

MNRD Warden HOTLINE

Call 715-682-7123 Ext. 1560

The Warden Hotline provides the tribal membership with the opportunity to confidentially report suspected wildlife, recreational and environmental violations.

These violations may include fishing, or hunting out of season, deposit of harmful substances in lakes or rivers or illegal storage or disposal of hazardous waste. All these violations seriously affect the natural resources of our reservation.

Information received on this line will be relayed to a Mashkiiziibii Conservation Warden for investigation. You don't have to leave your name when reporting a violation. However, it is often helpful to an investigation if a Conservation Warden can follow-up on your report to verify essential facts. If you provide, your identity and any information that may identify you, that information will be protected and kept confidential.

If response is needed immediately please feel free to call or email one of the following Wardens:

Brad Bigboy 715-681-1119

chiefwarden@badriver-nsn.gov

Pierce Maday 715-292-2234

warden@badriver-nsn.gov

Patrick Connors 715-979-1777

brnrwarden@badriver-nsn.gov

[Helpful info when reporting a violation](#)

Who is the violator? Describe the people, including their physical description and clothing

What is the violation?

Where did this violation take place? (be as specific as possible)

When did this occur?

If possible, please take pictures, and license plate numbers, anything to help identify the suspects.

DON'T FORGET TO TAKE OUR IRMP SURVEY!!



Your input is a valuable piece of information we will use during the revision of the Integrated Resources Management Plan (IRMP).

PLUS upon completion of IRMP Survey you also get the chance to Win a Prize.

Prizes consist of (1) Weekend Getaway to Madeline Island Cabins, Multiple Gift Certificates, and other misc. prizes. Stop by MNRD for hard copy of Survey or visit website to complete online.

<https://survey.alchamer.com/s3/6601625/Mashkiiziibii-Natural-Resource-Department-IRMP-Community-Survey>

Job Opportunities within MNRD

- Water Resources Program Manager
- Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO)
- Indigenous Arts and Science Coordinator (IAS)
- Forestry Technician

**To See the Tribe's hiring incentives along with other opportunities, Full Job Descriptions, and Printable Applications visit:

www.badriver-nsn.gov/careers/

~MISSION STATEMENT~

The Department strives for resource management which both conserves the natural resources for the future generations and provide for the needs of the present. The departments existence reflects the importance the Bad River Tribe places on its right and ability to exercise sovereignty, self-determination and self-regulation in the area of natural resource management.

Were on the Web!

Visit www.badriver-nsn.gov



Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department

72682 Maple Street
PO Box 39
Odanah, WI, 54806

Phone: 715-682-7123
Fax: 715-682-7118
Email: NRDOutreach@badriver-nsn.gov

Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources

COMMON GROUND

2022 NIIBI (WINTER) EDITION

Tribal Members assist Installing Solar Panels

Daniel Wiggins Jr , Air Quality Technician - Air1@badriver-nsn.gov

The 2022 year is wrapping up and the Tribe has continued to push renewable energy activities and projects to completion. This year the Tribe is on pace to install over 280 kilowatts (kW) of photovoltaic (PV) solar on tribal members homes. In 2021 the Tribe completed the largest solar + storage project in the State of Wisconsin, installing over 500kw of PV solar and over 1000 kilowatt hours of storage. This year's projects continue those efforts.

A majority of the solar in 2022, was installed on 41 Tribal Members homes that lived within the Reservation boundaries, and that added up to over 260kW of PV solar. An additional 20kW of PV solar was also installed on the Bad River



Picture: Above (Starting Left) shows tribal members Ezra Leoso and Pete Houle installing solar panels on a ground mount in tribal member's yard. Also, in the picture (Right) is Tyler Stephenson, of JOLMA Electric, the lead of the Project and the Tribal Crew.

Housing Authority's Elderly Apartment Building. The 260 kW was made possible through the State of Wisconsin's Focus On Energy

Program, which directly funded 80% of project costs for the solar that was placed on or near the 41 tribal members homes.

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Special points of interest:

- Natural Resources New hires
- Upcoming Events Flier
- Water Permits Application Process explained
- Radon Update
- Fall Climate Summary
- Air Quality Update
- Job Opportunities

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Water Permits and How the Applications are processed

Lorrie Salawater, Water Regulatory Specialist -

A misconception about water permits is that the regulatory program is hindering the projects on the reservation. This is far from the truth. Each permit has a process, and two of them will take a minimum of 60 days to complete the process. With the Water Quality

Standards (WQS) we are given authority under the Clean Water Act with our waters on the reservation. If we did not have this process in place then these permits would be the responsibility of the county, state, and the federal governments. These

...Continued on page 8...

