!

By John Hermanson

There is a class of herbicides known as pyridine carboxylic acids that are persistent herbicides mimicking plant growth hormones and are registered for application in pastures, grain crops, commercial turf, certain vegetables and fruits, as well as roadsides. They are used to control broadleaf weeds, including toxic plants that can sicken or kill animals that eat them in hay.

Horses and livestock are unharmed by these herbicides that are passed on in urine and manure. Even when composted, they may persist while most other types of herbicides decompose. They are also passed on in hay, straw and grass clippings taken from treated areas. Picloram, clopyralid and aminopyralid have been found to actively persist for as long as several years. These herbicides eventually break down through exposure to sunlight, soil microbes, heat and moisture.

There have been numerous episodes over the past decade where municipal and commercial compost has been tainted. There have also been numerous cases where gardeners have unwittingly put mulch that contained persistent herbicides on their gardens. Some market-growing farmers have been devastated as a result. These products are labeled in various ways that say that they are not to be disposed of at garden or compost facilities, or they are to be reintroduced back onto the land of original application. Because they have been legally labeled they become the responsibility of the person using the product. The labeled use is the law. One can see how difficult it is to track in this long chain of events to make sure no damage is done. There is a long list of garden plants that are susceptible, including tomatoes, beans, grapes, and peas. In northeast Wisconsin, there is less use of these persistent herbicides because pastures for dairy cows contain alfalfa, which is not compatible with these herbicides. Where hay and straw are grown for horses, it is possible that treatment is used. For more information on this subject you may want to review "Herbicide Carryover in Hay, Manure, Compost, and Grass Clippings": by North Carolina State Cooperative Extension. http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/fletcher/programs/ncorganic/special-pubs/herbicide_carryover.pdf

There is another related product, Impreliss, by DuPont, which was touted as a low toxicity to humans and other mammals that effectively killed wild violets and ground ivy (creeping Charlie). It was used by licensed applicators on homeowners lawns and fairways but has inadvertently killed balsam fir, white pine and Norway pine. Since August, 2011, it has been delisted and pulled from sale.

Persistent herbicides will continue to be a challenge for gardeners and composters. The U.S. Composting Council believes that all herbicides need to meet a compostability standard.

Managed Grazing Provides a Better Choice for Consumers

By Dave Vetrano, DNR Fisheries Biologist (retired)

During my 32 years working for the DNR restoring trout streams in Southwest Wisconsin, I learned to appreciate the extent of the land use changes that have occurred in the Driftless Area since the time of settlement.

Agriculture came to the area with the flood of immigrants coming from northern Europe in the 1850's. Although they were good farmers, the technology they brought was unsuited to the climate of SW Wisconsin with its summer downpours. Unrestricted grazing left the hillsides devoid of vegetation and the soil compacted from the endless pounding of cattle hooves. Rainwater and snowmelt, which used to percolate into the ground, instead ran down the slopes (Aldo Leopold referred to this as "water off a tin roof"). The "loess" soils of the area, while fertile, have a consistency of melted ice cream when saturated. In a very short time "rills" became ditches and then gullies as millions of tons of soil washed from the slopes. By the 1930's, some 36,000-acre feet of sediment had settled into each of the major valleys to a depth of 12-15 feet. This soil, if hauled up to Lambeau Field, would create a dirt "monument" reaching more than 12 miles into the sky. About 85% of the sediment eroding into the streams each year still comes from this "legacy" soil.

However, managed grazing systems have proven that agriculture can thrive in the Driftless Area and actually improve the health of the area's abundant trout streams. When former row-cropped ground is converted to a perennial "grass" cover, groundwater infiltration improves, increasing base and spring flow while reducing water temperatures. Manure deposited on the pastures is quickly broken down and the abundant phosphorous is incorporated into terrestrial plant growth instead of creating lake and stream algal blooms.

Streams that 50 years ago were "put and take" waters (requiring an annual stocking of fish) are now completely self-sustaining with adequate natural reproduction to maintain the fishery. Trout fishing in the Driftless Area is a \$1.1 billion industry annually and growing.

The key to "managed" grazing is "cropping" the plants when their protein level is the highest, only taking the top several inches and allowing the pastures adequate time to rest between grazing. This allows the plants to recover quickly and actually helps rebuild the soil. Increasing organic matter in the soil improves its ability to retain water.

