

DNR: WATCHDOG

FOR NATURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION & RESTORATION

March 15 | 10:15am | Borgwardt Hall

Statewide, DNR's workforce of 4,000 manages a vast swath of policy and regulatory responsibilities that directly affect the population at many levels. In Wisconsin, all environmental questions come under this agency, broadly including water, forestry, wildlife – and everything from parks and outdoor recreation, conservation, regulating CAFOs and deer populations, flood and invasive species management, hunting and fishing permits to air quality and waste management regulation.

Does it matter how this environmental “watchdog” sees its role in protecting our natural heritage and preparing for a future threatened by climate change and extreme weather? Many Wisconsinites are concerned about state and federal policy directions over the past decade. Todd Ambs' position and long history in (OH and WI) government and environmental policy make him well positioned to assess what those changes have meant to land and water stewardship in Wisconsin and what practices and priorities have developed under the Evers administration. Ambs will address our questions and concerns about DNR's impact on the health of our environment, the influence of science on decision-making and the work being done to combat imminent and long-term challenges.



Todd Ambs, Assistant Deputy Director, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources since April 2019. Previously, Ambs has worked in the environmental policy field for more than 30 years, most recently as the campaign director for Healing our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition. From 2003-2010, he was the DNR's Water Division administrator, where he was lead negotiator for the State of Wisconsin during the development of the Great Lakes Compact. Ambs serves and has served on numerous state and regional conservation-related boards, councils and commissions.



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