## **FOREST COUNTY** REST **ASSOCIATION OF LAKES** GOUNTY **SUMMER 2013** The purpose of FCAL, Inc. is to facilitate education, research and sharing between organization,

governmental bodies and the general public of Forest County to protect Forest County inland water bodies, environs and watershed for now and future generations, including but not limited to: aesthetic beauty, water quality, wildlife habitat and fisheries.

### FCAL ANNUAL MEETING/BANQUET

Saturday, October 12, 2013 4:30 Meeting, 5:30 Cash Bar, 6:15 Dinner, 7:00 Speaker

Celebrating our 21st year, FCAL will hold its annual meeting at T-Bob's in Laona. Once again, we will be honoring our first place essay contest winners from Laona, Wabeno and Crandon's 5th and 6th grades.

*Christian Cold to Speak...* Back by popular demand is our speaker Christian Cold, Wildlife Technician/Educator, DNR. His presentation is entitled Discovering Nature With Your Family. He promises it will be light, informal and conversational. The focus of his talk will be how to instill in children (and adults) an interest or desire to participate with nature through nature-based activities.

As before, he will have "critters" with him to show at the conclusion. His message is sure to inspire everyone to reconnect with nature and remain conscious of their relationships with the land. Mark your calendars now for October 12, at T-Bob's in Laona. You will be glad you attended.

#### **FCAL Members:**

Watch your mail for your invitation to this year's annual meeting and banquet.

# Monitoring Confirms that Boaters, not Ducks, Moving Aquatic Invasive Species Around

MADISON - Preliminary results from systematic monitoring of Wisconsin lakes for aquatic invasive species confirm that boaters, not ducks or other birds, are spreading the invaders around, state and University of Wisconsin-Madison researchers say.

State researchers in SCUBA gear looked for aquatic invasive species as part of a five-year monitoring effort. None of the wilderness lakes surveyed, those in remote places and easily accessible only to wildlife, had any invasive species present while there was a direct link between the presence of invasive species and boat access from public and private property.

Thirty percent of the lakes with boat access, however, had Eurasian water-milfoil, 18 percent of the suitable lakes surveyed with boat access had zebra mussels, and three lake systems with boat access had spiny water fleas.

"The fact that accessible lakes are the ones that are invaded indicates that these species are moved by boaters," says Alex Latzka, a University of Wisconsin-Madison graduate student involved in the research. "While birds could transport invasive species from one lake to another, our finding that remote lakes do not have invasive species strongly indicates that birds are not an important factor."

Two years of sampling is not enough to tell if the rate of spread is slowing in lakes with boat access, although there are

some positive signs, says Scott Van Egeren, the DNR limnologist who coordinated DNR's sampling over the past two years.

- The number of lakes DNR surveyed and found with the different invasive species was about the same for both years. Finishing up the five years of monitoring will help provide information on the rate of the spread.
- Most lakes with boat access were still free of the worst invasive species; 70 percent of the lakes with public access surveyed were free of Eurasian water-milfoil, despite the fact the invasive plant has been present in Wisconsin for more than 50 years and is considered a relatively widespread aquatic invasive species. And 82 percent of suitable lakes with public access are still clear of zebra mussels, present inland for more than 20 years.

"Boaters have done a good job in recent years in following the rules, and they can continue to keep the damaging species out of inland waters as long as they take a few minutes to take some simple steps. "And we're happy to say that ducks are not going to undo your hard work!"

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bob Wakeman 262-574-2149; Scott Van Egeren 608-264-8895; or Jake Vander Zanden, UW-Madison, 608-262-9464

## Letter from the FCAL President

#### by Lee Lamers, FCAL President

Recently, someone asked our 10 year old grandson who lives in Colorado, if he would like it if his grandparents moved to Colorado. He vehemently said, "No." With some confusion on our part, we asked him why not. His answer told us how much he valued the lake and woods, when he said he didn't want us to sell the cottage.

To preserve this natural beauty is a mission we all have to share. FCAL sends out about 2,900 newsletters to all riparian land owners each year, yet we have only around 200 members. We need your help as new members and some members who feel a stronger call to become actively involved.

Our organization is so well thought of that we have recently received monetary grants from the Potowatomi Nation, Mole Lake Sakaogon Nation and the DNR in order to help us accomplish our mission of educating, supporting research and sharing knowledge between organizations and the public of Forest County, so that we protect Forest County water resources.