Besides the environmental benefits of managed grazing systems, there is a social benefit as well. Currently, it is difficult for a young person interested in farming to produce the capital needed to purchase a conventional farm

system. Grazing requires little in the way of equipment and there is no need to purchase seed, fertilizer, pesticides, and herbicides annually. Grazers are finding improving markets for their products as more people pay attention to where their food comes from.

With the average age of a Wisconsin dairy farmer being 57, managed grazing systems are the best way to fundamentally rebuild the rural landscape. Purchasing locally grown grass-based products is not only good for the environment, but are bringing small business and much needed jobs back into the rural landscape.

The Action in CWAC

By Dean Hoegger

Clean Water Action Council board members took a variety of actions on behalf of the membership and the community of northeast Wisconsin since the Spring 2013 newsletter. Membership dues, our annual meeting fundraiser, and donations are paying the expenses for this work, including printing, mailing, annual fees, posters, media campaigns, fees associated with legal actions, and limited travel to hearings, action events and conferences. This is why your participation is so important. Your 2013 paid membership will help us continue to take these actions and to keep you informed.

If your address label has a '13 after your name, we have received your 2013 membership dues. Your volunteer check-off will help CWAC connect you to volunteer opportunities. Our Green Bay office is a great place to work on issue research and communication projects. Also, please call or email us when issues arise that are of special concern for you. Listing your e-mail address in the Action Alerts box on the membership form will keep you informed of environmental issues, actions we have planned, and ways you can participate.

Read below about actions we have taken in the last three months. Be sure to contact us if environmental issues arise in your community. CWAC is here to support citizen action. The following are our most significant activities since March. At the end of each article, you will find in italics suggestions for ways you can participate.



CWAC Banquet Well Attended

The April 6 banquet at the Riverside Ballroom was a huge success with nearly 200 people in attendance. The response to the silent auction request for items and the generous bids helped CWAC make excellent progress with its fundraising goals. Hopefully, membership renewals and new memberships for 2013 will take us the rest of the way.



Dr. William Iwen (right), a CWAC member, was honored with our Environmental Citizen Award for his many years of selfless contributions to environmental issues in northeast Wisconsin. Bill is a founding member of our partner organization, Kewaunee C.A.R.E.S., and has been leading the cause to educate the public about the threat to human health and the environment posed by factory farms. His latest efforts include speaking and writing about the dangers of spraying liquid animal waste using center pivot irrigation systems (see "Manure Spay Irrigation: The Latest Threat from Industrial Farming May Limit Public Participation," CWAC Winter 2012-2013 Newsletter.) We applaud Dr. Iwen for his work!

Please save the date, April 13, 2014, for the next CWAC banquet.

Left: A sampling of the unique and wonderful items so graciously donated to our Silent Auction. Thank you to those who contributed and to those who found something to purchase.



CWAC Exhibited at Earth Day and Sustainability Events

CWAC exhibited at several events this spring. Intern Samantha Francar represented us at the **Manitowoc Earth Day** event on April 20 held at Silver Lake College. On April 22, Samantha and intern Carla Martin exhibited at the **UWGB Earth Day** event. Dean Hoegger manned the display at the **Door County Sustainability Fair** in Sturgeon Bay. Samantha, Dean, and board members Bev Watkins and John Hermanson represented us at the **Answers to Energy/Eco Expo** in Green Bay on May 11. John and board member Lynn Utesch discussed water issues at our booth at the **Water Reality Summit** in Wautoma on May 18. The 150 people in attendance heard speakers George Kraft, Lynn Henning, attorney Jamie Saul, John Ikerd and Lindsay Wood Davis talk about the work that lies ahead in protecting the waters of the state.

Please contact us if you would like to volunteer at our booth for future events. CWAC may exhibit at the Baylake Bank Tall Ships Festival and other events may be scheduled.

CWAC Represented at Area Conferences and Meetings

Board members Hermanson, Hoegger, Watkins, and Utesch attended the **Farms and Rivers Summit** in Amherst on April 13 to learn more about the impact of farming on the waters of our state. According to Gordon Stevenson, formerly with the DNR Bureau of Run-off Management, agriculture is the greatest contributor to ground and surface water pollution. Of concern to citizens and environmental groups trying to influence lawmakers to do more to protect state waters is the fact that farmers make up only 4-5% of the voting population yet are a powerful political force. State elected officials pay more attention to an evaluation of their voting by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau than the League of Conservation Voters.

