
WISCONSIN WETLANDS ASSOCIATION'S

20th Anniversary
Wetland Science Conference



TELLING OUR STORIES

February 24-26, 2015

Madison, Wisconsin

www.wisconsinwetlands.org





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About Wisconsin Wetlands Association

Wisconsin Wetlands Association is dedicated to the protection, restoration, and enjoyment of wetlands and associated ecosystems through science-based programs, education, and advocacy. We envision a state where wetlands are healthy, plentiful, and support ecological and societal needs and where citizens care for, appreciate, and interact with these natural resources. We are a non-profit, non-partisan, member-supported conservation organization.

If you are not yet a member of Wisconsin Wetlands Association, we encourage you to show your support for wetlands and for our wetland conservation programs by becoming a member today!

Learn more and join online at www.wisconsinwetlands.org

World Wetlands Day

February 2nd is World Wetlands Day, the annual worldwide celebration of wetlands that commemorates the signing of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on February 2, 1971, in the Iranian city of

Ramsar. On World Wetlands Day, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and groups of citizens around the world take action to raise public awareness of wetland values. WWA’s Wetland Science Conference is held in celebration of World Wetlands Day 2015. Learn more about World Wetlands Day at www.ramsar.org.

In 2012, Wisconsin Wetlands Association became the first U.S.-based entity to win the Wetlands Conservation Award for Education from the Ramsar Convention. We were honored for our work to promote and increase the number of designated Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance in Wisconsin and the United States as well as for our outreach and education programs that promote the ideals of the Ramsar Convention. We continue to work with Wisconsin wetland professionals and enthusiasts to nominate worthy Wisconsin wetlands for Ramsar designation, including the Kakagon and Bad River Sloughs (designated in 2012), the Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands and Chiwaukee Illinois Beach Lake Plain (both nominated in 2014), and the Lower Wisconsin River (nomination in progress).



Table of Contents

Note: You can view abstracts and biographies at the registration desk or download them in pdf format at wisconsinwetlands.org/2015PresenterAbstracts&Bios.pdf

Welcome and Theme Description..... 4

Program Highlights

 Keynote Address:

 Sharon Dunwoody, UW-Madison Journalism and Mass Communication 5

 Plenary Presentation:

 Calvin DeWitt, UW-Madison Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies..... 5

 20th Anniversary Celebration & WWA Annual Meeting 6

 Banquet Presentation:

 Patty Loew, UW Madison Life Sciences Communications 6

 Symposium: Modern Wetland Restoration and Management 7

 Symposium: Wetland Dragonflies and Damselflies..... 7

Program Schedule-at-a-Glance (centerfold)8-9

Program Highlights

 Poster Session..... 10

 Field Trip: Urban Wetlands at the UW-Madison Arboretum..... 11

 Field Trip: Wetlands at the Pheasant Branch Conservancy 11

 Field Trip: Wetlands in an Urbanizing World: The Story of Waubesa Wetlands 11

 Working Group: Practitioners Working Group..... 12

 Working Group: Ramsar Nomination for Lower Wisconsin River (by invitation)..... 12

 Workshop: Communicating About Water to Engage Wider Audiences 12

Acknowledgements

 Moderators..... 13

 Field Trip Leaders 13

 Student Scholarship Program Sponsors and Recipients 13

 Volunteers..... 13

Conference Facility Map 14

Sponsors and Exhibitors back cover

Welcome to Wisconsin Wetlands Association's 20th Annual Conference: Telling Our Stories

As scientists, managers, and practitioners, we consult the work of others to inform our own efforts. We communicate our own work to share what we've learned so that others can benefit from our experience. And, as more of our work involves decision-makers, commissions, boards, local citizens, and other members of the broader "public," we communicate what we know about wetlands to a wider audience to ensure that good decisions are made. All of these and more are about telling our stories: how we do it, why we do it, and what we can do to communicate more effectively.

This year's conference is being held where it all began 20 years ago: Madison, Wisconsin. In 1995, a handful of people met in Tripp Commons at the UW-Madison Memorial Union for what they referred to as a "wetland scientists forum." Now, 20 years later, the conference has grown in size and content, drawing upwards of 300 attendees and 80 presenters each year from all around Wisconsin and the upper Midwest and Great Lakes regions. Through this growth, the core of the Wetland Science Conference remains the same. We gather together the wetland community – scientists, managers, students, regulators, and others – to share and discuss wetland science, management, restoration, and protection issues. We gather to contribute to the growing regional collaboration for protecting and conserving Wisconsin's wetlands. And we gather to network, because some of the best learning comes through conversation and beer.

We thank you for being here and for sharing your stories. We also thank the following important advisors whose expertise and ideas ensure that this conference is high quality, effective, and fun.

