

Summary Numbers for AIS Summer Youth Demonstration Project

49 youth from across Wisconsin inspected watercraft through this project
23 counties had youth inspectors at boat landings
2284 hours spent inspecting boats
4900 boats inspected by youth inspectors
10,400 people contacted by youth inspectors
18 supervisors provided guidance and oversight to the youth inspectors
16 partner organizations (counties, non-profits, lake organizations, universities, National Park Service) made this project a success by providing supervision and support
\$98,500 estimated budget for project (according to Governor Doyle's release of 7/23/09)

Stories from Youth Inspectors

Joe Madison

Calumet County; Supervisor: Diane Schauer (920-849-2361 x 273, marlins@charter.net)

Recent Brillion high grad (2009). Starting at UW-Fox Valley this fall, hopes to transfer to UWSP. Wants a career in natural resource management, maybe with DNR.

"I'm getting experience in the field I want to go into."

"I am building a resume and contacts."

Quote from supervisor Diane Schauer:

"Both of my youth inspectors are wonderful guys, very dependable and responsible."

Shoua Vang

Beaver Creek Reserve; Supervisor: Sarah Braun (715-877-2212, sarah@beavercreekreserve.org)

"I gained a lot of life long experience and knowledge by working as a watercraft inspector."

"By working as a watercraft inspector over the summer, I was able to learn about the different types of species and their location in each lake."

"By working as a watercraft inspector I get to meet a lot of new and interesting people. It's entertaining and inspirational to hear them talk about their outdoor experiences and how the lakes were several years ago, before they became host to AIS. The only downside of working as a watercraft inspector is meeting people who do not care about the welfare of the lakes. Their mindset is that we are just wasting our time and slowing down the inevitable. They believe that there is no point to what we are doing. Attitudes like this only serve to motivate me to work harder and reinforce my desire to inform as many people as possible."

Jared McQuade

Washburn County; Supervisor: Lisa Gabriel (715-468-4654, lgabriel@co.washburn.wi.us)

“We don’t want invasive species from other lakes getting in here. Most people who use Gilmore Lake are happy to see me here because they don’t want this lake to get messed up like some others. And, tourism is big in Washburn County. If the lakes get filled up with a bunch of junk—weeds and water life that doesn’t have natural predators—they’ll be unusable.”

Quote from supervisor Lisa Gabriel:

“It’s been really helpful to have Jared working with us this summer. The Land Conservation Office usually doesn’t have the funding for staff time to do these inspections. Jared, however, is paid by the Summer Youth Employment Program. And, he’s been great, especially since he’s willing to work weekends, when I really need him at the landings. He moves around, going to several different lakes across Washburn County. ”

Supplemental Material (files attached)

2 graphs (youth inspection totals 2009, youth inspection boater data 2009)

3 photos (Joe Madison & Adam Groenke, Shoua Vang, Jared McQuade)

1 map (youth inspectors by county)