
1000 FRIENDS OF WISCONSIN

LANDSCAPES

Spring 2006

1996 - 2006 Celebrating 10 Years!



Healthy Communities



Working Landscapes

Mark Your Calendar! Save the Date!
September 21st - 10th Anniversary Celebration



Recreation



Watersheds



Transportation



Forests

**“Land use decisions affect
virtually all aspects of community life.”**

Boards of Director

1000 Friends of Wisconsin, Inc.

Meagan Yost, *President*
 Jay Tappen, *Vice President*
 Gaurie Rodman, *Treasurer*
 Kine Torinus, *Secretary*
 Jim Arts
 Steve Hiniker
 Dan Masterpole
 Elizabeth Meyer
 Brian Ohm
 Glenn Reynolds
 Jeanie Sieling
 Kim Verhein

1000 Friends of Wisconsin Action Fund

Steve Born, *President*
 Gaurie Rodman, *Treasurer*
 Walter John Chilsen, *Secretary*
 Arlen Christenson, *Past President*
 David Gieslewicz
 Emily Earley
 Kristine Euclide
 Karl Hakanson
 Steve Hiniker
 Bud Jordahl
 Bill Lindsay

Staff

Steve Hiniker, *Executive Director*
 Barb Irvin, *Finance Director*
 Ward Lyles, *Transportation Policy Director*
 Lisa MacKinnon, *Policy Director*
 Deborah Nemeth, *Development Director*
 Kevin Pomeroy, *Planning Director*

Please visit our 1000 Friends website:
www.1kfriends.org

***Our website has
daily updates:***

www.1kfriends.org

The Director's Desk

Why care about land use?

Want to catch a fish?

You'd better take care of the land. Any successful angler will tell you that the health of lakes, streams and rivers is dependent on adjacent land use. Inadequately vegetated or poorly developed waterfront slopes will lower water quality which, in turn, means fewer fish. (It also means a reduction in property values. Higher water quality in lakes means higher value of lands around those lakes.) Fish are clearly in favor of responsible land use.

Want to ride a bus or trolley instead of driving?

You'd better take care of the land. Widely dispersed housing on large lots makes transit services difficult if not impossible. Cost-efficient transit requires population clusters that provide a large enough number of people who can walk to the transit station. Transit riders are clearly in favor of responsible land use.

Want to keep agriculture an important part of Wisconsin's economy?

You'd better take care of the land. If new housing developments are not carefully planned, they can break up—or fragment—the landscape into a checkerboard of housing and farmlands. That fragmentation, in turn, can lead to conflicts between farming operations and residential needs that frequently lead to farms closing down operations. Farmers are clearly in favor of responsible land use.

Want to enjoy seeing and hearing loons in northern Wisconsin?

You'd better take care of the land. As more private lands are developed, the sensitive nesting areas of loons are disrupted, leading to a calamitous drop in the loon population. Loons are clearly in favor of responsible land use.

Want to enjoy walking or cycling in one of the most beautiful states in the Union?

You'd better take care of the land. As housing is more widely dispersed, walking becomes less desirable. Frequently, large lot suburban neighborhoods lack sidewalks, leaving pedestrians to battle with cars for space on the

side of the road (or be resigned to driving a car everywhere). Bicycling opportunities also become more hazardous as more traffic is spread out over dispersed neighborhoods. Pedestrians and cyclists are clearly in favor of responsible land use.

Want to have lower taxes?

You'd better take care of the land. Widely dispersed housing increases the local cost of services by requiring longer roads, sewers, utility lines, etc. In addition to the higher capital costs of longer roads, etc., the cost of maintaining this infrastructure and providing services such as snow plowing is significantly higher than more compact development. Taxpayers are clearly in favor of responsible land use.

Want to take care of the land?

We do. That's why we have been working with local officials and local activists to make sure that they understand the impacts of land use decisions. We know that land use decisions need to be made with local support. We provide local residents with the tools they need to be effective participants in local land use decisions.

1000 Friends has made real progress in promoting reasonable land use decisions over the past ten years. In the past decade, we spearheaded the successful effort to establish Smart Growth planning in Wisconsin. We have helped countless activists become more effective in determining local land use policies in communities across the state.

Our work will become more important as we move forward. Wisconsin is projected to gain one million more people over the next twenty-five years. At our current pace, we will dedicate nearly 350,000 acres of land to new housing in the next quarter century.

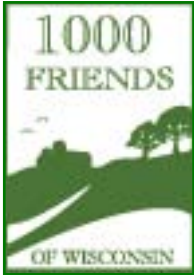
By making the right decisions now, we can reduce the land needed for our population growth and we can significantly reduce the adverse impacts to our natural resources at the same time.

We can be successful – but only with strong membership support.

Steve

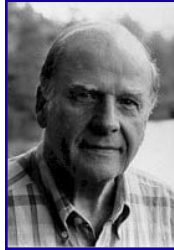
1000 Friends: 1996 - 2006

A Decade of Progress



July 1996

1000 Friends of Wisconsin and The Land Use Institute are incorporated.



"We have an historic opportunity to impact land use policy in Wisconsin and to reverse the trend toward more sprawl. 1000 Friends of Wisconsin is determined not to let this opportunity slip by. Through research, legislative advocacy and public education, 1000 Friends is turning the tide in the fight against sprawl."