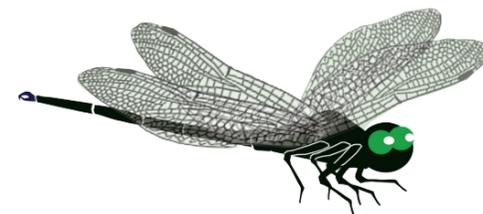
CONFERENCE ADVISORY PANEL

Tom Bernthal, WDNR
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20TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Betsey Day
Cal DeWitt
Joanne Kline
Robert Moreau
Dave Siebert
Alice Thompson
Tracy Hames
Erin O'Brien

WWA staff and interns supporting these advisors:
Katie Beilfuss, Tara Davenport, and Amulya Rao.



Program Highlights

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Wednesday, February 25, 9:00–10:10 a.m.

Location: Ballroom AB

It's How You Tell the Story: Cueing Attitudes and Behaviors Using Social Norms

Sharon Dunwoody, *Evjue-Bascom
Professor Emerita of Journalism and
Mass Communication, UW-Madison*



The chasm between "knowing about" an environmental issue and "doing something" about it can be large, particularly when your audience believes that the issue at hand does not affect them personally. Employing information as a catalyst for action in such situations can be a daunting task. In this talk, long-time researcher and science communicator Sharon Dunwoody will reflect on some of the factors underlying this perennial "bad fit" between knowing and doing and will then propose one possible solution: the use of social norm messages as cues to action.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Sharon Dunwoody recently retired as a professor of journalism and mass communication at UW-Madison, where she taught science and environmental communication and studied communication processes for more than 30 years. Her research has explored the behaviors of science and environmental journalists, the public communication activities of scientists, and the impacts of popular science and environmental messages on audiences. Affiliated with the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at UW-Madison for most of her academic career, Sharon is a member of the Board of Directors of the Aldo Leopold Foundation, serves on the Advisory Committee of the Aldo Leopold Leadership Program at Stanford University, and co-chairs the Science Advisory Board of the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI).

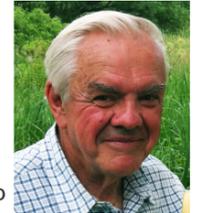
PLENARY PRESENTATION

Thursday, February 26, 8:30–9:20 a.m.

Location: Ballroom AB

Telling Our Stories: Time and Tempo in Wetlands and Wetland Science

Calvin DeWitt, *Professor Emeritus,
UW-Madison Nelson Institute for
Environmental Studies*



Among our storied places, wetlands are special, beheld more wonderfully as recent decades unfold. We come to see them more clearly in what we have recently come to call ecosystem services. In our day, we have discovered the privilege and responsibility to return the services of these wetland systems with services of our own. Ours is a reciprocal service, bringing us to know and understand the deep meaning of conservation as conservice – as conservancy. Looking back at the 20-year history of this conference and forward to where we as a community might go, this presentation will address all of these issues as we work together as citizens, scientists, managers, practitioners, and stewards – in telling our stories – thereby to inspire and enjoin all of us and our institutions in wetland and biospheric conservice.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Calvin DeWitt joined the faculty of the UW-Madison Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies in 1972 with the assignment "to address the fragmentation of the disciplines." Inspired by his childhood love of turtles, his teenage exploration of his grandfather's marsh, and the wetland home he and his wife Ruth purchased the year of their arrival in Wisconsin, Cal chose wetlands as his principal theme to bring together myriad disciplines and applications, including environmental ethics, land stewardship, public policy, and town planning. Cal also helped lead the newly formed Wisconsin Wetlands Association, joining Jim Zimmerman as co-chair just after arriving in Wisconsin. In 1995, Cal put together the first Wisconsin Wetland Scientists Forum, a meeting of about 50 Wisconsin wetland scientists. It is this forum whose 20th anniversary we celebrate this year.

Program Highlights

20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION & WWA ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, February 24, 5:00–8:00 p.m.

Location: Community Terrace, Level 2 Mezzanine, Monona Terrace

Thank you to We Energies for their generous sponsorship of this event.

This fun event kicks off Wisconsin Wetlands Association's 20th Anniversary Conference with plenty of time for catching up with your wetland colleagues and friends. WWA will hold its annual membership meeting to elect our Board of Directors and provide brief highlights of our wetland conservation work in 2014. We'll also celebrate the 20th anniversary of this conference with a special wetland edition of JEOPARDY. Rumor has it Alex Tamarack will be making a special guest appearance to test your wetland knowledge. Cash bar and light refreshments will be available.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT & CONTINUING EDUCATION IN WETLAND SCIENCE

Wednesday, February 25, 12:40–1:20 p.m.

Location: Hall of Ideas FI

Wetland scientists from a variety of backgrounds will address challenges and opportunities facing students and young professionals in fields related to wetland science, "lessons learned", and the role of networks to support discovery and learning. Moderators Joanne Kline and Betsey Day will allow for ample time for questions and discussion of solutions and strategies to help support advancement in satisfying wetland science careers.

BANQUET PRESENTATION

Wednesday, February 25, 6:30–9:30 p.m.

Location: Ballroom AB

Thank you to the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies for their generous sponsorship of this event.

