



### promises made, promises kept



Greetings!

Now that the summer months are upon us, I thought it would be a good time to assemble another edition of the Reclaimed Flambeau Mine newsletter and update you on the latest happenings at the site. Many residents and visitors to our community took advantage of this past winter's heavy snowfall by hitting the Reclaimed Flambeau Mine's nature trails for cross country skiing and snowshoeing, while others like myself are praising the fact that warm weather has finally arrived.

Jana Murphy  
Environmental Manager  
Flambeau Mining  
Company  
N4100 Hwy. 27  
Ladysmith, WI 54848  
715-532-6690, Ext. 2  
murphyj@kennecott.com

And from the looks of things, it's shaping up to be a busy next few months at the site. The site played host to a Wetland Wildlife Workshop in May, and several other fun and family-friendly activities are on the way. The plant life on the site is thriving, and I encourage all of you to pay us a visit and check out the many signs of summer for yourselves. The management and use of Flambeau Mining properties surrounding the reclaimed mine site are under review by the Flambeau Mine Community Advisory Group. And the Flambeau Riders have been working hard on improvements in the Copper Park Equestrian Trails Recreation Area planting trees, building fences and widening trails.

I also wanted to take the opportunity to provide an update on the ongoing environmental monitoring of the site, which we agreed to do as part of the Certificate of Completion agreement reached last year. History has shown that the Flambeau River and the site's reclaimed area remain protected. This was confirmed in last fall's monitoring, and again in late April when additional monitoring of the surface water yielded the same positive results.

continued...



# Flambeau Reclaimed

promises made, promises kept



## ...CONTINUED FROM FRONT COVER

Also, ongoing monitoring of the site's biofilters and constructed wetlands shows that they are functioning as they were designed to do. Those biofilters and wetlands have been essential to supporting plant life and attracting wildlife to the area, and we continue to monitor them on a regular basis.

Additionally, as many local residents may know, the issue of sulfide mining is a current topic of interest in Michigan's Upper Peninsula as other companies explore potential mining opportunities in Michigan. As this topic continues to be discussed in the UP, the Reclaimed Flambeau Mine is often held up as an example of a successful project. We believe the facts about our successful reclamation of the Flambeau Mine speak for themselves; however, if the Michigan mining discussion raises questions for you, please don't hesitate to contact me. I would be happy to answer any questions.

I'd like to thank the community for their continued support as we look forward to a fun and exciting next few months.

See you on the trails!

**Jana Murphy,**  
Reclamation and Environmental Services  
Manager

## 2009 RECLAIMED FLAMBEAU MINE CALENDAR TO FEATURE LOCAL ARTISTS



For the past two years, the Flambeau Mining Company has offered a monthly calendar featuring nature photographs of the mine site's thriving environment and of residents enjoying the many activities and events the site has hosted.

The company is taking the 2009 calendar to a whole new level to benefit a local group. The Rusk Area Arts Alliance (RAAA) and the Flambeau Mining Company are collaborating to provide a chance for local artists to showcase their work in the 2009 Flambeau calendar. Up to twelve lucky artists will be chosen, one for each month of the year.

"We're excited to present this exciting opportunity to our members," said Nancy Wheeler, RAAA member and coordinator of the calendar project. "I believe this project will pay recognition to the many talented artists who reside in Rusk County."

The theme for the 2009 calendar is "Inspired by the Natural Beauty of the Reclaimed Flambeau Mine," and RAAA members have been encouraged to visit the reclaimed mine site for inspiration. The artwork featured in the calendar will be the artist's own interpretation of what they've seen, felt or experienced at the reclaimed site.

The calendar will be printed in late 2008 and sold as part of an RAAA fundraiser to help the organization enhance the quality of life and promote the arts in Rusk County.

For information on how to become a RAAA member or for additional details about the 2009 calendar, visit [www.ruskarts.org](http://www.ruskarts.org), or contact Nancy Wheeler at (715) 532-6298 or [ruskarts@gmail.com](mailto:ruskarts@gmail.com).



