

07hr_SC-ENR_sb0197_pt02



(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2007-08

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on ... Environment and Natural Resources (SC-ENR)

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... **HR** ... **bills and resolutions** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
 - (**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
 - (**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

* Contents organized for archiving by: Mike Barman (LRB) (August 2012)

June-2014

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2007 4:56 PM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: SB 197

From: Char Weissmuller [mailto:charweiss@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2007 5:55 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: SB 197

As a Realtor, as a waterfront homeowner, and as a board member of Nelson Lake Association I fully support a ban on all phosphorous fertilizer use - certainly as much as possible.

Thank you

Char Weissmuller
12658 N Hard Rock Circle
PO Box 803
Hayward, WI 54843

Char Weissmuller, ABR GRI
Broker Associate
Frontier Realty - Hayward, WI
888-634-8479 ext. 228
715-634-7979 " "
715-492-3414 cell

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2007 4:57 PM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Phosphorous ban

*SB 197
folder*

From: Mary Witt [mailto:wittsendontea@centurytel.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2007 4:28 PM
To: Sen. Miller
Cc: info@wisconsinlakes.org
Subject: Phosphorous ban

Dear Senator Mark Miller,
I'd like to add my voice to the many who are in favor of banning phosphorous in lawn fertilizers. I have long been an active proponent on this and have consistently brought the issue up at our lake association meetings in addition to pursuing local businesses supplying and promoting phosphorous-free fertilizer.

The beauty of this bill is that it is so easily implemented and has so little effect on the looks of one's lawn (i.e. our lawns do not need phosphorous to give them a lush green appearance).

Thank you for your help in passing this legislation.

Mary Witt
Teal, Lost Land & Ghost Lakes Improvement Assn.

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2007 4:57 PM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Phosphorus Fertilizer Ban

SB 197
folder

From: Tom Laughlin [mailto:kovia@genevaonline.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2007 12:00 PM
To: Sen. Miller; Tami Jackson
Subject: Phosphorus Fertilizer Ban

Senator Miller;

I want to add my voice to the list of Wisconsin residents who support a ban on fertilizers containing phosphorus. It seems like a win-win to eliminate excessive phosphorus from lawn fertilizers.

I'm glad this directive is finally coming up for consideration.

Regards,
Tom Laughlin
N2856 Walden Lane
Lake Geneva WI 53147

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2007 4:57 PM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Support for SB 197

From: Joel Creswell [mailto:jcreswell@wisc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2007 1:21 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Cc: tdjackson@chorus.net
Subject: Support for SB 197

Hello Senator Miller,

I am writing to express my support for SB 197: the Phosphorus Fertilizer Ban bill. As I'm sure you're aware, the health of many of Wisconsin's lakes is in decline due to excessive nutrient loading. Phosphorus is the limiting nutrient to algal growth in most freshwater ecosystems, so banning its use in most fertilizers will lead to major improvements in the health of Wisconsin's lakes by preventing harmful algae overgrowth.

I look forward to hearing how you will proceed on this issue.

Sincerely,
Joel Creswell
1338 Rutledge St. Apt. 1
Madison, WI 53703

Joel Creswell | jcreswell@wisc.edu
Doctoral Student
Mercury Research Group
Environmental Chemistry & Technology Program
University of Wisconsin, Madison
660 North Park Street
Madison, WI 53706-1484
<http://www.engr.wisc.edu/interd/ect/>

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 1:58 PM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: SB 197

From: Rose Lahti [mailto:roselahti@cheqnet.net]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 8:48 AM
To: Sen.Miller
Cc: ptmurray@tds.net
Subject: SB 197

Senator Mark Miller
Room 409 South
State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison , WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Miller,

I own property on Trapper Lake and Lake Namakagon in Bayfield County. I wish to express my support of SB 197 restricting the use of phosphorus in lawn fertilizer in Wisconsin. Please share my concerns at the Senate Committee hearing that is addressing SB 197.

This proposal is long over due. The negative affects of phosphorus in our lakes has been known for many decades. No fertilizer is good for lakes. The excess phosphorus from lawns usually ends up running off in to lakes, streams and groundwater. Phosphorus, in particular, can and has resulted in excessive aquatic plant growth and overnight algae blooms that can ruin a lake for everyone.

Phosphorus, currently used on many lawns, is affecting lakes, streams and groundwater. Although some counties may consider similar regulation, I feel approval of SB 197 will result in consistent rules and will save local and county leaders from having to design their own zero-phosphorus ordinances.

This proposed rule will not affect farm use of phosphorus. Farmers know what their fields need. They are not going to waste money on phosphorus unless the soil really needs it. Most Wisconsin farmers also work to prevent runoff into lakes and streams. They want their investment to stay on the field, not in our surface waters. Lawns usually do not need phosphorus and it is time to end this practice in Wisconsin.

Elimination of phosphorus from lawn fertilizer will improve water quality and help reduce the presence of algae in Wisconsin waters, as one pound of phosphorus in runoff can result in 500

pounds of algae growth.

The application of commercial fertilizers containing phosphorus on parks, residential properties, golf courses and other non-agricultural areas causes excess phosphorus runoff into our streams, lakes, and rivers.

Runoff from lawns carries up to eight times more phosphorus than the runoff from similar-sized wooded areas.

The over application of phosphorus accelerates the growth of weeds and algae and decreases water clarity in Wisconsin lakes and streams.

Protecting the water quality of Wisconsin lakes, rivers, and streams (including Lakes Superior and Michigan) is extremely important as it has the potential to affect not only our surface waters but also groundwater resources.

Protecting the water quality of Wisconsin lakes, rivers, and is the duty of every citizen. We must all make this very minor sacrifice in order to protect the waters guaranteed to us by the Wisconsin Public Trust Doctrine.

Reliance on local or county ordinances to ban the sale and use of lawn fertilizers that contain phosphorus will be ineffective in addressing this matter of statewide concern because landowners may purchase and import products from outside the municipality or county. We need to send a message that reaches all lake owners, regardless of where they live, and only through a strong proposal can we protect our lakes for our children.

Waste product based fertilizers, such as Milorganite, and others, must not be allowed unless they meet the zero-phosphorus requirement. Allowing this exception would not be fair for all other fertilizer manufacturers nor good for our lakes.