Protect Our Future: Empowering Youth through Digital Storytelling

Patty Loew, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Life Sciences Communication, UW-Madison



In 2013, three teens from the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe created a powerful documentary about the Bad River watershed and threats to it and the tribe's ancient wild rice beds. Their film, *Protect Our Future*, looks at resource extraction within the context of the tribe's Seventh Generation teachings, a philosophy that promotes long-range vision and sustainability. The award-winning film has screened at dozens of environmental conferences and film festivals, including the 2014 Human Rights Film Festival in Tempe, Arizona. Bad River tribal member Patty Loew, who mentored the youth, shares the story of how the film was made and what the documentary means to the youth, the tribe, and to audiences who have embraced it.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Patty Loew is a professor in the UW-Madison Department of Life Sciences Communication, documentary producer, and former broadcast journalist in public and commercial television. A member of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe, Dr. Loew is an award-winning author. Her newest book, *Seventh Generation Earth Ethics*, is a collection of biographies of Native American environmental leaders in Wisconsin. Loew has produced many documentaries for public and commercial television, including the award-winning *Way of the Warrior*, which aired nationally on PBS in 2007.

NOTE: *The Banquet is a ticketed event open to conference participants and the general public who purchased tickets in advance. If you did not purchase a ticket, please see the conference registration desk for information about ticket availability.*

Program Highlights

Modern Wetland Restoration and Management: Sharing our Stories and Challenges

Wednesday, February 25, 1:30–5:00 p.m.

Location: Hall of Ideas EH

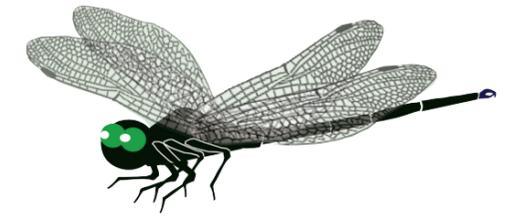
Wildlife managers and wetland ecologists have come a long way in how they plan for, design, and approach wetland restoration and management. At times, philosophies in wetland restoration design are at odds (i.e. attempting to restore historic wetland functions versus altering wetland types to achieve a desired outcome). Speakers in this symposium will share challenges they have experienced in implementing wetland restoration across the state, how they addressed these challenges, and what they have learned. The presentations are designed to encourage audience members to think about:

- 1) the process of wetland restoration, from planning to implementation to maintenance;
- 2) how the wetland restoration community can collaborate to plan and carry out wetland restorations to make the most of limited resources;
- 3) how we can manage older restorations as our understanding of the science of wetland restoration matures.

This symposium was organized by Jason Fleener and Andy Paulios, WDNR.

Symposium Presenters

Peter David, GLIFWC
Brian Glenzinski, Ducks Unlimited
Tracy Hames, WWA
Natanya Hayden, WDNR
Sara Kehrl, WDNR
Dan Larkin, Northwestern University
Andy Paulios, WDNR
Kelly VanBeek, WDNR
Peter Ziegler, WI Waterfowl Association



Wetland Dragonflies and Damselflies

Thursday, February 26, 9:30 AM–12:00 p.m.

Location: Hall of Ideas EH

Dragonflies and damselflies (Order Odonata) are among the most ubiquitous and easily observable creatures of Wisconsin's wetlands. Our state is home to over 160 species of odonates, the majority of which are dependent on wetland habitats during all or part of their life cycles. Odonates are voracious predators both as aquatic nymphs and free-flying adults – eating everything from aquatic invertebrates and amphibian eggs to mosquitoes and other odonates – and thus have a major impact on wetland food webs. This symposium will examine recent findings on the status of Wisconsin's odonate fauna, current research on odonate biology, and citizen science/environmental education programs with an odonate focus.

This symposium was organized by Mary Linton, Snapping Linton Ecology, and Tod Highsmith, WWA Board. Thank you to Nasco, Penny and Gary Shackelford, and Kerry Katovich and Nadine Kriska for their support of this symposium.

Symposium Presenters

Jennifer Callaghan, Urban Ecology Center
Bob DuBois, WDNR
Marla Garrison, McHenry County College
Dan Jackson
Ken Tennessen, University of Florida

