Freshwater Collaborative OF WISCONSIN

Spring 2021 Newsletter

A Little Splash

Water Words from FCW's Executive Director

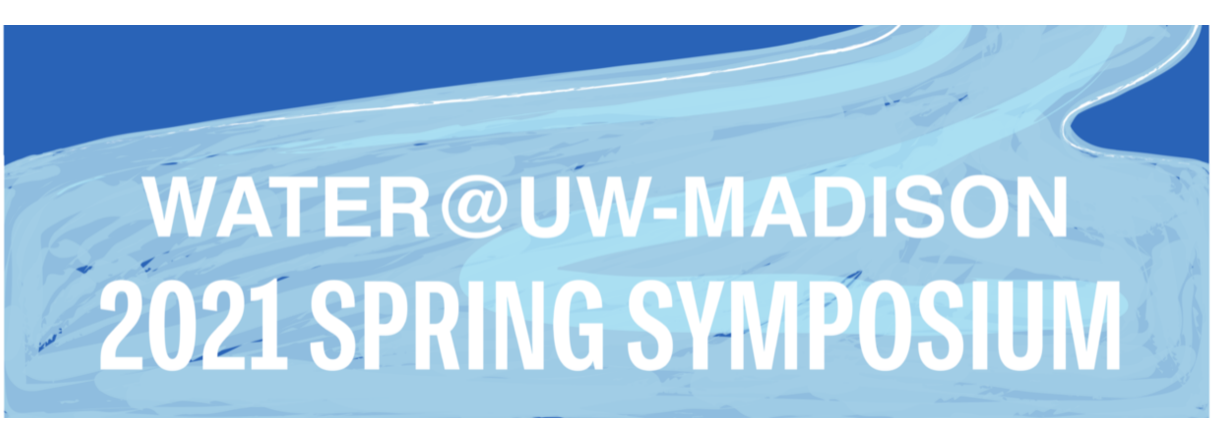
Happy Spring Equinox! The last few months have been focused on advocating for the Freshwater Collaborative with the Wisconsin State Legislature and its Joint Committee on Finance. Your active support is important, too. You can speak out about the importance of FCW in the state's future and make it clear The Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin will:

- Create a statewide pipeline to propel job creation
- Create and train the next generation
- Showcase Wisconsin as an international water research and educational hub

You can read my full message about our in-person advocacy efforts during recent budget hearings, and also review our extensive talking points, which will assist you in your efforts to advocate for our funding and future. The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's budget website also hosts pages with names, emails addresses and links that can assist you in contacting your local legislators.

UWM Research Shows Wastewater Painting Picture Of COVID-19 Spread

Sandra McLellan, a professor in UWM's School of Freshwater Sciences, has been exploring how wastewater treatment facilities can give health officials a clearer picture of the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. Wastewater samples can serve as a COVID-19 early-warning system, revealing trends that testing alone can't provide. Her efforts were featured in UWM's 2021 Research Magazine.



2021 Annual Water@UW-Madison Symposium Set For May 7
This year's theme is Opportunities in a Changing World. During this symposium, attendees will learn about state-level action plans on climate change and PFAS, the power of the arts in improving water relations, as well as how state agencies and university researchers are tackling new questions at the intersections of water and COVID-19. The event is virtual, free and open to the public.

Discover Wisconsin Highlights UW-Green Bay Aquatic Ecology and Fisheries Lab
Discover Wisconsin visited UW-Green Bay early this spring as part of its series highlighting the impacts of the University of Wisconsin System on people and regions throughout Wisconsin. The segment featuring UWGB is on the University's Aquatic Ecology and Fisheries Lab ideally situated on the world's largest freshwater estuary.

UW-LaCrosse Role In Freshwater Collaborative Highlighted
UW-LaCrosse hosted a virtual kickoff for its role in the collaborative earlier this spring. Dr. Roger Haro, associate dean of UW-L's College of Science and Health, told the group that La Crosse's campus was ideal to join the initiative, the only university in the state that is directly next to the Mississippi River. Read more from the LaCrosse Tribune.

Establishing A National Estuarine Research Reserve For The Green Bay Watershed

Area partners are leading the charge to establish a National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) for the Green Bay watershed—home to the largest freshwater estuary in the world. The NERR system is a national network of 29 sites across the coastal U.S., designed to practice and promote stewardship of coasts and estuaries. Learn more about the establishment of a NERR.

On the Horizon

Look for our next newsletter to arrive as we get ready to begin the fall semester. The summer may be quieter on the events front for now, but check our website for anything that is added to the schedule. And please submit your events to us for future publication as well.

- **May 7: Water@UW-Madison 2021 Spring Symposium**
- **August 2-6: Acquatics Robotics Camps at UW-Green Bay; Grades 6-9**

You've been to our website and you're getting our quarterly newsletter, but are you following us on social media?

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