*Gaylord Nelson, Honorary Chair
1000 Friends of Wisconsin*



Nuria Hernandez-Mora
First staff hired



Dave Cieslewicz
Co-founder
First Executive
Director



Andrea Dearlove
Executive Director
Land Use Institute

1996

Fundraising
letter goes out

1997

Madison
office opened

1st renewal
letter goes out

over 1000 members



Land Use
Planning initiative is introduced as
part of the state budget

"Looking for words to describe the position of 1000 Friends? Reasonable. Thoughtful. Well researched. Some might say it's a matter of style but the way one takes stands on issues makes a difference. I admire and respect their methods as well as their conclusions. Smart Growth isn't just a slogan. It's an approach to thinking, planning and acting on our quality of life by taking lots of different perspectives into account. 1000 Friends is a strong piece of evidence that many people who live in Wisconsin don't just take a healthy relationship between the rest of nature and ourselves for granted."

*Richard Brooks, Program Outreach Manager,
Dept. of Development & Applied Studies,
UW-Madison*



1000 Friends of Wisconsin
First Board of Directors

First
Annual Meeting



Begin
lobbying



Land Use Institute
First Board of Directors



Nolen I
Conference

"For the lay person to try and quickly gain a working knowledge of land use issues and laws is a bit like trying to reinvent the wheel. Having qualified people like you to answer questions is a great help. Thank you so much for taking time to provide information to me. It is nice to know that citizens have resources available to them which they can draw on when needed."

Diane Lasceski, Freedom Township



Carrie Hirsch
Administrative Assistant



**WISconservation
Legislative
Agenda I**

**Smart
Growth
Comprehensive Planning Law
Passed!**

**"A Day in the
Life of Wisconsin - A
Sesquicentennial Project"**

**Community
Shares of
Wisconsin**



Meagan Morse
replaces Carrie Hirsch



Lisa MacKinnon
Policy Director

"The 1000 Friends staff has consistently been cooperative and understanding. I have enjoyed working with you and have learned a lot about public outreach and communication. I would like to recognize your presence in shaping the Wisconsin Comprehensive Planning Law. The communities have benefited as a result of the staff ability and efforts."

*Joanna Schumann, Grant Administrator,
WI Comprehensive Planning Grant
Program*

1998

**First website and
email alert network**

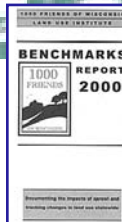
**Deer & Development
Report**

1999

**Tax Incremental
Financing Report**

**The City Ethic
Report**

2000



**Citizens'
Guide II**



"As Door County Residents for Fair Enterprise, we are deeply grateful for the assistance that 1000 Friends gave us in our fight against super stores and urban sprawl. We cried out for help and within a few weeks, Kevin Pomeroy was the headliner at an open forum which drew over 400 people. Thank you for being there for us when we needed your guidance."

*Christie Weber and all of the Door County
Residents for Fair Enterprise*

"Just a note to thank you for the information you sent us to get us started on a cluster development ordinance. It was super of you to take the time and answer so promptly."

*Rita M. Horne, Town Clerk
Town of Hudson*

Rural Counsel Project

"Congratulations to 1000 Friends for ten years of success in helping local Wisconsin communities understand the impact of their land use, transportation and natural resource protection decisions and to plan more effectively for the future. The Town of Honey Creek, Sauk County and the State of Wisconsin are better places for the work of 1000 Friends and the Rural Counsel Project."

*Dave Tremble
Land Preservation Specialist/Planner
Sauk County Dept. of Planning & Zoning*

"Thank you for the *Citizens' Guide to Land Use in Wisconsin*. I am finding it very helpful. After talking to you (about a local land use issue) I felt a glimmer of hope. Thank you again for your help and advice."

Joan White, Lakewood, WI



Community Planning

**Forest
Fragmentation Pilot
Project**

**Wingspread
Conferences**

"1000

Friends has been a wonderful partner to Gathering Waters Conservancy and the land trust community. We are especially proud of our successful efforts to protect the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund. 1000 Friends was instrumental in getting the current program funded at \$60 million a year and has fought every attempt to cut Stewardship funding. Because of 1000 Friends' leadership, thousands of acres have been added to Wisconsin's world-class system of public lands."

Vicki Elkin

Executive Director, Gathering Waters Conservancy

"Generations

from now, I'm confident that history will recognize 1000 Friends of Wisconsin as one of the pioneering organizations that set the groundwork for communities throughout Wisconsin to be more sustainable."

Bryant Moder, Sustain Dane



Nick Lelack
first Planner



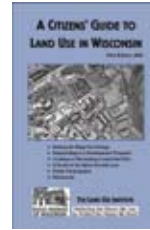
Hal Cohen
Planner



Ward Lyles
Transportation
Policy Director



Deb Nemeth
Development Director



Regina Rotar
Exec. Assistant



Kevin Pomeroy
Planning Director



Steve Hiniker
Executive Director

2001

2002

2003

Embracing
Smart Growth
Conference



"1000 Friends of Wisconsin has helped me be a more effective member of my county's Smart Growth citizen advisory committee. I regularly draw on what I've learned from your booklets, newsletters and training sessions. Thank you, 1000 Friends."

Kit Keller, Ozaukee County

Nolen II Conference

1000 Friends
5th Anniversary Party
New logo introduced



"As a citizen and writer concerned with the plight of the North American Biped, I've relied on 1000 Friends to keep me abreast of legislative efforts to protect or destroy their threatened habitats within the state."

Bridget Brown



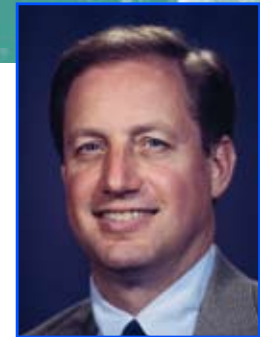
Pabst
Farms Project

"1000

Friends is a valuable partner in our work to make commuter rail a reality in SE Wisconsin. Their respected policy and legislative work in Madison, and effective community education efforts, are leveraging important advances for transit and transit-oriented development."

