

Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department

72682 Maple Street
PO Box 39
Odanah, WI, 54806

Phone: 715-685-7840 - 715-682-7123
Fax: 715-682-7118
Email: NRDO outreach@badriver-nsn.gov

~MISSION STATEMENT~

The Department strives for resource management which both conserves the natural resources for the future generations and provide for the needs of the present. The departments existence reflects the importance the Bad River Tribe places on its right and ability to exercise sovereignty, self-determination and self-regulation in the area of natural resource management.

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Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources

COMMON GROUND



The coming summer schedule for the Manoomin Program

2024 NIBIN EDITION
(SUMMER)

Dan Powless, Manoomin Oshkaabewis - Manoomin@badriver-nsn.gov

The Kakagon Headwaters Restoration Project will kick off with a number of activities that will be of interest as it will take a look at the area from the hatchery on up to the powwow grounds and surrounding land uses. We will soon be hiring a consultant to work with the MNRD and community to collaborate on the study to address not only whether the current land use would allow for the restoration but whether there would be community support and projected ecological benefits seen to the Kakagon and Bad River Sloughs ecosystem, and if it would increase resiliency of the manoomin in rice beds.

The analysis will include: economic, technical, legal, and scheduling considerations to ascertain the likelihood of completing the project successfully. The study will take Traditional Ecological Knowledge concepts and cultural connections to manoomin into consideration.

Initial bundling and re-seeding have already taken place in 2023 along the stretch of river between the 1st and 2nd bridges and will continue.

Hopefully this project will be a guide to design specific implementation strategies at locations within the proposed management areas of the Manoomin Stewardship Plan (currently in review

with an upcoming community meeting).

The Slow-No-Wake buoys have been deployed as of May 23, 2024 to protect the manoomin which was in its early life stages, including the beginning of floating stage, and on June 17th it is in its emergent stage at 12" above the water surface. This early spurt of growth seems to point to an earlier ricing opener, if the weather conditions follow suite. So, you ricers may want to keep a look out as this did occur here not so long ago, back in the 60's according to elders. Climate change or natural occurrences? Science is now in the process of trying to figure things out with TEK.

On May 9 Jordan Gurnoe, Northwestern University, and myself performed field work to collect manoomin density data at the hatchery site west of the bridge in which the plants were predominantly still in the submerged stage. 40 plots were sampled using the methodology of The Wild Rice Monitoring Field Guide, Kjerland.

MNRD and NU have begun a test deployment of the Wild Sage Node cyberinfrastructure in the Kakagon River, just upstream of the Kakagon Sloughs at the hatchery. This



initial deployment involves a Wild Sage node equipped with an YSI EXO2 Water Quality Sonde measuring temperature, electrical conductivity, turbidity, pH, nitrate, water depth, and dissolved organic matter.

The Wild Sage node currently located on the hatchery will be relocated over to the bridge area to capture video of the new density sampling transect area west of the bridge that will identify and

characterize perturbations or disturbances from precipitation events or drought & flooding conditions. By comparing the intensity of the impacts from those events with traditional observations of manoomin health and abundance they aim to evaluate traditional knowledge (TK) and scientific knowledge (SK) with the new data collected through the advanced sensing technologies that will increase understanding of resilience to climate change.

Manoomin Program



Special points of interest:

- Nixle Alerts
- Wetlands Specialist Introduction
- Forestry EAB Updates
- Fisheries Updates
- Lake Superior Days "Save the Date"
- Manoomin Program Updates
- Earth Day Miigwetch

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COMMON GROUND (Maada'oonidiwag Aki) NIIBIN EDITION BAD RIVER (MASHKIIZIIBII) FORESTRY

Gena Abramson , Forestry Specialist - Forester@badriver-nsn.gov

We are currently waiting to hear from the State of Wisconsin if we will be receiving an Urban Forestry Grant that we applied for. This grant would pay for the removal of the EAB infested ash trees at the powwow grounds as well as processing, site preparation, and planting of advanced growth saplings to replace them.