Hoegger represented CWAC at **The Council on Recycling, Plastics Recycling Subcommittee Meeting**

in Wausau on April 17. He reported to the Board and to Incinerator Free Brown County that there were several members of the committee who favored using some “difficult to recycle plastic” as fuel for various types of waste-to-energy processes. Hoegger pointed out that these plastics are only hard to recycle because either the sorting technology was not yet developed or the market was not strong for these plastics. He reminded the committee that once these plastics are used as fuel, they would leave the material stream and therefore this process could not be considered recycling.

Hermanson and Hoegger attended the **Our Water World: The Nutrient Challenge** forum at UWGB on May 7 where agriculture was identified as contributing about one half of the total phosphorus load to the Fox River-Green Bay watershed. A strategy discussed to reduce the total load is the practice of Adaptive Management, also referred to as phosphorus trading, which is still in the pilot stage. In Adaptive Management, point source polluters, such as municipal and industrial waste water treatment plants, would be able to meet their own phosphorus discharge permits by developing and paying for projects that would reduce agriculture runoff. The leading argument promoting this practice is that to further reduce point source phosphorus discharges to meet upcoming stricter standards is less cost effective than Adaptive Management strategies.

Hoegger along with summer interns Jim Wagner and Kevin Bartel attended the grant writing workshop at UWGB on May 22. It is likely that CWAC will be applying for grants as a result of the workshop.

See the events section in the newsletter and watch for events in our weekly update. Sometimes CWAC has scholarships available for event registration and carpooling space for members.

N.E.W. Zero Waste Coalition Continues to Grow

CWAC continues to provide leadership on the N.E.W. Zero Waste Coalition Steering Committee. We are pleased to report that the coalition continues to grow in members and has active representation from several Green Bay City Council members and officials from the Brown County Solid Waste department. Participation by representatives of other local governments is still being sought as Brown County participates in the Tri-County Landfill with Outagamie and Winnebago Counties.

Zero waste presentations are available for area groups. Oneida Environmental Specialist Amy Spears presents “An Introduction to Zero Waste” and Dean Hoegger presents “Communities on the Road to Zero Waste.” The presentations have been given together and last 1½-2 hours but can be adapted to one hour, or even given separately at concurrent meetings.

The greatest progress thus far has been made by the Compost Committee, which has reached out to area grocery stores, restaurants, and local produce growers to create local composting networks. To learn more about composting efforts, contact Fred Depies at freddepies@gmail.com. *To learn more about the coalition or to join, contact Linda Patzke at 920-822-7047.*

The coalition would like to host zero waste expert, Dr. Paul Connett (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=38PfTRQIjzQ>), in September and is trying to raise the \$600 needed for his airfare. CWAC will be contributing to this expense.

Contact us if you can contribute to the Dr. Connett's airfare fund, or would like to schedule a presentation.

CWAC Actions to Monitor Pollution Permits

CWAC hosted a workshop on how to monitor pollution permit compliance given by Attorney Jamie Saul on March 28. Board members Hoegger and Utesch attended along with intern Carla Martin, CWAC members, several members of the Oneida Tribe, and the general public. Saul walked participants through the process of how to obtain compliance data regarding air and water permits from the WDNR or directly from the companies being monitored. Contact us if you would like a CD with information from the workshop.

CWAC signed on to comments prepared by lawyers at the Midwest Environmental Advocates (MEA) regarding the Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for SCA Tissue. The company, making recycled paper products, discharges approximately six million gallons a day of effluent into Little Lake Butte des Morts of the Lower Fox River. The facility is covered under the Lower Fox River TMDL for Total Phosphorus and Total Suspended Solids and has been granted extended compliance schedules (7 years) to meet the final limits for both pollutants. MEA believes there are a number of procedural errors made by the DNR causing the permit to fall short of state and federal law. Submitting comments is the first step in seeking revisions to a permit considered inadequate for protecting our waters.

Late last year, CWAC filed a petition for judicial review of a permit issued to Appleton Coated LLC that authorizes the paper producer to discharge pollutants into the Lower Fox River. MEA filed the lawsuit on CWAC's behalf against the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources alleging the permit allows the facility to discharge more phosphorus and total suspended solids than allowed by law and that the DNR failed to take certain legally required steps before granting the facility 7-year compliance schedules to meet its phosphorus and total suspended solids limits.