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 9:00 A.M. - 9:30 P.M.			
9:00-10:10	Plenary Session Ballroom AB		
9:00	Welcome & Opening Comments		
9:20	Conference Keynote: It's How You Tell the Story: Cueing Attitudes and Behaviors Using Social Norms <i>Sharon L. Dunwoody, UW-Madison Journalism and Mass Communication</i>		
10:10-10:40	Break Sponsored by Stantec Grand Terrace/Capitol Promenade		
10:40-12:00	CONCURRENT SESSIONS		
	Location: Hall of Ideas EH Watershed Approaches to Wetland Conservation <i>Moderator: Gail Epping Overholt</i>	Location: Hall of Ideas FI Applications of Wetland Science in Policy & Regulation <i>Moderator: Dave Siebert</i>	Location: Hall of Ideas GJ Wetland Wildlife <i>Moderator: Dreux Watermolen</i>
10:40	Greenseams at one hundred Shafer	Integrating state and federal wetland regulatory programs: The Minnesota example Powell	Wisconsin's Trumpeter Swan Recovery Program: A 27-Year retrospective (1987-2014) on research, management, and collaboration Matteson
11:00	A new citizen's Watershed Planning Guide for protecting and restoring our state's waters Zerr	Over two decades of protecting Wisconsin's wetlands: A history of wetland regulation in Wisconsin Kramasz	A tale of three turtles: Conservation and genetics of wetland chelonians in Wisconsin Reid
11:20	Generating spatial narratives: The impact of different management regimes in the Two Hearted River Watershed Swearingen	Compensatory wetland mitigation as part of the USACE regulatory program in Wisconsin Kopka	Structure and diversity of aquatic macroinvertebrate communities along a coastal dune chronosequence Monagan
11:40	A twist for conservation plans: More doing and less planning in the 1700-ha Bay Shore Blufflands SNA Aten	2015 Wetland Delineation Guidance: An evolution of science and regulation Walther	Ecological constraints on faunal communities in forested wetlands in west-central Wisconsin Church
12:00-1:30	Lunch – Provided Sponsored by J.F. Brennan Ballroom AB		
12:40-1:20	Career Development & Continuing Education in Wetland Science Hall of Ideas FI		
1:30-3:10	CONCURRENT SESSIONS		
	Location: Hall of Ideas EH SYMPOSIUM: Modern Wetland Restoration & Management <i>Moderator: Andy Paulios</i>	Location: Hall of Ideas FI Wetlands and People <i>Moderator: Travis Olson</i>	Location: Hall of Ideas GJ Native Wetland Flora <i>Moderator: Sarah Johnson</i>
1:30	What was I thinking? On defining our approach to wetland restoration and management in Wisconsin Hames	Navigating the waters: Women landowners and wetland conservation adoption Carter	Climate change vulnerability assessments for twenty-four wetland types in Wisconsin Staffen
1:50	Restoring where to what, and how? Working together to achieve multiple objectives in wetland restoration Larkin	Wading right in: Using stories of wetland adventures as a gateway to understanding Ashworth	A tale of two summers: Ephemeral pond plant communities respond to interannual climate variability Little
2:10	Inching towards ecological and cultural recovery: Lessons from Lac Vieux Desert David	Using poetry to tell our stories: "The sound of water" Linton	The good and bad news about shrub encroachment in Wisconsin calcareous fens Bart
2:30	Shallow lakes management: Learning from the past and planning for success Glenzinski	Talking about water ethics: Commons discourse for a commons resource Kyte	Thirty years of progress: How neighbors in Rock County became stewards of SNAs and orchids Shackelford
2:50	Small scale wetland restoration: Big opportunity or waste of time? Ziegler	Whither a wetland ethic? Lannoo	
3:10-3:40	Break Sponsored by Ho-Chunk Nation Grand Terrace/Capitol Promenade		
3:40-5:00	CONCURRENT SESSIONS		
	Location: Hall of Ideas EH SYMPOSIUM: Modern Wetland Restoration & Management <i>Moderator: Jason Fleener</i>	Location: Hall of Ideas FI Wetland Mitigation: Approaches & Outcomes <i>Moderator: Pat Trochlell</i>	Location: Hall of Ideas GJ Wetland Invasive Species <i>Moderator: Kelly Kearns</i>
3:40	Using farming contracts as a management tool to reduce reed canary grass and increase native plant diversity Hayden	Wetland mitigation in Wisconsin: Defining the watershed approach Jernigan	Achieving balance and success in a wetland complex infested with one million stems of reed canary grass Collins
4:00	What the muck are we doing? The trials and tribulations of restoring wetlands on histosols VanBeek	A comparative look at new wetland mitigation approaches: WisDOT, Northwest Region Adrihan	Prioritizing areas for invasive plant management: Mapping ecosystem integrity, services, and invasive pathways Granberg
4:20	Mud Lake: Better as a fishing lake? Challenges of managing a spring fed, cattail infested, aging impoundment Kehrli	Wetland restoration in organic peat/muck soil: DOT Barneveld mitigation site Henderson	<i>Typha x glauca</i> invasion increases soil methane flux Lawrence
4:40	Can I please flush the toilet? The challenges behind planning and executing restorations in the 21st century Paulios	Establishing a forested wetland: Lessons learned Stamer	Status of efforts to eliminate non-native <i>Phragmites australis</i> in central and western Wisconsin Woods
5:00-6:30	Poster Session & Cash Bar Sponsored by Cardno Grand Terrace/Capitol Promenade		
6:30-9:30	Banquet & Presentation Sponsored by the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies Ticketed event Ballroom AB		
7:30	Banquet Presentation: Protect Our Future: Empowering Youth through Digital Storytelling <i>Patty Loew, Ph.D., UW-Madison Life Sciences Communication</i>		

