

# Northwoods Journal – July 2011

*A Free Publication About Enjoying and Protecting Marinette County's Outdoor Life*

## **In This Issue:**

Local Groups Help Protect Our County Lakes	1
Governor Thompson State Park	2
Phragmites Control Update	2
Agriculture Matters in Marinette County	3
Local Farmers & Flea Markets	3
Meet our Summer Intern	4
Pine Plantation Management	4
Goodman-Armstrong Creek School Forest Program & Bio-Blitz	5
2011 Poster Contest Winner	5
Hemlock Curve Nature Trail	5
Clean Boats, Clean Waters	6
Landfill & Area Recycling Info	6
Summer Activities for Kids	7
Area Events Calendar	8
Harmony Arboretum Calendar	8
Children's Learning Garden	8

## **Local Groups on the Front Line for Lake Protection**

*By Chuck Druckrey, Water Resource Specialist*



Here in Marinette County people take their lakes seriously. Many own property on lakes and come to cottages that have been in the family for generations. Some visit campgrounds and resorts that cater to the vacation crowd. Others come to their camps and cottages to be near the many lakes and streams with public access. For most, if not all, good water quality and excellent fisheries is of the utmost importance.

It is this concern for our lakes that has led many people to band together in an effort to protect and improve the waters of Marinette County. While it may be the job of the Wisconsin DNR to protect our water resource, and Marinette County has a strong lake management program, it is the work of local dedicated groups that really get things done.



There are several types of organizations dedicated to the preservation and improvement of lakes in Marinette County. The simplest form is a **Lake Association**, a voluntary group of concerned individuals dedicated to the preservation of a particular lake or group of lakes. They range from informal neighborhood associations to chartered nonprofit corporations with bylaws and elected officials. Incorporated lake associations that meet basic minimum standards for membership and governance are eligible for many state grants to protect and improve lakes. Currently in Marinette County, there are 11 qualified lake associations registered with the state and many others that are not recognized.

**Lake Districts** are specialized units of government designed to manage a lake or group of lakes. Unlike associations, membership in a lake district is not voluntary, and the district has the power to levy a tax on its members to fund lake management activities. Chapter 33 of Wisconsin State Statutes regulates the formation and governance of lake districts. All lake districts have a board of commissioners composed of elected volunteers and local government

officials. In Marinette County, Lake Noquebay, Beecher & Upper Lakes, and McCaslin Lake have formed lake districts. Lake districts are typically formed when lake groups undertake management efforts such as plant harvesting or lake aeration that require reliable long-term funding. Lake districts are eligible for a variety of state lake management and protection grants.



*Lake Noquebay aquatic plant harvester*

Locally there are also several **sportsmen's clubs** that focus on fish stocking and habitat enhancement on particular lakes. Like lake associations, sportsmen's clubs are voluntary organizations. Sportsmen's clubs typically rely on dues and fundraisers for funding their activities.

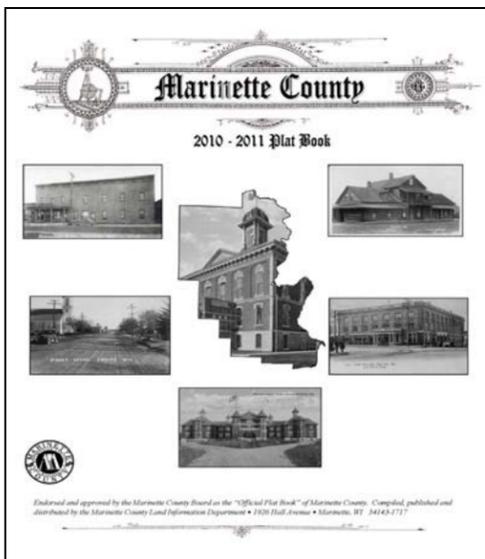
The Marinette County Land & Water Conservation Division (LWCD) has a long history of working in close cooperation with local lake organizations. For more than 20 years, the LWCD has been working with the Lake Noquebay Rehabilitation District to acquire new aquatic plant harvesters, update lake management plans, study water quality and aquatic plant communities, and reduce runoff pollution to the lake. Currently the department is also working with lake organizations on Beecher, Newton, and Thunder Lakes to manage invasive species. Over the years the department has conducted numerous lake studies, developed lake management plans, managed aquatic invasive species, and restored fish and wildlife habitat on lakes throughout Marinette County. All of these projects were done in cooperation with dedicated lake groups that cared enough to donate their time and provide local matching funds. *In fact, it's safe to say that none of these projects would have taken place without a local lake group to take ownership of the project.*



If you are concerned about your favorite lake, or just want to make sure it's protected for

*Continued next page*

## **Marinette County's New Plat Books Are Here!**



The 2010-2011 Marinette County Plat Books are in! Come to the Land Information Office on the first floor of the County Courthouse in Marinette to get yours today. Each book costs \$27. Order forms are also available online to print and mail in. There is an additional \$5 postage fee for mail orders. This plat book is unique - it contains historical information from the 1912 plat book as well as current information so readers can see how the county has changed in almost 100 years. Call the Land Information Office at 715-732-7780 for more information.

## Come Visit Governor Thompson State Park!

By Maggie Kailhofer, WDNR Parks & Recreation Specialist



Exciting changes are happening in this centennial state park in 2011. The 2800-acre park is located on the southern shore of Caldron Falls Flowage and between Parkway, Ranch and Caldron Falls Roads near Crivitz.

Improvements to the park include a new visitor's center and 3 boat access campsites on Caldron Falls. The park is also constructing a new 50-site campground which will be open later this summer. The new campground will have 15 electrical sites, 35 tent/trailer sites, a shower building and an RV dump station.