Forestry Article – Biboon 2022/23

Gena Abramson, Forestry Specialist - forester@badriver-nsn.gov

Boozhoo. How wonderful it is to be able to work outside without being bombarded by mosquitos, flies, and gnats!

Bad River MNRD Forestry has been working on auditing our Reservation-Wide Trust Land Stand Exam as well as a timber sale designed to favor sugar maple.

As you travel around the reservation, you may see some long pink ribbons in the woods or along the corridors. Those ribbons indicate the center of the sample plots that our contractor, Green Timber, has been measuring in order to provide us with inventory information on a stand by stand basis. We received funding from the BIA that allows us to pay the contractor for the stand exam and additionally, fund the auditing of a percentage of those plots. The auditing is important because it provides us with the knowledge that the inventory data collection is being conducted in a manner that provides us with accurate information. Conducting those audits have also been very valuable for me to get better acquainted with the Bad River Forest.

Additionally, we've closed out our Mack Road Timber Sale. Have you been by (just east of Ashland) to see the property? Most of the Aspen and Ash (outside of wetlands) have been removed and what has been left is a beautiful Northern hardwoods stand which is comprised mostly of oak. We've managed to improve the stand structure and provide a small income for the tribe at the same time.

Our next sale area is off of Potato River Road between the two branches of Vaughn Creek. We will again be removing Aspen and Ash. Other species have been marked for removal as well. This will allow the canopy to be opened (*bangii eta go* – just a little bit) A fully stocked stand will be left, but there will be room for the sugar maple seedlings and saplings to grow in a manner that should allow for good form and health. There will likely be some aspen that regenerates, but there will be significantly less than there is now (before the harvest). The objective of this sale is to produce a healthy sugarbush for future generations.

Hopefully you visit the forest regularly. Feedback from you would be very valuable in helping to determine what the community would like to see from MNRD Forestry as far as community involvement goes. There are some wonderful and even amazing sights out there. From what I can tell, Bad River Forest would love to have more community members experience its beauty.

Please contact me at the Chief Blackbird Center, at 715-685-8929, or at Forester@badriver-nsn.gov.



The Mack Road Timber Sale just east of the pet spa on the east side of Ashland – Ample Oak remaining in these woods



Lots of Sugar maple regeneration in the Potato River Road Sale



Red maple with defects crowding out sugar maple pole – trees with orange paint will be removed to allow healthier trees to grow and regenerate.

Cultural Education Center Museum Manager

Boozhoo! My name is Paula Maday, and I am the new Museum Manager for the Bad River Band. I work under the Tribal Historic Preservation Office of the Mashkiziibii Natural Resources Department. I am a Bad River tribal member who grew up just down the road on Maple Street in Odanah. My parents are Gary (Shine) Bigboy and Cheryl Cloud. My grandparents are the late Eugene & Mary Bigboy, the late Noel (Farmer) Cloud and Ann Deragon.

I earned my bachelor's degree in English Literature and Art History from Dartmouth College. My master's degree study was completed at Bard College Center for Curatorial Studies in New York. I have worked in museums, galleries, and non-profit art spaces across the country, including New York City and San Antonio, Texas. For the last several years, I have worked for tribes and tribal organizations focused on sovereignty, treaty rights, education, and culture.

I am very excited to be involved in developing the museum program here at Bad River. My first project is to create a manoomin (wild rice) exhibit to

be installed at the Moka'aangiizis-iban Tribal Museum, located in the recently renovated Culture & Education Building (old clinic building). This exhibit is supported by grants from the National Park Service and the Institute of Museum & Library Services. It will be designed with both in-person and virtual components, to be viewed and enjoyed by tribal members living near and far.

In the future, I will also be working to organize our collection/archive, develop an elder volunteer program, and write policy for the museum. Museum policy development is one of my primary interest areas, as I look to integrate our Ojibwe cultural knowledge and ways with museum best practices. Creation of this foundational policy will be community-driven and will position the museum in a good way for future growth. Watch for updates in 2023 about the official opening of the museum. I look forward to seeing you there!



