



Tenth Annual Chapter Meeting April 20 to 22, 2018 Stevens Point, Wisconsin

Please join us for the tenth annual meeting of the SER Midwest-Great Lakes Chapter. Our goal for the meeting is to explore how to promote the call to expand restoration efforts and partnerships beyond the typical site scale to larger spatial scales encompassing multiple ecosystem types. This year's Chapter meeting will be held in conjunction with the 40th Annual Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention and Water Action Volunteer Symposium. Our three day component of this exciting joint meeting includes:

- **Keynote Presentation** by Stephen Carpenter (University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for Limnology). “*Past and Future Change in the Yahara Watershed: An Ecological Experiment Using Scenarios*”
- **Plenary Presentation** by Tracy Hames (Wisconsin Wetlands Association). “*Landscape-scale Wetland Restoration in Wisconsin: There's More to It Than Just Good Science*”
- **Meeting Host Plenary Session** on “*Applied Learning Through Practice, Research and Reflection: Engaging University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources Students in Meaningful Ecological Restoration in Central Wisconsin*”. Faculty and students at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources will share results of their work restoring healthy ecosystems on campus lands and with the state of Wisconsin partners.
- **Choice of One of Two Symposia:** 1) River Floodplain and Wetland Restoration in the Midwest; 2) Advancing Like a Fire Through the Understory – Progress and Perspectives in Oak Savanna Restoration.
- **Choice of One of Four Workshops:** 1) Application of Quality Assurance and Quality Control Principles to the Planning of Ecological Restoration Data Collection Efforts; 2) Don't Talk Like a Scientist; 3) Online Training Program Development for Ecological Restoration; 4) Who Me? A Modeler? Using Simple Modeling Tools to Explore the Costs and Benefits Management Scenarios.
- **Choice of One of Three Field Trips or one of Three Volunteer Work Days:** 1) Moses and Lost Creek Wetland Restoration Projects Field Trip; 2) Emmons Creek Savanna Restoration Field Trip; 3) Tomorrow River Fish Habitat Restoration Field Trip; 4) Schmeckle Reserve Restoration Project Work Day; 5) Green Circle Trail Invasive Species Management Project Work Day; 6) Holiday Inn Pond and Riparian Restoration Project Work Day.
- **59 Contributed Oral and Poster Presentations:** Presenters from ten states (Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, Maine, Kentucky, Virginia) and the District of Columbia will share their experiences involving prairie, forest, savanna, stream, wetland, and lake restoration. Presentation topics include invasive species control, use of prescribed fire, evaluating restoration techniques, overviews of restoration designs, and more!
- **Social Events:** Several social events are scheduled that include a sponsorship reception on Friday and lunch on Friday and Saturday
- **Wisconsin Lakes Convention Oral Presentation Sessions:** On Friday attendees are welcome to attend the Wisconsin Lakes Convention's oral presentation sessions consisting of 25 presentations covering topics such as aquatic invasive species; ecology; people, policy, & politics; volunteer monitoring; restoration; and watershed connections/water quality.

Meeting updates will be periodically posted on our social media accounts and our Chapter website (<http://chapter.ser.org/midwestgreatlakes/current-meeting/>). We encourage everyone to join us to learn about recent research findings, novel restoration techniques, and the chance to socialize with your colleagues.

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

	Friday April 20	Saturday April 21	Sunday April 22
Morning	<p style="text-align: center;">Registration (Open at 7:30 am)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wisconsin Lakes Oral Presentation Sessions</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Registration</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Workshops</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Meeting Host Plenary Session <i>Applied Learning Through Practice, Research and Reflection: Engaging University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources Students in Meaningful Ecological Restoration in Central Wisconsin</i></p>	<p>Offsite Field Trips & Volunteer Workdays</p>
LUNCH	<p style="text-align: center;">Lunch (cost included in registration fee)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keynote Presentation <i>Past and Future Change in the Yahara Watershed: An Ecological Experiment Using Scenarios</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lunch (cost included in registration fee)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Business Meeting /Awards Ceremony</p>	
Afternoon	<p style="text-align: center;">Opening Plenary Session <i>Designing Ecological Restoration Projects for Promoting Public Engagement</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Symposia</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wisconsin Lakes Oral Presentation Sessions</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SER MWGL Oral Presentation Sessions</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Plenary Presentation <i>Landscape-scale Wetland Restoration in Wisconsin: There's More to It Than Just Good Science”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">SER MWGL Oral Presentation Sessions</p>	
Evening	<p style="text-align: center;">Sponsorship Reception with snacks (cost included in registration fee)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Poster Session</p>		

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

We encourage everyone to register early to receive **Early Bird registration** prices and the deadline for receiving these rates is **March 21, 2018**. Those who register from **March 22, 2017 to April 15, 2018** are eligible for **Regular Registration** prices. After April 15, 2018 the only registration option is **On-site Registration**. *Note: we cannot guarantee that we will be able to provide on-site registrants with tickets for the sponsorship reception, Friday and Saturday lunch, and transportation for offsite field trips so we encourage you to purchase early or regular registration.*

Registration costs for Friday and Saturday are by the day and the fee covers payment for all scheduled events and meals that specific day. There is no additional cost for Sunday's offsite for those attendees who register for Friday and/or Saturday. Additionally, Friday registration provides meeting attendees with the option to attend the Wisconsin Lakes Convention's concurrent oral presentation sessions on Friday.