Wisconsin has thousands of volunteers, young and old, who work to protect our waters. I am one of those volunteers who have tried to educate those around me on the importance of protecting our waters in many cases to no avail. On behalf of those many volunteers who work so diligently to protect our lakes, I ask you to pass SB 197 and prohibit both the sale and use of lawn fertilizers containing phosphorous in Wisconsin. Thank you.

Rose Lahti
August 23, 2007

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 1:58 PM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Phosphorous on lawns

SB 197
folder

From: Marsh, Craig Howard [mailto:MARSCH22@uwgb.edu]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 8:15 AM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: Phosphorous on lawns

Dear Senator,

The phosphorous bill makes sense for our environment while also not doing homeowners a disservice. Please vote in favor of the bill for phosphorous free fertilizers for lawns. I am a graduate student at UW-Green Bay in Environmental Science and Policy graduate program. This is a good bill. Thank you,

Craig Marsh

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 2:04 PM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: phosphorous

SB 197
folder

From: Tom Jackson [mailto:keceljackson@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2007 7:08 PM
To: Sen. Miller
Subject: phosphorous

Dear Senator,

Please vote for a phosphorous-free lawn fertilizer.

Thank you,

Pamela Jackson, a concerned lakefront property owner

Now you can see trouble...before he arrives

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 2:05 PM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee, 8.28.07, SB 197

From: peter sigmann [mailto:peter@sigmann.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2007 10:43 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Cc: Rep.Bies; bill schuster; rich dirks
Subject: Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee, 8.28.07, SB 197

Dear Senator Miller,

SB 197 addresses a serious threat to the quality of life and the value of real estate in Wisconsin. It is important that this bill become the law of the State.

I am writing as the coordinator of the "*Partnership for Phosphate Reduction*" in Door County. Nine property owner's and civic associations have joined to document the magnitude of the phosphate loading of lakes and streams and to educate the public in measures to eliminate unnecessary discharge of phosphate. We find that consumers can be made to understand that the addition of phosphate to lawn fertilizer is unnecessary, but the decision to purchase a particular package of fertilizer may be based on habit, availability or display. SB 197 would remove these distractions at the point of service and would help to reduce the non-point sources of phosphate. Since similar legislation is in effect in other jurisdictions we can expect that reformulated product is available from popular brands.

There are good reasons for our interest in this matter:

- Door County has the longest shoreline of any county in the lower 48 states.
- Our shores are made repulsive and unhealthy every summer by increasingly large deposits of Cladophora - filamentous green algae which decompose on the beaches and rocks.
- The masses of algae promote the growth of disease-causing bacteria.
- Consequently tourism and real estate values are threatened.
- Among the required nutrients for algae phosphorus is the single growth limiting nutrient . A similar excess of cladophora in the 1970s resolved when phosphate was removed from laundry detergents by legislation in most states.
- We have monitored phosphate in Green Bay waters of Door County since the year 2000 and have found progressively increasing phosphate concentrations. Frequently we see Phosphate-Phosphorus levels > 1.67 mg/l=ppm or 1670 ppb. This compares to average levels in Green Bay in the 1990's of 157 ppb. In 2000 the EPA defined 0.01 ppm or 10 ppb as critical concentration for surface waters.
- Interventions at multiple levels are necessary. SB 197 is an important component in the overall strategy.
- Our experience in Door County can be extrapolated to all areas of the state. In some lakes the excess phosphate causes the growth of toxic red or blue algae, an acute public health threat.
- More information on our initiative can be found at www.dcpfosphatefree.org. We can be contacted at info@dcpfosphatefree.org.

I thank you for your interest and hope that this note will be made available to the committee.

Peter Sigmann
3732 Rocky Shore Dr.

Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235-9427
920-824-5193

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 2:08 PM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: SB 197

From: Chase, Barbara [mailto:barbara.chase@ces.uwex.edu]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 12:44 PM
To: Sen.Miller; ptmurray@tds.net
Subject: SB 197

Senator Mark Miller
Room 409 South
State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison , WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Miller,

I own property on Lake Wiley in Bayfield County. I wish to express my support of SB 197 restricting the use of phosphorus in lawn fertilizer in Wisconsin. Please share my concerns at the Senate Committee hearing that is addressing SB 197.

The excess phosphorus from lawns usually ends up running off in to lakes, streams and groundwater. No fertilizer is good for lakes. But phosphorus, in particular, can result in excessive aquatic plant growth and overnight algae blooms that can ruin a lake for everyone.

Phosphorus, currently used on many lawns, is affecting lakes, streams and groundwater. Although some counties may consider similar regulation, I feel approval of SB 197 will result in consistent rules and will save local and county leaders from having to design their own zero-phosphorus ordinances.

This proposed rule will not affect farm use of phosphorus. Farmers know what their fields need. They are not going to waste money on phosphorus unless the soil really needs it. Most Wisconsin farmers also work to prevent runoff into lakes and streams. They want their investment to stay on the field, not in our surface waters. Lawns usually don't need phosphorus and it is time to end this practice in Wisconsin.

Elimination of phosphorus from lawn fertilizer will improve water quality and help reduce the presence of algae in Wisconsin waters, as one pound of phosphorus in runoff can result in 500 pounds of algae growth.

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 4:45 PM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: SB 197

From: CAROLYN BRONSTON [mailto:chbronston@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 3:00 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Cc: info@wisconsinlakes.org
Subject: SB 197

Dear Senator Mill; I am writing as President of the Two Sisters Lake Property Owner's Association in support of SB 197 to ban phosphorus in fertilizers sold in Wisconsin and as a resident of Wausau. Property owners on TSL have been working diligently for over 30 years to protect the water quality of the lake. Most of us have preserved the natural landscape as much as possible and have at most very small lawns. The Association has been encouraging the use of no fertilizer or no phosphorus fertilizer. The latter is very hard to find. If the law were passed, stores would have to carry it, making compliance much easier.

A local newspaper in Wausau has recently had an article on the growth of weeds in Lake Wausau. Such growth is promoted by the runoff of phosphorus from fertilizers. Wausau residents would like to preserve our lake and the prohibition of phosphorus in fertilizers would surely help.

Phosphorus is generally not needed, causing only harm with no benefit. Thank you for holding the hearings and I hope your committee approves this bill.

