

# 07hr\_SC-ENR\_sb0197\_pt04



(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

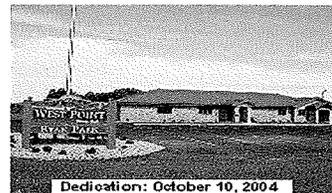
- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... **HR** ... **bills and resolutions** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
  - (**ab** = Assembly Bill)                      (**ar** = Assembly Resolution)                      (**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



## TOWN OF WEST POINT



608-592-7059

[www.townofwestpoint.us](http://www.townofwestpoint.us)

email: [townofwestpoint@verizon.net](mailto:townofwestpoint@verizon.net)

N2114 Rausch

Lodi, WI 53555-9364

August 15, 2007

Senator Mark Miller  
16th District  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Miller:

Attached is a copy of Resolution 8/9/2007 (Phosphorus Prohibition Related to Lawn Fertilizer) that was passed by the Town of West Point's town board on August 9, 2007. This is in support of SB 197 that you have introduced to control phosphorus related to lawn care.

Lake Wisconsin and Crystal Lake are located in The Town of West Point. The town board feels very strongly about plant and algae growth that affects water clarity, weed choked recreational areas and low dissolved oxygen levels which harms fish and aquatic life. The town board of the Town of West Point requests the legislative delegation to sponsor a new state law similar to the State of Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration to the very important matter.

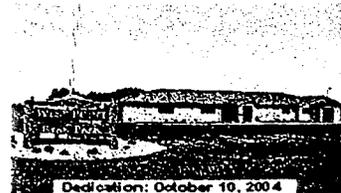
Sincerely,

Edith K. Eberle  
Town Clerk

Cc: Kurt Calkins



# TOWN OF WEST POINT



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N2114 Rausch

Lodi, WI 53555-9364

## RESOLUTION NO. 8/9/2007

### SYNOPSIS: Phosphorus Prohibition Related to Lawn Fertilizer

WHEREAS, phosphorus delivered to public waterways causes excessive plant and algae growth, with one pound of phosphorus producing up to 500 pounds of algae, and

WHEREAS, such plant and algae growth causes murky water clarity, weed choked recreational areas and low dissolved oxygen levels, harming fish and aquatic life, and

WHEREAS, such diminished water quality from phosphorus pollution lowers property values and harms the tourism and outdoor recreation industry, and

WHEREAS, phosphorus discharges from industry, wastewater treatment plants and agriculture are limited by regulation, while unnecessary phosphorus enters the waters of the State from the use of lawn fertilizers, and

WHEREAS, statutory authority to limit the sale or application of lawn fertilizers containing phosphorus requires each local government in an affected area to enact similar regulatory ordinances, and

WHEREAS, a water body negatively affected by phosphorus is often not in the same municipality as the point of sale or use of lawn fertilizer which may affect the water body, and

WHEREAS, regulation in Wisconsin is patchwork at best, because of limited authority to regulate phosphorus uses,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of West Point requests its legislative delegation to sponsor new state law similar to the laws of the State of Minnesota concerning this issue which prohibits the sale or application of lawn fertilizers containing unnecessary phosphorus components.

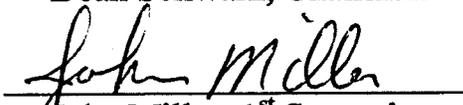
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we, the Town of West Point, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Town Board of the Town of West Point at its meeting held on August 9,

2007. A copy will be forwarded to the Governor's office, the Columbia County Legislative Representatives, Fish, Crystal and Mud Lake District, Columbia County Land and Water Conservation Committee, and Columbia County Board of Supervisors.

Adopted this 7 day of AUG, 2007.



