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Strong Turnout for Area Wetlands Presentations

More than seventy members and friends of the Bad River Watershed Association heard presentations in the Town of Morse Friday evening, May 2nd, and the Town of Delta Saturday afternoon, May 3rd. Wisconsin Wetlands Association Executive Director Tracy Hames described the role of wetlands in the headwaters of the Bad River watershed.

Wetlands serve many functions that benefit people, fish and wildlife. Healthy wetlands slow down and filter runoff from storms and snowmelt, thus reducing flooding that can damage roads, homes, and other structures. They help maintain water temperatures and reduce the amount of sediment and nutrients, making our streams and rivers good habitat for fish and other wildlife. Hames' presentation featured photos he's taken while exploring the terrain in the Penoque Hills of Iron County. He explained how melting snow and rain water is captured in temporary or permanent forest pools and behind beaver dams where it releases slowly, filtering into the ground and gradually recharging downhill springs and streams with cold, clean water.

These events are part of a series offered by the Bad River Watershed Association called 'Watershed Words.' Funding for the talks, presented in various town halls around the watershed, is provided in part by a grant from Freshwater Future. Last month, Gurney area residents learned about the Kakagon and Bad River sloughs and the wild rice that grows there. Stay tuned for upcoming lectures about the fish that thrive in the Bad River watershed.

The Bad River Watershed Association promotes a healthy relationship between the people and natural communities of the Bad River watershed by involving citizens in assessing, maintaining and improving watershed integrity for future generations. Visit us at <http://www.badriverwatershed.org/> or call 715.682.2003.

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