

The Lakeshore Water Institute: A Community Partnership Thursday, November 7, 2013 UW-Manitowoc, H102 Lecture Hall

Agenda:

6:00–6:30 pm: Networking Social

6:30-6:45 pm: Launching the Lakeshore Water Institute –
Charles Clark, Dean, UW-Manitowoc

6:45-7:45 pm: Data Stories – UW-Manitowoc Interns

7:45-8:00 pm: Community Partnerships – UW Faculty

8:00-8:15 pm: Developing a Sense of Place

Understanding We All Live on the Water – Jim Kettler, LNRP

8:15-8:30 p.m: Q & A

UW-Manitowoc students sampled water this summer in the creeks near Lake Michigan from Calvin Creek to Centerville Creek. Please join us to hear what they found and how it impacts our beaches. Dean Clark will also tell us about the new Lakeshore Water Institute.

Discussions are underway to create a Lakeshore Water Institute at UW-Manitowoc. The partnership between UW-Manitowoc and the Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership (LNRP) formed in 2009 when LNRP received a Sustain Our Great Lakes Grant through the US Fish and Wildlife Foundation to restore Centerville Creek. The project called for monitoring water quality throughout the restoration process with UW-Manitowoc interns completing the sampling and analysis. The grant also helped form the Friends of Hika Bay. A series of DNR River Planning Grants expanded into Fischer Creek, Point Creek, Pine Creek, and Calvin Creeks. In 2012, additional data was collected at Carsten's Lake and Pine Creek in collaboration with the Manitowoc County Lakes Association. The partnership earned the UW Colleges Chancellor's *Wisconsin Idea* award in September 2012.



The team has put together a program that creates opportunities for UW-Manitowoc students to engage in community-based action plans through undergraduate research and service learning, and get boots-on-the-ground experience. Student interns collect weekly measurements of physical, chemical and biological characteristics of streams and rivers in the watersheds of Manitowoc County. Additionally, select lab sessions in UW-Manitowoc introductory biology courses sample additional biological and chemical measures along with macro-invertebrates. Testing involves the pH, temperature, flow, turbidity, conductivity, dissolved oxygen, ammonia, phosphorus and *E.coli*.

The Institute will be located at UW-Manitowoc and serve the lakeshore region both as a tool for educating and engaging youth, and for developing science-based decisions at the local government level.

The community partnership will be coordinated by LNRP with community-led Friends of Hika Bay, Friends of the Branch River Watershed, Friends of the Manitowoc River Watershed, Friends of the Twin Rivers, and the Little Manitowoc River Partnership.

LNRP Executive Director Jim Kettler said, "Our ultimate goal is to cultivate a water ethic and, by doing so, enhance the quality and prosperity of our region. We are excited to be involved with expanding our collaboration with UW-Manitowoc Dean Charles Clark, and biology faculty Richard Hein and Rebecca Abler."