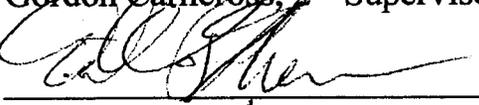
Dean Schwarz, Chairman



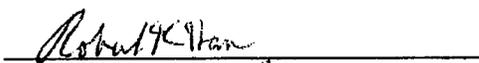
John Miller, 1<sup>st</sup> Supervisor



Gordon Carncross, 2<sup>nd</sup> Supervisor

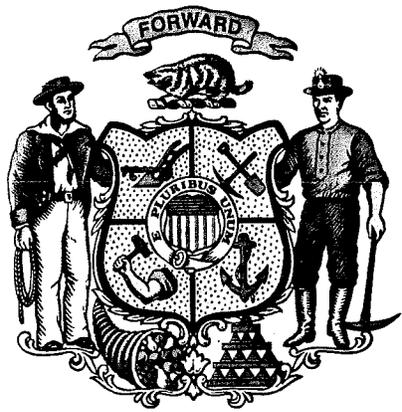


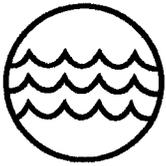
Bill Niemi, 3<sup>rd</sup> Supervisor



Robert Ham, 4<sup>th</sup> Supervisor

Attest: Edith K Eberle  
Edith Eberle, Town Clerk





**Center for Limnology**  
**University of Wisconsin**

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SB 1974  
file

20 August 2007

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

Dear Senator Miller,

I am writing about the proposed state-wide ban on phosphorus fertilizer for home lawns. I am a professional limnologist who has conducted research on water quality of Wisconsin's lakes since 1974. If you need more information about my professional qualifications please see my web page at <http://limnology.wisc.edu/personnel/carpenter/>.

Excessive phosphorus pollution is the principal cause of degraded water quality in Wisconsin. Most notably, phosphorus pollution causes nuisance algae blooms, including blooms of toxic algae, in lakes of our state. Wisconsin lakes that suffer from excess algae will benefit from decreased flows of phosphorus which would occur under the proposed ban.

If I can provide further scientific information relevant to the proposed ban please contact me ([srcarpen@wisc.edu](mailto:srcarpen@wisc.edu) or 608-262-8690).

Sincerely yours,

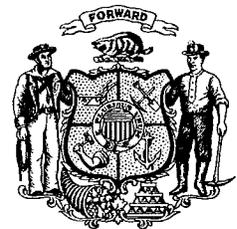


Steve Carpenter  
Stephen Alfred Forbes Professor of Zoology

C: Peter Murray, Wisconsin Association of Lakes



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





STATE OF WISCONSIN

**BARBARA LAWTON**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

August 20, 2007

Dear Colleagues, members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee:

I write today to add my voice to the chorus of bipartisan support for Senate Bill 197 that would ban the use of phosphorus in fertilizers on lands not used in agricultural production.

Like many of the bill's sponsors, I have a front row seat to see—and smell—the changing landscape of Wisconsin's shorelines. The foul odor that plagues home and business owners up and down the shores of Lake Michigan issues from disgusting algal blooms owing in great part to excessive use of phosphorus in fertilizers. But those blooms can also be found in rivers, lakes and streams, soils groundwater and waste treatment facilities across the state.

Many communities across the state boasting frontage on lakes or rivers invested heavily in transforming what was often formerly industrial land use into vibrant retail and commercial developments, but now they see their investment at great risk. Their future economic growth pivots on our ability to protect the environmental good health of water resources. Eliminating phosphorus from fertilizers used in our state puts us on a quick, sure path toward that end.

Six counties have already passed resolutions supporting a statewide ban on phosphorus in lawn fertilizer and another six are cued up to do so; two counties and seventeen communities have implemented their own ordinance; and a long list of local and statewide organizations have also weighed in with resolutions voicing support for the ban. It is time for us to lead, to provide a uniform framework statewide to protect our waterways—the very nervous system of our state economy—by passing Senate Bill 197.

Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Lawton".