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.			
8:30-9:20	Plenary Session Ballroom AB		
8:30	Welcome		
8:40	Plenary Address: Telling Our Stories: Time and Tempo in Wetlands and Wetland Science <i>Cal DeWitt, UW-Madison Nelson Institute For Environmental Studies</i>		
9:20-9:30	Break Grand Terrace/Capitol Promenade		
9:30-10:30	CONCURRENT SESSIONS		
	Location: Hall of Ideas EH SYMPOSIUM: Wetland Dragonflies and Damselflies I <i>Moderator: Mary Linton</i>	Location: Hall of Ideas FI Wetland Assessment I <i>Moderator: Nick Miller</i>	Location: Hall of Ideas GJ Wetland Restoration Case Studies I <i>Moderator: Art Kitchen</i>
9:30	Diversity and status of Wisconsin's dragonflies and damselflies with emphasis on wetland species DuBois	Estimating wetland loss in Wisconsin using the 1800s Public Land Survey data and current wetland mapping Mladenoff	The importance of hydrology and geomorphology in designing a wetland mitigation bank: A case study in Iowa Artz
9:50	Dragonflies that every Wisconsin wetlands enthusiast should know Jackson	How healthy are our wetlands? Preliminary results from the First National Wetland Condition Assessment Berthal	An update to the ongoing story of coastal wetland community restoration in Lower Green Bay Weinzinger
10:10	The damselflies: Suborder Zygoptera Garrison	Results of Wisconsin's intensification study as part of the National Wetland Condition Assessment Haber	Wetland restoration to enhance sediment and phosphorus trapping Potter
10:30-11:00	Break Sponsored by Graef Grand Terrace/Capitol Promenade		
11:00-12:00	CONCURRENT SESSIONS		
	Location: Hall of Ideas EH SYMPOSIUM: Wetland Dragonflies and Damselflies II <i>Moderator: Mary Linton</i>	Location: Hall of Ideas FI Wetland Assessment II <i>Moderator: Nick Miller</i>	Location: Hall of Ideas GJ Wetland Restoration Case Studies II <i>Moderator: Jim Ruwaldt</i>
11:00	Using exuviae searches to monitor Odonate diversity in Wisconsin wetlands Tennessen	Comparison of vegetation monitoring techniques for evaluating wetland plant communities at restoration sites Trochlell	Wetland restoration for ecology and community in Nine Springs Corridor: The full potential of our first E-Way Stevens
11:20	Creating a successful odonate monitoring program: Experiences from the Urban Ecology Center, Milwaukee Callaghan	County fact sheets as a new tool for presenting data and analyses on Wisconsin's wetlands Fluet-Chouinard	Restoration of Deer Creek wetland in Milwaukee Mertes
11:40	Wetland Dragonfly and Damselfly Panel Discussion	Developing a framework for prioritizing potential sites for wetland restoration in the Mullet River Watershed Faust	The Ridges Sanctuary: Protecting Wisconsin's native orchids Curran
12:00-1:30	Lunch – Provided Sponsored by Hey & Associates Ballroom AB		
1:30 - 4:30	FIELD TRIPS, WORKING GROUPS & WORKSHOP		
	Working Groups/Workshop		
	Location: Hall of Ideas EH Practitioners Working Group <i>Moderator: Scott Taylor</i>	Location: Hall of Ideas FI Ramsar Nomination Working Group for Lower WI River - by invitation <i>Moderator: Jean Unmuth</i>	Location: Hall of Ideas GJ Workshop: Communicating About Water to Engage Wider Audiences <i>Moderators: Jane Elder & Meredith Keller</i>
	An opportunity for wetland practitioners – including consultants, federal, state, and local regulators, land managers, and others – to discuss current issues relevant to their daily work. The agenda will be set with the input of those who participated in a similar working group at recent WWA conferences.	This working group is for individuals who are collaborating to complete a nomination package for the designation of the Lower Wisconsin River as a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance.	This workshop is designed to help you communicate more effectively about water and wetlands, taking advantage of insights from social science and experience in the field on how people "hear" and think about messages related to water.
	Field Trips		
	All field trips will depart from the Main Entrance, Level 4. Prior sign up required; check at registration desk for remaining availability.		
	Urban Wetlands at the UW-Madison Arboretum	Wetlands at the Pheasant Branch Conservancy	Wetlands in an Urbanizing World: The Story of Waubesa Wetlands

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TELLING OUR STORIES



We want your feedback!

Please complete the conference evaluation coming to your email inbox.

Thank you!

Program Highlights: Poster Session

Posters will be available for viewing 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday in the Capitol Promenade. The Poster Session, when authors will be present to discuss their posters, will be held Wednesday, 5:00–6:30 p.m. Thank you to Cardno for their generous sponsorship of this event.

Poster Titles are listed in alphabetical order by the primary author's last name.

