

# 50 years ago...

- Wide public concern about the environment and surface waters
- Relatively new Wisconsin DNR and US EPA tasked with solving problems
- Recent research highlighting the limits of lake associations

**33.001 Declaration of intent.** The legislature finds environmental values, wildlife, public rights in navigable waters, and the public welfare are threatened by the deterioration of public lakes; that the protection and rehabilitation of the public inland lakes of this state are in the best interest of the citizens of this state; that the public health and welfare will be benefited thereby; that the current state effort to abate water pollution will not undo the eutrophic and other deteriorated conditions of many lakes; that lakes form an important basis of the state's recreation industry; that the increasing recreational usage of the waters of this state justifies state action to enhance and restore the potential of our inland lakes to satisfy the needs of the citizenry; and that the positive public duty of this state as trustee of waters requires affirmative steps to protect and enhance this resource and protect environmental values. To this end, the legislature declares that it is necessary to embark upon a program of lake protection and rehabilitation, to authorize a conjunctive state and local program of lake protection and rehabilitation to fulfill the positive duty of the state as trustee of navigable waters, and protect environmental values. The legislature finds that a state effort of research, analysis, planning and financing, and a local effort undertaken by lake rehabilitation and protection districts of planning and plan implementation is necessary and desirable and that the local districts should be formed by persons directly affected by the deteriorated condition of inland waters and willing to assist financially, or through other means, in remedying lake problems. The legislature further finds that state efforts are needed to aid and assist local efforts, to ensure that projects are undertaken only if they promote the public rights in navigable waters, environmental values, and the public welfare, and to administer a program of financial aids to support rehabilitation projects with benefits to all state citizens.



## Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Wisconsin Chapter 33!



- Staff, Science, Regs
- \$6.5 million+ annual cost-share grants to local efforts



*Wisconsin  
Lakes and Rivers  
Partnership*



**WISCONSIN  
LAKES**

- Statewide Advocacy
- 800+ local and regional lake organizations

*\$20 million+ in local taxes and fundraising annually*



**\$13 million!**



**Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



Extension Lakes  
College of Natural Resources  
**University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point**

- Statewide Education, Training and Outreach
- Connection to campuses (UWSP, Madison, beyond)

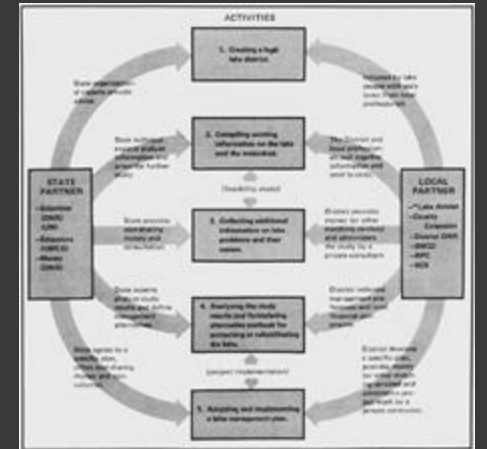
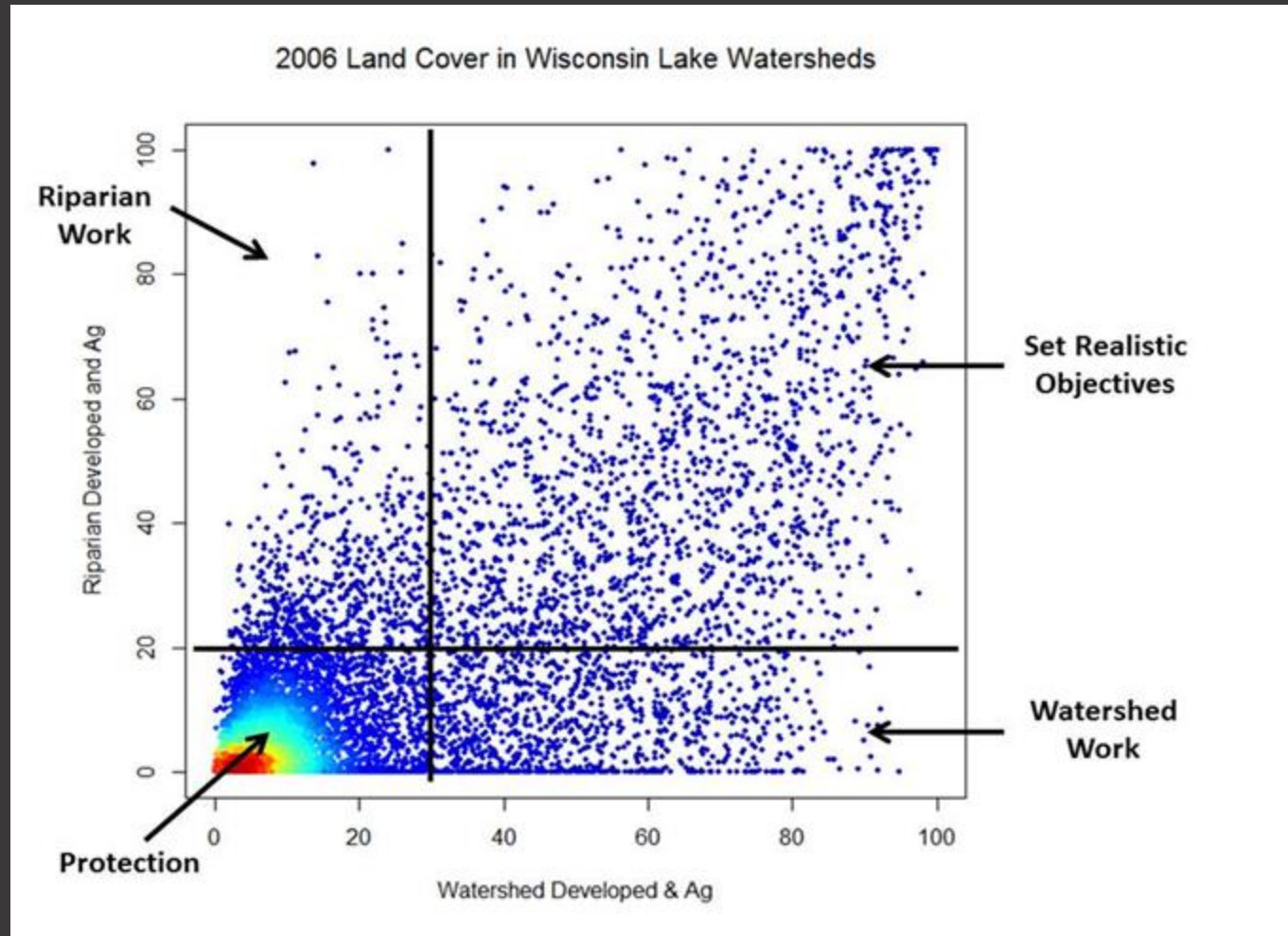
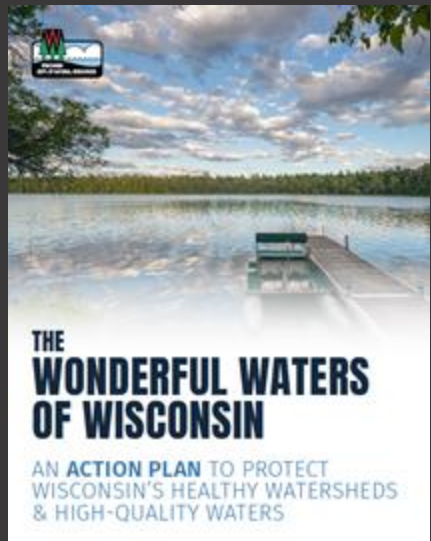


