Choose one of the following organizations as your local partner. Contact them to register for the April 4, 2009 Citizen Monitor Training at the Mequon Nature Preserve. We look forward to your participation!

- **Friends of Cedarburg Bog**, UWM-Field Station; info@bogfriends.org; (262) 675-6844
- **Mequon Nature Preserve**, Kristin Geis; kgies@owlt.org; (262) 242-8055
- **Milwaukee Zoological Society**, Craig Berg; cberg@milwcnty.com; (414) 771-3040 Ext. 456
- **Ozaukee Washington Land Trust**, Maggie Tarasewicz; maggiet@owlt.org; 262/623-1786
- **Pringle Nature Center**, Christine Reardon, pnc@clsurf.com; (262) 857-8008
- **River Bend Nature Center**, Nancy Carlson; 262-639-0930; ncarlson@riverbendracine.org
- **Riveredge Nature Center**, Marc White; mwhite@riveredge.us; (800) 287-8098
- **Schlitz Audubon Nature Center**, Jim Hyatt, jhyatt@sanc.org; (414) 352-2880
- **Sheboygan River Basin Partnership**, Stacy Hron, shron@startwithmiller.com; (920) 458-6164
- **Urban Ecology Center**, Joey Zocher; jzocher@urbanecologycenter.org; (414) 344-5460
- **Wehr Nature Center**, Mark Verhagen; Mark.verhagen@ces.uwex.edu; (414) 425-8550

**Visit the WEPP website:**
http://watermonitoring.uwex.edu/level3/WEPP/

**WEPP Spring Training**
Saturday April 4, 2009
Mequon Nature Preserve
8:30 am to 3:30 pm

**For more information contact:**
Gail Epping Overholt
UW-Extension
9501 W. Watertown Plank Road
Wauwatosa, WI 53226-3552
414-256-4632
gail.overholt@ces.uwex.edu
The Wisconsin Ephemeral Pond Project (WEPP) was initiated in 2006 by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). WEPP’s main objectives are to improve methods for mapping ephemeral ponds and to inventory mapped ephemeral ponds in Wisconsin to increase understanding of their ecological importance and to support their conservation.

Long-term goals of WEPP are the protection and conservation of ephemeral ponds.

What is an EPHEMERAL POND?
Ephemeral ponds are so named because they don’t hold water year-round. They are intermittent, appearing in spring as the snow melts, and typically drying up by late summer or early fall. The cycle repeats the next year. Because of this wet-dry cycle, they ordinarily do not support fish populations but are excellent habitat for amphibians. Without fish predation, eggs laid by frogs, salamanders and other amphibians are more likely to hatch and young are more likely to survive to adulthood. As a result ephemeral ponds surrounded by natural habitat are very important to amphibian conservation.

What is involved in citizen monitoring?
Mapping experts at the WDNR and SEWRPC have interpreted aerial photographs, soils and topographic maps to identify potential ephemeral ponds (PEPs). The PEPs are then adopted by citizen to monitor during the spring, summer and fall. The goal of monitoring is to determine whether or not the PEP is ephemeral or even a pond at all. Data are submitted to the WDNR through an online database. The results provide valuable feedback that can help WDNR and SEWRPC improve their mapping methods. The data can also provide a baseline to which future monitoring results can be compared to learn about trends in these important ecosystems.

Visiting a PEP can be a lot of fun!
After attending a 5 hour training you will be asked to monitor at least 3 sites. Visiting the site at least once per month from snowmelt until fall you will gather simple but critical data, such as water depth, temperature and other physical data that will be used to determine whether the PEP can be considered a “Verified Ephemeral Pond.” Each site visit will take about an hour.

How do I get involved?
1) SAVE THE DATE—April 4, 2009
This is the date of our Saturday training at the Mequon Nature Preserve. Time: 8 am to 4 pm

2) Choose one of the organizations on the next page as your local Partner Host and contact them to register for the April 4 training. You will officially register through this organization and receive important information and updates from them.

3) If you aren’t sure which Partner is best suited for you, contact Gail Epping Overholt at (414) 256-4632 or email her at: gail.overholt@ces.uwex.edu.