The change will be extreme. However, by being proactive, we are protecting the public users of the powwow grounds, reducing the opportunities for EAB to nest, creating gathering opportunities with the new trees that we will be planting, and making the powwow grounds safer and more beautiful.

In the same grant application, we are working to secure funds for hazard tree removal and replacement with fruit bushes or cedar trees. Those funds will be directed towards residential areas across the reservation including Birch Hill, Franks Field, Aspen Acres, New Odanah, and Diaperville. If you live outside of these areas, but within the Reservation Boundaries, the grant will allow us to address hazard trees in your yard as well. An official announcement will be made if this grant is awarded in September.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns about the powwow grounds ash replacement.



Unfortunately, ash

Emerald Ash Borer Galleries in infested ash trees along McDonald Road on the western edge of the Bad River Reservation – January 2022

trees along Bear Trap road and Hwy A/Old Odanah Road were also observed to be exhibiting signs of EAB infestation. Please be aware that all ash are expected to die, but some will live longer than others. We have a large number of ash along our rivers and streams.

Seeing this mortality will be emotionally devastating. I'm saddened every time I think about how this will impact this community. We've seen these trees every day. They've always been there for us. They are our relatives.

We have a stand of almost pure green ash along Denomie Creek at the Maple Street crossing. We have taken steps to underplant this area with giizhik (northern white cedar).

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to volunteer to underplant alternate species in present ash stands, please contact TJ or me at Foresttech@badriver-nsn.gov or Forester@badriver-nsn.gov, respectively. You can also reach us at 715-685-8929.

Miigwetch for caring about our program.

Suspected EAB infestation at Bad River Powwow grounds in green ash – May 2024



On May 10, 2024, Bridget Thornburg (Non-local Beings Specialist) and I surveyed ash trees. We started from where they were first discovered in 2022 and surveyed eastwardly to the White River Boat landing and Powwow Grounds.

While there has not yet been an official declaration that the trees at the powwow grounds are infected, signs show that the trees are in decline, and they are likely to die from EAB impacts.

Traps set out in 2023 showed EAB present at all sites west of the Bad River, including the trap that was hung at the powwow grounds. In that respect, it's not surprising that the trees are starting to exhibit symptoms.



"Purple prism traps have been hung around the Northland, including Bad River, for over a decade. Last year (2023) was the first year that Emerald Ash Borer was confirmed here in these traps."

2024 Earth Day Miigwetch!

This years Earth Day Event was held at the Bad River Community Center and had over 100 registered participants! We collected approximately 1600lbs of trash from within the Bad River Community this year. We would like to Thank the programs that donated prizes and/or supplies for this event, and the community members who took the time to participate in doing their part in keeping our home clean. So until next year, Chi-Miigwetch!



Sign up for Nixle Alerts



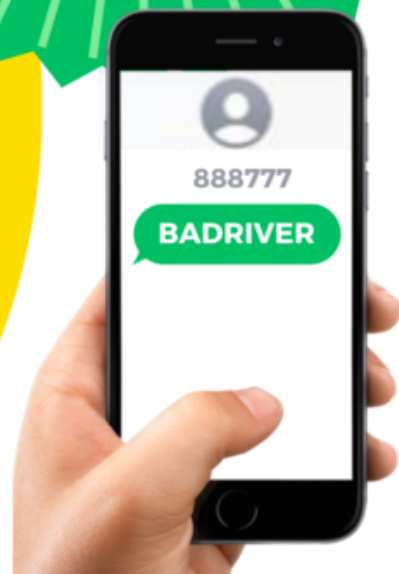
TEXT 'BADRIVER' TO '888777'

There has been a change to the Nixle alert system. You will only need **ONE** key word to sign up for each of the following

- **Tribal Events & Operations**
Gives you warnings of emergencies... (ex. forest fires, floods, amber alerts)
- **Alerts & Advisories**
Gives you updates on community happenings...(ex. poll location times, unexpected department closures)
- **Pow Wow**
Gives you updates on Pow-Wow and other community feasts and celebrations.
- **Public Works**
Gives you updates on road closings and hydrant flushing.

Do you want to know what is happening??

