

Economic Impact

Economic Impacts of Lost Water Resources

- * Importance of Tourism and Outdoor Recreation in Wisconsin
- * Costs of Water Quality and Quantity Degradation—Who Pays?
- * Lake Property—Value to Wisconsin
- * Examples—Contributions to Local and State Budgets from Lake Property Taxes

Tourism—Economic Impact on Wisconsin

- * \$19.3 Billion Annually; 4.4% growth 2015-2016
- * Supports 190,717 jobs
- * Wisconsin (15,000 inland lakes) ranked #1 in Midwest
- * Water sports, vacationing, wildlife, drinking water....
- * All depend on clean/plentiful water resources

Another Weekend on Central Sands Region Lake



Significant Investments in Wisconsin Tourism



Water Resources Education Coalition

Lake Property

- * Owners.....from many backgrounds
- * Pay property taxes
 - * A primary source of \$\$ for local schools, and
 - * Road construction/maintenance and local government operations
- * Support local businesses—grocery, hardware, restaurants & bars, vehicle services.....

Weekend Breakfast at Local Restaurant Serving Lake Residents and Guests



Tourism Supports Local Service Employment and Pays Gas Tax for Road Maintenance



Impacts and Costs of Water Quantity and Quality Degradation

- * Polluted lakes and streams
- * Unsafe and unusable water supplies
- * Lost wetlands and littoral zones for wildlife habitat and diversity
- * Dry lake beds, streams and rivers
- * Reduced property values
- * Loss of tax revenues to support education and roads
- * Property resale selling price and velocity are affected by lakes in decline

Lake Property Value Impact of Lower Water Level

- * THIS IS WHAT CAN HAPPEN TO THE LOCAL TAX DISTRICT WHEN A LAKE GOES DRY:
- * Town of Oasis, Waushara County – Long Lake 2006 to 2007—Property values reassessed after losing lake-front due to lower water levels
 - * LOST ASSESSED VALUE IN 2007 - \$1,678,472.50
 - * LOST TAX REVENUE FOR 2007 - \$28,152.45
 - * LOST ASSESSED VALUE FOR PAST 8 YEARS - \$13,427,780.00
 - * LOST TAX REVENUE FOR PAST 8 YEARS - \$225,219.60
- * Impact to local school and road budgets? SIGNIFICANT!

Lost Water Resources-Who Pays?

- * **Residential property owners** pay disproportionately: Examples.....
 - * Drying lakes/streams/wells in Central Sands due to high-capacity wells
 - * Well replacement (\$7,000-\$10,000)
 - * Drop in lake property values
 - * DNR has issued many new high capacity well permits in second half 2016 regardless of either cumulative or direct impact to others
 - * Kewaunee County private well water contamination from manure
 - * Large municipality pays > \$100,000 for discharge permit; Large-scale CAFO pays \$345 for annual discharge permit....and generates as much waste

Example-Waushara County Property Tax Statistics

Tax Statistics

	All Properties	Level 1
Number of Properties	31205	3849
Acreage	~390,000	~12500
Average Acreage	12.49	3.25
Total Taxes	~\$41,900,000	~\$12,560,000
Average Tax Value	\$1,343	\$3,262
Taxes per Acre	\$107	\$1,004
% of Total Properties		12%
% of Total Acreage		3%
% of Property Tax Revenue		30%

*Level 1 – Lakeshore properties (Lakes larger than 2 acres)

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Year 2015

Town of Coloma (Waushara County)

2015 Assessed Value

	Acres	Assessed Value of Land	Assessed Value of Improvements	Total Assessed Value	%
Residential	2474	\$27.8 MM	\$46.4 MM	\$74.2 MM	
Agricultural	6109	.8	-	.8	.9%
Undeveloped	3054	3.7	-	3.7	
Agricultural Forest	834	1.0	-	1.0	
Forest Lands	3106	7.6	-	7.6	
Other (Including Commercial, Manufacturing)	112	.6	2.9	3.5	
Total		41.6	49.3	\$90.9 MM	
Pleasant Lake Management District (PLMD)				\$32.7 MM	36.0%

Town of Springfield (Marquette County) 2015 Assessed Value

	Acres	Assessed Value of Land	Assessed Value of Improvements	Total Assessed Value	%
Residential	3152	\$29.4 MM	\$79.2 MM	\$108.6 MM	
Agricultural	5897	.8	-	.8	.6%
Undeveloped	2169	2.2	-	2.2	
Agricultural Forest	2123	3.1	-	3.1	
Forest Lands	4019	12.0	-	12.0	
Other (Including Commercial, Manufacturing)	141	.9	8.3	9.2	
Total		\$48.5 MM	\$87.5 MM	\$135.9 MM	
PLMD				6.9	5.1%

Economic Impact Summary

- * Excessive and unbalanced withdrawal of groundwater by high capacity wells is a significant “give-away” of public waters to private interests:
 - * Transferring from many to a few
 - * Reducing property values...jeopardizing local school and highway budgets
 - * Risking the vitality of outdoor recreational Tourism
 - * Violating the Public Trust Doctrine
- * Lack of adequate environmental regulation and enforcement on manure application...enabling rapid & significant environmental quality degradation
- * **Improved and balanced action by the Legislature and DNR is needed to protect public rights and Wisconsin’s water resources!**