



INTERNET TOOLS

for Planning, Conservation & Environmental Protection

In an effort to increase awareness of web-based resources available to local governments and citizen planners, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) has initiated a technical assistance program focused on Internet tools for planning, conservation, and environmental protection. This program has been made possible by a water quality management grant awarded to the WDNR by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

As part of our technical assistance program we are writing articles that highlight an Internet tool, discuss its possible uses, and offer step-by-step tutorials. It is our hope that the information provided here will ensure that all involved in local planning processes have equal access to valuable information and analysis tools. Gaining access to these free web-based planning tools will assist communities with preliminary selection of alternative approaches to watershed and community planning. When community planners, developers, and citizens have access to similar information they are more readily able to interact and jointly discover possible solutions to land use issues.

Additional articles can be found online at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/es/science/landuse/CompTools/local.htm>

Mineralogy of Wisconsin

www.uwrf.edu/~wc01/WiscMin.html

Dr. William S. Cordua, mineralogy professor at the University of Wisconsin - River Falls, has compiled a database on the minerals of Wisconsin. This extensive database has been cross-referenced by county and mineral allowing users to find information on minerals occurring in their area of interest. The Mineralogy of Wisconsin website provides access to Dr. Cordua's database as well as links to other websites that can help individuals find more information related to minerals. Below is information on some of the sections included in this website.



Calcite scepter crystal, Shullsburg, WI

Photo by Pete Rodewald

Mineral List and Link

This section contains a complete listing of mineral species and related substances reported in Wisconsin

as of June, 2004. Clicking on a listed item will provide a description of the mineral and the counties and specific locations where it can be found.

Minerals by County

This section contains a listing of all counties in Wisconsin and the minerals reported for each one. Clicking on a mineral will link to the information contained in the Mineral List and Links section.

Special Wisconsin Mineral Localities

Dr. Cordua has provided a list of ten locations in Wisconsin that have produced excellent mineral specimens and are important parts of the state's mineralogical heritage. Many of these locations contain many rare mineral species and are thus considered "mineralogical rain forests." Information on location, accessibility, geology, and notes on the mineralogy is provided in the link.

Mineral Uses

This links to the Mineral Information Institute's listing of common minerals and provides background, source, use, and substitutes & alternative sources information for each selection.

Mineralogy of Wisconsin also has information on geological attractions in Wisconsin and tips for identifying meteorites. More information about various mineral properties can be obtained through links to the Mineralogy Database and mindat.org websites. The Mineralogy Database contains 4,442 different mineral species and mindat.org claims to be "the largest mineral database and mineralogical reference website on the Internet."

For More Information:

WDNR's land use website
www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/science/landuse



Midwest Spatial Decision
Support System Partnership

www.epa.gov/waterspace



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