We also won the 2013 Wisconsin Lakes Stewardship Award in the group category from the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership, which consists of the Wisconsin Lakes Organization, the Department of Natural Resources and the UW-Extension Stevens Point Department.

We are at a point to continue this level of commitment to preserve our lakes and waterways, but we need your help. You are our future and Forest County Lakes future.

Join us today and have a great summer!

## Ground Hemlock Lake Update

#### Submitted by Ron Krueger, Ground Hemlock Lake

Spring is missing this year, but summer seems to have arrived abruptly after a long winter. The cedar browse line around our lake got a good trimming by hungry deer impatient with the late grass. Our ice went out the first of May, the latest since at least 1969. The loons were back before total ice-out, along with mergansers and mallards. We've had five months of darkness in the water column, so many lake plants have died back and will be starting from scratch. This means increased available nutrients from last year's rotting vegetation will likely spark earlier-than-normal algae blooms on many lakes, including ours.

We've been lucky here on Ground Hemlock. Rusty crayfish showed up a couple decades ago, but our bass responded to a plentiful food supply and the rusties have all but disappeared. We remain vigilant for other exotics, though. Eurasian milfoil and zebra mussels would devastate our little hard-water lake, and both species lurk only a few miles away. In our case, prevention is the only alternative. Control of these species would likely be a bust. Fortunately, we don't have public boaters moving from other lakes to ours.

A few of our sixty properties are or will soon be changing hands, so we'll need to get the word out to the newcomers about invasives and shoreline protection. So far that's worked pretty well.

## Lake Lucerne News

Submitted by Larry Sommer, Lake Lucerne President

The ice is finally off the lake as of today, May 7th. The south end of the lake was free of ice about 10 days earlier. The water level unfortunately increased only 3 to 4 inches from the melted snow. The lake level has been decreasing every year for about 10 years - lack of snow and rain being the major culprits. This season's snowfall was low at 52 inches. This compares with an average of 69.5 inches in the last 40 years.

On better news... the loons are back as of May 1st. We normally have two pairs and a single. We have not seen any young for the last two or three years. Today provided a nice surprise... a white pelican landed on the island shoreline. He or she stayed long enough for me to get a few good pictures. One picture will appear on the front page of the Pioneer Express.

The DNR again approved our grant for \$8,000 to monitor our boat landing. This is the 4th year for this program. We hire a manager who is responsible for signing up volunteers which will, along with the manager, check boats entering and leaving our lake. We check for any invasive species on the boat or trailer and the live wells. All results are reported to the DNR weekly by the manger.

We are fortunate not to have any invasive species on our lake except for a few rusty crayfish spotted last year.

We are still able to enjoy this beautiful lake despite the low water level but we always hope for more rain and snow than we have had in the past.

## Tree in the Lake? Let it be!

(Source- http://bayfieldcountylakes.org)

Fallen trees provide habitat for fish and wildlife. Submergent and emergent wood create ideal habitat for aquatic organisms that feed panfish, turtles, crayfish and other creatures. Woodland species, such as songbirds, turtles, frogs, dragonflies and others, use downed trees as both a feeding area and hiding place.

Fallen trees are also an important source of nutrients and minerals for lakes and streams and help protect shorelines from erosion. Studies show fishing improves as submerged, woody habitat increases.

A fallen tree, when submerged, will likely last three to eight hundred years, far longer than its earlier life, all that while contributing to the health of the waterbody and wildlife.

"Filthy water cannot be washed.

West African proverb

## Fishing Tournaments and AIS Concerns

#### Submitted by Les Schramm – May 7, 2013

The lakes in Wisconsin are at a critical juncture in the fight against Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). Many water bodies, including Lake Metonga are already infested with Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) and Zebra Mussels. There are new threats of other aquatic invaders entering the Great Lakes waters via ships bringing cargo from mid-eastern countries and emptying their AIS infested ballast water into the Great Lakes. These invasive species hitch-hike on boats, trailers and other recreational equipment from the Great Lakes (i.e. Lake Michigan) to inland water bodies in Wisconsin.

Each year sports fisherman enjoy participating in fishing tournaments organized and sponsored by the Bass Federation, Cabela's Master Walleye Circuit, the FLW (Forest Lee Wood) tournaments and other locally organized tournaments. Following are current DNR Tournament Rules.

