SOMETHING’S FISHY!

This September 9 the Door County Environmental Council (DCEC) is sponsoring a presentation detailing both the challenging measures that must be enacted to insure Asian carp will not invade our Great Lakes waters, and the Wisconsin DNR’s future.

**INVASIVE ASIAN CARP:** Mark Smith of the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) will speak to this issue. Currently, Mark serves as a special designee on the Council of Great Lakes Governor’s Advisory Committee for the Great Lakes Compact and Agreement. He represents NWF on the Midwest Governor’s Association Biomass Working Group, and serves on various other state and federal conservation stakeholder committees.


**THE FUTURE OF THE DNR:** George Meyer, former DNR Secretary under Governor Tommy Thompson, is up next. George led the DNR’s enforcement division for 10 years and was secretary from 1993 to 2001.

George is an avid outdoorsman and strong advocate for fish and game habitat throughout the state. He has been critical of the current loss of scientific wildlife oversight and the politicization of the DNR under our present administration.

Many describe him as a "crunchy conservative" and Meyer shoots back, "I don't think anybody truly knows my politics."

"I think I’m pretty moderate, pretty fiscally conservative," he says. He adds that "most sportsmen of this state do not believe conservation should be a political wedge issue. They believe like it was 20 years ago. Conservation should be a bipartisan issue.

**Save the date and the time:** Wednesday, September 9th, 7:00 PM at the Baileys Harbor Town Hall. Should be very informative and eye-opening presentations.

Don’t miss this one!
Political Budget Cuts Strike the DNR

By John Wilson

The Budget woes this year riled both parties in Madison. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has been extremely hard hit on some very fundamental levels.

The Walker administration expressed their displeasure early on with the DNR’s scientific data that supports global warming or probable pollution at the expense of mining, fracking or large dairy operations such as CAFOs (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations). Walker signaled his environmental agenda by appointing former Republican state senator and construction-company owner Cathy Stepp as DNR secretary, explaining that he wanted “someone with a chamber-of-commerce mentality” at the agency’s helm. Stepp, who does not have a background in science or natural resource management, had publicly derided DNR staff as “unelected bureaucrats ...”

The current budget indicates the kind of fight that is ongoing and showing signs of stress with the DNR administration taking a page out of Florida Governor Rick Scott’s agenda and ruling that no DNR staff are allowed to speak to global warming or climate change - stating that these are political not scientific issues.

The scope of the DNR scientific research led to some publications and findings that support the virtual universally accepted science of global warming or (as often referred to) climate change. This does not sit well with many conservative members of the State Legislature who see addressing this issue as an obstruction and an attack on business.

One outspoken member of the Republican caucus, Senator Thomas P. "Tom" Tiffany has led the push to defund many science positions in the DNR. He has proposed along with Gov. Scott Walker eliminating a third of the DNR’s 58 scientist positions and 60 percent of its 18 environmental educator positions. George Meyer, the DNR secretary from 1993 to 2001 during the administration of Republican Gov. Tommy Thompson who now heads the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, said Tiffany has targeted the DNR because of his opposition to climate change research, which has been a big priority at the department.

Senator Tiffany wants this direction in the DNR to change as well. Although Tiffany denied that the cuts are retaliatory, he said that he doesn’t think the office has helped sportsmen. "The bureau’s deer population estimates, for example, led to too many antlerless permits in northern Wisconsin over the years and the region’s herd still hasn’t recovered."

"Integrating the scientists’ tasks within the DNR’s divisions will improve focus on practical projects rather than ‘theoretical’ issues such as climate change." Tiffany said.

The upheaval and change of direction in the DNR led to the resignation of Jack Sullivan, 62, who said he was told not to talk about budget cuts that will eliminate more than half of the senior scientist positions from the DNR’s
Science Services Bureau. But he said this budget had been the most challenging of his 36-year career and the impending cuts played a role in his decision to leave now. Morale at the Department has never been lower and the effectiveness of efforts to conserve and protect our states wild areas may well be in jeopardy.

2015-17 Budget Dings Recycling Funds

By Dick Kaiser

Recycling in the new biennial budget was a victim of the current slashing environment for essential government services in Madison. Since many readers here are avid recyclers, it might be helpful to know what impacts this new budget may have on those involved with the recycling and solid waste in Wisconsin.

