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## Wireless capability available for business in central office

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If you've ever been frustrated because you're ready to make a presentation in a GEF 2 conference room from a laptop computer and you couldn't get a network connection to DNR's network, help has arrived in the form of wireless networking. The Bureau of Technology Services has had wireless connections installed on each floor, making hot spots available for conducting business virtually everywhere in the building.



*The highly-recognized WiFi logo.*

Lest you think that now you can wirelessly connect your personal devices to DNR's network, a policy is in place to assure that the network bandwidth isn't saturated and network security isn't compromised. **Wirelessly connecting to the department's network is strictly for business only.**

"[How to Connect to DNR-GUEST Wireless Network](#)" is in place to both guide the installation of the wireless connection on DNR and guest devices, and direct the use of those connections. In fact, at the top of the guidance is the instruction "For State Business Only, not for distribution outside of DNR, do not e-mail," followed by the policy.

To further assure compliance with policy, staff must see their supervisor for the security key, or password, to enable connection. If a vendor, customer or other guest to GEF 2 needs an Internet connection via DNR's network, you must request the security key from your supervisor, first.

If you have any questions concerning GEF 2 wireless connections or problems with installation, see your program's IT coordinator. Find the list of coordinators on the "[IT Works](#)" website.



## **Help monitor Wisconsin's deer herd through summer observations**

By: Jay Watson, Bureau of Science Services

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Continued participation in the 2013 summer deer observation survey by DNR employees is critical to the success of the deer management program. Observations collected from department employees ([per Manual Code 2310.5](#)) while working in the field help monitor Wisconsin's deer reproduction.

Each year employees collect vast amounts of observation data. For example, the number of fawns seen with each doe is an indicator of annual deer herd production.

Before including survey work in your work day, however, be sure to obtain approval from your supervisor.



*It isn't uncommon in Wisconsin to see twin fawns with a doe.* DNR Photo

During the summer of 2012, participating staff submitted 4,342 observations, a 21% decrease in observations from the 2011 summer period. Additionally, 287 individuals participated last year, a slight decrease from 364 the year before.

In 2012, observers reported seeing 8,303 deer. The fawn-to-doe ratio was 0.86, identical from 2011. You can view past survey reports at ["Summer Deer Observations 2012."](#)

Participating in the survey is simple:

- Record all bucks, does and fawns you see during your days in the field from August 1 through September 30.
- At the end of each month, send your observation data to the Wildlife Surveys Group or enter your observations via the online reporting site on the ["Assist in Wisconsin's Deer Management Program"](#) webpage.

You can find instructions on how to perform the survey and how to report your sightings, as well as a data sheet to record your observations, on the Bureau of Wildlife Management's Intranet webpage ["Summer Deer Observation Report."](#)

If you have questions about Summer Deer Observations, accessing the tally sheet, reporting your observations or the results of the survey, email [Brian Dhuey](#) or call him at 608-221-6342. You also can get more information by emailing me, [Jay Watson](#) or by calling me at 608-221-6360.

**Footnote:** *Jay Watson is a wildlife surveys technician.*



## Take note of upcoming happenings

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**Whether working or relaxing, you'll want to check out DNR's State Fair Park**



*A DNR fisheries tanker stocked rainbow trout into the pond in the Natural Resources Park. DNR Photo by Carly Darrow*

One of the most happening places at this time of the year is the [Wisconsin State Fair](#). And without a doubt, the place to find respite from the noisy fun of the rest of the fair is [DNR's State Fair park](#). If you'll be working at the park, you'll have an opportunity to represent the department to fairgoers of all ages.

A common topic of conversation at the park involves parents and grandparents. Many visited the DNR Park as youngsters, and now they want to give their children the same thrill of meeting Smokey Bear in his schoolhouse and learning how the department manages Wisconsin's natural resources.



*This year those fairgoers with disabilities will have access to the pond on a dock built for their enjoyment. DNR Photo by Carly Darrow*

Today, August 1, is the first day of the 11-day run of the fair. The DNR Park will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. each day. Hover over a spot on the map of the [Natural Resources Park](#) for details on what's happening at each exhibit. If you haven't already, you too can purchase a license or state park pass at the information counter in the North Cabin entry to the park.

For images of the kind of fun, information and services you'll find if you go to the fair, check out the video ["Come](#)

see us at the Wisconsin State Fair!" on DNR's [homepage](#).