Current Fishing Tournament Regulations state that a permit is required from the DNR if:

- 1. Fishing Tournament involves 20 or more boats, or 100 or more participants.
- 2. Fishing Tournament is catch-hold-release tournament with an off-site weigh-in.
- 3. Total prize value is \$10,000 or greater.

Fishing Tournaments that are statewide or regional in nature do not require a permit. The focus is to help professional and tournament anglers understand the importance of aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention and their responsibility as role models for other anglers. Tournament organizers should develop AIS prevention plans and management practices to prevent the movement of AIS between tournaments and tournament related equipment.

The DNR has just released proposed Tournament Rules which will put heavy restrictions and regulations on Wisconsin Fishing Tournaments. Some of what they are proposing:

- 1. NO tournaments in July & August. The DNR is worried about fish mortality during warmer months.
- 2. All tournament organizers would have to buy a permit, and EACH tournament participant would also have to buy a permit from the DNR.
- 3. Tournament organizers have to have a written plan in place to deal with aquatic invasive species (milfoil, etc.) another plan to deal with dead fish, and another plan to deal with parking issues at the Lake.
- 4. Each tournament boat would have to be clearly marked as a tournament boat or the operator could be fined.

There are more proposed regulations, but keep in mind they are only proposed at this point, but the emphasis on AIS prevention and control is crucial to health of our Wisconsin Lakes and needs to be addressed if these proposed regulations are adopted.

## Property Values and Aquatic Invasive Species



Many people enjoy the tranquility of living on a lake in Northern Wisconsin. Your favorite things may be fishing, hunting, watching bald eagles soar or simply watching loons dive and swim on the lake! This only scratches the surface of the benefits we receive from lakes. Buying lakefront property is not a cheap endeavor! For many of us it is only a dream, but for some it is a reality and an investment. When people invest a large amount of money they want to protect that investment. One thing that can attack property values on a lake is Eurasian Water Milfoil.

It is estimated that invasive species cost the United States in excess of 120 billion dollars annually, and that includes loss in property values. A lake that becomes infested with Eurasian Water Milfoil will see property value decrease by an average of 13 percent (Horsch and Lewis 2008). Once a lake becomes infected it can affect lake aesthetics, recreational opportunities such as fishing, boating and swimming, and can alter the natural community and native species in a negative way.

You may be thinking how can I protect my lake from Eurasian Water Milfoil and other aquatic invasive species? The three simple steps you can follow are inspect, remove and drain.

- Inspect boats, trailers, and equipment
- Remove all attached aquatic plants, animals, and mud before launching and before leaving the water access. Many invasive species can attach themselves to boats and trailers.
- Drain all water from your boat, motor, bilge, live wells, bait containers and equipment before leaving the water access.

Following the steps of inspect, remove, and drain can help protect lakes from aquatic invasive milfoil such as Eurasian water milfoil. Just remember it's the law. For further information please contact John Preuss Lumberjack Resource Conservation and Development Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator for Lincoln, Langlade, and Forest counties. He can be reached by email at johnpreuss@frontier.com or by phone at 1-715-369-9886.

*"If there is magic on this planet, it is contained in water."* 

Loran Eisely... 1957

## John Preuss Rapping Video on AIS

Thanks to John Preuss for sharing this fun rapping video on AIS from Minnesota that gives AIS education a cool twist. To view visit: http://youtu.be/W03m0j9DAMM

## Loss of Loons

#### by John Preuss & Stu MacPherson

Thousands of dead loons on northern Michigan shorelines might be linked to invasive species. The rapidly changing ecology of the Great Lakes Basin, brought on in large part by non-native invasive species, is causing devastation among Michigan's waterfowl, especially common loons.

The common loon, a beloved, iconic bird known for its eerily lonely two-note call and its beautiful markings, suffered devastating losses along Lake Michigan's northern shoreline last fall. Thousands of dead birds, mainly loons, washed ashore from the Upper Peninsula down to Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. A large percentage of the dead loons had just entered their first year of breeding maturity.

For more of this story, visit:

www.theoaklandpress.com/articles/2013/01/07/news/local \_news/doc50ea12a669ef9650094304.txt

## Loon Speak



Source - Bayfield County Lakes Forum Based on info from Northland College's Loon Watch

Adult loons give 4 basic calls; the yodel, wail, tremolo and hoot. Here's what they are saying:

The *YODEL* is a territorial call given only by the male loons to warm other males to stay away. It begins with three notes that rise slowly, followed by several undulating phrases.

