



## LAND INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

John Lefebvre  
*Director*

Greg Cleereman  
*Conservationist*

Tina Barnes  
*Property Lister*

### MEETING OF THE LAND INFORMATION COMMITTEE MONDAY, JULY 13, 2015 GOVERNOR TOMMY THOMPSON STATE PARK

**Members Present:** Ted Sauve, Robert Holley, Fred Meintz, Gilbert Engel and Mary Noll.

**Absent/Excused:** Alice Baumgarten  
Clancy Whiting

**Others Present:** John Lefebvre, LID; Greg Cleereman, LID-LWC; Maggie Kailhofer, Property Manager, Gov. Tommy Thompson State Park; Shawn Hennessee, County Administrator; Jeff Maroszek, USDA-NRCS and the Peshtigo Times.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sauve at 10:00 a.m.
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA  
**MOTION** (Holley/Meintz) approve the agenda and agenda addendum as presented. Motion carried no negative vote.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
**MOTION** (Meintz/Engel) approve the minutes of June 8, 2015 as presented. Motion carried no negative vote.
4. PUBLIC COMMENT  
Jeff Maroszek, USDA-NRCS informed the Committee that the NRCS local work group will be holding a public meeting to obtain input and to set the funding limits for each of the 4 conservation areas for the upcoming funding cycle. The meeting will be August 4<sup>th</sup> 2015 at 9 a.m. at the Oconto County Courthouse.
5. REPORTS BY COOPERATING AGENCIES
  - **USDA-FSA, Mary Noll, FSA Representative** ~ Provided the Committee with the July 2015 program report which is attached to the minutes.
6. REPORTS BY LAND INFORMATION STAFF
  - Garlic Mustard – Cleereman informed the Committee of the Land



Conservation Division staff efforts being put forth in the City of Marinette to eradicate some garlic mustard in three locations within the City.

- Cleereman informed the Committee that he will be creating a Request For Proposals to obtain quotes for spraying phragmites along the shore of Green Bay. Cleereman hopes to have the RFP's available for Committee review at the August meeting.
- Cleereman reminded the committee that the Grand Opening of the Children's Garden at the Harmony Arboretum is set for Saturday, July 25, 2015 from 9 am to 1 pm with a rain date scheduled for Sunday, July 26, 2015, if needed.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- Copy of the July 2015 DATCP was distributed and is also attached to the minutes.

8. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION FROM WISCONSIN LAND AND WATER

**MOTION** (Holley/Meintz) to accept a donation of \$500.00 from Wisconsin Land and Water Association for Sand Lake Conservation Camp. Motion carried no negative vote.

9. JUNE SCHEDULE OF VOUCHERS

The June Schedule of Invoices (\$31,515.42) was presented to the committee.

10. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is scheduled at 9:00 a.m. Monday, August 10, 2015 at the Marinette County Courthouse.

11. IDENTIFY POSSIBLE ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Fall Conference ~ Lake Michigan Land and Water Conservation Association
- Phragmites Project
- Shoreland Zoning Ordinance Amendments
- 2016 User Fees

12. GOVERNOR TOMMY THOMPSON STATE PARK TOUR AND LUNCH

The Committee was given a tour of the Park by Maggie Kailhofer, Park Manager, and after the tour they enjoyed a picnic lunch at the enclosed park pavilion that over looks Woods Lake located within the Park.

13. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION** (Holley/Meintz) to adjourn at 12:50 p.m. Motion carried no negative vote.

Respectfully Submitted

  
John Lefebvre, Director  
Land Information Department

**Oconto-Marinette County FSA**  
**Monthly Report to Land Water/Land Conservation**  
**July 2015**

**Program Updates**

- ✓ **The 2016 MPP-Dairy** signup began on July 1, 2015. Producers that are currently enrolled in and elected coverage in MPP-Dairy for 2015 are obligated to participate in MPP through 2018. Dairy producers that are currently enrolled can choose to purchase coverage at the catastrophic \$4.00 coverage level or higher. The signup period will run from July 1 through September 30, 2015. We are anticipating many producers may wait to enroll closer to the deadline as they watch market projections.
  
- ✓ **ARC/PLC-** Contract enrollment for ARC/PLC began June 17, 2015 and will end on September 30, 2015. Producers previously completed the base/yield and enrollment steps. Now it's time to sign contracts for the 2014 and 2015 crop years. Appointments are being scheduled beginning in August for enrollment. Producers wishing to schedule an appointment should contact our office at (920) 829-5406. In the meantime, we are scheduling future ARC/PLC appointments for our producers that are visiting the office for acreage reporting.
  
- ✓ **Crop Reporting** – Producers are reminded to complete their acreage reports for spring planted crops by the July 15, 2015 deadline. After this date a late file fee of \$46 – minimum, applies to each farm with a filing date after July 15. Producers that missed their scheduled appointments should contact the office as soon as possible, prior to the deadline to avoid late filing. A complete report of acreage is required for eligibility for most FSA programs, including ARC/PLC.
  
- ✓ **CRP-** USDA recently announced a CRP General Signup to be held December 1, 2015 through February 26, 2016. Current CRP participants whose contracts are expiring September 30, 2015 have been sent letters informing them of their eligibility for a one-year extension. The extensions must be filed by the August 28, 2015 deadline.
  
