



GREEN LAKE COUNTY

571 County Road A, Green Lake, WI 54941

Original Post Date: 1/5/2026

Amended Post Date:

The following documents are included in the packet for the Land, Water, Parks & Community Committee meeting on January 8th, 2026.

- 1) Amended Agenda
- 2) Minutes: 12/11/2025
- 3) Department Reports
 - UW-Extension
 - Land Conservation
- 4) Canada Goose Round -up Overview



GREEN LAKE COUNTY OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

Elizabeth Otto
County Clerk

Office: 920-294-4005
FAX: 920-294-4009

Land, Water, Parks & Community Committee Meeting Notice

Date: Thursday, January 8th, 2026 Time: 9:00 AM
The Green Lake County Government Center, County Board Room
571 County Road A, Green Lake WI

Amended AGENDA*

Committee Members

Bob Schweder – Chair
Mike Skivington – Vice Chair
Nancy Hiestand
Nita Krenz
Bill Boutwell
David Albright
Wes Eisenga, CASC Rep.

Karissa Rohde, Secretary

Virtual attendance at meetings is optional. If technical difficulties arise, there may be instances when remote access may be compromised. If there is a quorum attending in person, the meeting will proceed as scheduled.

This agenda gives notice of a meeting of the Land, Water, Parks & Community Committee. It is possible that individual members of other governing bodies of Green Lake County government may attend this meeting for informative purposes. Members of the Green Lake County Board of Supervisors or its committees may be present for informative purposes but will not take any formal action. A majority or a negative quorum of the members of the Green Lake County Board of Supervisors and/or any of its committees may be present at this meeting. See State ex rel. Badke v. Vill. Bd. of Vill. of Greendale, 173 Wis.2d 553, 578, 494 N.W. 2d 408 (1993).

1. Call to Order
2. Certification of Open Meeting Law
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Public Comment (3 minute limit)
5. Approve Minutes: 12/11/2025
6. Certificate of Appreciation – Ron Severson
7. Department Reports
 - UW-Extension
 - Land Conservation
 - Parks
8. *Discussion regarding goose round-up at Dodge and Sunset Parks
9. County Park improvements discussion
10. Committee Discussion
 - Future Meeting Dates: February 12th, 2026
 - Future Agenda items for action & discussion
11. Adjourn

This meeting will be conducted and available through in person attendance or audio/visual communication. Remote access can be obtained through the following link:

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 237 298 504 378

Passcode: C8ymz7

Dial in by phone

[+1 920-515-0745,,553090075#](#) United States, Green Bay

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 553 090 075#

For organizers: [Meeting options](#) | [Reset dial-in PIN](#)

Please accept at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

[Org help](#) | [Privacy and security](#)

Kindly arrange to be present, if unable to do so, please notify our office.
Elizabeth Otto, County Clerk

Please note: Meeting area is accessible to the physically disabled. Anyone planning to attend who needs visual or audio assistance, should contact the County Clerk's Office, 294-4005, not later than 3 days before date of the meeting.

**GREEN LAKE COUNTY
LAND, WATER, PARKS & COMMUNITY
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, December 11, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bob Schweder called the meeting of the Land, Water, Parks & Community Committee to order at 9:00am in the Green Lake County Government Center, County Board Room #0902, Green Lake, WI. The requirements of the open meeting law were certified as being met. Public access was available via remote programming as well as in person. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: Bob Schweder, Bill Boutwell, Mike Skivington, David Albright, Nancy Hiestand, Nita Krenz
(Remote)

Absent:

Also Present: Karissa Rohde, Deputy County Clerk; Todd Morris, County Conservationist; Mike Van Meel, Maintenance Supervisor; Jason Jerome, Interim County Administrator; Jeff Mann, Corporation Counsel; Matt Vande Kolk, Chief Deputy (9:25AM)

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTE LIMIT) - none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion/second (Boutwell/Hiestand) to approve the minutes of the 11/13/2025 Land, Water, Parks & Community Committee Meeting. Motion carried with no negative vote.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chair Schweder moved County Library Services Report to item #6.

