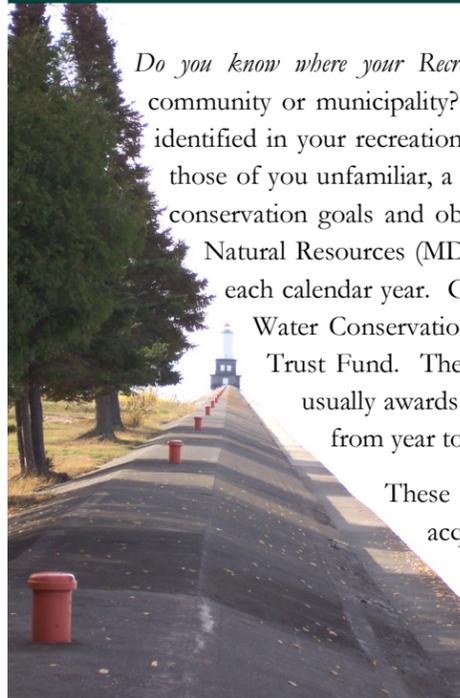


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DNR GRANTING PROGRAMS



Torch Lake Township: White City Park

Do you know where your Recreation Plan is? Have you talked about upcoming recreation projects in your community or municipality? Or is there a project your community would like to pursue that is not currently identified in your recreation plan? You may need to do an amendment to the plan before you can apply. For those of you unfamiliar, a Recreation Plan is a document that assists communities in outlining recreation and conservation goals and objectives to establish recreation grant eligibility from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). Typically the DNR announces its upcoming grant cycle at the beginning of each calendar year. Grant applications for these programs are usually due the first of March for Land & Water Conservation Fund grant applications, and the first of April for Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. These programs require a 25%-50% percent match from applicants. The Trust Fund usually awards \$30-\$35 million to Michigan communities; the Land and Conservation Fund varies from year to year.

These programs can fund a number of recreational development activities or can help acquire land to be placed into public ownership. Projects can include the creation of parks, docks and boat launches, the purchase and installation of playground equipment, and non-motorized trail development.

WUPPDR has successfully worked with many communities to submit applications to the DNR. Please visit www.wuppdr.org for samples of our work. For more information on recreation planning and DNR grant opportunities visit www.mich.gov/dnr or call our offices today!



THE WESTERLY VIEW

NEWS & HAPPENINGS FROM THE WESTERN REGION

WESTERN UPPER PENINSULA PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REGION

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Season's Greetings

We feel privileged to work with you towards our region's goals and achievements. In these times of economic hardship and sacrifice we wish you a happy, safe and peaceful holiday season. We look forward to serving the region in the New Year!

The WUPPDR Staff



Pictured Left to Right: Jim, Nels, Courtney, Meghan, Mary, Lori, Molly, Sue, Amy, Steve, and Kim

WUPPDR Annual Meeting: Saari Honored



Kim Stoker, Executive Director, presenting WUPPDR's 2009 Year in Review

WUPPDR's 2009 Annual Meeting was hosted by Iron County and held at the George Young Recreational Complex, on September 21st. Rosalie King, Iron County Commission Chair, welcomed the 54 attendees to Iron County. Bob Rotundo, WUPPDR First-Vice Chair and Kim Stoker, WUPPDR Executive Director, introduced attending political representatives and WUPPDR staff.

Following dinner, Stoker presented the WUPPDR's Year in Review. That was followed by keynote speaker Brett French, of the American Transmission Company (ATC). French presented the activities of ATC in the Upper Peninsula and Northern Wisconsin, the Northern Umbrella Plan, the U.P. Energy Collaborative and integration of renewable energy across the region.

The evening wrapped up with the award presentation of the Oreste "Chip" Chiantello Public Service Award. The 2009 award recipient was Jim Saari of Gogebic County. Ed Jenich, Houghton County Commissioner honored Saari for his decades of exemplary service to the western region both as the director of Michigan Works! and as a planner at WUPPDR. Saari's service reached beyond that of Michigan Works!, volunteering his personal time to many projects and organizations such as Kiwanis and the Norrie Park Walking Trail Project located in Ironwood, Michigan.