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# What Wisconsin Lake Organizations Do...



...Depends on the Lake



# Little St. Germain Lake District, Vilas Co.

- Aerator
- Aquatic Plant Management
- Fish Stocking
- Buoys
- \$370k in DNR Grants from 1991-2004
- \$247M eq value in 2023 (50% + increase from 2017)

YEAR	DISTRICT EQUALIZED VALUE	VALUATION INCREASE	MAXIMUM LEVY ALLOWED	LEVY ASSESSED	LEVY PER \$100,000 VALUATION
1980	\$0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
1981	\$19,445,300	N/A	\$48,613	\$2,500	\$0.13
1982	\$20,740,380	6.7%	\$51,851	\$11,500	\$0.55
1983	\$21,272,785	2.6%	\$53,182	\$5,000	\$0.24
1984	\$21,515,770	1.1%	\$53,789	\$5,000	\$0.23
1985	\$20,665,290	-4.0%	\$51,663	\$0	\$0.00
1986	\$20,294,436	-1.8%	\$50,736	\$0	\$0.00
1987	\$21,159,191	4.3%	\$52,898	\$0	\$0.00
1988	\$22,580,538	6.7%	\$56,451	\$11,000	\$0.49
1989	\$24,025,944	6.4%	\$60,065	\$9,000	\$0.37
1990	\$25,067,858	4.3%	\$62,670	\$16,500	\$0.66
1991	\$27,018,315	7.8%	\$67,546	\$15,000	\$0.56
1992	\$31,702,795	17.3%	\$79,257	\$15,000	\$0.47
1993	\$38,661,520	21.9%	\$96,654	\$15,000	\$0.39
1994	\$40,259,269	4.1%	\$100,648	\$15,000	\$0.37
1995	\$51,768,405	28.6%	\$129,421	\$15,000	\$0.29
1996	\$60,234,827	16.4%	\$150,587	\$15,000	\$0.25
1997	\$67,451,065	12.0%	\$168,628	\$15,000	\$0.22
1998	\$73,158,830	8.5%	\$182,897	\$15,000	\$0.21
1999	\$79,506,198	8.7%	\$198,765	\$15,000	\$0.19
2000	\$82,626,423	3.9%	\$206,566	\$40,000	\$0.48
2001	\$86,554,539	4.8%	\$216,386	\$45,000	\$0.52
2002	\$94,554,539	9.2%	\$236,386	\$72,000	\$0.76
2003	\$119,952,186	26.9%	\$299,880	\$48,000	\$0.40
2004	\$130,624,408	8.9%	\$326,561	\$64,000	\$0.49
2005	\$143,029,392	9.5%	\$357,573	\$43,000	\$0.30
2006	\$169,134,826	18.3%	\$422,837	\$62,000	\$0.37
2007	\$176,939,588	4.6%	\$442,349	\$57,000	\$0.32
2008	\$182,228,229	3.0%	\$455,571	\$145,000	\$0.80
2009	\$171,792,245	-5.7%	\$429,481	\$110,500	\$0.64
2010	\$179,484,392	4.5%	\$448,711	\$36,500	\$0.20
2011	\$168,663,891	-6.0%	\$421,660	\$53,000	\$0.31
2012	\$172,645,352	2.4%	\$431,613	\$62,700	\$0.36
2013	\$155,942,275	-9.7%	\$389,856	\$43,400	\$0.28
2014	\$159,989,979	2.6%	\$399,975	\$46,500	\$0.29
2015	\$157,562,073	-1.5%	\$393,905	\$45,700	\$0.29
2016	\$161,591,357	2.6%	\$403,978	\$54,700	\$0.34
2017	\$160,236,743	-0.8%	\$400,592	\$48,200	\$0.30