

Ganawenjigaade

It is taken care of, protected...

We take care of, protect, keep it

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Treaty Natural Resources Division Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 3, Autumn 2017



In this Issue...

Anishinaabemowin	2
Hunting, Trapping, Fishing Seasons	3
Community Comment—Nonpoint source pollution mgmt. plan	4
Wordsearch	5
Employee of the Month	6
Hatchery News	7
Summer Interns Summary	8
Clayton Creek Trail Opening and Map	10
Tribal Farm Update	12
Frog Creek CMA new signage	16
Land Buy Back program information	18
Wild Rice Event	21
Hot Flat Crowded Film Series Event	24
Sharp-trail Grouse update!	25
Osprey Platform	27
O'Possum in Red Cliff	28
Wolf on Stockton	31
Watershed Symposium	33
Phragmites: Native and Invasive	36
Hunter Safety: Lead	38
Composting Guidelines	39
Styrofoam	40
Recycling Rules	41

DAGWAAGIN

It is Autumn

MANOOMINIKE-GIIZIS

Ricing Moon

BAWA'AM

s/he knocks wild rice

WAAWAASHKESHI

White-tailed deer

WAAWAASHKESHIW

Deer hide

WAAWAASHKESHIWI-WIYAAS

Deer meat

ANIIBIISH

1. A leaf 2. tea

OZAAWIBAGAA

There are yellow leaves, brown leaves

MANDAAMINAAK

An ear of corn

MISKOBAGAA

There are red leaves

OKANAKOSIMAAN

A squash

MANIDOO-WAABOOZ

A cottontail rabbit

JIIKAKAMIGAD

There is a celebration, a happy event

BAAKA'AAKWENH

A chicken



Red Cliff Reservation Hunting, Trapping, and Fishing Seasons



Some seasons may be subject to change. Consult the tribal ordinances before going hunting.

Small Game Hunting Season: Requires Tribal ID

Species:	Daily Bag:	Season:
Ruffed Grouse	10	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31
Sharptailed Grouse	10	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31
Squirrel	10	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31
Raccoon	None	Open All Year
Rabbit and Hare	5	Open All Year
Bob White Quail	5	Open All Year
Pheasant	5	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31
Fox	1	Open All Year
Bob Cat	1 Per Season	Open All Year
Morning Dove	None	Open All Year

Check Tribal Ordinances on regulations regarding "Protected Species," and "Animals and Birds Causing Damage."

Big Game Hunting Season: Requires Tribal Transportation Tag

Species:		Season:
Deer	Antler	July 1 - Dec. 31
	Antlerless	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31
Bear		Sept. 1 - Nov. 30

Trapping Season: Requires Tribal Trapping Permit

Species:	Reservation Quota or Season Limit:	Season:
Beaver	No Limit	Oct. 15 - Apr. 30
Bobcat	Reservation Quota: 1 bobcat per year	Oct. 15 - Dec. 31
Fisher	Reservation Quota: 20 per year	Oct. 15 - Mar. 31
Fox	No Limit	Oct. 15 - Feb 28
Mink	No Limit	Oct. 15 - Feb 28
Muskrat	No Limit	Oct. 15 - Apr. 30
Otter	1 per trapper per year	Oct. 15 - Apr. 30
Raccoon	No Limit	Oct. 15 - Jan. 31

Fishing Regulations on Lake Superior: Requires Tribal ID

Species: Walleye, northern pike, white bass, rock bass, bluegill, crappie, pumpkinseed, bullheads, yellow bass, catfish, cisco, whitefish, rough fish, largemouth and smallmouth bass, muskellunge, trout and salmon. *, **

Season: Year Round
Bag Limit: None
Size Limit: None

* No person may fish in a refuge, as described in Tribal Codes.

Sturgeon *, **

Season: Year Round
Bag Limit: One per person per day
Size Limit: None

** No person may use more than 30 attended or unattended lines.

Nonpoint Source Pollution Assessment Report
&
Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Plan
Out for Public Review and Comment
September 25th – October 25th, 2017

The Water Resources Program has recently updated its Nonpoint Source Pollution Assessment Report and Management Plan and is seeking your feedback on these important documents that will help guide water resources management within the Red Cliff Reservation!

Stormwater runoff from roads and lawns are nonpoint pollution sources, including housing developments.

Paper copies are available at the Tribal Administration building or Environmental Department. Electronic copies can be found on the Water Resources page of the tribal website,
Please use the provided comment sheets, also on webpage.

<http://redcliff-nsn.gov/divisions/TNRD/WR.htm>

Please submit written comments to:
Gabrielle VanBergen, Water Resources Program Manager
gabriellevb@redcliff-nsn.gov

OR

Bring comment sheets to the Environmental Department at 37295 Community Rd

Questions? Call the Environmental Department at 715-779-3650

GITIGE *S/he plants, gardens, farms*
 GITIGAAN *A field, a garden, a farm*
 GIMIWAN *Verb . Basic word for Rain*
 -BIISAAN *Final element in verbs describing different ways of raining*
 BANGIBIISAAN *It is a cloudburst; the rain pours down*
 BAGAMIBIISAAN *Rain is on the way*

Nonpoint Source Pollution Word Search

I C O S Z H T S C F P W V V O X K L C M E B I E O	
M O H W P H W T A W K C U M R G V H E R C B Z B P	
E K Q G A O L O I N E N V E L N F L K L R Q G B H	
R L U S Z I G R C N U Q T R A Y R P E P U J P J V	CONSERVATION
E N V I R O N M E N T A P K M X H Z E A O O M D F	ENVIRONMENT
F G W S G T P W A D W Z M M U O Q A A U S S T I I	EROSION
X E F H P P U A V C T R O O F G S T R B T F X J G	FERTILIZERS
G W R H J K G T S O I N Q L M C K C H I N F E T X	ICEMELT
G M T T N D V E C P I H T S E L H V L Q I O U L O	MONITORING
Q D O C I U T R A T T X M I A R O N Q I O N I N D	NONPOINTSOURCE
O P Z Z R L T R O T L E M E C I R D P G P U P Q M	NUTRIENTS
Q T N Z O Q I R Z K E M U M A B E A S T N R E W V	PESTICIDES
G K C R H A I Z I T G D K E U H D N B W O V C V D	POLLUTION
Z Q C V N N X N E E A O G B S Y N N O N N K U M X	RAINBARREL
N T Y V G E U Z I R N B K R O R O A O I I Y B J B	RAINGARDEN
N E D R A G N I A R S T E F K I S H U U S A I R R	RIPARIAN
P O L L U T I O N O N T S D T H E Q K H N O R C X	RUNOFF
H O N M K W T N I C A E Y A G H D C W J S G R K X	SEDIMENT
V H G K M I N X J W U Y V D C K I Z B T E O K E C	STORMWATER
S P U W C T P V F S B R N G K W C V K T D L O E A	WATER
H F R G R F Q X K B E F Y C A N I V M Y I U E C G	WATERSHED
L J D M A M R N H S O W U A A W T C O I M L A X B	
I O Z Y M W E M N T I A P X Y H S L M Y E G W M N	
E P V W C F I O S U V U R B M K E H J P N J V K M	
X Z G N E A C P H X A F Y X R T P Y W S T W E U M	

Treaty Natural Resources Employee of the Month

Written by: Chad Abel, Division Administrator

An office is only as good as its staff. And we here at the Treaty Natural Resources Division think we have some of the best. The following team members were nominated for Employee of the Month in the last three months by their fellow co-workers.



July Employee of the Month

Lucas Cadotte, Assistant Chief Warden

Lucas has earned employee of the month so many times, I'm not sure what else to say about him! His selection for EOTM was unanimous amongst the nominations casted in July. It shows he is appreciated across departments and tribal staff in the Treaty Natural Resources Division.



August Employee of the Month

Ceaira Gordon, Summer Youth Intern

Ceaira completed her second year of the summer internship program in August, and she continued to demonstrate the ideal for other interns to follow. Ceaira is conscientious, attentive and committed. In the 6 years of the summer internship program in our Division, she is the first to earn employee of the month. We've appreciated the time she has given to the program, and she has \$1,000 in scholarship awards from our Division to show for it! Way to go, Ceaira!



September Employee of the Month

Mijen Armstrong, Farm Technician now Americorps

In 2016, Mijen served our internship program as a crew leader before his final year at UW-Madison. He returned after graduation this year as the Farm Technician, essentially committing himself to a summer of manual labor. In September, he ended his service as an official tribal employee to begin a year of service at the tribal farm as an Americorps volunteer. Hats off to this young man for earning his undergraduate degree then coming home to volunteer for the Tribe in which he is a member. It shows a lot of character to make such a decision.

Red Cliff Tribal Fish Hatchery News

Walleye

This year the Red Cliff Tribal Fish Hatchery worked in conjunction with the St. Croix Band to rear extended growth walleye for stocking within the ceded territory. Here at Red Cliff, the ponds are being reconstructed and upgraded with newer technology to keep up with the needs of rearing extended growth walleye. It is our hope that next year, we will have three brand new, lined walleye rearing ponds, with new outlet structures and a brand new catch basin as well. With these new ponds, it is also in our hopes that walleye production will increase as well as the health of the fish that are getting stocked.