Sincerely,

Carolyn H. Bronston
1219 Highland Park Blvd.
Wausau, WI 54403
Carolyn Bronston

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 4:46 PM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: PO4

From: Tim Tully [mailto:ttullymonster@cheqnet.net]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 4:24 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Cc: Jim Brakken
Subject: PO4

Dear Sen. Miller,

I am writing as president of the Diamond Lakers Association, which is the lake association for Diamond Lake in Bayfield County. We represent approximately 60 cabin owners. At our recent Annual Meeting we discussed the current bill SB197 which would restrict the usage of phosphates in lawn fertilizers. We write to you in support of this bill, which would prohibit the use of these fertilizers in lawns bordering Wisconsin lakes.

As I am sure you are aware, these chemicals promote algae bloom and excessive aquatic plant growth when they run off into lakes. We support healthy shoreland restoration in all Wisconsin lakes and feel this is one step we can make at this time to achieve that end. We therefore encourage you to support SB 197 for the health of our waters. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely,

Timothy Tully MD
President, Diamond Lakers Association
47545 Chapinwood Rd
Cable, WI 54821

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 10:38 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: SB 197

From: mcvety [mailto:mcvety@nettally.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 5:52 PM
To: Sen.Miller; Sen.Breske
Subject: SB 197

Honorable Senators Miller and Breske,

We support SB 197 and encourage you to work for its passage. We are members of the Lake George Lake Association (Oneida County), Board Secretary and editor of our organization's newsletter. We spent our professional careers working for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in high level management positions and are familiar with the fate of eutrophic water bodies.

We have retired to our summer home in Wisconsin. A home that has been in the family for four generations (our daughter is the fifth). We sample Lake George water quality during the summer and fall for the DNR and know that it is already eutrophic, due to excess nutrients, particularly phosphorus. (We assume you know that phosphorous is the limiting nutrient for plant growth in water bodies.) As we look out our window this afternoon, the wind has blown an algae bloom into our cove that looks like a piece of velvet green fabric. A recent guest asked if we would swim in it and the answer is of course not, because not only is it disgusting, it would cause a skin rash. Thus already we have experienced a partial loss of use of our lake.

As editor of the Lake George newsletter, I write articles on what practices lead to eutrophic water bodies and steps landowners can take to avoid adding additional nutrients. We ask all our property owners not to use fertilizers with phosphorus. Unfortunately, this has not kept our lake from becoming eutrophic. We need a ban on phosphorous in fertilizers and restrictive procedures for agricultural and nursery use in lake watersheds, because not only is the direct runoff a problem, but runoff through our sandy soils from quite a distance from the lake also contributes to the problem.

Please submit our written testimony into the August 28th public hearing record.

Thank you.

Bob McVety, Lake George Board Secretary
Pam McVety, Biologist
4293 West Lake George Rd.
Rhinelander, WI 54501

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 10:40 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Support for Statewide P Ban

SB 197
folder

From: Ruth Johnson [mailto:johnsonpena@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 8:12 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Cc: info@wisconsinlakes.org
Subject: Support for Statewide P Ban

August 23, 2007

Dear Senator Miller

I strongly support legislation regarding Phosphorus Ban for lawns, with reasonable exceptions, in the State of Wisconsin.

I recently retired from the WDNR as the Rock River Basin Planner, a position I held for 7 years. Overall, in the Rock River Basin, nutrients and sediment are the most significant source of serious and wide-spread water quality problems in our rivers and lakes.

In fact, many waterbodies in the Rock River Basin, and in the state, are on the EPA 303d list for Impaired Waters for excessive nutrients.

While phosphorus enters our lakes, streams and wetlands from a variety of sources, one important source is runoff of phosphorus from lawns due to over-application of this nutrient. Soil tests on lawns show that most lawns have high levels of phosphorus, or at a minimum, sufficient phosphorus to support healthy lawn turf.

This regulation makes sense in that fertilizer without Phosphorus will become commonly available and used on most lawns. Meanwhile,

- * those lawns that have a Phosphorus shortage, as determined by a soil test, will be able to receive phosphorus if needed for good plant growth.
- * algae and plants in our rivers and lakes will no longer receive excessive nutrients from this source.

Sincerely,

Ruth Johnson
Retired WNDNR Rock River Basin Planner
Lake Sinissippi Improvement District: Lake Commissioner
Lake Sinissippi Association: Board Member
Town & Country, Resource, Conservation, Development Organization: Board Member

N 5117 Butternut Ct

8/27/2007

Juneau, Wis 53039
920 349 3055
johnsonpena@msn.com

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 10:40 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Support for SB 197

-----Original Message-----

From: Chuck Wood [mailto:chwood00@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 7:22 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: Support for SB 197

Dear Senator Miller

As an Onieda county owner of lakefront property, I support the bill to ban phosphorus in fertilizers on a statewide basis. At a recent Town of Newbold Board meeting, the town board was unable to address the issue as it would be impossible to enforce if a ban was in[place at the town or county level. A state wide ban is practical.

Sincerely

Charles Wood

Lake Tomahawk, WI 54539

Be a better Heartthrob. Get better relationship answers from someone who knows. Yahoo! Answers - Check it out.

<http://answers.yahoo.com/dir/?link=list&sid=396545433>

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 10:48 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Phosphorus ban

SB 197
folder

From: Sandy Gillum [mailto:ssgillum@nnex.net]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2007 8:26 AM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: Phosphorus ban

I strongly support the ban on phosphorus containing fertilizer in products that are used near Wisconsin waterways and drainage systems that feed into waterways.

Accompanying with this, I support a targeted educational effort for the public so that they can come to understand that additional phosphorus in waterways degrades the water quality and recreation use by causing more abundant growth of both native and invasive aquatic vegetation.

Sandy Gillum
Wildlife Ecologist
1875 Bald Eagle Lane
Eagle River, WI 54521
Email: ssgillum@nnex.net
Phone & FAX: 715-479-6051

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 10:50 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: SB197

From: Ed Kissinger [mailto:ekissing@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2007 10:46 AM
To: Sen.Miller
Cc: info@wisconsinlakes.org
Subject: SB197

Senator Miller,

I am completely in favor of a state wide ban on fertilizer that contains phosphorus. Wisconsin has over 15,000 lakes and these lakes are not only a source of pride for the state but also a major source of income for government and businesses.

