NEW YORK, NY – The American public will once again be able to visit the crown of the Statue of Liberty, which was closed after the 9/11 attacks for safety and security reasons, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced today.

In addition, the Department of the Interior will invest $25 million under the President’s economic recovery plan to stabilize the Baggage and Dormitory Building at Ellis Island, built in 1908 to house immigrants waiting for further processing, and repair 2,000 feet of the island’s crumbling seawall.

“On July 4th, we are giving America a special gift,” Salazar said. “We are once again inviting the public to celebrate our great nation and the hope and opportunity it symbolizes by climbing to Lady Liberty’s crown for a unique view of New York Harbor, where the forbearers of millions of American families first saw the new world.”

Access to the crown will be limited to 10 people at a time, guided by a National Park Service ranger.

Salazar, who visited the Statue of Liberty on his third day in office, based his decision on a comprehensive analysis of the entire structure completed last month by the National Park Service, including expert recommendations on reducing risk for visitors.

The Park Service, which has responsibility to keep visitors safe and make it possible for them to evacuate in the event of an emergency, closed the crown because of health and safety concerns. The crown is accessible only by a narrow 168-step double-helix spiral staircase. After 9/11, the Park Service deemed the risk too high to re-open the crown to the public.

“We cannot eliminate all the risk of climbing to the crown, but we are taking steps to make it safer,” Salazar said. This includes raising the handrails on the spiral staircase and stationing rangers throughout the Statue to aid visitors, as well as help them enjoy the experience and learn more about the Statue and its symbolism.

The Statue of Liberty will be open for the next two years. Then it will be closed again for work on a long-term solution that will improve safety and security permanently.

“Once the work is complete, the Statue will be safer, and so will its visitors,” he said. Meanwhile, the Park Service will help create jobs and stimulate the economy by beginning to restore a building at Ellis Island that is a tangible reminder of the difficult path so many people followed to this country.

Some 40 percent of American citizens can trace a family connection to Ellis. “Visitors who make the pilgrimage to Ellis Island will be able see, touch, and get a sense of that first American experience had by a mother or grandfather,” Salazar said.

The funds to restore the building and sea wall at Ellis Island are part of more than $750 million in Recovery funds we will be investing in national parks across the nation.
Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Legislative and Policy Update

May 14, 2009

The 2009-2011 legislative session just started three months ago and, unlike past legislative sessions, there has been some very good progress. The following is an update on several bills before the Legislature and some rulemaking before the Natural Resources Board.

Bills already signed into law or on Governor’s desk

1. Assembly Bill 4 and Senate Bill 48—These bills repealed the early musky legislation and the bass barbless hook legislation that was passed two years ago without going through the Conservation Congress process. These bills have passed and are already state law.

2. Assembly Bill 7 and Senate Bill 7—Declaring part of the Bruseworthy River in Ashland County a state wild river. These bills have passed and are state law.

3. Assembly Bill 3 and Senate Bill 5—Banning the possession and sale of lawn fertilizer containing phosphorus. Important to prevent chalking of lakes with weeds and the protection of water quality for fish habitat. These bills have passed and are signed into law.

4. Assembly Bill 41 and Senate Bill 47—Declaring portions of the Tugelocke River a state wild river. These bills have passed and are on the Governor’s desk awaiting signature. No reason to believe that they will be signed.

5. Assembly Bill 90 and Senate Bill 12—Creates a slow-no-wake zone within 190 feet of the shoreline of all lakes. These bills have passed and are on the Governor’s desk awaiting signature. No reason to believe that they will be signed.

6. Assembly Bill 150 and Senate Bill 112—Authorizes the possession and sale of green fur. Has been passed in the Senate committee and voted out of the Assembly committee. Will likely pass the legislature in May. No reason to believe that the Governor will not sign the bill soon thereafter.

7. Assembly Bill 162 and Senate Bill 123—Close loopholes in the current laws preventing the introduction and transportation of aquatic invasive species into our lakes by watercraft. Necessary to protect fish habitat and navigation. Public hearings held in both the Assembly and Senate committees. Has been passed out of the Senate committee. No significant opposition. Likely to be passed in both houses of the legislature in May. No reason to believe that the Governor will not sign the bills.

8. Assembly Bill 86—Authorizing non-residents over 65 to use crossbows. Public hearing held in the Assembly committee. Scheduled for a committee vote next week.

9. Assembly Bill 222 and Senate Bill 167—Youth hunting mentor bill. Hearings held in the Assembly and Senate committees. Scheduled for an Assembly committee vote next week. Not certain whether it will be voted on in both houses in May.

Other Important Bills Before the Legislature

10. Assembly Bill 128 and Senate Bill 113—Authorizes the appointment authority of the DNR Secretary back to the Natural Resources Board. Introduced in both houses with a majority of legislators in both houses. Public hearing in the Assembly likely in early August. Goal is to get veto-proof votes (two-thirds majority) in both houses in fall. Need strong attendance at public hearings.

11. Assembly Bill 250—Regulation of dog breeders. Designed to end abusive puppy mills but must be changed so as not to put an inappropriate regulatory burden on sporting dog breeders. Hearings in legislative committee likely in summer.