*Kerry Thomas, Communication Director
Transit NOW*

Benchmarks
2002



Dave Cieslewicz
elected Mayor of Madison



Comp.
Planning Law
Defense -
Round 1

Smart
Growth repeal
effort fails

"Through its research and commitment to quality communities, 1000 Friends helped Franklin's citizens give shape to their concerns. Kevin Pomeroy's presentation raised questions and became the focus for the 400 attendees and the common council's response. The land was not rezoned and Walmart dropped plans for its supercenter."

Carolyn Castore, Franklin, WI

"1000 Friends of Wisconsin has become a leader in the effort to combat the adverse ecological, economic and social impacts of forest parcelization and fragmentation. They have raised the awareness of both citizens and decision-makers, and advocated constructive action to mitigate the rate and effects of forest fragmentation. They clearly are advocating the interests of not only those of us who make Wisconsin our home today, but also the generations that will follow."

*Paul DeLong, Chief State Forester
Wisconsin Dept of Natural Resources Division of Forestry
State Land Specialist*

Governor's Forestry Conference

"Since 2000, 'Friends' has been dogged in its efforts to understand and develop strategies to address forest parcelization. In many ways, 1000 Friends brought this topic to the fore with organizations and interests outside of forestry."

*Mark Rickenbach, Asst. Professor - UW-Madison
Forest Ecology & Management*

10th Anniversary Party

"It was a great pleasure to work with 1000 Friends in advancing legislation that would ensure safe paths for students to take to school and also encourage the use of bike paths and other walkways for the appreciation of Wisconsin's great outdoors, especially by our young citizens...."

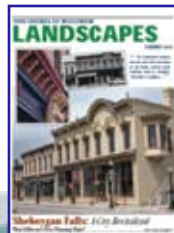
*Steve Wieckert, State Representative
57th Assembly District*



Barb Irvin
Finance Director



Board Member Bud Jordahl
Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame



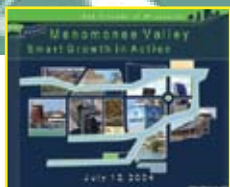
Gov. Doyle vetoes Comp. Planning Repeal



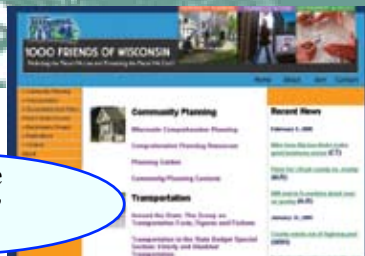
2004

2005

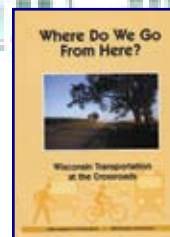
2006



"The website looks great!"
Mayor Dave



New Website Design



3000 members



Nolen III Conference

"As we move forward in our efforts to support sound land use and local decision-makers in our state, we hope we can continue to rely upon your skills and expertise to bridge the gap between technology, environmental, and human issues. Your work in this area is vital to the future of land use planning, and we greatly appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedule to share that work with us."

*Letter to Kevin Pomeroy from
Scott Hassett, DNR Secretary*

Eco-Municipalities Tour/ Sweden



Helsingborg, Sweden

"Thank you for your presentation on the Eco-Municipality Movement. Our opinion survey noted this was one of the favorite sessions at the conference."

*Gary L. Peterson, President
WI Chapter, American Planning Assoc.*

Elderly & Disabled Funding

"The fear of being stranded at home is very real for too many of Wisconsin's most vulnerable citizens. Today, thousands of elderly and people with disabilities across the state have increased access to the doctor, shopping, and jobs because of the skills, energy, and dedication that 1000 Friends of Wisconsin brought to the table."

*Gail Sumi,
Associate State Director - State Advocacy
AARP Wisconsin*

"1000 Friends was an early supporter of the concept of adding streetcar routes to the options for public transit in Madison. It was the first organization to get on board and to assist in developing a full scale proposal."

*John DeLamater
President, Downtown Trolley, Inc.*

Major Highway Reform Bill passed

The Checks Were in the Mail: The First Year of 1000 Friends

Mayor Dave Cieslewicz: Co-founder, First Executive Director

I knew 1000 Friends of Wisconsin was for real when the mail arrived in our small office on a Friday morning in October 1997. This is the story of how that came about.

In 1995, then-Gov. Tommy Thompson had appointed a “Strategic Growth Task Force” to deal with growing concerns about sprawl. Chaired by his Secretary of Revenue, Mark Bugher, the task force included UW–Stevens Point professor Don Last, City of Neenah Mayor Marigen Carpenter, conservation legend Bud Jordahl, Associate Professor Brian Ohm, former mayor of Fitchburg Jeanie Sieling, Merrimac Town Chair Roger Shanks and several representatives of the real estate and building industry. In a lapse of judgment, Bugher also accepted my appointment to the group, representing The Nature Conservancy for which I worked at the time.

The Task Force concluded its work a year later by issuing a report on land use. However, most of us wanted to continue working toward solutions so we decided to move forward. Don Last, Brian Ohm, Jeanie Sieling and I formed the core group to work on the details of forming a new organization. We discussed different names for the group, but the one that stuck was patterned after 1000 Friends of Oregon. Our focus would be land use reform at the state level. With the help of attorney Madelyn Leopold, granddaughter of the famous Wisconsin conservationist, we were incorporated by July. We then recruited a board of directors made up largely of the core group but also added some heavy hitters like the indomitable Emily Earley, a long-time Nature Conservancy board member, and Arlen Christenson, a revered UW law professor.

