



## **Land and Water Conservation Board Agenda**

**December 5, 2023**

The Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) will meet on **December 5, 2023**. The board will hold its official business meeting at 9:00 am via Microsoft Teams with the option to attend in person. To attend the meeting remotely, join by telephone at +1 608-571-2209 with Conference ID 885025952# or click the following Teams [hyperlink](#). The agenda for the meeting is shown below.

### AGENDA ITEMS AND TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

- 9:00 AM            1    Call the Meeting to Order – **Mark Cupp, LWCB Chair**
- a.    Roll Call
  - b.    Pledge of allegiance
  - c.    Open meeting notice
  - d.    Introductions, Acknowledgements (Bobbie Webster)
  - e.    Approval of agenda
  - f.    Approval of October 3, 2023 meeting minutes
- 9:10 AM            2    Public appearances\*
- \*Each speaker is limited to 5 minutes or less. Each speaker must complete a Public Appearance Request Card and submit it to a DATCP representative before the start of the meeting*
- 9:15 AM            3    Recommendation for approval of 5 year LWRM Plan review for Taylor County  
**Brent Tessmer, County Conservationist, Ray Soper, LCC Chair**
- 9:40 AM            4    Recommendation for approval of 5 year LWRM Plan review for St. Croix County  
**Tim Stieber, Resource Management Administrator & County Conservationist, Dan Hansen , LCC & Community Development Committee Chair**
- 10:05 AM           5    Annual Soil and Water Conservation Report  
**Coreen Fallat, DATCP**
- 10:25 AM           6    Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin  
**Marissa Jablonski, Executive Director**

*Mark Cupp, Chair; Bobbie Webster, Vice-Chair;  
Monte Osterman, Secretary*

*Members: Andrew Buttles; Ron Grasshoff; Rebecca Clarke; Tom Mandli ; Brian McGraw  
Andrew Potts; Robby Personette; Jill Schoen*

- 10:50 AM 7 LWCB Advisory Committee on Research - Committee Updates  
**Ron Grasshoff, LWCB and Katy Smith, DATCP**
- 11:05 AM 8 Review of annual agenda  
**Katy Smith, DATCP**
- 11:10 AM 9 Agency reports
- a. FSA
  - b. NRCS
  - c. UW-CALS
  - d. UW Madison - Extension
  - e. WI Land + Water
  - f. DOA
  - g. DATCP
  - h. DNR
  - i. Member Updates
- 11:40 AM 10 Planning for February 2024 LWCB Meeting -  
**Mark Cupp, LWCB**
- 11:45 AM 11 Adjourn

**MINUTES**  
**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING**

**October 3, 2023**  
2811 Agriculture Drive, Madison WI  
Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Item #1      Call to Order—pledge of allegiance, open meeting notice, approval of agenda, approval of August 1, 2023 LWCB meeting minutes.**

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**Call to Order**

The Land and Water Conservation Board (Board) met in person at 2811 Agriculture Drive, Madison, WI 53718 on **October 3, 2023**. The meeting was preceded by public notice as required by Wis. Stat. § 19.84. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Cupp at **9:00 am** and the pledge of allegiance was conducted.

**Members and Advisors Present**

**Members:** Mark Cupp, Bobbie Webster, Monte Osterman, Brian McGraw, Ron Grasshoff, Tom Mandli, Rebecca Clarke, Andrew Buttles, Robby Personette, Andrew Potts, and Jill Schoen. A quorum was present.

**Advisors:** Matt Krueger (WI Land + Water), Rachel Schindler (FSA), Tyrone Larson (NRCS)

**Approval of Agenda**

**Motion**

McGraw motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Potts, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion**

Osterman motioned to approve the August 1, 2023 meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Grasshoff, and the motion carried unanimously. The approved minutes shall be posted as the official meeting record for publication on the LWCB website.

**Item #2      Public Appearances**

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No public appearance cards were submitted.

**Item #3      Presentation of 2024 Joint Final Allocation Plan**

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Susan Mockert, DATCP and Joanna Griffin, DNR presented to the Board the 2024 Joint Allocation Plan. The 2024 Joint Allocation Plan document is available online at the LWCB website within the October 3, 2023 [meeting packet](#).

**Motion**

After a discussion between the Board and agency representatives, McGraw motioned to recommend approval of the final 2024 Joint Final Allocation Plan as presented, seconded by Webster, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Item #4 DNR Presentation of Final Ranked Lists and Memos of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Projects for CY 2024**

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Joanna Griffin, DNR, presented to the Board the Scores and Rankings of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Applications for CY 2024. The memo describing the Scores and Rankings of TRM projects for CY 2024 is available within the October 3, 2023 [meeting packet](#).

**Motion**

After a discussion between the Board and agency representatives, Grasshoff moved to recommend approval the ranking of TRM projects for CY24 as presented, seconded by Potts, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Item #5 DNR Presentation of Final Ranked Lists and Memos of Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management Projects for CY 2024**

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Joanna Griffin, DNR, presented to the Board the Scores and Rankings of Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management Applications (UNPS) for CY 2024. The memo describing the Scores and Rankings of UNPS projects for CY 2024 is available within the October 3, 2023 [meeting packet](#).

**Motion**

After a discussion between the Board and agency representatives, McGraw moved to recommend approval the ranking of UNPS projects as presented, seconded by Webster, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Item #6 Recommendation for approval of 5-year Land and Water Resource Management Plan review for Monroe County**

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Bob Micheel, County Conservationist, and Doug Rogalla, Natural Resource & Extension Committee Member, formally requested a recommendation of approval from the Board regarding the County's 5-year LWRM plan review.

The County provided written answers to the Board's standardized questions, recent work plans and accomplishments, and other materials (available on LWCB's website: [lwcb.wi.gov](http://lwcb.wi.gov)).

**Motion**

After a discussion between the Board and County representatives, Osterman motioned to recommend approval of Monroe County's 5-year LWRM plan review, seconded by Webster, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Item #7 State Interagency Training Committee-Opportunities and Challenges**

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Michael Hook, WI Land + Water, presented on the State Interagency Training Committee (SITCOM), Opportunities and Challenges. A copy of the presentation is available on the LWCB's website: [lwcb.wi.gov](http://lwcb.wi.gov).

**Item #8 Recommendation for approval of 5-year Land and Water Resource Management Plan review for Oneida County**

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Michele Sadauskas, County Conservationist, Karl Jennrich Oneida County Conservation, Planning and Zoning Director, and Jim Winkler, Conservation & UW Extension Education Committee Chair,



formally requested a recommendation of approval from the Board regarding the County's 5-year LWRM plan review.

The County provided written answers to the Board's standardized questions, recent work plans and accomplishments, and other materials (available on LWCB's website: [lwcb.wi.gov](http://lwcb.wi.gov)).

## **Motion**

After a discussion between the Board and County representatives, McGraw motioned to recommend approval of Oneida County's 5-year LWRM plan review, seconded by Webster, and the motion carried unanimously.

## **Item #9      LWCB Advisory Committee on Research-Committee Updates**

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Ron Grasshoff and Katy Smith, DATCP, discussed updates from the September 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Advisory Committee on Research; DATCP has been coordinating with Dr. Francisco Arriaga to compile a list of UW contacts to whom the report should be shared to; the Committee will reconvene on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to discuss future needs.

