

Department of Natural Resources Impact in Florence County

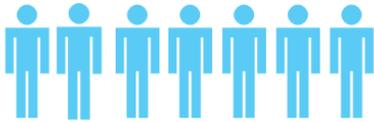
The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources aims to excel at working and partnering with the public to protect and manage the state's natural resources while supporting the economy and the well-being of our citizenry.



Did you know?

In 2011, Wisconsin had

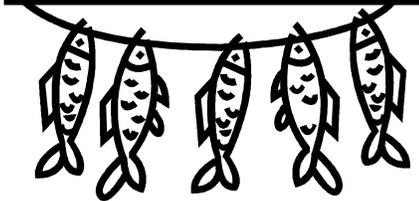
763,384



RESIDENT HUNTERS

In 2011, fishing in Wisconsin had an economic impact of over

\$1.4 billion



In Florence County, **7,694** licenses were sold in 2013-14.

Contact Information

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Investments in Recreation

6,134 extended growth walleye were stocked in **Cosgrove, Halsey and Sand lakes and Spread Eagle Chain** under the **Wisconsin Walleye Initiative**. The initiative aims to strengthen Wisconsin walleye waters.

Florence County has over **20,871 acres** of state owned lands open to **public hunting and outdoor recreation**.

Spread Eagle Barrens State Natural Area provides an extensive landscape of grasslands and pine barrens. The natural area provides exceptional opportunities for recreation, research and education on grasslands.

The DNR has recently invested **\$12,400** into updates at the **Florence Natural Resources Interpretive Center**.

Community Partnerships

Florence County has **48 public water systems** that the DNR oversees to ensure they deliver safe water.

The DNR has strong relationships with Florence County groups through its **Citizen-based Monitoring Program**, an initiative that **connects citizens and scientists working together to monitor and evaluate Wisconsin's natural resources**. Recent partnerships in Florence County include support to the Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition to monitor invasive species and establish the Northeast Wisconsin Invasive Species Corps.

Snapshot of grants in Florence County

A total of **\$290,557** was awarded in Florence County for **water quality, outdoor recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, public health and safety and forestry activities**. A few activities include: Clean Boats – Clean Waters projects, the Aurora snowmobile boardwalk the Halls Creek trails and the Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition.

**Numbers reflect the July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 time period.

Forestry Activities

Forestry is one of the **top ten employers** in Florence County. It produces **\$24.2 million** in economic output providing **\$7.1 million** in value added to the county.

Through the Forest Tax Law programs (Forest Crop and MFL) **76,811 acres of private land in Florence County are being properly managed** for timber, wildlife, water quality and a healthy environment. Additionally, **49,800 acres of those privately lands are open for public access for hunting and recreation.**

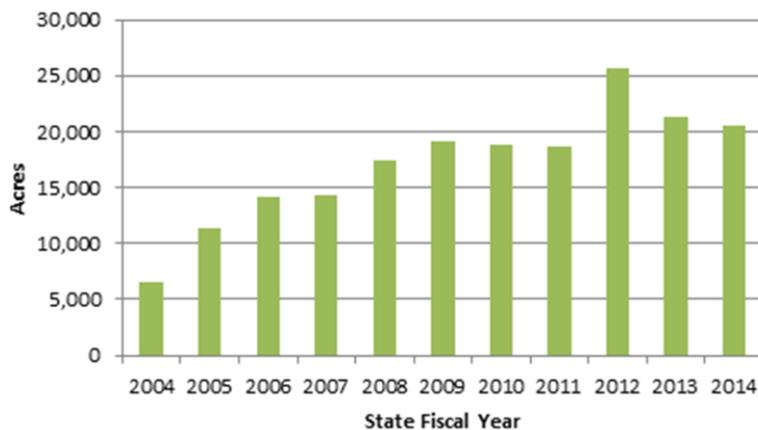
In the last 3 fiscal years, **Florence County Forest has received over \$190,813 in grants** from the DNR for the purchase, development, preservation and maintenance of the county forest lands.

Since 2011, **DNR has granted \$13,490 to local Fire Departments** to purchase equipment and supplies that improve their capability and safety on wild land fires.

Since 2005, **over 27,858 cord equivalents of timber products have been harvested from state-owned land** in Florence County providing more than **\$975,236 in revenue** to the state.

The following graph represents the average acres of timber sales established on state lands in Wisconsin annually.

State Timber Sale Establishment



Environmental Cleanup Efforts

Legislature authorized funding for the **Wisconsin Air Resource Program (WARP)**, which created improvements to air permitting process. This initiative resulted in **improvements to timeliness and consistency of permit reviews**, as well as making the entire process **more transparent** to the public.

Deer Management in Florence County

In 2014, Florence County established a County Deer Advisory Council. One council per county, they provide input and recommendations to the DNR on deer management.

In 2013, a total of 2,179 deer were registered in Florence County with 592 harvested during archery deer season and 1,587 harvested during the gun deer season.