A key turning point was when Bud Jordahl convinced his old boss, Gaylord Nelson, to sign on as honorary chair. Senator Nelson also agreed to lend his name to a letter asking individuals to join 1000 Friends as Founding Members at \$100. Our goal was to get 1000 people to sign up and have \$100,000 in the bank before we hired staff and really got rolling. The letter went out around Thanksgiving of 1996. The returns were good enough to enable us to hire Nuria Hernandez-Mora – our first employee.

We then decided to hire an executive director – despite being unsure of having enough money in the bank to meet payroll. Don Last suggested that I might want to throw my name in. At first I thought he was nuts. I liked my job at the Conservancy. The work was interesting, I loved my coworkers, the hours were reasonable, and best of all, they paid me regularly. Why did I want to give that up to run a fledgling organization with only half the seed money we thought it needed?

Temporary insanity came over me and on the day of the application deadline, I sent Don a resume. A few weeks later I got a call from a member of the search committee, a guy named Steve Hiniker (I wonder whatever happened to him), who told me that I was the choice. I quit my comfortable and happy job at the nation’s largest and most well-established environmental organization and took a job running its smallest and newest environmental organization. In April 1997, Nuria and I moved into a 500 square-foot office with hand-me-down furniture and a month-to-month lease. We immediately got to work on legislation addressing the findings of the Task Force report that led to Wisconsin’s Smart Growth Law. That law could not have passed as quickly as it did if we hadn’t developed two unique organizing principles for our new organization.

First, we reached out to groups that had been thought of as traditional foes of the environmental movement, like the Realtors. Early on, we forged a solid working relationship with these groups with the understanding that we might disagree but we would always keep the lines of communication open. Second, we focused on the “demand side” of sprawl. We didn’t just deal with the “supply side” by trying to shut down land to development; we wanted to understand what motivated people to move out of central cities into sprawling subdivisions. We asked ourselves how cities could be made better so that the demand for sprawl was reduced. The Smart Growth Law that emerged has a heavy emphasis on good city-building and to this day its defenders include some strange bedfellows like the Sierra Club and the Realtors Association, the Alliance of Cities and the Towns Association. The Smart Growth Law forged a working relationship between groups that often clash on other issues.

But in the fall of 1997 we didn’t know where any of that was going. What we did know was that about 600 people had joined us as Founding Members. With money running out and no assurance that we could keep going much longer, we sent out our first membership renewal mailing. We asked our Founding Members to re-up for an organization that had not had time to produce much more than a couple of newsletters. Would they show faith in our ability to make real on the promise in Gaylord Nelson’s letter almost a year earlier?

The renewal letter went out on a Friday in October. I was alone in the office the following Friday when the mailman showed up with a large stack of letters in his hand. I’ll be honest: I wiped away a tear. Then I got out my letter opener and went to work.

Note: You may read a more complete version of this article by visiting our website at: www.1kfriends.org

Making Friends: A 10 year retrospective

Don Last: Incorporator, Founding Board President, Charter Member Number 1

At a meeting of notables Jim Arts, Denny Caneff, Dave Cieslewicz, Richard Lehmann, Brian Ohm, and Jeanie Sieling that I arranged (December 8, 1995), I asked whether an organization like 1000 Friends of Oregon should be formed in Wisconsin. The answer was yes and a steering committee was formed to work out the details. Looking back ten years, the result of this call to action has been a grand success—and at a scale that even those of us at that first meeting might not have imagined to be possible.

What were the central land use management goals identified ten years ago when 1000 Friends of Wisconsin was conceived and incorporated? Goal 1 was to create a vehicle through which citizens could unite for responsible land use. In letters sent to thousands of prospective members in late 1996, I explained the purpose of the new organization: “Until now, no statewide group has existed to focus exclusively on land use issues. 1000 Friends of Wisconsin is building a coalition of interested persons to work on plans, programs, and policies to make the best use of our land resources. Our members are government leaders from urban, suburban, and rural areas. They are conservationists and business persons. They are farmers and planners. They are homemakers and factory workers. They are Republicans, Democrats, and Independents. This diverse citizen group hopes our state will retain its best features - productive farm fields, green forests, clean waters, viable downtowns, well-planned suburbs, and vibrant small towns. This vision also involves inter-governmental cooperation to deliver costly public services more efficiently. It imagines expanded opportunities for persons to move between home, work place, store, and school by foot, bike or public transit. These visions can become reality with an effective campaign for non-partisan advocacy for sound land use. You can make a difference - as a member of a strong, citizen organization that is joined together as one forceful voice to resolve problems of sprawl and other land use perils.”

It is evident to me today that the resolve of the leaders and members of 1000 Friends of Wisconsin has not diminished since I wrote the following words also nearly a decade ago: “Is the future of our beloved state bleak? The answer is absolutely not if we have anything to say or do about it! We are the chief advocacy group for a sustainable future for Wisconsin. We are raising the alarm about the consequences of continued ‘visionless’ development. We can move forward with our WisConservation action agenda. This agenda is intended to create better places to live, to preserve our cultural heritage, to improve land use planning, and to result in better decisions on transportation and public water and sewer systems. This action agenda is reasonable, rational, and achievable - with a little help from our friends.”

Making “friends” was both a challenge and a joy for the original steering committee and for the founding board. Through the years, the group’s vision has been pushed forward in countless ways by caring individuals and like-minded groups. It is very gratifying to note that, since its 1996 startup, each and every year has been a good year for 1000 Friends of Wisconsin. Unquestionably, the implementation efforts of the organization have had profound effects on future uses of the land and water resources of our state.

While the need for a statewide land use advocacy group was clear in 1996, it is equally evident there is still a great need for the valuable work of the first and the best champion of wise land use—1000 Friends of Wisconsin.

Happy Birthday and long life to you!

