



February 15, 2019

Greetings!

Please help us spread the news of the 2019 Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention and Water Action Volunteer (WAV) Symposium taking place April 10-12 in Stevens Point. This year's theme, Paying it Forward, is a popular concept. When someone helps you out, instead of paying that person back directly, you pass on the good deed to another person instead. This practice can certainly be seen with lake and stream volunteers, professionals in natural resource management, and all those who value our precious water resources. At the 2019 Convention, we will share some of these inspiring stories of "paying it forward."

Folks gather at the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention to focus on the many factors that affect our precious lakes, rivers and streams. Researchers, professional resource managers and citizens have the time and space to discuss successes and learn from each other. We organize the event around 50+ concurrent sessions, a research poster session, and hands-on workshops that will encourage you to pay it forward.

In-depth workshops on Wednesday will cover subjects ranging from the basics of running a lake organization to starting a native plant growing program and algae identification. Registration is a la carte, so people can participate in as much of our gathering as their time allows.

On Thursday, **Dr. Stephen Polasky**, a Regents Professor of Ecological Economics at the University of Minnesota, will focus on issues at the intersection of ecology and economics. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Polasky is a co-founder of the Natural Capital Project, a partnership between the University of Minnesota, Stanford University, The Nature Conservancy and the World Wildlife Fund. This project develops practical tools and approaches to account for nature's contribution to society, so that leaders from the local to international level can make smarter decisions for a more sustainable future.

On Friday, April 12, **Dr. Douglas Tallamy** will help us take a closer look at how nature provides for itself through the complex web of life that is most often based on the relationship between plants and insects. Dr. Tallamy is a professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, where he has taught for nearly forty years. He is the author of the best-selling garden book, *Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants*. Dr. Tallamy will share with us how we can "pay it forward" to nature by including many more native plants in our domesticated landscapes.

Early bird registration for all these events ends on March 21, so we hope to make people aware of the convention as soon as possible. Contact us at (715) 346-2116 with any questions you may have. You can learn more about the convention & register online at [www.wisconsinlakes.org](http://www.wisconsinlakes.org).

Thank you for your help,

Eric Olson  
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