

WATER GUARD PROGRAM

UPDATE: 2016

WG LOCATIONS!

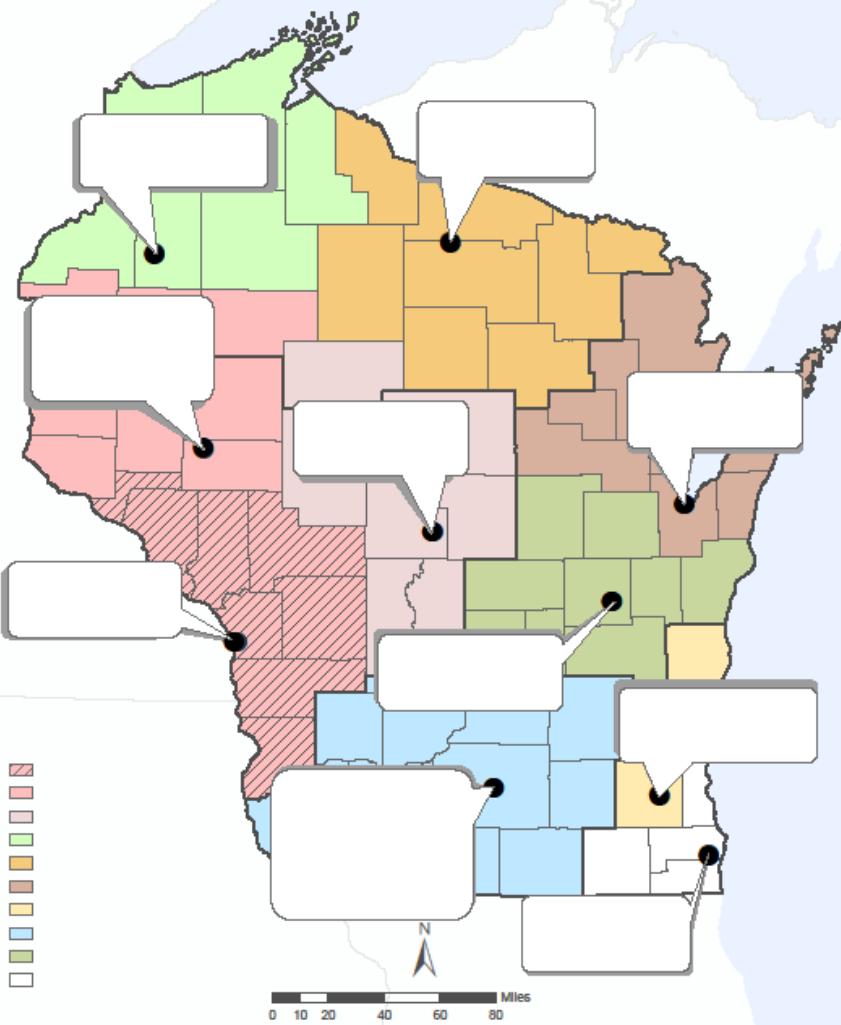
In 2016:

Added a position in
Ashland, WI!!

12 WG's

1 WG Coordinator

2015 Water Guards





FORMER WATER GUARD LYNDIE GUENTHER

WHAT IS A WATER GUARD!?

WHAT IS A WATER GUARD??

Water Guards are credentialed and un-credentialed DNR staff in the Bureau of Law Enforcement that work to prevent and control the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species in WI waterbodies.

They seek to protect waterways in WI through education and enforcement.

There are currently 11 Water Guards spread throughout the state of Wisconsin.



WG TRAINING

Classroom and Field work!

AIS Identification

Professional Communication

Enforcement

Boats: Parts and Safety

Decontamination Units

Classroom

Hands on Training
Certification!



WG INVOLVEMENT (STATEWIDE)

- Landings and Events
- Fishing Tournaments
 - Walleye Weekend
 - Brew City Tournament
 - Cabela's Tournament
- Boating Safety Classes
- Classroom AIS
- Sportsman and Fishing Clubs
- Group Check Involvement with Wardens in EVERY area
- WG GROUP CHECK
- Waterfowl Outreach/Edu.
- Contacts !!!!
 - Shore fisherman
 - Boaters
 - Recreational Users
- Other Involvement
 - Partnership with CBCW staff on landings
 - Partnership with DNR AIS staff
 - Community Policing: Presence
 - Public Outreach
 - County/City/Town meetings
 - Enforcement Support for Full Time Wardens
 - NR 40 training for DNR staff
 - Wardens
 - AIS citations
 - OWI offenses
 - Registration and License Issues

