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For Immediate Release

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## **Governor Scott Walker declares September 2015 Coastal Awareness Month**

Madison—Governor Scott Walker proclaimed September 2015 as Coastal Awareness Month in Wisconsin in recognition of the important impact that the Great Lakes has on the State. Lake Michigan and Lake Superior are integral to Wisconsin's economy, recreation, tourism, cultural history, and quality of life. The Governor's proclamation is a reminder for the people of Wisconsin to protect, promote, and enjoy the State's Great Lakes.

In recognition of Coastal Awareness Month and the importance of the Great Lakes, the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (WCMP) is proud to announce the release of the 2015 Wisconsin Great Lakes Chronicle. Now in its fourteenth year, the Chronicle promotes public awareness of Wisconsin Great Lakes issues, provides a vehicle for experts to educate public policy leaders, and creates an historical record of Great Lakes events and perspectives. The 2015 edition will feature several articles including those on Commercial Ports: Wisconsin's Comparative Advantage, NOAA Coastal Storms Program and Cat Island Chain Restoration. The 2015 Wisconsin Great Lakes Chronicle, including past issues, are available on the WCMP website at <http://coastal.wisconsin.gov>.

The Department of Administration's WCMP, now in its 37th year, works cooperatively with Great Lakes stakeholders to help protect and enhance the natural, cultural, and historical resources of the Great Lakes while encouraging responsible economic development. The policy direction for WCMP is set by the Wisconsin Coastal Management Council, which is made up of representatives from state agencies, local and tribal governments, and the general public.

To further celebrate Coastal Awareness Month, the WCMP is pleased to announce that it is accepting grant proposals to enhance and protect resources within Wisconsin's coastal zone. The Department of Administration's WCMP anticipates awarding \$1.5 million. Application materials and the Request for Proposals are available on the WCMP website (<http://coastal.wisconsin.gov>). Applications are due November 2, 2015.

During the month of September, WCMP staff will be traveling around the state presenting at the following workshops on the grant program. Interested applicants are encouraged to attend one of the scheduled grant workshops or contact WCMP staff early to discuss proposal ideas and application requirements. Below is the schedule of grant workshops:

Wednesday, September 2, 2015, 1:30 p.m.  
Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center

29270 County Highway G, Ashland

Thursday, September 10, 2015, 1:30 p.m.  
Neville Public Museum  
210 Museum Place, Green Bay

Tuesday, September 22, 2015, 1:30 p.m.  
Port of Milwaukee  
2323 S. Lincoln Memorial Drive, Milwaukee

The WCMP was the first program in the Great Lakes and among the first ten nationally established through the federal Coastal Zone Management Act. Its mission since 1978 is a balance of resource protection and sustainable development within Wisconsin's 15 Lake Michigan and Lake Superior counties. To learn more about WCMP please visit <http://coastal.wisconsin.gov>.

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