Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

**Treaty Natural Resources Division Newsletter** 

Volume 9, Issue 1, Ziigwan Spring

Ganawenjigaade

*It is taken care of, protected . . . We take care of, protect, keep it.* 

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#### **Employee of the Month**

An office is only as good as its staff, and we have some of the best in the Treaty Natural Resources Division. The following team members were nominated for Employee of the Month in the last three months by their colleagues. By: Chad Abel



#### January Employee of the Month Shelly Gurnoe, Office Manager

We helped Shelly celebrate her 40th year working for Red Cliff by throwing her a surprise party in January at the VFW. It's hard to imagine a Treaty Natural Resources Division without Shelly. You're such an enormous asset to all of our programs, Shelly and we can't thank you enough!



#### February Employee of the Month Ron Nordin Jr., Wildlife Technician

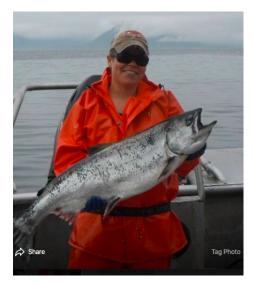
Ron was nominated for a slew of good things he has done for our Division; for his involvement in our youth program and his participation in the language planning group to his beaver control and trail camera maintenance efforts specific to his wildlife program duties. We have some of the best homegrown staff from Red Cliff, and Ron is a great example of that. He's driven by both his commitment to our programs and the community he calls home.



#### March Employee of the Month Gabrielle VanBergen, Deputy Administrator

Gabby wore a few different hats in our Division before her recent promotion to the Deputy Administrator role. Since that time, she has been instrumental in moving our comprehensive planning effort along and in shepherding the completion or our annual report. I like that Gabrielle is not afraid to put herself out there, and that she is driven to make positive, tangible outcomes happen.





Greetings! I am Hilary Jewell and I am excited to be the new Fish Plant Manager.

This opportunity is an incredible blend of my experience and passions. I wholeheartedly believe in local and sustainable food systems, particularly in the often overlooked role of fishing and other more traditional sources of protein. My professional background includes nonprofit operations and administration, as well as salmon, Asian carp, and herring commercial fishing.

I am originally from St. Paul, MN and am a Northland College graduate. Between the lake and the Northwoods, there is nowhere else I'd rather be - I feel like this area has been calling me my whole life.

I love doing just about anything outside, particularly on or near water, with my husband, toddler son, and two Alaskan huskies. I also like to read, cook, eat, garden, and I love to play and coach hockey.

I am thrilled and grateful to be onboard and look forward to getting to know the community.



Justin Maki is the new Fish Plant Assistant Manager. His professional background includes fish processing and smoking, as well as trucking experience.

Justin is a Bayfield High School graduate and resides in the Bay Area with his family. When he's not hanging with his four daughters, two cats, and two dogs, you can find him at the racetrack. **ZIIGWAN** It is Spring

ISKIGAMIZIGE-GIIZIS Maple Sugar Moon WAABIGWANII-GIIZIS Flower Moon

**ODE'IMINI-GIIZIS** *Time for Picking Strawberry Moon* 

NAADOOBII s/he gathers sap

ISKIGAMIZIGAN

*A sugar bush, a sugar camp* ANIT *A fish spear* 

NINGIDE *It melts, thaws* 

INAABIWIN *Lightning* 

ANIMIKII *A thunderbird, a thunderer*  ZHIIWAAGAMIZIGANIKE s/he makes syrup

OZHIGA'IGE *s/he taps trees* 

NAMEBIN A sucker fish

AABAWAA *It is warm weather* 

ANIMIKIIKAA There is thunder

BAASHKIKWA'AM *s/he makes thunder* 

#### We Need Your Help!

Need something to do during your voluntary isolation? Well, you can help us out! We've had some debates around who looks the cutest in our new TNR gear. Send us your thoughts! Leave a message (715) 779 - 3650 ext. 4315 or send us an email noah.saperstein@redcliff-nsn.gov!



I'm Samson! Being the Water Resources Program Manager has really changed my love of puddles!



I'm Chopper! There are few things I find more fun than watching the fish swim around the tanks when I'm supposed to be managing the Red Cliff Fish Hatchery!



I'm Zuzi and I've been the Treaty Natural Resources Division's Administrator since before I could bark!



"I'm Mullein, but you might know me as Kit Kat. Maybe you've seen me crawling around pipelines. Don't worry though, it's just cause I'm the Environmental Justice Specialist."



"I'm Kenai! I've been tracking wolves and trapping beavers since I was just a pup! Don't worry though, being a Wildlife Tech, I've learned to play gently!"



I'm Chewie! You've might've seen me digging holes or playing in the dirt, but I assure you it was all work related! I'm TNR's Deputy Administrator!

## WE NEED YOUR INPUT

Please provide your comments on the Treaty Natural Resources Division's Draft 2020-2030 Comprehensive Plan!

The draft plan and comment form can be found at: <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VSQ</u> <u>FZCT</u>

## Written comment forms can be found and submitted at Administration and the Clinic

Want to make comments directly with a specific staff person? Reach out to Gabrielle at 715-779-3795 ext 4331 or gabrielle.vanbergen@redcliff-nsn.gov

#### **Red Cliff Tribal Fish Hatchery**

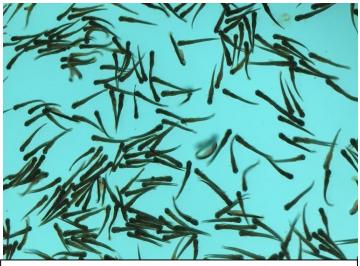
Chase Meierotto-TNR

#### Boozhoo Everyone,

Here at the hatchery we are hoping everyone is doing well and staying safe and healthy. We would like to inform you that we still have fish in the building, and they are growing each and every day! A few staff members are taking good care of them every day and making sure their tanks are clean.



Pictured above: A sample from last year's walleye production



Pictured above: Young brook trout in sparkling clean tank!

It is almost that time of the year where everyone should be getting their anit (*spears*) sharpened, jiimaan (*boats*) ready and lights shining bright. If biboon (*winter*) ever decides to let up it will be the period to harvest ogaa (walleye) in no time. Making certain your anit are sharp, jiimaan are water ready, and lights are bright will all ensure you have successful harvest.

It is our hope to collect eggs from Lake

Namkagon and the Eau Claire chain of lakes this

year. If you are looking for a visual representation of our ogaa setup, please visit the Red Cliff YouTube page and check out our walleye video (<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QRPu8a41yds</u>)

The hatchery has a few other projects that we will be working on in the near future as well. The biggest project is the replacement of well pump number one. A new, more efficient motor and pump will replace old and outdated equipment. We will also be adding a few new drives to run the pumps.



# Spear Fishing

Springtime and warmer temperatures means spear fishing activities will soon begin. Spear fishing begins after the ice leaves inland lakes usually around mid-April. Below is a brief history of spear fishing and a summary of spear fishing regulations.