- **County Library Services Report** – Green Lake Library is currently doing a community art project. On December 13th they will have a cookie sale and on December 17th they will have a book sale.

ORDINANCE

- Ordinance Amending Article IV Boat Launch User Fees and Creation of Prohibition on Power Loading

Motion/second (Boutwell/Skivington) to approve the Ordinance Amending Article IV Boat Launch User Fees and Creation of Prohibition on Power Loading. Motion carried with no negative vote. Discussion held.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- **Land Conservation** – Report found in the packet.
- **Parks** – Van Meel thanked everyone for the warm welcome the past 6 months. He also gave a shout out to Ron Severson for stepping up while Van Meels position was vacant before he was hired. Van Meel stated that Severson is a great asset to his team. Jerome also thanked Severson and shared that he has gotten a lot of positive feedback from staff about the recent snow removal. Severson will be presented a letter of appreciation at the next scheduled meeting. Van Meel also shared that the security cameras at Sunset and Dodge Park are up and running. The final cost came to \$4,066. The piers and kayak launch have been removed for the season.

COUNTY PARK IMPROVEMENTS DISCUSSION

Van Meel mentioned adding a suggestion box to the website for the community to send ideas.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

- a. Next meeting date – 1/08/2026
- b. Future agenda items for action & discussion

ADJOURN

Chair Schweder adjourned the meeting at 9:45am.

Respectfully submitted,

Karissa Rohde
Deputy County Clerk

DRAFT

Positive Youth Development

Brandon Springer, 4-H Youth Development Educator, brandon.springer@wisc.edu

Project Leader Training: Planning for a project leader training for adults and older youth. The goal is to provide the skills and knowledge to effectively run 4-H project meetings so a wider variety of 4-H programs and opportunities can become available to 4-H members. I am currently collecting interest from adults and older youth and will run this once I have a large enough group.

Cloverbud Quarterly: Planning for a quarterly session for our younger members (K-2nd grade) to learn about the different project areas and explore their interests. The first session will be held in January and will focus on the LEGO® project and about the 4 “H”s.

Ambassadors: The ambassadors hosted a Halloween Party in October as well as a County-wide Food Drive. The Food Drive donation totaled 841.5 lbs. of food. Our next meeting we will start looking into the fair programs as well as Cloverbud Quarterly Programs.

Summer Academy: I am a part of the Summer Academy Leadership Team who plans and implements the statewide college and career program. My focus is leading the “Ready for Life” planning group to look at adding programming that will build skills to prepare for everyday life. I also support the volunteer planning group helping specific with our Young Adult Advisors who act as counselors to support Summer Academy and provide real-life experience for recent of adults who recently aged out of 4-H.

2027 Middle School Experience: I was a part of a team of educators to research locations for an additional statewide educational experience for youth in middle school. The goal is to increase opportunities for middle school aged youth to learn and travel beyond Space Camp, which is narrowly focused. We discussed goals for the experience and then researched possible locations.

Camp Work Group: I am the chair for the Camp Work Group that focuses on creating professional development and resource sharing for camp programs focusing mainly on overnight summer camp. We held resource sharing sessions in October and November focusing on Outpost Camps and Camp Planning Timelines. This group helps me bring ideas and resources to support Five County Summer Camp, Cloverbud Day Camps, and a new Winter Day Camp.

National 4-H Congress: I was able to chaperone 40 youth who attended National 4-H Congress Nov. 31st-Dec. 4th in Atlanta, Georgia. This role included leading orientations, leading youth through travel to and around Atlanta, and leading state meetings. This was a wonderful conference that allowed youth to learn about 4-H across the US, build leadership and communication skills, and learn about culture and community. I will be chaperoning this experience again for 2026 and I hope to recruit some Green Lake youth to attend this amazing conference.