The new Visitor's Center

The Woods Lake Picnic Area has a new shelter building open for picnics or in winter as a warming shelter for cross-country skiers or ice fishermen on Woods Lake. The shelter is also available by reservation for social gatherings and meetings. The renovation to South Bay Landing (#13) on Caldron Falls is complete and it now has restrooms, picnic tables, a boarding dock and a fishing pier. All facilities at South Bay are now handicap accessible.

The park has 16 miles of hiking trails to get you off the beaten path to see the picturesque granite rock outcroppings and native flora and fauna. In winter, the park has 5 miles of groomed ski trails for both classic and skater skiers, and 3 miles of packed snowshoe trails. Shore-fishing, ice-fishing and non-motorized boating is permitted on the two inland lakes.

Governor Thompson Park is open 6am-8pm daily, admission fees are required and may be purchased at the park office. For more detailed directions and maps, visit <http://dnr.wi.gov>. For more information, please call the park office at 715-757-3979. Come explore & enjoy your local state park in every season!



### Local Groups, continued from page 1

future generations, join your local lake organization. If there is none, talk to your neighbors and help organize one. You might be surprised how many people are out there waiting for "someone else" to get the ball rolling. You will find that with a dedicated group of concerned citizens you can make a difference.

The Marinette County LWCD is always ready to provide assistance in organizing lake associations or districts. The LWCD can provide mailing lists, help with organizational matters, and come to some meetings to discuss the benefits of forming a lake organization. For more information, please call the LWCD office at 715-732-7780 or visit [www.marinettecounty.com](http://www.marinettecounty.com).



### New Lake Association for Lake Noquebay

Concerned citizens around Lake Noquebay recently organized the *Lake Noquebay Lake Association*, dedicated to the preservation and protection of the water quality, fishery and lake habitat of Lake Noquebay for future generations. The association held their first annual meeting and picnic on June 4, 2011. The group is already looking at projects to beautify the lake and surrounding area, and protect Lake Noquebay and surrounding waters from the continuing threat of aquatic invasive species. To find out more information, or join the association, go to [lakenoquebaylakeassociation.org](http://lakenoquebaylakeassociation.org).

## Phragmites Control Project Update

By Greg Cleereman, County Conservationist

Phragmites australis (Common Reed) is large aquatic grass growing along the shore of Green Bay and in inland wetlands across the southern third of Marinette County. These invasive plants have been blocking view of the water and impeding recreation for more than a decade. Phragmites spreads very aggressively and out-competes native plants that fish and other wildlife depend on for food and cover.



The Marinette County Land Information Department – Land & Water Conservation Division (LWCD) continues to be an active partner in the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) project to control phragmites along the shore of Green Bay. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) obtained a GLRI grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency to fund treatment of phragmites.



On April 15th, the LWCD sent mailings to property owners along the Green Bay shoreline seeking access for control efforts and phragmites monitoring. Although it grows primarily on exposed lake bed and is in the Public Trust, waterfront property owners have exclusive use rights to the area. This means no one can trespass on those lands, including aerial herbicide sprayers, without permission.

The original mailing included information on phragmites and the GLRI control project and a post card for landowners to sign and return to the LWCD. All landowners had to do was check "yes" or "no" to provide permission to spray, sign the card, and drop it in the mail. A follow up mailing was sent to people that had not responded to the first.

A total of 318 Landowner permission cards and information packets were sent out. So far 307, or 97%, were returned. This phenomenal return rate is a credit to the property owners along the bay. Of the responses received, 304 were YES, giving permission for the spray. Only 3 landowners said NO. In total, about 300 acres of phragmites on private lands will be sprayed. In addition, the WDNR will be spraying the Seagull Bar Natural Area and the Peshtigo Harbor Wildlife Area.

On May 24<sup>th</sup>, several WDNR staff and staff from the LWCD discussed the herbicide spray and took questions from 50 attendees at a public meeting at the Little River Country Club. For the rest of the summer, the bulk of the work will be done by the WDNR as they finalize arrangements and secure contractors to conduct the aerial, ground, and follow-up herbicide treatments. The treatments are planned to start in September.

Watch for further phragmites updates in the *Northwoods Journal* and at [www.marinettecounty.com](http://www.marinettecounty.com). Just click on *PHRAGMITES* near the bottom of the "Quick Links" on the right side of the home page. For questions or more information about this project, or aquatic invasive species in general, please contact Robert Ruleau, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, at 715-732-7642 or email [rruleau@marinettecounty.com](mailto:rruleau@marinettecounty.com).





## Local Farmers'/Flea Markets



### Marinette Main Street Farmers Market.

Tuesdays & Fridays throughout the growing season, starting at 7am. At Merchants Park at the corner of Main & Wells Streets in downtown Marinette. For more information call 715-732-5120.

**Crivitz Farmers Market** - Outdoors at the Evergreen Market, 412 S. Hwy 141 in Crivitz from 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. on Saturdays, June—October. Offering locally grown fruits and vegetables, honey, maple syrup, handmade soaps and personal care items, fresh-baked breads and baked goods, etc.

**Crivitz Flea Market.** Through September 1, Village Hall at 800 Henriette Avenue (County A). Every Thursday and July 4 across from the Village Hall at 800 Henriette Avenue (County A) in Crivitz. Vendors can show up on Thursday morning and set up in any unreserved spot. For more information contact Jean Behrendt at the Crivitz Village Hall at 715-854-2030.

**Wausaukee Area Farmers Market & More** Through September 30, every Friday 9am-2pm across from Payant Park. Crafts and farm products for sale, vendors wishing to set up booths call 715-856-5341.