This year, the St. Croix Band was able to rear 6,907 extended growth walleye for us, averaging just less than 7 inches. These walleye were stocked into Lake Owen on 9/8/2017. Hatchery staff traveled down to St. Croix and assisted with the harvesting of the fish. A sample was taken to get average lengths and weights and the rest of the fish were weighed on their way to the stocking tank. Buckets upon buckets of fish were put into the tank until we reached the



capacity of the stocking tank. Fish were then transported to Lake Owen where they were again bucketed out of the truck and into the lake, all by hand. The Red Cliff Hatchery would like to extend a huge thank you to the hatchery staff at St. Croix. With our ponds being redone there is no way that we could have raised any extended growth Walleye this year. Thanks to you, we were able to do just that with great success. Chi Miigwetch

Top Photo: *Fish being harvested at St.*



TNR 2017 Summer Intern Summary

Beginning in 2012, the TNR Division has collaborated with Wisconsin DNR to offer Red Cliff youth a summer intern program. The intent of the internship is to cultivate interest in Natural Resource careers, and encourage the interns to pursue continuing education opportunities after high school. Beginning in 2013, the USDA Forest Service became a third partner in the summer intern program. Interns spend part of their summer with each agency, gaining hands-on experience and meeting natural resource professionals.

For 2017 the Red Cliff TNR division hosted 3 summer interns. Interns worked TNR staff on a variety of different projects. Interns also participated in an individual research project at the end of the summer. This year was a great experience working with these young individuals. Below you will find some statements from the interns on their experience.



The interns and Hatchery Manager Chase Meierotto during their final presentation at Tribal Council.



“The first week of our internship we went electrofishing with Reed on the Chicago creek. It was cool to see how the equipment worked and to see the different kinds of fish that could be in a little stream.” **Cecira Gordon**

“This internship has been exactly what I expected it to be. From the start of it, I had no idea what to expect from this. I almost thought we were only going to be spending our time in the hatchery. Little did I know, we would be bouncing around everywhere and working with new people almost every day.”

Giovanni Garramone

“There was so much we got to learn. I loved it! And I hope that this internship can go on for a long time so that more people can be inspired to protect the land and our treaty rights.” **Talon DeFoe**



“The next week we got to go camping in the Sylvania wilderness with Lena and Reed we got to canoe across the lake to our campsite it was really windy so it was hard to get across the lake.” **Ceaira Gordon**

“Although I’ve heard negative things about simply working on a farm I didn’t feel like it was all that bad. At least up until the day where we were picking garlic for five hours straight. Puking was very much possible at that time. Other than that one instance I felt like the farm was very enjoyable because my mind could go anywhere and I could discuss certain things with Gio while we worked.” **Talon DeFoe**

“In the end, it’s pretty bittersweet. I get to be done with work for a while, but I think I’ll still miss the job. It only makes me more excited to apply again next year, though. This whole internship opened me up to all new ideas for a possible future career and I truly think that I might choose a job like this later in life. I’m really glad I got to be a part of this internship and I hope that I can be again next year.” **Giovanni Garramone**

“One of my personal favorite things was working with Ron and Jeremy. We set up martin/fisher traps with stinky skunk and beaver based goop. I feel like that was an even worse smelling day than the garlic.I set out a grid of 20 traps and baited them with trail mix. Unfortunately all we caught was a single deer mouse but it was still fun to set and check nonetheless.” **Talon DeFoe**

“At the hatchery we cleaned tanks and laughed at each other when the water sprayed us. We cleaned the floors and we were sliding around trying not to fall. We fed the fish and clipped some fins.” **Ceaira Gordon**

“Throughout the internship we’ve met so many different people. All of them were so unique which made working with them even more intriguing because while you worked, you’d also learn more about who you’re working with.” **Giovanni Garramone**

Interested in the Internship Program for ages 13-19? Email Chase Meierotto at Chase.Meierotto@redcliff-nsn.gov or call the Hatchery at 715-779-3750.

Clayton Creek Hiking Trail Officially Opens

Submitted by: Todd Norwood—Project Coordinator, Treaty Natural Resources

Over the summer months, Treaty Natural Resources staff constructed a new hiking trail connecting the Red Cliff Health Clinic and the paved trail near the old casino and administration building. Although there are still improvements to be made, such as leveling the trail on slopes for easier walking, the trail is officially open! We plan to install signs with a map which will help designate each end of the trail in the near future.

The Clayton Creek Trail is 1-mile in length and takes approximately 30 - 45 minutes to walk one way. Although we did our best to avoid wet areas when developing the trail, it does become muddy in places during rainy or wet periods as a result of the clay soils. Bridges were placed over major ravines or streams for ease of crossing and to keep feet dry. The trail follows the Clayton Creek ravine through mixed hardwood and coniferous forest and is quite scenic. Get outside and enjoy the fall weather on the new Clayton Creek trail!



Above: Bridge along trail.

Below: Chad Abel, Division Administrator, provides bridge building wisdom to summer youth interns.

The Clayton Creek Trail can be started at either end. See map on following page:

Health Clinic

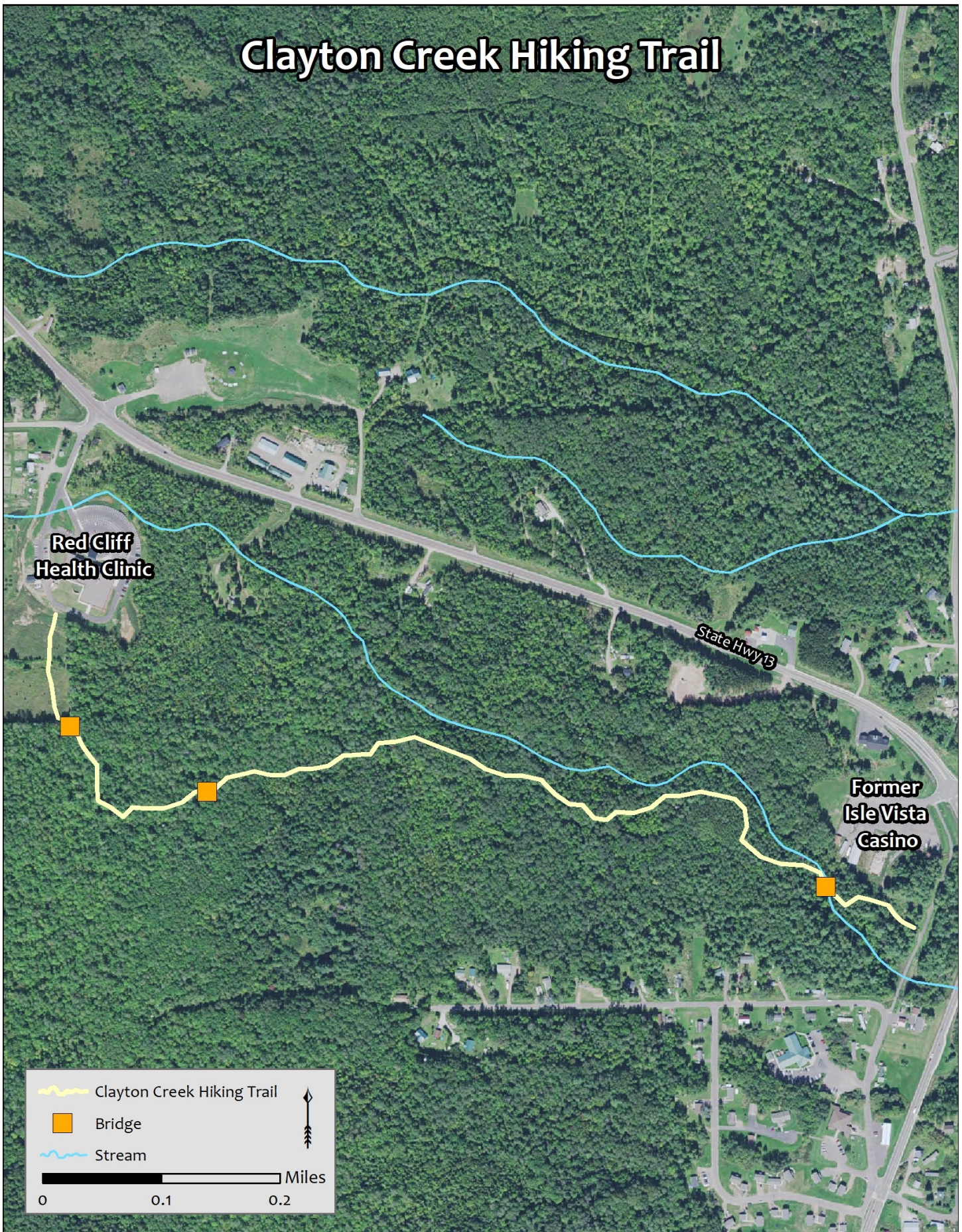
Follow the mowed path through the field behind the clinic.

Old Casino

Follow the ATV trail off of the paved walking trail near the old casino then onto the mowed path that veers toward the woods.



Clayton Creek Hiking Trail





Minobimadiziiwin Gitigaanin Tribal

2017 Field season at a glance

Pictured above is a small plot of cover crops: sunflowers, field peas, vetch, oats, calendula, sorghum sudan grass, fava beans, daikon radish, crimson clover, nasturtium... it is currently a sanctuary for many creatures from birds to bugs.

The Mino Bimaadiziiwin Farm has had a productive season with several new things to highlight. The season began with the farm hosting the annual plant giveaway again this May. Thousands of seedlings were given away to hundreds of tribal members and community members. Plants varied from popular tomato and pepper varieties to squash, broccoli, and herbs. Dan Gadbois and Patty Aiken Buffalo were instrumental in helping this go off without a hitch – thank you for your volunteer efforts!