- ✓ **Farm Loan-** FSA has many different farm loans available for our area producers. As many farmers are preparing to transition their farming operations to the next generation, FSA has loan programs that can help individuals in obtaining annual operating credit, to purchase cattle or machinery, and to purchase or improve farm real estate. Funding is based on the date of applications, however during times of limited funding, Beginning Farmers and Under Served Applicants (women and/or minority owned operations) are given priority. FSA can also work with other lenders under joint financing arrangements. For more information producers should contact their local Farm Loan team. In Oconto and Marinette County the Shawano Service Center Farm Loan Team is there to assist. Their phone number is: (715) 524-4814

# DATCP REPORT

July 2015

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## Soil and Water Resource Management Grants

- The procedures for seeking reimbursement of the SWRM staff and support grant have changed. DATCP developed new instructions and a video tutorial to help you complete and submit the new reimbursement form, which are available on our [website](#)<sup>1</sup>.

## Land and Water Resource Management Plans

- Reminder: Counties that have LWRM plan revisions due this year should contact Lisa Trumble at [Lisa.Trumble@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Lisa.Trumble@wisconsin.gov) if there are questions, concerns, or materials to be reviewed.

## Drainage Districts

- DATCP approved a construction project in the Vandebroek drain using a new form. This form more clearly defines the requirements for approval of construction projects.
- DATCP will hold drainage board training in September 2015, and may solicit input on appropriate topics as part of the planning process. Please contact [Christopher.Clayton@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Christopher.Clayton@wisconsin.gov) with your interest in or suggestions for drainage trainings.
- DATCP is evaluating options to update its list of approved engineers.

## Nutrient Management

- In early July, Sue Porter will request that all 2015 nutrient management plans are reported using the Excel worksheet provided to each county during Farmland Preservation Program reviews. This is the same format used in 2013 and 2014. Nutrient management plans and checklists are tracked in the spreadsheet and should be available from the county conservation department for any of the 2015 plans if requested.

## Farmland Preservation

- DATCP recently certified the farmland preservation zoning ordinance for the Town of Lima (Rock County).

## Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

- Reminder: Counties should submit any CREP applications they may have pending. If you have questions about the CREP program or applications, please contact [Brian.Loeffelholz@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Brian.Loeffelholz@wisconsin.gov).

## Outreach and Training

- The Conservation Professional Training (CPT) [website](#)<sup>2</sup> offers 100+ conservation trainings in convenient formats- online, classroom, and field- and has an online network of experts that you can tap into at any time. From conservation and nutrient management planning to healthy soils and forestry, trainings cover all aspects of conservation. Visit the CPTP website, your one-stop-shop for all of your training needs!
- DATCP recently hosted a farmland preservation zoning webinar, featuring Waupaca and Sheboygan county ordinances. View the recording [here](#)<sup>3</sup>.
- DNR Wetlands and Waterways staff are providing training on Chapter 30 permits via webinar on **July 9<sup>th</sup>** and **July 23<sup>rd</sup>** from 9:00am-11:00am. Staff will walk through regulations to help attendees

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<sup>1</sup> [http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land\\_and\\_Water\\_Conservation/SWRM\\_Grant\\_Program\\_Working\\_Manual/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/SWRM_Grant_Program_Working_Manual/index.aspx)

<sup>2</sup> <http://conservation-training.uwex.edu/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://datcp-wi.adobeconnect.com/p1sk8iv7w9d/>

better understand the difference between permits (wetlands vs waterways, general vs individual). The webinars will be followed by regional workshops for local, state, and federal agency staff in winter of 2015. [Click here to view the draft agendas and to join the webinar](#)<sup>4</sup>.

### **Staff Updates**

- Congratulations and farewell to Stacy Leitner, SWRM grants contract specialist, whose last day at DATCP was on June 26<sup>th</sup>. We thank Stacy for her hard work and the assistance she provided to county conservation departments, and wish her the best of luck at her new position at the Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

### **Other Updates**

- USDA- NRCS announced \$235 million available for conservation partnership projects through the [Regional Conservation Partnership Program \(RCPP\)](#)<sup>5</sup> to improve water quality, combat drought, enhance soil health, support wildlife habitat, and protect agricultural viability. Pre-proposals are due **July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015**. If counties are interested in pursuing an application or using SWRM funding for significant contribution, please contact Lisa Schultz at [LisaJ.Schultz@wisconsin.gov](mailto:LisaJ.Schultz@wisconsin.gov) for a letter of support.
- Conservation Observance Day will be held on **Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>** from 9:00am-2:45pm at the Petersheim Farm located at E5633A Sag City Rd in Viroqua. The event will include lunch, recognize of Ralph and Sheila Petersheim as Conservation Farmer of the Year, and feature cover crops, trout stream restoration, wagon and dairy tours, and conservation successes. To RSVP, contact the Vernon County Land and Water Conservation Department at [smcdowell@vernoncounty.org](mailto:smcdowell@vernoncounty.org), or 608-637-5484.
- USDA-NRCS announced \$17.5 million in financial and technical assistance to protect, restore and enhance critical wetlands on private and tribal agricultural lands through the Wetland Reserve Enhancement Partnership (WREP). Proposals are due **July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015**. Through WREP, NRCS will sign multi-year agreements to leverage resources, including funding, to achieve wetland restoration, protection and enhancement and to create optimum wildlife habitat on enrolled acres. WREP partners are required to contribute a funding match for financial or technical assistance. Partners work with eligible landowners to enroll agricultural land into conservation wetland easements. Visit NRCS's [ACEP](#)<sup>6</sup> webpage to learn more about NRCS's wetland conservation options.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://wisconsinlandwater.org/training/chapter-30-permit-webinar>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/farmbill/rcpp/>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/easements/acep/>