

## Rock River Basin November 2016 Update

The Rock River Update is a listing of events and other items of interest for people in and around the Rock River Basin of Wisconsin. The update is available online at the beginning of each month. Inclusion is not an endorsement of a program, publication or website.

Subscribe to this list at: <https://lists.uwex.edu/mailman/listinfo/rock-river-basin-update>

The Update will be posted at: <http://rockrivercoalition.org/events/events-page/>

“Like” the [Rock River Coalition](#) on Facebook to keep up-to-date on activities

To receive informational flyers on RRC events, send an email to [marier@jeffersoncountywi.gov](mailto:marier@jeffersoncountywi.gov)

### Rock River Coalition (RRC) Events

Nov 16 **Rock River Coalition Board Meeting**, 5:15-7:15 pm, Rm 12 at UW-Extension office, Jefferson, WI. Please confirm time and location prior to meeting.

#### Become A Stream Steward: Volunteer to Monitor Stream Health!

##### What do volunteer stream monitors do? Go to:

Rock River Coalition, Citizen Stream Monitoring:

<http://rockrivercoalition.org/projects/citizen-stream-monitoring/>

Water Action Volunteers Program:

<http://watermonitoring.uwex.edu/wav/monitoring/index.html>

Waukesha County, Citizen Stream Monitoring Program:

<http://wiatri.net/cbm/whoswho/results.cfm?OrgID=191>

**Access Database Help:** If you are interested in lending your skills to the Rock River Coalition, and are skilled at formatting Microsoft Access databases, please contact [info@rockrivercoalition.org](mailto:info@rockrivercoalition.org).

### Natural Resource Calendar of Events

**Sustainable Strategies Webinar Series:** 12:00-1:00 pm, every third Thursday. Free monthly series for Municipal professionals. Produced by Wisconsin Green Tier Legacy Communities Charter and the Wisconsin Counties Association with support provided by UW-Extension's Regional Natural Resources Education Program and WDNR.

<http://greentiercommunities.org/links/sustainable-strategies-webinar-series/>

Nov 2016: 12:00-1:00 pm. Asset Management

Presenter – Claudia Haack, Sustainable Infrastructure Manager, Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District

Dec 2016: 12:00-1:00 pm. Recycling and Waste Reduction

Presenter – Maleesa Johnson, Director, Marathon County Solid Waste Dept.

Jan 2017: 12:00-1:00 pm. Urban Wildlife

Presenter – Professor David Drake, UW-Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology

Feb 2017: 12:00-1:00 pm. Sustainable Food Systems – The Farm to Table Movement

Presenter – Heather Cleveland, Food Justice Director – Nourish

Mar 2017: 12:00-1:00 pm. Invasive Forest Insects

Presenter – Andrea Diss-Torrance, Invasive Forest Insects Program

Nov 5 **The Midwest Garden - Rotary Botanical Gardens Fall Symposium:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm. 1455 Palmer Dr, Janesville, WI. Come for an exciting and inspirational day and explore the Midwest Garden! \$65/RBG Members or Master Gardeners, \$75 general public, includes boxed lunch. <http://www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org/event/fall-garden-symposium/> + Google Map

Nov 6 **Bird & Nature Walk:** 1:30 pm-3:00 pm. Cherokee Marsh - North Unit, 6098 North Sherman Ave., Madison, WI. Free, family-friendly nature outing! No registration required. Naturalist Alex Singer will lead a walk on easy Cherokee Marsh hiking trails at the height of fall colors. Sponsored by Madison Friends of Urban Nature. Contact: 608-698-0104


Nov 9-11 **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Wisconsin Association For Floodplain, Stormwater & Coastal Management (WAFSCM) Conference – 2016:** Radisson LaCrosse, LaCrosse, WI. [Conference Brochure](#) – Schedule, Fees, and Information. [www.wafscm.org](http://www.wafscm.org). Contact Laura Rozumalski, [lrozumalski@freshwatereng.com](mailto:lrozumalski@freshwatereng.com) or Minal Hahn, [Minal@msquaredengineering.com](mailto:Minal@msquaredengineering.com)

Nov 9 **Effectively Connecting with the Agricultural Community: Dane County Watershed Network Gathering:** 5:30-7:30 pm. Lyman F. Anderson Agriculture & Conservation Center, Rm 208, Madison. [VIEW MAP](#) Click [here](#) to register. 608-224-3617 or [sandford.susan@countyofdane.com](mailto:sandford.susan@countyofdane.com)

Nov 12 **Cooking Wild Game-Venison:** 10:00 am -Noon. Friends of Horicon Marsh Education & Visitors Center, Horicon, WI. Join DNR staffer and author of "Wild Rice Goose and Other Dishes of the Upper Midwest" for a presentation on how to cook venison and taste some of the delicious meals. Free/open to public. [elizabeth.herzmann@wisconsin.gov](mailto:elizabeth.herzmann@wisconsin.gov), or 920-387-7893.

