

Waupaca County Natural Resources Foundation

811 Harding St., Waupaca WI 54981

April 18, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

The Waupaca County Natural Resources Foundation at its March 14, 2006, meeting voted to support the Wild Ones, P.O. Box 1274, Appleton, WI 54912, application for grant money and other funding to acquire and develop the property known as West Shore Preserve Environmental Center located on the west shore of Little Lake Butte des Morts in the Town of Menasha.

Wild Ones has a history of helping citizens and other environmental groups in the use of natural landscaping and preservation of Wisconsin's lands for public use and enjoyment. The existing structure on the property at 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Road will serve an important role in providing both education in the use of natural plants and as an education tool and meeting place for various groups with similar goals of preserving and developing the state's wild lands.

The various goals for preserving and developing the property and protecting it from private development are in the public interest and also reflect the goals of the Waupaca County Natural Resources Foundation, which primarily serves the interests of residents in Waupaca County but also is concerned about protecting property within the Wolf River Basin and Lake Winnebago System.

The committee believes that Wild Ones has demonstrated that it has operated in the best interest of the public and that Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource and other public funding to assist that group in acquiring the West Shore Preserve Environmental Center will be for the public good.

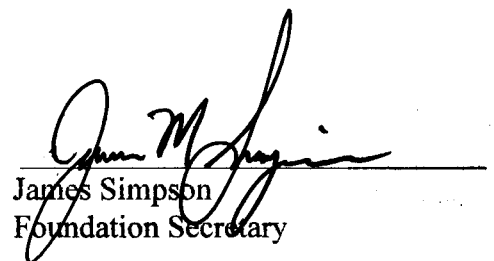
Of particular interest to the public is that this site will be a model for transition from upland to shoreline use of natural plants as a means of reducing erosion and pollution. A visual, live example of the use of diverse plants will help encourage greater use of native plants to meet the goals of a cleaner, safer environment.

Maintaining this property in a near natural state will mesh well with the surrounding area that includes the unique Stroebe Island. It also may key in future purchases in that area to keep environmentally fragile areas in public domain.

Thank you



Gary Smits
Foundation President



James Simpson
Foundation Secretary