



CONSERVATION CHRONICLE

Newsletter of the Conservation, Planning, and Zoning Department

To conserve natural, cultural, and community resources by promoting, planning, and implementing efficient and effective programs.

Volume 24

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March 2014

Sauk County Earth Day - For the Birds!

Sunday, April 27

11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**UW-Baraboo/Sauk County Campus
1006 Connie Road, Baraboo
Free Admission!**

Come celebrate Earth Day with us! There will be over **50 exhibits** and many will have hands-on activities. There will be plenty of **kids' activities**, so bring the whole family. Delicious and inexpensive **soup and sandwiches** will be available. Be sure to get either a piece or one of **HCE's homemade pies!** There will be **live animals, live music, Smokey Bear, door prizes**, and much more!

Encore!! Art 6 exhibit and contest - Juried exhibit of Sauk County artwork made mostly from recycled materials.

Mini-workshops

11:45 a.m. - Birdscaping in Sauk County

12:30 p.m. - Whooping Cranes - Back from the Brink

1:15 p.m. - Bird City Wisconsin

2:00 p.m. - Decline of Grassland Birds

Earth Week Events

Habitat for Humanity ReStore

FREE E-cycling
Saturday, April 12
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Friends of Mirror Lake State Park

Park Cleanup
Saturday, April 19
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

International Crane Foundation

Tours start at 10:00 a.m. and
last tour departs at 3:00 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday, April 19-20 and
April 26-27

MATC-Reedsburg presents "Green Fire: Aldo Leopold & a Land Ethic for our Time"

Wednesday, April 23
6:30 p.m.

Aldo Leopold Foundation

Aldo Leopold Shack and Farm Tours
Saturday, April 26
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

SCIL presents "The Lorax"

First United Church of Christ (FUCC) Park
Saturday, April 26
4:00 p.m. to ???

*For more information, check out the
Earth Day website at
Saukcountyearthday.org,
email ppohle@co.sauk.wi.us, or call
(608) 355-4839*



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Welcome, Brian!

Last September Brian Sadler started as the new Environmental Specialist for the Sauk County Conservation, Planning, and Zoning Department. He graduated from UW-Stevens Point in 2008 with a degree in wildlife ecology. Since then he worked for several organizations including the WI-DNR, US Geological Survey, UW-Madison, and a private consulting firm. Most recently he worked for Racine County Land Conservation helping landowners implement conservation practices on their properties. Brian said, "I'm excited to work with farmers and landowners on conserving and improving the amazing and diverse landscape of Sauk County. Aside from work, I'm an avid bowhunter, love to fly-fish, and enjoy hiking with my family. I look forward to serving Sauk County landowners for years to come."



Nutrient Management Provides Benefits

Sauk County currently has over 450 Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) participants. Starting in 2010, farmers became eligible to claim tax credits for keeping their land in agricultural use and meeting the following agricultural performance standards:

- Meet tolerable soil loss
- Follow Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)
- Manure storage facility compliance
- Clean water diversions
- Manure management prohibitions

Over the last four years, county staff have inspected farms to ensure they are meeting these standards. Most farmers are meeting all of these standards, except the Nutrient Management Plan. This has been an obstacle for many farmers because some may need to hire a consultant to develop a plan. After receiving the tax credit, they feel they will barely break even.

It does pay to be in the Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) and have a NMP.

All farmers are required by state law to follow a NMP. FPP participants also receive a tax credit for meeting this requirement. Those who are not FPP participants, do not have this benefit.

A NMP has an economic value. It will help identify areas where less fertilizer is needed; therefore, saving money in fertilizer costs. If 50 lbs. of starter is over applied on 80 acres of corn, and fertilizer is roughly \$.50 /lb., that equates to \$2,000 being wasted each year! A plan can also identify areas where fertilizer may be under applied; applying more nutrients, could result in increased yields.

How much is the Farmland Preservation tax credit?

If the land is located in a district zoned exclusive agriculture, the tax credit is \$7.50/acre for ALL land you own in that district including cropland, forest, pasture, etc. If a farmer owns 200 acres in a town zoned exclusive agriculture with 160 acres tillable and 40 acres forest, their annual tax credit would be \$1,500. Other tax credit rates apply to FPP participants with long-term agreements.

