

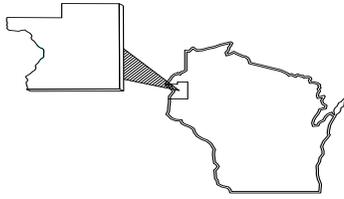
**POLK COUNTY
LAND & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

2013 ANNUAL REPORT



Mission Statement:

*“To preserve, protect and enhance
our natural resources”*



POLK COUNTY LAND & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

100 POLK COUNTY PLAZA – SUITE 120 BALSAM LAKE, WISCONSIN 54810

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TIM RITTEN, DIRECTOR: 715-485-8631

April 2014

To the Honorable Polk County Board of Supervisors

I am pleased to present the Polk County Land and Water Resources Department 2013 Annual Report

Our department provided services to Polk County through technical assistance to many area lakes in the form of lake protection and management, assistance to farmers developing and implementing nutrient management and soil conservation plans, and engineering assistance to a wide range of conservation projects. We also administered several resource protection ordinances dealing with stormwater and erosion control, nonmetallic mine reclamation, animal waste management, and aquatic invasive species prevention.

We brought approximately \$163,300 of cost sharing and program payments to Polk County landowners for installation of conservation practices and program participation. Our efforts have prevented many pounds of phosphorus from entering Polk County lakes and rivers, resulting in a reduction in the degradation of surface and ground water quality. We also administered a strong aquatic invasive species education and prevention program to prevent surface water degradation from damages caused by aquatic invasive species.

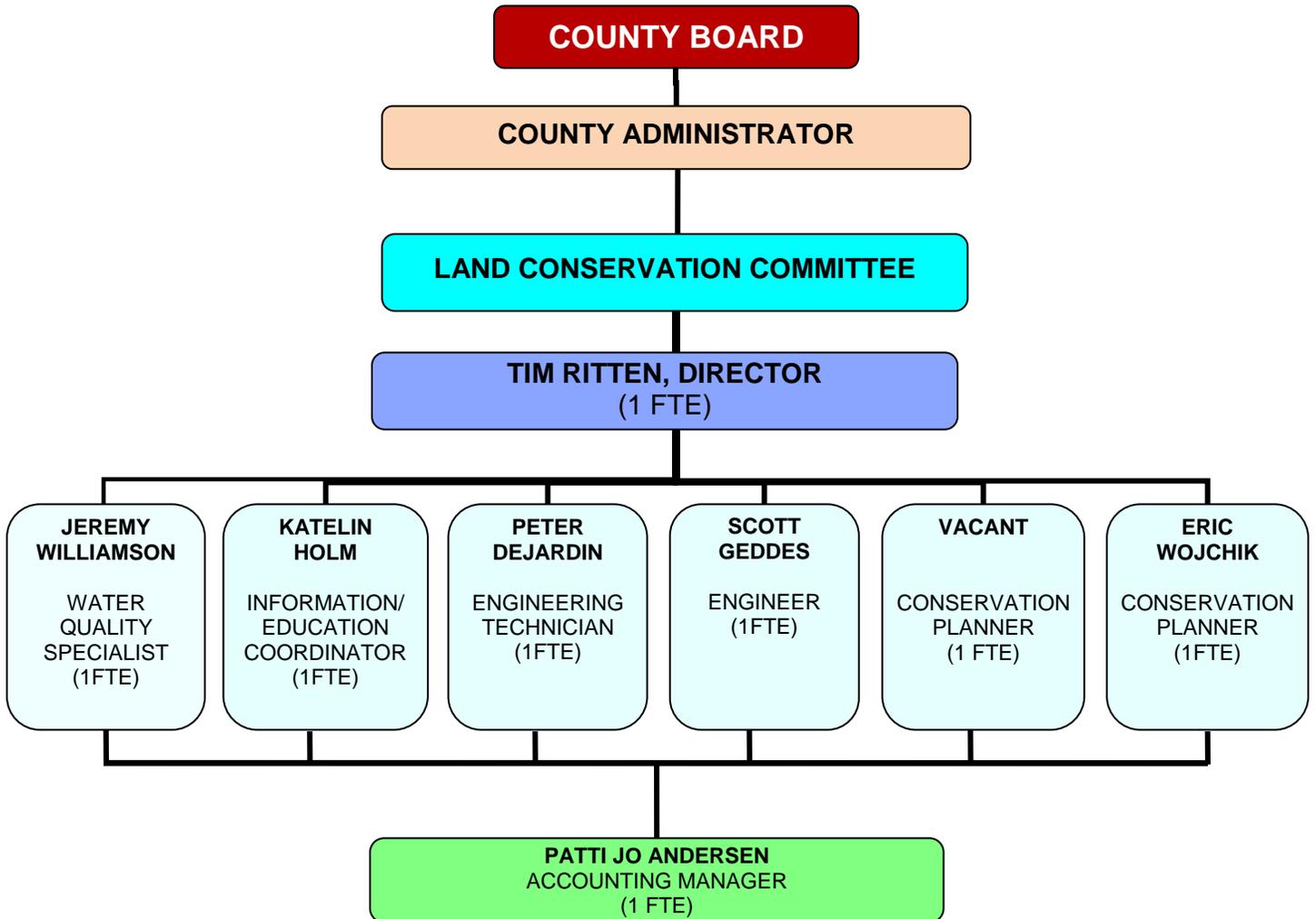
The Land and Water Resources Department wishes to thank the 2013 Land Conservation Committee members, including: Dean Johansen, Larry Jepsen, Herschel Brown, William Johnson, and FSA member Dale Wood, for their efforts and support as we worked to protect the natural resources of this county.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Ritten