Nov 15 **Call for Presentations:** Deadline for abstract submission for The Wisconsin Wetlands Association's 22nd Annual Wetland Science Conference, *Wetland Connections*. More info: <http://conference.wisconsinwetlands.org/call-for-presentations/>

Nov 15 **Groundwater Statistics for Environmental Project Managers Training Seminar:** Noon - 2:15 pm. Statistical techniques may be used throughout the process of cleaning up contaminated groundwater. It is challenging for practitioners, who are not experts in statistics, to interpret, and use statistical techniques. <https://clu-in.org/conf/itrc/GSMC/> Register: <https://clun.org/conf/itrc/register/new.cfm?date=737>

Nov 19 **All About Turkeys:** 1:00 pm. UW Arboretum Visitor Center  Madison, WI. Learn about the Arboretum's thriving wild turkeys, their anatomy, biology, and behavior. Class will be held indoors, concluding with a 30-minute walk to look for turkeys. Preregistration required by Nov. 17. Fee: \$20 (\$18 FOA).

Nov 25-Dec 4 **River Alliance of Wisconsin 2016 Online Auction:** 8:00 am – 9:00 pm. Shop for priceless river experiences, fine wine and dining packages, and unique art during the River Alliance Online Auction. Contact Cassie Mordini if interested in donating an item or experience to this year's auction. <http://www.wisconsinrivers.org/events/display/item/auction-2016>

Dec 3 **Annual Water-related Group Networking Event:** 1:00-3:30 pm. Alicia Ashman Library, Madison, WI. Each water-related group in Dane County will have the chance to give a quick "3-minute, 3-slide" overview of major projects and accomplishments over the past year. Open networking time will follow. Register [here](#)

Dec 6-8 **Groundwater Week:** Las Vegas, Nevada. On Dec 7th, featured speaker for the joint keynote session is Peter G. McCornick, an internationally known expert in water, food, and environmental research. <http://groundwaterweek.com/program/>

Dec 10 **Effigy Mound Culture Class:** 1:00- 3:30 pm. Arboretum Visitor Center, Madison. Learn about the mounds, the native people who created them, and their environment. Indoors, with an outdoor walk if weather permits. Instructor: Paul Borowsky, Arboretum naturalist. Preregister by Dec. 8. Registration: \$20.

## 2017

Jan 21 **Friends of Cherokee Marsh Annual Meeting:** 10 am-noon. Warner Park Community & Recreation Center. Madison, WI. Annual meeting PLUS a presentation on cranes with Rich Beilfuss, President of the International Crane Foundation.

Feb 28-Mar 2 **Save the Date! 2017 Wetland Science Conference:** Holiday Inn Convention Center, Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Conference will include a keynote address, organized symposia, topical oral sessions, a poster session, working groups, a banquet, and wetland field trips. Final registration deadline: February 23, 2017. [www.conference.wisconsinwetlands.org](http://www.conference.wisconsinwetlands.org)

Mar 9 **Land, Water, and People Coming Together – The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Red Cedar Watershed Conference:** UW-Stout, Menomonie, WI + Google Map. <http://www.wisconsinlakes.org/event/land-water-people-coming-together-6th-annual-red-cedar-watershed-conference/>

May 8-11 **2017 River Rally:** Hosted by River Network, Grand Rapids, Michigan. A national conference that focuses on education, inspiration and celebration within the river and watershed community <https://www.rivernetwork.org/events-learning/river-rally/about/>

June 22-24, 2017 **Building a Land Ethic Conference:** Aldo Leopold Foundation, Baraboo, WI. Stay tuned for further announcements. <http://www.aldoleopold.org/home.shtml>

## Grants/Awards/Contests (K-12 entries are in the K-12 section below)



**EPA offers up to \$80,000 to communities to develop air sensor data best practices:** The EPA is challenging communities across the country to collect data using hundreds of air quality sensors as part of the Smart City Air Challenge. Two communities will each receive up to \$40,000 to work with residents to crowdsource air quality data and share it with the public online. Projects will give individuals a role in collecting the data and an understanding of how environmental conditions affect their health and their community. [Smart City Air Challenge website](#) or [EPA Connect](#), the official blog of the EPA Leadership.

**USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is seeking applications** from Wisconsin landowners for its premiere wetland restoration program, the Wetlands Reserve Easement (WRE). Applications are accepted year-round for funding. Contact your local [USDA NRCS Service Center](#) for more information, visit [www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov) or 608-662-4422 ext. 252, [greg.kidd@wi.usda.gov](mailto:greg.kidd@wi.usda.gov).