Barbara Lawton  
Lieutenant Governor



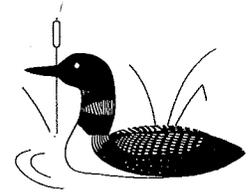
# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



# VILAS COUNTY LAKES ASSOCIATION

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P.O. Box 494  
Eagle River, WI 54521-0494



August 22, 2007

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

Senator Miller,

Please find accompanying a Vilas County Lakes Association Resolution adopted in 2006 that requests that the County and State adopt regulations that will phase out the sale and use of phosphorus containing lawn fertilizers under conditions as stated. We offer this resolution as support for SB 197. We certainly support the major tenants of the bill and would hope that a law is adopted during this legislative session to accomplish the objective of reducing the man made introduction of phosphorus into our Wisconsin lakes and waterways.

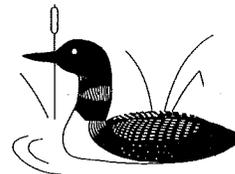
Respectfully,

Charles Thier, President  
Vilas County Lakes Association

# VILAS COUNTY LAKES ASSOCIATION

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P.O. Box 494  
Eagle River, WI 54521-0494



## Resolution 2006.1

### Phase Out of Phosphorus- Containing Lawn Fertilizers to Improve Lake Water Quality

**Whereas** Vilas County contains over 1300 lakes, miles of streams and rivers, and millions of acres of wetlands, and

**Whereas** the presence of increasing phosphorus in Wisconsin waterways is detrimentally impacting a significant percentage of the State's and Vilas County water resources, thereby reducing their quality, desirability and ability to provide recreational, economic, subsistence and cultural opportunities, and

**Whereas** many of the soils found throughout Wisconsin contain adequate and available amounts of phosphorus for robust upland vegetation, and

**Whereas** the presence of phosphorus in waterways has long been identified as a major pollutant harming lake health by promoting excessive growth of algae and both native and non-native aquatic macrophytes, and

**Whereas** rainwater runoff from upland areas treated with fertilizers flows to storm drainage system into waterways and also from shores into lakes where the phosphorus causes excessive algae and plant growth and decreases water clarity, often turning lakes green, and

**Whereas** decaying algae and aquatic vegetation depletes oxygen in the water, so that fish can no longer thrive, and

**Whereas** phosphorus-free fertilizer is already available at many local retail stores, and

**Whereas** Vilas County Lakes Association seeks to achieve and protect good water quality for recreation, wildlife, and human use and consumption, so therefore be it

**Resolved that this Association requests that Vilas County and the State adopt regulations that will phase out the sale and use of phosphorus-containing lawn fertilizers on golf courses, farmstead lawns, and applications to lawns to help improve the water quality of lakes and streams and preserve their value for recreational and economic uses.**

(Agricultural application of fertilizers is regulated by state law and beyond the scope of this regulation.)

This resolution was adopted on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2006 by the Vilas County Lakes Association Board of Directors. The motion to adopt the resolution was made by Director Dave Vogt and seconded by Director Charles Thier, followed by a unanimous aye vote of the officers and directors.

Susan Drum, Secretary



State Senator Mark Miller  
Room 409 South  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882  
August 22, 2007