Sign up for Nixle Alerts **NOW!**



BAD RIVER BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA INDIANS

Bad River Fish Hatchery Production 2024

This year's Walleye run came in fast and hard with water temperatures rising quickly and steadily from the middle of April to the beginning of May. The Bad River Hatchery crew collected 144.5 quarts of eggs. 144.5 quarts of eggs is the same as 20.6 million eggs. There was a 30% hatch rate this year which is slightly below average. On May 7th 180,000 Yellow Perch fry were stocked into each of the Kakagon and Bad rivers. On May 8th 400,000 Yellow Perch fry were stocked into the Kakagon River. On May 7th 750,000 Walleye fry were stocked into the Kakagon and 600,000 into the Bad River. On May 8th 600,000 fry were stocked in the Kakagon River and 450,000 fry in the Bad River. On May 9th the remaining 450,000 Walleye fry were released into the Bad River and 2.5 mil. Kakagon River. Currently there are no fingerling Walleye or Yellow Perch in the rearing ponds due to equipment failures.

Any questions about the hatchery productions can be directed to Jacob Rodmaker, Fisheries Specialist, at fisheryspecialist@badriver-nsn.gov



Wisconsin's Air, Air, Everywhere Poetry Contest

Nathan Kilger, Air Quality Specialist - Air@badriver-nsn.gov

Every year the State of Wisconsin hosts a poetry contest to celebrate May's designation as Clean Air Month. I really liked the winner this year, a student in the 5th grade from Samuel Clemens School in Milwaukee. But for a submission to this edition of the Common Ground Newsletter, I wanted to republish the submission from a runner-up, Stella Baldock, a 5th grader from Brandon, WI. They all did an amazing job; I couldn't have written a better poem.

If you know a student who would like to submit a poem for the 2025 contest, the website will be updated next spring. In the meantime, the poems can be found published on the Wisconsin DNR website at: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/AirQuality/PoetryContest.html>

Stella wrote:

Our Air is Unique and Special
 Nitrogen, oxygen, argon, and methane
 All different parts of air
 Tinier fractions like aerosols
 Breathing it everywhere
 Even though we can't see it
 We know it's there
 It flows throughout my body
 And rustles through my hair
 Air is wind and the breeze and cyclones
 Air is gales and whirlwinds and gusts
 Air is blasts and puffs and flutters
 Air is atmosphere and typhoons and upthrusts
 The air is every shape and form
 And everywhere throughout our lungs
 It's in the tiniest cracks and corners
 Even on our tongue!
 Soot, smoke, power plants, and exhaust
 Ozone, fossil fuels, and factories
 Hurting and polluting our precious air
 We need to stand up to these unnecessities
 This invisible mix of gases
 Might not seem like it's keeping us alive
 But our air comes from the trees
 And without it, you'll surely crash-dive
 So the next time you see a tree
 Take a moment to thank our friend
 Our air is unique and special
 We will love it to the end



Background

On July 6, 2011, the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians adopted **Water Quality Standards (WQS)**. The Antidegradation policy within the Water Quality Standards protects existing uses and prevents clean water from being unnecessarily degraded. Under this policy, each waterbody is assigned to a tier that provides a basis for addressing activities that have been potential to lower water quality. Tiers identified in the Tribe's antidegradation policy include Outstanding Tribal Resource Waters (Tier 3 waters), Outstanding Resource Waters (Tier 2.5 waters), and Exceptional Resource Waters (Tier 2 waters). The Antidegradation policy holds that **no new or increased discharges or alterations of the background conditions are allowed to Outstanding Tribal Resource Waters; however, a short-term, temporary lowering of water quality may be allowed if applicable Antidegradation Demonstration and Decision requirements are met, as described in the Water Quality Standards.**

A web map of the Reservation waterways and wetlands, highlighting the tier associated with each waterbody, may be found on the Bad River website (under Services>Natural Resources>Water Resources. The link found in the Maps section).

<http://www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=6f44c371217e4ee8b5f1c2c705c7c7c5>

Posted: June 14, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

**Antidegradation Decision – Exceptional Resource Waters
Birch Hill Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion**

The Tribe seeks comments on the Antidegradation Decision for the Birch Hill Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion.