Registration Type	Friday Price	Saturday Price	Sunday Price
Early Bird Registration - Student Chapter Member	\$30.00	\$30.00	<i>Free to those who register on Friday and/or Saturday</i>
Early Bird Registration - Student Non-Chapter Member	\$40.00	\$40.00	<i>Free to those who register on Friday and/or Saturday</i>
Early Bird Registration - Regular Chapter Member	\$60.00	\$60.00	<i>Free to those who register on Friday and/or Saturday</i>
Early Bird Registration - Regular Non-Chapter Member	\$80.00	\$80.00	<i>Free to those who register on Friday and/or Saturday</i>
Regular Registration - Student Chapter Member	\$35.00	\$35.00	<i>Free to those who register on Friday and/or Saturday</i>
Regular Registration - Student Non-Chapter Member	\$40.00	\$40.00	<i>Free to those who register on Friday and/or Saturday</i>
Regular Registration - Regular Chapter Member	\$70.00	\$70.00	<i>Free to those who register on Friday and/or Saturday</i>
Regular Registration - Regular Non-Chapter Member	\$80.00	\$80.00	<i>Free to those who register on Friday and/or Saturday</i>
On-site Registration - Student Chapter Member	\$40.00	\$40.00	<i>Free to those who register on Friday and/or Saturday</i>
On-site Registration - Student Non-Chapter Member	\$50.00	\$50.00	<i>Free to those who register on Friday and/or Saturday</i>
On-site Registration - Regular Chapter Member	\$80.00	\$80.00	<i>Free to those who register on Friday and/or Saturday</i>
On-site Registration – Regular Non-Chapter Member	\$90.00	\$90.00	<i>Free to those who register on Friday and/or Saturday</i>

SATURDAY WORKSHOP INFORMATION

Crosby, Cindy* **Don't talk like a scientist!** Northwestern University Press, Glen Ellyn, Illinois. Email: phrelanzer@gmail.com

How do we connect and engage a general audience of non-scientists with science concepts and the practice of ecological restoration in our communities? Whether it's a prairie, savanna, wetland or woodland---or a natural area with a mosaic of all four ---stimulating interest in degraded ecosystems and attracting support of restoration efforts begins with good communication and discovering what is important to stakeholders in a particular area. Cindy Crosby (MS Natural Resources/Environmental Interpretation University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point 2014) penned her book, *The Tallgrass Prairie: An Introduction* (Northwestern University Press 2017), with the intention of sparking an interest in and appreciation of ecological restoration from those who have no science background. Cindy is an Interpretive Trainer for the National Association for Interpretation, and certifies natural resources leaders in communicating clearly about the natural world. She has a passion for sharing the natural world through words, images, and experiences and has done so through interpretive panels, her weekly prairie blog for non-scientists (Tuesdays in the Tallgrass), and through education and programming she presents to natural resources volunteers at The Morton Arboretum. In this workshop, Cindy will use role-playing, case studies, PowerPoint, brainstorming, and games to show how the way the science of ecological restoration is communicated can make or break its reception by a community. Unless scientists write and speak to the non-science members of the larger community in a way that attracts them to science, rather than alienates them, we may lose the support and critical funding on which our restoration initiatives depend.

Galatowitsch, Susan*, and Julia Bohnen*. **Online training program development for ecological restoration.** University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota. Emails: galat001@umn.edu; bohne001@umn.edu

This workshop explores on-line teaching and learning techniques for ecological restoration. Specifically, we will focus on continuing education for adults who are interested in entering into restoration practice and for restoration professionals looking to develop new skills. For many adults, online courses provide opportunities that are otherwise inaccessible to them because of work schedules and distance from college campuses. The workshop will have four parts: 1) the basics of designing online courses with practical aims, 2) techniques for teaching common restoration skills, 3) effective ways to combine online and field training, 4) online training technology options. The workshop will feature "lessons learned" and examples from five years of offering online courses as part of the Ecological Restoration Training Cooperative at the University of Minnesota, in partnership with several state agencies. Participants should bring a computer with wireless capabilities for the "hands-on" parts of the workshop. Limited to 20.

