



Extension Lakes
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February 18, 2020

Greetings!

Please help us spread the news of the 2020 Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention taking place April 1-3 in Stevens Point. This year's theme is Wisconsin Waters 2020: Focusing on Resilient Lakes and Rivers. The "logo" we've created to convey resilience is the familiar "infinity" loop with the adaptive cycle common to many social and ecological systems. The spring transitioning to summer represents a period of growth and resource accumulation, transitioning to maturation and loss (fall), senescence (winter), and then back to rebirth (spring).

Each and every spring since the 1980s, water advocates, scientists, managers, and educators have gathered for our annual convention. It is another sort of rebirth, a testament to the resilience of individual people and our collective partnership that works so hard to care for lakes. In 2020, we are proud to be broadening our effort to include river stakeholders, and we continue to embrace a full watershed approach to caring for rivers, lakes, and streams. Leaders from Extension, the Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Lakes, and many local partners have put tremendous time and effort into creating this year's program.

We always seek to keep enough of the familiar threads to give our gathering an identity while weaving in new strands to keep things interesting. This year, we'll be looking back at the Year of Clean Drinking Water and the work of the Speaker's Water Quality Task Force. We will also be dedicating a stream of presentations to climate change impacts and how we can address them in Wisconsin.

Our Thursday keynote speaker will illustrate the role of resiliency in the big picture of managing water resources. **Dr. Douglas Beard** is a Wisconsin native who served as a fisheries manager for the Wisconsin DNR before joining the United States Geological Survey (USGS). He is currently the Chief of the National Climate Adaptation Science Center. His role is to provide leadership and guidance on administration, partnerships, information management, and communications for a network of regional climate adaptation science centers. Doug has partnered with researchers and managers through the Resilience Alliance and the Stockholm Resilience Center to carry forward Buzz Holling's legacy in the realms of waterways and fisheries. We look forward to learning from Doug's work and seeing the ways that resiliency thinking can lead us to a future of healthy waters.

On Friday, we will be joined by **Lauren Salvato**, the Water Quality Program and Policy Director of the Upper Mississippi River Basin Association. This unique group brings together state leadership from Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin to address basin-scale issues impacting the river. The Association engages in the discussion, evaluation, and study of a variety of topics, ranging from policy and budget matters to specific resource management concerns. Over the years, the Association has addressed a wide range of issues including: nonpoint source pollution, water quality planning and management, habitat restoration, flood recovery, and more. Lauren is a graduate of the limnology program at Indiana University Bloomington and served as the national coordinator for the North American Lake Management Society's Secchi Dip-in program while in graduate school.

Early bird discounts for all these events ends on March 4, so we hope to make people aware of the convention as soon as possible. Contact us at (715) 346-2116 with any questions you may have. You can learn more about the convention and register online at www.wisconsinlakes.org.

Thank you for your help,

Eric Olson
Extension Lakes