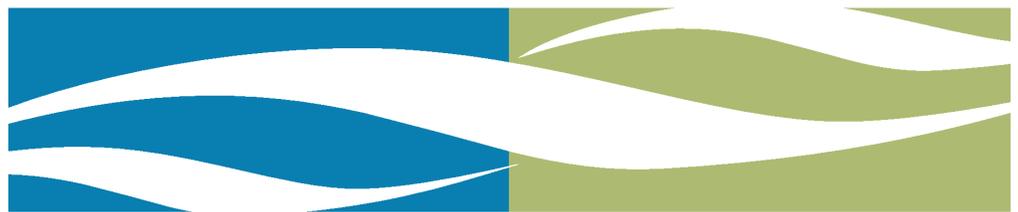


January 2017



# LAKE WINNEBAGO

## QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

*of Fond du Lac County*



### *2017 Water Quality Award*

Applications have been received for the first annual Mathias-Lesczynski Water Quality Award to publicly recognize Fond du Lac County farmers that go beyond the government minimum good management practices to prevent runoff of sediment, nutrients, and harmful chemicals.

The next step for the Agricultural Award Committee is to schedule a meeting of the award evaluation committee, which is comprised of experts in the agricultural field working outside of Fond du Lac County, who will thoroughly review and evaluate each application.

The awards will be presented to the recipients in July 2017 at the 4H livestock auction held during the Fond du Lac County Fair. Three awards will be presented in the amounts of \$1,000, \$250, and \$100.

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Next LWQIA Meeting:  
Wed., January 4, 2017  
7 p.m.  
FDL City/County Building  
160 S. Macy St.

*"The public is welcome"*



### *LWQIA Donation to AIS Grant*

LWQIA Board of Directors recently approved a \$100.00 donation to support a grant application for aquatic invasive species education and prevention. Korin Doering, the new Winnebago Waterways Coordinator, is applying for the DNR grant. Much of the grant work would involve educating the public at boat launch sites about the importance of cleaning their boats before moving between water bodies.

Find us at [www.lwqia.org](http://www.lwqia.org)

## Winnebago Lakes System Now Has a Coordinator

In 2012 Fond du Lac County Executive Allen Buechel, who was instrumental in the formation of *LWQIA*, was instrumental in forming a 5-county effort to deal with Lake Winnebago problems and concerns. Since then the Winnebago Waterways Steering Team, made up of representatives from five counties (Calumet, Fond du Lac, Outagamie, Waushara and Winnebago), *Winnebago Lakes Council*, *Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources*, *University of Wisconsin-Extension*, *Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance* and the *East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission*, has continued to work to determine the best options to address the needs of the Winnebago region in terms of managing the water resources. The overall goal of their effort is to ensure the Winnebago waterways system is managed in such a way as to protect and enhance the health of the water resources, economy and quality of life in the region.

The Winnebago System is defined as Lake Winnebago, the associated pool lakes of Poygan, Butte des Morts and Winneconne and watershed tributaries within the 5-county area including Calumet, Fond du Lac, Outagamie, Waushara and Winnebago Counties. This is not intended to reach throughout the entire Upper Fox/Wolf Watershed, but rather focus on the area near the lakes of the Winnebago System.

One of the first things the Steering Team did was seek a grant to hire a consultant, *Bluestem*, formerly known as *Biodiversity Project*, a non-profit organization. The *Winnebago Lakes Council* managed the grant.

**Phase 1** was completed in 2013. In that phase Lake Winnebago Pool Lakes stakeholders identified three main concerns: algae blooms, polluted runoff and aquatic invasive species. They also said they wanted cooperation among area municipalities and groups to deal with the areas of concern and other items of mutual interest.

In the fall of 2013 the DNR provided a grant for **Phase 2** of the 5-county effort. One of the purposes of the grant was to define “cooperative management” for the Lake Winnebago system. Their report recommended working through a local nonprofit to bring all stakeholders together through a more formalized structure. In the past grant opportunities for Lake Winnebago projects have been hampered by the lack of an updated Master Plan for the Lake. The most recent Master Plan is from 1989. The firm recommended hiring a facilitator/coordinator

to advance regional lake management planning efforts. After Requests for Proposals were sent out, the *Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance* was selected to be the non-profit organization to manage the coordinator position. Calumet, Fond du Lac and Winnebago Counties committed funds for hiring a coordinator and supporting the coordinator’s work in the early stages. The coordinator is tasked with advancing Winnebago Waterways Lake Planning as well as communication and outreach for other efforts within the Winnebago Lakes system.

The Alliance recently announced the hiring of Korin Doering for the coordinator position. Korin, whose background is in aquatic invasive species and wetlands, has a Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Studies from UW-Oshkosh and a Master’s degree in Water Resources Management from UW-Madison.



Korin says, “As the Winnebago Waterways Program Coordinator, my initial goal is to help advance the Lake Management Plan for the Winnebago Pool Lakes. My first task is to write and submit a Surface Water Grant proposal to the DNR to request funding assistance for the development of the Lake Management Plan. I’m also writing a DNR grant proposal to help fund a Winnebago System Aquatic Invasive Species Outreach and Prevention program for Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance. After the December 10th grant deadline, I will begin working on the next phase of the planning process. If anyone has questions or is interested in being part of lake management planning or the AIS project, please contact me, Korin Doering, at Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance, (920) 851-0948 or [korin@fwwa.org](mailto:korin@fwwa.org).”