**Oconto** - The Farmers' Market is located on historical downtown Main Street in Oconto. Saturdays 8-noon, mid-June through October.

**Menominee Community Flea Market** Will be held at the M & M Plaza the second Saturday of every month, May through September, and also on Saturday, October 1st. Sales will run from 7am-2pm, all spaces are free, first come, vendors set up in area by T – straight across from ACE. Questions call Holly at 906-863-4808 or [hbayerl@hotmail.com](mailto:hbayerl@hotmail.com).

**Menominee Farmers Market.** Timeless Treasures Antique Mall, 902 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Menominee, MI. June through beginning of October. Saturday market from 9am-1pm, and Thursday market from 3-7pm. Call 906-863-8718 for more info or visit online at <http://www.culinate.com/market/MenomineeHistorvFM>.

### Oops! We have a correction to the previous June issue....

In last month's issue of the *Northwoods Journal* we featured the Amberg Museum & Historical Complex. There are a few corrections to the information. First, the museum is not located on Nutt Road, but is located 1/3 mile off U.S. 141 on County V in Amberg. Second, visiting hours are Fridays 1-4 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., and closed Sundays. Apologies from the Editor!



## Agriculture Matters to Marinette County

By Scott Reuss, Agriculture/Horticulture Agent, UW-Extension

In my position as UW-Extension Agriculture/Horticulture Agent for Marinette & Florence Counties, I often get asked by non-farmers if agriculture is still viable in our area. To me, the answer is a resounding yes! As you can see from the data included below, agriculture provides a very direct economic impact. It provides approximately \$72 million of income through product sales; provides wages for more than 800 employees; plus is the full-time occupation of over 350 farm owners and income provider for approximately 500 more farm owners.

Agriculture in our two counties is dominated by cattle, especially dairy cattle. Nearly \$45 million of the total \$72 million in agricultural product sales is from the sale of milk and cattle. However, we also have a wide diversity of grain crop, vegetable and fruit crop, and other livestock species' farms, as well. Included in this portion are an increasing number of farms that sell products directly to consumers.

Farms in our area own a significant portion of land, both direct agricultural land and bordering non-agriculture land. Farmers take very seriously their role in preserving the natural resources on these acres. They know that continued productivity and future economic viability of agriculture relies on healthy soil, healthy air, and healthy water. They also contribute to our natural resource base by providing the crops that not only provide their cattle with feed, but supply a majority of the food eaten by many wildlife species.

If you are interested in learning more about agriculture in Marinette County, contact me at 715-732-7510, e-mail to [sreuss@marinettecounty.com](mailto:sreuss@marinettecounty.com) or look at the agriculture information on our web page at <http://marinette.uwex.edu>.

General Farm Facts	Marinette	Florence
Total Farms	746	115
Land in Farms (# of acres)	144,300	20,250
% of County in Farmland	16.1%	6.5%
Average Age of Farm Operator	54.5	55.0
Farm Workers Employed	767	48
Total Value of Payroll	\$6.8 million	\$160,000
Farming as Primary Occupation	304	51
Female as Principle Operator	87	16
Dairy Cattle Facts		
# of Dairy Farms	82	8
# of Dairy Cows	11,800	436
\$ Value of Dairy Products Sold	\$43.4 million	\$1.4 million
Total # of Cattle - beef and dairy	29,500	2,040
# of Farms with cattle	300	48
Value of Cattle Sales	\$9.05 million	\$565,000
Economic Impacts		
Value of Agricultural Products	\$69.9 million	\$2.485 million
# of Small farms (less than \$10,000 in total sales)	507	89
# of Large Farms (more than \$100,000 in total sales)	105	7
Total Crop Sales Value (all crops)	\$13.1 million	\$435,000
Farms (& Value) with Direct to Consumer Sales	59 farms \$392,000	11 farms \$21,000

### The Northwoods Journal is Also Available Online!

Would you like to read current issues of the *Northwoods Journal* online? Go to [www.marinettecounty.com](http://www.marinettecounty.com) and click on the link at the bottom of the page. We can even send you an e-mail reminder when each new issue is posted on our website. Please contact Anne Bartels, Information & Education Specialist, at [abartels@marinettecounty.com](mailto:abartels@marinettecounty.com) or call 715-732-7784 for more information.



**Land Information  
Department Summer Intern**



Jake Budish graduated from Peshtigo Middle/High School in 2006 and attended UW-Marquette where he received an Associate's Degree in the spring of 2008. He transferred to UW-Stevens Point, where he's currently a double major in Chemistry and Geoscience with a Hydrology option. He's also a minor in Geology and plans to graduate in December 2011.

Jake attended the 2011 Spring Undergraduate Research Symposium, where he presented on Mapping Igneous Intrusions in Big Bend National Park in Texas and also did a GIS (geographic information systems) project on Radon Hotspots of Wisconsin based upon radon levels by zip codes, bedrock geology, well-sorted or unsorted soils, depth to bedrock and closeness to populated areas. He presented another project at the 2011 Spring Chemistry Undergraduate Symposium, where he and his partner built a micro-reactor to grow zinc oxide crystals upon a heat gradient, which could be used in the field of nanotechnologies.

He has strong interests in GIS, mineralogy, geology, general chemistry (including water chemistry), digital mapping, alternative energy solutions and other key interests that revolve around his major. In his free time, he enjoys open water and ice fishing, waterfowl hunting, hiking, camping, canoeing, and spending time with his family and friends.