As anticipated, Appleton Coated intervened in the case and has asked the Court to dismiss the case based on

procedural arguments. MEA, on behalf of CWAC, and the attorneys for Appleton Coated recently submitted briefs on the motion to dismiss. Once the Judge has read all of the briefs, he may decide to hold a hearing, where each party can present their arguments orally and the Judge can ask questions. If the Judge decides in CWAC's favor, CWAC will have an opportunity to submit its substantive arguments about the permit to the Judge. But if the Judge decides in Appleton Coated's favor, CWAC will not be allowed to present its arguments.

MEA does not believe that Appleton Coated's arguments have merit, but there is always a chance that the Judge will. The procedural arguments raised by Appleton Coated are the same as those raised by the permittee in another permit challenge recently brought by MEA on behalf of the Midwest Environmental Defense Center (MEDC). The Judge in that case found in MEDC's favor; however that is not a guarantee that the Judge in this case will rule the same way.

A previous action involving the **Green Bay Georgia Pacific mill's emission of air pollutants, including particulate matter and sulfur oxides** has not yet been resolved. Several CWAC members made declarations regarding how these emissions are impairing their quality of life, so we will continue to follow this case closely, which is being handled by McGillivray Westerberg & Bender LLC.

CWAC invited the Oneida Tribe to help monitor dioxin pollution in the Fox Valley. Anti-gasification advocate and Oneida Tribal member Leah Dodge succeeded in convincing tribal members to vote against a gasification project on tribal property at the May 5 Tribal Council meeting. One of her arguments to the tribe was that the tribe had passed a resolution asking the federal government to end the production and release of dioxin because it is known to be a serious carcinogen. (RESOLUTION # 11-08-00-B Dioxin and Persistent Organic Pollutants). Dodge invited CWAC to suggest ways we could work with the tribe to protect the environment and brought our suggestions to the Oneida Business Committee. Working to limit dioxin emissions seems to be a logical goal for collaboration. CWAC also sent a letter directly to the Business Committee expressing that interest.

Please contact us if you would like to receive training and work with us to monitor air and water pollution permits.

"You show me pollution, and I will show you people who are not paying their own way, people who are stealing from the public, people who are getting the public to pay their costs of production. All environmental pollution is a subsidy."

Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

Kewaunee C.A.R.E.S. Committee Continues Work to Protect Health and Environment from Factory Farms

The Kewaunee C.A.R.E.S. Committee of CWAC has conducted many actions on behalf of residents locally and statewide. Surface water testing of locations previously reported continued on a monthly basis with samples sent to a certified lab.

Several members, including Lynn Utesch and Bill Iwen, attended the Manure Irrigation Workgroup in Stevens Point on May 9. The group was created to set rules for spraying liquid manure using center pivot irrigation equipment. However, the rule-making group only included the DNR, factory farm owners, and other agriculture interests. No other stakeholders were invited. Missing were representatives from environmental groups, organic farmers and health professionals. After challenging the lack of citizen input, Utesch was successful in becoming a committee member, and since then, the committee has also accepted citizen input. Iwen continues to write extensively on the topic, sending letters to numerous groups and individuals.

Utesch, Iwen, Hoegger and others from CWAC and Kewaunee C.A.R.E.S. attended the Workgroup meeting in Menasha on May 17.



Kewaunee C.A.R.E.S. also posted the billboard above to bring awareness of center pivot spraying. The committee has also published a four-page newspaper insert regarding the health and environmental threats from factory farms. The insert can be seen at <http://kewaunee-cares.wordpress.com/>



They also posted a second billboard in April to promote family farms as shown below:

Please contact us if you would like to assist with water testing in Kewaunee County or would like to start water testing elsewhere. Be sure to provide us with your email address so you will receive our weekly alerts for meetings related to water protection.

Stop Open Burning and Use of Burn Barrels

We previously reported on the hazards of open burning and the use of burn barrels (Spring 2013). Be sure to report illegal burning to the county sheriff's office and to the WDNR at 1-800-TIP-WDNR. Document the details of the violation and your complaint contacts should further action be needed. Contact us if continued violations occur. We still have WDNR information sheets and a letter from CWAC urging violators to stop burning.

Send us the name and address of the violator and we will send them the information and you will remain anonymous.

Trout Unlimited Invited to Help Stop Pollution of Local Streams and Rivers

Representatives from CWAC and its working committee, Kewaunee C.A.R.E.S., met with representatives from the Green Bay Chapter of Trout Unlimited to discuss ways to work together to educate Trout Unlimited members and the general public about the plight of trout streams in Kewaunee and Door County. The effects of agriculture runoff have reduced the number of viable trout streams in these counties significantly. Leaders of the organizations agreed to sponsor an educational forum to learn more about the threat to streams and rivers and how the organizations and the public can work together reduce those threats. The workshop will be held on Thursday, June 20, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the University of Wisconsin Green Bay, Phoenix Room.