How long is the NMP good for and will it have to get updated annually?

A NMP should be developed that covers the entire crop rotation (up to eight years); however, soil samples are only good for four years and must be taken every five acres. Plans should be updated annually and a checklist should be submitted to the Conservation, Planning, and Zoning Department certifying that the plan is being followed.

(Continued on page 3)

How Do You Get a Nutrient Management Plan?

You can write your own NMP!

Sauk County offers the Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE) class for producers to become certified to develop their own NMP. There is cost share available with taking the class that will help offset the soil sample costs and provide an incentive payment for completing the plan. Below are the costs associated with taking the NMFE class and developing a 160-acre plan yourself. This example takes into account your time taking soil samples and attending class. It is a good idea to set aside a couple of days to pull soil samples and write the plan. Our department has soil probes and soil sample bags available for producers to take their own soil samples.

<i>16 hours of soil sampling @ \$15/hour</i>	<i>-\$240</i>
<i>Soil sampling analysis @ \$8/soil sample (32 samples)</i>	<i>-\$256</i>
<i>10 hours of class @ \$15/hour</i>	<i>-\$150</i>
<i>Plan update year 2 - free at annual refresher</i>	<i>\$0</i>
<i>Plan update year 3 - free at annual refresher</i>	<i>\$0</i>
<i>Plan update year 4 - free at annual refresher</i>	<i>\$0</i>
<i>NMFE cost share for soil sampling costs @ \$2/acre</i>	<i>\$320</i>
<i><u>NMFE incentive payment for plan development @ \$2/acre</u></i>	<i><u>\$320</u></i>
Total cost to landowner	\$6

You can hire someone to write the NMP.

A consultant can be hired to write the plan. Costs vary for each consultant, so you may want to get some quotes. Below is an example of what a 160-acre plan may cost if done by a consultant.

<i>Soil sampling done by a consultant ~\$7/soil sample (32 samples)</i>	<i>-\$224</i>
<i>Soil sampling analysis \$8/soil sample (32 samples)</i>	<i>-\$256</i>
<i>Initial plan development ~\$7/acre</i>	<i>-\$1,120</i>
<i>Plan update year 2 ~ \$4/ac</i>	<i>-\$640</i>
<i>Plan update year 3 ~ \$4/ac</i>	<i>-\$640</i>
<i><u>Plan update year 4 ~ \$4/ac</u></i>	<i><u>-\$640</u></i>
Total cost to landowner	\$3,520

**The initial up-front cost is expensive;
however, a tax credit of \$6,000 over four years on the
200-acre farm still puts the producer ahead by \$2,480,
and you'll likely save money by using less fertilizer!**

Other options available:

Sauk County has cost share available for nutrient management. The flat rate is \$7/acre/year for four years or \$28/acre. This usually ends up being 70 percent cost share or in some cases more than 100 percent. After cost share is provided, the plan must be maintained as an on-going practice. Federal cost share may also be available with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Sauk County is available to provide you both financial and technical assistance for developing a NMP. Let's work together to make nutrient management planning on your farm a regular part of your operation that is simple yet realistic. For more information about nutrient management and Farmland Preservation, contact Melissa Keenan at (608) 355-4838 or Brian Sadler at (608) 355-4841.

Late-Winter & Early Spring = High Risk for Manure Runoff



Now that temperatures are warming up and snow and ice are starting to melt, spring is on everyone's mind. Spring is also the time when the majority of runoff occurs on the farm. Research conducted by Discovery Farms showed that the majority of annual runoff (78 percent) occurred in February and March and 54 percent occurred during frozen or snow covered periods.

It is important to understand the NRCS 590 nutrient management standard and become familiar with winter spreading restrictions. These restrictions include:

1. Do not mechanically apply manure within 1,000 feet of a lake or 300 feet of a perennial stream.
2. Do not exceed (in manure phosphorus) the phosphorus removal of the following growing season's crop.
3. Do not apply manure in areas prohibited in your conservation plan.
4. Limit liquid manure applications to 7,000 gallons per acre.
5. Do not apply manure on slopes greater than 9 percent, unless the field is contoured, then up to 12 percent.