SB 197  
file

Dear Senator Miller,

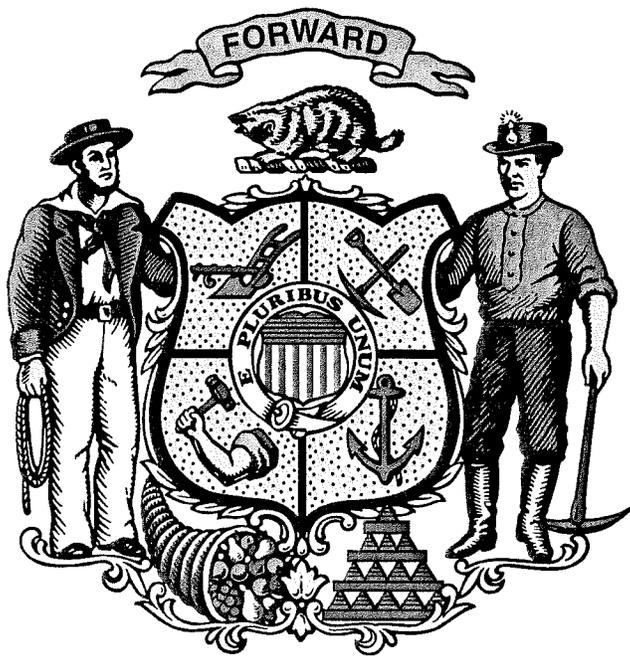
Having been blessed to be able to live on the shore of a Vilas County Lake for the last 23 years, I am particularly interested in SB 197. It seems that fertilizer customers generally are not particularly informed regarding the run off of fertilizer into our still-beautiful lakes up here in the Northwoods. The manufacturers care only about the bottom line and stress green lawns in their omnipresent advertising. The time has come to force them to offer fertilizer, which is not harmful to our waterways.

I urge the passage of this bill before the next growing season. Thank you for all that you are doing to make this happen.

Sincerely,



June Schmaal  
1163 Hwy 47 West  
Arbor Vitae, WI 54568



**SIGES  
MARBLE**

177b South Main St., Lodi WI 53555  
Phone 608 467 0020 Fax 414 386 7927

[info@sigesmarble.com](mailto:info@sigesmarble.com) [www.sigesmarble.com](http://www.sigesmarble.com)

Lodi 23 August 2007

SB 197  
file

*Dear Senator Miller*

*I take this media to thank you about the letter you send me in the begging of August.*

*Coming from Europe is not likely to see that type of response from the government and I really appreciated your involve in the community.*

*I see that you like me are concern about Green Environment and I'm proud to support that with my trade.*

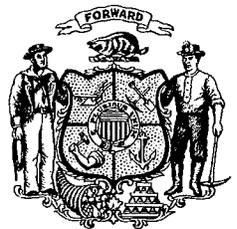
*I take this opportunity to give you my expertise for your future needs.*

*Feel free to contact me for any needs*

*Thank you*

*Best regards*

*Giantuca Peragine*



August 23

Sam Lewis  
W 8261 Lake Nancy Rd  
Minong, WI 54829

SB 197  
file

Senator Mark Miller

Dear Senator Miller,

I would like to add my support for the bill which would ban the use of lawn fertilizer that contains phosphorus.

It is my understanding that most Wisconsin soils have enough natural phosphorus in them to support healthy lawns. Adding more to the soil can only increase the problems our lakes and rivers are already facing.

We do not want to see more "green" lakes in the state. Our northern lake, Lake Nancy in Washburn County, Wis, so far, avoided big algae blooms. Yet, some of our residents are convinced that fertilizer is necessary in spite of everything we do to discourage them from using it near the shore.

Good luck with the bill.

Sincerely,

Sam Lewis, President,  
Lake Nancy Protective Association

Lewis  
W8261 Lake Nancy Rd  
Winning, WI 54859

USA FIRST CLASS FOREVER



ST PAUL MN 551

23 AUG 2007 PM 6 L

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

5370747682







**Our Mission:**

*"To educate and provide opportunities for people of diverse interests to work together to improve the environmental, recreational, cultural, and economic resources of the Rock River Basin"*

August 23, 2007

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

RE: AB 396, SB 197: Phosphorus fertilizer Restrictions

Dear Senator Miller:

The Rock River Coalition is in full support of a Bill to restrict the statewide unnecessary use of phosphorus fertilizers for turf grass. The Rock River itself is impaired with excess phosphorus, and restricting the use of additional unneeded fertilizer on lawns in our basin is part of a larger strategy to improve the water quality in our basin's rivers and lakes.