Upcoming important DNR rules before the Natural Resources Board and DNR

12. Rules defining public access for hunting, fishing and trapping on lands purchased with Stewardship fund. Rules released yesterday. Hearing likely in the next 60 days.

13. Permit regulating the discharge of ballast water containing invasive species from international ships into the Great Lakes. Public hearing held. Permit likely to be issued in 30 days.

White-tailed deer fawns are being born across Wisconsin and conservation wardens and DNR offices are receiving the annual calls about abandoned fawns. A new born fawn’s only defense against predators such as hawks, coyotes, wolves and raptors are it spotted coat and the fact that it does not have a scent for the first few days after birth. Does leave its fawn alone after birth to protect them, but they are not far away and will return to feed the fawn when safe. If you see a fawn, do not approach or handle it. Leave the area and its mother will take care of it.
WISCONSIN WILDLIFE FEDERATION – RICHARD HEMP MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship is dedicated to the memory of the late Richard Hemp, a member of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and a strong supporter of conservation efforts. He was a dedicated outdoorsman and advocate for wildlife conservation.

Aubrey MacCoux
Onida, WI
Wildlife Education

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation 2009 UWSP Scholarships

Andrew VanNatta
Lancaster, WI
Urban Forestry

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is a Wisconsin federation of organizations and individuals devoted to hunting, fishing, trapping, and other outdoor activities. They are also devoted to education, serving its members, the people of Wisconsin and the nation, for today and the future by becoming a stronger, more effective, and recognized force for the sustainable use and protection of natural resources. The WWF has a long history of promoting environmental education. They led the nation in distribution of Wildlife Week kits, sponsored teaching resources. The WWF has an ongoing history of effective, and recognized force for the sustainable use and protection of natural resources.

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation – Gordon Bubolz Scholarship
This scholarship originated with seed money from Gordon Bubolz and was a continuation of his many efforts in conservation. Included among his conservation works is the Bubolz Conservation Center near his hometown. The Center and its buildings are used by a wide variety of conservation groups.

Aubrey MacCoux
Onida, WI
Wildlife Education

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation – William J.P. Aberg Memorial Scholarship
This scholarship is dedicated to the memory of the late William J.P. Aberg, a member of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and a strong supporter of conservation efforts. He was a dedicated outdoorsman and advocate for wildlife conservation.

Kate Witkowski
Plymouth, WI
Wildlife Ecology and Management

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation – William Woerpel Scholarship
This scholarship is dedicated to the memory of the late Leslie “Les” Woerpel, a member of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and a strong supporter of conservation efforts. He was a dedicated outdoorsman and advocate for wildlife conservation.

Amanda Zalewski
Sheboygan, WI
Wildlife Ecology and Management

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation – J.L. Schneider Memorial Scholarship
This scholarship is dedicated to the memory of the late J.L. Schneider, a member of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and a strong supporter of conservation efforts. He was a dedicated outdoorsman and advocate for wildlife conservation.

Matt Vellella
Woodbury, MN
Forestry Management

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation – William Aberg Scholarship
This scholarship is dedicated to the memory of the late William J.P. Aberg, a member of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and a strong supporter of conservation efforts. He was a dedicated outdoorsman and advocate for wildlife conservation.

Amanda Samson
Lake St. Croix, MN
Wildlife Ecology and Management

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation – Linda Schneider Memorial Scholarship
This scholarship is dedicated to the memory of the late Linda Schneider, a member of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and a strong supporter of conservation efforts. She was a dedicated outdoorsman and advocate for wildlife conservation.

Jennifer Rethe
Osikosh, WI
Wildlife Ecology and Management
**“Revised” Walleye Bag Limits on 255 Northern Lakes**

**MADISON** – Daily walleye bag limits will increase on May 22 on 255 lakes in Wisconsin’s Ceded Territory to reflect spring spawning harvest by six Wisconsin bands of Chippewa Indians.

A daily bag limit of one or two walleye will increase to two or three walleye per day on 92 lakes in the state, and an additional 163 lakes will go from an initial bag limit of one or two walleyes per day to the state daily bag limit of five, according to Joe Hennayea, who coordinates the treaty fisheries management program for the Department of Natural Resources.

Anglers should consult the 2009-10 Guide to Wisconsin Hook and Line Fishing Regulations, signs at boat landings, and the 2009-10 Revised Ceded Territory Walleye Bag Limits pamphlet for lake-specific information.

As part of a 1983 Federal Appellate Court decision affirming Chippewa off-reservation hunting, fishing, and gathering rights, the six hands of Wisconsin Chippewa set annual harvest quotas for off-reservation waters in the Wisconsin Ceded Territory. To assure the combined tribal and recreational angler harvest does not exceed a sustainable level, the state sets recreational bag limits in lakes declared for harvest by the Chippewa bands.

An administrative rule passed by the state natural Resources Board in 1998 allows the department to adjust initial bag limits annually to reflect actual spring spawning harvests and projected summer harvests.