Oct 5-Nov 13 **12 Wisconsin State Parks Gem Challenge:** Picture yourself in any of 12 State Parks and be entered into a drawing for a 2017 State Park Admission Sticker. Find out more on the [12 Hidden Gems of Wisconsin's State Parks System](#) at [TravelWisconsin.com](http://TravelWisconsin.com). Official rules and entry: [12 Gem Challenge](#) on the Department of Natural Resources website, [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov)

## K-12 Teachers and Students

Nov 11 **PK-8 Energy Education Workshop with KEEP:** 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Urban Ecology Center, Milwaukee, WI. Improve students' literacy, math, and science skills using real-world examples. Fee: \$20, includes materials and lunch. Receive a certificate of participation for an educational portfolio. (Substitute Reimbursement Available)

Nov 13 **Family Nature Program: Who's Hibernating?** 1:30 – 3:30 pm, UW Arboretum Visitor Center . Learn about the animals that hibernate and the changes their bodies go through to prepare for hibernation. Naturalist-led nature walk from 1:30 to 2:30, indoor activities from 2:30 to 3:30. Free, no registration required. Meet at Visitor Center. [website](#)  Contact: [UW Arboretum](http://UWArboretum)

Nov 19-27 **Youth Hunt** The Jefferson County Parks Dept has an opportunity for first time youth hunters to participate in a limited gun deer hunt in portions of Dorothy Carnes County Park. The hunt will take place during the specified Wisconsin Gun Deer Hunt dates. Jefferson County Parks Department, 920-674-7260 or [jeffcoparks@jeffersoncountywi.gov](mailto:jeffcoparks@jeffersoncountywi.gov)

Nov 21 **World Fisheries Day:** Help students understand the importance of the earth's fisheries. Issues to discuss include overfishing, habitat destruction and the threat of climate change to the sustainability of our marine and freshwater resources. [http://www.gdrc.org/doyourbit/21\\_11-fisheries-day.html](http://www.gdrc.org/doyourbit/21_11-fisheries-day.html)

**Selene: A Lunar Construction Game** - Have a blast learning about the moon and planetary geology (ages 9 and older; parent/guardian permission required).

**E-Quiz:** Test your environmental knowledge with one of our E-Quizzes. Good luck!: Easy Quiz, Medium Quiz, Difficult Quiz <http://eeinwisconsin.org/core/item/page.aspx?s=65350.0.16.2209>

Track Fall's **Journey South** which explores the interrelated aspects of seasonal change driven by changes in sunlight. Plants and animals around the globe must respond. Journey South is an extension of the Journey North program exploring seasonal change. Watch how the seasons affect the web of life and report your own schoolyard and/or backyard observations. <http://www.learner.org/jnorth/>

**Fish Hotel** a new children's book, explains how trees left to fall naturally into the water provide fish habitat for years to come. <http://fyi.uwex.edu/news/2016/10/26/healthy-wisconsin-lakes-focus-of-new-childrens-book/>

**The Water Cycle:** The NRCS water cycle poster is back by popular demand. <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/water/?cid=stelprdb1046868>

**Hey! What's this? Observing Wetland Habitats:** The first step to study [wetlands](#) is to find one to explore. Check out a local park or nature center. Use Wetland Scavenger Hunt Observation Sheets as a starting point in discovery. <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/ce/ee/teacher/wetlandsheet.htm>

## Publications

**Want a Healthy Woods? More Wildlife? Timber?** Check out this guide:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/wi/newsroom/factsheets/>

**Waters of Wisconsin Shifting Currents: The State of Wisconsin's Waters in 2016:**

<https://wisconsinacademy.org/initiatives/reports-and-resources>

**River Voices, River Network Newsletter:** [http://www.rivernetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/RiverVoices\\_Climate-Resilience\\_July2016.pdf](http://www.rivernetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/RiverVoices_Climate-Resilience_July2016.pdf)

**The Home Energy Diet:** Answers questions about rising energy costs and options for energy savings, while helping readers take control of their personal energy use and costs so they can save money, live more comfortably and help the environment.

## Websites

**Reduce Your Water Footprint:** The rainwater that falls from your roof after a storm could play an important role in protecting our country's rivers and streams. Learn how to reduce your water footprint with a rain barrel.

<https://www.rivernetwork.org/get-involved/reduce-your-water-footprint/>

**Newly formed Friends of Turtle Creek:** Find an online water trail map and other cool information about this Friends Group: [www.friendsofturtlecreek.com](http://www.friendsofturtlecreek.com)

[https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1sAOB3DrCkHq0CMROQia\\_QNlzG\\_s](https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1sAOB3DrCkHq0CMROQia_QNlzG_s)

<http://www.friendsofturtlecreek.com/turtle-creek-wildlife-area-paddle-trip-report/>

**Drinking Water Quality Series:** [How Heavy Flooding Can Damage Drinking Water Quality](#); [What Karst Is, And How It Affects Wisconsin's Drinking Water](#); [9 ways for Wisconsin Well Owners to Improve Their Drinking Water Quality](#); [Water Testing Can Ease Uncertainty for Well Owners](#).

