

Department of Natural Resources Impact in Jefferson County

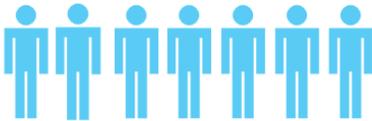
The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources aims to excel at working and partnering with the public to protect and manage the state's natural resources while supporting the economy and the well-being of our citizenry.



Did you know?

In 2011, Wisconsin had

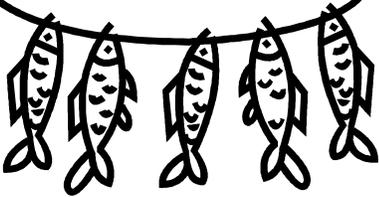
763,384



RESIDENT HUNTERS

In 2011, fishing in Wisconsin had an economic impact of over

\$1.4 billion



In Jefferson County, **31,611** licenses were sold in 2013-14.

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Investments in Recreation

In fiscal year 2014, **Aztalan State Park** had close to **37,600 visitors** making an **estimated local impact of \$1,966,000**.

Lake Mills Public Library in Jefferson County was one of **17 libraries** chosen to test pilot **Outdoor Explorer Backpacks**. The backpacks encourage kids and families to get outdoors and explore Wisconsin's natural resources.

DNR offers a variety of safety classes around the state annually. In 2013, a total of **703 citizens** became **hunter, ATV, boating and snowmobile** certified in Jefferson County.

DNR has recently invested **\$248,385 in state managed properties** in Jefferson County, including improvements to the **Glacial Drumlin State Trail and Aztalan State Park**.

Jefferson County has over **20,980 acres of state owned properties** open to public hunting and outdoor recreation.

In 2014, DNR **stocked 6,620 pheasants** in Jefferson County. This results in increased hunting opportunities, which helps the local economy.

DNR granted a total of **\$28,383** to the Jefferson County Sheriff Department, Town of Lake Mills and Town of Oakland for boat patrol activities.

Community Partnerships

Jefferson County has **207 public water systems** that the DNR oversees to ensure they deliver safe water.

The **Glacial Heritage Area (GHA)** is a network of parks, wildlife and natural areas and other conservation lands connected to each other and to nearby cities and towns by trails and waterways. The GHA is managed **cooperatively by the Jefferson County Parks Department and DNR**. There is also a very active Friends Group. The GHA aims to promote nature-based recreation, create a healthy and green lifestyle for residents and bring economic stimulus to the region by attracting business and tourists to the area.

Snapshot of grants in Jefferson County

A total of **\$1,550,733** was awarded in Jefferson County for **water quality, outdoor recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, public health and safety and forestry activities**. A snapshot of projects include: the Lake Ripley Woodland Restoration Project, Hoopers Mill dam removal and aquatic invasive species work on the Lower Spring Lake.

**Numbers reflect the July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 time period.

Forestry Activities

Since 2011, **Jefferson County has received \$49,330 in Urban Forestry Grants** to support new, innovative projects that will develop sustainable urban and community forestry programs.

Town and Country Resource Conservation and Development received a grant in 2014 to build an urban wood market in Wisconsin. They developed urban wood specifications architects and builders can use in construction projects. Additionally, there has been effort put towards outreach and education for professionals and the general public to encourage people to think of urban wood as a resource instead of waste. As a result it has increased the demand for the product.

DNR granted \$57,837 to local Fire Departments in Jefferson County to purchase equipment and supplies that improve their capability and safety in handling wild land fires.

Six communities in Jefferson County have received technical assistance from the DNR between 2011 and 2014, which helped them to develop or improve their urban forest management programs.

Since June 2010, **DNR has provided over \$26,886 to private forest owners in the county to assist them in protecting and enhancing their forested lands, prairies and waters** through management plan development, tree planting, practices that improve forest health and soil and water protection.

Environmental Cleanup Efforts

DNR approved **cleanups at 361 contaminated properties** resulting in **44 acres** being made available for reuse. DNR staff assures these cleanups provide **long-term protection of public health and environment**.

DNR responded to 20 spills of hazardous materials over the past three years.

DNR provided **\$330,892 in reimbursements** over the past three years for expenses related to the **investigation and cleanup of petroleum contamination** from product storage systems.

Deer Management in Jefferson County

In 2014, Jefferson County established a County Deer Advisory Council. One council per county, they provide input and recommendations to the DNR on deer management.

DNR is working with six landowners who have 860 acres enrolled in the Deer Management Assistance Program to improve wildlife habitat on their property.

In 2013, a total of 2,702 deer were registered in Jefferson County with 805 harvested during archery deer season and 1,897 harvested during the gun deer season.