Authors	Title
Budyak	Effects of selectively-targeted imazapyr applications on <i>Typha angustifolia</i> L. in species-rich wetlands
Campbell	Expanding aquatic invasive species outreach to waterfowl hunters in Wisconsin
Carter	Occurrences of NR-40 wetland invasive plants in Southeastern Wisconsin
Cocking	Freshwater sponges as paleolimnological indicators in Volo Bog
Evans	Semi-aquatic mammal populations in the St Louis EPA designated Area of Concern
Fehling	Enhancing wetlands for nitrogen removal in an agricultural landscape
Forest	The Ridges Sanctuary: Protection of wetland biodiversity through citizen science and volunteerism
Galleguillos	A graminicide (clethodim) harmed reed canary grass more than the native awlfruit sedge
Haserodt	Roads, fish, and peat: The underlying groundwater story to road development in wetland habitats
Kawaguchi	Transmission of Strigeidae (Platyhelminthes: Trematoda) in Wisconsin and Illinois freshwater ponds
Krzywicka	Tree establishment in response to hydrology at IDOT wetland mitigation sites
Kukulski	Is reed canary grass altering the quantity and quality of allochthonous carbon delivery from floodplain forests?
Longabaugh	Eastern prairie fringed orchid: The possibility of recovery
Marek	Floating islands: Surrogate fish habitat in the Milwaukee River estuary
Nick	Surface waters and wetlands inventory of Wisconsin
Nieset	The Dater Montessori School wetland construction story
Peter	When genotype matters: Ecological implications of native and exotic <i>Phragmites australis</i> genotypes in Northeastern Wisconsin
Rowland	Components of pond canopy cover differentially affect tadpoles and salamander larvae
Sandusky	Is there evidence of eutrophication in Volo Bog Nature Preserve? A paleolimnological study with diatoms
Skawinski	WANTED: Be on the lookout for these new wetland invaders
Taylor	Identifying actually restorable wetlands in the watersheds of Horicon Marsh & Lake Koshong
Vosen	Reading the seed bank at the Beartrap Creek Wetland mitigation bank site
Weber	Post-construction hydrological performance of a groundwater-controlled wetland: A case study in Iowa
Winfield	Chippewa Moraine Ephemeral Ponds: Prospects and undergraduate projects

Program Highlights: Field Trips

Thursday, February 26, 1:30–4:30 p.m.

Pre-registration for field trips was required. Please see the registration desk if you will not attend a field trip for which you signed up so that your space can be freed up for someone on the waiting list. If you did not pre-register and would like to attend, please see the registration desk to find out if space might be available.

Please dress warmly and wear sturdy boots. Field trips will run in almost any weather (with the exception of hazardous conditions). **All field trips will depart by bus at 1:30 p.m. from the Main Entrance, Level 4.** Please arrive 10 minutes early to board the appropriate bus.

Wetlands at the Pheasant Branch Conservancy

Trip Leaders: Tom Bernthal and Colleen Robinson-Klug, Friends of Pheasant Branch; Amanda Budyak and Sean Longabaugh, Integrated Restorations; and Mike McDowell, long-time expert birder and frequent visitor in the Conservancy

Thank you to the American Transmission Company for their generous sponsorship of this field trip.

For 20 years the Friends of Pheasant Branch Conservancy have been working to protect, restore and manage the wetlands and surrounding upland in this 500+ acre natural area at the edge of Middleton, WI, while educating students and adults about its importance. Field trip leaders will showcase Pheasant Branch Conservancy, a Wetland Gem®, focusing on winter birds and plant communities, tell the story of restoration and education efforts, and discuss successes and setbacks to date. The field trip will visit the unit of the conservancy owned by Dane County with its springs, meadows, upland prairies, hilltop savanna, and will view wetlands and woodlands in the city portion from the overlook at the old farmstead. We will also stop at Pheasant Branch Springs and point out the trail to the hilltop for future visits.

Urban Wetlands at the UW-Madison Arboretum

Trip Leaders: Brad Herrick and Michael Hansen, UW-Madison Arboretum

Thank you to the MG&E Foundation for their generous sponsorship of this field trip.

This field trip will discuss impacts on Arboretum wetlands from the urban environment and how Arboretum staff and researchers are tackling these impacts. Participants will visit Gardner Marsh, a 174-acre open water/cattail marsh near Lake Wingra, and will tour the wetlands of Curtis Prairie, the oldest restored prairie in the world. The tour will also highlight and describe the challenges of a new sedge meadow restoration east of Curtis Prairie.

Wetlands in an Urbanizing World: The Story of Waubesa Wetlands

Trip Leaders: Cal DeWitt, UW-Madison; Nate Fayram, WDNR; Steve Richter, TNC; Phil Gaebler and Kamran Mesbah, Capital Area RPC

Thank you to the International Crane Foundation for their generous sponsorship of this field trip.