## Hundreds attend open house on Sauk Prairie Recreation Area master plan

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*Devil's Lake State Park Supervisor Steve Schmelzer took questions from members of the public attending the July 31 open house. DNR Photo by Nolan Pickar*

Following months of work that involved reviewing public and stakeholder comments, plans and input from several levels of government, DNR held an open house on July 31 to review and ask questions about draft conceptual alternatives for the [Sauk Prairie Recreation Area](#), formerly the Badger Army Ammunition Plant. More than 200 people took this opportunity to attend the evening event in Prairie du Sac to learn more and offer further feedback on this historically-significant property in southwest Sauk County next door to Devil's Lake State Park.

At this stage of the master planning process, the department is seeking comments on "[draft conceptual alternatives](#)" made public on July 15. The deadline for this round of input is August 30.

In a news release inviting the public to the open house, South Central Region Director Mark Aquino explained why the department is offering alternatives for public review.

"Putting out this range of conceptual alternatives for public comment is an extra step in the master planning process, a step we're taking to be sure everyone has multiple opportunities to share in the plan's development."

DNR staffs from Facilities and Lands, Wildlife Management, Law Enforcement, Parks and Recreation, Remediation

and Redevelopment, Office of Communications, Fisheries Management, Water Quality, Natural Heritage Conservation and Forestry were present at the open house.



*Bureau of Parks and Recreation Director Dan Schuller spoke one-on-one with a woman interested in the Sauk Prairie Recreation Area plans. DNR Photo by Nolan Pickar*

In addition to DNR staff on hand to field questions and listen to comments, Natural Resources Board member Jane Wiley attended, as did representatives of the Wisconsin Legislature, U.S. Congress and National Park Service.

Once the current comment period closes on August 30, DNR will draft and post a preferred alternative. At that time, the department will solicit further feedback.

As the final step in the planning process, the Natural Resources Board will decide on a master plan for operation of the 3,800-acre recreational area over the subsequent 15 years.



## **Secretary Stepp heads Green Tier enrollment ceremony for Wausau brewery**

By: Red Eye Brewing Company news release, July 31, 2013

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Secretary **Cathy Stepp** and DNR Business Sector Specialist **Gregg Breese** participated in a ceremony on July 31



enrolling the Red Eye Brewing Company brew pub and restaurant in Wausau into the Wisconsin Green Tier program at the tier 1 level.



*DNR Brewery Sector Specialist Gregg Breese (far left) and Secretary Cathy Stepp joined brewery owners Kevin Eichelberger, Brett Danke and Pat Cherek, along with Alderman Romney Wagner. DNR Photo by Ed Culhane*

Red Eye has the distinction of becoming the first brew pub and restaurant in Wisconsin to achieve this status and the only Green Tier 1 business in Marathon County.

To achieve enrollment, Red Eye had to demonstrate a satisfactory environmental record, commit to superior environmental performance and implement an Environmental Management System. Tier 1 is designed to encourage innovation, collaboration and new environmental goal setting.

According to Brett Danke, an owner, since it opened in 2008, Red Eye has implemented an environmental policy and practiced sustainability efforts throughout its business operation. The company's environmental record was documented in its Green Tier application.

According to DNR, Green Tier Program legislation provides incentives such as regulatory flexibility and permit streamlining to environmentally-responsible businesses. The law creates a program in which qualified businesses make legal commitments to superior environmental performance through contracts negotiated with DNR. In exchange, the businesses are allowed flexibility in how their environmental goals are achieved.

#### **Ceremony held in shadow of solar panels**

Sec. Stepp presented the Green Tier 1 enrollment certificate to Danke during ceremonies held within view of the solar voltaic panels above the carport in the Red Eye parking lot. Alderperson Romey Wagner spoke on behalf of the City of Wausau.



*These solar voltaic panels were installed above the Red Eye Brewery carport. DNR Photo by Gregg Breese*

Visitors to the brewery can see applications of Red Eye's environmental policy in the solar panels carport installed in June, solar water heating panels on the roof, and waterless toilets in restrooms. The company recently completed conversion to all LED lighting.

To reduce its carbon footprint, Red Eye purchases food ingredients locally and regionally, sends its spent brewing grains to local farmers for feed, uses recyclable containers for takeout foods, and serves beer only in glass mugs and glasses or refillable take-away growlers. Excess baked goods are donated to a local food pantry.

Red Eye is located on a bus route, promotes bicycle transportation by its guests, and sponsors an adopt-a-highway cleanup effort.



