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**A Regional Center of Excellence honoree (National Association of Regional Councils, 2009)**

## E-Newsletter

**April 2012**

### GLRI Beach Sanitary Survey Project in Northeast Wisconsin

Public meetings were held throughout the Region in March to provide information about the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission's GLRI project. Beach surveys are being conducted in order to provide information to develop detailed improvement plans for each beach. These plans will recommend solutions to reduce contamination and decrease beach closings.



In late spring, the University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh will be back out at the beaches conducting additional monitoring for this project in order to gather multiple years of data on which to develop the recommendations. A beach improvement plan will be completed for each of the approximately 20 beaches included in the project by the end of next year.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact [Angela Pierce](#) at the Commission. Additional information can also be found on the Commission's [GLRI Beaches Project webpage](#).



### Welcome WEDC Staff

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) has added two new team members to serve the eight counties comprising the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission. [Barb Fleisner](#) has been hired as a Regional Account Manager to provide financial and technical assistance directly to businesses and to collaborate with local economic development organizations.

An Economic Development District & Metropolitan Planning Organization serving Northeast Wisconsin for over 40 years.

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920.448.2820

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[441 S. Jackson St. Green Bay, WI 54301](#)

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Following discussions with stakeholders, WEDC created a new Community Account Manager position to support community development goals throughout the state. The Community Account Manager is focused on connecting communities with state financial and technical resources to capitalize on opportunities and address challenges. [Naletta Burr](#) has joined WEDC to fulfill this role and support the development efforts of communities in Northeast and North Central Wisconsin. Most recently working in the private sector consulting for communities in strategic planning, economic development, downtown revitalization and business development, Naletta has varied experience in working with development projects and community growth strategies.

The many customized investment strategies for businesses and communities delivered through the WEDC include Bond Issuance Cost Assistance; Bond Volume Cap Allocation; Community Development Block Grants - Economic Development Capital Financing, Public facilities, and planning grants; direct funding to companies; Economic Development Tax Credits; Jobs Tax Credits; Midwestern Disaster Area Bonds; training grants; brownfield site assessment and redevelopment grants; capacity building grants; downtown development support; and technical assistance. These programs and more can be accessed through local WEDC staff or at the [WEDC website](#).



### Like us on Facebook!

The Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission recently launched a [Facebook page](#) where we post interest information and links to happenings in Northeast Wisconsin and upcoming public meetings. Please check it out and "like" us. **Please help us out, only need 30 more "likes" before we are able to have our own URL associated with the page!**

### Lake Michigan Stakeholders Website

The Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission has been a part of the Lake Michigan Stakeholders since its inception, and is proud to announce the launch of their new [website](#). The Lake Michigan Stakeholders (LMS) originated in 2005 from a series of discussions between concerned citizens and Wisconsin DNR leaders. These citizens felt that Lake Michigan was suffering from the effects of a lack of coordination across interested groups. These discussions took place over almost an entire year before they decided to bring together stakeholders to form a combined "voice for Lake Michigan."

The group has continued to hold membership meetings on a regular basis. Currently, membership meetings are held in the spring and fall each year to discuss LMS business, provide presentations and outreach on Lake Michigan topics, and offer networking and information sharing opportunities to members.



**May 16, 2012**  
[Lake Michigan Stakeholders Annual Spring Meeting](#); Mequon; 8:30 AM

**June 8, 2012**  
Full Commission Meeting; Bay-Lake Office, Green Bay; 10 AM

**Oct. 23-25, 2012**  
**Mark your Calendars!**  
The Bay-Lake RPC will host the Annual MPO/RPC/WisDOT/DOT transportation planning conference at the Blue Harbor Resort in Sheboygan.

### STAFF CONTACTS

**Richard Heath**  
Executive Director

**Jeff Agee-Aguayo**  
Transportation Planner III

**Richard Malone**  
Office Accounts Coordinator

**Angela Pierce**  
Natural Resources Planner III

**Brandon Robinson**  
Community Assistance Planner III

**Joshua Schedler**  
GIS Coordinator

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Much of the group's recent activity has centered on the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

LMS has representation from organizations, counties, and communities throughout the Lake Michigan Basin in Wisconsin. **Currently, Oconto County is not represented.** If you have interest in being a part of the LMS group, especially if you represent Oconto County or belong to an organization in Oconto County, please go to the [website](#) to join or contact [Kate Barrett](#) of the WDNR - Office of the Great Lakes.

### Stewardship Program to Support Local Enhancement of the Lake Michigan Water Trail



The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program ("Stewardship") can provide local assistance to communities looking to enhance or expand (through acquisition) the Lake Michigan Water Trail in their community.

Stewardship sets aside 50 percent of the funds for projects that improve community parks and acquire land for public outdoor recreation. Funds are available to towns, villages, cities, counties, Indian tribes, and non-profits. More information on this program can be found [here](#). Applications for this year are due May 1st.

### Available Grants

- [Acquisition and Development of Local Parks](#), May 1, 2012
- [Recreational Trails Program](#), May 1, 2012
- [Lake Protection and Classification Grants](#), May 1, 2012
- [River Protection Planning Grants](#), May 1, 2012
- [Safe Routes to School](#), May 4, 2012
- [Citizen-based Monitoring Partnership Program](#), May 25, 2012
- [Soil Erosion and Sediment Control](#), June 1, 2012

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Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission | 441 South Jackson Street | Green Bay | WI | 54301