The largest portion of the state’s funding of recycling services goes to local governmental units to underwrite their ongoing recycling efforts, whether operated within the government or by private vendors, such as Going Garbage in Door County. The 2016 line item was reduced from $19 million to $15 million, with a return to the $19 million level in 2017.

After making several calls to the Capital, it turns out that this seemingly haphazard approach was inserted by the Governor’s Office last year and remained untouched throughout the months prior to finalizing the budget. At this writing, it is not clear whether or not there is a fix for this funding anomaly (see additional comments below).

The smaller portion of local funding is the popular Clean Sweep Program which funds special recycling events in counties throughout the state every other year. The funding level remains at $750,000 for the two year period. The next such event in Door County will be in 2016. Landfill tipping fees remained unchanged.

Several programs were eliminated entirely, leaving recipients and employees in the lurch. Here is a listing of those programs: Department of Corrections’ computer recycling program, University of Wisconsin System Solid Waste Research program, Wisconsin Bioenergy Initiative which funded activities on UW-Madison, UW-Stevens Point and UW-Green Bay campuses, and UW Extension Recycling Education which funded activities of the Solid & Hazardous Waste Education Center (SHWEC). These cuts in total come to about $5 million or about $1.00 per capita.

According to Joseph Van Rossum, Recycling Specialist & Director at SHWEC, the funding for Extension Recycling Education supported “my position and three others in SHWEC. We are working on a transitional plan and I will have more to share on this ...in the coming days. What I can share with you now is our efforts related to providing information, technical assistance, and educational programing related to solid waste and recycling will cease at a date that is yet to be determined. These funds supported the bulk of SHWEC’s work and served as a base for securing funds to support additional grants and program revenue.”
For those of us who need recycling services to responsibly dispose of items, we have a number of options.

If you need to dispose of hazardous waste, the choice is the Brown County Recycling Center which is open to the public on Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings. There is a ten cents a pound fee. For more info, go to http://www.browncountyrecycling.org/ or call 920-492-4950.

Electronics and large appliances of all kinds are welcome at Best Buy. For more info, see its website. There is no charge. Batteries Plus takes batteries and fluorescent bulbs for a small fee. Please see their website.

Maybe someday all citizens will have convenient, comprehensive recycling sites. Just not under the current administration, apparently.

For more information about the various programs, contact your county highway department, your state legislators, or the state DNR.

Changes to Environmental Law In 2015-17 Wisconsin Budget

By Michael P. Carlton, Nathan S. Fronk, and R. Lynn Parins for National Law Review

von Briesen & Roper S.C. Environmental Law & Litigation, Milwaukee 414.276.1122 – Madison 608.441.0300

On July 12, 2015, Governor Walker signed the 2015-2017 biennial state budget, 2015 Wis. Act 55 (the "Budget"). The Budget contains a number of noteworthy changes to environmental law and policy in Wisconsin. These changes include the following:

PEFCA ends. Previously, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administered the Petroleum Environmental Cleanup Fund Award (PECFA) to reimburse owners of certain petroleum product storage tanks for a portion of the cost of cleaning up discharges from those tank systems. Governor Walker's line item veto set a new deadline of July 20, 2015 by which the DNR needed to receive a claimant’s notification of discharge and a potential PECFA claim, thereby effectively ending eligibility for new participation in the program. Existing PECFA claims will continue until the program ends on June 30, 2020.

Brownfields. Under prior law, the amount a brownfields grant recipient needed to contribute to the project varied depending on the total cost of the project. In addition, the recommendations of both the Wisconsin Department of Administration and DNR needed to be considered before a grant was issued. The Budget requires that the recipient of a brownfields grant must contribute to the project an amount that is equal to at least 50 percent of the amount of the grant. In addition, the recommendations of the Department of Administration no longer need to be considered.