This field trip will offer multiple perspectives on wetland conservation at Waubesa Wetlands, a Wetland Gem®. Cal and Ruth DeWitt will share what it's like living next to a special wetland for more than 40 years. WDNR staff will talk about land management practices taking place at the Waubesa Wetlands State Natural Area. Capitol Area Regional Planning Commission staff will discuss threats facing these wetlands including upstream developments. En route, the trip will pass by a wetland restoration completed following the construction of Madison's South Beltline. Involvements by WWA (which came to be as an organization because of this project) resulted in redesigns that yielded major reductions in both direct wetland impacts and net loss.

Program Highlights: Thursday Afternoon Programs

Please note that the following programs are held concurrent with the conference field trips on Thursday afternoon.

Practitioner's Working Group

Thursday February 26, 1:30–4:30 p.m.

Location: Hall of Ideas EH

Facilitator: Scott Taylor, Taylor Conservation, LLC

This session offers an opportunity for wetland practitioners – including consultants, federal, state, and local regulators, land managers, and others – to discuss current issues relevant to their daily work. The agenda will be set with the input of those who participated in a similar working group at recent WWA conferences. Topics covered will likely include what's new with state wetland policies, including how they have or will change the review and approval of wetland development permits and associated compensatory mitigation requirements.

Ramsar Nomination for Lower Wisconsin River (by invitation)

Thursday February 26, 1:30–4:30 p.m.

Location: Hall of Ideas FI

Facilitator: Jean Unmuth, WDNR

Individuals who are collaborating to complete a nomination package for the Lower Wisconsin River, a Wetland Gem®, to be designated a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance are invited to participate in this meeting to further the nomination effort. The Lower Wisconsin River was identified as a priority site by the Wisconsin Ramsar Committee for nomination for this prestigious designation.

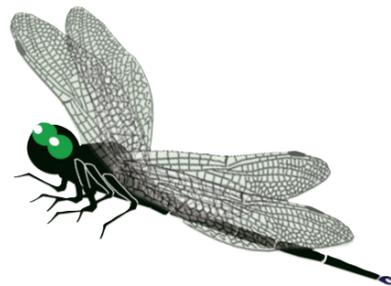
Workshop: Communicating About Water to Engage Wider Audiences

Thursday, Feb. 26, 2015, 1:30–4:30 p.m.

Location: Hall of Ideas GJ

Facilitators: Jane Elder & Meredith Keller, Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters

This workshop is designed to help you communicate more effectively about water and wetlands, taking advantage of insights from social science and experience in the field on how people “hear” and think about messages related to water. The workshop will explore frameworks for communicating about complex issues, how to develop effective messages, tips for language to use (and avoid) and provide for time for feedback from your colleagues on messages related to your projects or issues. Whether you are part of a local watershed association, work for a public agency, are a policy expert, or just care about wetlands, this workshop will help you reach audiences important to conserving wetlands. Attendees will receive a toolkit designed by the Wisconsin Academy's Waters of Wisconsin Leadership Network as a resource for your ongoing communications activities.



Acknowledgements

More than 100 experts and enthusiasts have contributed to the planning and content of this conference. We would like to thank all of the presenters, field trips leaders, and working group leaders for sharing their expertise with the regional wetland and water resource professional community. While it is not feasible to acknowledge every contributor individually, we offer special thanks below to individuals who have made especially important contributions to this event.

Thank you to the Nature Conservancy, the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program, and WDNR for lending laptop computers for use during the conference sessions.

Moderators

Thank you to the following partners for moderating conference sessions:

Gail Epping Overholt, UW-Extension

Jason Fleener, WDNR

Sarah Johnson, Northland College

Kelly Kearns, WDNR

Art Kitchen, WWA Board

Mary Linton, Snapping Linton Ecology

Nick Miller, The Nature Conservancy

Travis Olson, Wisconsin Coastal Management Program

Andy Paulios, WDNR

Jim Ruwaldt, WWA Board

Dave Siebert, WDNR

Pat Trochlell, WDNR

Dreux Watermolen, WDNR

Field Trip Leaders

Thank you to the following individuals for their assistance planning, coordinating, and leading our conference field trips to wetlands near Madison:

Tom Bernthal, Friends of Pheasant Branch

Amanda Budyak, Integrated Restorations

Cal DeWitt, UW-Madison

Nate Fayram, WDNR

Phil Gaebler, Capital Area RPC

Michael Hansen, UW-Madison Arboretum

Brad Herrick, UW-Madison Arboretum

Sean Longabaugh, Integrated Restorations

Kamran Mesbah, Capital Area RPC

Mike McDowell

Steve Richter, The Nature Conservancy

Colleen Robinson-Klug, Friends of Pheasant Branch

Student Scholarship Program Sponsors

Generous contributions made by The Nature Conservancy and We Energies allow us to provide financial support to many students who are attending our conference. Students receiving conference scholarships are denoted with a * in the list of volunteers below.