**It's Your Water Wisconsin**, a statewide campaign giving voice to citizens who love our water and want it protected. [The Central Sands Water Action Coalition](#), [Wisconsin Lakes](#) and [River Alliance of Wisconsin](#) invite all groups and individuals who agree with the principles of this campaign to sign on, [Learn more and sign on here](#).

## Employment Opportunities

**Bilingual Customer Service Representative** (Spanish/English): WDNR Job Announcement Code: 16-02998. Milwaukee County. Full Time (40 hrs/wk) Contact: Holly Wallock, HR Specialist, 608-267-7557, [holly.wallock@wisconsin.gov](mailto:holly.wallock@wisconsin.gov). Deadline to apply: 11/17/16.

## Miscellaneous

**New DNR Proposed Program Guidance Available for Public Comment:** New, draft guidance concerning **hazardous waste** is now available for review and comment on the [Proposed DNR Program Guidance webpage](#). "Waste Determinations and Documentation" is open for comment until **November 14, 2016**.

**Reforestation program begins spring 2017 tree seedling sales:** WDNR reforestation program will begin annual tree seedling sales in early October. Ordering instructions and more information here: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/TreePlanting/> or contact Griffith Nursery office at 715-424-3700. Information on seedling availability, species and tips on how to prepare a site for tree planting: Joe Vande Hey, [joseph.vandehey@wisconsin.gov](mailto:joseph.vandehey@wisconsin.gov), 608-574-4904.

**Enrollment Open for New Landowners to Provide Public Access to Private Lands in Wisconsin:** The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources received \$1.3 million dollars for continued funding of the [Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program](#). Call Anne Reis, VPA-HIP Coordinator, 608-266-5463.

**Collect seed for us; Buy seed from us.** For species and quantities of seed required for planting needs: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/TreePlanting/sellSeed.html> or read the [2016 Seed Collectors' Newsletter](#) or [contact us](#).

**River Network's 8th Annual National Rain Barrel Program** will continue through June 2017 to provide free supplies and guidance to allow member groups from around the U.S. to bring the benefits of stormwater conservation into their

communities. Interested individuals should check for [rain barrel construction events planned nearby](#), and [follow the River Network on Facebook](#) for forthcoming announcements.

**2017 Jefferson County Dog Park Calendars:** Now available to purchase at: The Parks Dept., Jefferson County Courthouse, Rm 204, Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-4:30 pm or from Dog Park Attendant at Jefferson County Dog Park or <http://bit.ly/2cqd7pl>. Calendars are sold as a fundraiser. All proceeds are used for dog park improvements.

### Organizations with Frequent Program Offerings:

- Aldo Leopold Foundation, Baraboo, [www.aldoleopold.org](http://www.aldoleopold.org)
- Clean Lakes Alliance, [www.cleanlakesalliance.com](http://www.cleanlakesalliance.com)
- Friends of Cherokee Marsh, Madison, [www.CherokeeMarsh.org](http://www.CherokeeMarsh.org)
- Horicon Marsh International Education Center, [www.horiconmarsh.org](http://www.horiconmarsh.org)
- Madison Audubon Society, Inc., [www.madisonaudubon.org](http://www.madisonaudubon.org)
- Midwest Renewable Energy Association, [www.the-mrea.org](http://www.the-mrea.org)
- Niagara Escarpment Resource Network, [www.escarpmentnetwork.org](http://www.escarpmentnetwork.org)
- Riveredge Nature Center, Newburg, [www.riveredge.us](http://www.riveredge.us)
- The Prairie Enthusiasts, [www.ThePrairieEnthusiasts.org](http://www.ThePrairieEnthusiasts.org)
- Urban Ecology Center, Milwaukee, [www.urbanecologycenter.org](http://www.urbanecologycenter.org)
- UW Madison Arboretum, [www.uwarboretum.org](http://www.uwarboretum.org)
- Woodland Landowner Information Education, <http://woodlandinfo.org/>
- Woodland School, <http://www.aldoleopold.org/WoodlandSchool/>
- Wisconsin Ground Water Association [www.wgwa.org/](http://www.wgwa.org/)
- Wisconsin Wetlands Association, [www.wisconsinwetlands.org/](http://www.wisconsinwetlands.org/)

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For general information or to subscribe: <https://lists.uwex.edu/mailman/listinfo/rock-river-basin-update>. *University of Wisconsin, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin counties cooperating. An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and American with Disabilities (ADA) requirements.*

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