



WASHINGTON COUNTY PLANNING & PARKS DEPARTMENT *e-newsletter* Spring / Summer 2016

• **Fourth Graders Make the Connection - Food, Agriculture and Conservation**

On April 21st and 22nd, over 750 students left the classroom to learn why agriculture is an 88.3 billion dollar industry in Wisconsin in celebration of National Ag Day (March 15, 2016). To read more, [click here](#).

• **WI Envirothon - Environmental Science Challenge Draws Nearly 20 Schools**

This year's winning team from Middleton will be advancing to the National Conservation Foundation Envirothon being held July 24-29, 2016 in Ontario, Canada. For more information on this event, [click here](#), contact Kim Warkentin at kim@wisconsinlandwater.org. or [read more](#).

• **Farmers: Plant Cover Crops after Wheat! 5 Key Benefits.**

An obvious effect of growing cover crops is covering the soil surface, which can significantly...

- 1) Provide ground cover.
- 2) Suppress weeds.
- 3) Increases soil organic matter.
- 4) Capture and hold available nitrogen.
- 5) Improve soil health.

To read more, [click here](#).

• **Breakfast on the Farm – Saturday – June 11, 2016 – (6:30am – 11:30am)**

To read more, [click here](#).

• **Recycling Agricultural Plastics!**

A new program by Revolution Plastics is offering individual farms with a free dumpster and free pick up service of agricultural plastics. For additional information, [click here](#) and to read more, [click here](#).

• **AIS Coordinator Joins Forces with Waukesha County**

A grant was awarded to Waukesha County in February, and Brad Steckart hit the ground running as a joint AIS coordinator between the Waukesha and Washington counties. He has already trained over 40 volunteers and police how to conduct Clean Boats, Clean Waters efforts, designed an AIS Cleaning Station for Waukesha, assisting with AIS problems for various Lake Associations, continued working with 4H to grow biological control beetles for purple loosestrife, and is ready to respond to new invasions. To read more, [click here](#).

• **Wild About Parks**

Have you always wanted to kayak on Little Cedar Lake, climb a tree or learn how to fish? Join us on Saturday June 25th for the Wild About Parks event at Ackerman's Grove County Park at 5:00 pm – 10:00 pm. This is a free family event. Some of the activities include geocaching and letterboxing for prizes, learning about raptors at the Beaks and Talons Raptor Program, enjoying s'mores roasted over a campfire, taking a guided glow hike through the woods, gazing at the stars and much more! Hope to see you there! To read more, [click here](#).

• **Site Redevelopment Program**

The Site Redevelopment Program continues to fund projects as a successful economic development tool focusing on the long term prosperity and well-being of Washington County communities through collaboration and teamwork. At their December and April meetings, the Site Redevelopment Committee funded eight projects for environmental assessment and reuse redevelopment planning in anticipation of future reinvestments of underutilized, aging and abandoned sites throughout the County. To read more, [click here](#).

• **Update to Park and Trail Map Completed**

Washington County and the Healthy People Project just completed an update to the Park and Trail Map for Washington County! This free map identifies all publically accessible parks and trails throughout the County. It was developed in partnership with Aurora Health Care, local governments and numerous organizations. The map will be available at the Planning and Parks Department, Kettle Moraine YMCA, Ozaukee Washington Land Trust office and at city, village and town halls throughout the County. To read more, [click here](#).

• **Washington County Park Projects**

- ❖ Glacier Hills Courtyard
- ❖ New VRBO – Yahr County Park House
- ❖ County Grounds Spring Plantings
- ❖ Lizard Mound Restoration

To read more, [click here](#).

Planning & Parks Department Newsletter is published semi-annually for Washington County residents. Viewpoints of authors do not necessarily reflect those of the Planning, Conservation and Parks Committee or the Washington County Board of Supervisors. The Planning, Conservation and Parks Committee and the Planning and Parks Department staff encourage responses from the public.



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