**KEEP FIREWOOD LOCAL!**



- Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) lives hidden beneath the bark of ash trees & can be transported in firewood.
- Due to the discovery of EAB in Wisconsin, firewood quarantines are in place in several areas. Visit [www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov](http://www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov) for the latest information.
- Hardwood firewood may not be moved out of the quarantine area.
- Stop moving firewood within the quarantine areas, or anywhere in Wisconsin, to help slow the spread of EAB or other pests and diseases.

**Wisconsin Emerald Ash Borer Program**  
[www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov](http://www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov)  
 1-800-462-2803

**Pine Plantations Require Management**

By Steve Kaufman, WDNR Forester

Red pine plantations are a common sight in Marinette County. They range from young plantings to forests of large, majestic trees. But the one thing all of these pine plantations have in common is that they require management to remain healthy. Pine plantations are planted at high densities to allow the pine to shed their lower branches and occupy the entire area. However, as they grow the red pines eventually grow too thick and growth is stunted. This is when the pine stand needs to be thinned.

Typically pine plantations are thinned at about age 25-30 and then at 8-10 year intervals after that. The first thinning often involves removing every 3<sup>rd</sup> row to allow access for logging equipment and later thinnings involve individually marking trees for removal to a specific density. Without thinnings these plantations are vulnerable to beetle infestations, wind/snow damage, and deterioration in value.

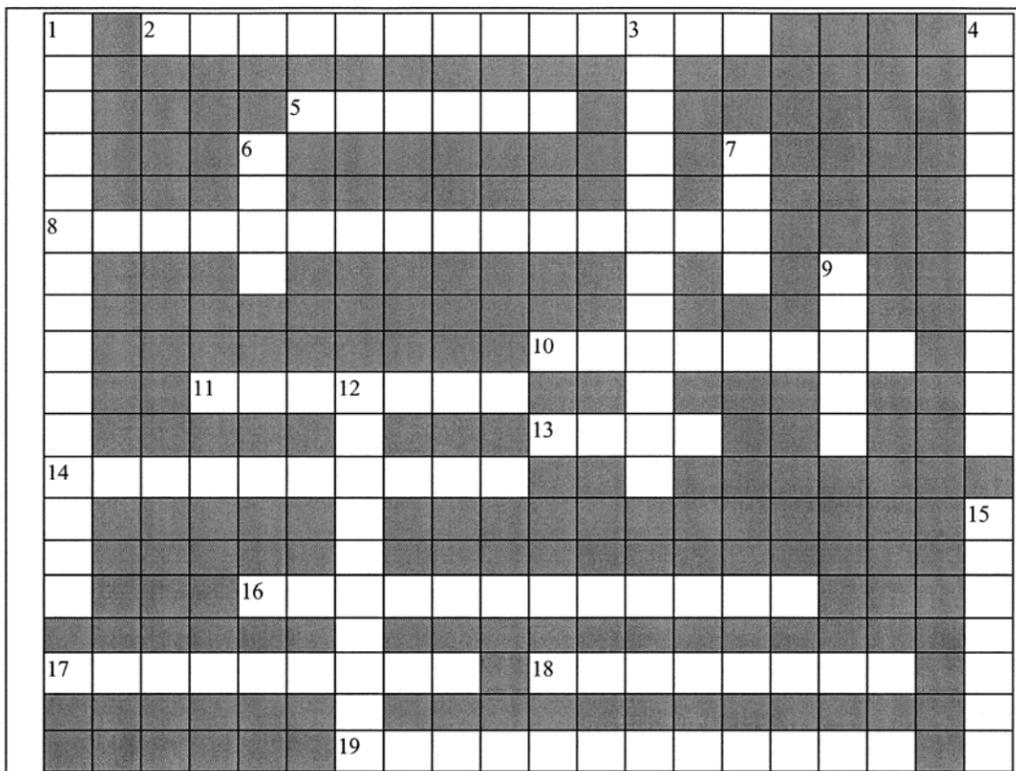


Above: two examples of red pine plantations

Well-managed plantations develop into forests with vigorously growing trees with potential to eventually grow into higher value products such as utility poles. With this in mind, it's very important to have a professional forester mark individually trees for removal.

Removing the correct trees and maintaining a specific density is very important. Even small red pine plantations benefit greatly from management. Thinning will improve the health of your forest and provide welcome revenue for the landowner. Is your plantation ready for a thinning? Call a forester to find out. For more information on red pine plantation management, call Steve Kaufman at the Wausaukee DNR Ranger Station at 715-856-9157.

**Find the answers in the NWJ!**



**ACROSS**

- Group that has focus on fish stocking and habitat enhancement (2 words)
- Landfill in Marinette County (abbr)
- A voluntary group of people dedicated to preservation of a lake (2 words)
- A tomato pest
- What to do with unused bait
- Program to teach boaters to clean off weeds (abbr)
- Something your kids will remember forever (2 words)
- A 2.4 mile nature trail (2 words)
- A machine that cuts aquatic weeds is a
- When a group of scientists conduct a survey of living species it is a
- Connects students to their natural and human communities (2 words)

**DOWN**

- Transported in firewood (3 words)
- Specialized unit to manage a lake or group of lakes (2 words)
- One type of agriculture that dominates Marinette County (2 words)
- Learning, activities and experiences in forestry (abbr)
- A different kind of plantation
- Children's learning garden has one
- Large invasive grass that grows on the shore
- What is located at Harmony arboretum



## Goodman-Armstrong Creek Active with School Forest Program

On March 7, 2011, the Goodman-Armstrong Creek School District received a Wisconsin DPI (Department of Public Instruction) *Standing Up for Rural Schools, Libraries, and Communities* award for using its School Forest in partnership with the LEAF (Learning, Activities, & Experiences in Forestry) Program in the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education at UW-Stevens Point. The Goodman-Armstrong Creek School Forest is one of eight school forests in Marinette County and one of 128 school forests in Wisconsin.