Wind turbine health effects. The Budget directs the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (the "PSC") to review existing studies conducted to ascertain the health-related impacts of industrial wind turbines, regardless of ownership or siting, on persons residing near the turbine installations. If the review shows that there are substantially
negative health effects on persons residing beyond the 1,250 foot setback distance specified in current PSC rules, the PSC may, no later than 6 months after completing the review, submit a proposal for revisions to those rules to the legislative council staff. While this directive made it through from Governor Walker's proposed budget, the legislature removed any funding for this mandated review. Nonetheless, this directive could potentially lead to revisions of the PSC's existing wind-siting rules, which recently withstood a challenge at the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

**Shoreland development.** The Budget made several revisions in an attempt to make shoreland development regulations more uniform throughout the state. The revisions prevent counties from adopting shoreland zoning regulations that are more restrictive than the state shoreland zoning regulations. In addition, the WDNR and county shoreland zoning ordinances can no longer make regulations that impair the interest of a landowner in shoreland property with regard to several aspects of land use, including outdoor lighting, nonconforming structures, and vertical expansion. Moreover, neither DNR nor counties can make regulations that require inspections and upgrades as conditions for sale or transfer of a structure.

**Lead paint.** The definition of "lead-bearing paint" as a toxic substance — Wis. Stat. § 254.11(8) — was amended to read that lead-bearing paint is paint that has "more than 0.5 percent lead by weight in the dried film of applied paint" and more than one milligram (instead of 0.7) of lead per square centimeter in the dried film of applied paint. In tandem, the authority of the Wisconsin Department of Health and Human Services to promulgate by rule a more restrictive definition of "lead-bearing paint" to comport with a more restrictive federal standard has been eliminated. The new state definition is consistent with the federal definition for now, but in the event the federal definition becomes more restrictive in the future, the only mechanism to bring the state definition into alignment would be through legislative action. For the time being, the alignment of the state and federal definitions may ease burdens on the paint industry in Wisconsin.

**Forestry co-op agreements.** The DNR is now permitted to enter into "cooperative agreements" with the United States Department of Agriculture for forestry activities on national forest land located in Wisconsin. Up to 10% of the revenues received by DNR under such an arrangement will be contributed to the state conservation fund, until the total contributed pursuant to a "cooperative agreement" reaches $750,000. The budget also requires DNR to move its forestry headquarters from Madison to somewhere in Northern Wisconsin.

**Pipeline insurance.** In a last-minute amendment, counties and municipalities are now prohibited from placing environmental insurance requirements on pipeline owners that are different from state requirements.

We’ve included color photographs in this issue, but due to the expense of printing in color, this paper copy is black & white. If you would like the newsletter in color, send your email address to dcec@itol.com and use subject line: DCEC Newsletter Request.
**Business Doing Good**

The Cookery Built Green, Eats Local and Travels Green Too!

According to Courtney Skare, the general manager of the Cookery, the business started participating in the Wisconsin Travel Green program at a time many might find surprising: after the devastating 2008 fire that temporarily closed the restaurant. The Cookery, of course, has been a Fish Creek institution since it opened in July 1977.

“Completing the Travel Green certification application helped our thinking about how we wanted to rebuild the Cookery,” Courtney said. “We realized we could make sustainable, environmentally sound choices among the various building products.”

There are nine categories in the Travel Green application: communication and education (customers, employees, public); waste reduction, reuse, and recycling; energy efficiency, conservation, and management; water conservation and wastewater management; air quality; wildlife and landscape conservation and management; transportation; purchasing; and local community benefits. Points are awarded in each of the categories, with a minimum of 35 points required. The Cookery has 73 points. The more points a business obtains, the greener their operation.

As an example, the Cookery used reclaimed Wisconsin barn beams for the floor in the dining room of their new building and their host stand is made from recycled products. In addition, when they rebuilt, they also used low VOC paint, super insulated the building and chose a sustainable irrigation system.

While there is a Travel Green decal on the restaurant’s door, Courtney says that customers most notice “that we are green because of our food. We get a lot of positive customer feedback because we purchase so many ingredients locally.”

The Cookery uses local beef for its cheeseburgers and local whitefish for several menu items. While the restaurant keeps a fairly stable menu (customers return for their favorites and expect to find them), summer is the opportunity to purchase all kinds of local produce for the restaurant’s menu such as cherries, tomatoes, lettuce, all kinds of vegetables and apples in the fall. Courtney says they’re currently
enjoying local purple cauliflower and summer squash as entrée sides.

Overall, Courtney said they believe Travel Green is a great program that stimulates businesses’ thinking about how to support the environment and helps management make good, sustainable choices. Originally, the program was almost cost-prohibitive to participate, she said, but they have reevaluated the pricing and it is much more reasonable now.

