

Department of Natural Resources Impact in Racine County

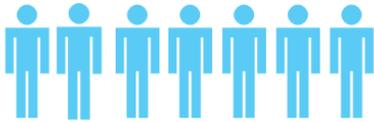
The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources aims to excel at working and partnering with the public to protect and manage the state's natural resources while supporting the economy and the well-being of our citizenry.



Did you know?

In 2011, Wisconsin had

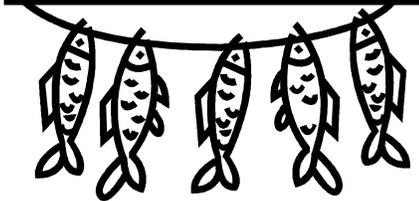
763,384



RESIDENT HUNTERS

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

\$1.4 billion



In Racine County, **49,641** licenses were sold in 2013-14.

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Investments in Recreation

Racine County is home to the **Root River Steelhead Fish Hatchery**.

The **Pike River Recreation Trail** and **West Bluff Acquisition** were both purchased with stewardship funds.

DNR awarded \$2,222,911 for outdoor recreation improvements. Projects include: Root River Parkway restoration, Cliffside prairie restoration, Racine Harbor Outer Breakwater repair, boat launch improvements and land acquisition.

DNR offers a variety of safety classes around the state annually. In 2013, a total of **709 citizens** became **hunter, ATV, boating and snowmobile** certified in Racine County.

Community Partnerships

The citizen-based monitoring program **partners citizens and scientists together to evaluate Wisconsin's natural resources.** Over the last several years, DNR and Racine County volunteers have conducted a number of bat surveys on Wisconsin's bat species.

In 2014, **DNR entered a contract** with the Central Racine County Health Department **to conduct inspections and sampling at 150 transient non-community public water systems.**

Snapshot of grants in Racine County

DNR awarded \$684,511 in grants for the improvement of water quality in Racine County. Projects include: plant surveying, Pike River Restoration Plan, Revitalization of Root River and cost sharing of stream bank protection and abandoned unused wells.

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

Forestry Activities

Seven of the communities have received technical assistance from DNR between 2011 and 2014, which has helped them develop or improve their urban forest management programs.

Since 2011, **Racine County has received \$124,444 in Urban Forestry Grants to support new, innovative projects that will develop sustainable urban and community forestry programs** such as tree inventories and assessments, management plans, emerald ash borer (EAB) preparedness plans, urban forest restoration projects, staff training and public education.

The **City of Burlington developed a public tree inventory** with the assistance of an urban forestry grant. They created an urban forestry management plan and Emerald Ash Borer readiness plan with this data **to increase their capacity to better manage Burlington's tree resource. Employee training and citizen outreach were also a part of this project** to increase professional knowledge and public awareness of the value of Burlington's urban forests.

Since June 2010, **DNR has provided over \$9,300 to private forest owners in the county to assist them in protecting and enhancing their forested lands, prairies and waters.**

Environmental Cleanup Efforts

DNR is working with Racine County to dredge and dispose of **15,400 cubic yards of sediment** as part of the **Pershing Park Boat Launch Basin improvement project.**

DNR provided **\$82,422 in Brownfield grants** over the past three years to place contaminated properties back into productive commercial or industrial use.

DNR approved **cleanups at 1,116 contaminated properties resulting in 260 acres being made available for reuse.** DNR staff assures these cleanups provide **long-term protection of public health and environment.**

Deer Management in Racine County

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

DNR worked with two landowners who have 185 acres enrolled in the Deer Management Assistance Program to improve wildlife habitat on their property.

In 2013, a total of 589 deer were registered in Racine County with 280 harvested during archery deer season and 309 harvested during the gun deer season.