

## **NEWS RELEASE**

For release: September 24, 2012

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### ***LAKESHORE NATURAL RESOURCE PARTNERSHIP RECEIVES 2012 'WISCONSIN IDEA' AWARD***

Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership (LNRP), a regional non-profit organization, is the recipient of the 2012 Wisconsin Idea Award from the University of Wisconsin Colleges and UW-Extension. UW Colleges and UW-Extension Chancellor Ray Cross presented the award at the institutions' Chancellor's Awards Reception, September 20, in Madison. The annual Chancellor's Awards recognize UW Colleges and UW-Extension partners, supporters and employees for their outstanding contributions to the quality of life in Wisconsin.

In giving the award, Cross praised Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership and Friends of Hika Bay for bringing together the community and the university in the common goal of improving and protecting the water quality in northeastern Wisconsin.

LNRP and its partnering citizen's group, the Friends of Hika Bay, were nominated by UW-Manitowoc Campus Executive Officer and Dean, Dr. Charles Clark, for their "ongoing partnership and collaboration with university campuses and governmental agencies to provide students with a life-enhancing opportunity to get boots-on-the-ground, in-the-field experience in the biological sciences."

"The Wisconsin Idea emphasizes collaboration and extending the expertise of the University of Wisconsin beyond campus borders," Dr.

Clark said. “This unique partnership among LNRP, Friends of Hika Bay, and UW campuses provides a model to improve our local habitat and society. The Award is a testament to the vision and energy of LNRP Executive Director Dr. Jim Kettler, Friends of Hika Bay Water Quality Chair Russ Tooley, and Village of Cleveland President Cindy Huhn to engage our biological science faculty and students with field trips and internships in water quality sampling and monitoring, bird tracking, and projects related to remediation of Centerville Creek, Hika Bay and Fischer Creek.

“Dr. Kettler and Russ Tooley have worked closely with UW-Manitowoc’s Dr. Rebecca Abler and Dr. Richard Hein, professors of biological sciences, who wrote letters of support,” Dr. Clark added.

Additionally, LNRP engaged previously during two semesters with UW-Madison Landscape Architecture students to re-design Hika Bay Park. Horticulture Department students at Lakeshore Technical College, Cleveland Campus, are involved in selecting, replanting and monitoring invasive plant species at Hika Bay as well.

LNRP’s Jim Kettler said, “We are deeply honored to be receiving such special recognition with this Award. It really goes to all the people who’ve been involved with us these last few years – residents, academia, Village trustees, and the students themselves.”

The Wisconsin Idea Award honors individuals or organizations outside the UW (System) that have made significant contributions to society; the economy; the environment or the quality of life at the local, state, national or international level through involvement with the UW Colleges or UW-Extension.

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The Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership (LNRP) and the Friends of Hika Bay (FHB) are recipients of the University of Wisconsin Colleges and University of Wisconsin-Extension 2012 Chancellor's Wisconsin Idea Award for bringing together the community and the university in the common goal of improving and protecting water quality in northeastern Wisconsin. Chancellor Ray Cross (back row, right) congratulated some of those involved in the restoration of Centerville Creek at the Chancellor's Award Event Sept. 20, 2012, in Madison.

Front row: Rebecca Abler, UW-Manitowoc associate professor of biological sciences; Jim Kettler, executive director of LNRP; Russ Tooley, water quality chair of FHB; Cindy Huhn, president of the Village of Cleveland. Back row: UW-Manitowoc CEO/Dean Charles E. Clark; Ethan Poling, UW-Manitowoc student; Chancellor Ray Cross

Photo by Jim Gill/Wisconsin Public Television