Goodman-Armstrong Creek School Forest entrance

### School Forests are valuable because:

1. They help meet mandated standards including science, language arts, math, social studies, environment, and agriculture.
2. Using the environment as a theme across subject areas increases standardized test scores, improves attendance, and decreases behavior problems.
3. School forests can help re-localize education and connect students to their natural and human communities.
4. School forests serve as the context for understanding how management decisions and their life-style choices are related.
5. School forests strengthen school and community relationships, providing a less formal setting for parents and community members to become involved in students' education



### 2010 Environmental Awareness Poster Contest State Finisher Receives Award

Sydney Dunkes, a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student at the Niagara Elementary School and daughter of Jason and Lynn Dunkes was welcomed by the full County Board on January 25, 2011. Sydney had entered the 2010 Environmental Awareness Poster Contest in September and her poster went on to compete at the state level. Sydney's poster placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association State Contest. Greg Cleereman, County Conservationist presented Sydney with her award and certificate. When asked by County Board Supervisors how much time it took her to draw her poster, she smiled, and said "A lot".

The theme for the contest this year was "Healthy Habits = Healthy Habitats". Sydney's poster displayed the theme by depicting a girl picking up trash surrounded by conifers under a blue sky with a bright yellow sun.

In order to compete in the state contest, the posters must place first at the local contest at the

1. Forest products, non-timber forest products, and rental of facilities can generate income.



Columbine is one of many forest wildflowers found in the school forest

Continuing its good work, the Goodman Armstrong Creek School sponsored a "Bio-Blitz" in their School Forest on May 20, 2011. A Bio-Blitz is where a group of scientists and volunteers conduct an intensive period of biological inventory, attempting to identify and record all species of living organisms in a given area. Two-hundred and thirty-one species were documented including 36 birds, 102 plants, and 8 mammals. This information will be used by students to create a field guide for their own school forest.



Students get hands-on learning in the school forest

For more information on the Goodman Armstrong Creek School Forest visit <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf/Schoolforests/Goodman1.aspx>. An article about the Bio-Blitz appears in the May 2011 issue of the LEAFlet, a quarterly publication of LEAF, the Wisconsin K-12 Forestry Education Program: <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf/Adobe/LEAFlet/May11.pdf>.



Sydney Dunkes receiving award from Greg Cleereman, County Conservationist

beginning of October, then go on to place first at the Lake Michigan Land & Water Conservation Association Regional Contest in the middle of October. Finally, the winning posters from the region are entered into the state contest held in Stevens Point, Wisconsin on November 6, 2010.

Sydney plans on participating in the contest again this fall and said, "I like to draw - I get that from my Mom."

## Hemlock Curve



## Nature Trail

Looking for a quiet place to get out and enjoy nature? Try the **Hemlock Curve Nature Trail**, a part of the Peshtigo Harbor Area Trails system. This 2.4-mile walking trail has two scenic loops that journey past the sparkling waters of the Peshtigo River. Along the way, you can learn about the many features of this area with a trail guide provided at a trailhead kiosk.



The Peshtigo River Trail, completed in September 2004, is an 11-mile self-guided canoe trail on the Lower Peshtigo River, starting at the boat landing located on County Road B by the municipal garage in Peshtigo. Hemlock Curve Nature Trail was completed in July 2005. The Woods Road Ski Trail, a crosscountry ski trail with wildlife learning stations was completed in January 2006, and is located on Hale School Road south of Hemlock Curve Nature Trail.



Bloodroot in bloom during early May

To get there take the Peshtigo Exit from Highway 41. Once on Business 41 in Peshtigo, go south on West Front Street (first street west of the bridge). This street eventually turns into Hale Road outside the city limits. After a few miles, turn left onto Harbor Road, then left onto Badger Road (look for the brown directional signs). Parking is limited, and trail guides are available at a kiosk at the trailhead. Parking is limited & insect repellent is recommended.

This trail is part of the Peshtigo Harbor Wildlife Area Trails Project. A partnership between Marinette County Land & Water Conservation, the Department of Natural Resources, and UW-Extension and a grant from the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program made this project possible. For more information, please call the Land & Water Conservation Division at 715-732-7780.





## Marinette County Expanding Clean Boats Clean Waters Watercraft Inspection Program

By Robert Ruleau, AIS Coordinator

Photos from <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexplakes/cbcw/graphics.asp>

With boating and fishing season in full swing, Marinette County is stepping up efforts to prevent the spread of harmful Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). Starting this year, a number of heavily trafficked boat landings and waters containing Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) and Zebra Mussels will be staffed by trained watercraft inspectors for the next 3 boating and open water fishing seasons. Marinette County received a grant from the Wisconsin DNR to hire two watercraft inspectors to help efforts to prevent and contain AIS. They will carry out the vision of the Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) watercraft inspection program in Wisconsin.



The CBCW watercraft inspection program started about 10 years ago as a middle school project called "Milfoil Masters" to stop the spread of EWM in Wisconsin Lakes. This program was so successful at training folks from various lakes and counties that it blossomed into the statewide watercraft inspection and education program it is today. Inspectors, mostly volunteers, made contact with over 180,000 water users and inspected nearly 90,000 boats at Wisconsin boat landings in 2010.

Managed by the Wisconsin DNR and University of Wisconsin Extension Lakes Program, the main goal of the CBCW watercraft inspection program is to educate boaters about AIS and how to prevent their spread. Interaction at boat landings and having a point of contact with water users like fisherman is important to the program's success. The idea is simple and effective - make contact with water users at boat launches and AIS education and awareness in the community will follow.