Volunteers

We thank the following volunteers for assisting us with the many and varied aspects of conference logistics:

Kayla Buszka*

Monika Blazs

Dan Dutilly

Hayden Elza*

Korin Franklin*

Nicolas Galleguillos*

Lee Hengescht

Chris Hirsch*

Rick Jones

Kaira Kamke*

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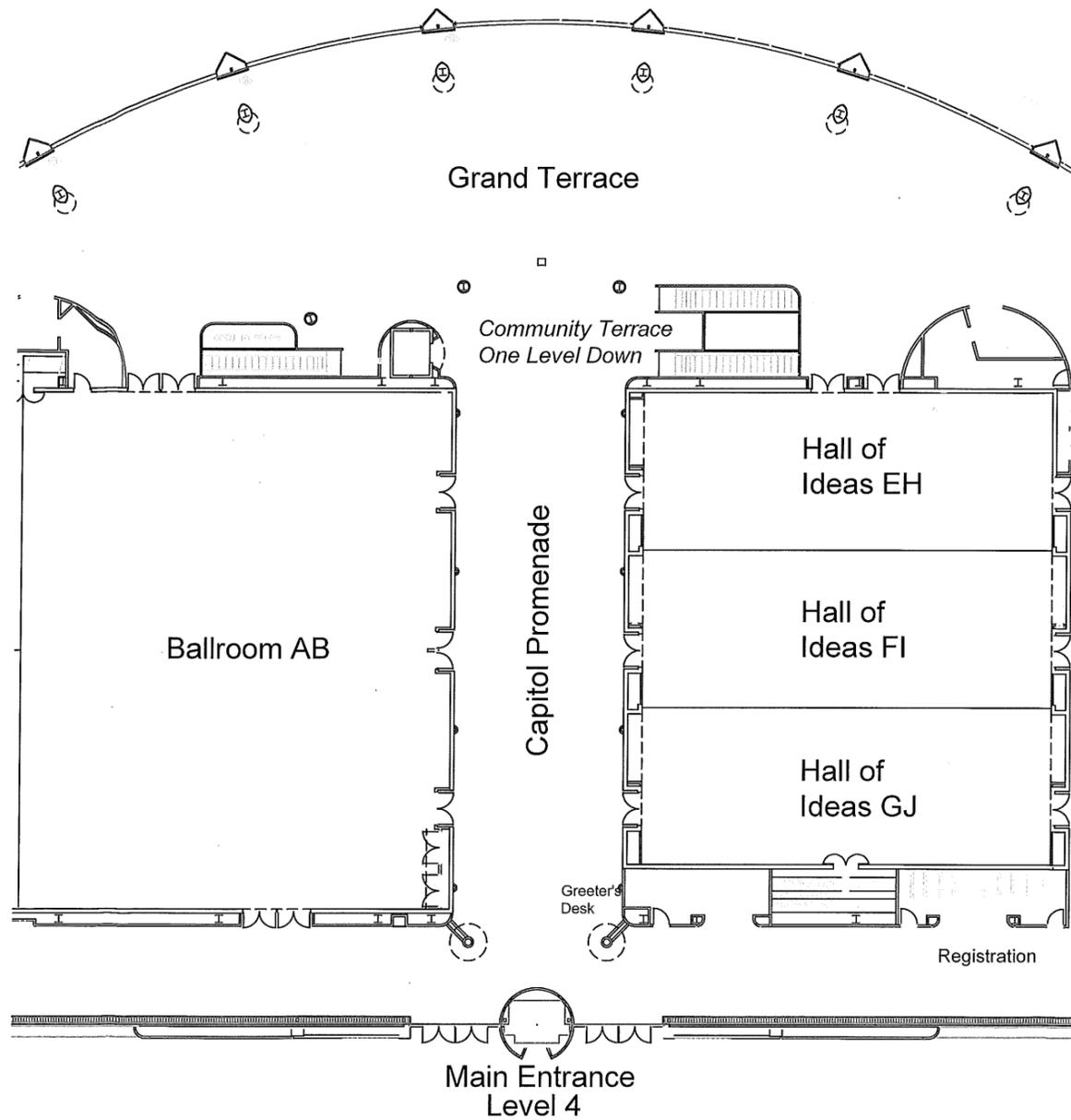
Charles Sandusky*

Lisa Schomaker*

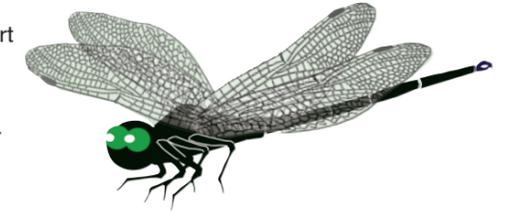
Amanda Swearingen*

Grace Vosen*

Monona Terrace



Wisconsin Wetlands Association thanks all of our sponsors for their support of this conference, without which this conference would not be possible. Those sponsors marked with an asterisk (*) have booths in the Grand Terrace at Monona Terrace. Please visit these exhibitors and thank them for supporting this conference!



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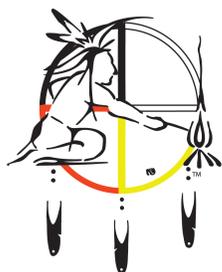
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