The Manure Management Advisory System is a set of maps to help farmers and others who apply nutrients to identify suitable cropland areas for spreading. The maps are in two categories: Short-term runoff risk assessment, for daily application planning, and WI 590 nutrient management, for long-term application planning. The maps are available online at: <http://www.manureadvisorysystem.wi.gov/>

For more information please contact Melissa Keenan at (608) 355-4838 or Brian Sadler at (608) 355-4841.

Farm Drainage Regulation Information

Drainage, manipulation, and alteration of existing and new farm drainage areas are regulated from several different federal, state, and local agencies and may require more than one permit. Please contact both the Sauk County Conservation, Planning, and Zoning office **as well** as the local USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's office.

Any maintenance or new filling, flooding, draining, dredging, ditching, tiling, or excavating requires the issuance of a Sauk County land use permit by the Conservation, Planning, and Zoning Department. Contact Steve Sorenson at ssorenson@co.sauk.wi.us or (608) 355-4831.

Natural Resources Conservation Service provides wetland determinations to the USDA Farm Service Agency for USDA farm program participants. The Farm Service Agency may deny USDA farm program benefits to owners or operators that engage in "swampbusting" activities. Swampbusting is drainage or land clearing activities in wetland areas that have the effect of making crop production possible. Maintenance of most pre-December 23, 1985, drainage systems is allowable, but USDA farm program participants are required to consult with the USDA Farm Service Agency to be sure the exemption applies to their situation. Contact Chris Miller at christopher.miller@wi.usda.gov or (608) 355-4429.

Reminders for the Upcoming Field Season Assistance is Only a Phone Call Away!

Installation of conservation practices: If you apply tillage to your land and do not have hay in your crop rotation or contour buffer strips between row crops, you may be exceeding tolerable soil loss. Staff from the Conservation, Planning, and Zoning Department are available to lay out contour strips or contour buffer strips. They can also calculate the soil loss on your fields and find a suitable crop rotation and acceptable tillage practices. Please contact Serge Koenig at (608) 355-4837 if you would like to install contour strips or contour buffer strips on your farm.

Manure spreader calibration: If you spread manure and do not know your rate, staff from the Conservation, Planning, and Zoning office can calibrate your spreader so you know what you are spreading. Contact Melissa Keenan (608) 355-4838 or Brian Sadler at (608) 355-4841 to schedule a manure spreader calibration.

Soil and Water Resource Management grant: Cost share through the Soil and Water Resource Management (SWRM) grant program is available to landowners who want to install conservation practices on their land that improve water quality, reduce soil erosion, and provide wildlife habitat. Practices include, but are not limited to, streambank protection, stream crossing, grassed waterway, manure storage facility, heavy use area protection (barnyard construction), roof runoff structure, wetland restoration, managed grazing, and well decommissioning. Landowners interested in applying for SWRM grant funding, should contact Brent Bergstrom at (608) 355-4836.

Nutrient Management Farmer Education class registration: The Nutrient Management Farmer Education class is offered every year in the winter for farmers who want to become certified to write their own Nutrient Management Plan. Sauk County received a grant to help offset the soil sampling costs and provide incentive payments to individuals writing the plan. Contact Melissa Keenan (608) 355-4838 for more information.

Nutrient Management Plan writing assistance: There is still time to write your 2014 Nutrient Management Plan. If you have taken the NMFE class, staff from the Conservation, Planning, and Zoning Department can assist you with updating your Nutrient Management Plan. Please call Melissa Keenan at (608) 355-4838 or Brian Sadler at (608) 355-4841 to schedule an appointment.

Soil sampling: Spring is a great time to take soil samples on your farm. Soil samples will help you identify where lime applications should occur and is the basis for your Nutrient Management Plan. Soil probes and soil sample bags are available at the Conservation, Planning, and Zoning office. If you are planning on taking the NMFE class this winter, soil samples can be taken this spring. Contact Melissa Keenan at (608) 355-4838 if you need to reserve a probe or need bags.

Ag Plastics Recycling

Plastic products are being used for an increasing number of purposes in agriculture, at nurseries, and at greenhouses because of their durability, flexibility, and low costs. Dairy industry experts estimate that approximately eight pounds of all types of ag plastics are used per cow in a year.