I live on a lake in central Wisconsin and have watched algae conditions worsen over the years as more homeowners create ever bigger and greener lawns close to the lake.

It makes complete sense to ban fertilizer with phosphorus as most lawns don't need it and the lakes certainly don't need it. I urge you and the rest of the legislature to pass this bill quickly so the lakes can recover.

Sincerely,
Edward Kissinger
N2102 Chicago Point Road
Wautoma, WI 54982

Ready for the edge of your seat? [Check out tonight's top picks](#) on Yahoo! TV.

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 10:50 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Phosphorus free

SB 197
folder

-----Original Message-----

From: Nancy Lenz [mailto:villagepresident@marshall-wi.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2007 11:25 AM
To: Sen. Miller
Subject: Phosphorus free

Senator Miller,
I would like to send my written statement for the ban of phosphorus lawn fertilizer. I believe it should go further and include farms that drain into the lakes and river systems. Lakes are a very valuable part of Wisconsin and we ALL need to do our part to maintain them.

Nancy J. Lenz
130 S. Pardee Street
Marshall, WI 53559
Phone (608) 655-4017 ext 215
Cell (608) 219-0225
Email villagepresident@marshall-wi.com

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 10:51 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: ban phousphrous fertilizer

SB
197 folder

From: Dale Moore [mailto:dmoore@cbhomehunters.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2007 12:30 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Cc: info@wisconsinlakes.org
Subject: ban phousphrous fertilizer

One pound of phousphrous fertilizer will grow 500 pounds of algae in our water ways. This type fertilizer not needed for mature or established lawns, therefor please support the state wide ban on the use of this type fertilizer. thank you for your consideration Dale T. Moore ,Mirrior lake assoc. Wisc Dells Wi.

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 10:51 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Phosphorous Lawn Fertilizer ban Bill (SB 197)

From: Diana Korff [mailto:dianakor@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2007 12:49 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: Phosphorous Lawn Fertilizer ban Bill (SB 197)

Dear Senator:

I am writing on behalf of White Sails Association, Inc. regarding the above legislation. We are a small community in Green Lake County consisting of 21 homes with a common lake access lot. Our association strongly supports passage of the above bill to protect and maintain the water quality of Big Green Lake.
Diana S. Korff, Association Member

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 10:52 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Phosphorous Lawn Fertilizer ban Bill (SB197)

From: Diana Korff [mailto:dianakor@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2007 1:18 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: Phosphorous Lawn Fertilizer ban Bill (SB197)

I am writing on behalf of the Twin Lakes Association, Inc regarding passage of the above bill. We are lake property owners on Big Twin Lake which is part of Big Green Lakes' watershed in Green Lake County. Our association (consisting of about 45 members) was formed and incorporated in order to raise funds to address the invasive weed situation on these lakes. Fertilizer runoff has been a major factor in the past. We have had two comprehensive lake studies done and are working with the DNR on resolving the problem. We are strongly in favor of this ban which will help us in our efforts to eliminate noxious weeds in Twin Lakes.

Diana S. Korff
Board of Director

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 10:59 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: sb 197

From: Bob Konowalski [mailto:rkonowalski@wi.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2007 8:02 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: sb 197

I support this bill.
Bob Konowalski
Chairman
Waubeesee Lake Protection
District

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 11:00 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: SB 197

From: Jim Brakken [mailto:jim.brakken@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, August 25, 2007 5:42 AM
To: Sen.Miller
Cc: ptmurray@tds.net
Subject: SB 197

August 25, 2007

Senator Mark Miller
Room 409 South
State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison , WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Miller,

I live on Wiley Lake, near Cable, in Bayfield County. I am a Wisconsin Conservation Congress Delegate, serving on the Warm Water Committee. I am also the President of the Bayfield County Lakes Forum and Past President of the Wisconsin Association of Lakes.

I wish to express my support of SB 197 restricting the use of phosphorus in lawn fertilizer in Wisconsin. Please share my concerns at the Senate Committee hearing that is addressing SB 197.

As you know, the excess phosphorus from lawns usually ends up running off in to lakes, streams and groundwater. No fertilizer is good for lakes. But phosphorus, in particular, can result in excessive aquatic plant growth and overnight algae blooms that can ruin our lakes for everyone.

I am working to get Bayfield County to adopt the same zero-phosphorus lawn fertilizer concept. Although Bayfield and other counties may consider similar regulation, I feel approval of SB 197 will result in consistent rules and will save local and county leaders from having to design their own zero-phosphorus ordinances.

Protecting the water quality of Wisconsin lakes, rivers, and is the duty of every citizen. We must all make this very minor sacrifice in order to protect the waters guaranteed to us by the

8/27/2007

Wisconsin Public Trust Doctrine.

If waste product based fertilizers containing phosphorus, such as Milorganite and others, are excepted, it should be clearly stated [outside of any ordinance] that these products are recommended only for use on plants, etc., other than lawns.

On this subject, I am also somewhat concerned that a Milorganite exception might give the 'fertilizer lobby' just the right leverage they need to defeat this issue. They are sure to cite 'favoritism' in their arguments.

Wisconsin has thousands of volunteers, young and old, who work to protect our waters. On behalf of those many volunteers, I ask you to pass SB 197 and prohibit both the sale and use of lawn fertilizers containing phosphorous in Wisconsin.

Thank you for working to eliminate phosphorus from lawn fertilizers and our waters. And thank you for helping us help Wisconsin's lakes and streams.

Jim Brakken
45255 E Cable Lake Road
Cable, WI 54821

Yahoo! oneSearch: Finally, mobile search that gives answers, not web links.

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 11:00 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: SB 197 from Sybil Brakken

From: Jim Brakken [mailto:jim.brakken@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, August 25, 2007 5:52 AM
To: Sen.Miller
Cc: ptmurray@tds.net
Subject: SB 197 from Sybil Brakken

August 25, 2007

Senator Mark Miller
Room 409 South
State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison , WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Miller,

I am a volunteer landing monitor on Cable Lake, near Cable, in Bayfield County.

I wish to express my support of SB 197 restricting the use of phosphorus in lawn fertilizer in Wisconsin. Please share my concerns at the Senate Committee hearing that is addressing SB 197.