Trout Unlimited agreed to publish a brief educational article in their May newsletter provided by member James Olson. The article follows, which is also intended to remind our readers about the serious threat to surface and ground water in those counties.

Join us at the forum and/or volunteer to help with water testing.

A Case for Clean Water

By Jim Olson, Kewaunee C.A.R.E.S.

As long as there is clean water coming from the tap the problem of water pollution isn't much to worry about in our daily lives. Only when a resource, especially water, becomes scarce or polluted do we start to question why and search for answers.

In Northeast Wisconsin, water is plentiful and readily available. However, the surface waters and groundwater we all drink from are under increasing risk of contamination from several sources. Perhaps the greatest threat is from animal factories or CAFOs (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations).

With the goal to produce milk more efficiently and profitably, the trend toward large-scale, confinement animal production facilities has been replacing smaller, family farms in Wisconsin since the 1970s with accumulating social and environmental impacts.

Waste from a city goes through a multi-stage sewage treatment facility before any reclaimed water is returned to the environment. That's not the case for waste from CAFOs. The large volume of waste from CAFOs isn't only manure. Also included are urine, antibiotics, hormones, cleaning chemicals, wastewater and sometimes municipal and industrial wastes.

All these waste products are stored in multi-million gallon lagoons. It eventually gets transported via truck or pipeline and applied raw to fields that the operator owns or rents, sometimes miles from the production facility.

The ground can hold a limited amount of the liquid manure and plants can uptake only some of the nutrients available to them. Any excess, however, finds its way into streams, rivers and lakes from runoff after heavy rains and it can seep into the groundwater, especially in areas where the soil is shallow over fractured limestone bedrock. The result can be contamination of the water with fecal coliform and *E. coli* bacteria, nitrates, phosphorus, and farm chemicals. All are dangerous to human health depending on concentration levels.

Because of the lack of monitoring and enforcement of laws designed to protect state waters, Kewaunee Cares—a working committee of the Clean Water Action Council—conducts its own water testing. Early results reported by a state-certified laboratory confirm high levels of *E. coli* and nitrates in some area streams. Also, the Kewaunee County Land and Water Conservation Department has tested private wells throughout the county over the last ten years and has shown an average of 30% of wells are contaminated and unsuitable for drinking. Most recently, in Lincoln Township the number of contaminated wells exceeded 60 percent.

Kewaunee County was once a prime trout fishing destination. Contamination, contributed largely to agricultural runoff, has degraded aquatic habitats, and many streams no longer support a healthy trout population.

The general health of our communities relies on a safe and plentiful water supply. The key to a thriving sport fishing area is clean water with good flow and plenty of food. To help restore trout fishing in the area, we'll need the cooperation of farmers and environmentalists, but especially a commitment by lawmakers to protect our water resources now and into the future. Contact your legislators to help them understand the scope of the problem and express your desire to see more trout streams on the map.

CWAC Supports Efforts to Prevent Spray Irrigation of Animal Waste

CWAC has taken the position to oppose permitting the spray irrigation of animal waste. We have stated our position to the state workgroup, and we have sent numerous e-mail alerts to our members about this issue. The following letter, written by CWAC member and farmer Nancy Utesch, states our position very well. The letter appeared in the May 23 issue of the Peninsula Pulse.

Serious Threats Posed by Manure Spray

The Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCAP) are currently holding workgroups to discuss the practice of spray irrigation of manure.

If this practice is implemented in this state, there will be serious threats posed to the air quality in Wisconsin, including Door and Kewaunee Counties. Manure contains over 150 known pathogens, viruses and bacteria, that when aerosolized into particulate droplets, are easily ingested and inhaled, posing serious threats detrimental to human health.

Becky Larson, of UW-Madison, stated at the workgroup meeting May 9, that "Transmission of pathogens through airborne routes is unknown and controversial."

Mark Borchardt, of USDA Agricultural Research Services, also spoke on the panel, stating that the three forms of transmission of potentially harmful pathogens by spray irrigation of manure is through fomites (solid surfaces), water and food. The three groups of highly vulnerable people exposed to the practice are the elderly, children, and people who are not well/or immune-suppressed individuals.