New Wildlife Specialist

Hi, my name is Taylor Parker-Greene, and I'm the new Wildlife Specialist in the MNRD. I am originally from the Twin Cities but have lived in Bayfield for a year and a half. I attended Bemidji State University, where I majored in wildlife biology and minored in environmental studies. I have experience studying the behavioral dynamics of a pride of lions in Zimbabwe, as well as conducting black bear population dynamic research between Red Cliff and the Apostle Islands. I am very excited and grateful to be in this position and look forward to serving the community!

Please reach out with any wildlife sightings at wildlife@badriver-nsn.gov or 715.292.9443 ext 1554



Land Intake Specialist attends 2022 UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE



To View Full Press Conference
visit:
<https://youtu.be/sBOFRPfJD3c>



Climate impacts are affecting Wisconsin's wealth of water resources

By Dea Larsen Converse

A recently released report on climate impacts to water resources in Wisconsin from the [Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts \(WICCI\)](#) shows that warming temperatures and changing precipitation patterns are impacting Wisconsin's wealth of water resources. The last two decades have been the warmest on record in Wisconsin and the past decade has been the wettest.

"The warming climate is having an impact on water resources in Wisconsin. We need to increase the magnitude and urgency of actions to protect and restore habitat and enhance water quality to make Wisconsin's waters more resilient to climate change." – Katie Hein, WICCI Water Resources Working Group Co-Chair

Yet, there is hope. The WICCI report suggests solutions to prepare for and minimize climate impacts to water resources, like increasing water storage across the landscape, installing green infrastructure, protecting wetlands, building outside of flood zones, and installing flood warning systems. Visit the [Water Resources Working Group webpage](#) to learn more. There is hope for the future, but it is up to us.

Read more [here](#).

WICCI is a nationally recognized collaboration of scientists and stakeholders working together to help foster solutions to climate change in Wisconsin.

Intro to Radon

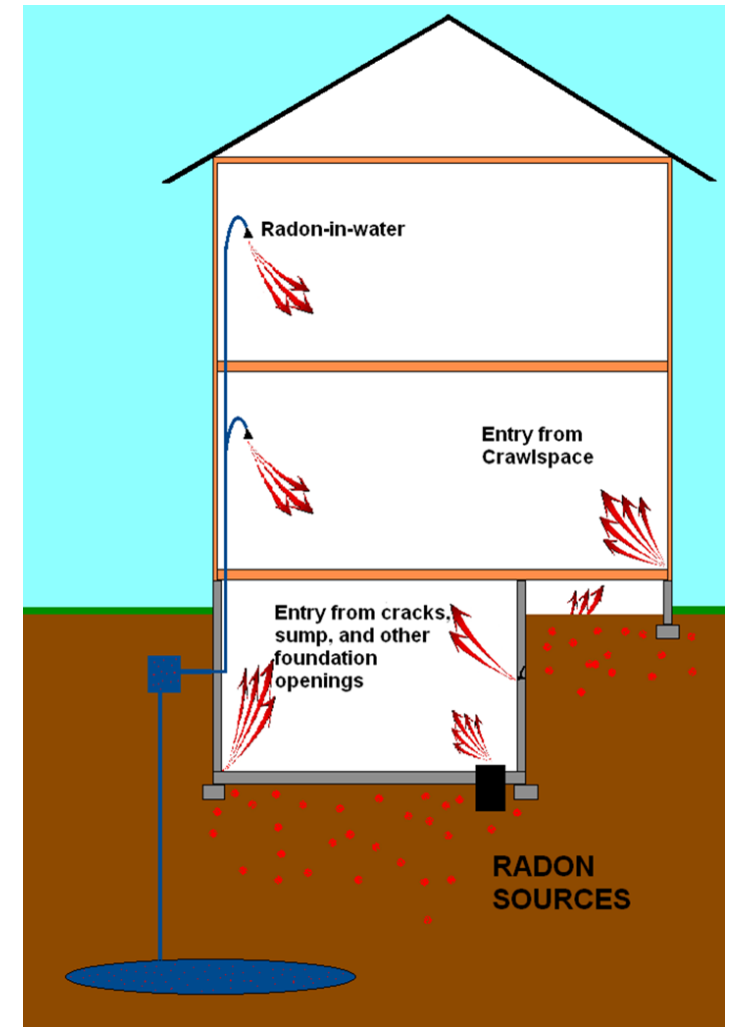
Daniel Wiggins Jr, Air Quality Technician - Air1@badriver-nsn.gov

Radon is related to over 20,000 radon-induced lung cancer deaths each year and is the second leading cause of lung cancer after smoking. Radon is formed when uranium, thorium, and radium naturally breakdown within bedrock and release radon gas into the soils, rock and water. It is ever-present and found in outdoor air and indoor air of every type of structure and seeps through entry-ways that include cracks and holes in basements, open crawlspaces, and openings in the foundations.