Minnesota has regulations similar to SB 197. Many Minnesotans vacation in our area. Many tell us that they have no problem with having no phosphorus in their lawn fertilizer and that they are happy to know they are doing something good for the lakes by keeping the phosphorus out. Minnesota is miles ahead of Wisconsin on this. It's time we apply the same common sense.

Wisconsin eliminated phosphorus from dish washing soap and laundry soap years ago. Nobody seems to have any problem with that. Most don't even remember that all dish washing soap and laundry soap contained phosphorus at one time. Pass SB 197 and in a few years folks will be used to the change.

SB 197 is a step in the right direction. Thank you!

Sybil Brakken

8/27/2007

45255 E Cable Lake Road
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Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 11:00 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Phosphorus in Fertilizers

-----Original Message-----

From: Bob & Mimi Titzler [mailto:rmtitzler@earthlink.net]
Sent: Saturday, August 25, 2007 6:23 AM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: Phosphorus in Fertilizers

Sen.Miller@legis.wisconsin.gov, ptmurray@tds.net

Senator Mark Miller
Room 409 South
State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison , WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Miller,

I own property on Little Spider lake in Bayfield County. I wish to express my support of SB 197 restricting the use of phosphorus in lawn fertilizer in Wisconsin. Please share my concerns at the Senate Committee hearing that is addressing SB 197.

The excess phosphorus from lawns usually ends up running off in to lakes, streams and groundwater. No fertilizer is good for lakes. But phosphorus, in particular, can result in excessive aquatic plant growth and overnight algae blooms that can ruin a lake for everyone.

Phosphorus, currently used on many lawns, is affecting lakes, streams and groundwater. Although some counties may consider similar regulation, I feel approval of SB 197 will result in consistent rules and will save local and county leaders from having to design their own zero-phosphorus ordinances.

This proposed rule will not affect farm use of phosphorus. Farmers know what their fields need. They are not going to waste money on phosphorus unless the soil really needs it. Most Wisconsin farmers also work to prevent runoff into lakes and streams. They want their investment to stay on the field, not in our surface waters. Lawns usually don't need phosphorus and it is time to end this practice in Wisconsin.

Elimination of phosphorus from lawn fertilizer will improve water quality and help reduce the presence of algae in Wisconsin waters, as one pound of phosphorus in runoff can result in 500 pounds of algae growth.

The application of commercial fertilizers containing phosphorus on parks, residential properties, golf courses and other non-agricultural areas causes excess phosphorus runoff into our streams, lakes, and rivers.

Runoff from lawns carries up to eight times more phosphorus than the runoff from similar-sized wooded areas.

The over application of phosphorus accelerates the growth of weeds and algae and decreases water clarity in Wisconsin lakes and streams.

Protecting the water quality of Wisconsin lakes, rivers, and streams (including Lakes Superior and Michigan) is extremely important as it has the potential to affect not only our surface waters but also groundwater resources.

Protecting the water quality of Wisconsin lakes, rivers, and is the duty of every citizen. We must all make this very minor sacrifice in order to protect the waters guaranteed to us by the Wisconsin Public Trust Doctrine.

The introduction of excess phosphorus is a detriment to the quality of our waters and reliance on local or county ordinances to ban the sale and use of lawn fertilizers that contain phosphorus will be ineffective in addressing this matter of statewide concern because landowners may purchase and import products from outside the municipality or county.

Waste product based fertilizers, such as Milorganite, and others, must not be allowed unless they meet the zero-phosphorus requirement. Allowing this exception would not be fair for all other fertilizer manufacturers nor good for our lakes.

Wisconsin has thousands of volunteers, young and old, who work to protect our waters. On behalf of those many volunteers, I ask you to pass SB 197 and prohibit both the sale and use of lawn fertilizers containing phosphorous in Wisconsin. Thank you.

Signed Robert Titzler Date ___August 25, 2007

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 11:00 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: non phosphorous fertilizer

SB 197
folder

From: Harley Habermann [mailto:birchlakers@centurytel.net]
Sent: Saturday, August 25, 2007 7:42 AM
To: Sen.Miller
Cc: info@wisconsinlakes.org
Subject: non phosphorous fertilizer

Dear Senator Miller,

We are privileged to live on clean and beautiful Birch Lake in Vilas County. My husband is on the board of our lake association, and I am a member of our town lakes committee. We are well aware of the importance of keeping our clean lakes clean, and one way to do that is to use non-phosphorous fertilizer if one needs to fertilize. Because not everyone is aware of the problems phosphorous creates in lakes, banning the sale of fertilizers that do contain phosphorous would help to keep lakes clean. We have many home owners in our area who reside in Illinois, and may purchase fertilizer there and bring it with them, so banning the use is just as important as banning the sale. The lakes and waterways of Wisconsin bring in many tourist dollars, and need to be protected to ensure the continued health of the tourist industry, and to ensure that those lakes and waterways will be healthy in the future.

Harley & Judy Habermann

birchlakers@centurytel.net

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 11:00 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Banning phosphorus fertilizer

SB 197
folder

-----Original Message-----

From: Susan Welch [mailto:slwelch@nnet.net]
Sent: Saturday, August 25, 2007 8:42 AM
To: Sen. Miller
Subject: Banning phosphorus fertilizer

Dear Senator Miller,

I live on a lake in Oneida County and weeds are becoming a big problem in our lakes. I would strongly recommend that you support the banning of Phosphorus fertilizers. Does this ban include golf courses? If it excludes golf courses, it will greatly reduce the effectiveness of this law.

Thank you for your support of this bill.
Sincerely, Tom Welch

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 11:01 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: SB 197

From: Donald Fornasiere [mailto:lkcamolt@wctc.net]
Sent: Saturday, August 25, 2007 11:06 AM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: SB 197

Dear Senator Miller.

I am writing to you to express my support for SB 197. I live in the Town of Rome northern Adams County. Our western boundary is Lake Petenwell. We have three other lakes Camelot, Sherwood and Arrowhead. Our Town is in the process of passing an ordinance banning the use lawn fertilizer with phosphorus. However the Town cannot ban the sale of it because there is only one small business in Town that sells lawn fertilizer. Wisconsin Rapids is the major retail center and it is not in our Town.

Rather than patch work ordinances a state wide ban is the only solution.