Controlling phosphorus runoff from our watershed is one of the most important things we can do to control excess algae and to keep our area lakes and rivers healthy. Since local soils are naturally high in phosphorus, the application of additional unnecessary phosphorus in lawn fertilizers does not benefit our lawns, and can cause big problems for the lakes. When soils are saturated with phosphorus, it runs off into our lakes and streams where 1 lb. of phosphorus can generate 500 lbs of algae.

→ Because the storm sewers and roadside ditches in our local communities feed into our lakes and rivers this ban is important throughout our communities, not just for waterfront property.

→ A number of communities in the Rock River Basin have passed ordinances restricting phosphorus in lawn fertilizers, creating a patchwork of protection for local waters. Because people may buy their fertilizer outside of the community where it is spread; local ordinances cannot give the same level of protection that a statewide ordinance would provide.

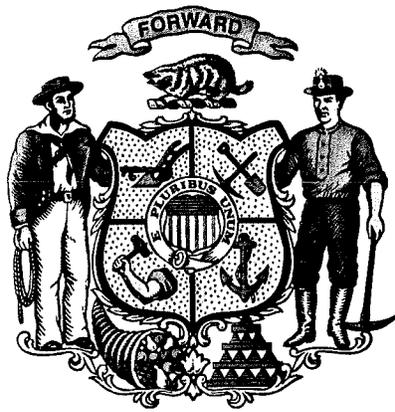
Research in Minnesota has documented the difference a ban on unnecessary phosphorus for lawn fertilizer can make in phosphorus loading to urban lakes. [www.lakeaccess.org](http://www.lakeaccess.org). The result was a statewide ban on unnecessary lawn applications of phosphorus. Closer to home, in our basin, Dane County, the City and Town of Delafield, the Village of Lac La Belle, and Towns of Oconomowoc and Delavan have all passed phosphorus ordinances to protect the waters in their communities. Ordinances are pending for the City of Oconomowoc and village of Nashotah.

While we know that this is not the only source of phosphorus that needs addressing, it is an important, very low cost step, to help meet water quality goals in our phosphorus challenged watershed. We urge your support for this important legislation.

Sincerely,  
ROCK RIVER COALITION



Joseph M. Dorava, PE  
President



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

Dear Senator Miller,

I own property <sup>Hay Lake</sup> on [near] XXXXXXXXX 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

8/23/2007

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 Sara Austin Date Aug 23 2007

---

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

Dear Senator Miller,

TWIN BEAR LAKE

I own property on [near] XXXXXXXXX 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

8/23/2007

phosphorus and it is time to end this practice in Wisconsin.

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

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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 Phillip Moran Date 8-23-07  
*Scott Spina*



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



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# Kewaunee County

## LAND & WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

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August 23, 2007

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

**SUBJECT: Support for Senate Bill 197**

Dear Senator Miller:

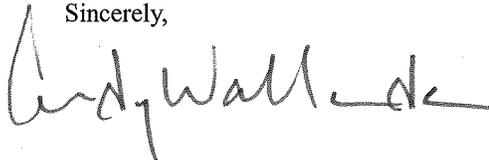
I would like to express my **support for Senate Bill 197**, relating to restrictions on the use and sale of fertilizer containing phosphorus for application to lawns, golf courses and other turf areas.

Phasing out the sale and use of phosphorus-containing lawn and turf fertilizers is a very positive step that the State can take toward helping to address polluted runoff. Based on the successful implementation of a similar law in the State of Minnesota, and locally, in Dane County, Wisconsin, I believe that the State of Wisconsin's effort toward banning such phosphorus use will be successful as well.

We all know the water quality problems that excess phosphorus causes. I won't restate them all in this letter as you and the Natural Resources Committee have probably been made well aware of them by now. However, I do want to stress that these problems are very real and affect not only the aesthetic water quality of Wisconsin's lakes, rivers and wetlands, but can have economic impacts on local water-based tourism and public health as well.