## **Item #7      Agency Reports**

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- a. FSA- Schindler reported that September 30<sup>th</sup>, the end of the Federal Government Fiscal Year, was the deadline for offers related to new and re-enrolling contracts for CRP; until the Farm Bill is reauthorized or extended, there is no authority to administer new CRP signups; while many counties are experiencing varying degrees of drought status, emergency haying may still be an option for producers in FSA programs. Interested producers should consult their local FSA Office.
- b. NRCS- Larson reported that the Federal Government has been funded through November 17<sup>th</sup>; the total number of NRCS staff has just surpassed 300, just 5 years ago it was around 210; the Board should expect a year-end report in December; NRCS is optimistically looking forward to more partnerships as they cannot deliver Farm Bill programming by themselves.
- c. UW Madison- Extension- Radatz submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the October 3, 2023 [meeting packet](#).
- d. WI Land + Water- Krueger reported that Kewaunee County is hosting a Fall Technical Tour Training on October 12<sup>th</sup> related to Depth to Bedrock Verification protocols and how this data will be impacted by soil loss; WI Land + Water is monitoring [SB 468](#), related to eligibility for farmland preservation tax credits and photovoltaic solar energy systems.
- e. DOA- Potts noted [SB 134](#), and [SB 468](#) related to farmland preservation for the Board's awareness. DNR staff has completed its draft technical analysis report for the multi-discharger variance for phosphorus, as required under [s. 283.16 \(3\), Wis. Stats.](#) . DOA will be hosting a website for public comment in the very near future. In addition, DOA and DNR will jointly host several listening sessions on the technical analysis report
- f. DATCP- Personette submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the October 3, 2023 [meeting packet](#). In addition, Personette noted ATCP 50 was approved by the ATCP Board in September and has been submitted to the Governor's Office. Emergency Rule Scope Statements have been approved for ATCP 52 and

the Cover Crop Insurance Premium Rebate Program and the Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program. DATCP is working on the recruitments for 4 cooperatively funded positions through NRCS. DATCP received 47 Producer-Led Watershed Protection grant proposals for approximately \$1.6 million. A review committee is currently reviewing applications and hope to distribute award letters to the successful grant applicants in November.

- g. DNR- Schoen submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the October 3, 2023 [meeting packet](#). In addition Schoen reported that the Natural Resources Board approved an order for rules related to anti-degradation policy.
- h. Member Updates- Cupp thanked DNR and DATCP staff for an excellent annual report; excellent support for the LWCB meetings; thanked members and advisors for their participation and leadership.

**Item #8      Planning for the December 2023 LWCB meeting**

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The Board should expect the following at the next LWCB meeting:

- 5-year Review St. Croix, Taylor Counties
- A review of the Board’s Annual Agenda
- A Presentation on the Annual Soil and Water Conservation Report
- Report and Potential Recommendation on 2024 CREP Spending Authority
- 2021-2023 Farmland Preservation Biennial Report
- LWCB Advisory Committee on Research Updates, potentially related bylaw revisions
- Board Education Item

Chairman Cupp solicited the Board for location ideas related to the Board’s annual field meeting, typically to be hosted at the June meeting, in 2024.

**Item #9      Adjourn**

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**Motion**

Buttles motioned to adjourn, seconded by Webster, and the motion carried unanimously. The business meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

**CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM** \_\_\_\_\_ **State of Wisconsin**

**DATE:** November 20, 2023

**TO:** Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

**FROM:** Lisa K. Trumble, DATCP *Lisa K. Trumble*  
Resource Management Section,  
Bureau of Land and Water Resources

**SUBJECT:** Five Year Review of the *Taylor County Land and Water Resource Management Plan*

**Recommended Action:** This is an action item. The LWCB should determine whether the county has met the LWCB's criteria for a five-year review of a LWRM plan approved for ten years. If the LWCB makes a formal determination that the county has failed to meet these criteria, DATCP will automatically modify its order to terminate approval of the county's plan effective December of this year.

**Summary:** The Taylor County land and water resource management plan has been approved through December 31, 2028, contingent on a five-year review conducted prior to December 31, 2023. In advance of the five-year review, Taylor County has completed a DATCP approved form designed to implement the LWCB's reference document dated October 27, 2021, and the criteria for conducting a five-year review. The county has provided written answers to four questions regarding past and future implementation, has provided the required work planning documents, and has appropriately involved the Land Conservation Committee.

**Materials Provided:**

- Completed Five Year Review Form
- 2022 Annual Workplan with Accomplishments
- 2023 Annual Workplan

**Presenter:** Brent Tessmer, County Conservationist, Taylor County LCD  
Ray Soper, Land Conservation Committee Chair



Land and Water Conservation Board  
County Land and Water Resource Management Plan  
Five Year Review of LWRM Plans

County: Taylor

**Implementation Covering Past Five Years and Future Directions**

Answer these four questions in writing (not to exceed 4 pages)

1. Provide a representative number of accomplishments that can be directly traced to activities identified in multiple work plans. For each accomplishment, explain how the planning process helped the county achieve its outcome, including planning adjustments that helped better target county activities.

Taylor County has identified no-till planting of crops as an effective practice to increase soil health, while decreasing soil erosion and nutrient runoff. Providing assistance with no-till planting has been a priority on past and present work plans. The target acres of assistance has been increased through the years. To meet planned target acres, the county purchased a second no-till drill to rent out to landowners. Taylor County has been successful at meeting work plan targets for manure storage closures. In an effort to continue to meet our targets, and possibly increase them, the county has enacted a county funded cost share program to help pay for the cost of pumping out manure storages that are due to be abandoned. The cost of pumping the contents of a manure storage has long been a deterrence to getting these unused manure storages closed, due to SWRM cost share only covering the closure costs and not the pumping. Taylor County has identified invasive species as a priority and has kept select troublesome invasive weeds from establishing and spreading throughout the county. Work plan goals have been increased as invasive weed populations have been found.

2. Identify any areas where the county was unable to make desired progress in implementing activities identified in multiple work plans. For each area identified, explain the work plan adjustments that were made to refocus planned activities. If no areas are identified, explain how the county was able to make progress in all the areas planned.

Looking at the previous five years, the county has identified less than desired progress in nutrient management plan development, grazing plan development, and well decommissioning. For nutrient management plan development, the so called "low hanging fruit" farms have been picked. Remaining farms are not required to have a nutrient management plan and have either turned down or are unaware of cost share opportunities. The county has begun utilizing the recently allowed cost sharing of cover crops to promote nutrient management and cover crops as well as better utilize available cost share funds. For grazing plan development, a shortage of regional grazing planners, county staff changes, and a difficult NRCS grazing planner training and certification process has hampered new grazing plan development. The county continues to promote grazing and producer interest



remains. The county will continue to work with partner agencies in training and/or locating certified grazing planners to connect with producers. For well decommissioning, landowner interest has been a little less than desired. County staff will prioritize inventorying unused wells when working around the county. The county will better promote cost share for decommissioning unused wells.

3. Describe how the county's work plans implement its priority farm strategy and the effectiveness of county actions implementing agricultural performance standards and conservation practices on farms. In particular, the county should describe outreach, farm inventories, and additional funds that were pursued to implement its strategy.

Taylor County's work plans indicate the yearly inventory of a portion of priority farms. The county has done this when able. Staff time constraints and turnover have limited the amount of inventories done. The county has targeted priority farms through mailings. The county targets priority farms for projects, but will not turn down a farm that voluntarily comes in for assistance on worthwhile projects if they happen to not be on the priority list. The county works closely with local NRCS staff, with each agency promoting the assistance programs of each to producers and helping them choose the best route for assistance. Outreach efforts have been successful in yielding project workloads that have fully utilized available funding and staffing resources. The county has received additional funds through the DNR Multi Discharger Variance program as well as the DNR Notice of Discharge grant program to fund projects.

4. Provide representative examples that show changes in direction for work planning in the upcoming five years, with specific examples provided showing adjustments in planned activities in the county's most recent work plan.

Taylor County is promoting the cost sharing of cover crops for the improvement of soil health and reduction of soil erosion and nutrient runoff. This cost share is tied to nutrient management planning and will work to increase those acres as well. This priority has been added to the most recent work plan. The county will put a higher emphasis on inventorying priority farms as well as outreach to those farms. This emphasis will be added to future work plans.

### **Annual Work Plans**

Attach both of the following:

- a. The most current annual work prepared by the county.
- b. The work plan for the previous year that includes a column that identifies the progress in implementing the planned activities for that year.

### **Board Review Process**

The goal of the review is not to fail counties. The board recognizes the dynamic nature of the planning process. Board members are interested in how counties tackle priorities over time and how they respond to changing conditions in pursuing their priorities. The board will evaluate a county's planning and implementation based on how well the county balances and prioritizes the

following: agricultural performance standards, other state priorities (impaired waters, FPP checks), and local priorities. When needed, the Board will provide constructive support to counties to improve the quality of their planning. Counties have the option to prepare a brief presentation to illustrate their successes and future priorities.

