

# Lake Superior Commons

News from the Lake Superior Collaborative

December 2020



Chequamegon Bay on a calm day

Image credit: Naomi Tillison

The Lake Superior Collaborative was formed to facilitate collaboration and coordination among the governmental and non-governmental organizations and academic institutions that work to protect and restore natural resources in Wisconsin's Lake Superior Basin.

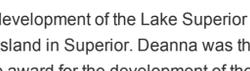
[Learn More](#)

## In The News

### Deanna Erickson hired as Director of the Lake Superior Reserve

Deanna Erickson served as the [Lake Superior Reserve's](#) Education Coordinator for nine years following the Reserve's designation in 2010, and has served as Interim Manager since April 2020. During that time, she initiated the impactful

Rivers2Lake Education Program and led the development of the Lake Superior Estuarium and Confluence Room on Barkers Island in Superior. Deanna was the winner of the 2014 Lake Superior Stewardship award for the development of the Rivers2Lake program and has earned nearly \$1.7 million in grant funding to support the community and the Reserve. She deeply values the vast importance of the St. Louis River estuary at the Great Lakes headwaters and spends her free time paddling and exploring these remarkable waterways.



*"It is a tremendous honor to bring my vision of the Reserve as a community-engaged organization that leads in science, education, coastal training and stewardship to the Director position. I am so grateful to our diverse and dedicated partners and staff for their support in the past and the future. With their insight and guidance, the Reserve will continue to be a hub of research and collaboration along the St. Louis River estuary and the Lake Superior shore. - Deanna Erickson*

### Nominate a Wisconsin Sea Grant Great Lakes Champion

The [Wisconsin Sea Grant 2021 Great Lakes Champion Award](#) will acknowledge and celebrate work accomplished by an organization, individual, business, or program that demonstrates an exceptional commitment to the Great Lakes. [Nominations due by January 16, 2021.](#)

### Wisconsin Coastal Flood Resilience Scorecard

[Wisconsin Sea Grant](#) and the [Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#) recently released a new tool for coastal communities coping with high water levels. The Flood Resilience Scorecard is 2020-2025 Lake Superior Reserve Management Plan has cleared legal review and been posted in the Federal Register. It is open for public comment until December 2nd. [Learn more about the Flood Resilience Scorecard.](#)

## Events

### \*THIS FRIDAY\* Wetland Coffee Break: Protecting the "Bayou of the North": Kakagon/Bad River Slough

**Date & Time:** 10:30am on Friday, December 4, 2020 | [Information & Registration](#)

**Topic:** At the mouths of the Kakagon and Bad Rivers along Lake Superior in Ashland County lie some of the most extensive and highest-quality coastal wetlands in the Great Lakes. Recognized as a Wetland Gem®, a National Park Service National Natural Landmark, and a Wetland of International Importance, the Kakagon/Bad River Sloughs comprises more than 16,000 acres of dynamic and diverse wetland habitats that support many species of rare plants and animals. Join Naomi Tillison, Director of the Bad River Band's Mashkiizibii Natural Resources Department, to hear about this extraordinary wetland complex and what makes it so special.

**About the speaker:** Naomi Tillison is Director of the Bad River Band's Mashkiizibii Natural Resources Department, which recently celebrated its 35th anniversary. Naomi has been with the Natural Resources Department for 13 years and oversaw the Water Resources Program for 9 years.

### Virtual HABS Symposium, January 6-7, 2021

The inaugural [2021 Harmful Algal Blooms \(HABS\) Symposium](#) will gather emergent research regarding HABS and create a venue for discussion of how to improve outreach and engagement to stakeholders impacted by HABS. Topics covered will include: Monitoring, Identifying, and Treating Harmful Algal Blooms, Preventing HABS through Nutrient Management, Human Health and HABS, and Animal Health and HABS.

This event will be hosted by the Algal Bloom Action Team, a collaboration of water professionals, researchers, and educators from twelve states in the North Central Region of the United States that [recently released a whitepaper](#) outlining next steps for harmful algal blooms outreach and education in the region. [Registration is free.](#)

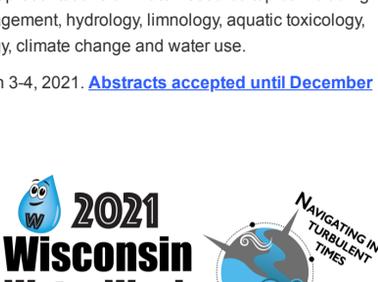
### 2021 American Water Resources Association Annual Meeting

The [Wisconsin Section of the American Water Resources Association](#) is soliciting long and short-format presentations on water resource topics including hydrogeology, watershed management, hydrology, limnology, aquatic toxicology, water chemistry, aquatic ecology, climate change and water use.