Tim Ritten, Director

**POLK COUNTY
LAND & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
2013**



LAND & WATER RESOURCES GOVERNING COMMITTEE

Dean Johansen, Chairman
Larry Jepsen, Vice Chair
William Johnson, Secretary
Herschel Brown
Dale Wood, FSA Representative

POLK COUNTY LAND & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
2013 ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

---SURFACE WATER PROTECTION---

Lake Organizations and lake/lakeshore related projects:

- Japanese Knotweed Rapid Response Grant, with control efforts
- Clean Boats Clean Waters program trained volunteers to monitor boat landings at Apple River Flowage, Balsam, Church Pine, Round, and Big Lakes
- Technical assistance to 22 BOA and Zoning projects
- 1 shoreline restoration installed
- 1 rain garden and 4 shoreline restoration plans developed
- Many shoreline restoration plan reviews
- Assisted Lake St. Croix Watershed TMDL project and Implementation Plan
- Cedar Lake/Horse Creek soil nutrient runoff control project

Aquatic Plant Management Plans/Projects:

- Big Blake, Lotus, and Big Round Lake APM Plans

Aquatic Invasive Species Plans/Projects

- Continued to administer DNR grant for county-wide monitoring and educational effort for aquatic invasive species, including signs at lakes, educational displays at public events, presentations at lake meetings and schools, highway billboard, website videos, waterproof maps, Eurasian water milfoil removal, purple loosestrife removal and beetle rearing, Landing Blitz program support
- Early detection monitoring protocol on 3 lakes, located EWM on St. Croix River
- Hand pulled EWM at Pike Lake and scuba recon at Church Pine Lake
- AIS plant training on Ward Lake
- 2 project RED trainings on the St. Croix River

Lake Management Plans/Projects:

- Long, Church Pine, Round, Big, Apple River Flowage Big Blake, Lotus, and Balsam Lake management plans
- Sociological survey design and analysis for Bone Lake
- 1 runoff control waterway designed and installed at Bone Lake
- 1 runoff control project designed and installed at Bone Lake
- Survey for runoff control ponds for Squaw and Bone Lakes
- Planning for future lake mgmt plans with Paulson and Loveless Lakes