In June, the farm hosted 10 high school students from the Los Angeles area through Xperitas, a service learning organization. These students helped plant squash, corn, cucumbers, and melons, and aided in mulching and weeding. It was a great experience for all of them as some of them had never gardened before. Dr. Jim Pete also gave the group a tour of Madeline Island highlighting the importance of the island to Ojibwe people. This group also worked with Red Cliff youth through the Wolf Camp that Brighter Futures and the Youth Center were hosting. This was a wonderful opportunity for these kids to experience traditional Anishinaabe culture. A great time was had by all and Xperitas is already looking forward to more service learning trips to Red Cliff in the future.



The summer launched several new projects at the farm. One new advancement this summer has been the farm's Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program. The farm sold shares to participating members for a fee and each Thursday beginning in early August, these participants receive a box full of produce. The produce varies depending on what is in season from tomatoes and apples to cabbage and lettuce. This has proven to be a win-win venture as the community members have gotten delicious and quality produce each week, learning about new items, and the farm has earned this revenue for its own future functions. Another highlight has been the weekly farmer's market happening each Tuesday from 3 – 6 pm in Legendary Waters Casino's parking lot. This has been a great way for the farm to get exposure and for a few other vendors to sell their wares as well. We look forward to the market continuing to grow in future years.



The Treaty Natural Resources assembled a crew of fisheries staff to help retrofit a shed to become the new chicken coop as well as construct a very sturdy chicken fence for the farm's new feathered friends. There are now 25 new hens (and one rooster) who call Mino Bimaadiziwin Farm their home. These birds help transform food waste and their bedding into valuable compost for the farm and will begin to lay eggs for additional farm income in the near future. These eggs are slated to go to the Early Childhood center where they'll help nourish Red Cliff's future leaders!



The farm also acquired a small group of rabbits this summer which are now helping munch down the clover and grass in the garden area. They can be seen in their large rabbit cages - called "tractors" sunning themselves and pasturing the forage that sticks up through the wire bottom. Besides being adorable, these rabbits will provide meat for feasts as well as produce pelts for regalia. If you are interested in tanning your own rabbit pelt, let farm staff know and we'll save a pelt for you the next time we butcher.





Above: the Buck (male rabbit)
 Top Right: Rabbit Tractor
 Bottom Right: A Doe and her Kittens.



Mijen Armstrong, a local Red Cliff youth and recent UW Madison graduate has also returned this year to work at Mino Bimaadiziwin. Mijen first came to the farm last year as a Treaty Natural Resources youth intern and then applied for the Farm Technician position that ran from June-Sept this year. Now, Mijen has stepped into a new role at the farm as the Tribal AmeriCorps Program service member. We're thankful to have Mijen in all of these roles as he's been a great asset to the farm.



Overall, 2017 has been a successful year though it hasn't been without its own set of challenges. The high volume of water and cool season made it difficult to grow certain crops outside. The farm is looking forward to assembling a new high tunnel greenhouse that will boost our ability to grow certain difficult heat loving crops. Look along Aiken Rd this fall and next spring and you'll see where this 30 x 70' high tunnel will be going up. Thank you to all of the volunteers, customers, and community members who have contributed in any way to our farm efforts! Stop out to the farm to say hello, check out the progress, or purchase some late season produce!

Nathanael Secor, Farm Manager

The farm manager can be reached at 715-779-3782 or nathanael.secor@redcliff-nsn.gov



Need apples?

We have you covered!

Mino Bimaadiziiwin Farm has apples for sale. We have both "A" grade eating apples as well as "B" grade apples for baking and canning projects.

Deer apples available too upon request

All of our apples are chemical free

Bushel "A" Grade— \$40

Bushel "B" Grade— \$20

1/2 Bushel "A" Grade— \$22

1/2 Bushel "B" Grade— \$12

1 Peck "A" Grade— \$13.00

1 Peck "B" Grade— \$7.00

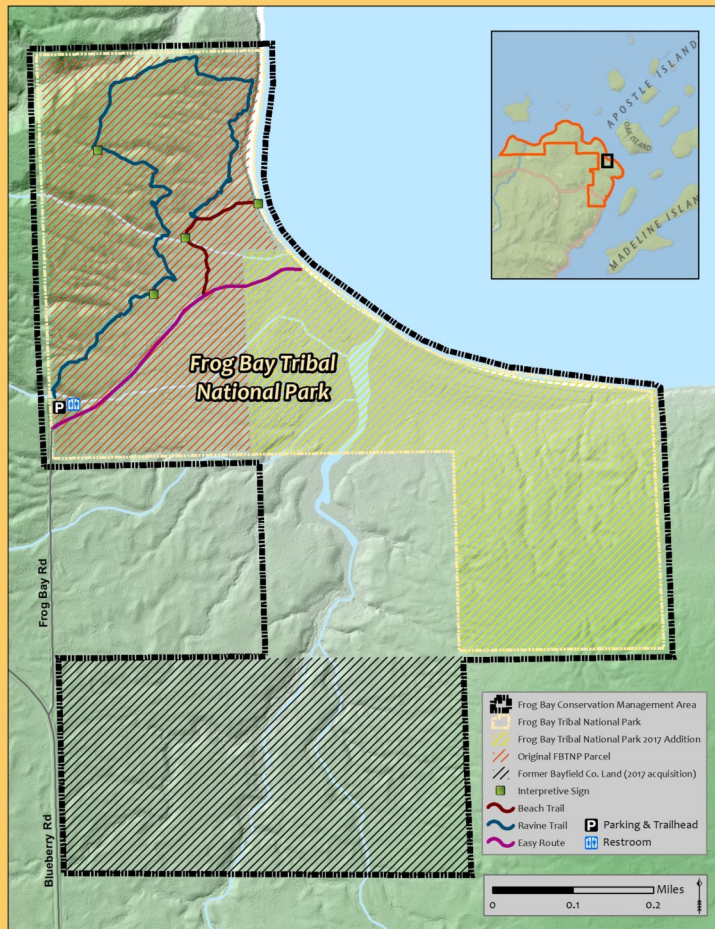
1/2 Peck "A" Grade— \$7.00

1/2 Peck "B" Grade— \$4.00

Call 715-779-3782 for info or stop out at the farm on the corner of Aiken Road and Hwy 13 in Red Cliff

New Signage for Frog Creek Conservation Management Area

Frog Creek Conservation Management Area



Formation of Frog Bay Tribal National Park and Frog Creek Conservation Management Area (CMA)

Frog Bay Tribal National Park (FBTNP) is the first tribal national park in the United States! The park and CMA were made possible through several efforts:

The original 89 acre parcel of former Red Cliff Reservation land was successfully reacquired by a grant from NOAA's Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program, grant assistance from Bayfield Regional Conservancy, and a considerable donation by the landowners at the time, David and Marjorie Johnson. All of the park's infrastructure you see today – the trail system, interpretive signs, bridges, and comfort station – was developed through careful planning by tribal staff on this first conservation parcel.

A second, 82 acre private parcel was acquired in 2017 using Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funding from EPA's Great Lakes National Program Office. The acquisition permanently protects the lower estuary and mouth of Frog Creek and further restored former reservation lands to tribal ownership.

In an effort to protect the headwaters of the Frog Creek watershed and preserve historical and cultural use of this place, the Red Cliff Tribal Council formally adopted the Frog Creek CMA. The Frog Creek CMA consists of Frog Bay Tribal National Park, 40 acres of land that was already in tribal ownership, and 80 acres of Bayfield County forestry land that was purchased through GLRI funding awarded from BIA. Bayfield County Board of Supervisors voiced overwhelming support in Red Cliff's conservation and land repatriation efforts at Frog Bay when approving the title transfer.

In total, the CMA permanently protects almost 300 acres of land around Frog Bay.



Frog Bay Tribal National Park is open to tribal members and the general public alike, but the greater Frog Creek CMA is a core conservation area and, as such, is only open to designated uses by tribal members. If you are not a Red Cliff Tribal Member, we ask that you restrict your use to the trail system and the beach at Frog Bay. Please use this map to know where you are in the park to avoid entering unauthorized areas, and please practice "leave no trace" principles while enjoying the natural beauty at Frog Bay!

Last updated September 2017 Red Cliff Treaty Natural Resources

The text on this new 47 x 47 inch kiosk reads: Frog Bay Tribal National Park (FBTNP) is the first tribal national park in the United States! The park and CMA were made possible through several efforts:

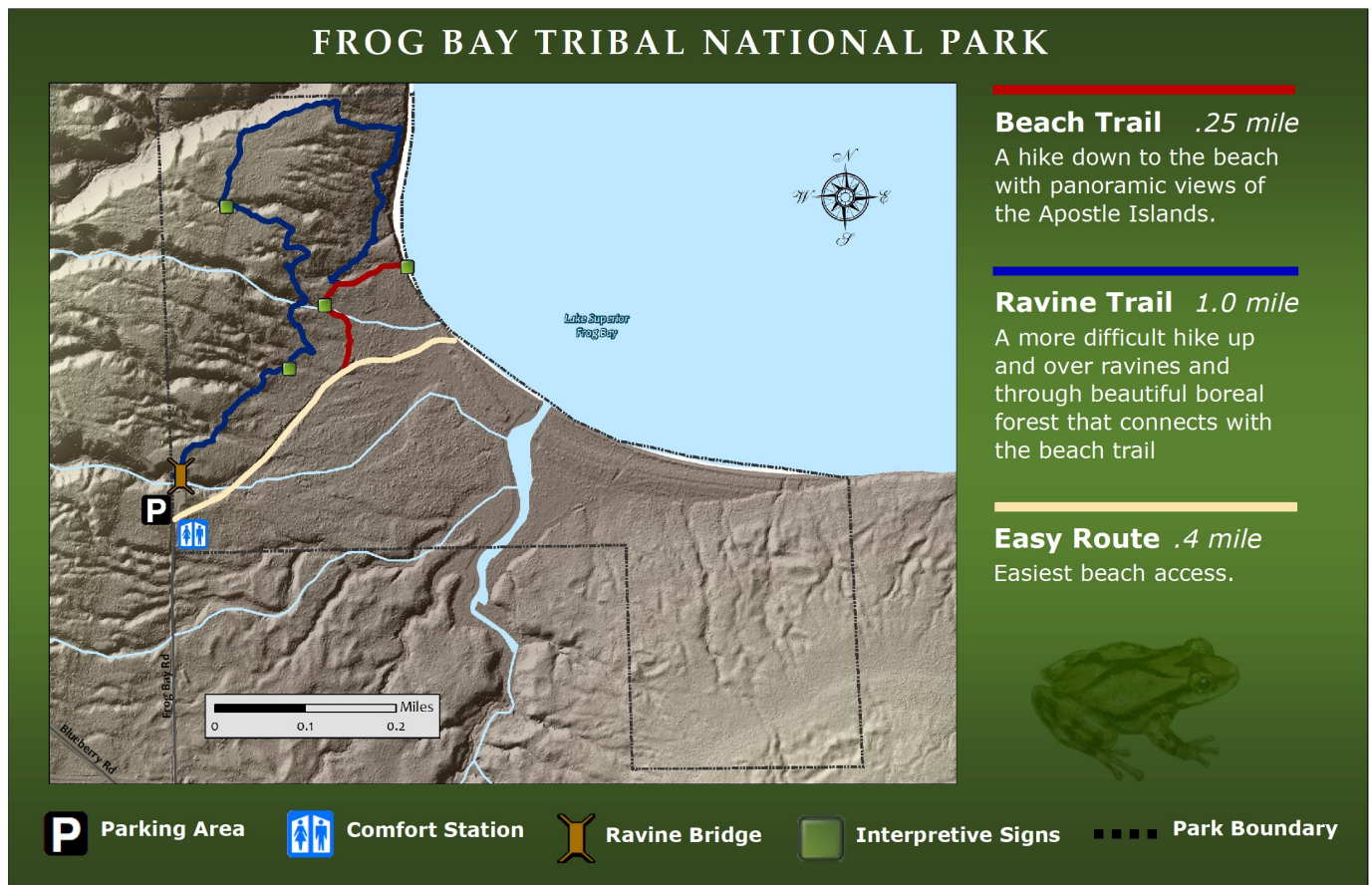
The original 89 acre parcel of former Red Cliff Reservation land was successfully reacquired by a grant from NOAA's Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program, grant assistance from Bayfield Regional Conservancy, and a considerable donation by the landowners at the time, David and Marjorie Johnson. All of the park's infrastructure you see today – the trail system, interpretive signs, bridges, and comfort station – was developed through careful planning by tribal staff on this first conservation parcel.

A second, 82 acre private parcel was acquired in 2017 using Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)

funding from EPA's Great Lakes National Program Office. The acquisition permanently protects the lower estuary and mouth of Frog Creek and further restored former reservation lands to tribal ownership.

In an effort to protect the headwaters of the Frog Creek watershed and preserve historical and cultural use of this place, the Red Cliff Tribal Council formally adopted the Frog Creek CMA. The Frog Creek CMA consists of Frog Bay Tribal National Park, 40 acres of land that was already in tribal ownership, and 80 acres of Bayfield County forestry land that was purchased through GLRI funding awarded from BIA. Bayfield County Board of Supervisors voiced overwhelming support in Red Cliff's conservation and land repatriation efforts at Frog Bay when approving the title transfer.

In total, the CMA permanently protects almost 300 acres of land around Frog Bay.



This sign with an updated trail map will be at the parking lot trailhead.



Five MINISAN can be seen from the shore of Frog Bay Tribal National Park.



Created to implement part of the Cobell Settlement, the Buy-Back Program is offering fair market value to landowners for restoring land to tribes, which helps ensure that Indian lands stay in trust.

This Program is for...

You Landowners who receive offers may choose to sell all, some, or none of their fractionated interests. Owners will have **45 days** to respond to purchase offers, and sellers will receive payments directly into their IIM accounts, including a \$75 base payment - regardless of purchase offer amount.

Your Land The Program is a collaborative effort between individuals, tribes, and the federal government to preserve the Indian trust land base. By restoring Indian trust lands to the tribe, you help communities put trust land to beneficial use.

Your Community Not only does restoring land for tribal use help reinforce the cultural and economic future of the tribe, but each purchase will also support Native students through the Cobell Education Scholarship Fund, up to \$60 million.

Did you know...

Approximately **243,000** individuals own nearly **3 million** fractional interests on **150 reservations** across the country.

Learn More...

Owners are encouraged to learn more, consider their options, and make sure their contact information is current by contacting the U.S. Department of the Interior:



Call the Trust Beneficiary Call Center:
1 (888) 678-6836

Visit your local Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST).

Explore our website at:
www.doi.gov/buybackprogram



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Appraisal Fact Sheet



Land Valuation is the process that determines the fair market value of tracts of land where the Department of the Interior may offer to buy fractional interests. The Department's Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST), Office of Appraisal Services (OAS) will be appraising the land. OAS will incorporate value of timber and mineral estates. The Office of Minerals Evaluation (OME) will value mineral interests.

1. What is Fair Market Value?

Fair Market Value (FMV) is a type of value, stated as an opinion, of what a property would sell for in an open and competitive market and what a ready, willing, and able buyer might pay for a property in the current market. FMV will determine the amount that an owner will be paid for their share of interest in a fractionated tract.

2. How is the value of the land determined?

Properties that are eligible for purchase for the Buy-Back Program are compared to similar properties that have sold in the area. To provide an estimate of value, adjustments are made for any differences between Buy-Back Program eligible properties and similar properties that have sold. The estimate of value is being performed by a licensed appraiser.

3. What appraisal methods will the Department use?

- **Mass Appraisals** – a process used to value properties that are similar in use and have active/consistent markets or comparable sales data. Mass appraisals allow for greater efficiency and consistency in valuations.
- **Direct / Site-Specific Appraisals** – an appraisal process that may be used on tracts that may be difficult to value simultaneously with mass appraisal-amenable tracts.

4. Why is the Program using mass appraisal techniques?

The breadth, scale, limited funding, and fixed life span of the Program necessitates the use of mass appraisal methods where appropriate. Such use will result in greater efficiency and consistency in valuations, enabling the Program to effectively value many acres and tracts simultaneously. The Program will use market studies or mass appraisal techniques to appraise homogeneous, non-complex, vacant lands where comparable land sales are available. In many highly fractionated Indian ownership areas, it is common to have agricultural properties that are similar in use and have active/consistent markets or comparable sales data. The Program will not use mass appraisals for commercial or other lands within urbanized zones where greater variation may exist.

5. How will the Department ensure a credible and robust valuation process?

All appraisals will conform to the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP). The Department worked with the non-profit organization, The Appraisal Foundation, to obtain an [independent review of DOI's methods](#).

6. Will my mineral and timber rights be included in the valuation?

Yes, if there are mineral and/or timber ownership rights associated with a property, OAS will consider them in the valuation process. Please note, these rights may have very small or no contributory value if there are no viable minerals or timber present or if there are no markets for the minerals or timber. For those situations where the mineral ownership rights have a very small or no contributory value, a payment of \$7.50 per acre will be included in with the total value of the land to facilitate conveyance of the mineral rights.

7. Will buildings be included in the valuation?

No, buildings are not considered trust property and will not be included in the valuation or purchase process; however, in some cases, an appraiser may determine that an improvement has a material effect on the "highest and best use" of the property, and that property will be set aside for consideration for a site-specific appraisal depending on tribal priorities and availability of funding.

8. Can surface and mineral rights be severed?

No. When an owner sells land through the Buy-Back Program they relinquish all surface and mineral rights on the property. Surface and mineral estates will not be severed (split) during the Buy-Back Program transaction.

9. Will individuals be able to negotiate the value of the land?

No, offers will be non-negotiable, but the individual can always decline to sell their interests. Additionally, individuals can sell some of their interests but keep others.