Legacy Board

Over the past ten years we have had many, very talented board members who have devoted significant amounts of time and money to making 1000 Friends of Wisconsin a success larger than any of us thought possible. The hard work of the early years gives us a strong foundation on which we continue to build our organization.

Those who helped create the base are still important in defining the future. We want to keep both the institutional memory and the vision of those who started 1000 Friends of Wisconsin an active part of the organization as we grow.

As a way of saying thank you to those who helped build our success, we are creating a Legacy Board of Directors.

Those who serve on our Legacy Board will be honored in our publications and will be invited to special board meetings and social events. We want to keep our Legacy Board involved with the organization and active with committees and programs.



Jeanie Sieling
Legacy Board Chair

1000 Friends Board Profiles

Meagan Yost

Many thanks to Meagan Yost, who finishes her term as President of the Board of Directors of 1000 Friends of Wisconsin in May 2006.

Meagan has dedicated her many talents, energy and strong leadership to 1000 Friends during an incredibly demanding time for her. We greatly appreciate her fine efforts that saw us through the re-organization, which combined 1000 Friends, Inc. and our former Land Use Institute into one organization. Now 1000 Friends functions administratively and programmatically as a single agency.



Thanks also for her dedication to transforming the board of directors into a smaller, more efficient and more active one with increased clarity regarding board member duties and responsibilities. We also appreciate her support and commitment in meeting the many external challenges to our organization and the policies we are dedicated to protecting.

Meagan came to the job with terrific credentials. She served as a town board supervisor and chair of her local plan commission for many years and was a member of the Dekorra/Lowville/Poynette Comprehensive Plan Committee in Columbia County. She also has experienced the pleasures of both urban and rural life and has developed thoughtful insights about the unique values and challenges of both from a land use perspective.

Her ability to run an efficient and productive board meeting were honed by local politics, as well as by her administration of several small businesses that she has operated. Her no-nonsense, can do attitude and her truly great sense of humor have helped us grow much stronger during her tenure as board president.

Meagan will continue on the board as President Emeritus. Words cannot express how much we appreciate her leadership and commitment.

Steve Born

Steve Born takes over the reins of 1000 Friends of Wisconsin as Board President in May. Steve is something of a legend in conservation circles. Until his retirement last year, he was Professor of Urban and Regional Planning and the Chair of both the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and the Nelson Institute of Environmental Studies. His numerous achievements are too long to list here but he has done amazing things all over the world. His strong leadership at the UW has provided an army of dedicated former students who are now making a tremendous difference in conservation and planning everywhere.

If Steve is not at work advocating for better resource protection, he's fly fishing. His passion for fly fishing has helped him better understand the link between land and water protection.

Steve has served as chairman of the National Resources Board of Trout Unlimited, the conservation agenda-setting body for the largest coldwater conservation organization in the U.S., and has served on the Boards of Directors of the River Alliance of Wisconsin, Henry's Fork Foundation, and Trout Unlimited Canada. He is a co-author of "Exploring Wisconsin Trout Streams" (UW Press) and writes occasionally for conservation/angling periodicals.

1000 Friends is very fortunate to have someone with the talent, dedication and leadership skills that Steve provides as our new President.





LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Lisa MacKinnon, Policy Director

2005-2006 Legislative Session Wrap-Up

It's difficult to tell these days but the 2005-2006 legislative session is supposed to be winding down. Here are the latest updates on the bills that we have been watching and weighing in on.

Dusting Off Bad Ideas—The Comprehensive Planning Law Repeal Makes a Last-Minute Comeback Attempt and Legislators Try to Bring a Bad Law from Oregon to Wisconsin

Assembly Bill 645 - Repealing the Comprehensive Planning Law...Again

1000 Friends OPPOSES

Despite the clear outcry of support for maintaining and funding the comprehensive planning law during the most recent state budget session, Representative Mary Williams has introduced a bill to repeal the Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning law in its entirety yet again. The bill is identical to AB 435, which Representative Williams sponsored in the 2003 legislative session, and which never made it out of committee. Co-sponsors of this current bill are Representatives Williams, Suder, Gronemus, Meyer, Wood, Musser, Ballweg, Petrowski and Owens, and Senator Zien.

AB 645 sat dormant until recently, when another hastily noticed public hearing was held by the Assembly Committee on Rural Development in Ladysmith, Wisconsin on April 19th.

1000 Friends of Wisconsin submitted lengthy testimony prior to the April 19th hearing emphasizing that AB 645 is an old idea that has been rejected repeatedly and that it's time to

move forward. In addition to outlining the many benefits of comprehensive planning, we asked committee members to recognize that, while not every single person in this state supports the comprehensive planning law or planning in general, there is strong and broad support from people and communities across the state for continued comprehensive planning in Wisconsin.

Because this legislative session continues to linger like a bad spring cold, there's still a minute possibility that AB 645 will move out of the Assembly committee if the Republican leadership decides to make it a priority. We will keep you informed if there are any new developments.



If you have questions regarding bills or other legislative matters, please feel free to contact Lisa MacKinnon at 608/259-1000 extension 107 or by email at Lmac@1kfriends.org.

Thank you to all our members who responded to our action alerts on AB 645 and very eloquently communicated to their state representatives their personal stories and experiences in support of the comprehensive planning law. We heard from several committee members that they got your messages and we think it made a difference!



For 1000 Friends recent comments on AB 645 and AB 675, go to:

http://www.1kfriends.org/Government_and_Policy/Govt_&Policy.htm

Assembly Bill 675 - Measure 37 "Copycat" Bill - 1000 Friends OPPOSES

Bad for responsible land use, bad for local governments, bad for public participation, the list goes on...

The Bad News...