Stormwater and Erosion Control Ordinance:

- Reviewed, permitted and site checked 4 construction projects
- Checked 6 sites from last year for erosion control

Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Ordinance:

- Measured 65 nonmetallic mines for compliance
- Collected bonding and permit fees for 65 nonmetallic mines
- Reviewed new reclamation plans for 3 nonmetallic mines
- Reclaimed 1 nonmetallic mine site
- Processed reports, notices, payments, etc. per NR135

Farmland Preservation Program:

- Transition to Working Lands Initiative program
- Squaw Lake Agriculture Enterprise Area in Town of Alden implementation to preserve farmland
- 3 new farm conservation plans written, covering 829 acres, and 7 plans reviewed/updated covering 974 acres
- County wide Farmland Preservation Plan revision

County-wide conservation practices using various cost-share funding sources:

- 2 critical area stabilizations

Towns, Municipalities, Lake Districts, and Departments Projects:

- Box culvert construction inspection for Balsam Lake PRD
- Waterway gully repair, runoff control pond design for Bone Lake PRD
- 2 edge of field monitors installed and operated for watershed council
- Survey for a town drainage issue
- Sediment core samples on Bone and Big Blake Lakes

Educational:

- Display at NW Wisconsin Lakes Conference
- Water quality presentations at PCALR Lake and River Management Workshops
- Biweekly radio show regarding water quality and AIS
- AIS presentations to Wild Goose Lake, Family Camp at Luck, and Osceola 4th grade
- Presentations on water quality, biology, AIS, and loons at Amery and Dresser libraries
- Water quality, water sampling, AIS training to Clayton and Luck HS conservation classes
- Lake data presented to Church Pine, Round, Big Lakes PRD meeting
- Presentation to Lotus Lake annual meeting
- Presentation on 2013 lake projects to Polk Co. LCC and Polk County Board
- AIS, aquatic plant and algae presentation to Amery 1st and 5th grades
- Printed informational brochure with PCALR
- Display at Northwest Wisconsin Lakes Fair
- Paleolimnology presentation to Blake Lake meeting
- Japanese Knotweed identification and control workshop, and demonstrations
- Created 1 invasive species informational video
- Conducted shoreline restoration workshops for Long Lake and Apple River Flowage
- Wrote several informational articles for local lake newsletters

Miscellaneous:

- Transect survey to determine county-wide soil erosion estimates
- 13 Highway Department Driveway Permit reviews
- Collected water samples at 5 public beaches each week throughout summer
- Assisted Long and Balsam Lakes with securing funding for subwatershed assessments
- Developed model for shoreland development impacts

---SURFACE AND GROUND WATER PROTECTION---

County-wide conservation practices using various cost-share funding sources:

- New nutrient management plans on 7 farms covering 1610 acres
- Contracted, designed and installed one manure storage facility

Other Conservation Practices and/or efforts:

- Wrote grant for nutrient management plans for next year
- Reviewed 6 farm nutrient management plans covering 2410 acres
- Trained and assisted 6 farmers to write their own farm nutrient management plans

Animal Waste Ordinance:

- 3 manure stacking/spreading, animal waste runoff issues addressed
- Oversaw construction of 3 non-cost shared manure storage facilities

Educational:

- Newspaper articles, press releases, newsletter articles for farm organizations
- Polk County Fair tent display
- Water quality presentation to all 4th grades at DD Kennedy
- Cedar Lake and Long Lake District presentations
- Presentation to Unity 3rd grade at Interstate Park
- Mr. Y's 5th grade camp at DD Kennedy
- Presentations to St. Croix Falls 2nd grade at DD Kennedy
- Clayton 3rd grade field trip to DD Kennedy
- Presentations to Osceola 4th grade at DD Kennedy
- Conservation Poster Contest – 60 students participated

Miscellaneous:

- Filed accomplishment reports to DATCP and County for previous year
- Submitted work plans to DATCP and County for coming year
- Submitted Local Assistance Grant and Segregated Funds Grant applications to DATCP/DNR
- Developed work plan based on Polk County Land & Water Resource Management Plan
- County Farmland Preservation Plan and advisory committee
- Presentations regarding FPP Plan to USDA-FSA committee and Polk County Towns Association
- Assisted Horse Creek Farmer Led Watershed Council
- Assisted with Variable Rate Technology Day
- Served on technical advisory group for comprehensive zoning ordinance rewrite
- Addressed many and various requests for information
- Trained 2 college students on soil sampling for Cedar Lake

---GROUND WATER PROTECTION---

County-wide conservation practices using various cost-share funding sources:

- 1 well abandonment
- 1 abandoned manure storage structure closure

Animal Waste Ordinance:

- Surveyed several abandoned manure storage facilities for future closure

Educational:

- Groundwater display for Unity 3rd grade at Interstate Park

THE 2013 TREE PROGRAM

The Land & Water Resources Department filled 194 orders, totaling 18,800 trees sold in 2013. The money from tree sales supports the educational programs that the Department sponsors, such as the Conservation Poster Contest, Conservation Speaking Contest, Tri-County Soil Judging Contest, Polk County Fair and Arbor Day trees. In 2013, approximately 675 Polk County 6th graders were given an Arbor Day presentation and tree seedling to plant.

POLK COUNTY LAND AND WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT FUND BALANCE
December 31, 2013

Grant/ Programs	2013 Budget			Description of Services	ACTUAL REVENUES 12/31/2013			EXPENDITURES	
	State/Fed Revenues	Program Revenue	County Approp		State/Fed Revenues	Program Income	County Approp	Wages/ Fringes	General Costs
DATCP				Cost Sharing	\$102,674.05				\$104,568.22
DATCP	\$122,000.00			Staff and Support	\$138,342.00				
WDP	\$41,200.00			Wildlife Damage Program	\$39,188.00				\$39,188.00
AIS2	\$25,000.00			Invasive Species Grant AIS2	\$37,482.25			\$32,771.75	\$184.96
Apple River Flowage	\$5,000.00			Apple River Flowage PRD	\$4,847.74			\$13,664.37	\$3,154.99
McKnight	\$10,000.00			McKnight	\$13,690.53			\$16,774.72	-
Church/Pine/Big/Round	\$5,000.00			Church/Pine/Big/Round	\$8,440.11			\$10,689.95	\$4,542.00
Japanese Knotweed2	-			Japanese Knotweed2	\$11,013.64			\$6,977.94	-
				Lakes Planning Grant					
Manure Pit		\$600.00		Manure Pit Inspection Fee		\$600.00			
NMM		\$17,500.00		Non-metallic Mining Permit Fees		\$18,793.00			
Trees		\$17,000.00		Tree Program		\$17,530.00			\$11,782.12
Cons. Mat		\$1,500.00		Conservation Materials		\$15,005.00			\$2,778.99
Cons. Fees – Burnett		\$4,840.00		Contracted Fees from Other Counties		\$7,139.54			
Fees from Townships		\$1,030.00		Fees from Townships		-			
Contracted Services		\$20,600.00		Contracted Services		\$6,603.60			
Public Charge for Svs.		\$15,710.00		Public Charge for Services		\$12,176.76			
Stmwtr Erosion Cntrl		\$2,000.00		Stormwater Erosion Control Fees		\$3,300.00			
County			\$333,647.00	General Property Tax			\$333,647.00		
County				Personnel & Operations			-	\$473,289.20	\$36,764.73
	\$208,200.00	\$80,780.00	\$333,647.00	YTD TOTALS 2013	\$355,678.32	\$80,419.67	\$339,647.00	\$554,167.93	\$202,964.01
	Total 2013 Budgets				46.2%	10.4%	43.3%	73.2%	26.8%
					Total Revenue 12/31/13		\$769,744.99	Total Expenses	\$757,131.94

