

TGIF Taking Great Ideas Forward

Improving Northern Capital - Sustainable Development in the Northern Tier

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the author and do not reflect positions of organizations with which he is affiliated.

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“If you're not failing every now and again, it's a sign you're not doing anything very innovative.”

-Woody Allen-

MEETINGS and EVENTS:

Links will provide additional information. Dates for recent additions are in **bold**.

<i>What</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Where</i>
Lake Superior Day	July 15 th	All Day	Lake Superior Basin
Carbon Strategy Lecture	July 20 th	8:30- noon	Shawno Co. Courthouse
Shoreland Protection – Hearings on New Regs.	July 26 th	5:45 PM	Rice Lake**
Lake Superior Technology Conference	Aug. 8 & 9	TBA	WITC – Ashland
Green Building	Aug. 10 th	8:30 – noon	Shawno Co. Courthouse
BCEDC Board Meeting	August 13 th	10 AM – noon	TBA
Wisconsin Natural Resources Board	August 14-15*	Full Day * Half day	Washburn/Bayfield
Investing in Agriculture	August 16	All Day	Pewaukee WI
Bayfield County Lakes Forum Annual Meeting	August 18 th	9:00-11:00 AM	Iron River Community Center
Great Lakes Restoration Conference	Sept 6-8	All Day	Chicago
Lake Superior Binational Forum	Sept. 7 & 8	All Day	Wawa, ON
Rustic Roads Board	Sept. 10 th	9:00 – noon	Madison

** Check the link for details. Rice Lake is the closest of seven hearing sessions.

INNOVATION IN AGRICULTURE

Greg Lawless UWEX Agriculture Specialist from Madison sent along notice of the conference, *Investing in Agriculture*, listed above. Opportunities for new approaches in agriculture abound and have been touched by the agriculture community in our area. Time may be ripe to expand on the base of innovations incubated by a few local businesses.

One useful next step may be for the economic development community to encourage **Rick Dale** and **Jon Hamilton** to tell their stories of invention, innovation and entrepreneurship. Rick has created labor saving harvest tools while Jon has created unique beverage products from local produce. Their contributions to the creative economy should be heralded and hopefully emulated.

Community Kitchens have been on the minds of food producers and economic developers in Bayfield County for several years. The best example to date has been the excellent, commercially certified facility in the Town of Russell, which is available for rental. Now a new wrinkle emerges. Consider these community kitchens not just as production facilities, but as agrobusiness incubators. Incubating a business, of course, requires more than pots, pans, cooktops and refrigerators. Critically important is planning, financing, and management. Fortunately the physical facility and the intellectual capital do not require co-location. Coordination is essential. That can, and should be, be facilitated by economic developers.

CEID in the News

Wisconsin's Lt. Governor **Barbara Lawton** wrote in the Wisconsin Technology Network's Web site a positive and forward focused [article](#) on renewable energy initiatives in Wisconsin. She has been highly supportive of the **Eco-Industrial Development**(EID) initiative in the Duluth-Superior region. Here is what she had to say about CEID:

Further north, the Greater Duluth-Superior Eco-Industrial Development Initiative puts forward a model for regional economic development that others around the nation would do well to emulate. The very impressive diversity of expertise represented in members of the [Coalition for Eco-Industrial Development](#), started in 2004, contributes to a plan for economic development that integrates economic, social, and major environmental issues. They drive current 20th century industrial systems toward sustainable 21st century systems.

Then she adds a note of global challenge:

We have the technological capacity to address energy independence and global warming; we lack leadership at the federal level to respond to public demand. Wisconsin proudly steps in to lead the way on sustainability because we must.

Lake Superior Day

Sunday is Lake Superior Day and I will be on the run to several events including a beach clean-up in Herbster, Lake Superior Stewardship Award ceremony in Superior and a "Walk for the Water" in Duluth. Last year there were 22 known events throughout the LS basin. I have not received a count yet of 2007 events, but a new one, "**Concert for Lake Superior People, Place and Purpose**" is supported by the faith-community in Marquette, MI. **Lake Superior Binational Forum** member, **Jon Magnuson**, Lutheran minister and prime mover for the **Cedar Tree Institute**, and his LSBF alternate, **Carl Lindquist**, Executive Director for the **Superior Watershed Partnership** network have taken the lead in assembly of the means and meanings for the Concert.

What is so incredible about LS Day has been it's growth in just the past four years. **Bob Browne**, LSBF member and Douglas County Supervisor, has been tireless in promotion of the event. Each year, Bob has secured proclamations from each Governor of a Lake Superior State and the Premier of Ontario. In addition several cities, towns, villages and counties have provided and supported proclamations.

Lissa Radke, US Coordinator for LSBF, has been a masterful organizer and communicator of Lake Superior Day activities. Without her talent and tenacity this celebration of life sustaining water and our respect for Lake Superior would not be the outstanding event it is and will be for years to come.

LIGHTER SIDE:

from : [Pierce College Web site](#)

A tractor salesman was passing a farm, where the farmer was plowing the field with a bull. He goes over and offers to sell the farmer a tractor to plow with. The farmer tells him "I don't need a tractor, I have three new ones at the barn" Well if you have three new tractors at the barn, why are you plowing this field with that bull, asked the salesman ? The farmer replied, "This is part of the bulls continuing education. I am teaching him that there is more to farming than messing with cows and tearing down fences.

Take care and have a great weekend!

/BRUCE

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Bruce Lindgren is Principal of [B.Lindgren CONSULTING](#). The consulting practice serves small business, local government, school districts and non-profits providing support for research, grant development, technical writing, marketing

support and project management. Bruce brings his background in biological sciences, education, small business and media technology to generate and implement ideas contributing solutions to mission critical challenges.

In addition Bruce maintains the following affiliations:

[Bayfield County Economic Development Corporation](#), (BCEDC) *Director*

[Inland Sea Society](#), (ISS) *Director*

[Lake Superior Binational Forum](#), (LSBF) *US Delegation Co-Chair*

[Raindrop Garden Gallery](#), (RGG) *Co-owner*

[IDEA Consortium LLC](#), *Owner*

[Chequamegon Institute, Inc.](#) *Initial Registered Agent*

[Coalition for Eco-Industrial Development](#), (CEID) *Work Group Member*

[Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Investment Board](#), (WIB) *Member*

The encircled fractal triangle represents an integrated cluster of seven ideas – economics, ecology, equity, ethics, experience, education and energy – that may be considered a core for sustainability studies. Bruce is available to present illustrated lectures and facilitate discussions about Industrial Ecology, Sustainable Development and the Sustainability Revolution.