#### **Ceded Territory Spearing Regulations and History**

The year 2020 will mark the 36th consecutive spring that spear fishing was conducted by the Chippewa tribes in the off-reservation waters of northern Wisconsin. An average of 450 tribal members from Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau, Mole Lake, Bad River, St. Croix and Red Cliff spear each year.

Spearing has been a tribal tradition for many tribes but the legality of off-reservation spearing came into the public eye beginning in 1973 when the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Chippewa filed suit against the State of Wisconsin. The tribe claimed that the State's laws conflicted with tribal hunting, fishing, and gathering activities guaranteed in the Treaties of 1837 and 1842. The suit was dismissed by the Federal District Court initially but in the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals it was reversed. The State of Wisconsin petitioned the United States Supreme Court to review the Seventh Circuit Courts decision but the petition was denied. On August 21, 1987, Federal Judge Barbara Crab reaffirmed the standard principles brought about by other treaty rights cases throughout the country. She held that the State may regulate in the interest of conservation and that such regulations are necessary, however, the tribes may enact a system of regulations resulting from another decision on May 9, 1990. Throughout this whole process there were many protests against treaty rights with the worst protests happening while tribal members exercised their rights.

#### **Basic Spearfishing Regulations**

No member shall spear without first possessing a valid spearing permit issued by GLIFWC and a valid tribal identification card.



#### **Equipment Regulations**:

Spear must have: (a) a minimum of three barbed tines which are a minimum of 4-1/2" inches long; (b) each tine having a barb extending perpendicular which is greater than 1/8" inch. NOTE: While spearfishing (open water) no member shall possess any other harvesting devices, other than a spear.

#### Bag Limits; Possession Limits:

No member while fishing off-reservation may have in their possession fish in excess of the bag or possession limit.

- Walleye-(by permit only) a) one fish may be any size b) one fish between 20" 24" c) all other up to 20"
- Muskellunge-(bag limit by permit only) a) first fish may be any size b) after first fish, at least ½ of catch must be at least 32"
- Northern Pike bag limit 10 per person/day
- Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass bag limit 10 per person/day



Miscellaneous Regulations:

- Battery cover: No member shall operate any motorboat equipped with a storage battery in the waters of the ceded territory unless the battery is: a) provided with suitable supports and secured against shifting with the motion of the boat b) equipped with a nonconductive shielding means to prevent accidental shorting of battery terminals
- Personal flotation devices: No member shall operate or use a boat unless one PFD is on board for each person and that PFD is in serviceable condition
- Lighting Equipment: All boats are required to have lighting equipment and be on from sunset to sunrise: a) one lamp aft (rear) showing a bright white light all around the horizon (Must be visible for 2 miles on a dark clear night) b) one combined lamp in the fore part (front) of the motorboat and lower than the white light aft, showing green to starboard (left) and red to port (right) and so fixed that each side of the combined lamp throws a light from directly ahead to 2 points aft the beam on its retrospective side. (Must be visible for one mile on a dark clear night)

-Exception for motorboat operated for spearing purposes: The lighting requirements shall not apply to a member operating or using a motorboat while actively fishing with a spear provided that the member is using a light in the front part of the boat as part of such fishing and is operating the boat at a slow-no wake speed

- Assist by non-members: Those persons who may assist a member: member's spouse, forebears (includes only parents and grandparents), children, grandchildren and siblings (includes person who have one or both parents in common). NOTE: assist is limited to operation of spearing boat only!
- Waste of Natural Resources: No member shall unreasonably waste, injure or destroy or impair natural resources while engaging in the exercise of off-reservation treaty rights
- Throwing refuse in waters: No member shall deposit, place or throw into any off-reservation waters any cans, bottles, debris, refuse or any other solid waste materials
- Sharing of tags/permits: No member shall lend, share, give , sell, barter or trade, or offer to lend, share, give, sell, barter or trade to any person any identification document, permit or tag issued by the tribe

## MAKE SURE TO CHECK FISH NUMBERS DAILY BEFORE SPEARING BY CALLING THE RED CLIFF WARDENS AFTER 12PM THE DAY YOU ARE GOING TO SPEAR

If you have any questions about spear fishing or any other regulations related to treaty protected harvest activities you can visit the Great Lake Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission website at GLIFWC.org or contact the Red Cliff Wardens at 715-779-3732.



This spring, TNR will be placing a new boat cleaning station, shown above, at Legendary Waters for users of the boat ramp to decontaminate their boats between trips.

The CD<sup>3</sup> (Clean, Drain, Dry, Dispose) station is equipped with an air hose, vacuum, plug wrench, scrub brush, grabber tool, and both overhead and underneath lights so that boaters can easily be responsible and clean/dry their boats to prevent the spread of non-local beings in the area's nibi. It is important to prevent the spread of non-local beings, also referred to as aquatic invasive species

(AIS), to protect those relatives living in Anishinaabe Gichigami and nearby bodies of nibi.

To put a stop to aquatic hitchhikers:

- $\Rightarrow$  <u>REMOVE</u> any mud, debris, plants, and animals from your boat, trailer, and equipment.
  - $\Rightarrow \underline{DRAIN} \text{ all water from the boat, fish boxes, live wells, and equipment.} \\\Rightarrow \underline{CLEAN} \text{ and } \underline{DRY} \text{ boat, trailer, and all equipment.}$

## Ganawaabi for Non-local Beings (she/he watches)

In order to protect the natural communities of Miskwaabekong, we are asking you to keep an eye out for beings that may be out of place. When non-local beings, also referred to as invasive species, come into a new habitat they are often able to spread rapidly and outcompete local beings, displacing plants and

animals, and sometimes cause physical harm to people and/or property.

Daga (please) be mindful when you are out and about around Miskwaabekong and report out of place plants to Tanner Bresette, 715-779-3650, or Gabrielle VanBergen, 715-779-3795.

Right: Tanner and Gabrielle on their way to plant native trees in an effort to outcompete reed canary grass that has overtaken a wetland.





Properly cleaning heavy machinery, ATVs, boats, and other equipment is critical to prevent the spread of non-local beings.



This patch of Japanese knotweed is an example of a plant that can consume an entire area and cause damage to property. Watch out for plants that may be taking over large spaces, and avoid bringing new plants into your garden unless you know what they are.

## Ganawaabi for Non-local Beings (she/he watches)

These are some known non-local beings in/around Miskwaabekong to keep an eye out for:



Non-Native Phragmites



Buckthorn



Purple Loosestrife



Leafy Spurge



Knotweed



Emerald Ash Borer: Not in Miskwaabekong yet. To avoid: do not move firewood long distances.

