

## World Wetlands Day 2013 report

Reported by Katie Beilfuss  
Outreach Programs Director  
Wisconsin Wetlands Association

The Wisconsin Wetlands Association holds our annual Wetland Science Conference in celebration of World Wetlands Day each year (even though the conference itself is not actually held on WWD). We try to time the conference so that we can send out press releases promoting the conference on or just before World Wetlands Day.

This year's Wetland Science Conference was themed "Great Wetlands, Healthy Watershed" and focused on the ways in which wetlands can contribute to healthy watersheds for people, water quality, wildlife habitat, and more.

You can read more about the conference and see photos of this event at <http://wisconsinwetlands.org/2013conference.htm>.

The inside cover of our [conference program](#) highlights World Wetlands Day and the Ramsar Convention, which were also highlighted in the opening comments for the conference

Nearly 300 people attended this year's conference, representing more than 125 unique agencies, companies, non profit organizations, universities, and other institutions.

I appeared on a [Wisconsin Public Radio program](#) the week of World Wetlands Day with my husband Dr. Richard Beilfuss of the International Crane Foundation to promote the conference. Rich was the banquet speaker for the conference this year, and spoke on the ways the International Crane Foundation is working to promote watershed health for cranes and people around the world.