This proposal would require a governmental unit that enacts or enforces a land use regulation that "restricts the use of private real property or prohibits the development of property that otherwise could be developed and that reduces the fair market value of the property" to pay the property owner compensation equal to the reduction of the fair market value of the property. It also provides that in lieu of a compensation payment, "the governmental unit may remove, modify, or not apply all or part of the land use regulation and allow the property owner to use the property in a manner that was permitted at the time that the owner acquired the property."

1000 Friends has strongly opposed this bill for numerous reasons since its introduction here in Wisconsin. We testified in opposition before the Assembly Committee on Property Rights and Land Management on September 21st. The bill passed out of committee in December but then it stalled because the Oregon Trial Court ruled that a similar law—called Measure 37 in Oregon—was invalid based on constitutional grounds. However, in February 2006 both Measure 37 and Wisconsin's AB 675 had new life breathed into them when the Oregon Supreme Court overturned the trial court's ruling and reinstated Measure 37.

On March 7th, the bill passed the full Assembly by a vote of 54 to 38, and moved on to the Senate Committee on Housing and Financial Institutions. The vote was not entirely along party lines, as Representatives Ott and Ward voted against the bill while Representatives Gronemus and Hubler voted for it.

On April 12th, AB 675 had a hearing in the Senate Committee on Housing and Financial Institutions. At the Senate Committee hearing, a representative of Wisconsin's municipalities testified, "next to TABOR (the constitutional amendment to limit local government spending)

AB 675 is the second most damaging proposal for local governments this session."

1000 Friends testified that AB 675 is the most damaging proposal in the state when it comes to the future of sound land use decision making, local control, and public participation in community planning, among other things. For 1000 Friends of Wisconsin's hearing testimony on AB 675, go to: http://www.1kfriends.org/Government_and_Policy/Govt_&_Policy.htm

Despite broad statewide opposition to AB 675, Senator Stepp indicated that she would like to move this bill out of her committee and to the Senate floor before the end of session. However, committee members on both sides of the aisle raised questions and reservations about the bill, which has only one Assembly sponsor (Rep. Sheryl Albers) and no Senate sponsors. 1000 Friends worked quickly to notify and mobilize local governments, residents and our members around the state regarding the many potential negative effects of AB 675.

On May 1st, the Senate Committee on Housing and Financial Institutions cast a bi-partisan 4-3 vote against passage of AB 675.

The Committee vote followed the recommendations of the many people who testified at the hearing and who called committee members to stop the controversial bill from moving forward.

Senators who voted against the bill and amendment in committee: Coggs, Harsdorf, Lassa and Plale. Senators who voted for the bill and amendment in committee: Stepp, Brown, Reynolds

Normally, this is where the bill would have stopped, and so 1000 Friends sent out an email message to our members celebrating its defeat for the session.

But celebration quickly turned to astonishment the next day when we learned that the Senate Republican Leadership, in a very rare move, decided to ignore its own committee recommendation and schedule AB 675 for a full Senate floor vote. The decision to bring AB 675 to the floor on the last day of general legislative business for a full senate vote despite its failure

to pass out of the Senate Committee, and despite the fact that it has no senate sponsors, only one sponsor in the entire legislature, a devastating track record in the state from which it was imported, and broad opposition from citizens across the state, was cynical and disrespectful of the legislative process and the people of Wisconsin.

The Good News!

On May 3rd, the Senate voted on a wide, bi-partisan margin of 21 to 10 against passage of AB 675. We want to thank all of those who voted to defeat the bill on the Senate floor, including all Senators on the Democratic side of the aisle and Republican Senators Cowles, Ellis, Harsdorf, Kapanke, Kedzie, Lasee, Olsen and Roessler.

Although it was an unusual process, we now have not one, but two bi-partisan legislative votes against AB 675 on the record for this session! We hope these recent votes will help legislators to recognize that this kind of law is just wrong for residents and property owners, wrong for state and local governments and wrong for Wisconsin.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION NOW!

Please call, write or email a thank you to the senator(s) listed above who voted against AB 675 in committee and on the Senate floor to stop AB 675 and to preserve common sense, balance and fairness in land use decision making.

Thanks again...



We want to thank all of you who have taken action on this bill by calling or emailing your senators and the committee members asking them to oppose AB 675. You made a clear difference in the outcomes of both the Senate Committee hearing and the Senate floor vote. Thank you so much for working with us!!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Governor Doyle Takes Positive Action on Several Land Use-Related Bills

Assembly Bill 1012 - Protecting Working Forests and High Quality Natural Areas - *Signed into law by Governor Doyle on April 19th*

As part of Earth Week, Governor Doyle signed AB 1012 - 2005 Wisconsin Act 352 - which will allow the state's Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL) to acquire and protect Wisconsin's forests and ensure that they will be sustainably managed for the future.

The law makes sense from both an economic and conservation perspective. It will allow the DNR to consolidate and preserve high quality natural areas and to manage these lands for their natural values. At the same time, AB 1012 will enable the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL) to consolidate its working forests for more efficient timber management and investment in the state, while also preventing or mitigating forest fragmentation and parcelization. \$2,000,000 in each fiscal year between 2006 and 2010 will be set aside by the DNR under the Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship Program to acquire certain lands from the BCPL.

1000 Friends commends BCPL Secretary Tia Nelson, Senators Rob Cowles, Russ Decker, and Representative Gary Sherman for their bipartisan efforts in support of the bill.