### **Land Conservation Committee Notification**

The LCC was provided a completed copy of these questions (including attachments) on:  
11/10/2023

**Signature of Authorized Representative:** Brent Tessmer **Date:** 11/10/2023  
(e.g. County Conservationist, LCC chair)

Send completed questionnaire and attachments to:

[Lisa.Trumble@wi.gov](mailto:Lisa.Trumble@wi.gov)

**Taylor County 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN**  
**LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

CATEGORY (goal and objective from LWRM plan can be added in each category)	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS If applicable identify focus areas, e.g. HUC 12 watershed code (examples of types of “planned activities” in italics)	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (examples in italics)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Cropland</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Review and approve 28,000 Acres of NM plans</li> <li>-NM training for 4 farmers</li> <li>-Develop 1,000 Acres of NM plans</li> <li>-No-Till planting on 700 Acres</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-29,568 Acres of NM plans submitted &amp; reviewed</li> <li>-5 farmers attended NMP training</li> <li>-987 acres of new NMP developed</li> <li>-777 acres of no-till planting assistance</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Livestock</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Livestock</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-1 Barnyard runoff control system and roof runoff system.</li> <li>-2 Feed storage runoff control systems</li> <li>-4 Manure storages</li> <li>-2 Grazing plans</li> <li>-4 Manure storage closures</li> <li>-2 Managed Grazing Systems</li> <li>-Landscape-scale surveys and/or inventories</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-0 Barnyard runoff control system - pushed off to 2023 due to contractor availability</li> <li>-0 Feed storage runoff control systems – landowners changed mind</li> <li>-1 Manure storage – decreased number due to landowners changing plans</li> <li>-1 Grazing plan – Short on grazing planners</li> <li>-2 Manure storage closures – decreased number due to landowners changing plans</li> <li>-2 Managed Grazing Systems</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Water quality</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Water quality/quantity</b> (other than activities already listed in other categories)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-2 Well decommissioning</li> <li>-Inventory unused drinking wells when able</li> <li>-125 Groundwater tests</li> <li>-35 Stream monitoring sites</li> <li>-Assist with the Clean Sweep program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-0 Well decommissioning – Change in landowner interest</li> <li>-102 Groundwater tests</li> <li>-35 Stream monitoring sites</li> <li>-3 Staff assisted with Clean Sweep program</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Forestry</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Forestry</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Invasive</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Invasive species</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-100 Control sites</li> <li>-Public/Municipal outreach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-102 Control sites</li> <li>-3 Youth trainings</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Wildlife</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat</b> (other than forestry or invasive species)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Wildlife damage program</li> <li>-Tree and shrub sale (12,000)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Administered Wildlife Damage Program under a contract with USDA-APHIS</li> <li>-15,500 trees &amp; shrubs sold</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Urban</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Urban issues</b>		



**Taylor County 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

- *Watershed*

<b>Watershed strategies</b>	-Inventory 5% of priority farms -Eau Claire River Implementation Team	-10 Priority farms inventoried – Limited staff time -0 Eau Claire River meetings attended – schedule conflicts
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- *Other*

<b>Other</b>		
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Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits anticipated to be issued
Feedlot permits	0	0
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	6	6
Manure storage closure	4	4
Livestock facility siting	0	N/A
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	0	N/A
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	0	N/A
Shoreland zoning	0	N/A
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	0	N/A
Other		

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	3
For FPP	0
For NR 151	3
Animal waste ordinance	10
Livestock facility siting	0
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	0
Nonmetallic mining	0



**Taylor County 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	0
Field days	0
Trainings/workshops	1
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	2
Newsletters	3
Social media posts	52
News release/story	3

Table 5: Staff Hours and Expected Costs (staff can be combined or listed individually)

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
<i>All Staff</i>	5980	\$230,602.93
<b>Cost Sharing (can be combined)</b>		
<i>SWRM Bond</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$70,368.00</i>
<i>SWRM SEG</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$35,000.00</i>
<i>DNR NOD</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$132,416.12</i>
<i>MDV</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$55,290.05</i>

**Taylor County 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

CATEGORY (goal and objective from LWRM plan can be added in each category)	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS If applicable identify focus areas, e.g. HUC 12 watershed code (examples of types of "planned activities" in italics)	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (examples in italics)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Cropland</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>-Review and approve 29,000 Acres of NM plans</i></li> <li><i>-NM training for 4 farmers</i></li> <li><i>-Develop 1,000 Acres of NM plans</i></li> <li><i>-No-Till planting on 700 Acres</i></li> <li><i>-Cost Share Cover Crops on 600 Acres</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i></li> <li><i>Amount of cost-share dollars spent</i></li> <li><i># lbs of sediment reduced (using any approved method)</i></li> <li><i># lbs of P reduced (using any approved method)</i></li> <li><i># acres of cropland in compliance with a performance standard</i></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Livestock</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Livestock</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>-1 Barnyard runoff control system</i></li> <li><i>-1 Feed storage runoff control system</i></li> <li><i>-1 Manure storage</i></li> <li><i>-3 Grazing plans</i></li> <li><i>-2 Manure storage closures</i></li> <li><i>-4 Managed grazing systems</i></li> <li><i>-1 Milkhouse waste control system</i></li> <li><i>-Landscape-scale surveys and/or inventories</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i></li> <li><i>Amount of cost-share dollars spent</i></li> <li><i># lbs of sediment reduced (using any approved method)</i></li> <li><i># lbs of P reduced (using any approved method)</i></li> <li><i># of livestock facilities in compliance with a performance standard</i></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Water quality</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Water quality/quantity</b> (other than activities already listed in other categories)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>-2 Well decommissioning</i></li> <li><i>-Inventory unused drinking wells when able</i></li> <li><i>-125 Groundwater tests</i></li> <li><i>-35 Stream monitoring sites</i></li> <li><i>-Assist with the Clean Sweep program</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i></li> <li><i>Amount of cost-share dollars spent</i></li> <li><i># lbs of sediment reduced (using any approved method)</i></li> <li><i># lbs of P reduced (using any approved method)</i></li> <li><i>Number of staff assisting with Clean Sweep</i></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Forestry</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Forestry</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Invasive</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Invasive species</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>-115 Control sites</i></li> <li><i>-Public/Municipal outreach</i></li> <li><i>-Raise Galerucella beetles for purple loosestrife control</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Number of control efforts implemented/sites treated</i></li> <li><i>Number of meetings attended/presentations given</i></li> <li><i>Number of potted purple loosestrife plants for beetle raising</i></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Wildlife</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat</b> (other than forestry or invasive species)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>-Wildlife damage program</i></li> <li><i>-Tree and shrub sale (16,000)</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Number of claims processed</i></li> <li><i>Number of trees and shrubs sold</i></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Urban</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Urban issues</b>		

**Taylor County 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

- *Watershed*

<b>Watershed strategies</b>	-Inventory 5% of priority farms -Eau Claire River Implementation Team	Number of priority farms inventoried Number of meetings attended/presentations given
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- *Other*

<b>Other</b>		
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Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits anticipated to be issued
Feedlot permits	0	0
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	4	4
Manure storage closure	2	2
Livestock facility siting	0	N/A
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	0	N/A
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	0	N/A
Shoreland zoning	0	N/A
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	0	N/A
Other		

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	4
For FPP	1
For NR 151	3
Animal waste ordinance	10
Livestock facility siting	0
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	0
Nonmetallic mining	0

**Taylor County 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	1
Field days	0
Trainings/workshops	1
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	8
Newsletters	2
Social media posts	52
News release/story	2

Table 5: Staff Hours and Expected Costs (staff can be combined or listed individually)

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
<i>All Staff</i>	<i>5980</i>	<i>\$237,809.00</i>
<b>Cost Sharing (can be combined)</b>		
<i>SWRM Bond</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$65,241.00</i>
<i>SWRM SEG</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$40,000.00</i>
<i>DNR NOD</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$132,416.12</i>
<i>MDV</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>\$93,446.72</i>

**CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM** \_\_\_\_\_ **State of Wisconsin**

**DATE:** November 20, 2023

**TO:** Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

**FROM:** Lisa K. Trumble, DATCP *Lisa K. Trumble*  
Resource Management Section,  
Bureau of Land and Water Resources

**SUBJECT:** Five Year Review of the *Saint Croix County Land and Water Resource Management Plan*

**Recommended Action:** This is an action item. The LWCB should determine whether the county has met the LWCB's criteria for a five-year review of a LWRM plan approved for ten years. If the LWCB makes a formal determination that the county has failed to meet these criteria, DATCP will automatically modify its order to terminate approval of the county's plan effective December of this year.

