

# TGIF

## Taking Great Ideas Forward

Improving Northern Capital - a Sustainable Economy 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.

Herbster, WI, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007 – Volume 3: Number 6 [Back Issues](#)

***“It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change.”***

**-Charles Darwin-**

### MEETINGS and EVENTS:

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

<i>What</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Where</i>
Global Warming Lecture Program**	Feb. 9 <sup>th</sup>	6:00-8:00 PM	Duluth Labor Temple, Wellstone Hall
BCEDC Board Meeting	Feb. 12 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 AM- noon	Washburn Library
<a href="#">Economics of Climate Change</a>	Feb. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10:00 AM	Madison
<a href="#">Sustainable Forestry Conference</a>	Feb. 27 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	Keshena WI
<a href="#">Staying Competitive in Today's Markets</a> (Wood Products)	Feb. 28 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	Oshkosh WI
<a href="#">Superior Days</a>	Feb. 27-28 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	Madison WI
<a href="#">Fusion 2007 CEI-CIO Symposium</a>	Feb. 27-28 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	Fluno Center, Madison WI
<a href="#">Inventors &amp; Entrepreneur's Club</a>	Mar. 1 <sup>st</sup>	5:30 PM	Iron River Community Center
Renewable Energy Conference	Mar. 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	Milwaukee
BCEDC Board Meeting	March 12 <sup>th</sup>	10 AM – noon	TBA
BCEDC Board Meeting	April 9 <sup>th</sup>	10 AM – noon	TBA
WIB <a href="#">Business Development Conference</a>	May 3 & 4	All Day	Lakewoods Resort, Cable
<a href="#">Future of Farming</a> Statewide Conference	May 14 & 15	All Day	TBA
<a href="#">2007 Entrepreneur's Conference</a>	June. 12-13	All day	Milwaukee

\*\* for information contact: Jerry Fallos at 218-744-2757

## TerraPass

**Laural Sukup** a specialist with *Wisconsin DNR's Cooperative Environmental Assistance Bureau*, sent along the notice about the presentation in Madison on February 23<sup>rd</sup> about Climate Change and the Economic Impacts that may be expected. Since I will be in Madison the following week for Superior Days, I returned an email to Laural with regrets that “my travel and carbon budgets” would not support two trips to Madison.

She wrote back with a note “Something I did to ease my mind ... “ and provided a link to [TerraPass](#)

. TerraPass funds renewable energy projects. The purchase of a TerraPass enables investments in projects that result in verified reductions in greenhouse gas production. The great idea is that you counterbalance your own emissions with these reductions.

A visit to the TerraPass site provides useful insight about our personal relationships with the generation of Greenhouse Gases. My 2003 Chevrolet Astro AWD van will get 17 mpg (city mileage is irrelevant if you live in Herbster). I drive a lot, about 35,000 miles each year. The TerraPass site calculates that I will use about 2, 258 gallons of fuel and generate 44,176 pounds of carbon dioxide each year. To become “carbon neutral” I should purchase a “pass” for \$159.95. That would add just slightly over 7 cents per gallon to my automobile fuel bill.

TerraPass enables similar calculations for your carbon footprint when you fly. I don't fly much. My most recent trip was to Florida. For that round trip of 2800 miles I generated 1,200 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub>. By my arithmetic, the carbon surcharge for that flight should have been \$5.99

My home combined heating and electrical bill calculates an annual 37,000 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> and my TerraPass for carbon neutrality would be \$184.63.

It seems more and more apparent that if something is to be done about global warming it is going to be highly dependent on individual actions. A magical high tech wand, the Invisible Hand or “This is the Government and I'm here to help”, is not going to solve the serious problem we humans have created for life in our planet. It looks as though the annual invoice for at least part of my responsibility for carbon neutrality is \$350.57.

What's in Your Wallet?

## LAWSUITS and the NATIONAL FORESTS

Multiple groups in the Ely, Minnesota area have been engaged in protection of the **Superior National Forest**(SNF), which includes the **Boundary Waters Canoe Area** (BWCA). That the economic impact of this natural resource is been enormous has been recognized since **Sigurd Olson** was academic dean at **Ely Junior College**. A long [article](#) in the **Ely Timberjay** newspaper provides insight into the dynamics of legal actions to protect wilderness areas. While the issues are different from the issues of lawsuits that have troubled our NW Wisconsin

Counties, Economic Development organizations, and environmental groups over management practices in the **Chequamegon Nicolet National Forest**, the impact of legal actions on SNF and BWCA are well worth contemplation. An [editorial](#) suggests that environmental advocates should pick their battles with greater care and concentrate on bigger issues like climate change and global warming.

## MARKETING OPPORTUNITY

**David Miller**, Director of the [Barron County Economic Development Corporation](#) sent along a notice of a position for a part-time marketing director for [Red Cedar Development Corporation](#) of Rice Lake. If you know someone who may be interested, check in with David at 715-637-6871.

Take care and have a great weekend!

/BRUCE

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*In addition Bruce maintains the following affiliations:*

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

[Inland Sea Society](#), Director

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

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

[IDEA Consortium LLC](#), Owner

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

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