For the 1000 Friends and The Nature Conservancy joint press release commending the passage of AB 1012, go to:
http://www.1kfriends.org/Government_and_Policy/documents/0419naturalconforests1.pdf



Assembly Bill 254 - Omnibus Forestry Bill - *Signed into law by Governor Doyle on March 21st*

This bill - enacted as 2005 Wisconsin Act 166 - makes a number of policy changes to the forestry program. 1000 Friends supports expanding the availability of public information about the state's forest land holdings through an inventory. The law requires a report every 15 years on the health and economic impact of lands that have no active management. 1000 Friends advocated for an amendment to the initial bill to require the report to include a discussion of any public benefits received from areas where active timber harvesting is prohibited (i.e., where the decision is made in order to preserve riparian buffers, maintain historic and cultural sites, etc.) in order to fully inform decision makers and the public.

We also requested that the law maintain a cooperative approach (between multiple DNR divisions) to managing state forest lands rather than shifting management authority to only one division. We believe this is the most appropriate way to effectively manage and comprehensively plan for the state's forest lands.

1000 Friends testified for information only on March 24th indicating that we would only support the bill with the recommended amendments. The bill was passed out of committee without the amendments but then the bill's sponsors worked to get the amended version passed by the Assembly.

On March 21st, Governor Doyle signed AB 254 with the recommended amendments.

1000 Friends issued a joint press release with Gathering Waters Conservancy and The Nature Conservancy thanking Representatives Friske and Hubler for paying attention to the concerns of the conservation community and improving upon the initial versions of this bill.

For our joint press release with Gathering Waters and The Nature Conservancy on AB 254, go to:
<http://www.1kfriends.org/documents/11101kfriendsforestry.pdf>

Assembly Bill 299 Governor Doyle Vetoes AB 299 - *preserving countless miles of shoreline from uncontrolled development*

AB 299 would have eliminated the requirement that county shoreland zoning ordinances continue to be in effect and be enforced by a city or village that annexes unincorporated land. The bill would have increased sprawl type development in Wisconsin by creating an incentive for municipalities to annex lands and then develop them with less shoreline protection than would otherwise occur. The bill would have had devastating effects on lakes, rivers and streams in fast growing, newly incorporated areas.

1000 Friends opposed AB 299 because we believe it's critical to ensure that development occurs in a way that preserves what makes this state special. We applaud Governor Doyle for vetoing the bill and ensuring the protection of shorelines from poorly planned development in the years to come.



Please call, write or email Governor Doyle to thank him for his recent actions on these bills.

2006

May 2006 - AB 675 (Wisconsin's version of Oregon's "Measure 37") is soundly defeated by a strong, 21-10 bi-partisan vote in the Senate.

April 2006 - Rep. Mary Williams starts repeal effort yet again.

March 2006 - \$2 million in comprehensive planning grants awarded to 77 communities.

August 2005 - AB 645 - Another attempt by Rep. Mary Williams to repeal the Comprehensive Planning Law.

July 2005 - Governor Doyle vetoes Joint Finance Committee's repeal of the law and restores \$2 million in planning grant funding for local community planning after a strong, public outcry in support of the law.

June /July 2005 - Newspapers around the state print opinion pieces and letters to the editor in support of maintaining the Comprehensive Planning Law.

2005

June 2005 - Joint Finance Committee attempts an 11th hour stealth attack on the Comprehensive Planning Law with a budget motion by Rep. Meyer to repeal and lapse \$2 million annually to General Purpose Revenues.

March 2005 - \$2 million in state comprehensive planning grants awarded to over 90 communities.

2004

February 2004 - \$1.8 million in state comprehensive planning grants awarded to over 90 communities.

April 2004 - 1000 Friends and others work with Rep. Albers to clarify the comprehensive planning law consistency requirement. AB 608 passes and is enacted into law April 15th.

May 2003 - \$2.7 million in state comprehensive planning grants awarded to over 200 communities.

2003

May 2003 - Joint Finance Committee reduces annual planning grant awards from \$3 million to \$2 million by eliminating \$1 million for annual transportation planning grant funding.

July 2003 - March 2004 - AB 435 introduced by Rep. Mary Williams seeks to repeal comprehensive planning law in its entirety. The bill "dies" in committee.

2002

April 2002 - \$2.8 million in state comprehensive planning grants awarded to 170 communities.

2001

April 2001 - \$2.5 million in state comprehensive planning grants awarded to 158 communities.

2000

June 2000 - Over \$1 million in state transportation planning grants awarded to 43 communities.

1999

October 1999 - Wisconsin's Comprehensive Planning Law, which includes the \$2 million annual planning grant program, is enacted by Governor Thompson as part of Wisconsin's 1999-2000 biennial budget.

1998

July 1998 - The "Ohm Group" expands and convenes to work on a definition of "comprehensive plan." The diverse group includes 1000 Friends, and representatives from WI Realtors Assoc., WI Towns Assoc., WI League of Municipalities, WI Counties Assoc., WI Farm Bureau Fed., WI Builders Assoc., WI Alliance of Cities, and others.

1997-1998 - The Legislative Council does a follow-up report on task force findings.

Mid
90's

Mid 1990's - Governor Thompson's Task Force on Land Use, headed by then DOA Secretary Mark Bugher, and the Interagency Land Use Council both convene to address land use issues in the state. The Task Force produces "Planning in Wisconsin" recommendations, also known as "Bugher's Red Book".

A Smart Growth Timeline

Highlights from "the long and winding road" of Wisconsin's Comprehensive Planning Law

Around the State



June 2006 Sustainable Sweden Eco-Municipality Study Tour

1000 Friends of Wisconsin's Policy Director, Lisa MacKinnon, has been serving as the primary U.S. contact and coordinator of the June 2006 Sustainable Sweden Eco-Municipality Study Tour being organized and hosted by Esam, AB/Sustainable Sweden Association.