A 300-head dairy farm using plastic silage bags may produce as much as 2,400 pounds a year of waste plastic.

Burning ag plastic can release toxic and potentially cancer-causing chemicals – such as dioxins and furans – into the air, where they can be inhaled by humans and animals and deposited in soil and surface water.

Deciding how to dispose of silage bags, bunker covers, bale wrap, and plastic feed bags can be difficult and costly. The 2014 collections will be held from 10:00 a.m.-noon at the Sauk County Highway Shop, 620 STH 136, West Baraboo on the following Wednesdays: April 30, July 30, and

October 29. Plastic baler twine and mesh wrapping will not be accepted.

The plastics must be as clean and dry as possible to maximize recycling opportunities. They can be brought in a supersack or loose. Supersacks are

reusable and can hold up to 400 lbs. They keep the plastic dry and protected, take up less floor space, and are easier to handle than loose storage. Supersacks are available for free at eight locations throughout the county. Users can cut an opening in the supersack top to the size needed for easier filling.



Katie Pfeiffer at the February ag plastics collection. Note that some of the plastics are in supersacks and others are bundled.

Plastics are recycled and made into sidewalks, etc. For more information about this recycling opportunity, contact Penny Pohle at ppohle@co.sauk.wi.us or (608) 355-4839 or Katie Pfeiffer at katie.pfeiffer@ces.uwex.edu or (608) 355-3257. More information is also available on the Sauk County website at: <https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/cpz/ag-plastics-recycling>

Microloan Program

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) developed the Microloan Program to better serve the unique financial operating needs of beginning, niche, and small family farm operations.

FSA offers applicants a Microloan designed to help farmers with credit needs of \$35,000 or less. The loan features a streamlined application process built to fit the needs of new and smaller producers. This loan program will also be useful to specialty crop producers and operators of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA).

Eligible applicants can apply for a maximum amount of \$35,000 to pay for initial start-up expenses such as hoop houses to extend the growing season, essential tools, irrigation, and annual expenses such as seed, fertilizer, utilities, land rents, marketing, and distribution expenses. As financing needs increase, applicants can apply for a regular operating loan up to the maximum amount of \$300,000 or obtain financing from a commercial lender under FSA's Guaranteed Loan Program.

Individuals interested in applying for a Microloan or who would like to discuss other farm loan programs should contact the Sauk County FSA office at (608) 355-4420, ext. 2, for more information.

Educational Resources Available

UW-Extension provides educational resources to farmers in Sauk County. For current information on upcoming courses, please check the website <http://madisoncollege.edu/farm-business-management>. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact Katie Pfeiffer, Agriculture Agent, at katie.pfeiffer@ces.uwex.edu or (608) 355-3257.

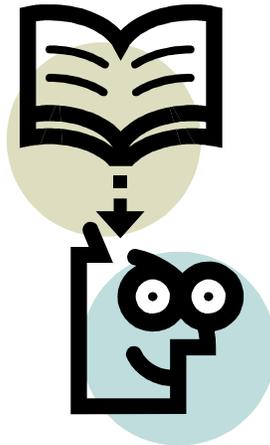


Sauk County Adopts New Zoning Ordinance

Sauk County's Zoning Ordinance regulating lot size, location, and types of buildings and permissible land uses could zap the life out of any landowner's dreams of doing something innovative or unique with their land. The format and technical language is difficult for many people outside of seasoned zoning staff to understand and absorb, and is outdated, at best—until now!

The Sauk County Board of Supervisors adopted a new zoning ordinance on February 18, 2014, to replace the original zoning ordinance of 1963. Put into context, 1963 was the year the Beatles' "I Want to Hold Your Hand" topped the charts, Dr. Martin Luther King gave his "I Have a Dream" speech, and the year President John F. Kennedy was assassinated.

The new zoning ordinance, like the old, protects human health, safety, and welfare. The new ordinance, unlike the old, implements the Sauk County Comprehensive Plan by providing an integrated approach to the county's physical development and economic and social potential while emphasizing moving Sauk County toward economic, social, and environmental sustainability.



While still a regulatory document, the new zoning ordinance assumes a more flexible position than the old zoning ordinance. In other words, if a proposed use can contribute to the county's sustainability, there is flexibility to discuss and consider the use, rather than simply saying no.

