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Serving Northeast Wisconsin since 1972

"Regional Center of Excellence"

E-Newsletter

May 2013

WROC 2015 Announcement

WROC representatives will host complimentary informational webinars on May 8 regarding the WROC 2015 Orthoimagery program. The representatives will announce:

- The general pricing structure for imagery
- Benefits of participating
- Additional services available through the program

Additionally, following the webinar there will be an opportunity for questions. A detailed agenda will be made available in the near future.

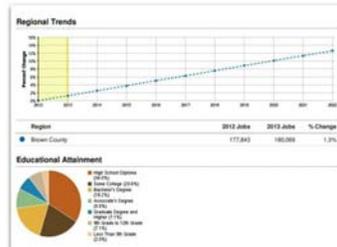
[Please reserve your seat for one of the two meetings.](#) Space is limited! Two time slots available: 10:00am to 11:00am and 2:00pm to 3:00pm.

Contact [Joshua Schedler](#) if you have any questions.



EMSI Analyst County Summary Reports

Utilizing the EMSI Analyst software, the Commission has developed economic summary reports for each county in the Bay-Lake Region covering the first quarter of 2013. These quarterly summary reports will be developed for the remainder of the year and can be viewed on the Commission's [website](#).



For more information regarding EMSI Analyst, contact [Brandon Robinson](#) or [Joshua Schedler](#) at the Commission, or visit the [EMSI website](#).

EDA Sustainable Working Waterfront Toolkit

The U.S. Commerce Department's Economic Development Administration (EDA) has released a [Sustainable Working Waterfront Toolkit](#), an online suite of resources to help coastal communities throughout the United States develop policies that support business and job growth.

The toolkit is organized into five areas that offer:

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

www.baylakerpc.org



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- A history of working waterfronts;
- An evaluation of ocean-related economic activity in 11 coastal regions within six major industrial sectors;
- A searchable database of potential funding sources;
- Information and resources pertaining to law and policy that govern waterfront use; and
- A collection of 21 case studies drawn from around the country.

A 'great garbage patch' growing in the Great Lakes

The problem of plastic pollution in the oceans has been documented since 1988, when the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration first described the so-called "Great Pacific Garbage Patch," an area in the North Pacific



The Great Pacific Garbage Patch

Ocean where currents have concentrated plastics and other pollution estimated to be twice the size of Texas.

Floating plastic debris, which help populate the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, has become a problem in the Great Lakes.

Scientists reported on the latest findings from the Great Lakes at the 245th National Meeting & Exposition of the American Chemical Society, the world's largest scientific society.

"The massive production of plastic and inadequate disposal has made plastic debris an important and constant pollutant on beaches and in oceans around the world, and the Great Lakes are not an exception," said Lorena M. Rios Mendoza, Ph.D., who spoke on the topic at the meeting.

Fish and birds could be harmed from accidentally eating the plastic particles, or absorbing substances that leach out into the water. Fish also could pass such substances to consumers.

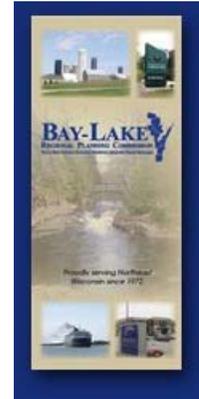
The swirling "islands" of plastic pollution often go unnoticed because, rather than whole pieces of trash, the mess is made up of small and battered bits of plastic from plastic bags, bottles, fishing lines, household products, synthetic fibers shed by clothes in the washing machine, and other sources.

The plastic pollution problem may be even worse in the Great Lakes than in the oceans, the study noted. The researchers found that the number of microparticles was 24 percent higher in the Great Lakes than in samples they collected in the Southern Atlantic Ocean. You can read the full report [here](#).

Plan Commission Workshop Scheduled

The [Center for Land Use Education \(CLUE\)](#) is offering a plan commission [workshop](#) on May 30th at the Howard Village Hall from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. These workshops are designed for newly appointed commissioners, veteran commissioners tackling complex issues, and professional educators and planners whose job it is to support local commissions. Topics to be addressed at the workshop include:

- How do you use and amend the comprehensive plan?
- How do you review zoning, subdivision, and other requests for development?
- How do you make zoning and subdivision decisions consistent with the plan?
- How do you handle open meetings, public hearings, and site visits?
- How do you make fair and impartial decisions?



To submit a request for an EMSI Analyst Query, please complete and submit this form:

[EMSI Request Form](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 13-14, 2013

[APA Wisconsin Chapter Annual Planning Conference](#), Sheboygan

June 14, 2013

Commission Meeting, 10AM, Green Bay

September 10-12, 2013

[9th Annual Great Lakes Restoration Conference](#), Milwaukee

October 15-17, 2013

[Lake Michigan: State of the Lake and Great Lakes Beach Association Joint Conference](#), Sheboygan

STAFF CONTACTS

[Richard Heath](#)
Executive Director

[Jeff Agee-Aguayo](#)
Transportation Planner III

[Richard Malone](#)
Office Accounts Coordinator

[Angela Pierce](#)
Natural Resources Planner III

To register, complete this [form](#), [email](#), or call 715-346-3783.