The Cookery may be found at 4135 State Road 42 in downtown Fish Creek and at http://www.cookeryfishcreek.com/ or call 920-868-3634. A list of all Travel Green businesses, as well as information on how to become certified, is at http://www.travelwisconsin.com/experience-fun/travel-green-wisconsin. Or call their marketing specialist, Christina Torkelson at (608) 266-1238. The Department of Tourism (DOT) initiated Travel Green Wisconsin in 2006.

**Wisconsin Fund Still Around**

The Joint Finance Committee placed in the budget as passed money to keep the Wisconsin Fund program alive for at least one more budget cycle: $1,645,000 in 2015-16 and $840,000 in 2016-17. The amounts should cover the requests that were submitted for fiscal 2016 and approximately half of that amount for the following year according to John Teichtler, Door County Sanitarian. The Fund provides grants to homeowners and small businesses to help offset a portion of the cost for the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of existing failing Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (POWTS).

**EAB and the Door County Environment**

By John J. Beck

Studies from other parts of the country make it pretty clear: the ash trees in Door County are doomed by the inevitable spread of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). It’s the reaction to that news which leads to controversy and, at times, impulsive reactions. A rational approach would be to evaluate the anticipated damage, explore alternatives, and act on the alternative measures which best suit those impacted, including our parks and public lands.

Some have proposed felling and selling all ash trees in those areas. Spraying is of limited effectiveness and certainly detrimental to Door County’s fragile wildlife. Treatment of individual trees with systemic insecticides is available for the preservation of individual specimen trees such as in a private yard, but certainly not practical for stands of ash trees. Unfortunately, the only remedies available to homeowners contain neonicotinoids—a class of pesticides linked to bee colony collapse and recently banned from additional applications by the EPA. One option is to fell those trees as they succumb and while the wood is still marketable. In parks and preserves, the trees can be left standing or fall as nature takes its course, clearing roads, paths and parking areas for safety.

So for parks and preserves, that boils down to three of the options: fell and sell, fell and sell only the dying trees, or clear only as appropriate for safety.

Owners of woodlots with large stands of ash might well choose the fell and sell option either proactively or as the EAB makes its presence known on that land. But the effect of that option in the picturesque ecosystems or Door County seems like an unnecessary assault with little benefit. Studies in Minnesota (1) project that as ash mortality...
reaches 100%, timber stands will remain quite stable as other species grow in their place. That invasive species might benefit from the loss of ash trees, at least temporarily, would not be diminished by proactive logging of all ash trees in a stand such as, for example, on public land.

Door Bluff Headlands County Park, dedicated as a nature sanctuary almost 70 years ago, is unique in that it is undeveloped with the sole exception being the road to the park. Even if estimates of 40 to 43% of the trees in the park are ash, allowing them to die and ultimately fall would be far less unsightly, in the opinion of this writer, than logging. Felling trees (potentially endangering those using the access road) could be done on an as needed basis without destroying the undeveloped nature of this special park. This approach, and close it to vehicles as is done at Toft Point, would also allow for the possibility that the spread of EAB might not reach the park, or that practical control measures might be developed before that occurs.

And in related news on... **Door Bluff Headlands Park**

Once again, the A&P Committee pooched their handling of the management of Door Bluffs Headlands Park. The “hot potato” of determining who is going to come up with a management plan didn’t even make it onto July or August’s A&P meeting agenda.

The last group to cry, “Not My Job” was the EAB Working Group, a subset of the Door County Invasive Species Team (DCIST, a mysterious group which meets infrequently, cancelled last month’s meeting (again), and doesn’t disclose who is actually on the DCIST.)

With all this non-management and lack of input, will A&P take another vote on tree cutting in the park this winter?

**Walker Signs Microbead Ban**


The law will ban the manufacture of personal care products containing microbeads beginning Dec. 31, 2017 except for over-the-counter drugs. Selling personal care products or manufacturing drugs with microbeads will be prohibited as of Dec. 31, 2018. Finally, the law bans the sale of over-the-counter drugs with microbeads at the end of 2019. The law provides a penalty of up to $500 per violation and allows government actions for injunctive relief.