Of the 255 lakes with bag limits less than five, 78 lakes will have a bag limit of two walleye per day, and 186 lakes will have a daily bag of three walleye per day. The six Chippewa tribes together declared a harvest of 53,706 walleye for 2009 and had harvested 32,198 as of May 15, 2009.

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**Table: Revised Walleye Bag Limits**

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<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Lake Chain</th>
<th>Bag Limit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BARRON COUNTY</td>
<td>Bear</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bass</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Duck</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grainite</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Househons (115 ac; T39N-R1E-S36)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lower Devils</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lower Turtle</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Prairie</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Red Cedar</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Sand</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Spider</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Long</td>
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<td>Namekagon</td>
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<td>Pike Chain (Bayley Bay, Miltic) &amp; Twin Bear Lakes</td>
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<td>Miersing</td>
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<td>Nabagon</td>
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<td>Halay</td>
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<td>Crane</td>
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</tbody>
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**Wisconsin Conservation**

**June 2009**
Traveling Trunks

“What’s in a Pack?” is an on-loan program for educators to use in the classroom. This traveling kit contains activities that include the themes of freedom and immigration. Teachers who have received the traveling kit can request to have their classroom included in the program. This resource is funded by the Save the Statue Fund, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and approved by the New York State Education Department on October 1, 1979. Traveling Trunks are distributed only in the New York State and New Jersey area.

What is the Statue of Liberty made of? The Statue of Liberty is made of copper 3/32 in. thick, the same as two pennies put together. Why is the Statue green? The Statue’s copper has naturally oxidized to form its familiar “patina” green coating. This patina is in places, such as the copper behind and in front of the statue, which is in a natural state, is exposed to the elements and weathering. How tall is the Statue of Liberty? The Statue is 305 ft. 1 in. from the ground to the tip of the flame. It is the equivalent height of a 22-story building. In 1886, it was the tallest structure in New York.

Is the Statue of Liberty an image of a man or woman? Classical images of Liberty have usually been represented by a woman. The Statue of Liberty’s face is said to be modeled after the woman of a 22-story building. In 1886, it was the tallest structure in New York.

Is the torch open? No. The torch has been closed since the “Black Tom” explosion of July 30, 1916, which was one of the largest acts of sabotage to our nation prior to the event of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Many people think they’ve been there and seen it. The torch is closed for safety purposes to protect the statue from lightning strikes.

Can I dock my personal boat or vessel on the island? No. The crown has been closed since September 11, 2001. Since the Statue is anything but a convention- al structure, making it easier for people to visit the crown, in the event of an emergency, is not possible. The National Park Service has therefore decided to close the crown.

Do I need a reservation to visit the park? No. However, if you want to enter the monument or visit the pedestal (highest level for ticket availability), you need a monument access pass provided at no charge by the ferry company at the time of purchase. These passes allow a specific number of people inside the monument throughout each day. Passes are limited and are distributed on a first-come-first-serve basis by the ferry company with the purchase of a ferry ticket. For ferry ticket and monument access passes call: 1-877-LADYFAX or online at www.nycruises.com.

Can I purchase food or bring my own to the park? You can do either. A food concessionaire is located on Liberty Island and Ellis Island, or you can bring your own. (Large coolers will not be allowed through security screening.)

Which direction does she face? The Statue of Liberty faces Southeast in perfect symmetry with the placement of Fort Wood and how people would see the Statue while entering the harbor.

Does the Statue of Liberty get struck by lightning? Yes! The current torch is a 1986 replacement of the original, now in the lobby. The new torch is copper, covered in 24K gold. Sunlight reflects off the gold during the daytime, lighting up the statue by the sun’s reflection at night.

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Are Pets Allowed In the Park? No, pets are not permitted on the ferry or in the park itself. Documented service/assistance animals are exempt from this regulation.

Can I take the ferry from one side, visit and return to the other side? Yes. Ferries depart from both the State of New York and New Jersey. The side you start from is where you should return to. If not, you may be forced to find alternate ways back due to crowding or ticket office closures.

Is the Statue of Liberty on Ellis Island? No. The park is comprised of two separate islands, Liberty Island and Ellis Island. The Statue of Liberty is on Liberty Island and Ellis Island, the former federal immigration station, is currently a national museum of immigration.

Can I use the National Park Pass when visiting this park? No, National Park passes are valid at parks that charge an entrance fee. Liberty and Ellis Islands are two exceptions by law. Transportation fee (parking) does not apply. More information on or to order National Park Passes are: www.nps.gov.

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What is the Statue of Liberty monument? It is a symbol of enlightenment. The current torch is a 1986 replacement of the original, now in the lobby. The new torch is copper, covered in 24K gold. Sunlight reflects off the gold during the daytime, lighting up the statue by the sun’s reflection at night.

What are the seven spokes on the Statue’s crown represent? The seven seas and continents of the world.

How tall is the Statue of Liberty? The Statue is 305 ft. 1 in. from the ground to the tip of the flame. It is the equivalent height of a 22-story building. In 1886, it was the tallest structure in New York.

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How much forested land does Wisconsin have?
Wisconsin’s total forest land area is 34.7 million acres. Land growing trees covers 36 million acres or 46%. Most forested land is in the northern part of the state.