Some examples of uses that can be considered include art studios, home-based businesses, temporary secondary dwellings (i.e. for the in-laws), backyard chickens, and agricultural tourism. For the more complex programs, the new ordinance introduces an updated Planned Rural Development Program (formerly PUD-cluster lot), transfer of development rights, conditional uses, and updated Farmland Preservation provisions.

By taking the opportunity to work with the towns at the local level, Sauk County was able to develop an ordinance that truly meets the needs of the towns that choose to participate in county zoning. Throughout the process, general oversight and ongoing direction was provided by the Conservation, Planning, and Zoning Committee.

Read Your Newsletter Online!

Would you prefer to receive an electronic copy of future newsletters instead of being mailed one? Please e-mail us at conservation@co.sauk.wi.us if you would. When they are available, we will notify those interested in viewing the newsletter with an e-mail. You will be able to read them online on the county website at www.co.sauk.wi.us This will help us reduce postage costs as well as the amount of paper generated!

Benefits of CREP

Are you having problems with inconsistent production due to excessive moisture or drought on low land, along streams, or ditches? Given the cost of fuel, fertilizer, seed, chemicals, machinery, etc., does it make good business sense to continue to operate that land? Are you concerned about how your farming operation may affect nearby water?

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) may help your farm earn more money from those fields. Since 2002 approximately 140 Sauk County landowners have signed up for this voluntary program.

CREP uses grass filter strips, grassed waterways, riparian (forested) buffers, and wetland restorations to protect the water supply from sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus. Wildlife also benefit from the food and winter cover provided by prairie plants and/or trees typically planted in buffers. Additionally, land enrolled in CREP can be used for hiking, skiing, fishing, and hunting – just about anything that does not remove or damage the vegetation. Public access to CREP land is NOT required.

CREP combines the annual rental payments and cost sharing from the continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) with an extra up-front, one-time payment of \$100 to \$150 per acre. Rental rates are based on soil type and range from \$59 to \$171 per acre per year for 15 years. Sauk County's average rent is \$106 per acre. Pastureland is also eligible

at \$42 per acre per year. Additional financial incentives are available for permanent easements or 15-year agreements which brings the range of the average annual payment to between \$96 and \$365 per acre per year. Cost sharing varies by practice, but often covers half to most of the cost of

installation. Buffers can be from 30 feet to 150 feet wide, depending on slope and farm operations. If a buffer covers more than 60 percent of a field, the whole field is eligible for enrollment.

The signup is ongoing throughout the year and is first come, first serve. Keep in mind how often those fields (on a ten-year average) have failed to produce, leaving you frustrated and with a few less dollars in your pocket. With CREP there is no need to worry about how, when, and if you will enter that field in the spring or how productive the crop is come harvest time. For the next 15 years you can budget the income from these areas. CREP may make good business



Buffers on the landscape

sense for your farm.

CREP is a cooperative effort among local land conservation departments, the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP), Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Farm Service Agency. If you are interested, please call Serge Koenig at (608) 355-4837 or (608) 477-3195 to discuss it further or email him at skoening@co.sauk.wi.us.

Department Awarded Otter Creek Grant

Sauk County Conservation, Planning, and Zoning Department has cost-share and technical assistance available to landowners in the Otter Creek Watershed to install erosion control and water quality practices.

Sauk County was awarded a second grant to continue with the Otter Creek Project that began in 2005 and ended with construction that was completed in 2011. The first project was so successful that it ran out of funding before it ran out of interested landowners and projects. The original project reshaped over two miles of eroding streambank. The project reduced bank erosion by over 850 tons of soil each year. This could also be thought of as 73 full dump truck loads of soil each and every year that is not washing down Otter Creek.

Otter Creek still has some severe erosion along portions of its 18 miles of stream. A large goal of this project is to stabilize the highest eroding sites and reduce the damage of flooding to cropfields along Otter Creek. This new project will also look at other nonpoint forms of erosion and runoff issues that are important for the Otter Creek Watershed as well.

The main emphasis of this project is to open up the streambanks, grading them back to a stable 5:1 slope, and seeding these banks down with grasses to protect them from erosion. The project at the same time adds habitat work to benefit the fish and wildlife. These sloped banks create a grassed buffer between the cropland and the stream that reduce runoff and chemicals from reaching Otter Creek.