In addition to being a contact at the boat landings, watercraft inspectors have a variety of duties. First and foremost is being an AIS educator. Inspectors provide boaters with important invasive species rules and regulations in Wisconsin. Because Wisconsin law now makes it illegal to transport plants, animals, and water via boats, trailers, and other equipment we want to get the word out so boaters are not caught unaware. Data collection is also a big part of the inspection program. The data that inspectors collect at landings provides a snapshot of boater actions, behaviors and AIS awareness. Simple 'yes' and 'no' questions are asked at the landings. A few questions boaters are asked include: "After last use did you...Inspect and remove plants? Drain water? Dispose of bait? Are you aware of AIS laws?" Over the years, the data trends in the answers

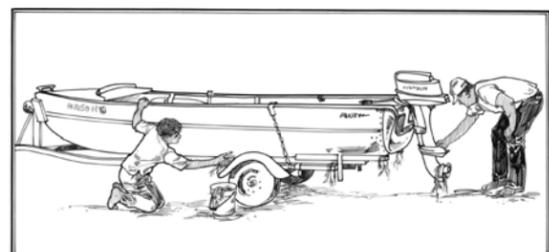
to these questions provide a good assessment of boater education and awareness in different areas around the State. Inspectors also distribute handy informational brochures and plant ID cards so water users can better recognize and be on the lookout for a variety of harmful invasives. Lakefront property owners, boaters and other water users should be on the lookout for new infestations of AIS, especially EWM and Zebra Mussels.



28 Marinette County lake and river water bodies including the heavily trafficked High and Caldron Falls Reservoirs contain Eurasian watermilfoil. These non-native, invasive aquatic plants have been spread from lake to lake most likely from hitching a ride on boats and trailers. It only takes one plant fragment to be introduced into a water body to form the dense populations that we are seeing in some of the Marinette County lakes and river impoundments. Zebra Mussels are another species we are trying prevent from being introduced and spread. They were discovered in Lake Noyebay in 2006, and priority will be on containment in that lake. The county will be working with the newly formed Lake Noyebay Lake Association to get full time watercraft inspection staff to work the boat landings during boating season.



Zebra Mussels can spread to other inland waters in their immature form known as "veligers," which are microscopic and free-floating. As adults, they attach to boat hulls, engines aquatic weeds, or other surfaces. Adult mussels are very hardy and can survive out of water for extended periods depending upon temperature, humidity, wind, and sunlight. Maximum out-of-water survival time in ideal conditions is about 10 days for adults and 3 days for newly settled juveniles. Because Zebra Mussels are spread in both veliger and adult stages of their life, removing plants and vegetation from boats and trailers, and draining water from boat and equipment is key to preventing their spread.



Continued next page

## County Landfill & Area Recycling Information

MAR-OCO County Landfill  
(Marinette and Oconto Counties)  
N7785 Shaffer Road, 5 miles west of  
Crivitz off of County Rd. A  
(715) 854-7530

### 2011 Hours

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays, April – October  
8 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
Closed all other Saturdays, Sundays &  
holidays

***Yard waste, liquid waste, automobile parts, & recyclables are not accepted. Disposal fees apply.***

For more information, visit online at  
[www.marinettecounty.com](http://www.marinettecounty.com)



### Recycling Centers

Town of Stephenson  
Twin Bridge site, County X  
Tuesday, Saturday, Sunday  
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Crivitz site, August Street  
Wednesday and Saturday  
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Newspaper, cardboard, magazines, glass bottles and jars, tin cans, aluminum, plastic containers (1 & 2), used motor oil, car batteries, scrap metal & yard waste accepted. For more information visit online at <http://www.stephensonwisc.com/>.

Town of Peshtigo  
W1945 Old Peshtigo Road  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Saturdays each month  
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays each month  
12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

We accept tires, appliances and air conditioners with Freon, stoves, microwaves, washers, dryers, any kind of metal (no motor vehicles), televisions, automotive oil (no cooking oil or antifreeze), paper, cardboard, plastic, glass, aluminum, tin, batteries, bagged garbage and yard waste. No paint or hazardous materials. Some fees may apply. Visit <http://townofpeshtigo.org> for more information. Residents only.

Township of Athelstane  
(715) 856-6428  
Wednesday, 12:00 – 4p.m.  
Saturday, 12:00 – 4p.m.  
Sunday, 8a.m.– 4p.m.

Cans, cardboard, brown & clear glass, magazines, paper, plastic #1 & #2, and drain oil accepted; no building materials or paint. Some yard waste accepted. Fees may apply. For more information visit: <http://athelstanewi.com/recycle.htm>.



## Discovering Cheap Outdoor Summer Activities for Kids

Source: <http://ezinearticles.com>

Having fun with your kids this summer should not be a hassle or expensive. You have many options in your own backyard or nearby parks or recreational areas. Make a summer of fun your kids will remember forever.



When the summer heat is getting to you, consider water fun on your own property:

- Set up a cheap kiddie pool, a slip and slide, or a sheet of plastic, or even a regular sprinkler and let the kids run through it. Invite their friends over to play and provide an easy-to-eat treat like popsicles.
- Decorate your driveway or sidewalk with wet footprints or handprints.
- Play with squirt guns or spray bottles.
- Have a water balloon fight.
- Blow bubbles.
- Make mud pies.
- Play in the rain.
- Wash the car and spray the kids with the hose. Let them get you wet, too.