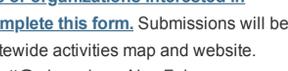
Virtual conference dates: March 3-4, 2021. [Abstracts accepted until December 18.](#)

### Wisconsin Water Week - Lake Superior Edition

The [Wisconsin Water Week](#) planning team encourages submissions for Lake Superior and water-related events and programs to be held on Friday, March 12, 2021. [Individuals or organizations interested in hosting an event on March 12 should complete this form.](#) Submissions will be included on the Wisconsin Water Week statewide activities map and website. **Questions?** Contact Erin Burkett, erin.burkett@wisc.edu or Alex Faber, alex@superiorrivers.org.



## 2020 Great Lakes Seminar Series



The Healing Our Waters (HOW) Great Lakes Coalition is hosting a [series of presentations](#) related to Great Lakes restoration and protection. [Registration for these events is free and open to all.](#)

### Series overview:

Monday, December 7 10:00-10:45am CST | **Keynote Speaker: Mandela Barnes, Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin** | Moderated by Brenda Coley, Milwaukee Water Commons | [Register for this event.](#)

Tuesday, December 8 12:00-1:30pm CST | **Panel Discussion: Cultivating Authentic Partnerships with Tribes and Tribal Leaders** | Speakers: Brett Fessell, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians; Tina Frankenberger, Tribal Councilor, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indian; Kira Davis, Conservation Resource Alliance | [Register for this event.](#)

Tuesday, December 8 2:00- 3:30pm CST | **Panel Discussion: Engagement and Leadership in Great Lakes Communities** | Speakers: Paco Ollervides, Green Leadership Trust; Nicole Brown, Detroit Future City; Anna-Lisa Castle, Alliance for the Great Lakes | [Register for this event.](#)

Wednesday, December 9 12:00-1:30pm CST | **Presentation: Great Lakes Restoration Initiative 101: Policy and Funding** | Speaker: Chad Lord, Policy Director, Healing Our Waters—Great Lakes Coalition | [Register for this event.](#)

Wednesday, December 9 2:00-3:00pm CST | **Presentation: Equity and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative** | Speakers: Anna Brunner, National Wildlife Federation; Crystal Davis, Alliance for the Great Lakes | [Register for this event.](#)

Thursday, December 10 12:00-1:30pm CST | **Panel Discussion: State Revolving Funds: A State-Level Program View** | Speakers: Cyndi Roper, Natural Resources Defense Council; Anthonia Ogidipe, Alliance for the Great Lakes; Pete Bucher, Ohio Environmental Council | [Register for this event.](#)

## Grant Opportunities

### \*NEW\* 2021 Five Star & Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program

The [National Fish & Wildlife Foundation](#) and the [Wildlife Habitat Council](#) are soliciting applications for projects that develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources for future generations by providing financial assistance to local partnerships that aim to improve water quality, watersheds, and habitats. Projects may include ecological improvements, community outreach (e.g. education and stewardship), water quality monitoring, and green infrastructure practices. Applicants are encouraged from both urban and rural communities. Eligible applicants include non-profit organizations, local, state, and municipal governments, Indian tribes, and educational institutions. Applications are due January 18, 2021. [Full proposal due date: January 28, 2021.](#)

### Wisconsin DNR Wetland Surcharge Project Funding

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is seeking applications for [wetland restoration and management projects](#) through the [Wetland General Permit Surcharge Funding Program](#). For more information, contact James Brodzeller at 608-574-0573 or james.brodzeller@wisconsin.gov.

### Wisconsin Energy Innovation Grants

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin's Energy Innovation Grant Program (EIGP) will fund comprehensive energy planning, electric vehicle planning, or projects that support renewable energy and energy storage, energy efficiency, or electric and renewable natural gas vehicles and infrastructure. Eligible applicants include local and tribal governments, businesses and nonprofit organizations, UW System campuses and facilities, WI Tech College System, and K-12 schools. Grants are available in four categories: 1) Renewable Energy and Energy Storage, 2) Energy Efficiency and Demand Response, 3) Electric & Renewable Natural Gas Vehicles and Infrastructure, and 4) Comprehensive Energy Planning. [Grant applications for the 2021-2022 project period are due January 22, 2021.](#)

## Job Opportunities

### Stream Restoration Manager

Trout Unlimited is hiring a Stream Restoration Manager to lead coldwater habitat projects throughout Michigan's Upper Peninsula. [View position description & apply.](#)



### Small Mammal Winter Trapping Technician

One field technician needed to assist with data collection for winter small mammal trapping project in northern Wisconsin. Technician will contribute to a long-term study of how small mammal communities are affected by forest management & structure, climate change, & changing snow cover in northern forests. The project is a collaboration between the University of Wisconsin, the US Forest Service, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, and Wisconsin DNR. [View position description & apply.](#)



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