Project Summary

The Bad River Water and Sewer Utility Department has proposed to expand and improve the existing Birch Hill Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) that is located south of the Birch Hill community along Birch Hill Road. The proposed project is to expand the facility's capacity by constructing an additional lagoon cell to allow the wastewater facility to discharge during the permitted time periods which would reduce the likelihood of emergency discharges. The recommended work consists of grub removal, installation of sewer main, and the construction of an additional 3.5-acre lagoon cell and improvements to the two existing cells already present. In addition to installing flow metering equipment and repairing the existing erosion around the discharge pipe with riprap. It is also recommended to install a drain tile under the proposed new cell to lower and control the perched groundwater in the proposed area. The expansion and improvements to the WWTF will provide the Birch Hill community with a safe, reliable and adequately sized WWTF to properly treat and dispose of the community's wastewater.

The Tribe is currently evaluating whether the project meets the Antidegradation Demonstration requirements and the Decision criteria described in the Tribe's WQS and seeks comments on the proposed work and conditions needed to avoid and minimize potential impacts to the water resources. All comments are considered during the project review. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Water Regulatory Specialist at (715) 682-7123. Written comments may be emailed or sent by US Mail to:

Kaylee Houle, Water Regulatory Specialist
Mashkiizibii Natural Resources Department (MNRD)
P.O. Box 39
Odanah, WI 54861
waterreg@badriver-nsn.gov

Comment deadline is July 13, 2024.

Posted: June 14, 2024

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Brownfields: the large and the small

Andrew Spychalla, MNRD, Brownfield Program - brownfields@badriver-nsn.gov

The early part of summer is a time when plants are growing in gardens and are being sold at local farmer's markets. These markets come in all shapes and sizes, and the goodies for sale are dependent on the local climate and local clientele. Some markets are less about tomatoes, cabbage, or hand-crafted items. Some have transformed into sprawling complexes of fine dining, high-end fashion, or even crab – yes, crab. These markets could have been disregarded or dilapidated areas but are now thriving, and a few of them were brownfields.

On Ponce de Leon Ave. NE, in Atlanta, there stands a renovated 2.1 million square foot building that houses Ponce City Market. If you ordered anything from the famous Sears, Roebuck and Co. Catalog from the late-1920's to late-1970's, there's a small chance that item was once stored in the very same building. At the time the structure was built in 1926, it was the largest brick building in the entire southeastern United States. Through a massive cleanup and renovation effort in the 2010's, the once-Sears warehouse has again become a usable, modern space. Now on the National Register of Historic Places, Ponce City Market is home to shopping and dining, abuts a walking and biking trail famous in the city, and is one of the top hang-out spots in the region. Also, it was a brownfield.

At the opposite end of the country, Pike St. in Seattle is home to the famous Pike Place Market. With less pomp and circumstance than Ponce City, Pike Place Market is certainly still a spectacle as the breeze brings in the smell of



Photo taken by Andrew Spychalla

the Pacific Ocean just a stone's throw away. Fishermen in rainboots and rubber smocks throw fish - caught the morning of - to their coworkers who wrap them up and will ship them right to your doorstep. This section of the city has been, since its opening in 1907, a more traditional farmer's market, that remains in the same spot it always has. With produce, flowers, and yes, locally caught crab, this market also went through a similar cleanup and renovation. Once slated to be demolished in the 1970's, part of this market is also on the National Register of Historic Places. It still remains operating the same way as it did nearly 120 years ago. The demolition that was fought against by local citizens, and the renovation efforts that took place mean that this market was also a brownfield redevelopment. There are many different cleanups, remediations, and projects that could fall under the scope of a "brownfield." The scope can be

large or small, but the end-result is always the same: a cleaned-up space, that fits a need. A brownfield, by definition, is "real property where potential or realized contamination, hazardous substances, or pollutants may complicate redevelopment, expansion, or reuse." Whether it is redeveloping a historic fish-market, a large brick-and-mortar former warehouse, or a simple building site where a trailer-home once stood, all of these could be considered brownfield redevelopments. Now, Odanah has neither monstrosities of brick, nor historic fish-markets. It does however, like every town in America, have some older home-sites or buildings that are in disrepair or dilapidated. Some of these have, by definition, potentially had their redevelopment or reuse affected by contamination, hazardous substances, or pollutants. In the instance of potential brownfield sites on the Bad River Reservation, the process for

...continued on page 6...