The *WAIL* resembles a wolf howl. Loons use this call to locate other loons.

When loons are disturbed or excited they often give the *TREMOLO*. It sounds like a quavering laugh. The flight call, a variation of the tremolo, is often given over lakes by males seeking other loons.

Loons use a soft, one-note *HOOT* to call to chicks, mates or other loons. It is a friendly greeting often used in close quarters.

## Greeting from Roberts Lake

by Bill Brunner, President Roberts Lake Association

It has been an unusually long winter-certainly a big change from 2012 – and all of us are ready for the warm sunshine and beautiful summer season.

All of us at Roberts Lake were thrilled with two nesting pairs of loons last summer with three young loons. It was a pleasure to watch them grow and mature over the summer season, and we can hope we will be fortunate to see a repeat again this summer.

We have had a big influx of turkeys around Roberts Lake this year, and it was not unusual to see groups of turkeys during the winter season, sometimes daily, make their way to our backyard feeders. Watching the wildlife around our lakes makes "Up North" living worthwhile.

Please mark your calendar for our Annual Roberts Lake Fisheree, which will be held on Saturday August 10th, and we wish you an enjoyable summer season with your families.

## Protect Your Lake Home – 10 Firewise Tips

(Source: www.firewise.org)

- 1. Rake leaves and needles within 30' of home and buildings.
- 2. Move Firewood 30' away.
- 3. Prune tress so lowest branches are 6' from ground.
- 4. Clean gutters and other places where debris can gather.
- 5. Mow tall grass near building but not in buffer zone.
- 6. Work with neighbors to prevent and/or control fire risk.
- 7. Retain moisture by maintaining a 35' buffer near lakes and streams.
- 8. Keep a long garden hose attached.
- 9. Follow driveway codes to assure fire trucks can easily maneuver around your property.
- 10. Keep matches and fireworks far from children.

"Wetlands have a poor public image... Yet they are among the earth's greatest natural assets...mankind's waterlogged wealth."

Edward Maltby...1986

## Trump Lake Update

Submitted by Rich Wickershiem, President of the Trump Lake Protective Association

Trump Lake is a 172 acre lake near Wabeno, in southwestern Forest County. Fortunately, there are currently no aquatic invasive species that we are aware of. The DNR website lists the presence of rusty crayfish, however we see no evidence of them. Our lake association is trying to raise awareness of AIS.

The lake provides average fishing for bluegill, crappie, northern, walleye and bass. There is an over abundance of largemouth bass. A DNR survey conducted in 2011 resulted in an estimate of five bass per acre, none of which were the legal size (which is currently 18 inches). We are anticipating a reduction in the size limit in 2014, which will help reduce the bass population and increase the average size.

An annual fund-raising program by the lake residents has provided the finances to plant 1,500 walleye fingerlings in 2011, and 1,700 in 2012. Hopefully the survival rate will be good, and this planting program will successfully provide a large population of legal size walleye in a few years. Another fund-raising event will be held at the pavilion by the boat landing on Saturday, August 17, 2013.

More information about Trump Lake and the lake activities can be found on the website: www.trumplake.org

## Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant Program

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The Clean Boats Clean Waters subprogram of the DNR's Aquatic Invasive Species Control grant program assists eligible sponsors with the cost of practices that will prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species in Wisconsin's surface waters or limit the spread of aquatic invasive species that may already be present. The DNR has recently simplified

the grant application, grant award, data collection and financial reporting requirements for sponsors simply wishing to implement CBCW projects.

#### Who May Apply?

Cities, towns, villages, counties, tribes, lake protection and rehabilitation districts, qualified lake associations, qualified river management organizations and qualified nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply. Other eligible sponsors include private and public colleges, universities, technical schools, state and federal natural

resource or land management agencies and FERC-licensed hydroelectric corporations.

#### What Project Activities are Eligible?

Activities eligible for CBCW funding include watercraft inspection programs following DNR guidelines of the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program and specifically including all of the following:

- 1. Inspectors that have attended a training workshop and received program materials.
- Trained inspectors deployed at boat launch sites to 2. conduct inspections, collect and report data, provide boater education and report suspect specimens.
- 3. Provide a minimum of 200 hours of watercraft inspection per boat landing annually during weekends, holidays, fishing tournaments and other special events between May 1 and October 30.
- 4. Data collected is reported through the statewide watercraft inspection data base (SWIMS) and must be entered into SWIMS by November 30, immediately following the end of the inspection season.