**Summary:** The Saint Croix County land and water resource management plan has been approved through December 31, 2028, contingent on a five-year review conducted prior to December 31, 2023. In advance of the five-year review, Saint Croix County has completed a DATCP approved form designed to implement the LWCB's reference document dated October 27, 2021, and the criteria for conducting a five-year review. The county has provided written answers to four questions regarding past and future implementation, has provided the required work planning documents, and has appropriately involved the Community Development Committee.

**Materials Provided:**

- Completed Five Year Review Form
- 2022 Annual Workplan with Accomplishments
- 2023 Annual Workplan

**Presenter:** Jason Kjeseth, Saint Croix County Community Development Director  
Tim Stieber, Land and Water Conservation Administrator  
Dan Hansen, Community Development Committee Chair





Land and Water Conservation Board  
County Land and Water Resource Management Plan  
Five Year Review of LWRM Plans

County: St. Croix

**Implementation Covering Past Five Years and Future Directions**

Answer these four questions in writing (not to exceed 4 pages)

1. Provide a representative number of accomplishments that can be directly traced to activities identified in multiple work plans. For each accomplishment, explain how the planning process helped the county achieve its outcome, including planning adjustments that helped better target county activities.

These items are in the LWRM and in the Annual Work Plan.

LWRM Goal 1: Groundwater Accomplishments

Obj. 1. 45 wells were properly sealed using DATCP Bond and County cost-share

Obj.3. 87 major subdivisions were reviewed for erosion control 2018 - 2022

Obj.7. A County urgent response protocol for manure spills and complaints was developed and implemented

Obj.8. A groundwater well testing program was designed and is now in its 5th year

Obj. 9. Environmentally sensitive areas were mapped - DRASTIC, karst, sinkholes

Obj.11. Groundwater and well data was updated in GIS layers

Obj.12. Sampling results were analyzed in relation to proximity to Ag and POWTS

Each of these Goal 1 accomplishments were a LWRM goal and also in the Annual Work Plan or the counties Ground and Surface Water Plan & Prioritized Recommendations. Having these items in both the long range plan and also in the more immediate plans helped keep staff focused on the goal.

LWRM Goal 2: Protect and Enhance Surface Waters

Obj. 2.1 A St. Croix Partners reduction goal established in the TMDL Implementation Plan was 36,000 lbs P reduced by 2020 for St. Croix County. SCC reduced 22,400 lbs P/yr up through 2017 and an additional 14,551 during the 2018 - 2020 period totalling 36,951 lbs P/yr by the end of 2020 - exceeding the goal.

Obj. 2.6 Established water quality goals and implemented BMP's using watershed based approach in the Rush River and Willow River watersheds using TRM grants.

These two efforts resulted from the LWRM requirement to focus on reductions and track progress and 2021/22 Annual Work Plans focusing on these watersheds.

LWRM Goal 3: Protect and Restore Fish and Wildlife Habitat

Obj. 3.3 Preserved and restored shoreland, wetland, and aquatic habitat by completing 7 streambank restoration projects totalling 1,264 linear feet.

Obj. 3.3 Supported partners to establish 182 acres of riparian buffer through 27 contracts

Obj. 3.5 We encouraged species diversity through our annual plant distribution program which sold 93,145 trees, shrubs, prairie and wetland plants from 2018 - 2022.

These accomplishments and activities remain in St. Croix Counties program because they were deemed important during the LWRM process and therefore these actions are included in each Annual Work Plan and implemented.

LWRM Goal 4: Preserve Ag. Land and Improve Soil Health

Obj. 1: Implemented FPP on an average of 27,510 acres during 2018 - 2022.

Obj. 2: Cost shared 3,511 acres of cover crops 2018 - 2022.

Obj. 3: Managed wildlife damage program and compensated 14 farmers for damage and managing \$94,680 for damage claims and deer processing during 2018 - 2022.

LWRM Goal 5: Connect with Active Environmental Stewards

Obj. 1. Supported Dry Run Farmer Led Council in the Lake St. Croix TMDL watershed.

Obj. 2. Provided civic governance training for multiple staff during 2018-2022.

Obj. 5. Staff completed an average of 263 landowner visits per year to address resource concerns with county landowners.

St. Croix County conservation staff engage landowners and partners to deliver programs, education, and technical assistance. These items are a focus in the LWRM and annual work plan

2. Identify any areas where the county was unable to make desired progress in implementing activities identified in multiple work plans. For each area identified, explain the work plan adjustments that were made to refocus planned activities. If no areas are identified, explain how the county was able to make progress in all the areas planned.

Nearly all annual 2022 work plan tasks were completed. A few areas fell short such as the number of waterways constructed and the number of BMPs installed within the Willow River TRM project area. There was staff turnover in 2021 and 2022 along with Covid restrictions which reduced landowner interaction and projects implemented. Education and outreach accomplishments were very respectable in 2022 - rebounding after Covid forced many events into virtual presentations.

Progress has been made in all 2018 - 2028 LWRM Plan goals. There are a few LWRM areas in which there was no action during the first five years of implementation:

Goal 1 Activity 2 and Goal 2 Activity 3 describes a parcel by parcel evaluation of compliance with NR 151 Performance Standards followed by landowner notification, cost share offer, etc.. A review of the entire 50,000 parcels within the County is too labor intensive to be tackled with current staffing levels.

Goal 1 Activity 5 & 6 and Goal 2 Activity 4 & 5 outline specific County ordinance updates. None of those listed have been worked on to date. Staff have been collecting and analyzing groundwater data that may identify where ordinance changes could be established to protect water quality. For example, only 5 Towns have Tier One nitrate status.

Goal 3 & 4 Activity 6 seeks to develop a transfer of development rights program. Work on this has not occurred.



3. Describe how the county's work plans implement its priority farm strategy and the effectiveness of county actions implementing agricultural performance standards and conservation practices on farms. In particular, the county should describe outreach, farm inventories, and additional funds that were pursued to implement its strategy.

A High Priority for Service in St. Croix County are farms located in the St. Croix Basin that are implementing phosphorus reducing practices. This basin was targeted with Rush River and Willow River TRM grants for practice implementation during the 2018 - 2022 review period. In addition, two Lake Protection grants were obtained for the St. Croix Basin to implement Civic Governance and promote cover crops.

Another High Priority is ensuring that farms receiving cost share, receiving permits, or involved in state programs such as the Farmland Preservation Program are meeting NR151 Standards. Inspections are conducted for all of these annually as reported in the annual work plan progress report.

The County implements Ag Performance Standards through followup on complaints submitted to Resource Management during the year. A complaint response protocol was developed and adopted in 2021 to ensure efficient and consistent response by staff. From 4 to 8 complaints related to agricultural runoff or manure are followed up on annually and resolution sought. One landowner violation related to a failing manure storage was addressed using a Notice of Discharge grant in 2022. That manure storage has been decommissioned to state standards using grant and landowner funds.

A county wide inventory of animal waste storages identified those in need of closure and these landowners are being approached. Known sinkholes and depression areas were mapped county wide with the information used during NMP review and during land use permit application reviews.

Outreach to reach landowners has included targeted mailings, brochures, flyers, booths at events, tours, social media posts, news releases, and one on one site visits

4. Provide representative examples that show changes in direction for work planning in the upcoming five years, with specific examples provided showing adjustments in planned activities in the county's most recent work plan.

The Counties 2022 workplan does not indicate any changes in direction from 2018 to 2021. Focus has been consistent and progress has been made toward all LWRM goals. Some adjustments have been made in the 2023 workplan such as increasing the acres of NMP and cover crops expected to be cost shared as these are being promoted. The trend has been reduced activity in livestock/manure structure work due to high costs of these projects and small operations getting out of animal agriculture. Civic Governance actions were removed from our work plan since grants supporting that work have been completed.

County programs have evolved over time largely as funding sources and programs have changed. An database of conservation practices implemented since the year 2000 has been established and added to each year - allowing changes to be observed. Practices are also mapped for visual impact.



## Annual Work Plans

Attach both of the following:

- a. The most current annual work prepared by the county.
- b. The work plan for the previous year that includes a column that identifies the progress in implementing the planned activities for that year.