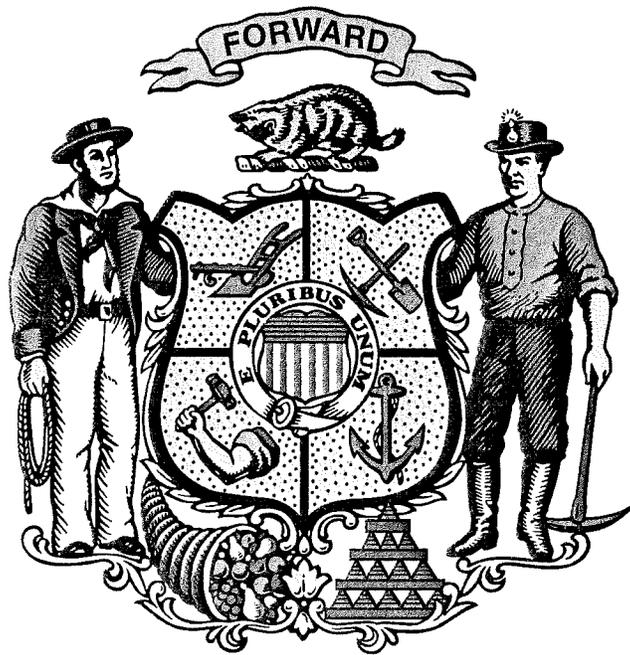
Thank you for forwarding my correspondence on to the rest of the Committee.

Sincerely,



Andy Wallander  
County Conservationist / Department Head

cc: Kewaunee County Land & Water Conservation Committee



August 23, 2007

SB 197

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

Dear Senator Miller:

The Tri-Lakes Management District, a lake district located in the Town of Rome in Central Wisconsin, strongly supports a state-wide ban of fertilizer containing phosphorus.

Many of the recreational opportunities offered by the Town of Rome center around our four lakes – Camelot, Sherwood, Arrowhead and Petenwell. Good water quality is essential to our future and our ability to continue to attract residents and vacationers.

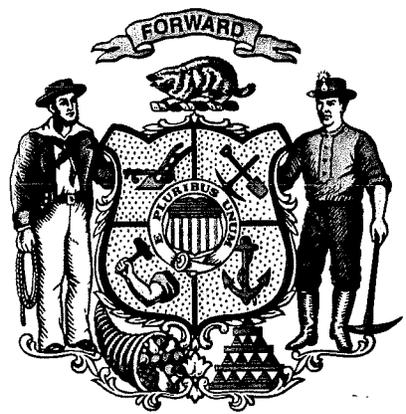
Phosphorus is the nutrient that drives the eutrophication process in lakes by promoting excessive weed and algae growth. Limiting the amount of phosphorus “run off” into our lakes will help to reduce the algae bloom. Because phosphorus-free fertilizer can be part of the solution to lake water clarity, Tri-Lakes Management District supports your efforts to ban this substance in lawn fertilizers.

The Town of Rome has just passed a resolution to enact a similar ordinance within our town. However, we believe a state-wide ban is much preferable to a patchwork of ordinances.

Sincerely,

Barb Herreid for TLM Board of Directors:

Don Fornasiere, Chairman and Camelot Representative  
Dick Anderson, Treasurer and Arrowhead Representative  
Ron Fischer, Secretary and Sherwood Representative  
Cynthia Loken, Adams County Representative  
Steve Scarbury, Town of Rome Representative



Sen.Miller@legis.wisconsin.gov

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

Aug 24,  
2007

Dear Senator Miller,

I own property on 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.

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 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.