Community Development

Pat Malone, Community Development Educator, patricia.malone@wisc.edu

Planning a county-wide comprehensive plan update for the Green Lake County Board in collaboration with the Planning and Zoning Department. The goal is to develop and implement a process that will produce an updated plan by the end of 2026, providing guidance for future land use decisions across the county. (Patricia Malone)

Planning for a statewide conference on connecting entrepreneurial communities in collaboration with local partners, program managers, and a variety of state agencies. The planning team will develop and deliver a statewide conference to help entrepreneurs, local officials, and developers build a better understanding of what makes a community successful in building an entrepreneurial ecosystem. Such an environment encourages the development of successful small businesses in rural areas. The conference about entrepreneurship in rural Wisconsin will feature the local business ecosystem of Green Lake, WI, for rural economic development leaders. (Patricia Malone)

- The Rural Wisconsin Entrepreneurship Initiative is a program funded by Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation within UW-Extension. It is tasked with establishing a new conference for the State of Wisconsin called the Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities Conference, which is focused on rural entrepreneurship. After successful conferences in Platteville and Wisconsin Rapids, Extension is planning a third in Green Lake in 2026. Extension is creating partnerships in Green Lake, WI to prepare for the conference planning process. It is also organizing a steering committee of statewide organizations to contribute to the conference planning process for 2026. It will work with partners in Green Lake along with the statewide steering committee to design sessions, invite speakers, identify venues, and identify local vendors for the conference. The 2025 Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities Conference will feature 16 different sessions and networking events in Green Lake, WI, featuring local vendors and local businesses as venues. It is estimated that the conference will attract 200 people from around the state and will strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem for rural Wisconsin.

Agriculture

Adam Hartfiel, Regional Livestock Educator, adam.hartfiel@wisc.edu

Current/Past Events and Projects:

- In-person Planning Emergency Livestock Transportation Response (PELTR) workshop for and in collaboration with area and statewide emergency response personnel. The goal of PELTR is to maintain an effective emergency response that protects producer/livestock owners' and Wisconsin's agricultural economic viability. Total Reach: 19 participants who were enrolled and given class materials representing each county.
 - Adams County EMS invited the UWEX PELTR team to present the class at the statewide WEMA (Wisconsin Emergency Management Association) conference in September in Stevens Point. (See picture)



Discussing cattle trailer specifics with some of the WEMA group at PELTR Training in Stevens Point

- An in-person workshop for beef producers on topics identified by producers from previous workshops. Topics covered during this event were Body Condition Scoring, Fall Culling Decisions, Grazing Corn Stalk Residue/Winter Feeding Considerations, and Getting Ready TO Haul/Trailer Safety. Total Reach: 25 total attendees
 - Every topic discussed at the workshop had a substantial knowledge increase at the workshop's completion. Body Condition Scoring: 150% Knowledge increase Fall Culling Decisions: 94% Knowledge increase Grazing Corn Stalk Residue: 120% Knowledge increase Getting Ready to Haul/Trailer Safety: 77% Knowledge increase
- An event that included in-person demonstrations and interactive tabletop discussions during Farm Technology Days for beef producers – 6 sessions. These activities aimed to help participants gain awareness of management practices that influence the economic viability of their farms, including animal and animal health product handling and biosecurity. Total Reach: Well over 150 individuals visited our booth and/or participated in the six demonstrations presented over the three days of Farm Technology
- A workshop for beef producers to meet their need to obtain their Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification that maintains their economic viability. Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification maintains market access that contributes to the economic viability of beef producers. Harvest facilities will purchase cattle from beef producers with proof of BQA certification. The need for this programming is indicated by data collected from national beef quality audits of processors and conducted every five years. We adapt and deliver the national BQA curriculum for Wisconsin producers including research-based information to maintain farm-level food safety and access to markets. Curriculum was delivered by two Regional Livestock Educators. 22 attendees were BQA certified.
- A free series of educational webinars this winter. UW-Extension Beef Roundup is a monthly webinar series discussing timely topics, running through December-March 2026. The monthly roundup will take place at 7-8pm CST on the following dates:

Registration: <https://livestock.extension.wisc.edu/programs/beef-roundup/>

- December 11th, 2025: Handling Facilities with Dr. Ron Gill, Texas A&M Extension Livestock Specialist
- January 15th, 2026: Unlocking the Full Potential of Growth-Enhancing Technologies with Dr. Jessica Sperber,

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University of Nebraska- Lincoln Extension Feedlot Specialist

- February 19th, 2026: Asian Longhorned Tick, Dr. Cassandra Olds, Kansas State, Extension Entomologist
- March 19th, 2026: Key Considerations for Rebuilding Your Cow Herd with Dr. Randie Culbertson, Iowa State, Extension Cow-calf Specialist.

