



Volunteer Opportunities

Rev Date: 03/05/2026

Program	Role	Description
Guardians of the River	Enroll	Fill out an appropriate PLEDGE FORM . Enroll your property for the next three years: Town Householder, Waterfront Householder, Agricultural Land, Woodland, Wetland.
Guardians of the River	Advocate	Take PLEDGE FORMS to your neighbors. Convince a neighbor (or two or three or four!) to enroll. The more people who follow conservation practices on their land, the greater the level of water quality protection.
Guardians of the River	Consultant	<p>Become familiar with Best Management Practices (BMPS) for one or more categories (i.e. Town Household, Waterfront, Agriculture, Woodland, Wetland). Assist property owners interested in enrolling their property in Guardians but looking for expertise to assess project opportunities and priorities with their property.</p> <p>Add a star for their property on the YRPC Big Map, and give them a YRPC recognition award.</p> <p>Help develop appropriate rewards for the size of the property and the level of protection provided.</p>
Guardians of the River	Recruit	Initiate contact and preliminary discussions with property owners that YRPC views as High Priority opportunities for the Guardians Program.
Guardians of the River	Landowner Steward	If you own land in the watershed, and especially on a lake, tributary, or the Yellow River, plan for how you would like the land to look in the future. Besides a Guardian Pledge, investigate the possibility of permanent, protective measures such as deed restrictions or conservation easements through a land trust (for larger parcels).

Buy-Protect-Sell-Repeat	Property Scout	Watch real estate listings for key properties coming up for sale. Share these listings with the YRPC Executive Committee for further consideration.
Buy-Protect-Sell-Repeat	Property Assessment Team Member	Work with a team to determine if a property is a good fit for YRPC to purchase, protect, and resell. Assist with purchase, writing protection measures and resale. Add a star to the YRPC Big Map for this property.
Buy-Protect-Sell-Repeat	Protected Property Review Team Member	Meet annually with new owners of property protected by YRPC. Review protective covenants or conservation easement requirements with them. Walk over the land to be sure requirements are being followed and upheld.
Stream Monitoring	Stream Monitor	Monitor on a Monthly Basis (May – Oct): Receive training in Water Action Volunteers Baseline Monitoring procedures. Training involves an Online Course and field training at your Monitoring Site. Monitor one site on the river with a partner once a month (May – Oct). Enter your data to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources SWIMS database. Help YRPC assist the DNR perform Stream Monitoring in WI. Become a Citizen Scientist.
Aquatic Invasive Species Control	Project RED Volunteer	Project RED (Riverine Early Detectors) is a Water Action Volunteers program focused on training volunteers to monitor rivers and streams for aquatic invasive species (AIS), aiming for early detection and eradication. A one day event, usually in August, led by Lisa Burns of the Washburn County Land and Water Conservation Office.
Aquatic Invasive Species Control	Brood a Batch of Beetles:	Purple Loosestrife, an aquatic invasive species, is controlled with purple loosestrife beetles. The beetles are easily raised in a Kiddy Swimming Pool in your backyard. Under the supervision of Lisa Burns of the Washburn County Land and Water Conservation Office, raise beetles and plant them in an appropriate stretch of the Yellow River. Fun and educational for kids and adults.
Aquatic Invasive Species Control	Research	Invasive cattails are a concern of most Yellow River shoreline property owners in Burnett County, but methods of control are controversial. Investigate what is being done in Wisconsin and elsewhere in the Midwest.