Brownfield continued...

eligibility and brownfield determination must first look for the party responsible for the contamination. Afterwards, the area is sampled to determine the amount or concentration of the contaminants. There must be a plan for remediation or cleanup, and an idea of what the space will be utilized for after the cleanup takes place. An old building with a questionable history – dumping of chemicals or petroleum products, chipping lead paint on every wall, and other types of misuse – could simply be freshened up and become usable. However, being in such a space would be concerning to many people. If these issues were corrected, and safety of the building and its surroundings was ensured, every-

one might be a bit more comfortable in the space. These steps can be tiresome and time-consuming, but with them they bring a very important element to the equation: money. These remediations and renovations can cost quite a bit, and the brownfield process can assist in potentially providing some funding to clean up a space that can fit a need for the community.

Community members in Bad River likely know of a few properties or structures that might fit the definition of a brownfield. There might be many buildings or proper-

ties that could be reused, but potential contamination is making individuals hesitant to use the space as it is. That is where the brownfield program comes in. The program is able to determine the types of issues the space might have, why it cannot be reused as-is, and potentially find a little money to help do the work. If there are any questions or concerns with a building or property you may know of, and that space would be perfect to fit a need that the community has – please contact me at brown-fields@badriver-nsn.gov. Miigwech.

https://www.badriver-nsn.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Public_Record_Brownfields_January_2024.pdf

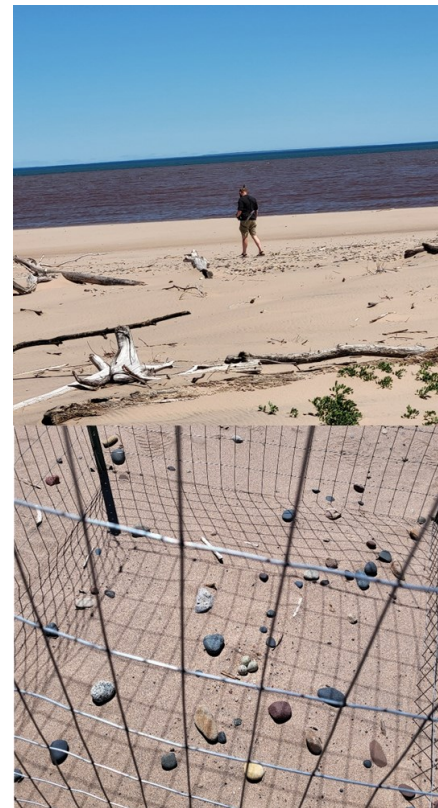
Piping Plovers discovered at the Mouth of Mashkiiziibii

Elle Lozinski, Wildlife Program Manager – wildlife@badriver-nsn.gov

Every year, the wildlife program will survey for and manage sites for piping plover recovery. All of the nesting on reservation has occurred exclusively on Chequamegon Point, until this year. For the first time since we've started monitoring, we have found piping plovers nesting at the mouth of the Bad River. You might have even seen this nest if you've gotten out to the mouth for some fishing. The steel wire box that's been set up is an enclosure designed to keep predators away from the nest. There are also signs and rope, and these are more so to help keep people far enough away from the nest that the birds can take care of their eggs in peace.

