

Wisconsin Groundwater Guardians

Communities:

- **Calumet County**-established 2003
- **Chippewa Falls**-established 1996
- **Dunn County**-established 2002
- **Eau Claire County**-established 1996
- **Green Bay**-established 2000
- **Marathon County**-established 2000
- **Marshfield Area**-established 1997
- **Milladore Area**-established 2003
- **Portage County**-established 2001
- **Waukesha**-established 2000

Affiliates (businesses and organizations):

- **Center for Watershed Science & Education**-affiliated 2002
- **Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council**-affiliated 2002
- **Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Department**-affiliated 2004
- **River Alliance of Wisconsin**-affiliated 2004
- **Rock River Coalition**-affiliated 2003
- **Wisconsin Ground Water Association**-affiliated 2002

Join the Team!



GG Communities in Wisconsin as of 2004

Make a Difference!

Key Dates for GG Program

- **Feb. 15th:** Annual entry form and proposed action plan due from continuing GG communities
- **May:** Annual Wisconsin Groundwater Guardian meeting
- **Aug. 31st:** Annual report due
- **Aug. 31st:** Annual entry form for first-time GG communities due any time before this date
- **Oct. 1st:** notified of GG designation
- **Nov.:** Annual national conference



Wisconsin Groundwater Guardian

Wisconsin Groundwater Guardian Program
Groundwater Center part of the
Center for Watershed Science & Education
College of Natural Resources, Room 224
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Phone: 715-346-2722

Fax: 715-346-2965

Email: gwwardian@uwsp.edu

Website: www.uwsp.edu/cnr/gwwardian

Funded by:

- **Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources**
- **Center for Watershed Science & Education**



Groundwater Guardian is a program of
The Groundwater Foundation

1-800-858-4844

Email: guardian@groundwater.org

Website: www.groundwater.org

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Wisconsin

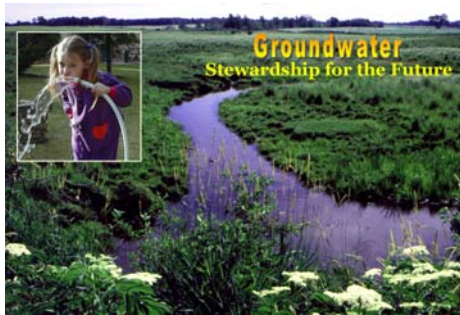
Groundwater Guardian



Volunteers taking action
to protect Wisconsin's
groundwater resource.

Groundwater Guardian Program

- Supports, recognizes, and connects communities taking voluntary, proactive steps toward comprehensive groundwater protection
- Educates and empowers local citizens to tackle water issues
- Builds partnerships within communities to work toward a common goal or project



Wisconsin's Groundwater Guardian Mission is...

To develop a statewide constituency to promote stewardship and sound management of the groundwater resource.

Wisconsin's Groundwater Guardian Program will...

- Promote the adoption of the Groundwater Guardian (GG) program in Wisconsin communities
- Provide assistance to currently participating communities
- Help GG communities communicate with and learn from each other's activities

Background

Groundwater Guardian (GG) is a program of the Groundwater Foundation, founded in 1985 as a non-profit organization dedicated to educating and motivating people to care for groundwater.

The GG Program began in 1994 with eight communities, and has grown to 155 communities and 36 affiliates in 35 states and 1 Canadian Province. GG teams consist of volunteers who annually implement activities that will help raise awareness of and/or protect their local groundwater resource.



Benefits of Being a Groundwater Guardian Community

- Become part of a team working towards a common goal—groundwater protection!
- Take positive community action & raise awareness
- Share ideas & network with other GG communities
- Receive assistance with planning action plans
- Receive recognition for your efforts
- Membership is FREE!

Resources Available

- Groundwater Assistance Kit: educational materials
- Aquifer Newsletter & Recharge E-Newsletter
- Resource catalog
- Wisconsin and Foundation websites
- Helping Hands Hotline: 1-800 phone number
- Annual Fall Conference

Steps to Form a Groundwater Guardian Community

1. Form a team & action plan: Work with community leaders to form a team, and to develop and submit a proposed action plan focusing on groundwater awareness and/or protection.
2. Prepare and submit an annual entry form.
3. Seek funding and implement the action plan.
4. Prepare and submit an annual report form.

Action Plans

The action plan is called a Results Oriented Activity or Service (ROA/ROS). Each year a GG community must complete at least one ROA or ROS that includes measurable objectives, an implementation plan, and a method for evaluating results. The Groundwater Foundation's name and logo should be used. ROAs or ROSs may be repeated in future years.



Examples of Wisconsin ROAs

Education & Awareness

- Conduct Water Festivals in schools & communities
- Perform theatrical or musical works
- Host workshops for teachers and adults
- Offer presentations & set up display booths
- Develop groundwater websites and curricula
- Compile resource collections (books, publications, models, test kits, etc.)

Public Policy

- Develop Wellhead Protection Plans & Ordinances
- Develop Groundwater Management Plans

Pollution Prevention

- Work with businesses within the recharge area to identify best groundwater protection practices