

# 2018 Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Awards

---

## INSTRUCTIONS



The Wisconsin Lakes Partnership is a collaboration of the UW-Extension Lakes Program, Wisconsin Lakes and the WI Dept. of Natural Resources.

---

The Wisconsin Lakes Partnership proudly presents the Wisconsin Lake Stewardship awards each year at the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention in celebration of the extraordinary volunteer and professional efforts made to protect and improve lakes in Wisconsin. The Stewardship Awards represent our best collective effort to honor and celebrate all the incredible work that goes into securing a bright future for Wisconsin's lakes.

New nominees this year, plus those from the previous two years, are considered in each category. The 2018 Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Award winners and new nominees will be celebrated at the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention, happening April 18-20 in Stevens Point.

**NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2018 WI LAKE STEWARDSHIP AWARDS ARE DUE FEB 9, 2018!**

---

### Awards Process & Timeline:

- **December 2017- January 2018:** Nomination materials are posted to [wisconsinlakes.org](http://wisconsinlakes.org) and nominators begin submitting nomination packages
- **February 9, 2018:** Final nomination submission deadline. All electronic submissions should be sent by 11:59:59pm on 2/9/18. Electronic submissions are preferred, but if hard copies are sent, they should be post-marked by 2/9/18
- **Late February/Early March:** The Selection Committee reviews the new nominees and eligible nominees from the past two years, and meets to select the winners
- **Early March:** Winners and new nominees are notified & provided details for the Stewardship Awards banquet
- **Stewardship Awards Banquet (Thr, April 19, 2018):** Awards are presented at a ceremony at the WI Stewardship Awards Banquet, part of the WI Lakes Partnership Convention

## Stewardship Award Categories

There are five Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Award categories to recognize outstanding contributions of time and effort to the future of our lakes.



Nominators may place their nominee in the category they feel best fits the nomination, but the Selection Committee reserves the right to move a nomination from one category to another if it deems it necessary. Reasons for such a move include but are not limited to: suitability of the nominee to a particular category, or desire to spread nominations across categories (e.g. a Citizen nominee that runs a youth program could be moved to the Youth category if a large number of nominees are eligible in the citizen category that year). Nominators will be notified of the category change by the Committee.

The Committee does not use any type of scoring system in choosing winners, but discusses each nominee and comes to a consensus on a given category. In general, a larger body of work (e.g. a longtime volunteer who has participated in one or two exceptional projects) is considered more strongly than work on a single project, though individual projects have garnered awards in some instances.

*The categories of awards considered by the committee include:*

### **Citizen**

This category celebrates the many dedicated individual volunteers whose actions are protecting our lakes and encouraging others to do the same. They are, for example, working with local governments to ensure that land use decisions consider lake and watershed health, teaching others about lakes, and extending a helping hand to advance lake protection goals. Generally, a single person is nominated in this category, though a group of citizens working together but not as a formal group (see organized group, below) might also qualify.

### **Organized Group**

This category is to recognize the many types of partnerships for lake protection: lake associations, lake management districts, countywide lakes and rivers associations, conservancies, friend's groups, and other collaborative efforts. A commitment to involving people in lake management decisions and being a catalyst for lake protection initiatives are a few traits of previous Stewardship Award winners in this category.

The Selection Committee has in the past divided this category into single lake organizations (standard local lake associations or districts), and multiple/regional groups (countywide groups, other regional organizations) when numbers and quality of nominees so warrants.

## Public Service

This category is to honor public officials and employees from state and local agencies who are really making a difference in the work they do. Building meaningful relationships, overcoming big challenges, and teaching people how to make well-informed lake management decisions are a few traits that distinguish nominees in this category.



## Youth

This category recognizes young lake leaders or youth groups who are getting others excited about lakes, monitoring and studying lakes, and participating in lake related projects in their communities. This award has been given to both young people and adults who work with a program benefitting young people.

## Business

Businesses are a key part of our team working for clean, safe, healthy lakes for everyone. This category recognizes firms that have shown outstanding commitment to the ecological health of our lakes in providing products or services to lake people and lake communities.

### Lifetime Service to the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership

This is a special category for which the committee does not take nominations. Instead, when warranted it gives this award to very special individuals and groups who have done work above and beyond over a career or lifetime to benefit our lakes as well as the Lakes Partnership itself.

*Stewardship Award nominations are due by February 9, 2018*

### 2017 WINNERS

- CITIZEN – RAY ZUELKE
- BUSINESS – ONTERRA, LLC
- PUBLIC SERVICE – JENNIFER FILBERT
- GROUP – PETENWELL & CASTLE ROCK STEWARDS
- LIFETIME SERVICE TO THE PARTNERSHIP – DR. ROBERT FRECKMAN

## Nomination Steps

Please complete all of the following steps before the February 9, 2018 deadline so that your nomination will be considered. All materials must be assembled and submitted electronically by 11:59:59 pm, 2/9/18 (preferred) or postmarked 2/9/18 (accepted). The person making the nomination may seek help from the nominee in providing information for this award.

**STEP 1**      **Choose a category:** Choose one of the five categories (described above) that fits most closely. The Stewardship Awards Selection Committee may elect to move a nominee from one category to another.

**STEP 2**      **Complete the nomination form:** Please fill in all the information requested on the nomination form using word processing software (such as Microsoft Word) and send it electronically if possible, rather than mailing paper copies. Converting the file to a .pdf is appreciated!

**STEP 3**      **Gather at least 2 letters of support** explaining why the nominee is deserving of the Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Award.

The nominator must submit at least 2 letters of support from individuals or groups with knowledge of the nominee's efforts and, better yet, experience working with the person or group who has been nominated. No more than 5 letters of support will be accepted. Please keep all letters of support to no more than 2 pages. More letters of support will not translate into a higher ranking of the candidate— the Awards Committee seeks quality over quantity.

**STEP 4**      **Gather no more than 3 pieces of supporting information** that demonstrate why the nominee deserves a Lake Stewardship Award.

Examples of the kinds of materials that may be submitted include: news articles highlighting the nominee's efforts and contributions, materials developed by the nominee, or other awards or recognition the nominee has received for their lake-related efforts. Choose concise materials that are relevant to your petition encouraging the nominee's selection as a Lake Stewardship Award winner. No more than 3 pieces of supporting information will be accepted (aim for quality over quantity). Please provide materials electronically if possible, rather than mailing paper copies.

## Send the completed nomination form and supporting materials to:

### ***PREFERRED:***

Email the nomination package to: [Info@wisconsinlakes.org](mailto:Info@wisconsinlakes.org), placing "Lake Stewardship Award nomination" in the subject line

### ***Acceptable:***

**Mail to:**  
Wisconsin Lakes  
Attn: Lake Stewardship Awards Committee  
716 Lois Dr  
Sun Prairie WI 53590

Contact Wisconsin Lakes for more  
information or questions at  
[info@wisconsinlakes.org](mailto:info@wisconsinlakes.org) or call  
(608) 661-4313

***Submission Deadline: All materials are due by February 9, 2018***