How old are Wisconsin’s forests?
Many southern Wisconsin forests were cleared for agriculture by the late 1800s. Forests in the north were heavily cut for timber by the early 1900s. Therefore, almost all the mature trees you see today are less than 125 years old. Thousands of acres of pines were planted across the state in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Who owns and cares for Wisconsin’s forests?
Most forested land in Wisconsin...57%...is owned by individual landowners like farmers, homeowners, hunting partners, investors and others. 32% is owned by federal, state, county or tribal governments. 11% is owned by for- est industry or private corporations.

Deforestation is a big concern. How much forested land does Wisconsin lose every year?
Unlike some parts of the world, Wisconsin has been gaining forest acreage, not losing. After heavy logging early in the 20th century, much land was burned and converted to agriculture. But, since the 1930s, much marginal crop and pastureland has been planted with trees or reforested naturally, so the state now has more forest land than at any time since inventories began in 1936.

I see log trucks on the road all the time. This harvesting must be having some effect?
Of every 1,000 live trees over ten feet tall in Wisconsin this year, 80 will die from severe weather, insect damage, crowding, disease or old age. Only 4 of the thousand will be harvested by loggers. The remaining 916 trees will remain in place. However, 98 new trees will grow past the ten feet mark during the year. Therefore, in Wisconsin, annual wood growth exceeds harvest for most species.

Can’t we just get our wood products from somewhere else and leave Wisconsin’s woods alone?
We could, but the forest most hospitable to the diversity of plants and animals is one with young, old and medium age trees, and a variety of tree species. Since forest assets and tree dis- eases are better controlled today, one way to make room for younger trees is to harvest those nearing the end of their life cycle. Cutting trees properly not only

Why do leaves change color in autumn?
Less daylight and cool (but not neces- sarily freezing) fall temperatures result in less production by leaves of green pig- ment (chlorophyll). Consequently, other leaf pigments like yellow (xanthophyll), red (anthocyanin), and brown (fluorescence) become more prominent. The intensity of color depends on the amount of sugar stored in the leaf and the amount of sunlight it gets. Beechnut pig- ment (tannin) remains after all other pigments have disappeared.

How do forest animals prefer certain tree species or is any type of forest OK?
Most species of birds and animals have a preference for certain forest type, and often prefer a specific tree species. For example, deer (indeed many feeders) prefer oaks, walnuts and hickories. Squirrels, for example, generally prefer large areas of forest. Grouse and snow- shoe hare prefer younger forests which exist after fire or harvest. A forest with oak trees is more hospitable to squirrels and wild turkey than one with the

What about the “Urban Forest”?
Many Wisconsin communities have active “urban forestry” programs. In fact, Wisconsin ranks 5th nationwide in the number of communities designated “Tree City USA” by the National Arbor Day Foundation. Urban forests plant, prune and remove trees in order to promote several benefits: trees clean the air by absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen; cool communities by shading; absorb rain water; prevent water pollution by holding soil in place and absorbing runoff; and trees beautifully. Properly managed, city trees can thrive. The tree with the largest cir- cumference of any in the state is located in the City of West Allis!

Where can I get more information about Wisconsin forests?
• For national forests: United States Forest Service (715) 362-1300 www.fs.fed.us/region/10/wisconsin
• For state forests: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (608) 267-4955
• For county forests: Wisconsin County Forest Association (715) 453-9125 www.wisconsincountyforests.com
• For industry owned forests: Wisconsin Paper Council (920) 722-1100 www.wispaper.org
• For forest landowners: Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association (715) 346-4736; Email: zhokek@uwsp.edu

the unique, changing makeup of the seed, and competition from neighboring trees. Why do certain tree species seem to dominate in certain parts of the state?
Trees, like any plants, thrive for many reasons. Most important is soil, sunlight and moisture. Centuries of erosion have determined the composition of soil in some parts of the state. Receding glaci- ers have left different soils elsewhere.
Aquatic invasive species. The grants, and the local partnerships and interest they build, are an important part of the state’s overall strategy to tackle invasive species, which can crowd out native species, harming recreation and industry.

With more than 140 grant applications and requests for twice the amount money available, this round of funding was very competitive, said Carroll Schaal, the DNR’s lakes team leader. The DNR has received more applications than ever before, allowing Wisconsin to tackle the problem strategically and on a more regional basis, he said.

New administrative rules governing the grant program effective this summer make changes for the next round of grant applications, due Aug. 1, 2013. Schaal said The changes align grant priorities with the best scientific knowledge to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species, and to manage them effectively where they have already become established. The legislation requires regional efforts while ensuring small projects can compete for funding.

Spring is the Time to Find and Control Garlic Mustard

Garlic mustard is an invasive plant that is very easy to identify and control when small. People should search through their yards, gardens, or vacant lots, especially when the flowers are small and the leaves are still out. People can use a string line trimmer, but this must be done several times a year to prevent new plants from growing. Ideally, people should pull the plant before it flowers. People should wear thick gloves when handling garlic mustard to prevent irritation from the oils in the leaves and stems.