- A free course for Beef Producers: School for Beginning Beef Production via Zoom from 7-8:30pm, please register online before January 26th at: <https://go.wisc.edu/iyk21t>

Session dates and topics of discussion:

January 27th: Business of Beef: What are your options

January 29th: Setting Goals and Marketing

February 3rd: Perennial Forage Management and Cow/Calf Nutrition

February 5th: Veterinary, Biosecurity, and Recordkeeping Skills

February 10th: Herd Reproduction to build your future

February 12th: Annual Forage Management and Intro to Stocker, Backgrounder, and Finishing Enterprises

Beef Roundup Webinar Series

This monthly webinar series of timely topics for beef producers takes place from December 2025 through March 2026.

Our free 60-minute webinars begin at 7:00pm CST and include time at the end for questions.



Dr. Ron Gill
Professor & Ext. Livestock Spec.
Texas A&M University

December 11, 2025
Handling Facilities



Dr. Jessica Sperber
Assistant Professor & Feedlot Ext. Spec.
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

January 15, 2026
Unlocking the Full Potential of Growth-Enhancing Technologies



Dr. Cassandra Olds
Asst. Professor and Ext. Entomologist
Kansas State University

February 19, 2026
Asian Longhorned Tick



Dr. Randie Culbertson
Asst. Professor and Ext. Cow-calf Spec.
Iowa State University

March 19, 2026
Key Considerations for Rebuilding Your Cow Herd



Learn more and Register:
[GO.WISC.EDU/BeefRoundup](https://go.wisc.edu/BeefRoundup)



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

SCHOOL FOR BEGINNING BEEF PRODUCTION



For those:

- newer to beef production
- or those looking to add beef to their farm

FREE, 'live' online, evening sessions over Zoom

MUST pre-register by Jan. 26, 2026, at: <https://go.wisc.edu/iyk21t>

7 - 8.30 pm::



Jan 27: Business of beef: what are your options?
Jan 29: Setting goals and marketing
Feb 3: Perennial forage mgt and cow-calf nutrition
Feb 5: Veterinary, biosecurity, and recordkeeping skills
Feb 10: Herd reproduction to build your future
Feb 12: Annual forage mgt. and intro to stocker, backgrounder, finishing enterprises

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To request an interpreter, materials in an alternative language or format, or other services to make this event more accessible, please contact adam.hartfiel@wisc.edu or 920-647-6560 by Jan 6, 2026. There's no added cost to you for these services.

- An educational article for beef producers where the audience will learn about the importance of energy

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requirements for spring calving herds in Wisconsin in both harsh and typical winter conditions. Remembering proper nutrient amount (specifically energy) will allow cows to perform to their highest potential and can increase profits in cow/calf systems. Total Reach: Circulation of The Wisconsin Agriculturist Magazine is 24,000 print subscribers. The Beef Columns also appear on the website and garner between 1,000 and 4,000 page views

- A series of fact sheets on beef cow nutrition management. Beef producers will be able to better manage beef cow nutritional needs through the course of the year.
- A series of newspaper articles for farmers and agricultural professionals on timely topics in livestock management to improve sustainability and profitability in agricultural systems.
- A series of calls and farm visits to assist farmers with their production questions, troubleshoot problems, or explore cropping options. Through these calls and visits, farmers throughout the region are able to make better decisions for their financial and natural resource management.
- Planning for a workshop for beef producers in collaboration with the Wisconsin Beef Council, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, and Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors. The goal is to help beef producers learn about rules and regulations, best management practices for direct marketing to consumers, and how animal quality impacts consumer satisfaction, and how animal type impacts the amount of retail product.

