

membership continued

\$25-\$99

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Less than \$25

Anonymous
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 Kwik Trip #372 +
 Elroy Mittelstadt
 Jean Schneider
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**Thank you to our
 volunteers. We couldn't
 do it without you!**

Issue Team Members
 Stream Monitors
 Wetland Monitors
 Rain Garden Supporters
 Special Event Assistants

Rock River Coalition 2008 Annual Report



Mission

*To educate and provide
 opportunities for people of
 diverse interests to work
 together to improve the
 environmental, recreational,
 cultural, and economic
 resources of the Rock River
 Basins in Wisconsin.*

Rock River Coalition, Inc. Financial Summary

For the fiscal year ending 12/31/2008

Support and Revenue

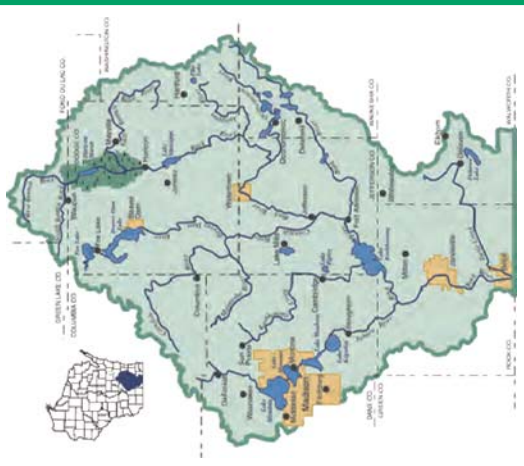
Memberships/Donations \$ 11,078
 Grants (Encumbered Funds) \$ 20,850
 Interest/Program Income \$ 15,527
Total Revenue \$47,455

Expenses

Programs & Projects \$59,695
 Management & Operations \$ 1,434
Total Expenses \$61,129

Net Assets

Beginning of the Year \$59,791
 End of the Year \$46,098
Change in Assets \$13,693



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 920-674-7443, rriver@excel.net, www.rockrivercoalition.org

President's Message

Last week I had a chance to spend a few hours alone at Zeloski Marsh. Full of life and song and fresh air and sunshine and quiet water. Before I got out of my car I saw a flash of bright gold in a big tree - an Oriole was singing his clear bright song. The beautifully patterned little birds flitting behind the leaves had bright yellow patches at the base of their tails - yellow rumped warblers. Now, I'm really a volunteer lake monitor - but even I can figure this out.

Walking towards the Oak Grove I saw dog prints in the hardened mud - or maybe a coyote? Blackbirds were everywhere, flashing their red epaulets to impress their lady loves and buzz/trilling their hearts out. Crossing the bridge over the flooded woods I tried to make sense of the chorus of frog and toad calls, and gave up - just enjoyed the swamp band.

Coming into the open I heard what sounded like Tarzan, but was really a little grebe - two yellow headed blackbirds are over there too - never seen them before, but it's unmistakable. Walking back, I stopped to take in the full sweep of this great marsh, and thanked everything for this beautiful place.

You know, we all really need to do this - turn off the computer, leave the "to do" pile for a few hours, grab those binoculars, and go look and listen to the magic of a springtime wetland. I spend a lot of time talking about pollution and phosphorus and land use and stormwater, and going to meetings with good people - working on good causes, but what keeps my batteries charged is talking time to wander in beautiful places, to take a deep breath, and let the world fall off my shoulders.

It's intensely gratifying to be a part of an organization that is helping to restore and protect our wonderful waters in the Rock River Basin, and all the life they contain. I hope you know how important your membership and support are - we would not be here without all of you - thank you!

Lisa Conley, 2008 RRC President

2008 Rock River Coalition Highlights Monitoring

Phosphorus Monitoring Efforts

Citizens continue to monitor streams in Rock, Dane, Dodge, Jefferson and Waukesha counties. In 2008, Monitoring Director Ed Grunden was able to continue our work to monitor phosphorus, a critical component in restoring our watersheds.



Youth Monitoring

Over 200 students learned about water quality and issues in the Rock River Basin through a hands-on program.

Wetland Monitoring

The 1461 acre Zeloski Marsh restoration, a part of the Lake Mills Wildlife Area, was in its second year of full restoration in 2008. RRC bird monitors documented more than 195 (up from 169 the year before) bird species including a Whooping Crane, Boblinks and Yellow-headed Blackbirds. An additional 380+ acres adjacent to Zyloski were added to the monitoring effort through an agreement with the DOT as part of their wetland mitigation program.

RRC Issue Teams

Stormwater: Water Star Community Program

The Water Star Community Program went into serious development mode with work groups and technical assessment workshops. More than 70 professionals have developed an extensive list of actions municipalities can take in the area of surface water, groundwater, habitat, human health and recreation.

Groundwater: GFLOW Model

Through the efforts of the Groundwater Team the RRC has pulled together 39 municipalities, non-profits, consultants, individuals and lake districts to fund the development of a GFLOW computer model by USGS. The model was completed in 2008, and will become a useful tool for land use decisions throughout the basin.

RRC Board Highlights

RRC Chapters

Friends of Badfish Creek became the first Chapter of the Rock River Coalition, this small but enthusiastic group has hosted many educational programs and did the first ever aquatic invasive plant survey via canoe. This resulted in their spotting a large stand of Japanese Knotweed and developing an eradication plan for 2009.

Wisconsin Parks and Recreation Association Award

The WPRA presented the Rock River Coalition with its 2008 Partner Award for the work we have done with parks departments throughout the basin, in particular, for our assistance in planning shoreline restorations and establishing rain gardens.

Thank you to our 2008 Members and Donors: You make it happen!

\$10,000 and over

Quirk Foundation

\$1,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous
General Motors
Rock County*
Town of Beaver Dam*
Town of Concord*
Town of Jefferson*
Town of Oakland*
Vierbicher Associates
Village of Marshall*
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

\$100 - \$999

Brandon Sewer & Water Utility*
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City of Lake Mills
Bob & Lisa Conley
Dane County+
Dodge County Land Resources & Parks
Department
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District*
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Convention & Visitors Bureau
Kunkel Engineering
Lake Koshkonong Wetland Association
LanDesign by Margaret Burlington
Tracey & Tom Novak
Rock Lake Improvement Association*
Sunrise Kiwanis Club of Watertown
Town and Country RC&D*
Town of Clyman*
Town of Emmet*
Town of Lake Mills*
Town of Portland*
Town of Williamstown*
Ken Wiesner

* GFLOW Contributors
+ Members or Donors of
Friends of Badfish Creek: a
Chapter of the Rock River
Coalition