Officials recommend contacting a contractor for removal of asbestos containing materials. Contractors specializing in asbestos removal are able to remove the material safely and will know where and how to dispose of the debris. Contact a DNR office near you for more information and to learn about safe asbestos removal.

What is concern with Asbestos?

Garlic mustard is a biennial herb that ranges from 2 to 4 inches in height as an adult flowering plant. Second-year plants generally produce one to several flowering stems with numerous white flowers that each have four petals. Garlic mustard can easily be recognized at this time of year by its bare, rounded basal leaves with scalloped edges and because it is the only plant with red flowers in the spring if there is doubt, crush and smell a leaf. If it smells like garlic you have found garlic mustard. By mid-June the flowers will develop seed pods that can disperse hundreds of seeds per plant. Even if pulled out of the ground while still flowering, garlic mustard flowers can continue to develop and produce new seeds for the next season.

Kearns says landowners working to control garlic mustard plant have to remember, last, as the seeds can stay dormant in the soil for up to seven years before germinating. People should search through their entire property several times a year to catch new infestations and keep them from flowering and going to seed, she said.

For small populations, Kearns says, hand pulling is the best way to remove the plants. If they have started to flower, gather the plants and bury or burn them wherever allowed, or bag them and send to the landfill in bags labeled “Invasive Plants – Approved by WDNR for law.” Larger populations can be knocked back with a string line trimmer, but this must be done several times a year during the growing season as they will reseed. Many landowners are concerned about populations of garlic mustard spreading through their property and insist on surgical removal techniques. There are several herbicides that can be effective for removing garlic mustard. Herbs like 2,4-D and Trico® can be applied to any plants they want to kill, but they are very expensive.

In the southern part of Wisconsin garlic mustard seedlings are just recently emerging from the soil. Fire department programs that use a technique that can be fast and effective to kill the seedlings, but is less successful with the older flowering plants. Burning is best done when the ground is warm, or even during a light rain to prevent any accidental fires.

Photographs and more information about garlic mustard and other invasive aquatic and terrestrial invasive species pages of the DNR Website and the Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin Web site (www.ipaw.org).

$1.3 Million in Grants to Fight Aquatic Invasive Species

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Secretary Matt Frank today announced that more than $1.3 million in state grants are headed to local communities to help them prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

More than 20 local governments, lake districts and conservation groups will be awarded the grants to prevent invasive species from being introduced to new lakes, to control those they’re already in, and to develop better controls. Once the burn is over, cold ash and debris must be disposed of in a state-licensed property.

The grantees, said Matt Schaal, the DNR’s lakes team leader. The changes align grant priorities with the best scientific knowledge to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species, and to manage them effectively where they have already become established. The legislation requires regional efforts while ensuring small projects can compete for funding.

Sponsor

Spencer County Award

Awards

WDNR Release

No one should use a fire department, re-emphasized Walden. Fire departments conducting a fire training burn must wait 10 working days after they mail a DNR notification form before they can begin a training burn to allow DNR and DHFS to inspect the building, if determined to be a priority.

Asbestos inspections can cost as little as $200 per inspection with samples run ning about $15 - $25. The responsibility of inspecting buildings (should asbestos be found) ultimately falls on the property owner.

“We are trying to educate and spread the word about asbestos regulations. Education is the preferred approach because penalties for violating air pollution regulations can range up to $50,000 per day, per day of violation,” Walden said.

DNR wardens can also issue a citation carrying a maximum $1,500 forfeiture for either failing to pre-inspect or notify DNR of the planned fire training burn or renovation, he added.

If asbestos is found, all of it must be removed. After it is removed, the building cannot be occupied until the asbestos has been removed. Certain landfills can accept asbestos.

Fire department burns may only be conducted on standing structures that offer some training value. Buildings cannot be burned for the sole purpose of waster eduction or by anyone other than a fire department, re-emphasized Walden.

State law requires a pre-inspection for asbestos by an inspector licensed by the state Department of Health Services (DHFS). Whether or not the inspector finds asbestos, DNR and DHFS must be notified. Fire departments conducting a fire training burn must wait 10 working days after they mail a DNR notification form before they can begin a training burn to allow DNR and DHFS to inspect the building, if determined to be a priority.

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Wisconsin Muskelunge Fast Facts

A world-class fishery…

• Wisconsin lawmakers named the muskelunge the official state fish in 1955.
• More world records have been landed in Wisconsin than anywhere else.
• The state and world record is a 69 lb, 11 oz. fish taken from the Chippewa Flowage. Also credited to Wisconsin is the world record hybrid musky, 51 lbs, 3 oz. from Lac Vieux Desert.

Found in most parts of the state…

• Fishable populations of muskies are found in 371 lakes and 93 streams in 48 counties.
• The heaviest concentration of lakes with musky is found in the headwaters in Wisconsin that provide the best fishing.

A bout 77 percent of the muskie waters in Wisconsin provide the best fishing. About 77 percent of Wisconsin’s musky waters average one adult fish for three surface acres, compared to up to 20 adults per three surface acres in good walleye lakes.