## Board Review Process

The goal of the review is not to fail counties. The board recognizes the dynamic nature of the planning process. Board members are interested in how counties tackle priorities over time and how they respond to changing conditions in pursuing their priorities. The board will evaluate a county's planning and implementation based on how well the county balances and prioritizes the following: agricultural performance standards, other state priorities (impaired waters, FPP checks), and local priorities. When needed, the Board will provide constructive support to counties to improve the quality of their planning. Counties have the option to prepare a brief presentation to illustrate their successes and future priorities.

## Land Conservation Committee Notification

The LCC was provided a completed copy of these questions (including attachments) on:

Signature of Authorized Representative:  
(e.g. County Conservationist, LCC chair)



Date: 9-16-23

Send completed questionnaire and attachments to:  
[Lisa.Trumble@wi.gov](mailto:Lisa.Trumble@wi.gov)

**ST CROIX COUNTY 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 1: Planned activities, performance measures, and accomplishments by category for the 2022 year.

<b>CATEGORY</b> (goal and objective from LWRM plan can be added in each category)	<b>PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS</b> If applicable identify focus areas, e.g. HUC 12 watershed code	<b>PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS</b>	<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Cropland</i></li> </ul>			
<b>Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management</b>	NM plan development (875 acres) Grassed Waterways (6) FPP compliance reviews (25) 590 Reviews (25) Cover Crops (500 acres)	875 acres under reviewed NM Construct 6 waterways. Complete review of 25 FPP plans Review 25 Nutrient Management Plans Cost share 500 acres of cover crop to promote practice	1369 acres of NMP's developed Constructed 2 waterways, 3,128 linear ft, 2.9 acres 31 compliance reviews completed Reviewed 32 NMP's Cost shared 1013 acres of cover crops
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Livestock</i></li> </ul>			
<b>Livestock</b>	Waste facility closure (4) Permit waste storage facility (2) Stream Crossing (1) Permitted Operation Inspections (10)	Oversee 4 waste facility sites to state standards Permit 2 waste storage facility to state standards Install 1 stream crossing to DNR standards Complete 10 operation review for livestock	3 waste facility storages closed to state standards Two waste storage permits were reviewed and issued No livestock siting applications were received for review Two streambank restoration projects completed. 193', linear Two livestock facilities were inspected and reviewed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Water quality</i></li> </ul>			
<b>Water quality/quantity</b> (other than activities already listed in other categories)	Well decommissioning (10) Critical area planting (2) Residential well water screening program (500) Complete year 3 GW trend sampling (180)	Complete 10 well decommissions to DATCP standards Complete 2 critical area planting to FOTG standard Facilitate well water screening program for 500 samples. Collect and analyze 180 samples for nitrate trend network	Eight wells were decommissioned to DNR standards Two critical area plantings along streambanks Analyzed 404 samples during nitrate screening clinics Collected and analyzed 179 samples for nitrate trend, prepared 4 year trend report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Forestry</i></li> </ul>			
<b>Forestry</b>	Native tree and shrub sale(17,000)	Facilitate 17000 plants being distributed for planting.	Facilitated sale of 22,584 plants during annual sale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Invasive</i></li> </ul>			
<b>Invasive species</b>	Public inquiries and educational efforts (10)	Handle at least 10 inquiries related to invasive species	Handled 4 noxious weed inquires,
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Wildlife</i></li> </ul>			
<b>Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat</b> (other than forestry or invasive species)	Wildlife damage program funding (5) Native prairie plant sales (50) Streambank Stabilizations (3)	Handle 5 claims Facilitate distribution of 50 native prairie plant kits Install 3 projects with habitat components	3 claims processed, \$17,465, 98 deer processed 134 special plant kits were distributed – prairie, pollinator, woodland plants 2 stream bank sites were completed with 193 feet of stream which included “lunker structures” for trout
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Urban</i></li> </ul>			
<b>Urban issues</b>	Stormwater and erosion control permits (40) Stormwater and erosion control reviews (50)	Visit at least 40 sites for site inspection related to development and correct BMP use. Review landowner storm water plans for 50 permits	86 site inspections were completed related to stormwater, 19 stormwater plans were reviewed 89 land use permits were issued and all were reviewed for erosion control implications with 64 site inspections made

**ST CROIX COUNTY 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

- *Watershed*

<b>Watershed strategies</b>	Lake St. Croix TMDL implementation (4 mtg's) Dry Run Creek Producer-Led project (5 mtg's) Civic Governance (12 mtg's) Targeted Runoff Management Grant project area BMP's installed (8)	Participate in at least 4 meetings Participate in at least 5 producer led meetings. Attend 12 civic governance meetings Install 8 BMP's in TRM grant targeted area	Six meetings were held Seven Dry Run Producer-Led meetings were held, Producer led grant submitted and funded for 2023. Twelve meetings were held for civic governance training. Two grants supporting this work ended in 2022. 6 TRM projects were implemented, 5 projects were planned
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- *Other*

<b>Other</b>	PL 566 inspections (43) Non-metallic mining and reclamation inspection (20)	Complete 43 inspections Complete 20 inspections	Two non-metallic mine applications were renewed and fully reviewed.
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**ST CROIX COUNTY 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

<b>Permits and Ordinances</b>	<b>Plans/application reviews anticipated</b>	<b>Permits anticipated to be issued</b>	<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS</b>
Feedlot permits	0	0	No permits received
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	2	2	Two storages constructed
Manure storage closure	4	0	Three storages closed, 5 million gallons
Livestock facility siting	1	1	No siting applications received
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	20	2	No new applications, 2 renewal reviewed
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	50	50	19 major subdivision plans reviewed + 89 Land Use Permits
Shoreland zoning	40	35	35 shoreland permits, 12 Riverway permits
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	150	0	76 CSM's reviewed for wetland, livestock, and waterway drainage issues
Other			

Table 3: Planned inspections

<b>Inspections</b>	<b>Number of inspections planned</b>	<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS</b>
Total Farm Inspections	60	59 farm inspections
For FPP	45	31 inspections for FPP
For NR 151	15	28 for NR 151
Animal waste ordinance	15	11 animal waste ordinance reviews
Livestock facility siting	2	0 siting cases
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	50	96 inspections
Nonmetallic mining	20	20 sites inspected

**ST CROIX COUNTY 2022 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

ACTIVITY	NUMBER	ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Tours	2	1 tour hosted
Field days	0	4 field days participated
Trainings/workshops	2	Adult education and partner meetings reached 290 individuals
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	25	Presentations and events reaching 5377 individuals
Newsletters	2	2 recycling newsletters reaching 45,000+ per issue
Social media posts	10	102 posts reached 35,304 accounts
News release/story	5	3 news releases on new funding and for events

Table 5: Staff Hours and Expected Costs (staff can be combined or listed individually).

Staff/Support	Hours	Planned Costs	Actual From 2022
Resource Management Administrator	2080	\$100,173	\$ 97,540.17
Conservation Planner	2080	\$63,274	\$100,168.87
Conservation Planner	2080	\$61,402	\$75,062.66
Land Use Technician	2080	\$45,323	\$71,658.16
Watershed Technician	2080	\$53,997	\$50,836.85
Water Quality Specialist	1040	\$35,000	\$34,512.30
Support Staff	416	\$17,500	\$14,395.63
<b>Cost Sharing (can be combined)</b>			
Bonding		\$45,000	\$44,143.64
SEG		\$35,000	\$73,660.00
County Cost Share		\$40,000	\$35,000
TRM		\$75,000	\$18,224.48
Conservation Aids		\$2,000	\$5,334.04
DNR – NOD Cost Share		\$43,227	\$43,227.00
Multi-Variance Discharge		\$1975	\$1975.75

**ST CROIX COUNTY 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN**  
**LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