Professional Development:

- ATCP 12 Public Hearing: The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) has proposed changes to Wis. Admin. Rule § [ATCP 10](#) and Wis. Admin. Rule § [ATCP 12](#), regulating Animal Disease and Movement and Animal Markets, Dealers and Truckers, which, if implemented, will impose significant increases. Some of the proposed fee increases are nearly 1700% above current rates. These proposed fees present a substantial financial burden to markets, dealers and truckers that will unavoidably be passed down to farmers.

Value-Added Programming

Discovery Farms –

- A study to better understand edge-of-field nutrient losses and timing from surface runoff and tile drainage. Results from this study will help farmers and land conservation departments in understanding conservation practices and management strategies to reduce water quality impacts of agricultural practices. The water quality data are also used as a base for outreach for the Ag Water Quality Program within Extension. (Lindsey Hartfiel, Aaron Wunderlin, Ellen Albright)
- A study to better understand nitrogen leaching and timing below the crop root zone. Results from this study will help farmers and land conservation departments in understanding conservation practices and management strategies to reduce nitrogen leaching to groundwater in agricultural settings. (Location type: Home Office) (Lindsey Hartfiel, Aaron Wunderlin, Ellen Albright)

Strong Bodies --

- Coordinate resources and provide support for Strong Bodies volunteers, so they can be prepared to successfully instruct Strong Bodies classes both in-person and virtually for residents in central Wisconsin, including Green Lake County. The goal of this effort is to increase Extension's capacity to reach more people with Strong Bodies programming. The Strong Bodies program builds strength and enhances physical fitness in adults. Strong Bodies volunteers needed an Extension Educator to oversee their efforts. Sheila Michels was identified as the person to manage the volunteer efforts. She oversees the Strong Bodies volunteers from a volunteer management perspective. Total Reach: 2 (Sheila Michels)

Learning sessions for the WI Department of Health Services Maternal and Child Health Title V Adolescent Well-Being Initiative Year 3 Local/Tribal Health Department grantees. Session included local examples of youth engagement work shared by UW-Extension 4-H Youth Development Educators from Iron and Florence County, and a youth engagement presentation from the GameChangers program. Green Lake Co. Health Department Staff attended. Total Reach: 40 learning community call participants (Sarah Boulton, Jen Braun, Selena Freimark, Sheena Cook-Fuglsang)

Regional workshop conducted for WI Department of Health Services Maternal and Child Health Title V Adolescent Well-Being Initiative Year 3 Local/Tribal Health Department grantees. The 60-minute workshop included a presentation on the UW-Extension Youth Substance Use Prevention Toolkit. Questions and feedback was invited from participants around how this toolkit could support their adolescent well-being work. Total Reach: 28 participants from local/Tribal health departments. Green Lake Co. Health Department Staff attended. (Sarah Boulton, Danette Hopke, Jen Braun, Selena Freimark, Sheena Cook-Fuglsang)

Over the past year, **Covering Wisconsin** has coordinated and overseen 12 regional- and population-focused coalitions in which Wisconsin professionals interested or directly involved in health insurance enrollment gather to discuss changes to health coverage policy, share outreach and educational strategies, receive free professional training, and offer ideas for relevant consumer resource messaging and design. Through our efforts, a total of 88 coalition meetings were held, attracting 1,649 attendees, to focus on the health coverage issues affecting Wisconsin residents, especially immigrants, Spanish-speaking residents, Hmong residents, and those located in Central, East Central, Milwaukee, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest, and Western regions. Total Reach over the previous 12 months: 12 enrollment network coalitions facilitated; 88 coalition meetings held; 1,649 people attended; 2,325 people were reached through coalition informational emails sent (Caroline Gomez-Tom, Allison Espeseth)