In the cool of morning, evening or on moderate weather days, have a day to enjoy nature. You could call it a nature hike. Visit a walking path at a local park or find a new trail to hike. A nature hike can be just a walk or it can be more than that. Think of off-roading a little bit. What kinds of rocks, leaves, plants and flowers can the kids find? Have them use a bag to store their favorites. When you get back home, go online and research the names of the plants you collected. Here are some more ideas for fun with nature:

- Take pictures of nature with a camera.
- Take the kids to a scenic area with a set of watercolors and ask them to paint what they see.
- If you live close to the ocean or lake, pack a lunch, sunscreen, drinking water and some beach toys and go there. Spend the day digging in the sand, building sandcastles and searching for seashells.
- There are all kinds of ways of interacting with nature, like planting a vegetable or flower garden together.
- Visit a pick-your-own fruits farm.



- Instead of just having a picnic lunch at the brightest time of day, try having a sunset picnic at a park or beach.
- Get up early, pack your picnic basket, and have a sunrise breakfast.
- Walk barefoot in the grass and pick the wildflowers, if it is allowed.
- Do some cooking outside on a grill or a campfire, or just toast marshmallows.
- Pitch a tent, perhaps even in your own backyard, and sleep outside. The moon, stars and planets are nature, too.



When thinking of summer activities for the kids there are always all kinds of games and sports. You do not have to join a team or class because they can get expensive, but if you have the resources and interest in pursuing that path, ask the kids if they would like to learn a new sport or activity. The summer is a great time to try something new without the commitment that often comes with starting it during the school year.

- Go for a bicycle ride around the neighborhood.
- Teach the kids some jump rope rhymes from your own childhood.
- There is hopscotch, too.
- Plan a scavenger hunt or a treasure hunt. For a scavenger hunt, all you need to do is create a list of twenty or so items that are frequently found outdoors in your area. Pass out the list to each of the kids. The first person or team to find everything, or the most items, and wins a small prize.
- For a treasure hunt leave clues around the house or yard, with each clue leading to the next clue, until they reach the treasure, maybe a snack or small prize.
- There are many more ideas for outdoor sports and games, like playing kickball with the neighborhood kids.
- Fly kites.
- Compete in a three-legged or other race.
- Create an obstacle course.
- Play freeze tag.
- Build paper airplanes and have a flying contest.



With some help from your kids, you may come up with many more ideas. Water, nature, and sports and games are great sources of cheap and healthy entertainment. The summer time is a great time to be outdoors, but please remember the sunscreen, hats and monitoring the amounts of sun exposure. Older kids with later bedtimes may even be able to enjoy many of these activities after the sun goes down.

Inspection Program, continued from page 6



These AIS prevention steps boaters should follow are the core of the CBCW program and AIS Rules and Regulations for Boaters and Anglers in Wisconsin.

- ❖ **Inspect** and **remove** aquatic plants, animals, and mud from boat, trailer, and equipment before leaving the landing.
- ❖ **Drain** all water from boat, motor, live wells, bilge, bait buckets and other containers before leaving the landing.
- ❖ **Ice** your catch; don't leave landing with live fish, bait, or fish eggs.
- ❖ **Dispose** of unused bait in trash, not in the water.
- ❖ **Rinse** boat and equipment with hot or high pressure water OR **dry** boat for at least five days.

If you would like to learn more about Aquatic Invasive Species or become part of a growing group of CBCW watercraft inspection and AIS monitoring volunteers in Marinette County, please refer to the County website (Marinette County home page → Departments → Land Information → Aquatic Invasive Species) or contact Robert Ruleau at 715-732-7642.



## Northwoods Journal

Volume 9, Issue 2

The *Northwoods Journal* focuses on various outdoor recreation opportunities and local environmental topics to inform readers about natural resource use, management, and recreation in Marinette County.

Published in cooperation by:

- Marinette County Land & Water Conservation Division
- Marinette County Parks & Outdoor Recreation Department
- University of Wisconsin-Extension

*UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA. To ensure equal access, please make requests for reasonable accommodations as soon as possible prior to the scheduled program. If you need this material in another format, please contact the UW-Extension office at 715-732-7510.*

Please send comments to:  
Marinette County Land & Water Conservation  
1926 Hall Ave, Marinette, WI 54143  
(715) 732-7780  
[abartels@marinettecounty.com](mailto:abartels@marinettecounty.com)



