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“You don't stop laughing because you grow old. You grow old because you stop laughing.”

-Michael Pritchard-

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>
Biodiesel Study Group	Mondays (all)	7:00-8:30 PM	Washburn Library
Inventors & Entrepreneurs Club	Jan 3 rd	5:30 PM	Iron River Community Center
Superior Days Planning	Jan. 8 th	Noon	WITC - Superior
BCEDC Board Meeting	Jan. 14 th	10:00 AM -noon	Washburn Library
Superior Days	Feb. 26-27	All Day	Madison
Great Lakes Day	Feb. 28 th	All Day	Washington DC
Fusion 2008	March 5-6	All Day	Madison, Fluno Center
Green By Design Conference	June 12-13	All Day	Washington DC area

CLEAN TECH

An [article](#), “U.S. Green-tech hot spots go coast to coast” in C|Net called attention again to the industrial sector more commonly known as **Clean Tech**. Since 2004 the Clean Tech sector has been drawing more of my attention, yet little is evident regarding Wisconsin's willingness to engage and pursue the potential business opportunities that are attached to this growth industry. Perhaps there is more behind the scene than I realize. Looking deeper may reveal initiatives that should be highlighted. Our Northwestern Wisconsin, Northeastern Minnesota and Michigan UP counties have long seemed a natural location to foster Clean Tech as an economic development strategy.

Early in 2007 California passed a **Global Warming Solutions Act**, which a [press release](#) from Gov. **Arnold Schwarzenegger**'s office called “a comprehensive program of regulatory *and market mechanisms* to achieve real, quantifiable, cost-effective reductions of greenhouse gases.” (my emphasis)

A [June report](#) from the **Natural Resources Defense Council**(NDRC) highlighted how California is moving forward. With start-up support from the late HP founder **David Packard** , the **Silicon Valley Leadership Group** ([link](#)) involves senior officers of over 200 Silicon Valley corporations in looking after the economic health of the region. These leaders have embraced the challenges of global warming. Together with **Environmental Entrepreneurs**(E2)([link](#)), a group sponsored and supported by NDRC, the report highlights a California response to managing a more stable climate while assuring economic growth. Eric Wanless, a sustainable energy expert with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and coauthor of the report said “This is the first report that shows how the pieces of the puzzle fit together in California’s first-in-the-nation law to limit global warming pollution. The report can help California business leaders understand how they can take advantage of the growing market opportunities for pollution-cutting technologies.”

Our Norther Tier would do well to recognize the opportunities inherent in preventing green house gas pollution, providing alternative energy solutions, and pursuing the adaptations that changes in global climate and reducing our dependence on fossil fuel will inevitably require.

LIGHTER SIDE:

As with most jokes the original author is unknown. Whoever you are; “Thanks!” Names, when added, are intended to tease the innocent.

A minister was asked to dinner by one of his oldest parishioners, who had a bit of a reputation for being a rather casual housekeeper.

When he sat down at the table, he noticed that the dishes were the dirtiest that he had ever seen in his life.

"Were these dishes ever washed?" he asked his hostess, running his fingers over the grit and grime.

She replied, "They're as clean as soap and water could get them."

He felt a bit apprehensive, but blessed the food anyway and started eating. It was really delicious and he said so, despite the dirty dishes.

When dinner was over, the hostess took the dishes outside and yelled, "Here Soap! Here Water!"

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 role of education in Industrial Ecology, Sustainable Development and the Sustainability Revolution.