Navigator enrollment assistance provided to anyone in Wisconsin (including Green Lake County residents), where 97,013 consumers were assisted with health insurance questions or enrollment. Through this effort, our Navigators completed 4,041 qualified health plan enrollments through the federal Health Insurance Marketplace and assisted 5,615 consumers with Medicaid, resulting in widespread access to health care and improved health outcomes. Total Statewide Reach: 97,013 consumers helped; 4,041 Marketplace qualified health plan enrollments; 5,615 Medicaid enrollments; 32,283 consumers educated in health insurance literacy (Adam Vanspankeren, Allison Espeseth, Elizabeth Rothe)

A farmer conservation field day event exploring annual forages, cover crop establishment methods, and pasture seeding strategies. Plus follow-up educational event takeaway posts on sorghum forage management and drone-seeded vs. drill-seeded cover crops. This demonstration event, plus educational follow-up posts was made to highlight how one of our demonstration farmers is using annual forages, diverse cover crop mixes, and precision seeding methods to extend grazing seasons, improve soil health, and reduce feed costs. The effort was designed to support local learning amongst farmers by featuring how local producers are implementing soil health practices. Total Reach: 1,174 people (Maranda Miller)

A farmer conservation field day event exploring drone inter-seeding of cover crops into sweet corn after harvest. Plus, a follow-up educational takeaway video and post featuring farmer takeaways about their experiences with drone-seeded rye and tillage radish and their benefits for soil health. This demonstration event, plus educational follow-up post was made to highlight how drone technology can help farmers establish cover crops earlier, reduce soil compaction, and improve soil health while managing unpredictable harvest timing. The effort was designed to support local learning amongst farmers by featuring how local producers are implementing soil health practices. Delwin Farms, Tom & Kenny Hell + Family - October 22 Total Reach: 375 people (Maranda Miller)

A **farmer feature article highlighting how one of our demonstration farmers is transforming low-yield acres into productive forage and conservation buffers** using precision technology and partnerships. The effort was designed to support local learning amongst farmers by featuring how a local producer is implementing soil health practices on his land and highlight the **Upper Fox-Wolf Demonstration Farm Network** as a resource for farmers. Total Reach: Information not available yet. However, our expected reach, based on past performance of these feature articles in the Basin Buzz newsletter and social media posts is about 3,700 people total. (Maranda Miller)

A **series of photos exploring soil health practices and principles visible during harvest season**, such as cover crops, continual living roots, and integrating livestock. Plus, accompanying educational text explaining the soil health principles behind these practices, how local farmers are applying them, and highlighting the farm and location. This ongoing effort was made to show real-world examples of soil health in action during harvest and inspire farmers to adopt these practices. The effort was designed to support improved soil health and water quality in the Great Lakes Basin. Total Reach: 6 posts so far, which have reached 2,677 people (Maranda Miller)

Land, Water, Parks, and Community Committee

Land & Water Conservation Dept. January 8, 2026 Report

December 2025 Projects

- Inspect open erosion control permits and review new permit applications for erosion control and stormwater management.
- Continue to assist Estates of Lawsonia Homeowner's Association with stormwater outlot compliance.
- Continue design of leachate collection system – Town of St. Marie
- Installation of grassed waterway and diversion – Town of Manchester
- Continue design for grade stabilization structure – Town of Princeton
- Continue design for heavy use area protection – Town of Princeton
- Work on design for sinkhole treatment – Town of Green Lake
- Construction Plan completed for grass waterway, met with contractor for cost estimate – Town of Berlin
- Installation of subsurface drain along waterway – Town of Green Lake
- Review of nutrient management plan submitted
- Planning for solutions to Notice of Intent for feedlot runoff site
- Met with landowner for possible streambank stabilization project
- Assist landowner at LUPZ request with stormwater management drainage plan implementation
- Site visits for various runoff concerns
- Update Farmland Preservation Certificates of Compliance
- Attend Youth Education Committee meetings with WI Land + Water
- Completed Winter 2026 newsletter
- Work on park survey poster
- Attended Wisconsin Water and Soil Health Conference with WI Land + Water Scholarship – Wisconsin Dells
- Work on updating practice spreadsheets for reporting.
- Start planning for 2026 Native Plant Sale

January 2026 Planned Projects

- Conduct spot-checks on grade stabilization structures that have perpetual easements with Sanitary District
- Planning regarding a Green Lake County Stewardship Program
- Installation of streambank stabilization project – Town of Green Lake
- Installation of 2 – grade stabilization structures – Town of Green Lake
- Installation of wetland restoration project – Town of Brooklyn

Lake and River Report

Puckaway – Completed application materials for DNR Launch permit.