## Area Events Calendar

- June-August Bands at Badger Park:** Free concerts Wednesday evenings 6:30-8:30 pm in Badger Park, Peshtigo. Concessions available at 5:15 pm. Concerts are held rain or shine, for more information call 715-582-1141.
- June-August Sunset Concert Series:** Free concerts Tuesday evenings at 7 pm on Stephenson Island in Marinette. Contact Joe at 715-863-2679 for more information.
- July-August Concerts in the Park:** Free concerts Thursday evenings at 7 pm at the band shell in Great Lakes Memorial Marina Park in Menominee, Contact Joe at 715-863-2679 for more information.
- June-October Peshtigo Fire Museum Open:** Museum located on Oconto Avenue in Peshtigo will be open through October 8. Hours are 7 days a week from 10 am-4 pm. For more information call the museum at 715-582-3244.
- July 2-4 Area 4th of July Celebrations & Water-ski Shows:** Marinette, Crivitz, Goodman, Wausaukee. For more information, call local city hall or visit the county calendar at [www.marinettecounty.com](http://www.marinettecounty.com).
- July 9 Family Fun Fest:** 11am-5pm at Menominee Band Shell for River Cities Habitat for Humanity. Fest will have kid's games, food, inflatable jumpers, entertainment and face painting. Event is sponsored by Thrivent Financial.
- July 9 Menominee River Float Trips:** Leaving Hwy 180 where the Menominee River meets the road at 11am (2 miles east of Bear Point Yacht Club). Arrive at yacht club at 3pm and a shuttle will take you back to the launch site. Lunch will follow, bring a dish to pass, your own flotation device, refreshments, coolers, food, sun protection, bug spray, towing rope and zip lock bag. All ages welcome but an adult must accompany children under 18. Life jackets are a state law requirement
- July 9 Aurora MACC Run/Walk:** Marinette High School, 5k & 10k run and 5k walk, children's half mile race. For more information call Marinette Menominee Area Chamber of Commerce 715-735-6681 or visit [www.mandmchamber.com](http://www.mandmchamber.com).
- July 9-10 Rummage on the River:** Multiple sale locations in the city of Peshtigo and town of Peshtigo. Maps showing rummage sales locations will be available. To be included in the rummage sale, contact: Peshtigo Chamber of Commerce, 715-582-0327 or Pat Roland, 715-582-3360.
- July 11-15 UW-Marquette Science & Art Camp:** Camp for ages 1st-6th grades, half-day class \$69 and full-day class \$128 with lunch included. Register at 715-735-4342 or [www.marquette.uwc.edu/continuing-ed](http://www.marquette.uwc.edu/continuing-ed).
- July 15-17 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Cruisin' Oldies Concert & Car Show:** Green's Green Acres, Marinette, WI (6 miles west of Marinette just off Hwy 64) main stage performances, band jam, Saturday car show and dance contest. Ticket prices for festival before 5/1/11 \$50 and daily tickets \$35. For more information call 715-582-3965 or visit [www.porterfieldscruisinoldies.com](http://www.porterfieldscruisinoldies.com).
- July 15-17 Menominee County Fair:** Shakey Lakes Park, questions contact MSU Extension Service 906-753-2209.
- July 16 Hook Sailboat Race:** Sailboat race will be from Racine, WI to Menominee, MI. The boats will be finishing late Sunday night and throughout the day Monday (July 17 & 18).
- July 18-22 UW-Marquette LEGO Camp:** Space adventures for kindergarten-3rd grade and movie making for 4-6th grades, \$128. Register at 715-735-4342 or [www.marquette.uwc.edu/continuing-ed](http://www.marquette.uwc.edu/continuing-ed).
- July 25-29 UW-Marquette Young Linguists & Music Camp:** For grades 1st-6th with half-day class \$69 and full-day class \$128 lunch included. Register at 715-735-4342 or [www.marquette.uwc.edu/continuing-ed](http://www.marquette.uwc.edu/continuing-ed).
- July 30 Menekaunee Old Timers Picnic:** Red Arrow Park starting at noon for anyone age 50+ with ties to Menekaunee. Bring your own lawn chairs and beverage. Cost is \$11 if paid by July 25 or \$15 if paid later. Checks should be made payable and sent to Menekaunee Old Timers, 160 W Bay Shore Street, Marinette, WI 54143. Questions call 715-735-5577.

### Update on the Children's Learning Garden at Harmony Arboretum

The Children's Learning Garden (CLG) at Harmony Arboretum will provide visitors an opportunity to explore and observe nature in a unique, exciting, and educational manner. The experiential nature of the garden encourages visitors to "get their hands dirty" while learning and having fun. This summer work will continue with the help of dedicated & hard-working volunteers. We will be completing the "underground tunnel" display and the finishing touches will be put to the maze, the wetlands and the play area. Another project will be working on the sandbox-sailboat.

There are many parts to this project and volunteers from the general public are most welcome to join us. Or, if you are able to contribute financially to the project, there will be an area dedicated to those who donated money and/or time to bring this worthwhile idea to fruition. For more information, or about volunteer/donor opportunities, please call the UW-Extension office at 715-732-7510 or email [linda.warren@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:linda.warren@ces.uwex.edu) or [scott.reuss@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:scott.reuss@ces.uwex.edu). Below: children planting and a view of the Native American garden, sundial area, and hedge maze in early May.



## Harmony Arboretum Schedule of Events



Located seven miles west of the City of Marinette off of Highway 64, then ½ mile south on County E. All programs are free unless otherwise stated. For more information, call the UW-Extension office at 715-732-7510 or the Land & Water Conservation office at 715-732-7780.

### July 6 – Raspberry & Blackberry Management, starts at 6:30 pm

This session will review bramble management, to include common pests, proper pruning, and other management techniques. See the primocane-bearing blackberries growing at Harmony.

### July 15 & 16 – Garden & Gallery Tour; Friday evening & Saturday from 9 am-3 pm

Take a walk through some spectacular local gardens and galleries, and help raise money for charity at the same time. Northern Lights Master Gardeners, together with Respite Care of Marinette & Menominee Counties, and the Menominee Area Arts Council are hosting a walk through several neighborhoods so you can see a variety of garden styles, plants, and garden art. For more details call the UW-Extension office (number above). Donation requested \$10 per person in advance, \$12 on the day. (Check nearer the date for details.)

### July 19 – Tomato Pest Management (pt. 2 of 4), starts at 6:30 pm

Pest management of tomatoes may include deer, hornworms, slugs and other larger critters, but definitely includes many diseases. Learn how to avoid and/or manage the common tomato pests.

### August 2 – Growing Herbs, 6:30 - 8 pm

Anne Shavlik, Master Gardener, and Deb Doubek, Master Gardener and owner of Peterson Brook Herb Farm will give a tour of the Herb Garden in the Demonstration Garden and discuss growing and maintaining the plants. Following this will be a tea blending and tasting session.



**August 11 – Prairie Walk, 6-8 pm** Tour the 17 acre prairie at Harmony Arboretum with local native plant enthusiasts. Spend an evening learning about prairie plants, their importance, and why people are creating or restoring them. The prairie flowers should be nearing their peak at this time.

