

Wisconsin Ground Water Association Newsletter



President's Message

Dear Members,

By now you all should have heard of the visit of Earth Voyager to the Milwaukee Harbor and hopefully some of you were there. The ship's speedy tour brought attention to the subject of Great Lakes restoration. The press conference on August 14th attracted not only the Mayor of Milwaukee, but legislators from a broad spectrum of local politics to address the need to safeguard water quality in Lake Michigan. The WGWA was proud to stand at the podium as a major sponsor of this event.

Similarly, you all remember the terrible flooding we had throughout southern Wisconsin in early June. There are articles in this newsletter issue that document that flooding plus similar flood conditions which occurred in Minnesota.

Your WGWA is flexing its muscles in the surface water world, but has not lost sight of its mission and core educational venues. **Get your registrations in now** for the Annual Fall Field Trip which leaves September 20th for a tour of the best SE Wisconsin has to offer. In this 25th Anniversary of WGWA existence, all field trip participants who pre-register will get a free T-shirt commemorating the event.

Don't forget that the kind of ground-water article you enjoy reading is as close as the pen in your hand. Tell our newsletter editor the kinds of things that interest you in your own project and he will help you get your own ideas published.

By the way, the call for abstracts has been issued for our Spring Conference in Stevens Point. Check out the website at www.wgwa.org for this and other important information.

Lee Trotta, PG
WGWA President

● [Board Meeting Minutes](#)

● [Interesting Articles and Other Tidbits on the Web](#)

When Mother Nature has heartburn should we give her Tums or limestone? Read on for a new approach to interactive volcanology. http://www.world-science.net/othernews/080608_volcano

MGWA 2008 Field Trip--Mark your calendars—On October 3-5, the Minnesota Ground Water Association will sponsor a Field Trip focused on aquifer testing techniques. [<MORE>](#)

● [Conferences, Meetings, and Courses \(Late August – November\)](#)

Selected Ground Water-Related Conferences and Meetings

- Midwest Ground Water Conference. Dubuque, Iowa, Sept 29-Oct 2.
- October 2008
- NGWA/U.S. EPA: Remediation of Abandoned Mine Lands Conference (#5019), Denver, CO, October 2-3.
- California Groundwater Association Annual Convention. Sparks, Nevada, Oct 30-Nov 1.
- NGWA International Conference on Nonrenewable Ground Water Resources (#5055), Portland, OR, October 13-14.
- Petroleum Hydrocarbons and Organic Chemicals in GW: Prevention, Detection, and Remediation (#5040), Houston, TX, November 3-4.
- December 2008
- NGWA 2008 Ground Water Expo and Annual Meeting (#6010), Las Vegas, NV, December 2-5.
- NGWA 5th Conference on Hydrogeology, Ecology, Monitoring, and Management of GW in Karst Terrains (#5018), Safety Harbor, FL, February 23-24, 2009.

2008 WGWA Field Trip Almost Here!!!



After three years in a row of two-day field trips, this year's one-day Saturday field trip on September 20th is sure to please those who could not get away from the office for the two-day trips, and will have plenty of content for those interested in making the most out of their time. At only \$45, this trip is chock full of interesting stops along the Milwaukee River and Lake Michigan shore, with tours of the Great Lakes Water Institute and MMSD's Jones Island Treatment Plant included. Sandra McLellan will be presenting her research at the Water Institute and we are going to receive a special presentation for our group at Jones Island, so don't miss this opportunity! You don't have to be a certifiable rock geek to enjoy this field trip! The field trip will include a mix of geological, biological, environmental and scenic stops, including beautiful Cedarburg Bog and Glacial Blue Hills Recreation Area. So feel free to bring someone else that you think might enjoy a day out looking at things most people do not get a chance to see.

Included with the trip are transportation, field trip guidebook, gourmet catered lunch, and for those that register by August 29th, the lower prices and a commemorative t-shirt. The field trip departs from and returns to the Watertown Plank Park and Ride on Highway 45 (one exit north of the zoo). For those who live in the Milwaukee area, it does not get any easier than this to attend a field trip (well we could pick you up at your front door, but you probably wouldn't want to pay the extra cost)! Download a field trip registration form here [Registration Form](#). Or register online at <http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=649126> (additional fee from registration vendor applies. Would your company like to have their logo on the T-shirt??? Download a [sponsorship form](#) for details.

Selected Ground Water-Related Courses and Online Seminars

- NGWA: Monitored Natural Attenuation: Mechanisms, Site Characterization, Evaluation, and Monitoring (#147), Chicago, IL, August 19-20.
- NGWA: Advanced Techniques for Evaluating and Quantifying Natural Attenuation (#579), Chicago, IL, August 21-22.
- Nielsen Environmental Field School: The Complete Ground-Water Sampling Field Course, Columbus, OH, Sept 9-11.
- NGWA: Construction Dewatering and Ground Water Control: Design and Application (short course #351), Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Oct 20-21.
- NGWA: Ground Water Flow and Chemical Transport in Fractured Rock: From Cores to Kilometers Webinar (#821), Online, Nov 18.

