



# NEWS FROM WAV



## January Newsletter

Now that we've turned the corner into the new year, we can feel that enthusiastic energy building again toward the 2024 field and monitoring season. Many of our lakes and rivers have finally frozen over, with only small patches of open and flowing water remaining exposed, revealing the energy and life underneath.

Winter is a beautiful season in Wisconsin, as we reflect and plan ahead for spring and summer monitoring trainings, work with partners to expand our program to new areas of the state, and organize and clean our stream monitoring supplies. We hope the opportunities and stories below provide you with some inspiration for the season ahead!

## CONTENTS

---

- Winter Water Talk tomorrow with Wisconsin Lakes: Riparian Water Rights
- WAV data's contribution to 2024 Water Condition Lists
- Invader Crusaders Award nominations due Feb 18
- Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention

---

Join us tomorrow at 12pm for our next *Winter Water Talk*

# “Property Rights Around Water in WI”



## Winter Water Talk Webinar Mike Engleson from Wisconsin Lakes

January 23, 12-1pm | Zoom

register at [wateractionvolunteers.org/events](https://wateractionvolunteers.org/events)

### Property Rights Around Water in Wisconsin

Tuesday, January 23

12:00-1:00pm

Speaker: Mike Engleson, Wisconsin Lakes

Description: Wisconsin law on public and private rights in water can be confusing and hard to figure out, especially if you need to know while knee deep in a lake or stream. Keep the feet dry and warm for now and learn all about what the public and private waterfront property owners can and can't do on, in, and near our waters.

Register for the webinar

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

---

# See the full 2024 Winter Water Talks line-up and watch past webinars

We hope you can join us for our upcoming webinars. If you missed our December webinar, watch it online at the link below.

**Thursday, December 21**

**Can we Farm and Fish at the Same Time?**

Presenter: Mike Tiboris, River Alliance

[Watch the recording](#)

**Thursday, February 15 at 12:00pm**

**An Overview of Key Factors that Affect Stream and River Health**

**Presenter:** Mike Miller, Wisconsin DNR Stream Ecologist

**Description:** Models are lies that help us see the truth. Mike will share some little lies from a conceptual model of stream health to help you see the truth about what affects our streams and what we need to do to protect them.

[Register for stream health webinar](#)

**Tuesday, March 5 at 12:00pm**

**Weather in Wisconsin with "The Weather Guys"!**

**Presenters:** Steve Ackerman and Jon Martin, UW-Madison Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences

**Description:** The Weather Guys will share the basics of weather systems in Wisconsin and get your weather-related questions answered!

[Register for weather webinar](#)



*A volunteer monitors the Kinnickinnic River in Milwaukee. Credit: Milwaukee Riverkeeper*

---

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

# How WAV data contributed to Wisconsin's 2024 Water Condition Lists

Thanks in part to the hard work of our stream monitoring volunteers across the state, the Wisconsin DNR just released its draft [2024 Water Condition Lists](#). Every 2 years, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is required to assess the health or “condition” of the state’s surface waters – including lakes, rivers and streams – as required by the U.S. Clean Water Act. Water quality data for assessing the state’s waters is provided by DNR biologists, county conservation staff, university researchers, and of course, stream and lake monitoring volunteers! The final 2024 Water Condition List will be submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in April.

**Why is this important? Regularly assessing Wisconsin’s water quality against specific criteria allows us to protect and restore our waters by setting goals for addressing known water quality issues.**

We collected details and a few stories from DNR biologists and staff to learn how volunteer data contributed to the 2024 Water Condition Lists.

[Read the full story](#)



[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

# Submit a nomination to recognize someone for a 2024 Invader Crusaders Award

Here's another wonderful opportunity to celebrate the people that protect the health of our waters. Nominations are now open for the 20th annual Wisconsin Invasive Species Council Invader Crusaders Awards!

Invader Crusaders are Wisconsin residents and organizations who made significant contributions in 2023 to prevent, control or eradicate invasive species that harm Wisconsin's native wildlife, wetlands, forests, prairies, lakes and rivers. Nominees can be individuals, groups or organizations who showed exemplary efforts to address issues surrounding terrestrial and aquatic invasive plants and animals.

The Wisconsin Invasive Species Council, an advisory council to the DNR, presents Invader Crusaders Awards for volunteer and professional categories.

To nominate an individual or organization, download and complete a nomination form on the [Wisconsin Invasive Species Council webpage](#) and email the completed form to [Invasive.Species@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Invasive.Species@wisconsin.gov) by Feb. 18, 2024.

This year marks 20 years of Invader Crusaders, with 166 awards given out to date!

Explore the Invader Crusaders Award

## Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention



**April 10-12, 2024**

Holiday Inn and Convention Center  
Stevens Point

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**wisconsinwaterweek.org**

or call us at 715-346-2116

Presented by the  
Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Partnership



# Get ready - Registration opens this month for the Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention

The next time our WAV newsletter goes out, registration will be open! Save the date, April 10-12, 2024 for the Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention, held annually in Stevens Point, WI. This event is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Wisconsin's waters and connect with passionate residents and professionals who love our lakes, rivers and streams as much as you do.

Explore the Lakes and Rivers Convention

---

## Questions or suggestions? Contact us!

Phone: (608) 331-0173

Email: [wav@extension.wisc.edu](mailto:wav@extension.wisc.edu)  
[wateractionvolunteers.org](http://wateractionvolunteers.org)

## Follow us on Facebook and Instagram



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt Out](#) using TrueRemove™  
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.  
View this email [online](#).

445 Henry Mall None | Madison, WI 53706 US

This email was sent to .  
*To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.*

---

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.