Cobell Settlement - Trust Land Consolidation Fund

Background	The Cobell Settlement Agreement provides for a \$1.9 billion Trust Land Consolidation Fund to be expended over a ten-year period.
Use of Funds	According to the Settlement, “The Trust Land Consolidation Fund shall be used solely for the following purposes: (1) acquiring fractional interests in trust or restricted lands; (2) implementing the Land Consolidation Program; and (3) paying the costs related to the work of the Secretarial Commission on Trust Reform, including costs of consultants to the Commission and audits recommended by the Commission. An amount up to a total of no more than fifteen percent (15%) of the Trust Land Consolidation Fund shall be used for purposes (2) and (3) above.” The Department has no authority to invest the Fund, and cannot utilize, disperse, or retain any portion of the Fund in a manner inconsistent with the mandates of the Settlement.
Dollars	Settlement of \$3.4 billion \$1.5 billion for to pay individuals for mismanagement claims, settlement administration costs, and plaintiffs’ attorney’s fees \$1.9 billion for land consolidation \$1.555 billion for acquiring land \$285 million for administrative costs (capped at 15%) \$60 million for education incentives
Timing	The Department has no more than 10 years from the date of the final approval of the Settlement to expend the Trust Land Consolidation Fund, at which time any amounts remaining in the Fund shall be returned to Treasury.
Scholarship Fund	A portion of the Trust Land Consolidation Fund – not to exceed \$60 million – shall be contributed using a formula: · For an interest that Interior purchases for less than \$200, a contribution of \$10 shall be made · For an interest between \$200 and \$500, a contribution of \$25 · For an interest of more than \$500, a contribution of 5% of the purchase price
Agreements with Tribes	The Indian Land Consolidation Act prohibits the use of Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (i.e., Public Law 93-638) contracts to operate the Buy-Back Program activities.
Estate Planning	Under the terms of the authorizing legislation, the Program cannot use the Fund for estate planning purposes.
Provisions	The Settlement and applicable regulations prohibit the following: · Use of 638 contracts · Investing of any portion of the Fund · Use of the Fund for estate planning purposes

For more information, visit <http://www.doi.gov/buybackprogram/about/index.cfm>

Updated 7/31/2014

Wild Rice Event at Frog Bay

On Sunday October 1st, community members gathered at the recently acquired Frog Bay property for a variety of wild rice related activities.

The day started off with both traditional and modern demonstrations of wild rice processing. First, wild rice was parched over a fire in kettles, which requires continuous stirring (pictured to the right and below).



Next, the rice was processed with either the modern method or the traditional

Modern wild rice processing consists of parching the rice, then putting it into a thrashing machine (right), which removes the husks and blows them out the top.



Traditional wild rice processing includes parching, dancing on the rice, and winnowing.

Dancing on the rice is done with rice moccasins (clean, never worn on the ground), in a small hole that is draped with a canvas tarp. The dancing, or sliding motion, must be done gently to prevent breaking the rice.



Winnowing is done last, with the rice being placed in a winnowing basket and gently tossed into the air. This process allows the husks to blow away in the wind and the heavy rice to fall back into the basket.



The Treaty Natural Resources Division has reseeded Frog Creek for the past two consecutive years. The Environmental Department has been collecting water quality parameters, specific to wild rice, such as: substrate matter, flow, depth, pH, conductivity, and a variety of nutrients. Next year, monitoring will enter into phase two and staff will conduct density surveys to see how effective reseeding and wild rice establishment is. To conclude the day, three canoes set out into Frog Creek and spread 50 pounds of wild rice seed.



Above: thrashing machines.



Above center: Chief Warden Mark Duffy explains the thrashing process.

Above right: Finished rice is removed from the thrasher.



Right: Mark Duffy describes his process for cleaning wild rice before processing.

Below right: Charlie Gordon explains the traditional method of processing wild rice.





Hot, Flat, Crowded Film Series

Written by Lena Wilson Earth Partnership Assistant Coordinator



The Hot, Flat, and Crowded film series is a community efforts started by a group in Cornucopia, WI. Red Cliff was requested to participate by the project think-tank Margaret Hahn. The film series is intended to be passed from community to community all the way to Madison keeping the efforts as community based and energy efficient as possible. The series consists of two films, *This Changes Everything* and *How to let go of the world and love everything climate can't change* and any films, activities, or discussion nights each community wishes to include. Each community is encouraged to make flags to accompany the film package, which includes a journal, on its journey.

Linda Nyugen (Environmental Director), Gabrielle VanBergen (Water Resources Program Manager), and Lena Wilson (Earth Partnership Assistant Coordinator) greeted a group who walked the package from Cornucopia to the Red Cliff Tribal Farm. A news reporter was also present and wrote an article about the event and occurrence at the Tribal Farm which was published in the Bayfield County Journal titled *Cornucopia's climate change film fest hits the road.*

In Red Cliff the Film Fest took place over three days, August 14, 21, and 28. On August 14 a water blessing was given by tribal members, for which Brighter Futures Initiative groups were present along with a couple other community members. During the last event titled 'We care for the environment', the PBS special *Red Cliff Ojibwe History* was viewed and then a community conversation took place. The resounding messages of the conversation were 'we need each other', of the importance of caring for children and



children's future, and individual action.

Additionally, a small group made a flag under the theme of caring for the environment. This flag was also flown in the Red Road to Wellness walk September 17. The flag will be housed in Treaty Natural Resources for future use.

The film package was sailed by Lena Wilson to the Madeline Island Museum. The films will then go to Bayfield Public Library and keep traveling to communities that would like to participate.



Red Cliff The film showings were made possible through LAMP, an Environmental Department initiative, and Earth Partnership.

If you have suggestions, comments, questions regarding events and efforts on caring for the environment email Linda.Nguyen@redcliff-nsn.gov or Lena.Wilson@redcliff-nsn.gov.

Story of the Sharp Tailed Grouse Translocated to Moquah Barrens

Photos taken and article written by Erin Schlager, Land Zoning/GIS Manager



What happened to the 67 Sharp-tailed grouse translocated from Minnesota to the Moquah Barrens this spring? That's a good question with surprising, somber, and spectacular answers! While only 10 of the birds that were translocated this spring were given radio collars to be tracked, they offer great insight into what the rest of their cohort may be up to.

The Surprises

+1 - Last year, 5 male grouse that were translocated to the barrens received collars, but their signals quickly disappeared from the landscape. However, one of those collared males was dancing at and dominating the lek (breeding) site this spring! He stayed at the lek site the longest of any of the other males.

Moving Out - After the spring breeding season ended, all of the collared birds moved away from the Moquah Barrens. Some went as far as Maple, Barns, Bibon Swamp, and the Ashland Airport. Nobody seems to know how birds from Minnesota can find their way to known historic sites that sharp tailed grouse have previously thrived, and the question remains: *Will these birds return to the Barrens to breed in the spring?*

The Somber

Dropped Collars – Two grouse dropped the collars from their necks. While its good news that these birds didn't die when we discovered their collars in mortality mode, we won't be able to track their movements and habits anymore. All the birds that were translocated also have leg bands, so perhaps we can identify them again in the spring during

mating season when they arrive at the dancing grounds.

Predations – Two females and one male did succumb to predation throughout the summer. A coyote or other canine had a meal with one of the female grouse, and the other two grouse were likely feeding birds of prey. While it is sad to know these birds are no more, they are an important food source to many different predators.

The Spectacular

Eggs



Continued on next page



Chicks! – One female was tracked to Bayfield County Forest just west of County A. In late May, a nest with 10 eggs was discovered and by mid-June, there were chicks learning to search for insects in the tall grasses that surrounded them. This is the first evidence of the translocation project working as a new generation of sharp tailed grouse make northern Wisconsin their home!



More Chicks!! – A non-collared female was discovered with a large brood of chicks on the Moquah Barrens in early August. This is the first confirmed evidence of a sharp tailed grouse breeding and rearing chicks in the Barrens since the 1990s! They were found along a powerline hanging out with a family of turkeys and it could be a new site for a lek in the spring.

A **lek** is defined as an assembly area where animals carry on display and courtship behavior. During the spring, male sharp-tailed grouse attend these leks from March through July with peak attendance in late April, early May.



Wildlife Spotlight: Raptor Nesting Platform

Red Cliff Wildlife & Forestry

Treaty Natural Resources: Fall Newsletter 2017

Osprey/Eagle Nesting Platform Installed at Red Cliff Waste Water Treatment Plant

On September 28th, 2017, RC Treaty Natural Resources Staff completed installation of an osprey/eagle nesting platform. This project was funded through the NRCS EQIP program. The platform is intended to attract osprey and it would be great to actually see one nest there, but it is more likely that an eagle (or even Red-tailed hawk) will use it. The nesting platform itself is a repurposed plastic pallet with holes drilled into it for drainage. The platform has perches on either side, and the pole has a metal sleeve halfway up to discourage predators from climbing up the pole and raiding the nest. The platform sits about 20 ft. off of the ground, which should be

sufficiently high to attract eagles or osprey and discourage most predators. RC Treaty Natural Resources would like to give a big thank you to public works staff members: Brennen Deragon and Jeff Gordon; who used their equipment to safely raise and set the pole.



Wildlife & Forestry: News and Notes

Red Cliff Wildlife & Forestry

Treaty Natural Resources: Fall Newsletter 2017

Virginia opossum live trapped in Red Cliff during marten/fisher trapping in August

Virginia opossums (*Didelphis virginiana*) are robust nocturnal marsupials with short legs and thick bodies. Their pelage is typically grayish, but it may range from a reddish, brownish, or even blackish hue depending on the range. Within their fur, this species has long white tipped guard hairs and their coloration may vary based on the range of the population. For example, northern populations tend to have lighter guard hairs, thicker underfur and a more grizzled appearance. The fur of their face tends to be lighter than the rest of their body and is typically a grayish white. They have large delicate ears, which are mostly furless and at risk of frostbite in harsh winters. They have long, semi-prehensile hairless tails that are almost as long as the rest of their body and are subject to frostbite as well. Contrary to popular belief, they do not typically hang by their tails. They use their tails to aid in climbing and holding onto things. Their feet have opposable thumbs and ridged surfaces that aid in climbing. Opossums are capable climbers and slow but strong swimmers. It is interesting to note that opossums have a very small brain for their size (encephalization quotient).

Did You Know?