Microbeads (tiny non-biodegradable plastics) are commonly found in body wash and toothpaste and pose a threat to commercial fisheries and human health. The Wisconsin bill was originally introduced by Sen. Rob Cowles of Green Bay and co-authored in the Assembly by Representative Joel Kitchens of Sturgeon Bay. “We’re elated to finally have the microbeads bill signed into law,” said Amber Meyer Smith, director of government relations of Clean Wisconsin.
UPDATE

Well Testing Success! 98 More Wells Tested in July!

In the last newsletter, we reported on Door County Environmental Council’s continuing efforts in private well testing through introducing, coordinating, and promoting the UW-Stevens Point Residential Well Water Testing Program to all of Door County. You may recall that these tests include the options of a Homeowners Package, a Metals Package and/or a DACT Screen.

This year, the towns of Clay Banks, Forestville and Nasewaupee and the Village of Forestville participated in the program. Kevin Masarik of UW Stevens Point reports that we had 98 participants in the well water testing programs in July.

Waukesha Wants YOUR Water!

The City of Waukesha has filed an amended request to draw water from Lake Michigan and been given the Wisconsin DNR’s preliminary approval. The DNR released its draft environmental impact study and preliminary decision on Waukesha’s diversion application on June 25. Comments on both are being accepted until Aug. 28. We urge concerned citizens to submit comments and attend hearings slated for Aug. 17-18.

As the world’s largest freshwater ecosystem, the Great Lakes are a national treasure. They house 20 percent of all freshwater on the surface of the planet, provide drinking water to 40 million people, create habitat for 3,500 species of plants and animals, and support a $4 billion sports fishing industry.

The Great Lakes Compact was created to protect the Great Lakes as a vital economic and cultural resource. Experts from all over the Great Lakes region have spent over 30 years working together to craft and ultimately ratify a good-faith agreement that serves to protect our Great Lakes for future generations.

Waukesha’s request to divert water outside of the Great Lakes basin is the first time the Great Lakes Compact is being put to the test in how well it will protect our Great Lakes now and in the future. The Compact Implementation committee believes it’s vital Wisconsin make the smart decision in refusing Waukesha’s request for water and lead our region in protecting our Great Lakes.  [http://www.protectourgreatlakes.org/](http://www.protectourgreatlakes.org/)

Big Dumb Hotel. . .

Check the DCEC Facebook Page for real-time updates. This is moving waaaaaaay too fast to capture in a quarterly newsletter! DCEC sponsored a “Public Trust Doctrine” program by Midwest Environmental Advocates (MEA) who have been very active in explaining the FACTS of Wisconsin’s Public Trust Doctrine to the nice folks on Sturgeon Bay’s council.
Dry Spring Reduces Manure Application Issues

By Paul Leline

According to the Wisconsin DNR and the DC Soil and Water Conservation Department (DCSW), there were few problems with the application of manure this spring in Door County. These agencies attribute the successful spreading to the dry spring this year, which allowed the liquid manure that was spread to have a better chance to soak into, and not run off, the ground.

Dale Konkol, of the DCSW, said that there were a couple of incidents, without environmental repercussions, that resulted in stern warnings without citations. Konkol said that Nutrient Management Plans are reported to have improved and are being reviewed.

I contacted one of the victims of last fall’s manure contamination of 12 wells, in Jacksonport and Egg Harbor, which sickened 16 people, and learned that their well now tests negative for E.coli. They have also installed a UV/RO water treatment system to ensure safe water for the future in their home.

The progress that is being made is good news. However, the threat of more manure coming into Door County remains and is in fact escalating. Currently, there is an application in Kewaunee County for another CAFO pending approval and existing CAFOS are poised to expand.

But where will all the added manure be spread? An 82,000,000 gallon liquid manure storage lagoon is being installed in Kewaunee County, which may be the largest to be built. Certainly, sewage lagoons are no solution to the rising threat to our drinking water. The manure in the lagoon will be held until suitable spreading conditions arise...but if conditions don’t arise, what then? Build another lagoon and pray for fair weather? Global warming experts say the weather patterns are shifting to more violent storms, hotter hot days, colder cold days, and wetter wet days. Are sewage lagoons the best idea for an unpredictable future? Or should we simply limit the number of cattle to a reasonable and sustainable number for the topography of the land.

