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Alison Peta, Board Chair

Refraining our strategy

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Mark Miller
Robert J. Montgomery
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Karen Rainboth
Patricia & Dan Schmitt
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Individual Family Gifts
ACSOF or more
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A component of the
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Wisconsin Farmers
and Vegetable Growers
Association

Wisconsin Wetlands Association
is dedicated to the protection, restoration, and enjoyment of wetlands and associated ecosystems through science-based programs, education, and advocacy.

50 YEARS
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Wisconsin Wetlands Association
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Madison, WI 53703
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2019 ANNUAL REPORT
.JAMES M. R. BLAZS
JAKE LAKOWSKE
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Engaging in place-based projects

WWA’s place-based work is designed to provide the guidance, tools, and understanding that communities need to apply wetlands as solutions to the water issues they face.

In Ashland County, we’re working with an array of partners to evaluate opportunities for wetland and stream restoration to help reduce local flooding. This project is designed to demonstrate and quantify how wetland restoration can help reduce infrastructure damage following big storms.

In the Little Plover River watershed, we’re using science and outreach to promote voluntary actions that address long-standing groundwater management and water quality issues. Here, WWA is providing technical, outreach, and facilitation support to a large collaboration including local governments, state and federal agencies, agriculture and conservation groups, engineers, regulators, and others.

Telling wetland stories in a new way

This year, we debuted six short wetland videos to help communities, landowners, decision-makers, and others understand how protecting and restoring wetlands can reduce floods, support wildlife, and keep our waters clean. These videos have been viewed by tens of thousands of people.

The videos highlight how wetlands work at a watershed scale, addressing the challenges that result from altered landscapes, and they include engaging stories about the people who care for and protect Wisconsin’s wetlands.

Look for more wetland videos next year! Meanwhile, visit our website to watch our current videos and explore ways that you can use them to start and enrich conversations and programs about wetlands in your community.

Encouraging better wetland policy through engagement

A variety of policies influence when, where, and how wetland conservation happens in Wisconsin. To improve wetland policies and practices, we work with state and local decision makers, helping them understand the value of wetlands.

This year, we began a program of hosting in-district field tours for state legislators to share how wetlands manage water on the landscape. Participants included senators and representatives from both sides of the aisle, as well as the Speaker’s Water Quality Task Force. Many of our partners joined us on these well-received tours, including member organizations of the Sportsmen for Wetlands Coalition, the Oneida Nation, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the UW Discovery Farms Steering Committee, private individuals, agricultural groups, and county and local government representatives.

Celebrating 50 years of wetland conservation

2019 marks the 50th anniversary of WWA, a milestone we’ve celebrated with presentations and field trips across the state all year long.

We began our celebrations with a lively kick-off at the annual meeting during the 24th annual Wetland Science Conference in Madison, WI. Old faces and new joined us to remember fifty years of caring for and protecting wetlands.

Our special anniversary events, including field trips and presentations on the origins of WWA and the importance of wetlands, have crisscrossed the state, sharing with long-time members and new supporters the wonder and value of wetlands.

There is still time to celebrate by getting your boots wet with us this fall! Check our online events calendar for more events: wisconsinwetlands.org/fifty/events.
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Best regards,

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