With more anglers catching more fish and bigger fish faster…

• Musky fishing continues to grow in popularity. The number of participating angler’s days has more than quadrupled over the last 50 years.
• An estimated 456,000 anglers pursued muskie in Wisconsin in 2001, for which survey results are available.

More information on muskies and musky fishing in Wisconsin is available on the musky page of the DNR or for more information contact Tim Simonson (608) 266-5222.

Wisconsin Muskelunge

Winners of 2010 Trout Stamp Design Contest Announced

Madison – With 28 brilliant displays of color and movement, it wasn’t easy choosing the winners of the 2010 Trout and Salmon Stamp Design contest. But two paintings grabbed the judges and won the honor of appearing on next year’s edition of the stamps.

John Nemec Jr. of Platteville was the winner of the 2010 Great Lakes Trout and Salmon Stamp with his painting of multiple, sun-glittered chinook salmon making their way through the water, with one taking the bait.

For the 2010 Inland Trout Stamp, Craig F. Balke of Lake Mills judged out the competition with a painting of a vibrant brook trout leaping at a lure in a gravel-bottomed stream.

Anglers Should Reap the Rewards this Season from Trout Stream Restoration Projects

For great trout fishing this summer, anglers will want to check out a recently released report detailing new trout habitat improvement projects on more than 100 miles of streams in 35 counties.

Such habitat projects often lead to eye-popping increases in fish populations at the habitat improvement sites, particularly a few years after work has been completed.

A recently released report on inland trout stream revenue expenditures from 2004 – 07 details how $5,222,564 in trout stamp funds were spent, where habitat work was done, and summations projects that took place in 35 counties.

“Many anglers seek out streams with habitat work, knowing that good fishing will likely be found there,” says Larry Claggert, Department of Natural Resources coldwater fisheries ecologist. “And since it takes a couple of years for the fish to respond, anglers should really start seeing the benefit of an improved fishery from projects in this timeframe.”

Since 1978, anglers have had to purchase a trout stamp (now $11.50) to fish in Wisconsin’s inland waters, with the funds going to restoring and improving trout habitat. Overall, the DNR fisheries program has restored more than 750 miles of trout stream, and each year, maintains many miles of previous habitat work and keeps more than 750 miles free of beaver dams in northern Wisconsin.

There is also a significant amount of revenue from general fishing license fees that supports inland trout habitat work. During 2004 to 2007, nearly an additional $1 million was spent on improving Wisconsin’s inland trout streams.

The trout stamp design contest runs from April 1 through May 15. Long Creek in Dunn County is great example of habitat work well received.

For more on trout habitat improvement projects completed on Gilbert Creek resulted in restoration of more than 2.5 miles of outstanding native brook trout stream with densities up to 6,000 per mile, of which 750 per mile exceed the legal length limit of eight inches.

“The trout stamp program is very successful and directly benefits the angler,” Claggert says. “Our goal is to make sure the trout are healthy, have good habitat and increased natural production, and that anglers have a great fishing experience. The program is as strong as ever thanks to trout anglers continued commitment to the sport and purchase of trout stamp.”

Angler looking for more information on where the best work was completed can purchase a private book; Todd Hanson’s 2008 “Map Guide to Improved Trout Waters of Wisconsin”.

New Online Boating Safety Course is Available

A new online boating safety course can help young boaters meet state requirements to legally drive a boat — and can help boaters of all ages stay safe on the water this summer, Wisconsin recreation safety officials say.

“This new course provides another opportunity for people to get trained and educated in the boating safety techniques and information that just may save their life,” says Todd Schaller, Department of Natural Resources recreation safety chief.

“We now offer three convenient options to choose from — two online courses and hands-on classroom instruction — so people can find something that best fits their schedule and their learning styles.”

Wisconsin law requires that anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1999 must pass a boating safety course to operate a motor boat on Wisconsin waters. However, the DNR recreational safety specialists recommend that all boaters take the course to learn the rules and responsibilities of operating a boat.

The vast majority of boating accidents and fatalities on Wisconsin waters every year involve operators who have never taken a boating safety course. In 2008, 19 of the 20 people killed in boating accidents on Wisconsin waters had never taken a boating safety education course.

Operator inexperience, recklessness, and speed are the four leading causes of those tragic accidents.

The new boater safety course is called BoaterExam.com and is offered by a company of the same name. It features many eye-catching animations and the ability for students to choose to hear the material as well as read it on the screen, making this course a good choice for younger students, says Cathy Burrow, recreation safety specialist.

“The ‘Boater Exam’ joins BoatEd, the other boating safety education website which DNR provides through a private contractor. BoatEd has been around for more than a decade and offers a variety of colorful animations, video and true stories of boating survivors.”

The third option is classroom training provided by the DNR’s corps of seasonal boating safety instructors. All three options cover the same material.

Learn more about each of these three options online, including a schedule of upcoming classes, on the boating safety education page of the DNR Web site.
Tips to Save Summer Season Energy

**Washington, D.C. – May 12, 2009** – With summer on the way, the high costs of cooling right around the corner, EPA is offering advice to help Americans reduce both energy bills and greenhouse gas emissions by one third through energy efficiency.