Looking ahead to future years, plovers tend to return to the beaches

where they hatched for nesting, so if this nest is successful for the birds, we can expect plovers to return again next year, and every year following. Because of this, we've been carefully monitoring the birds, checking to make sure the parents are alright and taking care of the nest, along with watching for the when eggs hatch. If this sounds like something interesting to you, and something you'd want to take part in, we will also gladly take volunteers that want to monitor the birds, just reach out to the wildlife program and we can train you on what to look for. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at wildlife@badriver-nsn.gov, or at (715)682-7123 x 1554



Top: NRD Staff member Jacob Rodmaker monitoring for adult plovers; Bottom: Plover nest from within the enclosure

PUBLIC NOTICE

Antidegradation Decision – Exceptional Resource Waters Bad River Health and Wellness Center Project Installation of Gas Distribution Line

The Tribe seeks comments on the Antidegradation Decision for the Bad River Health and Wellness Center Project Installation of a Gas Distribution Line.

Project Summary

The Bad River Health and Wellness Center (BRHWC) Project has proposed to install a gas distribution line within the Bad River Reservation. The purpose of the installation of a gas distribution line is to accommodate the increased need for natural gas for the BRHWC expansion. The proposed gas line would be installed to run parallel to the current existing 2" gas line which runs from the top of Birch Hill to the BRHWC. The proposed project consists of installation of a 4" gas distribution line and would be installed parallel to the existing Right-of-Way. Project also includes ditch cleaning, soil, and directional drilling, clearing, and grubbing, regrading slopes, removal and restoring of asphaltic surface. In addition to resetting, extending, and replacing culverts. The project will provide the BRHWC and any future infrastructure projects with a sufficient amount of natural gas resources.

The Tribe is currently evaluating whether the project meets the Antidegradation Demonstration requirements and the Decision criteria described in the Tribe's WQS (Water Quality Standards) and seeks comments on the proposed work and conditions needed to avoid and minimize potential impacts to the water resources. All comments are considered during the project review. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Water Regulatory Specialist at (715) 682-7123. Written comments may be emailed or sent by US Mail to:

Kaylee Houle, Water Regulatory Specialist
Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department (MNRD)
P.O. Box 39
Odanah, WI 54861
waterreg@badriver-nsn.gov

Comment deadline is July 13, 2024.

Background

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A web map of the Reservation waterways and wetlands, highlighting the tier associated with each waterbody, may be found on the Bad River website (under Services>Natural Resources>Water Resources. The link found in the Maps section).

<http://www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=6f44c371217e4ee8b5f1c2c705c7c7c5>

Posted: June 14, 2024



Post Date: June 13, 2024

Deadline: June 27, 2024

~REQUEST FOR QUOTES~

FOR

CULTURAL DEMONSTRATOR(S) AT 2024 LAKE SUPERIOR DAYS CELEBRATION

The Bad River Natural Resource Department is requesting proposals from interested tribal members to provide cultural demonstrations such as; beading, loom work, wood carving, medicine bag making, ricing or drumstick making, etc. The demonstrator will perform duties at NRD's Lake Superior Days Celebration on July 19th, 2024, from 11am to 3 pm.

Project Duties:

Demonstrator will share with community the process or steps to complete demonstration, the materials that are used, as well as provide any other information of cultural significance that is suitable for the general public. Demonstrator must provide all their own materials for this event, keeping in mind that the finish products resulting from the demonstration (if any) will be gifted to participants.

***Demonstrators will be required to complete a contract with the Bad River Tribe prior to the event on July 19, 2024. Payment will be paid to the demonstrator the following week on Friday July 26, 2024, through the Bad River Accounting Department (pending paperwork completion)*

Sealed quotes must be submitted to Prisscilla Dax, Executive Secretary, at the Chief Blackbird Center, Odanah, WI by **Noon on Tuesday June 27th, 2024.**

For more Information, clarification, or questions please contact Berthea Olby, NRD Outreach Coordinator, (715) 682-7111 ext. 1589.

Bad River Natural Resource Department
72682 Maple Street
Odanah WI 54861

Beach ATV Closure

Piping Plovers were found nesting on the beaches at the Bad River Mouth

As of June 9th until August 15th, ATV and other motorized vehicle use will be prohibited at the following beaches per Chapter 3.01.040

Bad River Mouth

Foot traffic is still allowed. Please be mindful of nesting birds and to give them the space they need.

*Attachment may be posted in your community building for the public.