Once in the home radon continues to breakdown into radioactive particles that can be breathed in and enter the lungs airways. The particles continue to release energy that can then contribute to the development of lung cancer. The concentration and length of exposure are both factors in the risk towards development of radon-induced lung cancer, which onset of the disease may not be noticed for many years. In rare cases radon is found in water and through aeration can cause indoor radon levels to rise and pose a risk. Although radon in the air poses a greater risk, radon in water does present a risk of developing cancer within the internal organs, primarily stomach cancer.

Radon is a health hazard but there are solutions. And even though there is still no safe exposure level of radon, the risk can be lowered by reducing the radon levels in the home with proper radon reduction methods. The average indoor radon level is estimated at 1.3 pCi/L and outdoor at 0.4 pCi/L. Radon is everywhere! The EPA sets the action level of indoor radon levels at 4.0 pCi/L and recommended to homeowners that they fix their homes if levels are still found at 2 pCi/L and above.

The fortunate thing is homeowners can fix their homes with effective and efficient radon reduction methods. Still not many homeowners are prepared for the affects of radon, yet the rehabilitation to a home to lower it. There have been many radon reduction (mitigation) techniques attempted over the past decades, and are still several being used. The EPA realizes the complexity of radon reduction and has published the *Consumer's Guide to Radon Reduction*, which will help homeowners in locating the right contractor, understanding the right radon reduction method, and maintaining those systems after installation. This and more information on radon can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/radon>.



The Bad River Tribe is fortunate to have a Radon Program with a certified technician that offers free measurement testing and radon services to Tribal Members. If you have any questions concerning radon, please contact Daniel Wiggins, Air Quality Technician, whose information is below.

Daniel Wiggins Jr

Air Quality Technician

Mashkiizibii Natural Resources

Email: Air1@badriver-nsn.gov

Work Phone: 715-979-7123

Work Cell: 715-979-1486



Tribal Members assist continued...

Focus On Energy is a Wisconsin based program that partners with Utilities and contractors to deliver energy efficiency, renewable energy products, and expertise directly to Wisconsin residents and businesses. Both contractors and Utilities must be an active participant in the program for residents and businesses to qualify for those incentives and rebates, which also continue to evolve and change each year. The 2022 rebates and incentives were greater than past years, and in addition, the Focus On Energy Program works directly with Tribes to allocate specific funds towards those incentives and rebates.

Focus On Energy continues to develop their program to fit the needs of the communities they serve. Both Focus On Energy and tribal staff will review the 2023 incentives when they are posted and plan to work with homeowners to develop an action plan when incentives fit Tribal needs. More information on Focus On Energy and incentives can be found at <https://www.focusonenergy.com/>.

The Bad River Housing Authority Elderly Apartment's also received a grant from the Tribal Solar Accelerator Fund (TSAF), which fully funded the 20kW PV system installed at the site. TSAF uses a community-centric approach, as they partner with tribes to identify, develop, finance and implement solar power projects that meet community needs. More information on TSAF can be found at <https://gridalternatives.org/tribal-solar>.

JOLMA Electric was awarded both project and was able to bring on three separate tribal members during those projects. Both Pete Houle and Ezra Leoso got

firsthand experience doing multiple residential systems and one larger building system.

The job is not done! The two projects completed this year continue to add to the Tribe's energy portfolio but does not address every tribal home or building. The Bad River Utility Task Force is continuing to review grants and funding that can further extend renewable energy technologies and installations to these locations. Developing clean energy technologies is high priority for the Tribe!

If there are any questions on the projects completed or project anticipated feel free to contact Daniel Wiggins Jr @ Airl@badriver-nsn.gov.



Tribal Member Ezra Leoso installing Solar Panel Roof Supports on Elderly Roof.

Picture: Pete Houle standing in front 6kW PV Solar System installed on tribal member's home.



Picture: The Bad River Housing Authority received a TSAF Grant that fully funded a 20kW PV Solar installation.

Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department UPCOMING 2023 EVENTS

EDUCATIONAL FUN & ACTIVITIES

STAY TUNED FOR UPCOMING EVENT FLIERS FOR THE 2023 CALENDAR YEAR

MARCH 2023

**ENVIRONMENTAL
OPEN HOUSE**

MNRD Program Informational Booths, Activities, & Door Prizes!

