

# WISCONSIN FOR PUBLIC LANDS

## MEDIA RELEASE

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## For More Information

Thad Nation,  
414.412.7814

## Tick-Tock, Speaker Ryan: Groups Project Countdown Clock Onto Offices as the Land and Water Conservation Fund Set to Expire

**JANESVILLE** – The final countdown begins tonight when a giant clock will be projected onto the wall of Speaker Paul Ryan’s office in Janesville marking the minutes remaining for Congress to save a vital and popular conservation program. The action is part of a national effort with clocks in 6 states, urging Congress to reauthorize the critical Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) which is set to expire on Sunday, September 30.

The digital “Countdown Clock” will be projected for two hours each night, beginning at dusk. It is estimated that the clock will be visible at 7:15 p.m. The clock will be present from Wednesday, September 26 to Monday, October 1.

“The clock is ticking on Wisconsin’s most successful and most popular conservation program,” said Thad Nation, Executive Director of Wisconsin for Public Lands. “It’s time for Speaker Ryan to take action and push for a vote to reauthorize this critical program.”

LWCF has been America’s most important conservation funding tool for nearly 50 years. LWCF was established by Congress in the 1960’s using funds from offshore energy development -- not taxes -- to protect our natural resources, cultural heritage and access to recreational opportunities.

Energy companies contribute about \$900 million every year to build and maintain urban playgrounds, sports fields, ballparks, bike paths and soccer fields, as well as state parks, National Monuments and National Wildlife Refuges including local treasures like such as the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, the Ice Age National Scenic Trail and North County Scenic Trail, the St. Croix National Scenic River and the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

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