Blume, Louis*¹, Craig Palmer*², Molly M. Amos*², Brick M. Fevold*², Adam Bucher*², and Judy Schofield*². **Application of quality assurance and quality control principles to the planning of ecological restoration data collection efforts.** ¹U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Chicago, Illinois. ²CSRA Alexandria, Virginia. Email: blume.louis@epa.gov; craig.j.palmer@csra.com; molly.middlebrook@csra.com; brick.fevold@csra.com; adam.bucher@csra.com; justin.telech@csra.com; judith.schofield@csra.com

The evaluation of the effectiveness of restoration strategies are often hampered by their lack of establishing clearly articulated goals and objectives that can be assessed in both qualitative and quantitative terms. Whether you are a restoration scientist or a restoration practitioner, or both, this workshop will provide you with additional insights and tools to establish realistic project goals and performance-based objectives critical to assess the effectiveness of your restoration strategies. You will also be introduced to the concept of data quality acceptance criteria and will work in small groups on exercises based on case studies in the Great Lakes Basin to apply the principles introduced in the workshop. An emphasis will be placed on the development of quality objective statements for projects that involve the collection of data using best professional judgement common to ecological restoration projects. This workshop has been developed by the Interagency Ecological Restoration Quality Committee. Development and preparation of workshop materials is provided through the support of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

Swaty, Randy¹, and Megan Sebasky². **Who me? A modeler? Using simple modeling tools to explore the costs and benefits management scenarios.** ¹The Nature Conservancy, Evanston, Wisconsin. ²Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Madison, Wisconsin. Email: rswaty@tnc.org; Megan.Sebasky@wisconsin.gov

Restoration is a difficult business--more things to do than we have resources to accomplish. So, how do we decide which treatments to apply to what and when? One useful option is using simple succession/disturbance models. In this workshop, we'll present and practice a modeling framework called Landscape Conservation Forecasting, which uses state-and-transition modeling coupled with an Excel spreadsheet to deliver a return on investment metric. We'll "play" with various combinations of restoration activities to see which one is best in terms of cost and ecological effectiveness. In the workshop participants will explore and manipulate an already built example model, learn how to obtain free modeling software, and be inspired to try modeling on their own. While modeling seems to be intimidating at times, we promise to make this fun and useful.

SYNOPSIS OF SUNDAY OFFSITE FIELD TRIPS AND VOLUNTEER WORK DAYS

Moses and Lost Creek Wetland Restorations Projects Field Trip. This field trip will visit two recently completed wetland restorations in and near Stevens Point. One of the restoration sites is 17 acres in size and the other is 350 acres. This guided tour will also include a stop at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point's Schmeckle Reserve Visitor Center and the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame. The guided tour will begin in the morning and end before lunch. Transportation will be provided. Minimum of 15 participants required. maximum of 27 participants.

Emmons Creek Savanna Restoration Field Trip. The focus of this field trip will be visiting and discussing sand ecosystems in Central Wisconsin, such as barrens, savannas and scrub oak woodlands/forests. Emmons Creek Barrens is about 30 minutes southeast of Stevens Point. The guided tour will begin in the morning and end in mid-afternoon. Transportation and lunch will be provided. Minimum of 15 participants required. Maximum of 27 participants.

Tomorrow River Fish Habitat Restoration Field Trip. This field trip will visit a range of stream restoration and dam removal projects along the Tomorrow River, a Class 1 and 2 trout stream located 20 minutes east of Stevens Point. The guided tour will begin in the morning and end before lunch. Participants are responsible for their own transportation. Minimum of 12 participants required. Maximum of 24 participants.

Schmeckle Reserve Restoration Project Volunteer Work Day. Participants will gain hands on experience with wetland and forest restoration as part of this half-day (morning) volunteer opportunity. Schmeckle Reserve is located on the north side of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus and about 10 minutes from the Holiday Inn-Stevens Point Convention Center. Participants are responsible for their own transportation.

Green Circle Trail Invasive Species Management Project Volunteer Work Day. Participants will gain hands on experience with invasive species removal and management as part of this half-day (morning) volunteer opportunity. Green Circle Trail is a scenic hiking and biking trail along the Wisconsin River that loops through the Stevens Point area. The work site is located about 15 minutes from the Holiday Inn-Stevens Point Convention Center. Participants are responsible for their own transportation.

Holiday Inn Pond and Riparian Project Volunteer Work Day. Participants will gain hand on experience with riparian restoration as part of this half-day (morning) volunteer opportunity. The Holiday Inn Convention Center is located in Stevens Point and it is the 2018 Chapter Meeting location.

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS MEETING HOST & SPONSORS

MEETING HOSTS



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Cindy Crosby, Northwestern University Press

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Wisconsin Wetlands Association

Meeting Location and Lodging Information

The Chapter Meeting is being held at the Holiday Inn Stevens Point – Convention Center, 1001 Amber Avenue, Stevens Point Wisconsin 54482

Discounted Hotel Block Rates:

\$111.99 Standard rooms (available until March 21, 2018 or until the block is full)

Rates are the same for up to five person occupancy.

Full breakfast is included in your stay.

Room rate does not include applicable taxes.

We encourage everyone to make your hotel reservations EARLY as the discounted block of rooms are likely to sell out!

To make your online reservation at the Holiday Inn and get the discounted room rates click [here](#)

If you choose to make reservations over the phone, call 1-715-344-0200 and press #3. Make sure to reference the group name Wisconsin Lakes/Wisconsin Association of Lakes, Inc. or the GROUP BLOCK CODE: LAK