If you own land in the area near Otter Creek and are interested in how this grant may be of use to you, please contact Brent Bergstrom at bbergstrom@co.sauk.wi.us or (608) 355-4836.

Agriculture is Back!

Farm and Rural Business Owners - What's Your Bottom Line?

Is your farm or rural business profitable? Do you have the cash you need? What price do you need to sell your products? How can a business plan make your business more successful? Could you benefit from understanding local, state, and federal resources at your disposal? Would a workshop that gives you hands-on business planning and assistance be beneficial? What's the bottom line for your business? Whether milking 1,000 cows or growing fresh-market vegetables on a quarter acre plot to everything in-between, a farm business is a complex set of enterprises that all need to be managed effectively to be successful and sustainable. Farm and rural business management courses will be offered through the Madison Area Technical College (MATC) in Reedsburg, Plain, and Portage to show you how to answer these questions. Contact MATC Agriculture Instructor Randy Zogbaum at (608) 524-7865, rlzogbaum@madisoncollege.edu, or visit <http://madisoncollege.edu/farm-business-management> for more information.

Where is This?



If you recognize where this is located, send us your answer along with your name, address, and phone number by May 16 to the following address: Sauk County CPZ, 505 Broadway, Suite 248, Baraboo, WI 53913. One winner will be drawn from the correct answers and will receive a Farm & Fleet gift certificate.

Congratulations to Deb Frosch of Baraboo for correctly identifying the milk house on the old Meisel farm located at S6895A Marsh Road, Merrimac. The building is presently owned by Riverland Conservancy.



Milk house on Marsh Road

Clark Creek Project Completed

The completion of the 2013 year also saw the completion of a three-year project to address flooding in the Clark Creek Watershed. Clark Creek, located in the Town of Greenfield in eastern Sauk County, has a history of serious flooding causing considerable damage to houses, bridges, culverts, roads, and highways. The most serious incident was in 1993 when one person drowned in the flood and considerable damage was done to the stability of the stream. Floods in 1996, two in 2000, and another in 2004 caused further damage. Then, in the countywide 2008 floods, the creek caused extensive damage, plugged culverts with debris, diverted flows, deposited tons of sediment at the bottom of the hill along Highway 113, flooded numerous houses and several businesses, and required the rescue of several residents.



Aerial view of sediment from 2008 flood



Construction of wetland scrapes

To slow this runoff delivery, the county partnered with the Department of Natural Resources as owner of much of the land south of Tower Road. The Department of Natural Resources agreed to end the cropland leases on the property and convert it to prairie and wetlands. Along with this conversion the county also graded the area to change the overland flow of runoff. In total 140 acres of the land will be converted to prairie habitat and another 30 acres to wetlands. This change in land use will increase infiltration and reduce flooding while also improving wildlife habitat and increasing public use of the area. The grading was completed in November, and the property was dormant seeded to native vegetation after the first snow. The area should look completely different over the next year, and the new look will benefit watershed residents, recreational users and wildlife.

Upon completion of those two efforts, the county again contracted with Montgomery Associates to investigate ways to reduce the quantity of flood waters and amount of sediment moving through the system. Their modeling showed that by changing the delivery time of the runoff from the watershed on the south side of Tower Road we could change the peak flow downstream at Highway 113 by 40 percent in a 25-year storm event and by 25 percent in a 100-year storm event. That amount of reduction will have a significant impact in future storm events.

In order to reduce sediment loads carried downstream, the county worked with MSA Professional Services of Baraboo and InterFluve, Inc. of Madison to design some innovative tree revetment structures at the base of three steep eroding sand bluffs along the stream. The installation of tree revetments as a form of rip rap has been used in the western United States and in some of the states impacted by Hurricane Sandy in the eastern United States but has seen little use in the Midwest. InterFluve has had considerable experience designing these revetments and was subcontracted to provide their expertise. Upon completion of the designs, the Department of Natural Resources provided the equipment and operators needed to install the practices through their Fishery Operations Crew.