## WETLAND WILDLIFE WORKSHOP

On May 3rd, the Flambeau Mining Company, in conjunction with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and Hunt Hill Audubon Nature Center, held a Wetland Wildlife Workshop at the Ladysmith DNR Service Center.

All ages, children to grandparents, participated in the educational workshop, which featured presentations by WDNR and Hunt Hill on what nature has to offer. The event provided community residents the opportunity to learn about the inner workings of wetland ecosystems. Participants also learned tips to identify wetland birds and frog species by sight and sound, and were treated to a live bird demonstration by Chris Cold, a WDNR wildlife specialist, who introduced a Great Horned Owl to those in attendance.

After the workshop, participants enjoyed an evening hike through the Reclaimed Flambeau Mine Nature Trails to put their newly learned skills into action. To learn more about the plant and wildlife that inhabit the reclaimed mine site, visit [www.flambeaumine.com](http://www.flambeaumine.com).



## LOCAL STUDENTS PRESENT FLAMBEAU MINE EXHIBIT AT NATIONAL HISTORY CONTEST

Five Ladysmith Middle School students and their exhibit about the Ladysmith Flambeau Mine were recognized as finalists in the 2008 National History Day contest. The students, who competed regionally in early May in Madison, traveled to the University of Maryland June 15-19 to compete in the national competition.

The 8th-grade students, Victoria Busse, Breanna Zuck, Mckenzie Malaise, Michelle Morgan and Elizabeth Robertson, entered the contest in the Junior Group exhibit category. Approximately 700,000 students nationwide competed in the contest and a total of 2,000 from across the country moved on to the national level.

The Ladysmith team's exhibit and presentation on the now-reclaimed Flambeau Mine was judged for its historic quality, the clarity of the presentation and adherence to the contest theme. The 2008 theme was "Conflict and Compromise in History."



"This experience was a great opportunity for the girls to really research and summarize an important piece of our community's history and present it in a meaningful and significant way," said Brian Wilmot, the 7th- and 8th- grade history teacher at Ladysmith Middle School. "Being named a national finalist was a significant achievement and I was excited that they were able to go to Maryland to present their exhibit."

The girls' project on the Flambeau Mine began in February with initial research followed by an interview with Jana Murphy of the Reclaimed Flambeau Mine and a site tour. Their exhibit featured the full spectrum of the project from those who opposed the project, how the company addressed the community's concerns, and the ultimate success that resulted in environmental protection and economic benefits.

"I was pleased when these students expressed an interest in the Flambeau Mine and the important role it played in the history of Ladysmith, Rusk County and really, the entire state," said Murphy. "It was a pleasure to assist them with background information and answer their questions and help them compete nationally."

The exhibit team's trip to the national competition was funded through generous community donations that were matched by Kennecott Minerals Company, the parent company of the Flambeau Mining Company.

"When the girls won at the state level they were thrilled and so pleased that their hard work paid off. Taking their work to the national level was like a dream come true," said parent Kathy Zuck. "The contest was designed to help make teaching and learning history a fun and exciting experience, and I think locally it did just that."

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Reclaimed Flambeau Mine is playing host to several fun and exciting events in the coming months designed to give the community an opportunity to experience the site's natural beauty and learn about the wild animal and plant life that thrives on the site. Events include the Annual Community Walk and Leaf it to Rusk activities, as well as a Rusk County Geocache Contest.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- **Sept. 1 – 30th** Rusk County Geocache Contest (includes Reclaimed Flambeau Mine Site)
- **Sept. 6** – Healthy Lifestyles for Rusk County Annual Community Walk and Introduction to Geocaching
- **Sept. 27** – Leaf it to Rusk Copper Park Horseback Trail Rides



Watch for more details on these and other events taking place at the site.

PRSRRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
LADYSMITH, WI  
PERMIT NO. 75

**Flambeau Mining Company**  
N4100 Hwy. 27  
Ladysmith, Wisconsin 54848  
Return Service Requested

