

Department of Natural Resources Impact in Rock County

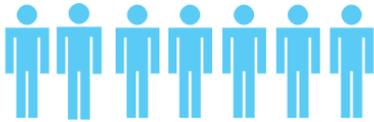
The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources aims to excel at working and partnering with the public to protect and manage the state's natural resources while supporting the economy and the well-being of our citizenry.



Did you know?

In 2011, Wisconsin had

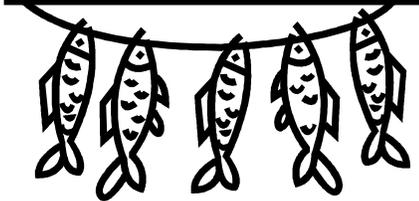
763,384



RESIDENT HUNTERS

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

\$1.4 billion



In Rock County, **64,095** licenses were sold in 2013-14.

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Investments in Recreation

DNR offers a variety of safety classes around the state annually. In 2013, a total of **895 citizens became hunter, ATV, boating and snowmobile certified** in Rock County.

In 2014, DNR stocked **6,300 pheasants** in Rock County. This results in increased hunting opportunities, which helps the local economy.

Jackson County has over **9,470 acres of state owned lands** open for public hunting and outdoor recreation.

The DNR has recently invested **\$72,565 in capital development funds** to improve access at the **Storrs Lake Wildlife Area** in Rock County.

Community Partnerships

Milton Public Library in Rock 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 granted total of **\$47,072** to the **Rock County Sheriff Department** and **Rock River Safety Patrol** for snowmobile and boat patrol activities.

Rock County has **188 public water systems** that the DNR oversees to ensure they deliver safe water. Wisconsin has more public water systems than any other state in the nation.

Snapshot of grants in Rock County

A total of **\$1,945,770** was awarded in Rock County for **outdoor recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, public health and safety and forestry activities**. A snapshot of projects include: grants to individuals to plan and develop private forests, invasive species control and trail maintenance.

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

Forestry Activities

Since June 2010, **DNR has provided over \$32,000 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.

Since 2011, **Rock County has received \$72,437 in Urban Forestry Grants** to support new, innovative projects that will develop sustainable urban and community forestry programs.

DNR granted \$32,022 to local Fire Departments in Rock County to purchase equipment and supplies that improve their capability and safety in handling wild land fires.

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

Through the Forest Tax Law programs (Forest Crop and MFL), **5,169 acres** of private land in Rock County are being properly managed for timber, wildlife, water quality and a healthy environment.

Environmental Cleanup Efforts

DNR approved **cleanups at 363 contaminated properties** resulting in **27 acres** being made available for reuse. DNR staff assures these cleanups provide **long-term protection of public health and environment**.

DNR responded to 47 spills of hazardous materials over the past three years.

DNR provided **\$136,445 in reimbursements** over the past three years for expenses related to the **investigation and cleanup of petroleum contamination** from product storage systems.

DNR is working with Alliant Energy and Beloit College to facilitate a property transfer from Alliant to Beloit College **to turn a former electrical generating station into a student center for the college**.

Deer Management in Rock County

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

In 2013, a total of 1,947 deer were registered in Rock County with 643 harvested during archery deer season and 1,304 harvested during the gun deer season.