The tree revetments were constructed using over 600 logs removed from fence rows in the prairie restoration areas. The logs ranged from 20 to 30 feet long, and approximately 100 had extensive root balls attached. The stream was moved 20 feet away from the base of the eroding slope, and then construction began on the revetments. Root balls were placed with the exposed roots facing the stream and anchored into place by cabling them to logs buried as deadmen. Layers of additional logs were placed parallel to the stream, and then more rooted logs were again placed perpendicular to stream flow. The entire structure extends from below the stream bed to a height above the 100-year flood level. All of the logs were then cabled together to

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

create a massive structure armoring the outside of the stream bends. The structure was then backfilled with over 90 cubic yards of rock and another 100 yards of soil to add mass and planted to native trees, shrubs, and grasses.

The root balls located along the edge of the stream will slow flows and create pools where small fish can find shelter from flood events. The placement of rock ledges within the stream will further reduce stream forces that erode banks and pick up sediment. Over the next 30 years, as the logs weather, the stream plantings will take root, mature and help hold banks. Over the same time the upper reach of the eroding banks will continue to erode until a stable slope is established. This soil will move down onto the shelves constructed above the revetments and add even more mass to the structure.

Together these practices should have a very positive impact - eliminating the most threatened houses, removing the flood carried debris, changing peak flow volumes, and reducing the sediment deposited in the existing stream channel. Side benefits will be the greatly enhanced habitat for both fish and wildlife and the resulting public use benefits they provide.

The project would not have been this successful if not for the great cooperation of numerous partners, including the local watershed landowners, the various contractors and engineering firms, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Sauk County Board.

The work done will not prevent future floods but should greatly reduce their impact on the downstream residents and infrastructure in the watershed.



Steep eroded bank before revetment installation



Bank after revetment installation

Endangered Species Day—May 16

Earth Day—April 22



Arbor Day—April 25

Drinking Water Week—May 4-10

Sauk County Conservation, Planning, and
 Zoning Department
 505 Broadway - West Square Building
 Baraboo, WI 53913
 (608) 355-3245
 www.co.sauk.wi.us
 conservation@co.sauk.wi.us

Nonprofit Org
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Baraboo, WI 53913
 Permit No. 105

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

- CPZ..... (608) 355-3245
- CPZ Fax..... (608) 355-3292
- NRCS..... (608) 355-4420
- FSA..... (608) 355-4420
- UWEX..... (608) 355-3250
- DNR Foresters..... (608) 355-4475
 (608) 355-4476
- APHIS (WDS)..... (800) 433-0663

Printed on Recycled Paper 



HAZARDOUS WASTE CLEAN SWEEP

Former Sauk County Landfill, E8795B Evergreen Lane, Baraboo
 (Between Baraboo and Reedsburg off of Hwy. 33 near the junction of Hwy. 23)
 Saturday, June 7 & October 4, 2014 8:30 a.m.-Noon

For more information:
 (608) 355-4839
 ppohle@co.sauk.wi.us
 www.co.sauk.wi.us

Free disposal of:

- Unused or unwanted pesticides including herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides, wood preservatives
- Home products: oven cleaners, spot removers, drain cleaners
- Light bulbs/fluorescent tubes
- Waste motor oil, oil filters
- Batteries (watch, calculator, etc.)
- Latex, lead-based, and oil-based paint
- Other products: solvents, animal health products, teat wash, degreasers, wood finishes, paint additives, hydraulic fluid, pool chemicals, strippers, photographic chemicals

Helping Hands Recycling will accept from households (**not** businesses) at no charge (donations will be accepted for Boys & Girls Club of Sauk County) the following items at the event:

- Electronics
- Appliances
- Scrap metals
- Batteries (automotive, li-on, ni-mh, ni-cad)

Please contact Helping Hands Recycling at helpinghandsrecycling@gmail.com or (608) 213-8629 for more information. Their website is www.helpinghandsrecycling.com

What is not accepted:

- Pharmaceuticals, IVs, needles
- Explosives, detonators, blasting caps
- Radioactive materials including smoke alarms
- Infectious and biological waste
- Compressed gas cylinders
- Recyclables, yard and household waste
- Asbestos
- Demolition materials

Tires will be accepted for fees between \$1-\$25.



Agricultural and VSQGs by appointment ONLY