



**Gathering Waters Conservancy
Praises Governor Doyle -
Stewardship Fund to be Extended**

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Gathering Waters Conservancy applauds Governor Doyle on his announcement that reauthorization of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund will be one of his priorities this legislative session.

“We look forward to working with the Governor and the Legislature to ensure that the Stewardship Fund is reauthorized. This program is a critical tool for providing opportunities to live and work and play in our beautiful state. On a cold day like today, it’s the thought of skiing at my favorite park that reminds me why I’m glad to be a Wisconsinite,” said Vicki Elkin, Gathering Waters Conservancy’s Stewardship Campaign Director.

The Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship Fund is a nationally recognized program that provides outdoor recreation opportunities and helps protect critical natural areas, wildlife habitat, and water quality in Wisconsin. Since 1989, Stewardship funds have helped protect nearly 480,000 acres across the state.

“The Stewardship Fund will end in a few short years unless the Legislature votes for it to continue,” said Elkin. “We applaud the Governor’s commitment to re-up this critical program well before the 11th hour.”

For more information on the Stewardship Fund, including stories about how Stewardship-protected lands have enriched the lives of many around the state, visit Gathering Waters’ website at gatheringwaters.org/stewardship.

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Gathering Waters Conservancy is a non-profit land conservation organization whose mission is to help communities, land trusts and landowners protect the places that make Wisconsin special. Wisconsin is home to over 50 land trusts that represent 45,000 conservation-minded citizens.