#### What Cost Sharing is Available?

The state will issue a grant for 75% of project costs up to a max. of \$4,000 per boat landing. The remaining 25% of the project cost must be provided by the project sponsor in the form of cash, donated labor or services, or "in-kind" items. This grant program operates on a reimbursement basis; so all costs must first be paid before reimbursement can be requested. A 25% advance payment will be provided to help get the project started.

#### When are Applications Due?

Applications for CBCW projects must be postmarked by February 1 or August 1 each year. Incomplete applications will not be added to the funding list and will be returned

to the applicant. You can find revised application guidance CBCW and about grants forms http://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/AIS.html

#### When can I Expect a Grant Agreement?

For applications postmarked by Feb 1, the CBCW grant start date will be April 1 with an end date of December 31

of the same year. For applications postmarked by Aug 1, the CBCW grant will start on April 1 of the following year with end date of Dec 31. Costs incurred prior to the April 1 start date are not eligible for reimbursement.

#### How it Works...The Application:

Applicants complete the AIS Clean Boats Clean Waters Request for Funding form and also sign page 2 of the form which will be your grant agreement. All applications should be submitted to the EGS Coordinator at 810 W. Maple St., Spooner WI 54801, within the time frames mentioned on page 1.

Your application will be reviewed and if everything meets the CBCW program requirements, DNR will complete the Grant Award Data portion of the Grant Agreement and sign the agreement. A copy of the completed Grant Agreement will be returned to you. An advance payment will automatically be processed and mailed to you.

#### How it Works...Project Implementation:

Your CBCW landing inspection program includes landing inspector training, talking and educating boat launch users and conducting inspections, and collecting data to complete the Watercraft Inspection Report form. CBCW data is entered in the DNR SWIMS data base with all data entry being completed for the inspection season, by November 30 immediately following the inspection season.

#### How it Works...Final Reporting & Final Payment:

When data entry into SWIMS is completed the project sponsor should complete a Grant Payment Request and a Grant Payment Worksheet. All project expenses and any donations, including the total of all volunteer time, must be listed on the worksheet. The completed forms are submitted to your Environmental Grant Specialist.

The SWIMS data base will be checked to see that staff and volunteer time claimed on the worksheet matches the data entered. Final payment will then be completed and a check reimbursing project expenses over and above the advance payment will be mailed to the grant sponsor.

#### Who may I Contact with Questions?

Pamela Toshner, DNR Regional Lake/AIS Coordinator 715-635-4073 • Pamela.Toshner @wi.gov

Jane Malischke, DNR Environmental Grant Specialist 715-635-4062 • Jane.Malischke@wi.gov

DNR Web Site - http://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/AIS.html

# Preventing Damage from Woodpeckers!

#### Submitted by Pat Schultz of Jungle Lake

Here in northern Wisconsin we often hear the tap-tapping of woodpeckers hunting for food. From the small Downy Woodpecker to its larger cousin the Pileated Woodpecker we notice these birds' signatures on dead tree trunks and sometimes in the siding of our homes.

These birds can cause property damage if left unchecked sometimes returning again and again to established pecking sites. There are techniques to repel woodpeckers which won't harm them, but hopefully will keep them away from our walls! They include loud noises, filling in the woodpeckers' hollowed places with expanding foam insulation or wood-fill products and hanging shiny objects such as windsocks or specially designed "scare eye balloons" and reflecting tapes in areas that the birds have frequented. Spraying for insects can also deter woodpeckers from affected areas as well as hanging woodpecker food in nearby trees to distract them from the siding!

There are websites that sell products to help with deterring woodpeckers and these sites usually recommend combining visual repellents with sprays. One such website is BirdControlPro.com. Because we enjoy our feathered friends and wish to protect them we need to respect even the ones who annoy us with their habits. Finding solutions other than shotguns can help insure that we will continue to enjoy bird sightings in our natural surroundings!