- Opossums are the only native marsupial (pouched mammal) in North America.
- Opossums have 50 teeth, more than any other North American land mammal!
- The #1 food preference for opossums are insects such as ticks and beetles. They also eat mammals, reptiles (including venomous snakes), amphibians, songbirds (and eggs), sea turtle eggs, fruits (important seed dispersers), nuts, grass, and green vegetation.
- Opossums may even share dens with other opossums and other species such as: skunks, tortoises, armadillos, raccoons, small mammals, and rabbits.
- Average litter = 8 or 9.



Red Cliff Virginia opossum

Virginia opossums continued

Virginia Opossums have a wide range throughout Central and North American, which continues to expand. Currently, Virginia opossums can be found from Costa Rica to southern Ontario, Canada. This species is not ubiquitous throughout the United States, they are typically found east of the Rocky Mountains and along the west coast; they appear to be restricted by temperature and snow depth, but yet their range is expanding north.

Opossums prefer deciduous hardwood stands associated with streams, but they adapt easily to urban environments. Research and observations suggest that opossums may actually prefer urban areas and can be larger and persist at higher densities in these areas, presumably due to the wide availability of food waste and man made structures for denning/resting. Opossums are omnivorous scavengers that eat just about anything. Opossums are also cannibalistic, eating their own kind even when other foods are readily available.



Virginia opossums become sexually mature within the first year of their life, around 6 months for females and 8 months for males, but typically begin breeding around 10 months of age. This species has a long breeding season, however, the exact months of the breeding

season varies based on an individual's location. The breeding season is long, running from January to July in the US. There are two peak reproductive periods; February to March and May to July, with the 1st period being more intense. Female opossums are only pregnant for about 2 weeks, one of the shortest gestation periods for any mammal.



Did You Know?

- Young are hardly formed at birth and are so small that 20 of them could fit on a teaspoon!
- Young move about 3 inches to their mom's pouch and remain there for about 2 months. Once out of the pouch they ride about on mom's back.
- At about 3 months of age, the joeys passively wean themselves and begin to roam away from their mom.
- The naked tails and ears of opossums often suffer frostbite during cold winters.
- Opossums do not dig their own burrows and rely on those dug by other animals for denning and resting.
- Opossums are uniquely resistant to the venom of crotalid snakes (rattlesnakes, copperheads, and water moccasins). If bitten, the opossum may display some of the symptoms of mild distress, but the animal gets over that rapidly.
- Young opossums may be preyed on by adults, but nonhuman predation has little effect on opossum populations.
- Female opossums have 13 nipples, arranged in a circle of 12 with 1 in the middle.

Virginia opossums continued

Opossums typically live 2-4 years, which is fairly short for a cat sized mammal. The main threat to opossums is the automobile; followed by dogs, owls, humans, large snakes and other predators . Encounters with other species often elicit open mouth threats or gapes. When making threats, they will also hiss, growl or screech. Aggressive encounters between opossums are usually avoided as much as possible, but males will readily attack other males, and females will attack other females in estrus. Though encounters between males can be fierce, they typically will “dance” at one another by lowering their hips, extending their forelegs, and waving their tails back and forth. They may click before and after, but the display is mostly silent. It has been noted that males in captivity will fight until death if not separated. Though opossums are not common in northern WI, they are a game species in this state and over 500 opossum pelts were sold by WI trappers in 2016, fetching the lowest price of any WI furbearer.

Opossums are also carriers for a wide variety of internal and external parasites. They are known carriers of at least 24 internal and 13 external parasites. However, although they are not immune, it is unusual for this species to be a carrier of the rabies virus.



Did You Know?

- Opossums don't have “typical” home ranges, they have an aggregate of smaller areas surrounding different den sites.
- Den sites are typically around 1000 ft apart.
- Opossums are highly nomadic and will usually only spend two nights in any given place.
- Opossums are carriers of a protozoan that can cause equine protozoal myeloencephalitis in horses. It is rare, but quite dangerous to horses. Opossums typically become infected by eating the remains of infected birds and then they transmit it to the horses by leaving their feces in stables and pastures.
- When subject to extreme anxiety, some opossums will play dead (“playing possum”). They are not just pretending to be dead, they actually faint from fear and enter a catatonic or coma like state. Once in this state, the animal will curl up and its mouth will hang open. The animal then begins to drool and excrete green anal gland fluid. The opossum is unable to arouse from this state on command. In fact, it can take minutes to hours to wake up from this state. Experience may determine whether an individual uses this technique.

Wolves and the Apostle Islands

Red Cliff Wildlife & Forestry

Treaty Natural Resources: Fall Newsletter 2017

Ma'iingan found on Stockton Island

The NPS notified RC Treaty Natural Resources, that on the afternoon of August 30, a wolf in very poor condition was found at Quarry Bay on Stockton Island. She is believed to have died between August 30th at approximately 4:00 pm and August 31st at 8:30 am.

The ma'iingan was transported off of the island to the Ashland DNR office, where the WI DNR took custody of the wolf and later transferred it to Madison for a full necropsy. Samples for genetic analyses were also obtained. We were told there was coordination with GLIFWC and a that ceremony was conducted prior to transporting the carcass. The carcass will be returned at some point for ceremonial purposes. Wolves are thought to be exceedingly rare visitors to the Apostle Islands, however, a very emaciated young wolf was documented on a remote trail camera in 2015. It's likely that this was the same wolf.

Circumstantial evidence suggests this wolf was likely from the Echo Valley Pack litter of 4 in 2014.



Photo Credit: NPS



Photo Credit: NPS

Wolves and the Apostle Islands Cont.

In the winter of 2014-2015, coordinates from F813 (collared alpha female of the Echo Valley Pack, pictured below) show she was visiting Sand Island. The distance from 813's last known coordinate on Sand Island and where this wolf was discovered in Quarry Bay, on Stockton Island, is just under 18 miles as the crow flies. This might seem like a long distance, but wolves have been known to disperse much greater distances, including over ice. This young wolf likely wandered the Apostle Islands with its pack in early 2015 and was stranded for the next two years, potentially due to poor ice conditions and/or health issues. Genetics and aging will determine if this wolf was indeed from 813's 2014 litter. Though the Echo Valley Pack is the only pack documented using the islands, it is still entirely possible this wolf came from another pack. Preliminary necropsy results show this young female wolf had heartworms in her heart and lungs in addition to a large number of intestinal tapeworms, all of which may have contributed to her emaciated state and ultimately her death.



Echo Valley Pack-June 2014



Red Cliff's 4th Annual Watershed Symposium

Nibi
Powerful Eternal
Purify Energy
Culture
Life H2O
Wet Under
Rejuvenation
Cold Soothing
Water Woman Enjoyment
Waves Refreshing
Peaceful
Identity Subsistence

On September 26th and 27th Red Cliff Environmental Department staff welcomed community members, local agency and college representatives, and regional tribal staff to the Tribe's 4th annual Watershed Symposium, held at the Legendary Waters Resort and Casino.

Red Cliff's Water Resources Program hosts a Watershed Symposium event annually to conduct outreach to the community on water related topics. The event has grown each year since its inception in 2013, with the biggest turnout ever in 2016 during the premier of Dazhindandaa I'iw Nibi (Let's Talk About the Water) Documentary which showcases a multi-generational perspective on the importance of water to the Red Cliff community. This year, the Symposium was expanded from an evening session to a day and a half event to provide more opportunity for discussion surrounding a wider range of water resources related topics.

The event was started off in a good way with an opening by Richard LaFornier. Attendees then introduced themselves and shared a word that they associate with water to create the word cloud shown above. Linda Nguyen, Environmental Director, and Gabrielle VanBergen, Water Resources Program Manager, then introduced the Environmental Department and Water Resources Program, sharing about what the Department has been up to and what the current watershed conditions are in Red Cliff's local streams.





Matt Hudson, Water Scientist with Northland College, shared about the research efforts being conducted by the college's Mary Griggs Burke Center for Freshwater Innovation in the Chequamegon Bay. To expand upon the issues facing our local watersheds, Gabrielle presented on nonpoint source (NPS) pollution and what individuals can do in their personal lives to limit NPS pollution and protect their local watersheds.

After lunch, attendees took part in hands-on breakout sessions that included; rain barrel construction methods and uses (led by Linda), home composting methods (led by Nathanael Secor, Red Cliff Farm Manager), and a green infrastructure tour around the Legendary Waters Casino (led by Gabrielle).



In the afternoon, attendees heard from Dawn White, Treaty Resource Specialist with GLIFWC, on metallic mining activities within the ceded territories and their impacts on treaty rights. To wrap up day one of the symposium, the Zaaga'igan ma'iinganag (Lakewolves) youth group, mentored by Dr. Toben LaFroncois, and including Vanessa Gordon, Arysa Peterson, and Bazile Panek, shared their experiences connecting with water through underwater photography.

An evening community listening session on current reservation water quality conditions and the recent update to the Tribe's Nonpoint Source Pollution Assessment Report and Management Plan was held after the symposium on day one. For those who missed the listening session, please stop by the Tribal Administration building or the Environmental Department to review these important documents and provide any comments that you may have.



Day two began with a household hazardous waste discussion led by Linda and was followed by a green

cleaning products workshop led by Gabrielle. Attendees were given the opportunity to make their very own green cleaning recipes, including; stove cleaner, glass cleaner, all-purpose cleaner, and hand soap. Linda then shared background information with the group about Enbridge's Line 5 pipeline that carries oil products through northern Wisconsin, Michigan's Upper Peninsula, under the Straights of Mackinaw, through Lower Michigan, and into Ontario.

The event concluded with a showing of Red Cliff's Dazhindandaa l'iw Nibi (Let's Talk About the Water) Documentary and an impromptu presentation on pollinators from attendee Josh Jensen, Water Resource Technician with the Stockbridge-Munsee Environmental Department.