Even though there has been an uneventful 'spring fling' of manure spreading, we are by no means out of the woods. How can the number of cattle continue to grow on soil that has proven to be fragile and has already caused well contamination for so many families?

Our greatest power is in contacting our representatives. Call on the politicians and regulatory departments to address this increase in quantity of manure and storage facilities. Our shallow soils are easily over saturated with potentially hazardous manure and it is our job as a community to protect ourselves. Take action now. Call your government officials and tell them to be responsible with your drinking water!! And have your well tested regularly – Know what you are drinking!!

Camp Zion Conditional Use Permit

The Liberty Grove Town Board and the Resource Planning Commission ignored the comments of lawyers, neighboring residents and the zoning regulations to approve Camp Zion’s Conditional Use Permit to their existing nonconforming
use in an SF-30 zoned area! The Door County Environmental Council, upon a unanimous vote of the board, send a letter to the town board and the RPC voicing objections to the request. We continue to believe this sets an ugly precedent for homeowners who purchased their homes with the due diligence that they lived in a residential neighborhood! Stay tuned; this issue may be appealed to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. ZBA.

Viste Feted on June 14

DCEC hosted a retirement party for our long time Executive Director Jerry Viste in Sturgeon Bay on June 14.

Lots of friends, colleagues, and family turned out to thank Jerry for his 35 years of steadfast service to DCEC. Among the celebrants were founding members John Wilson Sr. and Jim Ingwersen, who shared stories of struggles and successes that have happened in the organization’s 44-year history.

Although in retirement since February, don't think of Jerry as sitting in his rocking chair. He’s very busy working on his autobiography and will soon be ready to share his life experiences with the public. Jerry is also assembling old family photographs and movies to be converted to DVD's for his family to treasure.
DCEC wouldn't be the premiere environmental organization it is today without Jerry Viste. Period! We hope to honor him by continuing his legacy long into the future.

Many thanks Jerry, and much love.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A belated Thank You for the retirement gift, Leland Gregory book of "Things not to do after 50." I was very pleasantly surprised by the number of folks who turned out for the celebration and all the kindnesses that were shown at the event and after at Stone Harbor. I appreciate the effort that was made to bring the party to reality and the big success that it was.

--Jerry Viste
Spring 2015 has been a very busy and exciting time for the Door County Environmental Council (DCEC). Our season of educational programs kicked off on May 20 with organic farmers and environmentalists, Lynn and Nancy Utesch. The Uteschs presented a program at Crossroads in Sturgeon Bay entitled “Manure – Nutrient or Pollutant.” The Uteschs are founding members of the organization Kewaunee Cares. They along with many others have fought to protect ground water, streams, lakes, and aquifers from organic pollution. The Wisconsin Supreme Court has ruled that manure is a pollutant when it reaches the aquifer.

The Uteschs pointed out that manure has unfortunately reached the aquifer in Kewaunee County, where around 30% of all wells are polluted. The problem is managing the amounts of manure applied to the soil and under what weather conditions. Kewaunee, Brown, and Door counties have shallow soils with underlying fractured karst rock infrastructure. These soil conditions cannot handle large applications of liquefied manure. The DNR and counties need to require and inspect farmers’ adherence to their ”nutrient management plans” (manure spreading programs). CAFO’s, that can house thousands of animals, are ill-suited for these three northeastern Wisconsin counties. We had a great audience and lively discussion.

On June 14, we held a retirement party for our long serving executive director, Jerry Viste, also at Crossroads. Many of our past and present board members and DCEC friends came to wish Jerry well and thank him for his service.

Then on Tuesday, June 16, DCEC sponsored a program on the “Public Trust Doctrine” at Benny D’s in Sturgeon Bay. The Public Trust Doctrine protects the public’s rights to natural resources such as Lake Michigan, the Bay of Sturgeon Bay, and the land underlying these waters.

As you may know, there has been much controversy concerning the City of Sturgeon Bay’s plan to sell property for a large waterfront hotel to a developer. The Midwest Environmental Advocates, a non-profit environmental law center located in Madison, WI provided us with an outstanding speaker, Attorney Sarah Williams.