EPA Ground Water-Related On-Line Courses (free, see www.clu-in.org)

- Using High-resolution Piezocone to Determine Hydraulic Parameters and Mass Flux Distribution, Aug 27, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM CDT.
- Treatment of Heavy Metals and Elimination of Sulfur with a Novel Sulfate Reducing Permeable Reactive Barrier Containing ZVI, Aug 27, 1:00 PM-3:00 PM CDT.
- ITRC In Situ Bioremediation of Chlorinated Ethene - DNAPL Source Zones, Sept 9, 1:00 PM-3:15 PM CDT
- ITRC Enhanced Attenuation of Chlorinated Organics: A Site Management Tool, Sept 11, 2008, 11:00 AM-1:15 PM CDT.
- A Systematic Approach for Evaluation of Capture Zones at Pump and Treat Systems, Sept 11, 1:00 PM-3:00 PM CDT and Oct 8, 12:00 PM-3:00 PM CDT.

● The 2008 Board, Committee, and Area Coordinators

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WGWA Spring Conference Planning Update

By Paula Richardson

Planning for the Annual Spring Conference on March 5, 2009 at the Ramada in Stevens Point is going well. WGWA is pursuing some different avenues this year, and is working on lining up an opening address by a well-known politician, and incorporating a panel discussion to facilitate more interaction between the presenters and attendees. Paula Richardson is currently accepting abstracts, and it's not too late to participate in the planning by joining the committee. Please contact Paula at prichardson@rsv-jefferson.com or 920.674.3411 for more information.

WGWA Great Lakes Task Force Press Release

By Lee Trotta

As some of you already know, the WGWA formed a Great Lakes Task Force which supported the Healthy Lakes/Healthy Lives Tour in Milwaukee. The press conference occurred at 10:00 AM on Thursday, August 14, 2008, at the South Shore Yacht Club. About 90 environmental leaders came to hear the local politicians (Mayor Tom Barrett, Senator Jeff Plale, and Alderman Michael Murphy) extol the virtues of keeping Lake Michigan clean and pest-free. There was good media coverage and I'm sure there will be more as the giant ship Earth Voyager moves to its new dock at Pier Wisconsin later Thursday through Saturday morning. Earth Voyager has set records as the fastest ship from point to point that sails the Great Lakes.

Milwaukee's ABC affiliate Channel 12 had a nice segment on the 6 o'clock news about Earth Voyager and the press conference that evening.

Recent flooding = high groundwater = continued flooding

Two months after heavy rains flooded much of Wisconsin, Sauk County homes and farms remain underwater, with dollar losses reaching tens of millions. [<<MORE>>](#)

June flooding and high groundwater continue to bedevil some home owners

More than \$67-million dollars are flowing into Wisconsin to offset damage heavy rainstorms caused when they pummeled vast stretches of the state earlier this summer. WUWM's Susan Bence visited a couple who bought a rural property in Jefferson County five years ago. Now they're not sure their dream house will survive the floods with or without assistance. [<<MORE>>](#)

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NGWA Goes Live on National TV

Ground water and wells will be front and center on the national stage Monday, September 8 when a special show produced by the National Ground Water Association is beamed via satellite into homes across America. [<<MORE>>](#)

Rushford Responds to Flash Flood

By Stew Thornley, Minnesota Department of Health
[Reprinted with permission from the Minnesota Ground Water Association June 2008 Newsletter]

Editors Note: The following article is a fascinating account of how old, improperly constructed or abandoned wells can become a serious liability and challenge to a community in the event of flooding. [<<MORE>>](#)

Waukesha County Flooding of June 08

By Lee Trotta

As a foil for the Minnesota flooding article included in this newsletter, I have offered to write an article on the historic flooding in Waukesha County in early June. After checking with water utility managers in both Pewaukee and Waukesha, we are unaware of any related groundwater incidents or studies such as those reported in Minnesota (editors note: see Interesting Articles and other Tidbits on the Web section for a link to a Journal-Sentinel article on groundwater-exacerbated flooding in western Wisconsin).. A closer look at the local flooding is still, however, warranted. [<<MORE>>](#)

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Every cubic mile of seawater holds over 150 million tons of minerals.



Get Yourself Published

We are looking for articles for future editions of the WGWA newsletter. Articles should be 1 to 8 pages in length and can include photographs and graphics. Articles should be generally technical in nature focusing on groundwater or environmental topics, but non-commercial or political.