Thank You

Sincerely

Donald Fornasiere
837 Richmond Way
Nekoosa, WI 54457
lkcamolt@wctc.net

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 11:04 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Senate Bill 197

From: Chuck Faber [mailto:cfaber1894@charter.net]
Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2007 7:43 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: Senate Bill 197

Honorable Senator Miller:

On behalf of the 112 families that are members of the Lake George Lake Association I urge you to support and work toward the passage of SB 197.

Lake George is a 435 acre lake located approximately four miles east of Rhinelander. The Lake George Lake Association (LGLA) was formed to preserve, protect and enhance the water quality, fishery and recreational and aesthetic values of Lake George for present and future generations. Our membership includes a substantial majority of the riparian owners as well as members owning property in proximity to the Lake.

There are nine resorts and a large developed campground with lake frontage on Lake George. These facilities host hundreds of vacationers in the course of a summer. The Lake is also well known as an excellent fishery. As a result the Lake also is used by hundreds of transient fishermen throughout the fishing season.

The introduction of excess phosphorus into the Lake – much of it the result of storm water runoff from fertilized lawns – has greatly increased the growth of weeds in the lake and contributed to substantial algae blooms. These factors detract materially from the water quality, aesthetic and recreational value of the Lake. They also have a meaningful negative impact on the revenues of our resorts and the property values of riparian owners. We need a ban on phosphorus in fertilizers and restrictive procedures for agricultural and nursery use in lake watersheds to reduce the amount of phosphorus introduced into Lake George and other lakes throughout Wisconsin through storm water runoff and migration through the soils of the watershed.

Please submit this statement into the record of the August 28th public hearing.

Thank you.

Charles P. Faber, President
Lake George Lake Association
4292 County P, Rhinelander, WI 54501
715-369-1894

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 11:04 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Phosphorus Public Hearing
Attachments: phosphorus resol.doc

SB 197
folder

From: Beth Bettenhausen [mailto:gofish@indianheadtel.net]
Sent: Sunday, August 26, 2007 9:23 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: Phosphorus Public Hearing

Dear Senator Miller,

Attached is a Resolution passed by the Rusk County Waters Alliance in favor of a statewide ban on lawn fertilizers containing phosphorus.

Please enter this as testimony during the August 28th public hearing.

Sincerely,

Beth Bettenhausen
President,
Rusk County Waters Alliance

**Resolution Supporting a State Ban on the Sale and Use of
Phosphorus-Based Lawn Fertilizers in Wisconsin**

WHEREAS, protecting the water quality of Wisconsin's lakes, rivers, and streams (including the Great Lakes) is extremely important as it has the potential to affect not only our State's surface waters but also groundwater resources, and

WHEREAS, excessive phosphorus resulting from the common over-application of commercial fertilizer on residential properties, parks and other non-agricultural areas can wash directly into our streams, lakes, and rivers in Wisconsin, and

WHEREAS, runoff from lawns carries up to eight times more phosphorus to a lake than the runoff from similar sized wooded areas, and

WHEREAS, the over application of phosphorus can accelerate the growth of weeds and algae and decreases water clarity in Wisconsin lakes, and

WHEREAS, elimination of phosphorus from lawn fertilizer will help reduce the presence of algae in Wisconsin's waters, as one pound of phosphorus in runoff can result in 500 pounds of algae growth, and

WHEREAS, Rusk County has 33 lakes and streams designated as Outstanding or Exceptional Resource Waters, and

WHEREAS, Rusk County has over lakes totaling more than 242 miles of shoreline and 62 rivers and streams totaling more than 862 miles of shoreline, and the continued introduction of excess phosphorus would be a detriment to the quality of those waters, and

WHEREAS, measures must be taken to prevent increased phosphorus levels which lead to an increase in algae and a decrease in dissolved oxygen levels in the waters of Rusk County, and

WHEREAS, The effects of increased phosphorus levels will have a detrimental effect on the wildlife that depend on the water resource for their survival, and

WHEREAS, The effects of increased phosphorus levels will have a detrimental effect on the recreational quality of the lakes and streams in Rusk County, thus causing a decrease in tourism revenue for the county, and

WHEREAS, individual municipalities enacting local ordinances to ban the sale and use of phosphorus lawn fertilizers are ineffective with absentee landowners

purchasing products outside of the municipality, Wisconsin can protect water quality by promoting better management practices, through restrictions on the sale and use of lawn fertilizers containing phosphorus in Wisconsin.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Waters Alliance Board of Directors supports the implementation of a statewide ban on the sale and use of phosphorus lawn fertilizer, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Waters Alliance Board of Directors supports State legislation banning the sale and use of phosphorus-based lawn fertilizer in Wisconsin which would eliminate the need for local ordinances, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be provided to the WI DNR Secretary, Scott Hassett, WI DATCP Secretary Rod Nilsestuen, Governor Jim Doyle, State Senator Russ Decker, State Representative Mary Williams, and the Rusk County Board of Supervisors.

Dated this 19th Day of April, 2007.

APPROVED:

President, Beth Bettenhausen
(Electronic signature)

Recording Secretary,
CeCe Tesky
(Electronic signature)

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 11:07 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: SB 197

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill Hogseth [mailto:billhogseth@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 10:24 AM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: SB 197

I support the ban on the sale and use of phosphorus-based lawn fertilizers as detailed in SB 197.

As a resident of Menomonie, Wisconsin, I witness our lake turn fluorescent green every summer. The lake is choked with algae and the health of the lake is very poor. I wish that some statewide action will be taken to correct practices that contribute to large scale algae blooms. Statewide action is needed because the problem is statewide and because state action saves local governments the energy from passing redundant legislation.

Please push this legislation through.

Thanks,

Bill Hogseth
N2017 County Road Y
Menomonie, WI 54751
billhogseth@gmail.com

Bier, Beth

From: Kay McKenzie [kamck@chartermi.net]
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 12:06 PM
To: Sen. Miller
Cc: Doug Finn; christine ostern; Susan Sandvick
Subject: Phosphorus Restriction Legislation; 2007 Senate Bill 197 Support

Senator Mark Miller
Chair Senate Natural Resources Committee
Room 409 South
State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Senator Miller,

In July 2007 the Douglas County Board of Supervisors referred back to the Land Conservation Committee our attempt at restricting the use of phosphorus in lawn fertilizers county wide. Last week our Land Conservation Committee voted on a resolution that encourages the state to do the same. We will vote on encouraging this state action at the Douglas County Board meeting in September.