Outreach	YRPC Event Representative	Handout YRPC Brochures, Display the BIG MAP, be an outreach representative for YRPC at an event. YRPC supplies the materials - you supply the time at your lake association meeting, County Fair, Canoe Museum Event, NW Regional Lakes and Rivers Convention, Forts Folle Avoine Rendevous, any place where watershed residents are likely to gather.
Outreach	Event Organizer	Lead/Assist in organizing, marketing and holding YRPC community events.
Outreach	Marketing Material	Assist in creation and management of marketing material (brochures, posters, handouts, graphics).
Outreach	YRPC News Editor	Write/Edit Articles for YRPC News; Try your hand at desktop publishing by editing and formatting our news articles. Past newsletters are available on our website.
Outreach	Social Media	Expand YRPC presence on social media and assist in maintaining accurate and current content.
Outreach	Website	Review site content monthly and report outdated content to the webmaster. Assist in acquiring website content such as photos of the river.
YRPC Board of Directors	Director	Serve as an active member of the YRPC Board. Help develop and implement projects.
Grants	Write Grant Applications	Assist in researching grants available to YRPC related initiatives. Fill out and submit grant applications with assistance from the YRPC Executive Committee.
Fundraising	Coordinator	Work with the YRPC Board to develop and implement fundraising promotions. Develop crowd funding social media appeals, monitor transactions and success of these promotions.
Donations	Coordinator	Working with the YRPC Treasurer, track and follow-up on donations. Write to donors on a timely basis thanking them for their contributions. Develop thank-you gifts to send for different levels of donations received.
Sawyer Creek	Sedimentation Ponds:	Much of the City of Shell Lake's stormwater flows to Sawyer Creek in The Hollow. Sedimentation ponds, built long ago, have filled and are no longer effective. Work

		with the DNR and the City of Shell Lake to rebuild and prevent storm water pollution in Sawyer Creek
Shell Lake	The Hollow Park and Trail	Work with the Shell Lake Parks and Recreation Committee
Shell Lake	Shell Lake Comprehensive Plan	The City of Shell Lake will engage in long term comprehensive planning in 2026. Be a spokesperson for conservation and the protection of the Yellow River watershed on the planning committee.
Spooner	Spooner Comprehensive Plan	The City of Spooner will engage in long term comprehensive planning in 2026. Be a spokesperson for conservation and the protection of the Yellow River watershed on the planning committee.
Spooner	Spooner Storm Water Pollution Project	Familiarize yourself with the engineer’s list of projects. Work with City Manager Nick Koverman and the Spooner Projects Committee to plan a 2026 project. Funding available.
Community Stormwater Awareness	Coordinator	Work with local communities and schools to paint stencils on local storm drains indicating “Dump no Waste; Drains to Lake, Wetland or River.” Great youth project which can also involve art work and contests. Develop and implement other outreach projects and materials; many are available for use on-line.
Projects You Can Do On Your Own		
Habitat Improvement	Fish & Wildlife	Create Fish and Wildlife Habitat with <u>Fish Sticks</u>: Grant Funding up to \$1,000.00 available <i>(all Healthy Lakes Projects listed below need to be sponsored through an eligible applicant such as a lake or river group or county office, etc.)</i> https://healthylakeswi.com/best-practices/
Habitat Improvement	Wildlife	Improve wildlife habitat, natural beauty, and privacy. Decrease runoff with <u>Native Plantings</u> Grant Funding up to \$1,000.00 available https://healthylakeswi.com/best-practices/

Shoreline	Erosion	Prevent runoff from getting into your lake or river with a <u>Diversion Project</u> . Grant Funding up to \$1,000.00 available https://healthylakeswi.com/best-practices/
Shoreline	Erosion	Capture and Clean Runoff with a <u>Rock Infiltration Project</u> Grant Funding up to \$1,000.00 available https://healthylakeswi.com/best-practices/
Shoreline	Erosion & Pollution	Create habitat and beauty. Capture and Clean Runoff with a <u>Rain Garden Project</u> Grant Funding up to \$1,000.00 available https://healthylakeswi.com/best-practices/
Shoreline	Community Project Lead	Shoreland Habitat <u>Community Project</u> : \$25,000 for an eligible applicant applying for projects on behalf of multiple property owners. Great for a Lake Association or a Lake District! https://healthylakeswi.com/grants/
Shoreline	Shoreline Assessment	Already Doing Well? Satisfy Your Curiosity. Challenge Yourself with a <u>Score My Shore Test</u> https://healthylakeswi.com/best-practices/
River Clean-up	River Keeper	Take a litter bag along on any walk in town or the country. Litter can be washed into storm drains and then into the river. It can blow in off country roads. Bring a bag when paddling or boating and retrieve litter from the water as well. Adopt a local landing to collect litter at our public landings. Many thanks to everyone who is already doing this!