<b>CATEGORY</b> (goal and objective from LWRM plan can be added in each category)	<b>PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS</b> If applicable identify focus areas, e.g. HUC 12 watershed code	<b>PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Cropland</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management</b>	NM plan development (1000 acres) Grassed Waterways (10) FPP compliance reviews (30) 590 Reviews (30) Cover Crops (1000 acres)	Acres of new NMP's established Complete design and construction of 10 waterways. Complete review of 30 FPP plans Review 30 Nutrient Management Plans Cost share 1000 acres of cover crop to promote practice
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Livestock</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Livestock</b>	Waste facility closure (2) Permit waste storage facility (2) Permitted Operation Inspections (4)	Oversee 2 waste facility closures to state standards Permit 2 waste storage facility to state standards Complete 4 operation review for livestock operations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Water quality</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Water quality/quantity</b> (other than activities already listed in other categories)	Well decommissioning (6) Critical area planting (2) Residential well water screening program (400) Complete year 5th year GW trend sampling (170) Implement (4) new CREP buffers	Complete 6 well decommissions to DNR standards Complete 2 critical area planting to FOTG standard Facilitate well water screening program for 400 landowners. Collect and analyze 170 samples for nitrate in trend network Assist with county cost share the implementation of CREP buffers if required to obtain a CREP contract
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Forestry</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Forestry</b>	Native tree and shrub distribution (20,000)	Facilitate 20,000 plants being distributed for planting including kits for prairie, woodland, pollinator, and wetland plants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Invasive</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Invasive species</b>	Handle public inquiries and educational efforts for terrestrial and aquatic invasive species	Implement year one of renewed AIS program. Host at least one regional meeting on noxious weeds with CWMA.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Wildlife</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat</b> (other than forestry or invasive species)	Wildlife damage program funding (5) Native prairie plant sales (50) Streambank Stabilizations (3)	Handle 5 claims and reimbursements for deer processing Facilitate distribution of 50 native prairie plant kits Install 3 projects with habitat components
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Urban</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Urban issues</b>	Stormwater and erosion control permits (60) Stormwater and erosion control site visits (125) Review (15) stormwater plans related to subdivisions	Review 60 land use permits for stormwater and erosion control Conduct 125 site visits related to stormwater and erosion control Review 15 stormwater plans associated with subdivisions

**ST CROIX COUNTY 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

- *Watershed*

<b>Watershed strategies</b>	Lake St. Croix TMDL implementation (4 mtg's) Dry Run Creek Producer-Led project (5 mtg's) Implement existing Targeted Runoff Management Grant and submit grant to obtain additional staffing and BMP Implementation funds	Participate in at least 4 meetings and submit a grant to help with renewing the TMDL Implementation Plan Participate in at least 5 producer led meetings for Dry Run. Work to complete S. Fork of Willow TRM and submit TRM proposal to obtain additional funds to benefit Lake St. Croix
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- *Other*

<b>Other</b>	PL 566 inspections (6) Non-metallic mining and reclamation inspection (20)	Complete 6 Dam Inspections as required by schedule Complete 20 inspections of active non-metallic mines
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Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits anticipated to be issued
Feedlot permits	0	0
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	2	2
Manure storage closure	4	na
Livestock facility siting	1	1
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	2	2 renewals
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	60	60
Shoreland zoning	40	40
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	85	85
Other		

**ST CROIX COUNTY 2023 ANNUAL WORK PLAN  
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 3: Planned inspections

<b>Inspections</b>	<b>Number of inspections planned</b>
Total Farm Inspections	56
For FPP	31
For NR 151	25
Animal waste ordinance	10
Livestock facility siting	0
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	125
Nonmetallic mining	20

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Number</b>
Tours	1
Field days	0
Trainings/workshops	3
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	25
Newsletters	2
Social media posts	100
News release/story	4

Table 5: Staff Hours and Expected Costs (staff can be combined or listed individually)

<b>Staff/Support</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Costs</b>
Resource Management Administrator	2080	\$103,284
Conservation Planner	2080	\$81,669
Conservation Planner	2080	\$79,298
Land Use Technician II	2080	\$70,512
Watershed Technician	2080	\$59,130
Land Use Planner	1040	\$35,032
Support Staff	416	\$18,000
<b>Cost Sharing</b> (can be combined)		
Bonding		\$51,000
SEG + an extra \$10,000 will be sought		\$35,000
County Cost Share		\$30,000
TRM		\$75,000
Conservation Aids		\$2,000



# **CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM**

STATE OF WISCONSIN

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**DATE:** December 5, 2023

**TO:** Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

**FROM:** DATCP  
Land and Water Resource Bureau

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Proposed 2024 LWCB Annual Agenda

**Recommended Action:** This is an action item. The LWCB may choose to approve the proposed 2024 annual agenda or choose to amend it before approval.

**Summary:** DATCP and DNR staff have prepared a proposed annual agenda for LWCB meetings in 2024. Subject to LWCB approval, the meeting dates for 2024 are as follows:

February 6, 2024

April 2, 2024

June 4, 2024

August 6, 2024

October 1, 2024

December 3, 2024

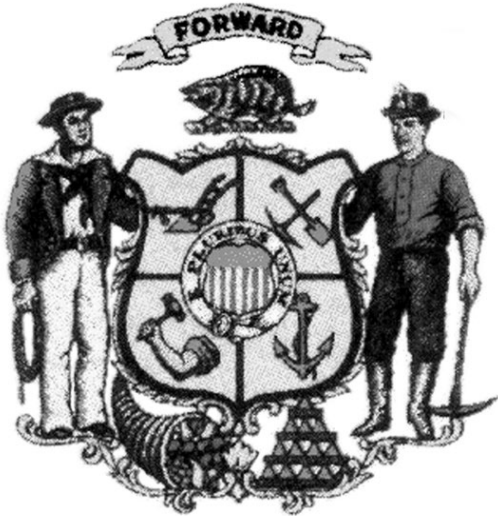
Meetings will be planned as hybrid in-person & virtual meetings unless they are planned at a field location away from DATCP. Field meetings will be planned as in-person meetings only.

If you have any questions about the annual agenda, please contact Katy Smith, [Katy.Smith@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Katy.Smith@wisconsin.gov), (608) 224-4621.

**Materials Provided:** LWCB 2024 Proposed Annual Agenda.

**Presenters:** Katy Smith, DATCP

# Land and Water Conservation Board



## 2024 ANNUAL AGENDA

## February 6, 2024 LWCB MEETING

### DATCP AND DNR PROGRAMS

- ◆ Recommendations related to Land and Water Resource Management Plans: Five Year Reviews (Douglas and Rock Counties)  
*Responsible Party: Lisa Trumble*
- ◆ Report and Potential Recommendation on the 2024 CREP Spending Authority  
*Responsible Party: Brian Loeffelholz*

### LWCB ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- ◆ Election of 2024 Officers  
*Responsible Party: LWCB Chair*
- ◆ LWCB Advisory Committee on Research- Committee Updates  
*Responsible Party: Committee Representative*

## APRIL 2, 2024 LWCB MEETING

### DATCP AND DNR PROGRAMS

- ◆ Recommendations related to Land and Water Resource Management Plans: Five Year Reviews (Ashland, Barron, and Clark Counties)  
*Responsible Party: Lisa Trumble*
- ◆ Extension of DATCP Projects from 2023 into 2024  
*Responsible Party: Susan Mockert*
- ◆ Report on Transfers and Reallocations of 2023 Cost-Share Dollars (written report only)  
*Responsible Party: Susan Mockert and DNR Representative*

### LWCB ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- ◆ LWCB Advisory Committee on Research- Committee Updates  
*Responsible Party: Committee Representative*

## **JUNE 4, 2024 LWCB MEETING**

### **DATCP AND DNR PROGRAMS**

- ◆ Recommendations related to Land and Water Resource Management Plans: Five Year Reviews (Langlade and Vernon Counties)  
*Responsible Party: Lisa Trumble*
- ◆ The 2023 Annual Soil and Water Conservation Report (written report only)  
*Responsible Party: Coreen Fallat*

### **LWCB ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

- ◆ LWCB Advisory Committee on Research- Committee Updates  
*Responsible Party: Committee Representative*

## **AUGUST 6, 2024 LWCB MEETING**

### **DATCP AND DNR PROGRAMS**

- ◆ Recommendations related to Land and Water Resource Management Plans: Five Year Reviews (LaCrosse, Marquette, and Price Counties)  
*Responsible Party: Lisa Trumble*
- ◆ Presentation of 2025 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan  
*Responsible Party: Susan Mockert and Joanna Griffin*
- ◆ DNR Presentation of the Scores and Rankings of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Projects for CY 2025  
*Responsible Party: Joanna Griffin*
- ◆ DNR Presentation of the Scores and Rankings of Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management Projects for CY 2025  
*Responsible Party: Joanna Griffin*
- ◆ Presentation on the 2023 Annual Soil and Water Conservation Report  
*Responsible Party: Coreen Fallat*

## LWCB ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- ◆ LWCB Advisory Committee on Research- Committee Updates  
*Responsible Party: Committee Representative*

