

YRPC Weekly News

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Guardians of the Yellow River Watershed

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Arnie, rain that falls on land in the following locales ends up in the Yellow River. If you own a parcel of land, large or small, in these locales your water is Yellow River Watershed water. You should be a Guardian of the River.

The Yellow River watershed spans approximately 200,000 acres encompassing municipalities and 14 different townships across Washburn and Burnett counties. This includes any land drained by the river's main tributaries, such as Bashaw Creek, Gaslyn Creek, and dynamic lake systems like Yellow Lake and Spooner Lake.

Municipalities: The City of Spooner, almost all of The City of Shell Lake, the Village of Danbury

Washburn County Townships: The watershed covers the central and western portions of Washburn County.

Rain falling in these townships eventually feeds into the upper stretch of the Yellow River:**Town of Spooner:**

Contains the actual headwaters at Spooner Lake and the upper main stem. **Town of Beaver Brook:** Home to the

Beaver Brook tributary system and state wildlife area. **Town of Bashaw:** Encompasses the entire Bashaw Creek

sub-watershed, which is a major early tributary to the Yellow River. **Town of Crystal:** Portions of the western and

northern edges drain northward toward the river system. **Town of Evergreen:** Located south of Spooner; its

northern reaches drain toward Bashaw Creek and the Yellow River. **Town of Madgedorf (Town of Madge):**

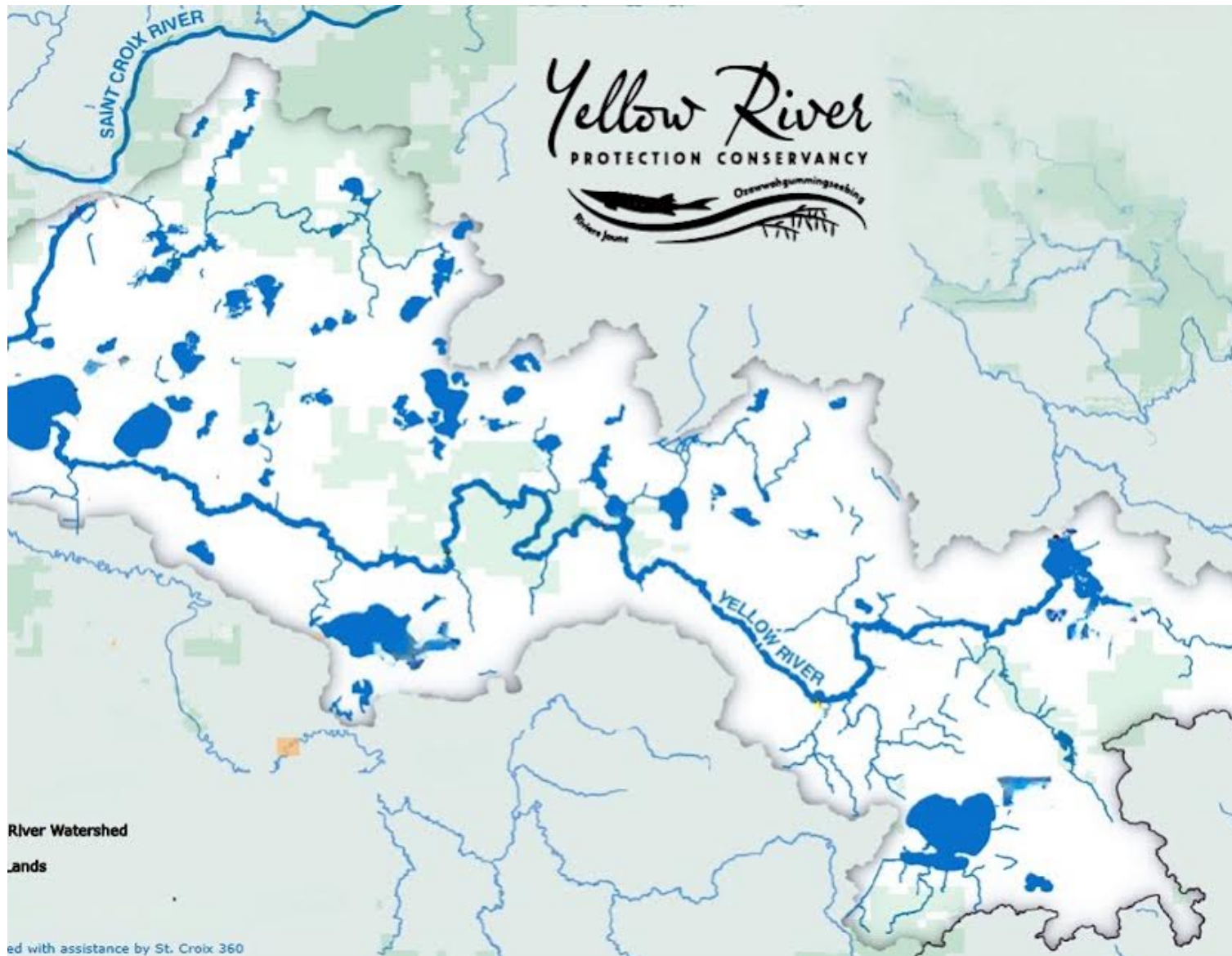
Contains smaller lakes and feeder streams that run westward into Spooner Lake and the headwaters. **Town of**

Chicog: The far southwestern corner sits right on the edge of the drainage basin.

Burnett County townships: As the river moves west, the watershed widens significantly to capture water from the central, eastern, and northern sections of Burnett County:**Town of Rusk:** The river flows through the southern tip of Rice Lake where it collects water flowing into Rice Lake from Benoit Lake, Lipsett Lake and Rocky Ridge Creek. The river is also heavily influenced by Gaslyn Creek to the west. **Town of Meenon:** Captures drainage surrounding the central stretch of the river and areas just north of Webster. **Town of La Follette:** Located south of Meenon; its northern lakes and streams drain northwest into the Yellow River system. **Town of Siren:** The northeastern portion of this township falls into the drainage basin. **Town of Oakland:** Encompasses the massive sub-watershed surrounding Big and Little Yellow Lakes. **Town of Jackson:** Feeds the northern lakes and streams that empty south/southwest into the Yellow Lake system. **Town of Swiss:** Contains the final stretch of the drainage basin before the river empties into the St. Croix River.

If you live or own property in any of these 14 townships, the water leaving your land ultimately flows past Danbury and into the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway!

(Information sourced through GOOGLE GEMINI)



Map above from St Croix 360 of the Yellow River Watershed (mostly white background) in Burnett and Washburn County.

Heads-Up Arnie, this Friday, Wild Rivers Conservancy is partnering with Burnett County to host a Project RED training (Riverine Early Detectors), which is a FREE monitoring program in partnership with UW Extension designed to train and empower citizens to identify and report invasive species within river corridors statewide. This event will include a classroom portion in the morning, and a fully supported paddle in the afternoon on the St. Croix River. If you or others are interested in attending, you can find more details and sign-up at the following link: <https://wildriversconservancy.org/event/project-red-training-st-croix-falls-wi/>

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