**EARTH DAY
CELEBRATION**

APRIL 2023

Annual Community Clean-Up Event in efforts to keep our Home Clean. Chance to Win an Outdoor themed Prize!

JULY 14, 2023

**LAKE SUPERIOR
DAYS CELEBRATION**

Educational Event hosted by MNRD with Program Booths and Activities for persons of all ages!

QUESTIONS? Contact MNRD Outreach Coordinator @ 715-682-7111 ext. 1589

Water Permits continued...

processes are in place to help minimize impacts to our waters and conserve them for the current and future generations.

The Tribe received Treatment-in-a-manner-similar-to-A-State (TAS) authority from the EPA for CWA Sections 303/401 in June 2009. The purpose of a CWA Section 401 Certification is to ensure federal permits issued are following relevant water quality considerations, including water quality standards and Tribal Law. As the certifying agency, the Tribe, can: grant certification; grant certification with conditions attached; or deny certification.

For the 401 certifications there is a process that will need to be followed. There may be a need to have a pre-filing meeting that the MNRD has the option of having. Which means that the applicant would have to notify the department a minimum of 30 days before they turn in the application to the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE). The MNRD has the option to reject the meeting or have the meeting to ask questions about the project. Once the 30 days is up the application for this permit should be submitted to the MNRD and the ACOE concurrently so both agencies are aware that there is a request for a permit.

Once the ACOE has time to look at the application and decides that the application is complete then they will send a request to certify to the Water Regulatory Specialist. If the application is not complete this process can take a long time. The applicant needs to provide the additional information, the longer it takes to get the information to the ACOE& MNRD the longer it will take to get the application certified.

When the ACOE sends the request to certify there will be a date included in that request, so the MNRD knows when the certification is due to the ACOE, usually around 120 days. That



request will then move the MNRD process which typically consists of a 30-day public notice and taking the project to the Tribal Council. The project cannot go in front of the Tribal Council until the public notice is complete. The Tribal Council is the one that makes the decision as to whether the project can be completed as planned.

If the Tribal Council approves the project most likely there will be conditions that will have to be followed while the project is being worked on and until the restoration is complete.

Another one of the three components of the Tribe's Water Quality Standards (WQS) is an Antidegradation Policy, which protects existing uses and prevents high quality waters from being unnecessarily degraded. Under the Antidegradation Policy, each waterbody is assigned to a tier that provides a basis for addressing activities that would, or have the potential to, lower the quality of a body of water. Tiers identified in the Tribe's Antidegradation Policy include Outstanding Tribal Resource Waters (OTRW), Outstanding Resource Waters (ORWs), and Exceptional Resource Waters (ERWs). New or in-

creased discharges may be allowed in ORWs and ERWs if the applicable antidegradation demonstration and decision requirements are met.

This interactive map will show what if any Antidegradation Demonstration will be needed for your project [Bad River Water Quality Designations V2.0 \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com). If you have any questions about what tier the waterbody is in, you can contact any of the water regulatory staff and they will help you figure that out. Once an applicant has decided which waterbody their project might affect, they should fill out the application for the Antidegradation Demonstration.

Once there is an application the water regulatory staff will do a 30-day public notification of this project. Once the comment period is complete the project will be taken in front of the Tribal Council and they will decide if this project can be completed.

If you have any questions on this process feel free to contact the Water Office and we can help you understand this process better.

Bad River Manoomin and Youth Media Documentary

Dan Powless, Manoomin Oshkaabewis - Manoomin@badriver-nsn.gov

The Manoomin Program was selected to participate in the Bad River Youth Media Workshop which developed a documentary about Bad River and climate change. The August 22 Bundling event was filmed in the sloughs with interview. This film (and three other youth-produced films in Washington, Montana, and Alabama) will explore the challenges associated with changing climate and the innovative ways Native communities are leading efforts to adapt to it which will be shown in science

museums around the country, as part of a larger project that includes a Giant Screen Film and 4-part PBS series. The Youth worked with Dr. Patty Loew (Bad River), Northwestern University; Dylan Jennings, Bad River TYM Community Coordinator; and Fawn Youngbear Tibbets (White Earth/Sac & Fox), multimedia specialist.