## Water Quality Advisory Signs

The Red Cliff Environmental Department has new water quality signs that will be posted at many of the beaches and mouths of rivers and streams. These signs will indicate whether it is safe to swim, if there is a swimming advisory, or when no swimming is highly recommended based on E.coli levels. E.coli is a type of bacteria that normally lives in your intestines. Most types of E.coli are harmless. However, when high levels of E.coli are present in water, it is a strong indication of sewage or animal waste contamination. Sewage or animal waste contamination can cause diarrhea, nausea, headaches, or fatigue, and in very rare cases can lead to severe illness. So keep a look out for the new signs this summer! Water quality



## Stormwater Runoff

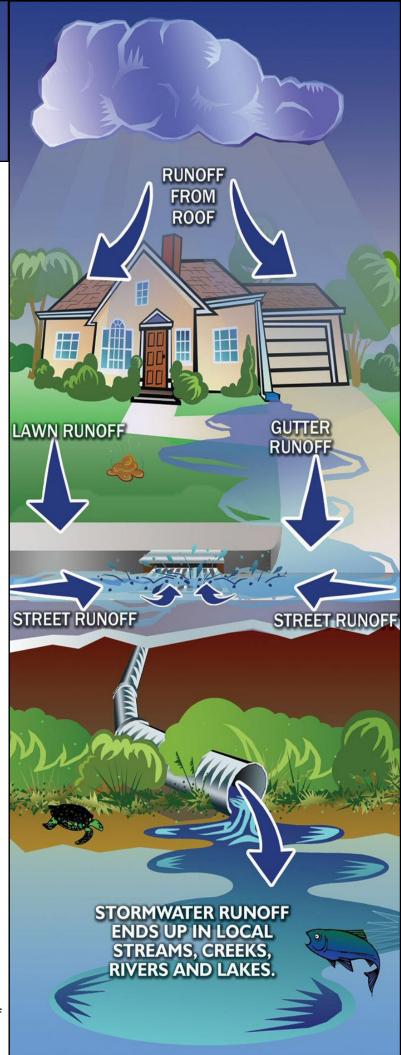
What is running off your yard, driveway, and street and into our streams and Lake Superior?

Residential areas tend to have high amounts of impervious surfaces (areas where water cannot get into the ground due to solid structures such as rooftops, driveways, roads, etc.). High amounts of impervious surfaces allow water to run off the land at a faster rate and in turn, the water is able to carry more pollutants into nearby streams and to Lake Superior. Water also moves more rapidly, causing erosion problems and depositing sediment into streams, which damages water quality and fish habitat. <u>Some common pollutants coming from our yards and streets include:</u>

- Heavy metals (from cars and shingles)
- Road salt and sand
- Toxic substances such as antifreeze from cars
- Oil/grease/gasoline
- Debris such as garbage
- Pesticides/fertilizers from treated lawns/gardens
- Viruses, bacteria, and nutrients from pet waste
- Thermal pollution (water warms up from dark surfaces such as blacktop)

All of this non-point source pollution can have very negative impacts on the environment, including:

- Harm fish and wildlife
- Kill native plants
- Foul drinking water
- Make recreational and swimming areas <sup>14</sup> unpleasant



# Remember to Clear

Cleaning products are everywhere in our homes and offices: on dishes, countertops, furniture, clothes, floors, windows, and even floating through the air.

But most of the conventional cleaning products we all grew up with can have negative health and environmental impacts.

#### **Health Effects**

- Skin and lung irritation
- Watery eyes, sneezing
- Headaches
- Chemical burns
- Hormone disruption (& possible birth defects)
- Some products can cause cancer in the long term.

#### **Environmental Effects**

this

50

- Toxic to fish and wildlife
- Can cause excess algae growth
- Many products are oil based: contributing to the overuse of oil

Oil based bottles are usually non-recyclable and add to

#### Check out these cheap, easy, and toxin free cleaning recipes to try at home!

#### All Purpose Cleaner 4 cups water 1/4 cup vinegar 2 tsp borax 2 drops essential oil of your choice Disinfectant 2 tsp borax 4 Tbsp 3 cups hot water For stronger cleaner power, add 1 tsp castile soap <u>Window/Glass Cleaner</u> 2 cups water 1/4 cup isopropyl alcohol 2 drops essential oil of your choice

Mold & Mildew Use white vinegar or lemon juice Tub and Tile Cleaner Rub in baking soda with a damp sponge and rinse. For tougher jobs: rub down with vinegar first. Floor Cleaner/Polish Linoleum: 1 cup vinegar, 1/4 C borax, few drops baby oil, 1 gallon hot water Wood: apply a thin coat of 1 part vegetable oil and 1 part vinegar Brick/Stone Tile: 1 cup vinegar and 1 gallon water, rinse with fresh water Drain Cleaner

1/2 cup salt with a gallon water, heat and pour down drain

#### Toilet Bowl Cleaner

1/4 cup baking soda 1 cup vinegar

Stop by or call the Environmental Office with questions or for more recipes!

## Want fresh, local produce each week? Sign up for your weekly box from Red Cliff's Mino Bimaadiziiwin Farm!

Each weekly box will include 7-10 items from the farm such as maple syrup, eggs, lettuce, carrots, beets, tomatoes, potatoes, onions, basil, beans, cucumbers, spinach, zucchini, winter squash, herbs, berries, apples, and more!

17 weeks of produce running July through October:

\$50 total for low-income tribal members (8 shares available) \$300 for tribal members \$425 for non-members \*Bi-weekly option available upon request, payment plans are available

Questions? Ready to sign up? Contact Allissa at (715) 779—3782 or allissa.stutte@redcliff-nsn.gov

**Forestry Concerns: Oak Wilt Fungal Disease** 

Red Cliff Wildlife & Forestry

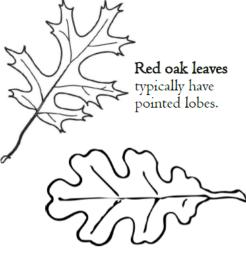
## OAK WILT DISEASE threatens oak trees in this area.

Watch the WI DNR's new video about this **devastating fungal disease** at:

## dnr.wi.gov/

Keyword: "oak wilt"

Oak wilt kills trees in the **red oak group** (red, black and northern pin oaks), and also harms trees in the **white oak group** (white, bur and swamp white oaks).



White oak leaves have rounded lobes.

Help protect oak trees from oak wilt don't prune or otherwise "wound" oaks from April through July.

#### WDNR Flyer

Oak wilt has been found in southern Bayfield County. Please contact Red Cliff Wildlife and Forestry if you have questions, comments or concerns; or especially if you spot any oak trees that look like they may have oak wilt disease:

Andrew.Edwards@redcliff-nsn.gov 715-779-3795

#### WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT NUISANCE WILDLIFE?

It is that time of year when encounters with wildlife in residential areas are increasing. At this point, many of you may have had encounters or have at least seen Makwa (bears), Wiisagi-ma'iinganag (coyotes) or other animals near your homes. But before you contact the Wardens and request attempts be made to remove them, there are some things to think about.



As residential areas expand and increase on the reservation, so will the conflicts with wildlife. Seeing and encountering bears and other wildlife in residential areas is becoming more normal and may be unavoidable. There are ways to reduce CLOSE encounters with bears and other animals near your home.