Panelists echoed the same concerns, that more research must be done, and that there is much that we simply "don't know" about this practice, and the potential threats to human health that exist due to drift/transmission of pathogens in the air.

Panelists Becky Larson, Mark Borchardt, and Andrew Craig (DNR), all agreed that there are more measurable heightened odors/air emissions from spray irrigation of manure. After manure goes through digesters, ammonia increases, and the bulk of pathogens reside in the liquid portion after separation.

The fact that the greatest risks of this practice target human health and our food and water should be reason enough for most people and DATCAP to recognize that "spoon-feeding crops" does not take precedence over human beings, or human health.

This industrial agriculture model would be using spray irrigation of manure as a continuous disposal system that would expose us to not only the millions of gallons of manure land spread every spring and fall, but to a continuous stream of manure with its stench for months on end, dispersed into the air that we breathe.

The cutting-edge technology this industrial model touts is lagging significantly behind in its manure disposal that is from the Dark Ages. Massive untreated pits and lagoons, land spread and sprayed into our air are not justifiable in this day and age—with our knowledge of pathogens, disease, super-bugs, and anti-biotic resistant diseases. The external costs of these operations, which all rest on our communities and the environment, has just been ratcheted up a notch by entering the human health arena full force. Sorry, but enough is enough. The health of my family, my children, is non-negotiable. Our water, again, non-negotiable. Our air, non-negotiable. Our land, non-negotiable. This is not an all or nothing state. Residents

who choose to build their lives on a plot of land called home deserve the security of their greatest asset, the value of their home, a place that should be safe and secure to drink the water and breathe the air where they reside. This basic concept should not be infringed upon by the industry that has dubbed itself "King" of this state...

Nancy Utesch

Water Reality Event Held in Wautoma

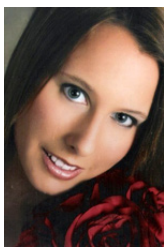
By Lynn Utesch

Water Reality 2013 was held on May 18 in Wautoma, by the Friends of the Central Sands. The event was well attended with 150 in attendance. The morning began with the earlier participants going on a nature hike and a presentation of the writings of Justin Isherwood. A play about Aldo Leopold started the event, which began at 10:30. The first speaker, Paul Johnson, gave a memorable presentation on his farming accident last year, involving his tractor, which broke not only his hip, but his neck as well. As he lay in his alfalfa field, telling his neighbor what he thought were his last words, he noticed how beautiful the fields, land, and trees were on his property. While clearly moving, Paul's message was clear. We must, in Paul's words, "cultivate a love and appreciation for the land again".

The event was videotaped and included speakers George Kraft, Lynn Henning, attorney Jamie Saul, John Ikerd and Lindsay Wood Davis. Each of the speakers touched upon the work that lies ahead of us in protecting water and how we need to proceed in our efforts. Water Reality is an event that the Friends of Central Sands hopes will be held yearly. If you missed it this year, we hope to see you next! Follow their work to ensure natural resource stewardship throughout the Central Sands on their website: www.friendsofcs.org

CWAC Continues to Sponsor Student Interns

By Carla Martin



Samantha Francar

This spring the Clean Water Action Council office had two interns working to support efforts of the organization. Carla Martin and Samantha Francar, both UWGB students, have completed their internships and are moving on to other opportunities. Carla will be working for the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation. She also became a member of

our organization and the CWAC Board elected her to serve as a new board member. Samantha will be completing an internship with the City of Green Bay Planning Department

and is working to complete her degree. Between the two interns and volunteers this spring, there was a lot of work completed. The interns had the opportunity to help with this year's annual banquet, research and revise the website articles, as well as help with the membership drive. Interns attended local environmental meetings and had the opportunity to be involved in current issues. Having interns in the office proved to be very productive.

Starting this summer the office welcomes two new



Kevin Bartel and Jim Wagner

interns. Jim Wagner is in the Sustainable Management master's program at UWGB. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience with him and we look forward to working with and learning from him.

Kevin Bartel is a UWGB undergraduate pursuing a degree in Geoscience. He has a great deal of experience in various field work techniques and we look forward to working with him as well.

Please know the office hours for each week are included in the "CWAC Update and Alerts" email, which offers opportunities to volunteer in the office and work with our staff. We look forward to accomplishing many significant actions in the near future and would like to continue to offer internships to local students who can then go on to make a difference in our communities. If you would like to sponsor an intern, you can make a donation specifically for that purpose.