The early June tour will take almost 30 people—primarily representing Wisconsin's local, county and tribal governments, businesses, planners, utilities, educators and non-profit organizations—across Sweden to learn first-hand about how its local governments have created and maintained ecologically, economically and socially sustainable eco-municipalities over the last 25 years using the Natural Step sustainability framework. The participants from around Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri and New Hampshire are looking forward to an educational and inspirational trip that will build greater capacity to promote and support the development of sustainable communities in Wisconsin and North America.

Thanks to Mary Rehwald for her assistance with coordinating tour participants in the Chequamegon Bay region in northern Wisconsin.

1000 Friends of Wisconsin Continues to Present on Eco-Municipalities Around the State

Policy Director Lisa MacKinnon was invited to give a presentation on the Swedish eco-municipalities at the joint annual conference of the Wisconsin chapters of the American Planning Association (WAPA) and the American Society of Landscape Architects (WASLA) held in the Wisconsin Dells on April 6th and 7th.

MacKinnon also presented on sustainable communities and the Swedish eco-municipality model to the Dane County Board of Supervisors Air Quality Subcommittee on March 23rd.

"Great Neighborhoods: How to Bring Them Home"

Hot off the 1000 Friends press is a new book, *"Great Neighborhoods: How to Bring Them Home."* In the making for more than three years, the book is a how-to manual for designing neighborhoods, whether your task is improving existing neighborhoods or creating new ones. Great Neighborhoods are inspired by the "traditional" neighborhoods that most of our grandparents lived in. Great Neighborhoods are compact and pedestrian friendly places that feature many types of housing and convenient retail and provide development efficiencies that reduce public costs and promote healthy lifestyles with efficient land use, preservation of natural resources and a variety of transportation options for all ages.



"Great Neighborhoods: How to Bring Them Home" is available at the 1000 Friends office for \$5 or postpaid for \$10. Contact Kevin at 608-259-1000 ext. 104 or at kevin@1kfriends.org for volume discounts or to inquire about organizing a Great Neighborhoods training session in your community.

The Great Neighborhoods project is a collaboration between 1000 Friends, the Dane County Better Urban Infill Development Program and the Great Neighborhoods Advisory Panel. Additional funding and support was provided by Madison Gas and Electric and the Madison Community Foundation.



"As staff to the County's Better Urban Infill Development Program, I worked closely with the planners at 1000 Friends of Wisconsin to promote the concepts of Great Neighborhoods. They were an invaluable partner in our joint project to develop, design, and print *"Great Neighborhoods: How to Bring Them Home."* 1000 Friends raised the necessary resources to create a beautifully designed book."

Steve Steinhoff

Quotes from News Stories by or about 1000 Friends

Negative Impact of AB 675

Her prediction: "(Assembly Bill) 675 will pit neighbor against neighbor, promising to create a vicious cycle that will sink local governments."

- In "Zoning Changes Could Cost Communities", April 10, 2006, in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Policy Director **Lisa MacKinnon** comments about the negative impacts of Assembly Bill 675 should it become law. AB 675 is a copycat of Oregon's Measure 37, which has led to more than \$3 billion in claims against local governments and forces them to either pay landowners cash or waive zoning regulations for development not desired by the community.

Cuts to Public Transportation

"So for those of us not feeding from the road-building trough, remember that the threat for cuts to public transportation, local road repairs and bicycle and pedestrian projects is now at level orange."

- In the conclusion of his recent opinion piece in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on March 30, 2006 Transportation Policy Director, **Ward Lyles**, points out that the road building industry is on high alert that there may not be enough money for the expansion projects they want and that the rest of us should be concerned as well.

Bring Back Public Intervenor

"Steve Hiniker of 1000 Friends of Wisconsin argues that it's time to rely more on the state Transportation Projects Commission, which should determine the priority of projects, and to bring back the public intervenor's office as a watchdog of the public's interest. Both suggestions make sense."

- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel editorial, January 27, 2006

Pork Spending - Not Real Transportation Needs

"We cannot build all the projects that have been approved and some of the others that are queuing up in southeast Wisconsin without a major influx of cash - that's true. But we would say it's time to step back and say, 'What's feasible?'" Hiniker said.

"It's pork spending that got us in this mess, not real transportation needs," he said. "The public hasn't been demanding these new roads."

-Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, March 31, 2006

Transportation Dreams

"We need a real assessment of transportation needs versus transportation dreams," 1000 Friends of Wisconsin Executive Director Steve Hiniker said.

-Badger Herald, April 5, 2006

More Pork Barrel

Early Friday, when Assembly Republicans voted to cap state spending, they opted not to extend the limits to segregated accounts such as the transportation fund, which is funded primarily with the gas tax and license plate fees.

"They wanted to protect their ability to spend money on pork-barrel projects and do it under the radar," said Steve Hiniker, executive director of an environmental group, 1000 Friends of Wisconsin.

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, May 1, 2006



In Memorium

Gerhard "Gerd" Zoller



1939 - 2006

Gerd moved to Madison from his native Germany with his wife Tellervo and young family in 1968. They planned to stay for just a few years but ended up making the Madison area their home. He built a successful career with J.H. Findorff & Son, Inc. retiring in 1992 as Chairman of the Board. He and his wife traveled the world. He was an avid cyclist, reader, and a devoted husband and father.

Gerd joined the 1000 Friends Board of Directors in 2002.



"I remember when I first met him I was prepared to meet a traditional businessman, but Gerd was just incredible in every sense - from the way he looked at issues to everything he did in his life. His passing has a strong impact on all of us here."

Steve Hiniker



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1996 - 2006 Celebrating 10 years!

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Welcome
1000 Friends'
New Member #3000



Jonah Lyles



In memory of Gerd Zoller, from Meagan Yost & Tony Karls