In almost all cases, nuisance wildlife, in the spring and summer seasons are looking for food. If you have a dumpster at your home, you have an animal's equivalent to Thanksgiving dinner sitting in your driveway. You may want to consider having the dumpster removed for the spring and early summer months. You may also want to consider upgrading to a "bear proof" dumpster with a metal lid. These types of dumpsters are highly effective in keeping out unwanted pests and are usually available for an additional fee. If this is not a viable option for you, then you may

want to consider other means to secure your dumpster such as placing boards under the lids and securing them with straps or chains. It is important to remember that no attempt to "bear proof" a dumpster is 100 percent effective. "Bear proof" dumpsters can still attract bears and other wildlife even if they cannot access its contents and the only way to eliminate the problem is to have the dumpster removed.



Also, if you have a grill that is stored outdoors, a bird feeder, household garbage, or pet food that is left outside, YOU ARE attracting bears and other unwanted pests such as Esibanag

(raccoons), Zhigaagwag (skunks), or coyotes. Do not store garbage outside for even a short period of



time. Go to the dump frequently. The Red Cliff transfer station is open two days a week (Tuesday and Saturday from 8:00am-6:00pm). Something as small as a discarded juice box, empty tuna can or cooking oil discarded outdoors may be enough to attract the attention of unwanted wildlife.

Sadly, some wildlife have or will become dependent on humans for food, can destruct property and can become a threat to public safety. If you are continuing to have animal issues, or observe an animal that appears injured, disoriented or sick, stay away from it and call the Red Cliff Wardens. The Wardens can help you by providing additional information to help you reduce or eliminate your animal problem and if needed, remove them.

THE RED CLIFF WARDENS CAN BE REACHED AT 715-779-3732. IF YOU NEED IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE CONTACT BAYFIELD COUNTY DISPATCH AT 715-373-6120. IF YOU FEEL YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY DIAL 911.



#### Wanted! Your thoughts on the Waawaashkeshi (Deer) population in Bayfield County.

Do you hunt waawaashkeshi? Do you feel current deer numbers provide ample opportunities to bring home some venison? Don't hunt, but still have an interest in watching deer? Maybe you think there are too many waawaashkeshi and that they are having a negative impact on forest growth, eat all your plants, or that they are too common along roadways. Perhaps you feel like deer numbers are just right or too low. Well, whatever your opinion is – now is the time to provide your input.

The Wisconsin DNR is in the process of preparing for the 2020 state deer hunting seasons. While everyone that purchases a Wisconsin archery or firearms deer license is allowed to harvest an ayaabe (buck) statewide, harvest of antlerless deer is now managed at the county level. Every year decisions are made on how many antlerless deer should be harvested (quota) to meet population goals and how many public land and private land antlerless permits should be made available for hunters. Those permits are then made available for purchase on a first come, first served basis until they sell out. Generally, if the goal is to increase the deer population, fewer (or even zero) antlerless permits are made available, but if the goal is to reduce deer numbers then more permits are offered.

As part of the process, each county has a County Deer Advisory Council (CDAC) that is charged with the following tasks:

- Gather public opinion on deer populations and goals, antlerless quotas and herd management strategies.
- Review and consider scientific metrics on deer herd trends, impacts to habitat and agriculture and human-deer interactions.
- Provide the department with recommendations on deer population objectives, antlerless quotas and herd management strategies.

For the last several years Red Cliff's wildlife biologist has served as a tribal representative on the Bayfield CDAC. Since I took over the wildlife position relatively late in 2019, this will be my first year serving on the council and I'd like to make sure you have an opportunity to share your thoughts on the deer population goal for the county. In 2017, the CDAC recommended an objective of decreasing the Bayfield county herd over the next three years.

The 2020 process is just starting to unfold, and like most things this spring, has been impacted by coronavirus concerns. Normally there are two public CDAC meetings where interested individuals can come hear a presentation on recent harvest and population trends and share their opinion on the management goal and levels of antlerless permits before CDAC makes their final recommendations to the DNR. However, this year, the first meeting will be held as a conference call and while the public can listen in, they will only be able to provide formal comments online or by contacting a Bayfield CDAC member directly. The informational presentation that would normally be shown at the meeting has been recorded and is available for viewing online. As a council, we are hoping that people can find time to watch the presentation and then provide comment during the online comment period or by emailing a CDAC member.

There is a lot of interesting information about historical and recent harvest and population trends, forestry concerns, and impacts of predation and weather in the online presentation. The link below will take you to a website where presentations are available for all Wisconsin counties.

#### https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/hunt/cdac.html

On the website, find the red box (see picture below) and click the "Watch" button to find the presentation for Bayfield and other counties. Above the "Watch" button is a link that lets you find information about CDAC meetings and how to listen in. Lots of other deer and CDAC info is also on the page.

B https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ht	ant/cdac.html						<u> </u>	* 3
Business	Licenses & Regulations	Recreation	Env. Protection	Contact	Join DNR	Search or Keywords	Q	
County Doo	r Advisory Coun	aile			Hun	nting		
County Dee	r Advisory Coun	CIIS			Sign	UD		
recommendations t	consin has a County Deer A to the department on deer r taff to schedule meetings, p	management wil	thin their county. Cou	uncils work with	h were t	riter safety. Required if you form on or after January 1,		
	v population data and deer on county population object					writing license.		
recommendations c	in councy population object	oves and create	annual anderiess na	rvest quocas.	App			
2020 CDAC mee	stings update					sermit and check permit status		
The first CDAC r	meetings of 2020 remain s	cheduled Mar. 3	0 - Apr. 9. However	due	Kno			
to the COVID-15	9 pandemic, meetings will	be accomplishe	d by conference call		and the second sec	gulations.		
Dates, Times, I	& Call-In Phone Number	rs for 2020 Fir	st CDAC Meetings	LISSE				
Watch	your local biologist's CD	AC presentatio	n.			Related links		
L						Veer management		
How are deer	r seasons set?					Neer hunting Neer Metrics System		
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CDAC Seats					A	ssistance Program		
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Learn more a	bout CDACs							
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* Interested in	becoming a CDAC memb	per?				eer		
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	county-specific contacts, meeting	information and do	or bood data			1 1		

Once you have watched the presentation, feel free to leave a message at 715-779-3795 ext. 4334, or send me an email at <u>Andrew.Edwards@redcliff-nsn.gov</u> with your thoughts on the following:

Should the Bayfield county goal be to increase, decrease, or keep the deer herd where it is now? In 2019, the antlerless harvest quota was 2,000 animals with 3,000 private land and 2,667 public land permits offered to state hunters. Total harvest was 2,051 antlered and 1,626 antlerless deer in 2019. Should 2020 antlerless permit levels stay the same, go up, or go down?

Keep in mind that this process is to set a county wide deer goal and determine how many state antlerless deer permits are available for Bayfield county in 2020. It DOES NOT directly influence the tribal deer season structure for off-reservation hunting through GLIFWC.