## Around the state...DNR employees shine

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### Northeast Region success stories

- "Thanks to **Karen Nelson**, **Faith Murray** and **Bobbi Winebar** for taking on the lion's share of work making sure the summer picnic went off without a hitch. Others that helped included **Cindy Rudolph** and **Dean Starks**, **Jenna Borski** and **Michelle Lehner**, **Tim Mella**, **Dave Westphal** and **Aaron Buchholz**."

- "Kudos to **Dave Stertz** and **Liz Heinen** for excellent customer service to a couple who were experiencing a significant flooding issue when their construction project broke into an old well (which they didn't know was there) causing an artesianing of well water. Dave and Liz worked to provide guidance, and followed up to ensure that the guidance worked. Another job well done!"

- "**Peninsula State Park**: The nature center had an event for children to go around and do different activities. We came towards the end of this event and yet the staff made sure our kids could participate. Everybody was very welcoming and patient while our kids had a great time." *Julie from Switzerland*

### Northern Region success story

**Chippewa Moraine State Recreation Area**: "We had a great time in your facilities. The kids learned a lot from your activities, they love being bears, catching bugs and learning new animal names. The snakes were awesome and a good experience. Thanks a lot for your great kindness." *Your Friends from Venezuela*

### South Central Region success story

Lake Kegonsa State Park: "The young man at the service desk was very pleasant. I think his name was **Mitch (Erie)**. He represented the park well." *CJ from Illinois*

### Southeast Region success story

**Richard Bong State Recreation Area**: The knee high naturalist program had a great group of volunteers and provided enjoyable and enriching experiences for my grandchildren.

### Statewide success story

Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator **Bob Wakeman** wrote Secretary **Cathy Stepp**, Division of Water Administrator **Ken Johnson**, and Bureau of Water Quality Director **Susan Sylvester** and copied **many others** about the success of the AIS 2013 Clean Boats Clean Waters Landing Blitz. He included a personal note he'd written about the work of **Mike Putnam** (water resources management specialist) and **John Clementi** (inventory control



assistant).



*Ice packs will remind those enjoying Wisconsin waters to "Inspect, Clean, Drain and Never Move Live Fish."* DNR Photo

"Cathy, Ken and Susan, I just wanted to share a little bit about our 2013 "Landing Blitz" with you so you can see the tremendous support we have in the field for the prevention of AIS. During the 4th of July weekend/week we make a concerted effort to have our partners work the boat launches around the state and talk to boaters about the need to clean boats, and drain water before leaving a boat launch. This year's effort was again extremely successful with over 290 lakes and river launches staffed, and 168 partner groups engaged!

"This year, ice packs and towels were given out to boaters and anglers to help remind them to Inspect, Clean, Drain and Never Move Live Fish. From the responses we have received these freebies were a huge hit and we are hoping our evaluation of these prompts shows an increased level of compliance with the state AIS laws.

"If you have any questions regarding this effort please feel free to contact me. Thanks" *Bob Wakeman, Wisconsin aquatic invasive species coordinator*



## **"It's your DNR" comes alive through partnerships**

By: Marcus Smith, Southeast Region

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**State and city partnership opens Three Bridges Park in Menomonee Valley**



*Southeast Region Parks and Recreation Supervisor Jason Fritz gets an assist from son Dylan during symbolic spreading of seed that helped those attending plant for the future. DNR Photo by Marcus Smith*

The evolution of the Menomonee Valley continues. To the sound of conga drums, several hundred people marched and biked from adjacent bridges surrounding the valley to witness another chapter in this brownfields success story: the opening of Three Bridges Park on Saturday, July 20.

Three Bridges Park is located along the southern bank of the Menomonee River, beneath the 35th and 27th streets viaducts in Milwaukee. DNR partnered with the state Department of Transportation, City of Milwaukee, Urban Ecology Center and Menomonee Valley Partners to convert the former Milwaukee Road rail yards site into a 24-acre park comprised of hiking trails, restored landscape, improved wildlife habitat and river access for fishing, canoeing and kayaking.

The park is owned by the city and will be managed by DNR and the Urban Ecology Center.

The park is part of a \$26 million initiative called "Menomonee Valley-From the Ground Up," and is the final item on the list of projects that are part of the initiative which includes the Valley Passage, extending the Hank Aaron Trail six miles, and an Urban Ecology Center branch located at 37th and Pierce streets. Students from the center will use the area as an outdoor classroom.