I applaud your efforts to bring Senate Bill 197 forward and to have this hearing before the state's budget gets set. Cost and time prohibit me from attending your hearing on Tuesday. GLNAC, Great Lakes Non-Point Abatement Coalition, and WLWCA, Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association both of which I am a member one representing the four counties on Lake Superior and the other the 10 NW counties both support this legislation.

Thank you again for this most important work.

Sincerely,
Kathryn McKenzie
15th District Douglas County Supervisor
Chair Douglas County Land Conservation Committee
Member of WLWCA and GLNAC Boards
202 N. 58th St.
Superior, WI 54880

8/28/2007

Bier, Beth

From: daniel.l.kraft@wellsfargo.com
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 2:58 PM
To: Sen.Harsdorf; Sen.Miller
Subject: I support SB 197, ban on phosphorus fertilizer

I am a Wisconsin lakefront property owner and I feel that SB 197 is an important step in the right direction to ban phosphorus fertilizer. Wisconsin lakes are an important part of the value of our state, and the value of the states lakefront properties is an important generator or tax revenue for the local governments. Polluted runoff is Wisconsin's number one water quality problem, degrading or threatening an estimated 90% of our inland lakes. Excess nutrients like phosphorus can wash into our lakes and streams from lawns, streets, construction sites, and agricultural sources. Even small amounts of phosphorus runoff can cause algae blooms, water quality decline, and impact recreational use.

A growing body of research indicates that restricting the use of phosphorus lawn fertilizers can be an effective and low cost way to reduce the amount of phosphorus that is washed into our lakes from lakefront and residential lawns. As a lakefront property owner, I know my neighbors often make decision on fertilizer based on cost, or make not decision at all - and leave it up to their landscaper. Banning phosphorus fertilizers will make this decision easier and help align property owners long term interests with that of the state.

Dan Kraft
1858 115th Street
Balsam Lake, WI 54810

Bier, Beth

From: Crystal Halvorson [crystal@menomoniemarket.org]
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 3:48 PM
To: Sen. Miller
Subject: SB 197

Senator Miller:

I support the ban on the sale and use of phosphorus-based lawn fertilizers as detailed in SB 197.

As a resident of Menomonie, Wisconsin, I witness our lake turn fluorescent green every summer. The lake is choked with algae and the health of the lake is very poor. I wish that some statewide action will be taken to correct practices that contribute to large scale algae blooms. Statewide action is needed because the problem is statewide and because state action saves local governments the energy from passing redundant legislation.

Please push this legislation through.

Thanks for listening,

Crystal Halvorson, General Manager
Menomonie Market Food Co-op
521 Second Street East
Menomonie, WI 54751
(715) 235-6533
crystal@menomoniemarket.org

Bier, Beth

From: burwells@genevaonline.com
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 5:58 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Cc: tdjackson@chorus.net
Subject: Public hearing on phosphorus ban

SB 197
folder

Dear Sen. Miller:

I am a commissioner on the Lake Comus Rehabilitation District and the Lauderdale Lakes Management District, Vice-Chair of the Walworth County Land Conservation Committee a member of the state board of directors of the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association. My comments are submitted as a private citizen interested in what I believe is best for the state of Wisconsin.

The towns of Delavan and LaGrange and the city of Delavan have enacted ordinances to ban the use of phosphorus fertilizers within their respective jurisdictions. However the enforcement of this ban would be far more effective if it were a statewide ban.

Through cooperation of the town of Delavan, the federal government and the state government, millions of dollars were spent to bring Delavan Lake back to a clean lake to be enjoyed by local residents and tourists as well. It is now one of the best fishing lakes in the state of Wisconsin.

It is a fact that one pound of phosphorus fertilizer can produce five hundred pounds of algae. This causes pre-mature aging of our lakes. I strongly urge your committee to forward this bill on to the legislature for passage into law.

Dorothy C. Burwell
Walworth County Board Supervisor District 16
N4836 County Road O
Delavan, Wisconsin 53115
262-728-6085

Bier, Beth

From: Bill Bernico [wbernico@tds.net]
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 6:16 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: Ban on Phosphorous

SB 197
folder

This is being written to support the ban on phosphorus in lawn fertilizers. We live on the shores of Lake Michigan and have NEVER seen as much algae on our beach as we have right now. We can't swim and if we wanted to kayak we'd have to wade through several feet of thick green algae to launch our boats. That's bad enough, but when it dries on the shoreline it begins to stink. I can only wonder what effect this is having on the fish and the waterfowl. Something has to be done and this ban is a start!

Kathie Bernico

Bier, Beth

From: Barbara Bellis [bbellis47@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 8:05 PM
To: Sen. Miller
Cc: jim.brakken@yahoo.com
Subject: No phosphorus

Senator Mark Miller
Room 409 South
State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison , WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Miller,

I own property on Tahkodah Lake in Bayfield County. I wish to express my support of SB 197 restricting the use of phosphorus in lawn fertilizer in Wisconsin. Please share my concerns at the Senate Committee hearing that is addressing SB 197.

The excess phosphorus from lawns usually ends up running off in to lakes, streams and groundwater. No fertilizer is good for lakes. But phosphorus, in particular, can result in excessive aquatic plant growth and overnight algae blooms that can ruin a lake for everyone.

Phosphorus, currently used on many lawns, is affecting lakes, streams and groundwater. Although some counties may consider similar regulation, I feel approval of SB 197 will result in consistent rules and will save local and county leaders from having to design their own zero-phosphorus ordinances.

This proposed rule will not affect farm use of phosphorus. Farmers know what their fields need. They are not going to waste money on phosphorus unless the soil really needs it. Most Wisconsin farmers also work to prevent runoff into lakes and streams. They want their investment to stay on the field, not in our surface waters. Lawns usually don't need phosphorus and it is time to end this practice in Wisconsin.

Elimination of phosphorus from lawn fertilizer will improve water quality and help reduce the presence of algae in Wisconsin waters, as one pound of phosphorus in runoff can result in 500 pounds of algae growth.

The application of commercial fertilizers containing phosphorus on parks, residential properties, golf courses and other non-agricultural areas causes excess phosphorus runoff into our streams, lakes, and rivers.