After the CDAC's first meeting (call) on April 8<sup>th</sup> they will make preliminary recommendations for an antlerless quota and permit levels. Those recommendations will be posted on the same CDAC website. Anyone may provide online comments on those recommendations from April 16-29, 2020 via the DNR CDAC website. A second meeting or call will take place on May 4<sup>th</sup> at which time the CDAC will consider all comments and make a final recommendation for the 2020 season to the DNR.

I look forward to receiving your input! Miigwech, Andy Edwards, Red Cliff Wildlife Biologist



This is an update to allow people to make informed decisions. This is NOT an endorsement of the law nor is it meant to scare, deter or intimidate anyone from exercising "rights of usual occupancy" (Treaty Rights) protected by the 1837 and 1842 treaties.

#### What is it and what is new about it?

AB 426, known as Felony Trespass Bill, expanded Wisconsin law that prohibited trespassing on land that is owned, leased or operated by energy infrastructure such as electric or natural gas powerplants punishable by up to six years in prison and up to \$10,000 fine. The updated bill expands the definition of "energy infrastructure" to include oil pipelines, electrical transmission lines and water pipelines, affiliated companies.

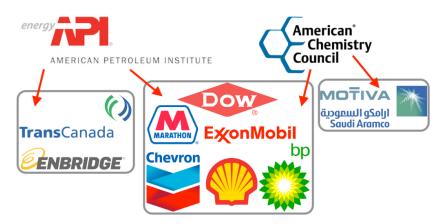
#### How can it affect tribal members?

The use of energy corridors (such as pipeline right of ways electrical lines) for anything from hunting to recreationally snowmobiling could constitute as Felony Trespass under the updated law. Additionally, protesting at a worksite, office building, right of way or other land used, leased or owned by an energy company constitutes as Felony Trespass.

#### Where did it come from?

This bill is similar to others bills proposed across the country that have been written by the American Legislative Exchange Council and other

lobbyists like the American Petroleum Institute. The bill was sponsored by Senator Bewley and signed by Governor Evers.



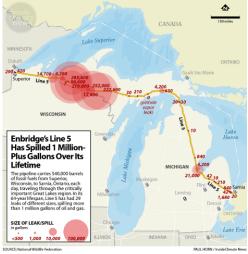


April 2020

Nibi Akawe Mashkiki, water is the first medicine. Nibi Bimaadiziwin, water is life. Any threat to water is a threat to all life, the Anishinaabeg, giigoonh (fish), mashkiki (medicines) and all of our other indinawemaaganag (relatives). As industry continues to try to destroy the aki (land) and nibi (water) people continue to resist.

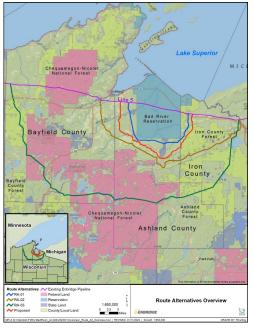
#### Line 5 Updates:

- Enbridge's 66 year old pipeline moves oil and natural gas from **Oodenaang** (Superior, WI) to near the Aamjiwnaang First Nation near Sarnia, Ontario traveling under the Straits of Mackinac. Line 5 has had over 30 spills totaling over 1 million gallons of oil.
- GLIFWC and CORA (Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority) affiliated tribes and intertribal staff met to discuss a way to resist Line 5 in a coordinated effort.
- A Michigan Court ruled that Enbridge is able to build a tunnel for Line 5 in the Straits of Mackinac. Attorney Generals in Wisconsin, Minnesota and California



supported Michigan's lawsuit claiming the State has an obligation to protect the public's rights in public waters and decommission Line 5.

- A report of Enbridge's Financial Assurance on Line 5 in the Straits of Mackinac conducted for the State of Michigan found that Enbridge assets are tied up in various projects and are not readily available in the event of a spill. Additionally, the relationship between Enbridge Energy and Enbridge Inc. is setup in a way that shields the parent company from any spill related costs.
- Michigan's U.P. Energy Task Force released a draft recommendation to decrease the U.P.'s reliance on Line 5's propane through a variety of agency specific actions.
- Enbridge has filed permit applications with the Wisconsin DNR and Army Corp of Engineers for their proposed reroute around the Bad River Reservation. Enbridge has also submitted an Eminent Domain application to the Public Services Commission. Enbridge has been acquiring easements and conducting surveys since this summer.



Enbridge's reroute options. Preferred route is in red.

• Some landowners have not consented to Enbridge's requests to survey lands and have reported trespassing incidents to law enforcement. No trespassing citations have been issued to any Enbridge-affiliated workers.

#### Line 5 Updates continued:

- In February, Enbridge held a series of Open Houses in Ashland, Mellen and Hurley. The Ashland event included an Enbridge presentation. Questions were pre-screened by Enbridge despite concern and opposition from the audience. At least one Enbridge supporter heckled racist comments.
- Bad River sent Enbridge a letter notifying the company of "unlawful occupation of tribal lands" and requested that Enbridge pay \$45 million as compensation, cease operations of Line 5 in Bad River and decommission or remove Line 5 from the Bad River watershed.
- Enbridge contractors (who are reported to be out of state workers) have been doing pre-construction drilling in the Highbridge area despite the Governor's Safer At Home Order.



Geotechnical Drilling near Highbridge along the proposed Line 5 Reroute path

#### Line 3 Updates:

- A proposed tar sands pipeline that would cross over 200 water ways and **Manoomin** (wild rice) nibi from the Cree, Chipewyan and Metis territory known as Alberta, Canada to **Oodenaang** (Superior, WI).
- The MN Public Utilities Commission (PUC) approved the second revised Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and issued both the Certificate of Need and the Approved Route permit.
- The DNR is reviewing Enbridge's most recent permit applications.
- The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has released a draft 401 water quality permit, a draft NPDES/SDS waster discharge permit and a draft air permit.
- The Army Corp of Engineers is finishing their analysis for Enbridge's 404 wetland crossing application.
- Enbridge continues to find ways to begin clearing the proposed route despite not having the necessary permits.





Concerned individuals hold a banner in front cut logs from the proposed route that reads: "STOP LINE 3 NO MORE MMIWR"



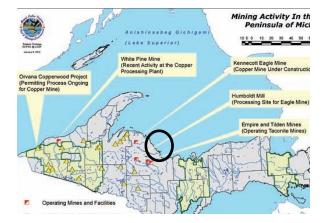
Nibi Akawe Mashkiki, water is the first medicine. Nibi Bimaadiziwin, water is life. Any threat to water is a threat to all life, the Anishinaabeg, giigoonh (fish), mashkiki (medicines) and all of our other indinawemaaganag (relatives). As industry continues to try to destroy the aki (land) and nibi (water) people continue to resist.