## OCTOBER 1, 2024 LWCB MEETING

## DATCP AND DNR PROGRAMS

- ◆ Recommendations related to Land and Water Resource Management Plans: Five Year Reviews (Bayfield, Calumet, and Portage Counties)  
*Responsible Party: Lisa Trumble*
- ◆ Recommendation for approval of the 2025 Joint Final Allocation Plan
  - ❖ Response to comments regarding the 2025 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan*Responsible Party: Susan Mockert and Joanna Griffin*
- ◆ DNR Presentation of the Final Scores and Rankings of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) and Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management Projects for CY 2025  
*Responsible Party: Joanna Griffin*

## LWCB ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- ◆ LWCB Advisory Committee on Research- Committee Updates  
*Responsible Party: Committee Representative*

## DECEMBER 3, 2024 LWCB MEETING

## DATCP AND DNR PROGRAMS

- ◆ Recommendations related to Land and Water Resource Management Plans: Approvals (Vilas and Wood Counties) and Five Year Review (Chippewa County)  
*Responsible Party: Lisa Trumble*
- ◆ Report and Potential Recommendation on the 2025 CREP Spending Authority  
*Responsible Party: Brian Loeffelholz*

## LWCB ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- ◆ LWCB Advisory Committee on Research- Committee Updates  
*Responsible Party: Committee Representative*
- ◆ Approval of Proposed 2025 LWCB Annual Agenda  
*Responsible Party: LWCB Chair*
- ◆ Review of the LWCB Bylaws  
*Responsible Party: LWCB Chair*



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December 2023

### **Soil and Water Resources Management (SWRM) Grants**

- Hailey Roessler is the new Grants Specialist working with Kim Carlson on SWRM. Hailey comes to us from years in local government. Susan Mockert is the Conservation Grants Unit Supervisor. Kim, Hailey, and Susan are all available to answer your SWRM questions.
- Open office hours will take place on Wednesday, December 6 from 10-11 a.m. The title of this session is “Using DATCP Grants.” Join the DATCP Grants staff to talk about how grant funds can be used. We will touch on SWRM (the allocation process, how the staffing grants work, uses of SEG funds), producer-led reimbursements or contracting, CREP (15-year agreements, reimbursements, cost-share), and more. Questions can be submitted in advance to [susan.mockert@wisconsin.gov](mailto:susan.mockert@wisconsin.gov), or asked during the session. We look forward to seeing you! [To join the meeting, click this Teams link!](#)
- Requests to transfer cost share funds between counties are due to DATCP by December 1, 2023.
- Until ATCP 50 receives approval from the governor and legislature and is published, the new practices are not available for cost-share.
- SWRM Innovation Grants: the report template and extension form were emailed out October 26, 2023. The report is due February 15, 2024, and the extension form is due on December 31, 2023.
- Please submit reimbursement requests as projects are completed.

### **Annual Reports for 2023**

- Just a heads up that counties will receive the annual reporting questions for 2023 in December. The reports are due March 4, 2024. Your response to these questions are included in the annual report. We are always seeking good stories to feature in the report, so please let us know if you have something you would like to share! Here is a link to the [2022 annual report](#), for inspiration.

### **ATCP 50 Update**

- ATCP 50 has been filed with the Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse for approval. A link to the webpage with all related documents is available [here](#).

### **Nutrient Management News**

- UPCOMING: Online Nutrient Management Farmer Education Trainings will be hosted in January, February, and March in 2024. The target audience of these trainings is farmers who are wanting to become certified to write their own nutrient management plans, but anyone is able to attend! Registration is free!

Register Here: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#).

- 2024 NMFE Webinar and presentation slides are now available on the NMFE webpage, found here: [DATCP Home Nutrient Management Farmer Education Grants](#).
- Previous SnapPlus trainings can be found here: [DATCP Home Nutrient Management Trainings](#).

### **Soil Health**

- DATCP and UW Nutrient and Pest Management are continuing to work together to develop new soil health training curriculum and resources, similar to the online Nutrient Management Farmer Education curriculum. We hope to share additional details in the coming months as we make progress. Contact Randy Zogbaum at [randy.zogbaum@wi.gov](mailto:randy.zogbaum@wi.gov) with questions.

### **Land and Water Conservation Board – LWRM Plans**

- The Land and Water Conservation Board meeting on December 5, 2023, will be a hybrid meeting. St. Croix and Taylor Counties will present a five-year review of their LWRM Plan.

### **Conservation Engineering**

- DATCP was awarded two engineering project positions through a cooperative agreement with NRCS and will be hiring a Hydrologic & Hydraulic Engineer and an Environmental Specialist over the next couple months. We are excited to add this capacity to our team to assist with both Federal and State projects. Watch for more information and job postings in the next month or two.

### **DATCP Drainage Program**

- Drainage Program oversight refers to the actions by DATCP to review and monitor county drainage boards and county and municipal administrators and their policies, plans, programs, and projects to ensure that they are achieving expected results; represent good value for money; and are in compliance with applicable policies, laws, regulations, and ethical standards. DATCP has recently appointed Barton T. Chapman, P.E. as the Drainage Program Manager and State Drainage Engineer. He can be reached at [Barton.Chapman@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Barton.Chapman@Wisconsin.gov). Keep an eye out for the upcoming release of the official e-newsletter of the DATCP Drainage Program.

### **Farmland Preservation (FP) Program and Agricultural Enterprise Areas (AEA)**

- Please submit a copy of your 2023 Department of Revenue (DOR) spreadsheet for Farmland Preservation participants by December 29, 2023 to [DATCPWorkingLands@wi.gov](mailto:DATCPWorkingLands@wi.gov). If you make any updates to your spreadsheet during the course of the tax season, you must submit an updated copy to us. A copy of this spreadsheet, in addition to a FAQ for Compliance Questions, is available [here](#).
- **NEW:** Agreement holders with effective agreements signed prior to July 1, 2009 that have not been modified to meet current standards will be required to provide their agreement number on tax schedule FC.
- If you have questions about the DOR spreadsheet or have questions with respect to any element of the FP Program, contact [DATCPWorkingLands@wi.gov](mailto:DATCPWorkingLands@wi.gov).
- We are still accepting FP agreement applications. For an agreement to take effect, it must be signed by both the landowners and DATCP. Applications will be processed promptly, however applications received now until the end of the year are not guaranteed to be processed before the end of the year. Encourage landowners to apply early to ensure they can receive the 2023 tax credit. The FP agreement application can be found [here](#).



## **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)**

- **County Annual Cost Reporting Deadline 12/10/2023:** Counties are asked to report their CREP administrative costs to DATCP by no later than Friday December 8, 2023. The county contributions to administer CREP count toward Wisconsin's overall match requirements for federal CREP funds and are important for meeting statewide CREP program requirements reported to FSA by the end of the year. The reporting form (LWR-282) is on the CREP website. Completed reports should be sent as a PDF via email to Brian Loeffelholz at [Brian.Loeffelholz@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Brian.Loeffelholz@wisconsin.gov).
- **Final Agreement Materials Sent to LCD:** Once DATCP has finalized processing a CREP agreement, a paper incentive check is mailed to LCD offices. When the check is mailed, DATCP sends an email to the LCDs that includes the documents listed below. A reminder that LCDs should keep a copy of these documents in your secure files and print a copy of each to provide the landowner with their check. Please be on the lookout for this email when you receive the check in the mail.
  - State Practice Reimbursement Form - LWR-287
  - Fully signed page-one of CREP agreement – LWR-283
  - CREP Data Sheet (summarizes agreement with acres enrolled, payments, etc.).

## **Agricultural Impact Statement (AIS) Program**

- Kirsten Biefeld is the new Agricultural Impact Statement Program Manager and Land Conservation specialist that started on November 27. Kirsten comes from a background in environmental outreach, working with both the DNR and DATCP, as well as having a master's degree of Environmental Science with a concentration in land and water resources. She can be reached at [kirstenk.biefeld@wisconsin.gov](mailto:kirstenk.biefeld@wisconsin.gov) or at (608) 224-4650.
- The AIS program published an AIS for the [County Highway PC Reconstruction in Monroe County, WI](#). You can find more information about the AIS program at [agimpact.wi.gov](http://agimpact.wi.gov). You can also contact [DATCPAgImpactStatements@wi.gov](mailto:DATCPAgImpactStatements@wi.gov) with questions regarding any active AIS statement or the AIS program.