Runoff from lawns carries up to eight times more phosphorus than the runoff from similar-sized wooded areas.

The over application of phosphorus accelerates the growth of weeds and algae and decreases water clarity in Wisconsin lakes and streams.

Protecting the water quality of Wisconsin lakes, rivers, and streams (including Lakes Superior and Michigan) is extremely important as it has the potential to affect not only our surface waters but also groundwater resources.

Protecting the water quality of Wisconsin lakes, rivers, and is the duty of every citizen. We must all make this very minor sacrifice in order to

protect the waters guaranteed to us by the Wisconsin Public Trust Doctrine.

The introduction of excess phosphorus is a detriment to the quality of our waters and reliance on local or county ordinances to ban the sale and use of lawn fertilizers that contain phosphorus will be ineffective in addressing this matter of statewide concern because landowners may purchase and import products from outside the municipality or county.

Waste product based fertilizers, such as Milorganite, and others, must not be allowed unless they meet the zero-phosphorus requirement. Allowing this exception would not be fair for all other fertilizer manufacturers nor good for our lakes.

Wisconsin has thousands of volunteers, young and old, who work to protect our waters. On behalf of those many volunteers, I ask you to pass SB 197 and prohibit both the sale and use of lawn fertilizers containing phosphorous in Wisconsin. Thank you.

Signed Barbara Bellis, President Tahkodah Lake District August 27, 2007

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Bier, Beth

From: R. Williams [rbwilliams@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 8:29 PM
To: Sen. Miller
Cc: info@wisconsinlakes.org
Subject: SB 197

Honorable Senator Miller,

On behalf of the membership of the Oneida County Lakes and Rivers Association (OCLRA) I urge you to support and work toward the passage of SB 197.

OCLRA is an affiliation of lake associations and districts and river associations in Oneida County representing more than 2,000 individual and family members. OCLRA was formed more than a decade ago to act on behalf of its members on issues regarding the conservation of natural resources, preservation of environmental qualities, outdoor recreation and all other appropriate matters concerning the lakes and rivers in Oneida County.

The introduction of excess phosphorus into the more than 1,100 lakes in Oneida County – much of it the result of storm water runoff from fertilized lawns – has greatly increased the growth of weeds in many of the County's lakes and contributed to substantial algae blooms. These factors detract materially from the water quality, aesthetic and recreational value of our lakes – and lakes throughout the State of Wisconsin. They have a meaningful negative impact on the revenues of the thousands of businesses that depend on tourism for their livelihood. And, they reduce the property values of riparian owners.

We need a ban on phosphorus in fertilizers and restrictive procedures for agricultural and nursery use in lake watersheds to reduce the amount of phosphorus introduced into the lakes throughout Wisconsin through storm water runoff and migration through the soils of the watershed. The Oneida County Board of Supervisors recently passed a resolution urging the State to ban fertilizers containing phosphorus. Similar resolutions have been passed by seven other Wisconsin Counties and numerous local and state-wide governments and environmental groups. SB 197 is in the best interest of the people of Wisconsin and all who visit here.

Please submit this statement into the record of the August 28th public hearing.

Thank you.

8/28/2007

Robert Williams, President

Oneida County Lakes and Rivers Association

Bier, Beth

From: Rathjen Testin [testrath@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 8:38 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: SB 197

Dear Senator Miller

I am writing in support of SB 197 banning Phosphorus in lawn fertilizers. As a resident of Waupaca County where tourism is a major part of our economy, a number of our lakes are in trouble. City by city and township by township bans of phosphorus will take way too long to have the impact that is needed immediately.

We have lived near Mirror Lake in the city of Waupaca - each year we see further deterioration of the lake. We have joined with other members of our community to help educate ourselves and our neighbors about the problems of phosphorus but it is slow moving. We don't have the luxury of time.

Please help waterways all over our state by supporting this bill.

Thank you
Sandy Testin
218 E Lake St
Waupaca, WI 54981

Bier, Beth

From: john bjork [bjorkjtb@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 10:57 PM
To: Sen.Miller
Cc: info@wisconsinlakes.org
Subject: 2007 Senate Bill 197

Senator Miller,

We are in support of Bill 197 to ban phosphorus in fertilizer with a few exceptions. I am aware that our soil already has an excess of fertilizer and phosphorus, and that runoff of rain water pollutes our waterways with these contaminants.

Our Town of Waterford bans phosphorus in fertilizer but the Village of Waterford does not. This allows downtown and surrounding hardware stores to sell the fertilizer with phosphorus to those who live in the Town and may not be aware of the ban.

We live on the Fox River and value the waterway as a financial asset, and a recreational area for fishing, boating and swimming. The water quality needs improvement from the overgrowth of algae and weeds, which limit our enjoyment of the water. Poor water quality is also bad for our economic development as a community.

The preliminary report from the lake management study for Waterford indicates by 2020, the agricultural source of phosphorus in the Fox River will decrease, but that the urban source will significantly increase.

We encourage your support of Senate Bill 197.

Sincerely,
John Bjork
Colleen Cornelius

See what you're getting into...before you go there [See it!](#)

Bier, Beth

From: Bier, Beth
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2007 8:32 AM
To: Bier, Beth
Subject: FW: Public Hearing on SB197

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim Heinz [mailto:jheinz@flad.com]
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2007 11:53 AM
To: Sen.Miller
Subject: Public Hearing on SB197

Dear Senator Mark Miller

My name is Jim Heinz and I am the Chairman of the Town of Lake Mills which is located in Jefferson County. The Lake Mills Town Board has passed a resolution asking that legislation be passed banning or controlling the use of phosphorus in lawn fertilizer in the State of Wisconsin or at least allowing county or local governments the authority to pass local ordinances banning the use of phosphorus in lawn fertilizers. The Town of Lake Mills is in favor of Senate Bill "SB197" and recommends passage. The Lake Mills Joint Rock Lake Committee recently took soil samples from six sites around Rock Lake, that have had no phosphorus used on the soil for several years, and all of those samples showed adequate to excess phosphorus levels in the soil. The soils in Southern Wisconsin do not require the addition of phosphorus so lets ban it.

Thank You for your consideration to our request.

Jim Heinz

Town of Lake Mills Chairman.

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