#### **Tilden Mine Updates:**

- The EPA cited Tilden Mine for continued Clean Air Act violations and filed a suit against the company. An out of court settlement is expected and would likely result in the Tilden Mine being fined far less than what the EPA initially called for.
- The Tilden Mine has submitted a permit application to enlarge their existing dam. Keweenaw Bay Indian Community is concerned about this expansion due to dam safety and the potential of a spill.

#### **Eagle Mine and Humbolt Mill Updates:**

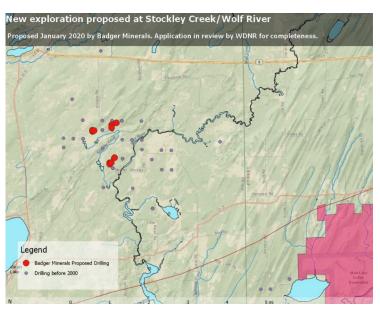
- The Eagle Mine and the Humbolt Mill (Eagle Mine's processing facility) submitted two air use permit applications. The facilities plan to process hardrock material of a different composite than what was covered under the prior air permits.
- The DNR is expected to issue the permits despite community concerns.





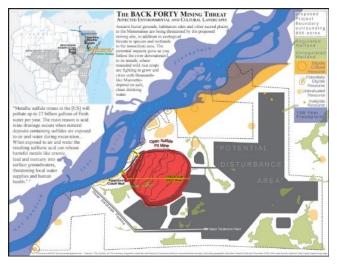
#### **Badger Minerals Updates:**

- There is proposed exploratory drilling occurring in Oneida County near the headwaters of the Wolf River.
- Mole Lake has passed a resolution opposing this project, beginning baseline water monitoring and plans to request consultation with the DNR.
- Menikanaehkem (a grassroots Menominee group) and Mole Lake held a Water Walk from Mole Lake to the headwaters of the Wolf River.



#### **Back 40 Mine Updates:**

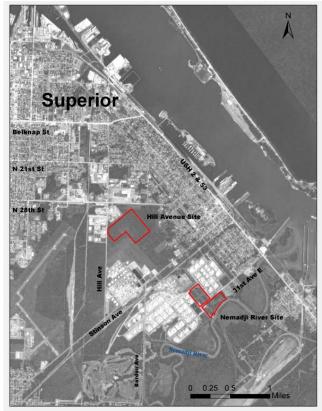
- The Back 40 Mine is a proposed sulfide mine on the shores of the **Manoominkaani-ziibi** (Menominee River), upstream of the birth of the Menominee People and **Boojwiikwed** (Green Bay) proposed by Aquila Resources.
- Menominee's federal court challenge was dismissed. It is unknown if Menominee will appeal the decision.
- Coalition to SAVE the Menominee River Inc. continues their contested case over the issued Wetlands Permit in Lansing, Michigan. The Coalition has also filed a federal case against the EPA and the Army Corp of Engineers.



- Michigan Department of Environmental, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) approved Aquila's Amended Mining Permit with conditions. The air permit was approved and is being challenged by an adjacent landowner. The air permit is now "on hold".
- Menominee Nation has legally recognized the Rights of the Menominee River to help protect the river for generations yet to come.
- EGLE is expecting a new Dam Safety Permit to be submitted by Aquila Resources, which will allow for another public comment period.

#### <u>Nemadji Trail Energy Center</u> <u>Updates:</u>

- Dairyland Power Cooperative and a subsidiary of Minnesota Power have proposed a natural gas powerplant in **Oodenaang** (Superior, WI). The project site is located on the Nemadji River next to an Enbridge facility and is expected to run on gas from horizontal fracturing (fracking) sites. The project is also adjacent to the St. Francis Xavier Cemetery, which is where Ojibwe graves were relocated to after U.S. Steel moved them from what is known as Wisconsin Point.
- An EIS was approved by the Wisconsin DNR and the Public Services Commission (PSC).
- Two draft air permits decisions were released.
- DNR's draft Wetland and Water permit decisions are expected to be released in the near future and open for public comment.

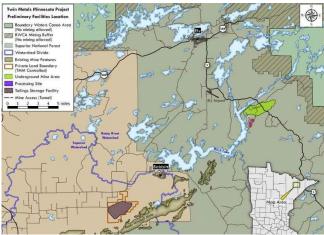




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#### **Twin Metals Mine Updates:**

- Twin Metals is expected to be an underground metal mine in Northeastern Minnesota with the rock processed off site
- The Minnesota DNR will conduct a state-level Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The BLM will be the lead federal agency for an EIS with support from the USFS.
- The BLM and USFS released a 61 page Environmental Assessment. All but one page of the document has been redacted .
- The BLM has met with Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, Bois Forte & 1854 Treaty Authority.



#### **PolyMet Mine Updates:**

- The proposed sulfide mine located just outside of the Boundary Waters had received most of its permits, however legal challenges and investigations are causing many to be put on hold.
- Minnesota Court of Appeals placed a temporary holds on the mine permit, dam safety permits and NPDES (water discharge) permit due to several concerns including the fact that EPA comments were concealed during the review process.



- PolyMet petitioned the Minnesota Supreme Court to review the Minnesota Court of Appeals' ruling that the DNR must hold a contested case hearing for the dam safety permits and permit to mine. The Supreme Court has decided to hear the case.
- Minnesota Court of Appeals sent PolyMet's Air Permit back to the MPCA for further review. The court ruled that the MPCA failed to consider a report indicating increased air emissions if the mine increases its operation.

#### Minntac Mine Updates:

- U.S. Steel's open pit taconite mine near the western boundary of 1854 treaty territory. According to 1854 Treaty Authority's data, the mine's discharge has been exceeding Minnesota standards for sulfate discharge in manoomin waters.
- The Minnesota Court of Appeals reversed Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's decision to renew the mine's Waste Water Discharge permit. The permit originally expired in 1992 and a renewal application was submitted about 15 years later. Fond du Lac and Water Legacy were leading the legal challenge.



• U.S. Steel recently submitted a permit application for a proposed mine expansion.

#### Mining Legislation Update

- AB 917, Sulfide Mining Bill, is proposed state legislation that would undue several pro-mining legislative changes from 2013 to 2017.
- Minnesota Congresswoman McCollum proposed federal legislation to prohibit sulfide-ore copper mining in the Boundary Waters Wilderness Protection and Pollution Prevention Act.
- HR 5590, the Boundary Waters Wilderness Protection and Pollution Prevention Act, is proposed federal legislation that aims to protect the Rainy River Headwaters from sulfide-ore copper mining. The Minnesota Chippewa Tribes sent Congress letters opposing sulfide-ore mining in the headwaters of Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. These letters sparked a boycott of Bois Forte by nearby predominately white communities.



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#### **VIFE** Want to get involved and protect the Nibi?