The energy used in an average home costs more than $2,200 a year and contributes more greenhouse gas emissions than a typical car.

“A few simple changes will help create real reductions in high summer electric bills and provide a lofty cut in green-house gas emissions in the bargain,” said EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson. “It’s important that we all do our part to confront climate change, especially when it can help save money during these challenging economic times.”

Here are some tips to save energy and help protect the environment at home and at work:

- **Set your programmable thermostat** to save while you are away or asleep. Using it properly can save up to $180 per year in energy costs.

- **Run ceiling fans** in a clockwise direction to create a wind-chill effect that will make you feel cooler. Remember that ceiling fans cool people, not rooms — so turn them off when you leave the room.

- **Inspect your duct system** for obvious signs of leaks and disconnections (most houses leak 20 percent or more). Seal any leaks with foil tape or a special sealing compound (like the attic, basement or crawl-space).

- **Seal air leaks around your home** to keep the heat out and the cool air in.

The biggest air leaks are usually found in the attic or basement, but also come in around doors, windows, vents, pipes and electrical outlets. Use caulk, spray foam or weather stripping to seal these leaks. And add more insulation to keep your home cooler this summer.

- **Maintain your cooling system.** Check your system’s air filter every month at a minimum and change the filter every three months.

- **Remove leaves, dirt and other debris** from around the outdoor components to improve air flow and efficiency. Have a qualified professional tune-up your system with a pre-season maintenance checkup and, if it’s time to replace your old system, look for models that have earned EPA’s Energy Star.

- **Turn off office lights and equipment** when not in use so they don’t generate unnecessary heat.

- **Replace incandescent light bulbs** in your home with compact fluorescent light bulbs which use two-thirds less energy and generate less heat than conventional bulbs.

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**Raise Special Purple Loosestrife Eating Beetles to Control the Invader**

**MADISON** – People who want to help control the spread of purple loosestrife, an invasive plant, are again encouraged to raise and release special beetles that live solely on the plant and help control it.

“Rearing the beetles is easy with a small backyard gardening project,” says Brock Woods, the state’s purple loosestrife biocontrol coordinator. “It can be a great spring-summer learning experience for the whole family.

This is the time of year for everyone interested to get involved. Free equipment and starter beetles are available.

The statewide biocontrol program began in 1897 and since then more than 600 city cooperators and groups have raised and released millions of those purple loosestrife-eating beetles in wetlands damaged by the plant. The beetle species used has been carefully tested and found to be safe and effective in helping control purple loosestrife.

This rarely wetland perennial plant from Europe and Asia was introduced into Wisconsin around 1900. It grows faster and taller than most native wetland plants, often shading out and replacing them, eliminating food for many native insects and other animals.

For more information or to sign up for the beetle-raising and releasing project, e-mail or call Brock Woods now at brock.woods@wisconsin.gov or (608) 221-6349.

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**EPA Reaches Agreement with Laminated Products on Clean-Air Violations**

**EPA Release 5/10/09**

**Chicago, Ill. – May 5, 2009** – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 has reached an agreement with the nation’s largest manufacturer of Laminated Products Inc. on alleged clean-air violations at the company’s facility at 1194 S. 5th St. in Kenosha, Wis. EPA assessed a $5,000 penalty.

The agreement resolves EPA allegations that Laminated Products violated federal federally enforceable state clean-air regulations by using toner and desiccated alcohol as solvent in its cabinet assembly process, which increased the emissions of volatile organic compounds.

Volatile organic compounds contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone (smog). Smog can cause respiratory problems, including asthma, throat irritation, and respiratory symptoms such as shortness of breath and chest pain. People with asthma, children and the elderly are especially at risk, but these health concerns are important to everyone.

Information about EPA Region 5’s air enforcement and compliance activities is available at [www.epa.gov/region5/air/enforce/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/region5/air/enforce/index.html). Potential environmental violations may be reported at [www.epa.gov/comp](http://www.epa.gov/complain/).
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<td>5. Weatherby Vanguard Bolt Rifle</td>
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<td>3. Winchester Super-X Semi Auto</td>
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2009 WWF Deer Rifle Raffle
10 Quality Rifles w/Cash Alternative Prizes

Raffle Drawing: November 21, 2009 - 7:00pm
Club 95, Hixon, WI

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<td>7. Mossberg 454 Lever 30-30</td>
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<td>8. Marlin XL7C Camo Bolt Rifle</td>
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<td>9. Mossberg 444 Lever 30-30</td>
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<td>10. Stevens 200 Bolt Rifle</td>
<td>Bob Tress</td>
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May 2009 Calendar Winners