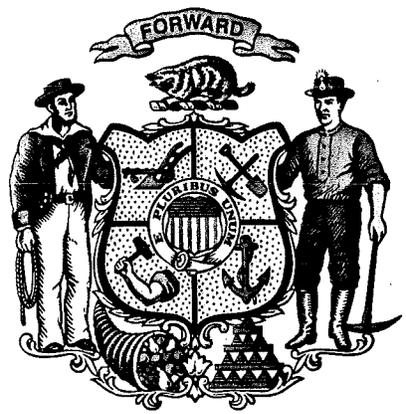
The introduction of excess phosphorus is a detriment to the quality of our waters and reliance on local or county ordinances to ban the sale and use of lawn fertilizers that contain phosphorus will be ineffective in addressing this matter of statewide concern because landowners may purchase and import 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 : Edward J. Labeledz  
44710 Cnty Hy D  
Cable, WI

Date Aug. 24,2007



August 24, 2007

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



SB 197  
file

Dear Senator Miller,

The Lauderdale Lakes Improvement Association is completely in favor of having a state wide ban on the use of fertilizer containing phosphorous.

A few years ago, the Town of LaGrange in Walworth County initiated an ordinance banning the use of fertilizer containing phosphorous. It was created to protect Lauderdale Lakes.

There is overwhelming evidence that fertile containing phosphorous can do dramatic damage to lakes and rivers.

Our Association has been involved with an aggressive education campaign through our quarterly newsletter, "Shorelines", our web site and targeted mailing to encourage residents not to use fertilizer with phosphorous and also to educate contractors and retailers not to offer such fertile.

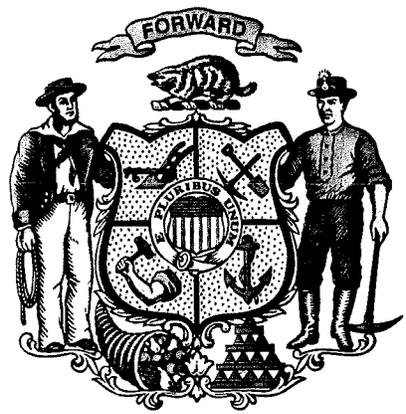
Unfortunately water does not stay just in our area is flows through communities and the only way we can really have a more global control over the negative affects of fertilizer with phosphorous is to have its use banned state wide..

Please support this measure

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bud Vance".

Bud Vance  
President, Lauderdale Lakes Improvement Association  
N7427 Mariner Hills Circle  
Elkhorn, WI 53121



Bye Barsness  
1341 Awatukee Trail  
Hudson, WI 54016  
August 24, 2007

Senator Mark Miller  
Chair Senate Natural Resources Committee  
Room 409 South  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53707

RE: SB 197

Dear Senator Miller:

I strongly support SB 197 as a key measure to reduce and limit the unnecessary residential introduction of phosphorus to our lakes and streams.

My environmental experience/background and personal interest:

- Current Commissioner of Bass Lake Rehabilitation District
- Current leader of Bass Lake Rehabilitation District Strategic Plan
- Current Supervisor of the Town of St. Joseph, St. Croix County
- Past President and Board member of Kinnikinnic River Land Trust
- Property owner on Bass Lake for more than 25 years
- Grandfather – steward for the next generation

My reasons for supporting this legislation:

- Runoff containing excess nutrients like phosphorus is the number one quality problem for lakes and streams
- Phosphorus does not bio-degrade over time, it collects in our waters where additional nutrients are a serious threat
- Most soil samples taken indicate no new phosphorus is necessary
- As a former lawn fertilizer user, I was uninformed and simply bought what was on the shelf; not realizing the unnecessary application of more phosphorus
- Minnesota's ban was introduced without a hitch
- To help protect the lake, Bass Lake Rehabilitation District has formally requested that all property owners cease using products including fertilizer and detergents that contain phosphorus
- Regulation at the State level is more effective and less costly than a patch work of local regulation
- Legislation provides for agricultural use and use where phosphorus use is warranted

This is an easy and key step to begin limiting the unnecessary and environmentally threatening application of phosphorus.

Yours truly,



cc: Senator Sheila Harsdorf