Brandon Robinson
Community Assistance
Planner III

Joshua Schedler
GIS Coordinator

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Pavement Rating Assistance

State statute requires local units of government to submit surface condition ratings for all local roads under their jurisdiction to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) every two years. The next submissions to WisDOT are due by December of this year. Just as we did in 2011, Commission staff will be providing assistance to communities to meet the pavement rating requirement. A majority of these services will be free-of-charge to Commission members, while non-member communities will be charged time and materials. If your community would like to use the services of Commission for pavement rating assistance, contact [Brandon Robinson](#).

Lake Michigan Stakeholders Annual Meeting



Join Lake Michigan Stakeholders for their [annual meeting](#) in Marinette on May 22, 2013. Conservation projects, opportunities, and challenges in the northern reach of Wisconsin's Lake Michigan basin will be explored. The meeting will be held at UW-Marquette from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., including lunch and an afternoon tour. Click [here](#) for more information and [here](#) for the agenda.

2013 Annual Wisconsin APA Conference in Sheboygan

The Commission is pleased to have the American Planning Association's Wisconsin Chapter hosting its 2013 Annual Conference in Sheboygan at the Blue Harbor Resort. Planning and development professionals from all over Wisconsin and beyond will have the opportunity to visit the beautiful Sheboygan area and enjoy everything that part of the state has to offer. Mark your calendars...the Annual Conference is June 13 and 14, 2013. For registration information and conference materials, please visit the [Wisconsin Chapter of APA](#).

Sheboygan MPO Update

Commission staff continues to work on the development, quantification and evaluation of three future (2045) land use scenarios to be examined in the preparation of the next long-range transportation plan. At their April 18, 2013, meeting, the MPO Technical and Policy Advisory Committees approved the extent of urban development under the following three scenarios: (1) Continuation of Existing Trends; (2) Compact/Infill Development; and (3) Corridor Development. Commission staff has spent the past several weeks preparing for the suballocation of population, household and employment growth to small areas within the county (known as traffic analysis zones, or TAZs) under the three scenarios, and this suballocation will take several weeks to complete.

Communities in the MPO area are encouraged to apply for funding of their projects under the Surface Transportation Urban Program (STP Urban) for the 2015 - 2018 funding cycle over the next few weeks. This program funds improvements to arterial and collector facilities operated by local (non-state) jurisdictions in the Sheboygan Urbanized Area; while street and highway projects have traditionally been funded, standalone bicycle, pedestrian and transit projects are also eligible per MPO policy. Applications are due to the WisDOT Northeast Region (with a copy to the MPO) preferably by June 14, with an absolute deadline of June 28. MPO staff will know the funding allocation for the urbanized area in mid July. Prioritization and selection of projects will take place with the assistance of the *STP Urban System Project*

Prioritization Policy in July or August; the MPO must select a project (or projects) to forward to WisDOT by September 24. The 2013 - 2016 TIP will be amended to include this project later in the year. Click [here](#) for more information regarding this program.

Additionally, communities in the MPO area and throughout four eligible counties in the region (Sheboygan, Manitowoc, Kewaunee and Door) are eligible to apply for funding of eligible projects under the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program. Several project categories that can demonstrate a reduction in motor vehicle emissions have been successfully funded by CMAQ in the past, including expanded transit service at Shoreline Metro and at Maritime Metro Transit, bicycle and pedestrian facilities in communities within Sheboygan and Manitowoc counties, and a signal timing/coordination project in the City of Sheboygan. The deadline for applications is June 14. Commission staff calculates emission reduction estimates for candidate projects in the region, and sits on the review panel that evaluates and selects projects for funding. More on the CMAQ program can be found [here](#).

For additional information regarding Sheboygan MPO activities, contact [Jeff Agee-Aguayo](#).

Available Grant Opportunities



The following is a list of upcoming grant opportunities and their due dates. Please contact the [Commission](#) if you need assistance with preparing or administering a grant, or if you are interested in partnering with the Commission on a project.

- [Challenge America: Reaching Every Community Grants](#), May 23, 2013
- [Bikes Belong](#), May 24, 2013
- [Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants](#), May 28, 2013
- [Freshwater Future Climate Grant Program](#), May 31, 2013
- [Recreational Boating Facilities](#), June 1, 2013
- [Freshwater Future - Climate Grant Program](#), June 3, 2013
- [Ray C. Anderson Foundation Environmental Grants Program](#), through 2013
- [Freshwater Future Project Grant Program](#), September 30, 2013
- [Land O'Lakes Foundation Rural Communities Grants](#), October 1, 2013

To submit information for consideration in future newsletters, send an email to apierce@baylakerpc.org. Include your name, community/organization, and contact information in the body of the message.

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