**Transportation Planning:
 Byways, Trails & Visitor Details**

Over the past year WUPPDR staff has been busily working on a number of plans and studies funded by Michigan Department of Transportation. Two plans support the activities of the region's heritage route committees. *The Western U.P. Heritage Route Collaborative Marketing Strategy* examined the current visitors to facilities along Copper Country Trail and Iron County Heritage Trail; discovered current visitor markets outside of the area, and through an analysis of visitor zip codes determined the 'typical visitor' (their age, annual income, what they drive, where they eat, what they read, etc.) for both of these heritage routes. This information will be used by these communities to direct future marketing

and communication plans. Copper Country Trail Committee also took an in depth look at the viewsheds that motorists see on US-41. *Preserving the Character: A Visual Assessment and Protection Control Analysis of Copper Country Trail Communities* systematically prioritized more than 30 views based on a number of criteria such as vividness, intactness, regional and national significance. This data will help Copper Country Trail Committee to determine future projects along the byway.

Lastly, all of the communities in the Western Region were given an opportunity to help plan their non-motorized facilities. WUPPDR teamed with Central UP Planning and Development (CUPPAD) and Eastern UP Planning and Development Region (EUPPDR) to develop the *Superior Region Non-Motorized Transportation Plan and Investment Strategy*, a comprehensive plan focusing on non-motorized priorities and connections for the Upper Peninsula. All three of these plans can be found on the Documents page at www.wuppdr.org under Resources.



ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT TULPPO'S RESTAURANT IN BRUCE CROSSING, MI, EXCEPT THE SEPTEMBER ANNUAL MEETING. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND FULL COMMISSION MEET AT 5:00 PM (EST) - EXCEPT FOR ANNUAL MEETINGS, WHICH BEGIN AT 5:30 PM (EST).

MINUTES & RECORDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AT THE WUPPDR OFFICE.

WUPPDR Commission Meeting Schedule

December	21	2009	Full Commission
February	15	2010	Executive Committee
March	15	2010	Full Commission
May	17	2010	Executive Committee
June	21	2010	Full Commission
August	16	2010	Executive Committee
September	20	2010	Full Commission (Annual Meeting—Ontonagon County)
October	18	2010	Executive Committee
December	20	2010	Full Commission

Great Lake Restoration Initiative

The President's 2010 Budget requested \$475 million in EPA's budget for a new Environmental Protection Agency-led, interagency Great Lakes restoration initiative, to target the most significant problems in the region, including invasive aquatic species, non-point source pollution, and contaminated sediment. Following passage by the House and Senate, the President signed the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 into law on October 30, 2009, providing the requested \$475 million for the Great Lakes

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative includes:

- \$146 million for cleaning up pollution in sediment in feeder rivers and harbors before it flows into the lakes.
- \$105 million to protect and restore habitat and wildlife.
- \$97 million to stop "nonpoint" pollution, such as farm fertilizer and oil runoff, that closes beaches and leads to fish kills.
- \$65 million to evaluate how the lakes and wildlife are responding to cleanup efforts.
- \$60 million for combating zebra mussels and other invasive species.

Restoration Initiative. In the summer of 2009, agencies initiated processes for one or more Requests for Proposals for competitive grants advancing the Initiative, in order that

some grants may be issued as early as December, 2009. The Western Region has the potential to greatly benefit from this initiative. More information and possible funding opportunities can be found on the websites provided.

- HELPFUL WEBSITES**
- WWW.EPA.GOV/GLNPO/GLRI
 - WWW.MICHIGAN.GOV/DEQ
 - WWW.GREAT-LAKES.NET/INFOCENTER

Superior Suppliers Network: Update

Since its formation six months ago, Superior Suppliers Network (SSN) has evolved at a rapid pace. The concept for SSN arose six months ago in response to the need to boost Baraga County's distressed manufacturing industry. WUPPDR's Executive Director, Kim Stoker, spearheaded coordination of the group in order to find a viable plan. The initial idea was to explore new markets through a trade mission to explore manufacturing opportunities in the Canadian oil sands industry. SSN's goals have since expanded to include other opportunities,

but the purpose remains the same: to seek out new markets and bring work to the area.

The group has branded itself as "A Superior Resource for Complete Manufacturing Solutions." SSN is now looking to the future, and with financial help from member contributions and Baraga County, has hired a business consultant to develop SSN's goals and ideas into a sustainable plan. With a business plan in place SSN will have strong appeal for State and Federal funding, which would be used to implement the recommendations of the business plan.

For more information on Superior Suppliers Network, please visit their website at www.superiorsuppliers.net or contact Kim Stoker at kstoker@wuppdr.org