#### **Opportunities to Comment to Federal or State Agencies:**

- The U.S. Forest Service is **still** accepting public comments regarding Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest's expired Line 5 Special Use Permit, for details go to: <u>https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=44889</u>
- Stay up to date on the Nemadji Trail Energy Center with the WI DNR's website: <u>https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/WaterUse/ntec.html</u>
- Sign up for Twin Metal updates on the MN DNR's website: <u>https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/twinmetals/index.html</u>
- Sign up with MN DNR and MPCA for Line 3 updates on their websites:

-<u>https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/line3/index.html</u>

-https://www.pca.state.mn.us/regulations/enbridge-line-3-pipelinereplacement-project

#### Want to join the Frontlines?

- Need help figuring out the best way for you to get involved in the fight against Line 5? Reach out to Red Cliff's Environmental Justice Specialist! Contact info below.
- Contact the Ginew Collective to help fight Line 3 <u>ginew@protonmail.com</u> or www.facebook.com/ginewcollective/

For more information about any of these projects, please contact our Environmental Justice Specialist at noah.saperstein@redcliff-nsn.gov or (715) 779 3650 ext. 4315



#### **ATV SAFETY TIPS AND LAWS ATV USERS SHOULD KNOW**

#### An ATV is NOT a Toy

An All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) is a powerful, motorized vehicle. It can weigh up to 600 lbs. and reach speeds of more than 60 mph. Even the best drivers often lose control of their ATV. A collision or a vehicle rollover can happen quickly. Before allowing any young person on an ATV, think twice...because you only live once.

#### Who is at risk?

The highest risk age group by far is males under the age of 16. Often these youngsters are riding without protective equipment and with more than one person on the ATV. Risk taking and goofing around while riding is common. Young people represent nearly 40% of all ATV-related injuries and deaths.

#### Why are young people injured so often?

- No helmet use
- Carrying one or more passengers
- Lack of mature judgment
- Lack of adequate strength and coordination
- ATV too big for their size/age

#### Safety Tips for All ATV Riders

 Do not carry passengers. ATVs are designed for one person.

- 2. Wear a helmet with eye protection.
- 3. Wear non-skid, closed toe shoes.
- Wear long pants and a long-sleeve shirt.
- 5. Never use a 3-wheeler. They are unsafe and no longer manufactured.

6. Attend an ATV driver's safety course.



#### What is the LAW?

- ATV use is permitted on all roads within reservation boundaries and within the Township of Russell except State Highway 13. State Highway 13 is closed to ATV and snowmobile use ALWAYS.
- Children under the age of 12 are NOT permitted to operate ATV's on the roadway unless it is for agricultural purposes
  and they are under direct supervision of an adult.
- Youth ages 12-16 may operate ATV's on the roadway only if they have completed an approved ATV safety course. Youth must carry proof of their completion with them at all times while operating.
- If you are under the age of 18 you must wear a helmet and eye protection at all times.
- You must obey all traffic laws plus additional restrictions like lowering your speed to 10mph or less in residential
  areas. You also must have functioning headlamp and tail lamp illuminated at all times, even during daytime hours.
- Your ATV must be registered. This service is provided by the Red Cliff Wardens at no cost.
- This is just a summary; additional restrictions on ATV use may apply. If you would like more information on ATV
  regulations, registration or information on how to obtain ATV safety certification, please call the Red Cliff Wardens at
  715-779-3732.



#### ENFORCEMENT!

Red Cliff Law Enforcement will be stepping up enforcement of ATV regulations. If you are found to be in violation you will be cited. It is also important to note any parent/guardian can be held liable for permitting any minor to use an ATV in violation of Red Cliff Code.



## ATTENTION VISITORS:

To ensure public health and safety, the Red Cliff Environmental Department is limiting visitors to the office. If you need any of the following permits:

- Burn Permit
- Small Harvest Permit
- Wood Cutting Permit
- Environmental Change Permit
- Environmental Activities Permit



Please call 715-779-3650 (ext. 4310 or ext. 4314) or 715-209-3955 or email <u>linda.nguyen@redcliff-nsn.gov</u>. Permits will be issued over the phone or by email. Miigwech for your patience at this time.



## What to Do with Shredded Paper You Can't Recycle By Linda Nguyen, Environmental Director

If you are both safety conscious and environmentally conscious you will want to shred private files and then recycle them. Unfortunately, shredded paper cannot be placed in the recycle bin. If shredded paper is put in our recycling bins, the Red Cliff Transfer Station will get charged a contamination fee by our waste hauler. Currently, we provide free recycling to the community, but if contamination fees continue and increase, recycling service fees may need to be reconsidered. Transfer Station on site will assist patrons and a separate disposal fee may be charged for bags of shredded paper.

#### Why Can't Shredded Paper Be Recycled?

When recycled materials leave the Red Cliff Transfer Station, they go to a bigger recycling facility to be sorted out. Lots of recycling facilities do not sort out recyclables smaller than 3/8<sup>th</sup> of an inch. Because of the size of shredded paper, it can get mixed in with recyclable materials that are marketable. For example, a buyer doesn't want paper mixed in with a bail of plastic.



#### What Can I do with Shredded Paper Instead?

- Use shredded paper instead of bubble wrap or peanuts.
- Loosely stuff it into empty toilet paper rolls or cut up paper towel rolls to make kindling or fire starters.
- Ditch the tissue paper and use as filler for gift bags.
- Use it as a layer of mulch under fill dirt, compost or other mulch. This works best with plain white paper or newspaper. Colored paper or paper that's glossy won't break down as easily.
- If you don't want to do anything with it, offer it on Freecycle or a Facebook neighborhood swap site. There may be others who may want it for any of the above reasons.
- Lastly, throw it out with your household waste.

If there are any questions, please contact the Environmental Department at 715-779-3650 or Transfer Station at 715-779-0171. Miigwech!

#### <u>I Broke a Light Bulb – Now What?</u>

By Linda Nguyen – Environmental Director

## What is the difference between Compact Fluorescent Light (CFLs), Light Emitting Diode (LEDs), and incandescent bulbs?

For starters, the composition difference is listed under each blub in the photo below:



 ${\it Photo\ Credit:\ http://arcadianhome.com/blog/troubleshooting-light-bulbs-lighting-fixtures-and-lamps}$ 

Incandescent bulbs are the most commonly used type. CFLs consume a quarter of the energy that incandescent bulbs and tend to last longer – think of the energy cost savings! LEDs are long-lasting and eco-friendly; they emit no heat and will work in the cold – talk about versatility! With the change of materials to make longer lasting and energy efficient bulbs comes specific disposal methods for broken and expired CFLs and LEDs!

#### If a CFL or other mercury-containing bulb breaks, how do I safely clean it up?

EPA recommends the following steps to safely clean up any broken CFLs. The most important steps to reduce exposure to mercury vapor from a broken bulb are:

#### 1. <u>BEFORE CLEAN UP</u>:

- **a.** Have people and pets leave the room.
- **b.** Air out the room for 5-10 minutes by opening a window or door to the outdoor environment.
- c. Shut off the central forced air heating/air-conditioning system, if you have one.

d. Collect materials needed to clean up broken bulb:

stiff paper or cardboard; sticky tape; damp paper towels or disposable wet wipes (for hard surfaces); and a glass jar with a metal lid or a sealable plastic bag.