Meet Carla Martin, CWAC's Newest Board Member



Carla is a new member to the CWAC board as of spring 2013. She has a passion and love of the outdoors and understands the environmental issues of northeast Wisconsin. A recent graduate of UWGB with a bachelor of science in environmental policy and planning and an environmental sustainability and business certificate, she has also worked for CWAC

as an intern. She would like to utilize her life experiences and knowledge to continue to make northeast Wisconsin a healthier and better place to live, work and play.

CWAC Hires Executive Director



Thanks to funds from the Roger Simurdiak Trust, CWAC was able to hire Dean Hoegger as half-time director for the organization. Hoegger was originally hired in December as interim director and prior to that had voluntarily assumed many of the director's duties while serving as president. Hoegger will also continue

to serve as president, completing those duties without compensation.

Hoegger brings to the position many valuable experiences as a fifth grade teacher, environmental educator, and in school leadership roles. After teaching for 30 years he retired from the Sturgeon Bay School District in 2010 to follow his dream to work for an environmental organization. To better serve CWAC, he completed a paralegal degree in 2010.

Hoegger was recognized as the Door County Environmental Council Environmental Citizen of the Year and Door County's Walmart Teacher of the Year for his efforts to give students environmental problem solving education and experiences. He was recently honored for his work to organize citizens and groups to stop a gasification incinerator in Green Bay by the Helfenstein Soup Council with their Environmental Hero Award.

One of Hoegger's goals is to increase community participation in CWAC and he is already seeing success in this area. An office was opened last summer, allowing CWAC to host its third and fourth UWGB interns and to provide work space for volunteers. Membership is also up nearly 100 members since last summer and two additional members are now serving on the board. "We want the community to think of the Clean Water Action Council as their environmental advocacy group," Hoegger emphasized.



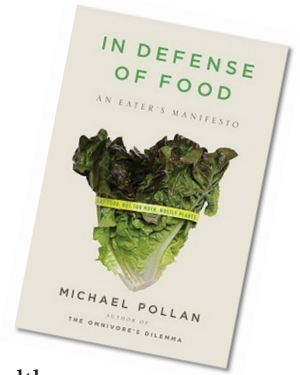
Helfenstein Soup Council members Jim Olmsted and Margaret Gerhard present Dean Hoegger with their Environmental Hero Award, a handmade rug in the color blue to symbolize water.

BOOK REVIEW: "In Defense of Food"

by Michael Pollan

By Nancy Utesch

In Michael Pollan's book, "In Defense of Food," the author lays down some basic ideas about our food, and guidelines for maneuvering through "nutrition science on one side and...the food industry on the other." In the forward Pollan writes that his aim is to "help us reclaim our health and happiness as eaters." The basic premise of this book is simple; "Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants." Throughout the book the author explains his position on what food actually is, portion sizes and how to personally address our questions and concerns listed in what he calls "an eater's manifesto."



Many of our current health problems and America's obesity epidemic stem from our Western diet and the industrialization of food: all the colorful, pre-packaged processed foods we now consume; raising both animals and plants in "huge monocultures;" foods loaded with empty calories; and our overall diet, which consists of a handful of staple crops—wheat, corn and soy. What we lack, according to Pollan, are vegetables, fruits and whole grains.

Pollan addresses some food rules in his book, a "couple dozen rules of eating," which he states are not only conducive to better health, but also for our eating pleasure. Many of these rules are straightforward and common sense. Avoid products with long lists of ingredients—many that you don't recognize and couldn't begin to pronounce. Avoid the middle aisles of the grocery store that are mostly processed food items. In fact, get out of the grocery store as much as you can, support farmer's markets and your local CSA (community supported agriculture), and actually get to know the people who are growing the food that is sitting on your table..."shake the hand that feeds you."

This book sets forth several great points worthy of reflection and implementing into your shopping habits and general mindset when purchasing food. Perhaps one of the most important points the author touches on is to "eat well-grown food from healthy soils." Nutrition begins in the soil and our personal health "Cannot be divorced from the health of the entire food web." Ideally, you want to look for food that is both local and organic.

This is an excellent, easily-read book, which can help with the ever-growing choices we now must make when setting the table. Choosing live foods that are nutrient dense, is not as complicated as one may think. Probably the hardest part is actually taking the initiative to take control of one's health through food choices that are available to all of us. This manifesto is a perfect starting point for everyone. Remember, health is wealth!



Organic Cotton!