Twin Lakes – Requested DNR Grant Extension, extension granted. Waiting for final report from consultant.

Spring Lake (Kingston) – No update

Spring Lake (Green Lake) – No update

Little Green – Grant Application submitted to DNR.

Green Lake – No update

Grand Lake – No update

Other – Reviewed wake boat legislation and other upcoming legislative proposals (groundwater, etc.)

Golden Sands AIS Update

- Golden Sands RC&D was informed that the 2026 LMPN funding will be awarded at 100%.
- Hamerla will be reaching out to discuss specific county needs for 2026.
- LMPN activities for December were largely directed at finalizing the annual report and beginning to compile details to close out the project.
- Six AIS themed Facebook posts were posted. (New Zealand mudsnails, Fish Kills & reporting, Ballast water & spreading invasive species, Flowering rush, Naughty & Nice List, Grinch themed invasive species)
- AIS prevention outreach letters to dock service providers were sent to 8 businesses in Columbia, Green Lake, Marathon and Waupaca Counties. In November 14 other businesses were sent letters in Juneau, Marathon, Marquette and Waupaca Counties.

Producer Led Watershed Group:

Green Lake Farmers Coalition formed and received grant for 2026
January 29, 2026 meeting scheduled for group

Upcoming Events:

January 15, 2026 – Golden Sands RC&D Board Meeting - Stevens Point
January 16, 2026 – Lake Winnebago Land & Water Conservation Association – Annual Planning Meeting
February 19, 2026 – Nutrient Management Farmer Education Training – Green Lake
March 19, 2026 – Golden Sands RC&D Board Meeting – Stevens Point
April 21, 2026 – County Groundwater Testing Program
May 21, 2026 – Golden Sands RC&D Board Meeting – Stevens Point

Canada Goose Round-up Overview

- Canada Geese provide aesthetic and recreational value but contribute to nuisance and human health and safety concerns.
- Each goose leaves behind a pound of feces per day which results in fouled property, sanitary concerns, increased algae blooms, and higher E. coli levels at beaches.
- Private landowners are often already using harassment, scare devices, fencing, repellents, and/or habitat management to protect their property from goose damage.
- Goose population management is local decision if non-lethal measures are ineffective.
- Geese can be captured and removed only during their flightless period in June and July.
- DNR does not allow the birds to be relocated, all birds are euthanized and donated as human or animal food. All juvenile birds are donated as animal food, adults have option to have the meat go to a food pantry. **Coordinate with Wildlife Services by June 1st if a round-up is requested.**
- Food pantry option requires contaminant testing of 10% of the adult birds with a minimum of 5 birds tested. Current costs of \$125/per bird sampled. Additional testing costs if PCB testing is required by the DNR.
- DNR only allows USDA Wildlife Services to conduct round-ups. Wildlife Services requires reimbursement for expenses incurred, with current costs of \$3,500 to capture the geese and donate them all as animal food if that option is available. Additional charges for contaminant testing if the site wishes to donate the adults to a food pantry.
- Wildlife Services requires written permission from the landowner to capture birds on private property. Permissions maintained and mapped by site requesting a round-up.
- Geese are captured by herding geese onto land, surrounding with netted panels, and transferred into ventilated poultry crates on a trailer.
- Goose round-ups generally remove the breeding birds from a site thereby keeping goose numbers lower for several years after a round-up.
- Lowered population numbers allow non-lethal measures to be more effective in reducing damages from geese.
- Population management of geese can be controversial, it is important to have open annual public dialog for residents to provide feedback on goose management.
- Wildlife Services requires government entities to have an open public meeting on goose damage management options when considering a goose round-up the first time.
- Round-ups are just part of an integrated program of harassment, exclusion, habitat modification, egg oiling, and traditional hunting seasons.