#### 2. DURING CLEAN UP:

#### For Hard Surfaces

**a**. Carefully scoop up glass fragments and powder using stiff paper or cardboard and place debris and paper/cardboard in a glass jar with a metal lid. If a glass jar is not available, use a sealable plastic bag.

(NOTE: Since a plastic bag will not prevent the mercury vapor from escaping, remove the plastic bag(s) from the home after cleanup.)

**b.** Use sticky tape, such as duct tape, to pick up any remaining small glass fragments and powder. Place the used tape in the glass jar or plastic bag.

**c.** Wipe the area clean with damp paper towels or disposable wet wipes. Place the towels in the glass jar or plastic bag.

**d.** Vacuuming of hard surfaces during cleanup is not recommended unless broken glass remains after all other cleanup steps have been taken. [NOTE: It is possible that vacuuming could spread mercury containing powder or mercury vapor, although available information on this problem is limited.] If vacuuming is needed to ensure removal of all broken glass, keep the following tips in mind:

Keep a window or door to the outdoors open;

Vacuum the area where the bulb was broken using the vacuum hose, if available; and Remove the vacuum bag (or empty and wipe the canister) and seal the bag/vacuum debris, and any materials used to clean the vacuum, in a plastic bag.

e. Promptly place all bulb debris and cleanup materials, including vacuum cleaner bags, outdoors in a trash container or protected area until materials can be disposed of. Avoid leaving any bulb fragments or cleanup materials indoors.

**f.** Next, check with your local government about disposal requirements in your area, because some localities require fluorescent bulbs (broken or unbroken) be taken to a local recycling center. If there is no such requirement in your area, you can dispose of the materials with your household trash.

**g.** Wash your hands with soap and water after disposing of the jars or plastic bags containing bulb debris and cleanup materials.

**h.** Continue to air out the room

#### For Carpeting or Rugs

**a.** Carefully scoop up glass fragments and powder using stiff paper or cardboard and place debris and paper/cardboard in a glass jar with a metal lid. If a glass jar is not available, use a sealable plastic bag.

(NOTE: Since a plastic bag will not prevent the mercury vapor from escaping, remove the plastic bag(s) from the home after cleanup.)

**b.** Use sticky tape, such as duct tape, to pick up any remaining small glass fragments and powder. Place the used tape in the glass jar or plastic bag.

**c.** Vacuuming of carpeting or rugs during cleanup is not recommended unless broken glass remains after all other cleanup steps have been taken. [NOTE: It is possible that vacuuming could spread mercury containing powder or mercury vapor, although available information on this problem is limited.] If vacuuming is needed to ensure removal of all broken glass, keep the following tips in mind:

Keep a window or door to the outdoors open;

Vacuum the area where the bulb was broken using the vacuum hose, if available, and Remove the vacuum bag (or empty and wipe the canister) and seal the bag/vacuum debris, and any materials used to clean the vacuum, in a plastic bag.

**d**. Promptly place all bulb debris and cleanup materials, including vacuum cleaner bags, outdoors in a trash container or protected area until materials can be disposed of. Avoid leaving any bulb fragments or cleanup materials indoors.

**e.** Next, check with your local government about disposal requirements in your area, because some localities require fluorescent bulbs (broken or unbroken) be taken to a local recycling center. If there is no such requirement in your area, you can dispose of the materials with your household trash.

**f.** Wash your hands with soap and water after handling of the jars or plastic bags containing bulb debris and cleanup materials.

**g.** Continue to air out the room where the bulb was broken and leave the H&AC system shut off, as practical, for several hours.

#### How do I properly dispose of the broken or expired CFL or other mercury-containing bulbs?

Once the broken pieces of the bulb or expired bulbs are contained in a separate bag or packed in a box, please bring them down to the Red Cliff Transfer Station. The Red Cliff Transfer Station will accept CFLs and LEDs for a low rate and is open on Tuesdays and Saturdays. These bulbs *cannot* be disposed of as household waste and *cannot* be recycled because of the contents. Please notify the staff on site when disposing of any hazardous items.

#### For more information, check out:

Further details on clean-up procedures: <u>https://www.epa.gov/cfl/cleaning-broken-cfl#qi</u> Mercury in your environment: <u>https://www.epa.gov/mercury</u>

If there are any questions, please contact the Environmental Department at 715-779-3650 or email <u>linda.nguyen@redcliff-nsn.gov</u>.

ZIINZIBAAKWADAABOO - Maple sap ZHIIWAAGAMIZIGAN - Maple syrup ZIINZIBAAKWA - Maple sugar ANINAATIG - Sugar maple tree

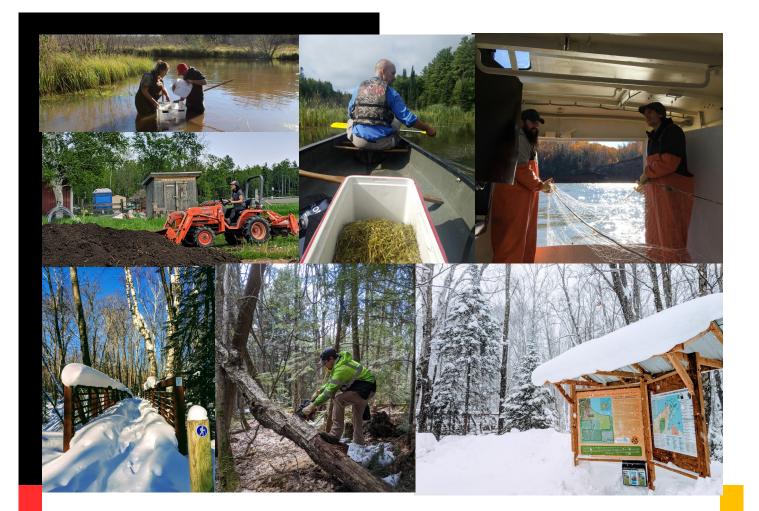
ZIGWAN - It is spring



Springtime Word Search

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```

AABAWAA (It is warm weather) ANIMIKII (A thunderbird, a thunderer) ANIMIKIIKAA (There is thunder) ANINAATIG (A maple tree) BAASHKIKIWAAM (s/he makes thunder) **INAABIWIN** (Lightning) **ISKIGAMIZIGAN** (A sugar bush) NAADOOBII (S/he gathers sap) NAMEBIN (A sucker fish) NINGIDE (It melts, thaw) **OZHIGAIGE** (s/he taps trees) ZIIGWAN (It is spring)



**RED CLIFF BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA** 

## Treaty Natural Resources Division

Fisheries	715 - 779 - 3750
Environmental	715 - 779 - 3650
Natural Resources	$715 \cdot 779 \cdot 3795$
Transfer Station	$715 \cdot 779 \cdot 0171$
<b>Conservation Wardens</b>	$715 \cdot 779 \cdot 3732$
Mino Bimaadiziiwin Farm	$715 \cdot 779 \cdot 3782$