Deer and Chronic Wasting Disease

Taylor Parker-Greene, Wildlife Specialist - wildlife@badriver-NSN.gov

With deer season coming to an end, you hopefully found the prize buck you've dreamed of. But before you put some venison on the table, you should get your deer tested for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). CWD can impact deer, elk, and moose alike, and is caused by a prion. Prions aren't like normal diseases caused by parasites but are instead just mis-folded proteins making them more difficult to treat. They spread from deer to deer through direct contact, and through bodily fluids. It can also last in the environment for decades by binding to the soil or other substrates. To date though, CWD hasn't spread to humans, but there have been rare, but previous cases of prions jumping from cattle to people.

While there haven't been any positive cases for CWD in Bad River or the surrounding area, it won't hurt to get your deer tested. To get a deer tested, the most that'll be needed is the head and neck. If you were hoping to keep the antlers or to mount the deer,

there are options as well to allow that. If you bring the deer to a staffed sampling site, they should be able to pull out the lymph node and you can take the rest home with you. You can find a sample drop off site here: <https://dnr.wi.gov/wmcwd/RegStation/Search>. On reservation for testing, contact the wildlife program and we can help take care of the head as well to get it sent out for testing.

If you have any questions about CWD feel free to reach out to the



wildlife specialist, Taylor Parker-Greene at (715)682-7111 ext. 1554, or by email at wildlife@badriver-NSN.gov.

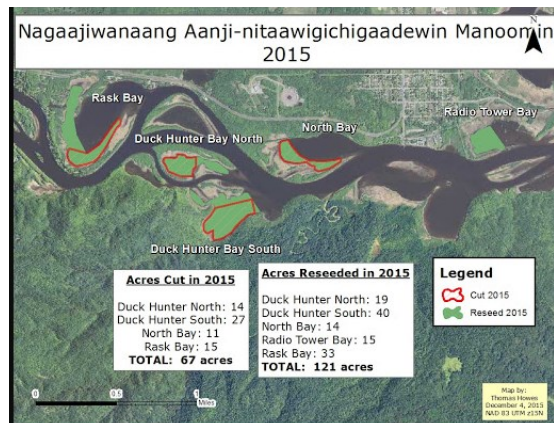
Manoomin Stewardship Plan- Update

Dan Powless, Manoomin Oshkaabewis - Manoomin@badriver-nsn.gov

The Manoomin Program, Non-Local Beings Programs, and Cardno consultant held a Manoomin community meeting and feast which provided displays and other resources related to the proposed of the Manoomin Stewardship Plan. Proposed revisions included: issues and actions, methods, St. Louis River Implementation Plan example, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, Manoomin maps, studies, etc that provided Q&A input from the community.

The following was shared from the mentioned programs and community:

- A pictorial display of the actual bundling practices used in the sloughs was described in use and development.



Proto type manoomin restoration plan presented at the community meeting

- The community assisted in creating a map of potential restoration areas in the sloughs and other areas identified along the Bad River and Bad River slough.

- Past relationship with washuzk
- Understanding of flooding events relevant to climate change
- Other cultural practices and understanding
- Program updates
- Development of mechanical cutter and burning method
- Basswood harvesting sites
- The Ojibwe Language Program provided support with song and prayer.

Carbon Monoxide Safety

Nathan Kilger, Mashkiiziibii Air Quality Specialist - airquality@badriver-nsn.gov

Protect your family from CO poisoning with these tips:

- Install and maintain CO alarms in a central location outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of your home to provide early warning of CO.

- Use portable generators outdoors in well-ventilated areas away from all doors, windows, and vents.

- Make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of snow and other debris.

What is carbon monoxide?

Carbon monoxide, also known as CO, is called the “Invisible Killer” because it's a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. More than 150 people in the United States die every year from accidental nonfire-related CO poisoning associated with consumer products, including generators. Other products include faulty, improperly-used or incorrectly-vented fuel-burning appliances such as furnaces, stoves, water heaters and fireplaces.

Know the symptoms of CO poisoning

Know the symptoms of CO Because CO is odorless, colorless, and otherwise undetectable to the human senses, people may not know that they are being exposed. The initial symptoms of low to moderate CO poisoning are similar to the flu (but without the fever). They include:

- Headache
- Fatigue
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea
- Dizziness

High level CO poisoning results in progressively more severe symptoms, including:

- Mental confusion / vomiting / loss of muscular coordination / Loss of consciousness / Ultimate
- Vomiting
- Loss of muscular coordination
- Loss of consciousness
- Ultimately death