CONTACTS IN 2016

| | | Totals | Week | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | | | 06/19/16 | 06/26/16 | 07/03/16 | 07/10/16 | 07/17/16 | 07/24/16 | 07/31/16 | 08/07/16 | 08/14/16 | 08/21/16 |
| Contacts | Boats | 3400 | 189 | 367 | 363 | 245 | 198 | 242 | 405 | 219 | 252 | 210 |
| | People | 8492 | 448 | 879 | 967 | 649 | 445 | 598 | 1230 | 635 | 553 | 515 |
| | Shore anglers | 1130 | 92 | 89 | 152 | 87 | 91 | 70 | 96 | 80 | 59 | 81 |
| | Other watercraft | 575 | 47 | 36 | 73 | 46 | 22 | 35 | 23 | 38 | 59 | 22 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Education | Boats Deconned | 114 | 14 | 6 | 50 | 0 | 3 | 11 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| | Events | 36 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 1 |
| | People at Events | 8470 | 500 | 80 | 490 | 0 | 700 | 250 | 2818 | 1800 | 337 | 500 |
| | Training | 9 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| | People at Training | 83 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40 | 0 | 7 | 1 |
| | Bait Shops | 39 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 1 | 1 |
| | AIS Media Contacts | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AIS Enforcement | Verbal Warn | 101 | 11 | 8 | 11 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 11 | 12 | 1 | 1 |
| | Written Warn | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Citations | 9 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other Enforcement | Verbal Warning | 89 | 5 | 16 | 17 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| | Written Warning | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Citation | 57 | 6 | 5 | 12 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 1 |

CONTACTS COMPARISON

2014

| AIS Education | May | June | July | August | September | Season Total |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|--------|-----------|--------------|
| Boats | 694 | 1027 | 1167 | 693 | 153 | 3734 |
| Contacts | 1269 | 1475 | 1937 | 1121 | 318 | 6120 |
| Shore Anglers | 212 | 270 | 348 | 186 | 39 | 1055 |
| Personal Water Crafts | 16 | 6 | 28 | 39 | 9 | 98 |
| Kayaks | 5 | 18 | 8 | 22 | | 53 |

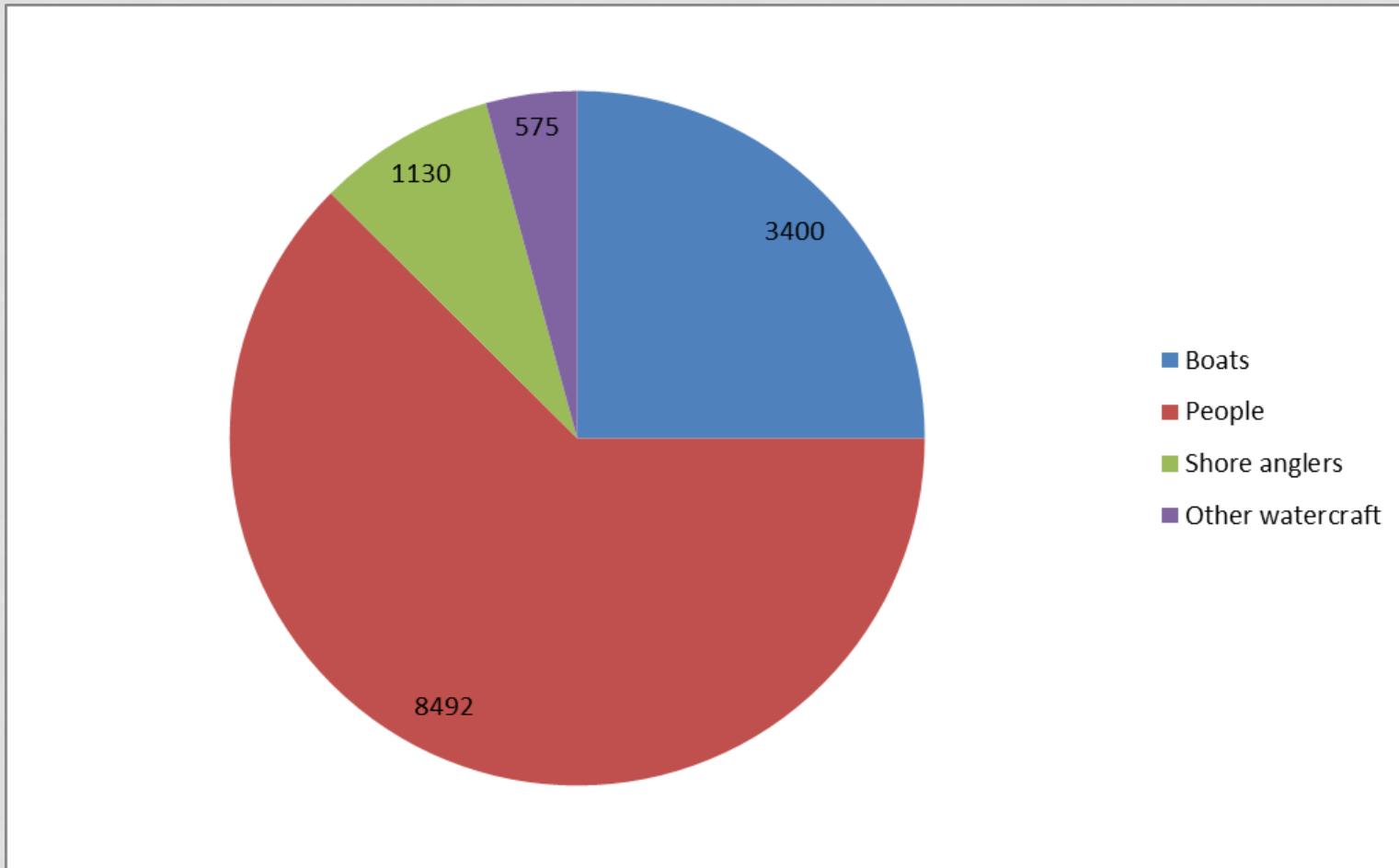
| AIS Education | May | June | July | August | September | Season Total |
|----------------------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|--------------|
| Boats Decontaminated | 24 | 6 | 14 | | | 44 |
| Marinas | 4 | 1 | 1 | | | 6 |
| Events | 1 | 4 | 9 | 17 | | 31 |
| People at Events | 200 | 231 | 1776 | 2358 | | 4565 |
| Training | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | | 7 |
| People at Training | 10 | 41 | 20 | 12 | | 83 |
| Bait Shops | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 3 |
| AIS Media Contact | | 2 | 1 | | 1 | 4 |