## **Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant (PLWPG) Program**

- Dana Christel has accepted a new position and her last day with DATCP will be December 13. The bureau will be working to backfill the position quickly. We wish Dana well in her new position and appreciate the outstanding work she has done for DATCP and producer-led groups in the state over these last four years!
- Award letters for 2024 have been sent to all successful applicants and contract development is underway. The department will be issuing a news release in the coming weeks.
- The 2024 Annual Workshop will be held on February 20, 2024 at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau. Registration is open here: <https://forms.office.com/g/TYws700vCD>.
- We have funding for groups to host regional winter workshops or spring field days in the range of \$500-\$1,500 per event through the Producer-Led Regional Network effort. Contact your regional coordinator or Dana Christel for more information or if you have ideas for a shared, collaborative event to host with other groups in your region.

## **Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program**

- The 2024 grant cycle opened November 13, 2024. All research study designs require UW approval prior to the submission of the grant application. Contact Monica Schauer ([monica.schauer@wisc.edu](mailto:monica.schauer@wisc.edu)) by **December 15, 2023** to discuss your study design. This preapproval is required to submit an application for NOPP funds. Final applications are due to [DATCPNOPP@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DATCPNOPP@wisconsin.gov) by **January 31, 2024**.
- The 2024 application, RFP, and supporting documents are available on the [NOPP webpage](#).

## **Crop Insurance Rebates for Planting Cover Crops Program**

- The application for the Crop Insurance Rebates for Planting Cover Crops Program opened on December 1, 2023. Frequently asked questions about the program can be found on the [Cover Crops webpage](#). Contact [datcpcc@wisconsin.gov](mailto:datcpcc@wisconsin.gov) with any additional questions. Subscribe to program updates [here](#).

## **Legislation Updates**

- [Senate Bill 134](#) and [Assembly Bill 133](#) - Relating to: farmland preservation agreements and tax credits.
- [Senate Bill 468](#) and [Assembly Bill 480](#)- Relating to: eligibility for farmland preservation tax credits and photovoltaic solar energy systems.
- [Senate Bill 220](#) and [Assembly Bill 220](#) - Relating to: funding for the Fenwood Creek watershed pilot project.
- [Senate Bill 409](#) and [Assembly Bill 419](#) – Relating to: creating an online interactive carbon calculator for farmers.
- [Senate Bill 619](#) and [Assembly Bill 655](#) – Relating to: a transition to grass pilot program.

## **Tools, Resources, and Opportunities**

- [Need training? Bureau of Land and Water Resources Training Request for County Staff and Local Governments Online Request Form.](#)

DATE: December 5, 2023

TO: LWCB members and advisors

FROM: Jill Schoen, DNR

SUBJECT: DNR Update, October 2023 - November 2023, for December LWCB meeting

### **Storm Water Program Update**

For federal fiscal year 2023 (October – September), storm water staff conducted a total of 1188 compliance checks comprised of 927 construction inspections, 143 industrial inspections, 98 municipal inspections, and 20 municipal program audits. Staff received 2104 construction and 234 industrial permit applications.

### **US EPA Awards Funds to WDNR for Nonpoint Source Pollution Projects**

On October 1, 2023, the US Environmental Protection Agency awarded \$827,600 of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding for WDNR to partner with Bayfield County and the City of Ashland to reduce nonpoint source pollution in the Fish Creek Watershed and Lake Superior's Chequamegon Bay. This project includes Nine Key Element Watershed Plan development for Fish Creek, reconstruction of perched culverts within stream channels, and installation of other agricultural best management practices in Bayfield County, and green infrastructure projects to reduce stormwater runoff in the City and restore Bay City Creek. Previously funded projects in 2022 and 2023 total an additional \$3,385,000 for implementation of agricultural best management practices in priority watersheds of the Upper and Lower Fox River, and Natural Flood Management in the Marengo River Watershed in Ashland County.

### **Surface Water Grants Program Update**

The deadline for final grant applications was November 15, 2023 and surface water grant program staff are processing the submitted applications. This year, the department received over 200 applications from eligible applicants competing for the available funding to support projects that protect and restore waterbodies and prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. Currently, the surface water grant program is recruiting and assembling ranking teams who will review and score grants within the multiple grant categories. Grants to be funded will be determined by the end of January 2024 and grant awards will be announced in early February 2024.

### **Staffing Update**

Ben Uvaas will start as the new Agricultural NPS Implementation Coordinator on December 4. For the past ten years, Ben has held two positions in the CAFO Program, most recently as the Compliance & Enforcement Policy Coordinator. He is stationed out of the Oshkosh DNR Office.

### **2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Wisconsin's State Revolving Fund Program Updates**

#### ***Overview and status update:***

The passage in 2021 of the Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) has generated significant interest in Wisconsin's state revolving fund program, known as the [Environmental Improvement Fund](#). Since 1990, the program has provided \$6.2 billion in financial assistance to municipalities across the state.

Jointly administered by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Department of Administration, the program encompasses the [Safe Drinking Water Loan Program](#), focused on drinking water projects, and the [Clean Water Fund Program](#), aimed at wastewater and storm water projects. The Clean Water Fund Program features a subprogram for non-traditional municipality-led water quality projects, including water quality trading and other watershed-based phosphorus reduction approaches

which may involve agricultural nonpoint reduction projects, farmers, and county land and water conservation department staff. More details on the Pilot Projects sub-program is online [here](#).

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provides funding to the state each year for these programs, and Wisconsin provides additional matching funds. The programs provide subsidized financing options including low-interest loans and principal forgiveness (a portion of the loan does not need to be repaid). Local governments awarded financing receive reimbursement for eligible capital costs and related design and engineering costs for water infrastructure projects.

The BIL represents a massive increased investment by the Federal government, in partnership with the states, in all kinds of civil infrastructure (transportation and technology infrastructure, environmental cleanups, and water infrastructure, to name a few). It allocated \$1.2 trillion in total funding over 10 years, with \$55 billion of that targeted to water infrastructure nationwide. [In Wisconsin, the BIL will provide over \\$900 million in additional funding](#) through the in state fiscal years 2023-2027.

The increased funding is already reaching municipalities across the state. This summer and fall, final applications came in for the second round of enhanced funding through Wisconsin's programs. Proposed projects were worth more than double that requested in a typical year before the BIL—upwards of \$415 million worth in each program. [Preliminary estimates of Safe Drinking Water Loan Program financing awards this year are just over \\$400 million](#), with Clean Water Fund Program awards to be announced in November (watch this [webpage](#), under the heading “SFY 2024 CWFP,” for details).

For regular email updates on these programs, follow the prompts [here](#) or contact the Environmental Loans program's Outreach Coordinator, Kay Christensen, at [Kay.Christensen@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Kay.Christensen@Wisconsin.gov).

#### ***Increased Department capacity:***

The DNR has received directed funding from the EPA to build staff capacity to help connect local and Tribal governments with these expanded funding opportunities. The Department has hired new staff to manage the existing and new loan programs, process a larger volume of applications, and provide outreach and technical assistance to municipalities, with an emphasis on small, rural, and Tribal communities. These positions are embedded in program areas across the Department to ensure integration and a strong foundation of support for the Environmental Improvement Fund programs. The Department will share a list of new BIL staff contacts in our report for the Board's next meeting.

#### ***Clean Water Fund Program Storm Water Updates:***

[Urban storm water and green infrastructure projects are eligible for the Clean Water Fund Program's](#) subsidized-interest-rate loans and the possibility of some principal forgiveness in certain cases.

The deadline to submit an Intent to Apply (ITA) for the next funding cycle (for State Fiscal Year 2025) was October 31st. Of 739 total ITAs received, nine were storm water projects. Last cycle's submitted ITAs included seven storm water projects, three of which were determined to be eligible for funding, and only one project came in as a final application.

Hoping to generate more interest and more storm water project applications in the next rounds of funding, the Department's BIL storm water outreach staff are reaching out to municipalities and helping where needed. Communities interested in this funding opportunity for storm water projects are encouraged to contact Matt Kaelin ([matthew.kaelin@wisconsin.gov](mailto:matthew.kaelin@wisconsin.gov)) and Grace Mikelsons ([grace.mikelsons@wisconsin.gov](mailto:grace.mikelsons@wisconsin.gov)).