Throughout the event, attendees could be found talking with representatives from the Apostle Islands National Park Service (Patty Carpenter, Interpretive Park Ranger), Red Cliff's Earth Partnership Program (Lena Wilson, Sciences Intern), Red Cliff's Indoor Air Program (Ernie Grooms, Air Program Manager), and the Superior Rivers Watershed Association (Mariana Brewster, Volunteer Coordinator).

Richard LaFornier provided a closing for the event following the raffle drawing of many exciting water-related items!

Chi-Miigwech to all that attended this year's Watershed Symposium! For those who missed the event, we hope to see you next time! The Watershed Symposium is a platform for community members to learn about and provide input on water resources and environmental management within the Red Cliff Tribe.

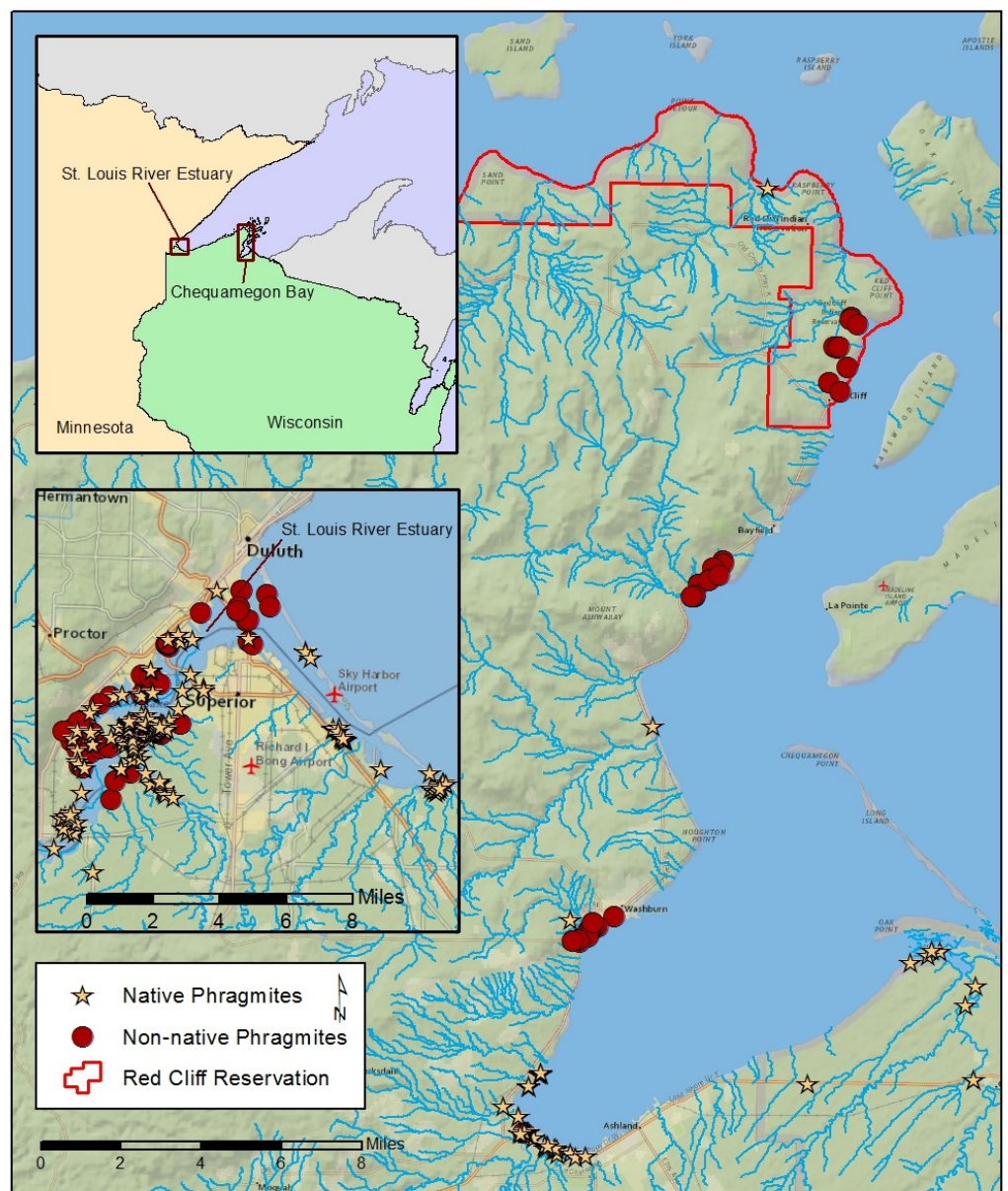
Is *Phragmites* Being Spread by Waste Water Treatment Plants?

Submitted by: Todd Norwood—Project Coordinator, Red Cliff Treaty Natural Resources

During 2013, the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Treaty Natural Resources (TNR) Division began finding small patches of highly invasive non-native *Phragmites australis* subsp. *australis* on Red Cliff reservation lands. At the same time, the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) found numerous small non-native *Phragmites* populations in the Chequamegon Bay region of Lake Superior, especially near the cities of Bayfield and Washburn, WI. The discovery of these populations was alarming for the region, considering the nearest known established population is 75 miles west in the St. Louis River estuary of Duluth, MN and Superior, WI. Upon closer observation, a clear pattern revealed itself with nearly all *Phragmites* being discovered within a one-mile radius of the waste water treatment plant (WWTP) located within each community. With renewed focus on these three core areas, we realized that each WWTP was using the high evapotranspiration rate of non-native *Phragmites* to de-water treated sewage sludge in a constructed reed bed system.

Armed with the assumption that the WWTP reed beds were the source of the “external” *Phragmites* populations, Red Cliff TNR along with the Chicago Botanic Garden genetics laboratory developed and conducted a genetic study to determine the potential relationship. Results from the study show, despite the high levels of diversity from sexual recombination, at least

Chequamegon Bay and St. Louis River Estuary
Native and Non-native *Phragmites* Locations (Pre-Control)



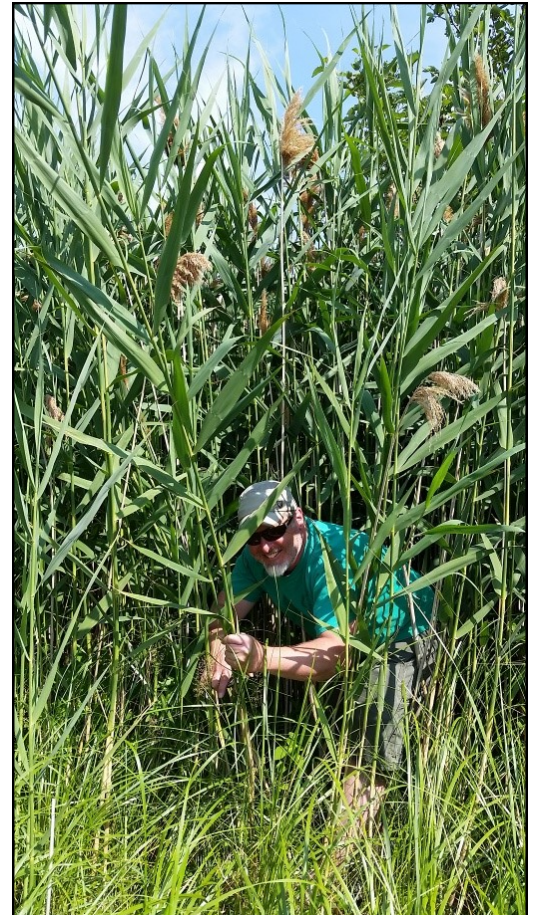
Phragmites Data Source (2015):
Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC)

What is non-native *Phragmites*?

Phragmites (*Phragmites australis* subsp. *australis*) or common reed, is an invasive perennial wetland grass that often grows to heights of 10-15 feet. Non-native *Phragmites* is highly aggressive and outcompetes native vegetation and displaces native animals.

some of the external populations exhibit a strong relatedness to populations within the WWTP reed beds. Although the high levels of diversity caused difficulty in determining the origin of external population with absolute certainty, it did provide clear evidence of external populations originating from seed. This was in contrast to the accepted notion provided during development of the reed bed systems which suggested *Phragmites* spread was through vegetative propagules (e.g. rhizome fragment) rather than seed.

Since the external populations were discovered early in their colonization and a rapid control response was initiated by local partners, our hope is for eradication of non-native *Phragmites* from the Chequamegon Bay region; an area with abundant coastal wetlands. In order to eliminate the large seed sources at the three WWTPs, the communities of Red Cliff, Bayfield, and Washburn have committed to converting their reed beds to the native subspecies of *Phragmites*. In an analysis completed by Strand Associates Engineering that reviewed monetary and non-monetary factors of various dewatering technologies, native *Phragmites* reed beds were determined as the best alternative to the current reed bed system for the three communities. With funding awarded through the EPA - Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Red Cliff, Bayfield, and Washburn are taking a proactive approach to stopping the spread of non-native *Phragmites* in the Chequamegon Bay region of Lake Superior. Construction of the new reed beds is set to take place during spring and summer of 2018. Continued monitoring and control of non-native *Phragmites* in Chequamegon Bay and the St. Louis River estuary is on-going among local partners.