She presented background not only on the Public Trust Doctrine, but the Wisconsin Sunshine Laws as well. The Sunshine Laws ensure public access to government decisions and open
meetings. The question concerning the subject hotel property is whether some of the land is actually filled in lake bed that belongs to the people of Wisconsin. Attorney Williams gave a great overview of the laws and then answered questions for over an hour. Once again, we had good attendance and a lively question and answer session.

Eight days later, on June 24, we hosted a presentation by Mark Kastel, co-founder of the Cornucopia Institute on why eating organic food is vital to our health. The program entitled “Live Healthier – Eat Organic Food” was held at 7:00 p.m. again at Crossroads in Sturgeon Bay. Mark explained that indeed it does cost a little more to choose local and certified organic food, but in the long run, there is a big payback in terms of superior health. He asks “would you rather pay a little more for food now, or a lot more for health care later?” Mark believes that our diets today contain many toxic agrichemicals and foods with measurably less essential nutrients. Our current highly processed food diets are a significant contributor to chronic diseases and cancer. The question and answer session was terrific.

Our next program will be on Asian carp and the current status of the Wisconsin environment and its regulation. This program will be held September 9th at 7:00 p.m. at the Baileys Harbor Town Hall. This is a fight we cannot afford to lose! If you have not been able to attend any of our other programs, please decide to attend this one!

--Steve Eatough, President

Other DCEC Board Activities –

In addition to presenting four quality programs this year, the board will be working on updating its website to be more “user friendly.” We’ve also taken our bookkeeping from manual to QuickBooks. Our quarterly newsletter is now transmitted, folded, stamped, addressed and mailed electronically. We’re slogging through the process of getting certified as a nonprofit by the Post Office.

We’ve begun going through our files and are looking at adopting a policy of record-retention for nonprofits. If you have any beneficial suggestions or would like to become a member, please contact us or send us your membership form (see p. 15). This is your Environmental Council!
DCEC’s Leadership

PRESIDENT: Steve Eatough, Sister Bay
1st VICE-PRESIDENT: Eileen Andera, Sturgeon Bay
2nd VICE-PRESIDENT: Phyllis Ingwersen, Sister Bay
SECRETARY: Paul Leline, Baileys Harbor

DIRECTORS: Mike Bahrke, Ellison Bay • John J. Beck, Sturgeon Bay • Carl Madsen, Sister Bay • Dorothy Metzel, Liberty Grove • Carol Sills, Liberty Grove • John F. Wilson, Baileys Harbor

HONORARY DIRECTORS: Tony Haswell, James Ingwersen, Flora Langlois, Sarah Stuart, Karen Wilson, Libby Zimmerman

NEWSLETTER: Carl & Stephany Madsen, Sister Bay
BOOKKEEPER: Nancy Rave, Sturgeon Bay

The Door County Environmental Council, P.O. Box 114 - Fish Creek, WI 54212 • Phone: (920)743-6003

On the Web at www.dcec-wi.org  Email: info@dcec-wi.org.

LIKE our NEW Page: “The Door County Environmental Council” on Facebook!

Your Government Representatives:

Governor Scott Walker
115 East Capitol
Madison, WI 53702
608-266-1212
Email: govgeneral@wisconsin.gov
http://walker.wi.gov/

State Senator Frank Lasee
Box 7 882, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707-7882
(608)266-3512
Fax: 608-282-3541
Email: sen.lasee@legis.wisconsin.gov

State Representative Joel C. Kitchens
PO Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952
(608)266-5350
Toll Free: (888) 482-0001
Fax: (608)282-3601
http://legis.wisconsin.gov/assembly/01/kitchens

U.S. Senator Ron Johnson
328 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510
Washington: 202-224-5323
Milwaukee: 414-276-7282
Fax: 202-228-6965
http://www.ronjohnson.senate.gov

U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin
717 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510
DC: 202-224-5633
From Wisc: 800-247-5645
Madison: 608-264-5338
www.baldwin.senate.gov

U.S. Representative Reid Ribble
1513 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515-4908
Washington: 202-225-5665
Green Bay: 920-471-1950
1-800-773-8579
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Door County Voter? □ Yes □ No

Summer address __________________________ City_________________ State_________________ Zip______________

Please mail with payment to: DCEC, P.O. Box 114, Fish Creek, WI 54212  Thank you!
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