

Any predictions on the future of frac sand mining in Wisconsin? CORRECTED LINK BELOW.



*.....keeping watch on  
the industry*

Issue:#331 B  
Date:May 5, 2020



**Picture: a conveyor system used in Eau Claire  
County**

**Thousands of acres of mining facilities along with  
hundreds of workers seem to be idle these days.**

**One only needs to read the recent articles about the price of a barrel of oil and the downward trend that it has taken. Is it due to an over abundance of oil and gas and the wars that seem to cloud over the industry? Is it due to the world wide impact of the COVID 19 virus and the downward trend of the markets these days?**

**Reclamation of all mines is an expectation in the State of Wisconsin according to NR135, and citizen groups should be greatly concerned about the industry and its responsibility to counties and towns in terms of the fiscal responsibilities they have to the taxpayer as well as the health and safety issues such as air and water quality to those people living near mining facilities. All governmental officials as well as those with a vested interest in the mining operations should take a good snapshot of the future of some of these ventures and be on the lookout for possible declarations of bankruptcy. Many lay-offs are occurring, and there is an auction set up in Chippewa County on May 14 for all the equipment at the Chippewa Sands Company sites west of Bloomer. Black tankers are being hauled out of counties and as are loads of frac sand probably being sold at rock-bottom prices to some place, somewhere. Who is to really know?**

**Please take some time to read an article from the**

**Milwaukee Journal Sentinel from April 29, 2020**

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/money/business/2020/04/29/wisconsin-frac-sand-plants-lay-off-workers-amid-oil-price-crash/3044935001/>

**It is critical that we be vigilant about what is occurring at sites, report potential violations, check water quality and levels of radon, and be wary of the amounts of dust being blown off the many mountains of sand that are still seen across the landscape in Northwestern Wisconsin. As soon as the Safer at Home expectations are lifted, it is anticipated that training of the Sand Sentinel Program can be arranged and citizens be made aware of some of the steps that can be taken to report violations to the Department of Natural Resources in the State of Wisconsin.**

**Be Happy  
Be Healthy  
Be Safe**

**If you or your neighbor or friend would like to receive a Frac Sand Sentinel to keep one up to date, please write me a note to subscribe.**

Patricia Popple 715-723-6398 [sunnyday5@charter.net](mailto:sunnyday5@charter.net)

*Welcome to the Frac Sand Sentinel, a newsletter highlighting resource links, news media accounts, blog posts, correspondence, observations and opinions gathered regarding local actions on, and impacts of, the developing frac sand mining and processing industries.*

*The content of this newsletter is for informational purposes only. The editor of the Frac Sand Sentinel does not accept any responsibility or liability for the use or misuse of the content of this newsletter or reliance by any persons on the newsletters contents.*

***CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE: [CCC-WIS.COM](http://CCC-WIS.COM) and for additional information, [click here](#) for panoramic aerial views of frac sand mines, processing plants, and trans-load facilities. [FracTracker.org](http://FracTracker.org) is also an excellent source of information.***