

Wisconsin Conservation Congress 2015 Spring District Meeting Agenda



1. **Organizational Matters** ~ 7:00 PM
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. District Councilor Election (*District 12 only*)

2. **Informational Items & Program Updates**
 - A. Review Fisheries Spring Hearing Questions— Local Fisheries Staff & WCC District Councilors
 - B. Review Wildlife Spring Hearing Questions—Local Wildlife Staff & WCC District Councilors
 - C. DNR Staff Updates (*Regional or statewide issues of interest*)
 - D. Review Conservation Congress Advisory Questions—WCC District Councilors

3. **Conservation Congress Annual County Meeting and DNR Spring Hearing Logistics**
 - A. Review the Information Provided in the *Spring Hearing Logistics Memo*
 - Delegate Election
 1. Review the county seats up for election in 2015
 2. Review election protocol – review protocol for run-off elections
 3. Elections can be held for vacant seats in your county
 - Review Hearing Officer Roles and Responsibilities
 - Review WCC County Chair’s Roles and Responsibilities

 - B. Delegate Profiles
 - Delegate profiles will again be available online in the form of a survey. Delegates have until **Friday, April 17, 2015**, to complete their delegate profile online. Delegates not up for election will receive an informational email in late February with the link to the survey, instructions for taking the survey, and their username and password for logging onto the survey. If a delegate does not have email, a hardcopy will be sent in the mail to be completed and sent back. Newly elected and re-elected delegates with email will receive the informational email a few days after the Spring Hearings and delegates without email will receive a hardcopy at the hearings to be completed and sent back by Friday, April 17, 2015.

 - C. Local Spring Hearing Press
 - This year we will be sending the press release electronically to those delegates with email. Please decide who within your county will be responsible for taking this press release to local media outlets. We offer this press release to media for their use in order to get the word out about the Spring Hearings, but we do not have the funding to pay to have this published in local papers. If you would like a hardcopy of this press release to distribute, please contact Adam Lindsey at Adam.Lindsey@wisconsin.gov.
 - Again this year the one page flyer is available on the WCC’s Spring Hearing website. You can click the dropdown box and find your county and location, print off copies and post around your communities.

4. Other Congress Business

A. Proposed Code of Procedure Changes

- This is your opportunity to review and discuss the Code of Procedure changes that were advanced by the Executive Council. These proposed amendments to the Congress operating procedures will be discussed and voted on by the entire delegation at the 2015 Annual Convention.

B. Committee Appointments

- The Executive Councilors will discuss with their districts the study committee selection process and will work with their district delegates to identify the appropriate members to sit on the various study committees.

C. Expo Travel Grant

- The Friends of the WCC will provide travel grants (up to \$200 per individual grant request) to school districts or other youth groups who wish to attend the Midwest Outdoor Heritage Education Expo at the DNR's MacKenzie Center in Poynette. Applications are due **April 29, 2015** and can be found on the WCC website under "community outreach." Please let your local schools and youth organizations know about this opportunity. The MOHEE dates are May 20-21, 2015.

D. WCC Learn-to-Bear-Hunt Tag

- The Congress will receive one tag for the 2015 LTBH event to be awarded to a novice hunter. An application for a novice hunter can be found on the WCC website under "community outreach." It is due **April 22, 2015**. Please share the application with prospective bear hunters and encourage them to submit the form and essay. The winner will be announced at the Annual Convention. Anyone who is interested in mentoring a Learn to Bear Hunt participant or donating/transferring a bear tag to a new hunter should contact Mike Rogers at (608) 643-8057.

E. Youth Conservation Congress

- In March, the WCC will be rolling out an enhanced Youth Conservation Congress program that will allow youth to participate in DNR field days along with volunteer opportunities in addition to attending and participating in Congress functions. When this gets rolled out to youth groups, schools, etc., we hope there will be a lot of interest in the program and we hope that delegates will step forward to act as mentors for these youth. In addition, we will be creating a YCC Oversight Committee devoted solely to the efforts to help this program succeed. Committee members will assist matching YCC delegates with mentors, helping to facilitate youth participation in DNR volunteer opportunities, and generally guiding the program to ensure it runs smoothly. If you are interested in participating in this oversight committee, please let Rob Bohmann know at rob.bohmann@att.net or (608) 235-5825.

F. Simplification

- In 2011, the Congress was charged with developing recommendations for reducing complexity, increasing opportunity, and eliminating regulations and policies that may be obstacles for hunters, anglers and trappers. This is an ongoing project for the Congress. Please continue reviewing regulations in your areas of interest to see if there are any that may be obsolete, outdated, or no longer serve a useful purpose. We are also asking you to consider this charge when addressing the resolutions that are assigned to your committees. Any recommended simplifications should be forwarded to the Rule Simplification Ad Hoc Committee chair, Eugene Altwies at altwies3@gmail.com or (262) 960-0348.

G. Travel Reimbursement

5. Member Matters

6. Adjourn