| AIS Enforcement | May | June | July | August | September | Season Total |
|-----------------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|--------------|
| Weed Warnings | | 2 | 11 | 11 | 1 | 25 |
| Weed Citations | | | 4 | 3 | 1 | 8 |
| Water Warnings | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 13 |
| Water Citations | | | | | | 1 |
| Fish Warnings | | | 1 | | | |
| Fish Citations | | | | | | |

2016

| | | Totals | 06/19/16 | 06/26/1 |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------|----------|---------|
| Contacts | Boats | 3400 | 189 | 367 |
| | People | 8492 | 448 | 879 |
| | Shore anglers | 1130 | 92 | 89 |
| | Other watercraft | 575 | 47 | 36 |
| Education | Boats Deconned | 114 | 14 | 6 |
| | Events | 36 | 2 | 3 |
| | People at Events | 8470 | 500 | 80 |
| | Training | 9 | 2 | 0 |
| | People at Training | 83 | 12 | 0 |
| | Bait Shops | 39 | 0 | 0 |
| | AIS Media Contacts | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | |
| AIS Enforcement | Verbal Warn | 101 | 11 | 8 |
| | Written Warn | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Citations | 9 | 2 | 1 |
| Other Enforcement | Verbal Warning | 89 | 5 | 16 |
| | Written Warning | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Citation | 57 | 6 | 5 |

CONTACTS STATEWIDE



DECONTAMINATION UNITS

- 3 units total
 - 2 owned by WG team. 1 owned by WDNR AIS Program
 - Require yearly maintenance
- Stationed in Spooner, Waukesha, and Green Bay
 - Travel Statewide
- Specialized Training for the WG team
- 34 Boats Decontaminated in 2014
 - Wanted to utilize units more effectively
- **114** in 2016



EDUCATION

- Organisms in Trade
- 2 Media Contacts (WG focus)
 - TV
 - News Articles
- 114 Boats Decontaminated
- 8470 People at Event
- 36 Events
 - State Fairs
 - Expos
 - Classrooms
 - Boater Safety/DNR classrooms



OIT

- Bait Shops
- Nurseries
- Pet Stores

- Organisms in Trade

- Worked with AIS Staff to support bait shop and pet store visits to ensure NR-40 compliance
- Used primarily education to gain compliance
- Increased bait shop visits from 3 in 2014 to 39 in 2016!
- Continued support statewide for AIS staff pertaining to OIT

ENFORCEMENT

- AIS warnings (WG involvement) for weeds and water increased from **38** in 2014 to **101** in 2016.
- 9 AIS related citations during the summer.
- Partnered with the Warden force for **57** additional DNR citations (**89** warnings).
- Continued partnerships between AIS staff and Warden force.

OUTCOME

- Gain compliance of NR-40 through education and enforcement efforts
- Change public's behavior and perspective of AIS in Wisconsin
- Create and maintain strong partnerships internally and externally (WI DNR)
- Protect individuals and natural resources

FUTURE

- Organisms in Trade
- Enforcement
- Group Checks
- Water vs. Vegetation
- Strengthen Partnerships
- Get Creative!!
- Waterfowl Outreach



THANK YOU FOR YOUR
SUPPORT!!!!



ANY QUESTIONS!?

UMISC 2016: SAMANTHA OLSEN
WATER GUARD COORDINATOR



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