1. $100 Cash | Scott Stones, Lakeside, MN | 6539
2. Gander Mountain Gift Card $100 value | Heather Larson | Fort Atkinson, WI | 5017
3. $100 Cash | Deb Carbaugh | Random Lake, WI | 4690
4. Reliance L12 12ga | Dave Jensen | Muskego, WI | 2528
5. $100 Cash | Mary Aksutlewicz | Menasha, WI | 2428
6. Browning BLR 817mm 08 | Chris Peterson | Two Rivers, WI | 2428
7. $100 Cash | Tim Branch | Evanston, IL | 1924
8. Gander Mountain Gift Card $100 value | Mary Abelerillos | Menasha, WI | 1924
9. Browning BlR 817mm 08 | Tony Oka | Cedarburg, WI | 1924
10. $100 Cash | Bob Tress | Menasha, WI | 1924
11. $100 Cash | Janie Faen | West Allis, WI | 1924
12. Gander Mountain Gift Card $100 value | Max Ober | Darien, WI | 1924
13. $100 Cash | Fred Wilke | Appleton, WI | 1924
14. Gander Mountain Gift Card $100 value | Dave Independence | Prairieville, WI | 1924
15. $100 Cash | Danae Stephany | Green Bay, WI | 1924
16. $100 Cash | Tony Oka | Cedarburg, WI | 1924
17. Gander Mountain Gift Card $100 value | Mary Aksutlewicz | Menasha, WI | 1924
18. $100 Cash | Brad Jann | Berlin, WI | 1924
19. $100 Cash | Tim Branch | Evanston, IL | 1924
20. Gander Mountain Gift Card $100 value | Max Ober | Darien, WI | 1924
21. $100 Cash | Janie Faen | West Allis, WI | 1924
22. Gander Mountain Gift Card $100 value | Mary Abelerillos | Menasha, WI | 1924
23. Browning 870 Super Mag Turkey 12ga | Robert Meister | Oshkosh, WI | 1924
24. $100 Cash | Scott Fredericks | Germantown, WI | 1924
25. Gander Mountain Gift Card $100 value | Dan Leamer | Madison, WI | 1924
26. Marlin 3917RF 17 HMR or .22 | Mark Johnson | Milton, WI | 1924
27. $100 Cash | Brenda King | Frisco, TX | 1924
28. Gander Mountain Gift Card $100 value | Dave Jensen | Muskego, WI | 1924
29. NEF Pardner Pump 12ga | Alan Amar | Sun Prairie, WI | 1924
30. Gander Mountain Gift Card $100 value | Abbey Crossman | Neenah, WI | 1924
31. $100 Cash | Brian Pekes | Milwaukee, WI | 1924

Two Southeastern Wisconsin Schools First in State to ‘Reach Higher’ for Green & Healthy Schools

ADISON – Two southeastern Wisconsin schools have become the first Wisconsin high school and elementary school to reach the highest level of the Green & Healthy Schools Program, by taking concrete steps to make the schools healthier for students and the planet.

Berlin High School in Berlin and Meadowbrook Elementary School in Waukesha are the first schools to achieve ‘Reaching Higher’ status of the Wisconsin Green & Healthy Schools Program, a voluntary program available to all Wisconsin public schools to provide elementary, middle and high schools designed to support and encourage schools in their quest for a healthy, safe and environmentally-friendly learning environment.

“By participating in the program, students learn about the environmental, health and safety challenges facing our state, and are given skills to address those challenges throughout their life,” said Tessa Jilot, who coordinates the program for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Green & Healthy Schools is a three-step program. The first step involves forming a Green Team and signing a pledge form. In the second step, the Green Team completes an initial assessment of their school and its operations to determine where they can make improvements in areas like energy and water use, waste, and recycling, transportation, school facilities and grounds, community involvement and indoor air quality. Since its inception in 2004, Jilot says, 21 Wisconsin schools have completed the first step.

The third step involves the school taking action to address the issues found in the initial assessment. After schools have completed this step they will be recognized as an official Green & Healthy School by the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Public Instruction. Since its inception in 2004, Jilot says, 21 Wisconsin schools have completed all three steps. An optional fourth step of the program allows students, teachers and school officials to target a specific aspect of their school’s environment not covered in the initial assessment and develop a project around that topic.

“Berlin High School and Meadowbrook Elementary School are the first schools in the state to complete all the steps necessary of the ‘Reaching Higher’ level to make their schools’ learning environments healthier, more productive and sustainable for the Earth,” she said.

Berlin High School staff at Meadowbrook Elementary chose to focus on recycling/waste reduction and transportation. The school began two-sided copying with leftover paper and paper donations to businesses changing their letterhead.

“Their actions cut the school’s annual paper costs in half,” Jilot said.

Students also visited Waukesha County’s waste recycling facility, learned how to recycle cans and bottles in the lunchrooms, and worked to reduce the amount of waste created from school lunches. A transportation committee evaluated traffic patterns in the school parking lot and developed an alternate plan for student drop-offs and bus loading that has reduced the amount of idling and improved visibility across the parking lot.

Berlin High School completed all ten topic areas in the Green & Healthy Schools program and worked to involve students, staff and community members in the process. They focused on incorporating environmental topics into their curriculum and reducing energy use and waste. By installing light sensors and changing the way the gym is heated, Berlin High School achieved major energy savings. To reduce waste and promote healthy habits, students have been encouraged to carry their own reusable water bottles to class and the school launched a lunchroom composting program this spring,” Jilot said.

Wisconsin Forests.

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