**Like us on Facebook
for a chance to win
1 of 4 CWAC t-shirts!**

Winners will be notified on July 15, 2013.

CWAC received a donation in memory of
Tony Schlise
who enjoyed boating in the waters
of Door County.

**Legacies, memorials, and direct gifts to
CWAC are deeply appreciated.
Please contact our treasurer,
John Hermanson at
tug3@centurytel.net for more information.**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! **Meetings, Events and Happenings**

Monday, June 10 ~ 9:00 a.m.

Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems at
Horicon Educational Center Auditorium, N7725 Hwy 28.

Informational hearing and intent to reissue nine Wisconsin
Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits for facilities
participating in the Rock River Basin Total Maximum Daily Load.

Wednesday, June 12 ~ 7:00 p.m.

"Gasland" Can you light your water on fire? at Crossroads at
Big Creek, Sturgeon Bay.

A documentary film presented by DCEC (Door County
Environmental Council), which speaks to the "Real Truth
About Fracking for Natural Gas and Oil." See the complete
announcement from DCEC on their Facebook page.

Thursday, June 20 ~ 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Water Forum at the University of Wisconsin Green Bay,
Phoenix Room

CWAC, Kewaunee C.A.R.E.S, and Trout Unlimited will be
hosting a forum on the affects of CAFO's and other agricultural
operations on surface and groundwater in both Kewaunee and
Brown County. Numerous guest speakers will be presenting.
To sign up, e-mail us at contact@cleanwateractioncouncil.com

June 21-23 ~ 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

The 24th Annual Energy Fair - Custer, WI

Each year the MREA Energy Fair transforms rural Central
Wisconsin into the global hot spot for renewable energy
education. The Energy Fair brings over 20,000 people from
nearly every state in the U.S. and several countries around
the world to learn, connect with others and ready them for

action at home. The Energy Fair is the nation's longest running
energy education event of its kind.

Adult 1-Day Pass: \$15

Adult Weekend Pass: \$35

Monday, August 26 ~ 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

GMO's - The Good, The Bad & The Ugly at Green Bay
Botanical Gardens

Instructor: Val Dantoin – NWTC Sustainable Ag Instructor.
Val will explain exactly what genetically modified food (GMO)
is. We'll review science that both showcases benefits and casts
doubts on their long-term sustainability. Explore whether these
genetically modified organisms really are bad for your health.
Learn how to avoid GMO products or to find alternatives.
Minimum of 12 needed to run this class.

Pre-registration required – Limit 45

Member Price: \$7.00, Non-Member Price: \$14.00

Tuesday, Sept. 24 ~ 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.,

University of Wisconsin - Green Bay

Wednesday, Sept. 25 ~ 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.,

Crossroads at Big Creek, Sturgeon Bay

Thursday, Sept. 26 ~ TBD, Fox River Valley

The Benefits of Zero Waste, Dr. Paul Connet holds a Ph. D.
in chemistry from Dartmouth College. Over the past 23 years
he has researched waste management, and has given nearly 2000
presentations. His latest article, "Zero Waste and Sustainability"
was published in 2008. This will be his second visit to northeast
WI. For more information on Dr. Connet visit:

<http://myzerowaste.com/2010/02/dr-paul-connetts-zero-waste-and-sustainability/>

Join or Renew Your Membership to Clean Water Action Council!

Date _____

- () \$20 Individual () \$30 Family (**this amount would really help**)
() \$50 Sustaining () \$100 Donor () \$500 Benefactor
() Non-member donation of \$ _____ for _____
() Other \$ _____

Provide your e-mail address below for an eco-friendly version sent privacy protected, but please include your street address also:

E-Mail _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Please send me, privacy protected, occasional action alert e-mails to this e-mail address:

E-Mail _____

PLEASE VOLUNTEER! (BE SURE TO NOTE 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

All contributions are tax-deductible.

COMMITTEES

Non-Point Pollution: Charles Frisk

Special Events: Bev Watkins

Public Health: Dean Hoegger

Membership, Finance and Fundraising: John Hermanson

Renard Island: Tom Neuser

Kewaunee Cares: Lynn Utesch

Phone numbers are listed under Board Members



Find us on Facebook for updates on hearings such as the Oneida Trash to Energy Project and current or upcoming events.

www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org

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of Northeast Wisconsin

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VISIT OUR UPDATED WEBSITE, TO BE COMPLETED JULY 1
www.cleanwateractioncouncil.org