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### **2018 Governor's Northern Economic & Community Development Summit**

**December 5 & 6** are the dates and The Waters of Minocqua is the place!

Join us at this premier annual event focused on the people, communities, and success stories of Northern Wisconsin. Registration opens in early November.

### **Get Ready for Deer Hunting!**

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is changing how it communicates with hunters with a YouTube channel and podcasts, as well as a new mobile app.

#### **YouTube Channel and Podcasts**

Wild Wisconsin season two is officially live! The [Wild Wisconsin](#) web and podcast series is aimed at giving hunters tools for a safe and successful deer season. Topics include:

- Public Land 101
- Managing Your Land for Wildlife
- CWD Update
- How Reading the Landscape Can Improve Your Hunt
- Field Dressing & New Rules
- Cooking Wild Game

Learn all about it at [Wild Wisconsin](#).

#### **Mobile App**

New for Fall 2018, the [Hunt Wild Wisconsin](#) mobile app has tons of features to help improve user-experience in the field. Whether you're looking to find new public lands to explore, brush up on the regulations, or listen to podcasts—we've got you covered.

With mobile mapping, up to the minute shooting hours, and much more, we've given you all the tools to focus on what's important—enjoying your time in the outdoors.

You can find more information, along with download links, at [Hunt Wild Wisconsin](#).

### **Got a Trail Cam? Snapshot Wisconsin Expands**

The network of wildlife-monitoring trail cameras known as Snapshot Wisconsin, which has been operating in 26 counties, is now seeking volunteers to expand statewide.

Anyone with access to at least 10 contiguous acres of public or private land can apply to host a trail camera. Educators are welcome. No experience or special qualifications are necessary, aside from basic computer skills and internet access for uploading photos.

The DNR provides all training and supplies to volunteers upon acceptance into the program. Find out more at [Snapshot Wisconsin](#).

### **Economic Development Hampered by Environmental Contamination?**

The Wisconsin DNR offers two programs to local governments, tribes, non-profits, and other entities that are working to revitalize their communities, but whose projects are hampered by real or perceived environmental contamination.

The [Wisconsin Assessment Monies \(WAM\)](#) program offers professional site investigation services—up to \$35,000—to communities where closed or closing industrial plants act as barriers to economic redevelopment. Awards through the WAM program do not require any match or administration, making them especially attractive to small towns and governments.

The [Ready for Reuse](#) program makes loans and grants available for hazardous substance or petroleum cleanups at both small and large redevelopment sites throughout the state. There is no application deadline.

Funding for both programs is currently available and communities are encouraged to apply.

more on 2

## Credit Report Freezes Now Free

Under a new federal law, it is now free to place and lift credit freezes with the nationwide credit bureaus. Credit freezes restrict most access to your credit file, locking out identity thieves who may try to open new accounts in your name.

The new law also allows parents and legal guardians to freeze the credit file for a child under age 16; extends fraud alerts from 90 days to one year; and requires the credit reporting bureaus to provide free electronic credit monitoring to all active duty military members within the next year.

To learn more about fraud alerts and credit freezes, read DATCP's [Credit Report Security Freeze](#).

## Municipalities, Take Note

### Does Your Municipality Get Payments from the State?

Afraid you receive too many State of Wisconsin payments to keep them straight? Worried about not getting the information you need to process the payment? Sign up for the *Wisconsin eSupplier Portal!*

This free online tool provides easy access to information about transactions with the State for suppliers as well as municipalities. The portal can provide information about payments from State agencies, purchase order information, and balances, as well as invoices in process, along with payment contact information.

[Click here](#) for an overview and information on how to sign up.

## Healthy Lakes Grants



Now is the time to start planning for Healthy Lakes grants. Local governments are eligible for this funding to protect and

improve our lakes, and can apply on behalf of individual lakeshore property owners. The funding covers \$1,000 per best practice, including fish sticks, native plantings, and rain gardens. Best practices can be packaged into a single grant application up to \$25,000. Public property is eligible for the funding, too, and makes for a great demonstration opportunity.

Fall is a great time to plan your projects for the February 1 application deadline. Check out <https://healthylakeswi.com/grants> to learn more.

### State Launches Youth Sex Trafficking Public Awareness Campaign

Youth sex trafficking is a reality, even in Wisconsin, and it is happening in all corners of the state. That is why the Department of Children and Families launched the *WI, We Need to Talk* public awareness campaign to help citizens recognize the [warning signs of trafficking](#) and what steps to take if they feel a young person might be at risk.

Help get the conversation started in your community. Visit [WisconsinTalks.org](http://WisconsinTalks.org) for more information or to download free materials.

## Tourism Customer Service Training

The most creative advertising campaign in the world can inspire travelers to visit a destination, but if the customer service experience falls short, those visitors may never come back.

That is why the Department of Tourism developed a customer service training program conducted by Regional Tourism Specialists. The program covers six different topics and can be customized to fit the needs of each tourism destination, business, event, or attraction. To date, more than 18,500 people have received this customer service training. Visit the [Department's industry website](#) to learn more.

### Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly/Tax-Aide (TCE) Programs Looking for Volunteers

VITA and TCE volunteers help ensure that seniors, lower-income taxpayers, veterans, and military personnel have access to free tax preparation services by knowledgeable individuals at more than 200 sites across Wisconsin.

Wisconsin needs volunteers to participate in these important programs. They are open to anyone and may be of particular interest to those who like math or have a background in accounting, finance, or economics. Training usually takes place in January and February, and the site coordinator determines dates and times.

VITA/ TCE general information, volunteer sign-up, and training materials is available at the Wisconsin [Department of Revenue website](#).

## About the Northern Office

The Northern Office serves as a connection point between communities in Northern Wisconsin and the resources of state government. If you are looking for information, have a suggestion, or need assistance with problem resolution with a state agency, please contact us. We travel throughout the 40 county region north of U.S. Highway 10 and can be available, with 3 to 4 weeks notice, to attend your meetings and events. Keep in touch!