## Wisconsin Waters "HOW MANY?" Trivia

Submitted by Mike Henderson/Lily Lake

1.) Inland lakes a. 1,996	b. 15,081	c. 11,452	
2.) Miles of Perennial a. 42,000	streams and riv b.4,200	ers c.14,200	
3.) Miles of Great Lak a. 600	kes shoreline b. 1,000	c.1,600	
4.) Miles of Mississip a. 260	pi River b. 150	c. 120	
5.) Miles of Trout stre a. 1,372	ams b. 4,927	c. 13,176	
6.) Number of kettle lakes in Vilas and Oneida counties (world's largest collection) a. 400 b. 670 c. 2,000			
<ul><li>7.) Percentage of Wisconsin waters that are supported entirely by natural reproduction</li></ul>			
a. 78% $q(1/2) = 0.000$	b. 90%	c. 59% VRMEBS: 1') P 5	

## News from Lake Julia

#### by John Snell

The Lake Julia Association held its annual meeting on July 7, 2012 at the Steve and Sharon Piper's cabin on Piper's Point,

with about 60 people in attendance. A lake study was done on the lake during the summer of 2011 and spring of 2012 by Onterra, LLC of De Pere, WI and a preliminary report of the lake study was given. The report was divided into four sections as follows:



Greg Uhen, Lake Study Board Member, Kathy Mayer, President, Steve Piper, Board Member and Nancy Evans. Greg explained the preliminary results to the membership.

#### Water Quality

The water quality of Lake Julia is excellent and in fact of better quality than the majority of other deep, lowland drainage lakes in Wisconsin.

#### Watershed

The watershed encompasses an area of about 5,262 acres and is in excellent shape with large amounts of forests and wetlands. Modeling of the lake's watershed also indicated that there is no reason to suspect that the nutrient phosphorus is entering the lake via septic system leakage. The shoreline is largely natural and undeveloped, which is beneficial in providing buffering capacity and wildlife habitat to the lake ecosystem.

#### **Aquatic Plants**

No non-native species were found. A total of 58 native aquatic plant species were found, which is an exceptional number, and numerous species were found that are only present in high quality environments. This indicates that the quality of Lake Julia's aquatic plant community is of higher quality than the majority of lakes in Wisconsin.

#### Lake Management

A lake management plan was not ready at the time of our meeting, but Onterra will prepare a plan with specific actions for the Lake Julia Association to take to maintain the high quality of the lake.

#### HERE TO HELP – IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE OR NEED TO REPORT A VIOLATION CONTACT:

Brad Dahlquist, DNR Warden 715-478-5610 Steve Ashbeck, Recreation Officer 715-889-1102 Or the Forest County Sheriff's Office 715-478-3331



## FCAL Objectives...

**1.** Education/Sharing...To educate the Forest County public and riparian owners on issues and to facilitate dialogue between organizations and governmental bodies.

**2.** Long Range Planning...To participate in long range planning efforts regarding the water resources of Forest County.

**3. Regulatory/Enforcing...**Facilitate efforts of the governmental bodies to enforce regulations which affect inland water bodies usage and water quality.

**4. Cooperative...**Provide a vehicle for greater cooperative efforts between riparian owners, riparian users, appropriate governmental agencies and the citizens of Forest County.

## FCAL is a Winner!

*Source – Wisconsin Lakes: We Speak for Lakes! Press Release* 

The Forest County Association of Lakes (FCAL) is a 2013 Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Award Recipient in the Group category. Lee Lamers accepted the award on the Association's behalf, which was presented by the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership at the Wisconsin Lake's Partnership Convention in Green Bay on April 10, 2013.

For over twenty years, FCAL has provided a strong voice for protection of lakes in the county, full of members who are passionate about lake protection.

While some Forest County lakes do suffer from problems with invasive species, FCAL's main emphasis has been and continues to be lake protection through education and prevention, along with advocacy wherever its members see that they can make a difference.

With isolated lakes situated in the deep woods of the Nicolet National Forest, Forest County is a unique place, and its residents have developed a unique sense of stewardship towards their lakes and surroundings. FCAL is a vital force in the protection of the county's lake resources and all the benefits they bring, making it a worthy recipient of a Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Award in the Group, Multiple Lakes Category.

#### Visit Forest County Association of Lakes: www.fcal-wi.org

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## **PLEASE REMEMBER**...

- Thoroughly clean and dry fishing equipment, bait buckets, boats and trailers before using again.
- Empty all water from equipment before transporting.
- Remove all mud, plants and aquatic life from equipment.
- Nemove an mud, plants and aquatic me nom equipment.
  Do not move fish or plants form one body of water to another.
- Be respectful and courteous to one another on all lakes and waterways.

With appreciation from the Forest County Association of Lakes

This newsletter and other interesting information can be viewed on line at...



PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID EAGLE RIVER WI PERMIT NO 7