Elle Lozinski
NRD Wildlife Program Manager
Bad River Natural Resources Department
PO Box 39
72682 Maple Street
Odanah, WI 54861
(715) 682-7123 x. 1554
wildlife@badriver-nsn.gov



Posted: 6/9/24

New Additions to MNRD Team!

Wetland Specialist

Hello all! My name is Kristen Vensland, and I am excited to be the new Wetlands Specialist. I am originally from Somerset, Wisconsin, and grew up knowing I wanted to work outside with the environment. I recently graduated from Northland College with a degree in Natural Resources. While taking classes, I worked for the Mary Griggs Burke Center for Freshwater Innovation, where I learned more about freshwater systems in the area. When I am not working on lakes or wetlands, I like to hike, fish, read, and go thrifting.

I am grateful for the opportunity to apply my knowledge and learn more about local wetlands through my work with the Mashkiziibii Natural Resources Department. I am also excited to become more involved in the local community and explore more of the area.

Feel free to reach out with any wetland concerns!
wetlands@badriver-nsn.gov



Wildlife Program Manager

Hello, I am Elle Lozinski, the new Wildlife Program Manager. Just because I'm new to the position doesn't mean that I'm new to Bad River. The past 2 years, I have been working as the Ornithologist in the wildlife program, but have recently decided to finally move up and manage the wildlife program. Hopefully, I can bring some fresh and new ideas to the program, and can help to serve Bad River. If you have anything you want to bring to my attention, feel free to contact me at Wildlife@BadRiver-NSN.gov.

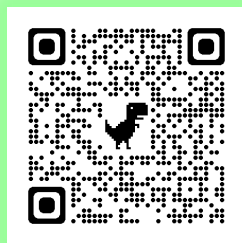


Job Opportunities in MNRD

-Climate Change Specialist

-Water Resources Technician

Click Link below or Scan QR Code to view full Job Descriptions:
<http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/careers/>



Radon on the Bad River Reservation

Zakkary Zander, Air Quality Technician - airqualitytech@badriver-nsn.gov.

Radon is a carcinogen that has been linked to the development of lung cancer. It is a natural radioactive gas that is present everywhere and is commonly traced back to sources in the soils around your home. It has the ability to infiltrate your home through foundation cracks and openings and once in your home can attach to particles in the air where they are then breathed in. Since radon is radioactive it can cause damage to lung tissue and contribute to the development of lung cancer.

The Bad River Tribe has a Tribal Indoor Radon Program, which has been testing tribal homes since 2006. Educating the Tribal community about radon is crucial, along with the proper training to tribal staff to provide radon expertise to Tribal Members.



Figure 1: Radon Mitigation Fan used for lowering levels on Housing Authority unit.



The Program has annual testing from January to March and has continued to work with the Bad River Housing Authority (BRHA) and private homeowners with testing and addressing radon issues, as needed. The BRHA has been a great partner in addressing radon effectively. Since 2006 the BRHA has tested each housing unit at least once. Unfortunately, only about half of private tribal homes have been tested. If you are a private homeowner and are interested in getting your home tested, please reach out.

There has been a total of eight housing units that have tested above the United States Environmental Agency's action lev-

el have a radon mitigation (reduction) system and shall continue to be tested in the future to assure effectiveness of systems and analyze changing or fluctuating of radon levels. The Tribe still faces many challenges with addressing radon effectively. Ideally new homes should be built with radon resistant features, but there are currently no requirements on the reservation for radon resistant new construction. Although new homes are also not being built in large numbers, homes that are have yet to include radon resistant methodology. This may be contributed to many new homeowners not being able to afford additional costs or they may have not just been aware of radon. The only way to know if your home has high indoor radon concentrations is to test. The Bad River Tribal Indoor Radon Program does provide free testing to tribal members. If high levels are found there are solutions. The Bad River Tribal Indoor Radon Program would not be able to cover costs or install radon mitigation (reduction) systems, but would be able to assist in locating contractors and possibly funds towards installing them. If you have any questions please contact Zakkary Zander, the Air Quality Technician at 715-682-7123 or email at airqualitytech@badriver-nsn.gov.