*(Left to right) Laura Bray, executive director of the Menomonee Valley Partners; Gus Frank, chairman of the Forrest County Potawatomi Community; and Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett listened as Southeast Region Director Eric Nitschke spoke to those gathered at the park opening. DNR Photo by Marcus Smith*

The Menomonee Valley has a rich history in the industrialization of Milwaukee. But its early history as a wild rice marsh and home to American Indians was touched on by one of the speakers, Chairman Gus Frank of the Forest County Potawatomi Community. After giving a brief history of the land, Frank stated that early settlers “didn’t find a rail yard.” In alluding to the role played by various groups and individuals involved in the valley’s revitalization, Frank discussed how these interested parties came together and said, “we need to do something in this valley.”

What’s been accomplished is there for all to see. Not only in the valley, but in nearby neighborhoods like Silver City, Walker’s Point and Clarke Square, which are undergoing their own revitalization.

“What we have here is creating more park opportunity and greenspace opportunities and revitalizing an area,” said **Jason Fritz**, Southeast Region parks and recreation supervisor.

**Footnote:** *Marcus Smith is the public affairs manager for the Southeast Region.*



## **Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine is especially flashy this issue**

By: Natasha Kassulke, Office of Communication

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The August/September issue of the Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine gives new meaning to the flash mob phenomena with its cover story “Blinking beetles,” which gives glowing reviews to fireflies.

A feature, “Growing out of business” steps inside efforts to stop marijuana production on state lands.



*The cover of the August/September **Wisconsin Natural Resources** magazine.*

Learn about the critical role Wisconsin's wardens play at a camp for families who have lost a law enforcement loved one in "C.O.P.S. Camp and conservation wardens."

Follow the adventures of a Wisconsin hunter who trades pheasant hunting for rabbit hunting because he loves the thrill of the chase and sharing it with his buddies, a bevy of beagles.

Adventure into the history of Wyalusing State Park and discover four seasons of fun with a behind-the-scenes look at Blue Mound State Park in two stories that bow to the beauty of Wisconsin State Parks.

Celebrate the great sturgeon return to Keshena Falls in "Welcoming back Namao."

Get creative about weed control and learn from those who take on invasive species in "Cooperative Weed Management Areas."

Then get some career insight from two writers who have made their careers about working in natural resources and sharing science with the public.

Butterflies take center stage in "Creature Comforts." Then set aside your craving for cream puffs for a couple of minutes to discover what's in store at the Natural Resources Park at the Wisconsin State Fair with "Wisconsin Traveler."

An insert to the magazine celebrates the success of cleanups of rivers and harbors along the Great Lakes in Wisconsin. Read about the Wisconsin Great Lakes' Areas of Concern and efforts to revitalize these important places.

Remember to consider **Wisconsin Natural Resources** magazine as a thoughtful and inexpensive gift that gives all

year. Share what you value about the outdoors with family, friends, customers and professional colleagues. Six colorful issues are delivered to readers' doors all year for less than \$1.50 a copy. Year-round the magazine shares ways and places to enjoy the Wisconsin outdoors for only \$8.97. Subscribe toll-free at 1-800-678-9472, online at [Wisconsin Natural Resources](#) or by mail. Subscription blanks and single issues also are available from our circulation office at P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707.

**Footnote:** *Natasha Kassulke is the editor of the Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine.*



## Links of interest...don't miss them

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- **Title & link:** ["Ask the experts: Deer Trustee Report July 24"](#)

**Description:** On July 24, DNR hosted a live online chat to discuss the final proposals for implementing the "Deer Trustee Report. The chat follows the July 20 public meeting, during which the four action teams charged with developing a path for implementing the report wrapped up their work and presented their final proposals.

- **Title & link:** ["2013 Bill Tracker"](#)

**Description:** This document provides the status of DNR-related bills as they wind their way through the legislative process.

### **DNR internal program newsletters**

To better keep you updated on the work and happenings of the various department programs, this standing feature brings you their internal newsletters.

Note to newsletter editors: Each issue of the "Digest" will include links to program newsletters. Be sure to submit new issues of your newsletter to "MyDNR Digest" Editor [Diane Brinson](#) for posting.

- ["Water Division Update July 2013"](#)
- ["SER Tales & Trails" \(Southeast Region's newsletter\)](#)
- ["AWaRe Division of Air, Waste and Remediation & Redevelopment" bi-monthly newsletter](#)
- ["Landscapes" Division of Land's newsletter](#)
- ["Land Division Newsletters" \(archives\)](#)
- ["Just in CAES"](#)
- ["The ForesTREEporter"](#)
- ["WDNR Wildlifer"](#)

[Bureau of Wildlife Management publications including "Wildlifer" archives](#)