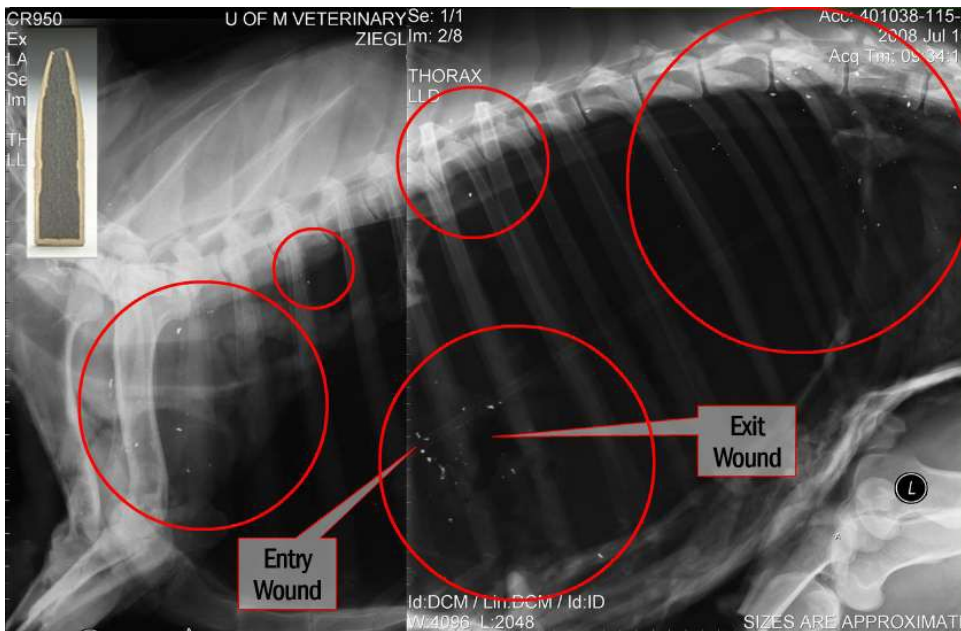


Phragmites genetics collection
Photo credit: GLIFWC



WWTP reed bed during the non-growing season.

Why your deer may be dangerous even after you shoot it.....



A recent study conducted by the USGS at the National Wildlife Health Center has shown that there were elevated ammunition-associated lead levels in consumers' wild game. In the adjoining photo it shows the placement of lead from ammunition in the study's carcass (with white specks being lead). In surveys distributed to food banks the surveys showed that 8-15% of WI donated venison to food shelves contained lead

fragments.

These lead fragments are not only **harmful to humans** but are also hurting our Wisconsin wildlife. Some of the many affected animals include *carrion* birds such as **eagles** and vultures, canines such as wolves and coyotes, and waterfowl such as ducks and geese. An unusual bird that is dropping in populations due to lead poisoning is woodcocks. Some other examples of lead that animals ingest are spent shot (waterfowl, upland game), sinkers (waterfowl), mine tailings (waterfowl), and paint chips.

Lead can cause neural degeneration, kidney damage, bone damage, and inhibits blood formation and nerve transmission. The body mistakes lead for calcium and then transports it to nerve cells and other tissues.

What can I do to help?

Switching to ammunition that does not contain lead will greatly reduce mortality in wildlife *and limit the chance of human ingesting lead fragments*. Unfortunately this ammunition does cost more but saving a few dollars to help the conservation of wildlife and *humans health* is worth it.

On left: Lead rifle bullet with fragments produced.
On right: Ammo made out of copper has no fragments



For more information please contact the Red Cliff Wardens at (715) 779-3732

HOME COMPOSTING MATERIALS



COMPOST



COMPOST TIP

Chopping or shredding these items helps speed up the composting process.

For best results, composters can mix in 2 to 3 volumes of "brown" material with each volume of "green" material.

Carbon-Rich "Browns"

Brown leaves & yard waste

- Brush & twigs (1/2" in diameter or less)
- Cardboard (dry and clean)
- Egg cartons (shredded)
- Newspaper
- Nuts & nut shells (but not black walnuts)
- Paper towels
- Pine cones & pine needles
- Sawdust & shavings (from non-treated wood)
- Straw & hay
- Wood chips

Nitrogen-Rich "Greens"

Green leaves & yard waste

- Coffee beans, grounds & used filters
- Dirt & potting soil
- Egg shells
- Flowers & yard plants
- Fruit, including cores & rinds
- Grass clippings
- Gourds & pumpkins
- Melons and melon rinds
- Tea leaves & tea bags
- Vegetables, greens & legumes



NOT FOR COMPOST



Not for Home Composting

- Biodegradable forks, spoons & knives
- Branches or logs more than 6" in diameter
- Charcoal briquettes or briquette ash
- Cigar & cigarette ashes
- Coffee or beverage cups
- Diapers
- Dairy products (butter, milk, cheese, etc.)
- Invasive weeds and plants
- Meat (cooked or raw) & bones
- Oils, greases & fats (including snack chips)
- Pet food
- Pet or human waste
- Pizza boxes with grease or cheese on them
- Recyclables (glass, plastic, metal cans, etc.)
- Sawdust from treated wood
- Trash (wrappers, packaging, etc.)
- Used take-out containers & Styrofoam shells
- Wood treated with varnish or paint

For more, visit dnr.wi.gov & search "compost," or consult other DNR publications, Home Composting: Reap A Heap of Benefits & Home Composting: The Basic Composter.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. This publication is available in alternative format (large print, Braille, audiotape etc.) upon request. Please call 608-266-2111 for more information. WA-1785 2015



Styrofoam—What's the Deal?

Written by: Linda Nguyen, Environmental Director

What do throw-away coffee cups, soup bowls, and trays all have in common?

Check out photo 2.

None of them can be recycled at the Red Cliff Transfer Station. Some commercial mailing houses may accept packing peanuts, but for the most part, community recycling centers do not accept throwaway foam food containers.

Also, styrofoam does not decompose in the environment under normal circumstances. Much like plastic, styrofoam is made from a polystyrene-based petroleum product that is not biodegradable. Plastic takes hundreds of years to decompose, and styrofoam takes much longer because it is a stronger form of plastic, while it can also release hazardous toxins into the environment. When it is littered in the environment, turtles and fish can mistake it for food, causing mortalities.

How do we reduce styrofoam litter in the environment and landfills?

Check out photo 1.

Some cities like New York City, Seattle, Minneapolis, and San Francisco have banned styrofoam! Here at Red Cliff, we can reduce styrofoam litter by reducing our usage of it. Some ways include:

-Take your own containers to restaurants for any leftovers.

-Hold off on purchasing single-use cups, plates and bowls. Instead, use reusable cups, plates, and bowls.

-Avoid using non-recyclable packaging for mailings.

-If you have to use single-use, use plant based or compostable materials. Some restaurants in the area, like Maggie's, uses these!



Photo 2: Common Styrofoam products

I challenge each and every one of you to help clean up and protect our natural resources!

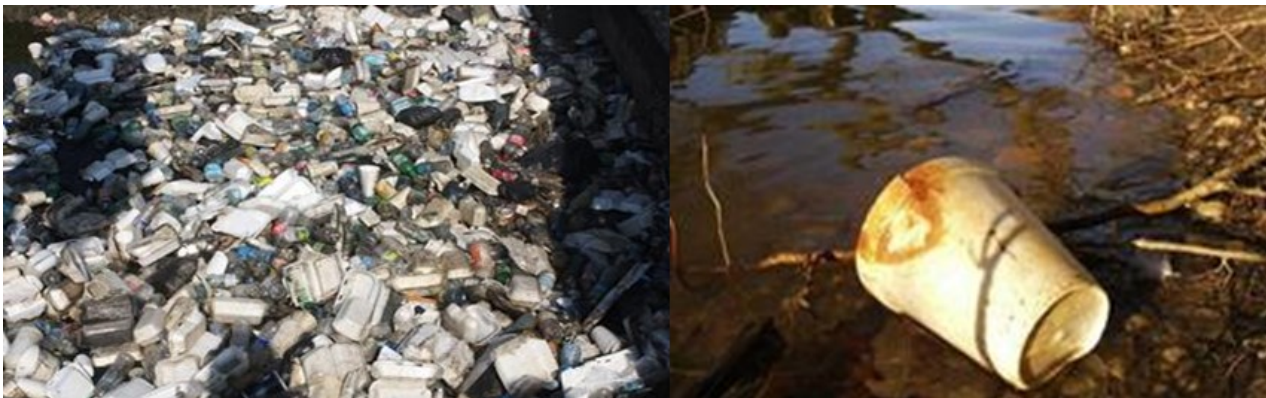


Photo 1: Styrofoam cup in swept up on the shoreline and landfill

Can you recycle it in Red Cliff?

YES! Recycle it:

- #1 through #7 plastic food and beverage containers
- Glass Bottles: any color, rinsed out
- Aluminum cans separated from other recyclables
- Bimetal cans: Cleaned soup cans, pet food cans
- Cardboard: Corrugated boxes and cereal boxes
- Paper: Newspapers, magazines, office paper, mail

NO, we CANNOT RECYCLE these items:

- Plastic bags
- Paper or plastic plates clean or dirty
- Napkins, paper towels, toilet paper
- Plastic or compostable silverware
- Plastic containers that once held automotive products such as oil, gas, and coolant or paint, pesticides, flammable liquids
- Broken windows/mirrors
- Cigarette butts
- Clothing
- Diapers

Still not sure? Call the
Environmental Department at
715-779-3650





RED CLIFF BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA

Treaty Natural Resource Division



Fisheries

715-779-3750

Environmental

715-779-3650

Natural Resources

715-779-3795

Transfer Station

715-779-0171

Conservation Wardens

715-779-3732