



# NEWS RELEASE

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## KRLT RECEIVES \$850,000 FOR QUARRY ROAD PROJECT Local Community Asked to Step Up To Pledge \$250,000 by June 1st

(May 14, 2010 – River Falls, WI) Representatives of the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust today announced that the organization has reached a purchase agreement with First National Bank of River Falls to acquire 112.8 acres of land along Quarry Road east of River Falls for \$1.1 million and that the organization has been notified that it has been granted \$850,000 towards the purchase of the property. Local citizens are being asked to step up by June 1, 2010 to provide the additional \$250,000 required to complete the purchase.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to protect a significant natural resource adjacent to the Kinnickinnic River and for the community," said Nelson French, Executive Director, "Both the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have ranked this as one of the most significant conservation opportunities in the region and they have put money on the table to help complete the acquisition." French indicated that \$600,000 from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund was approved last week by Governor Doyle and \$250,000 from the USFWS Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund is named in honor of River Falls native Warren Knowles and Clear Lake native Gaylord Nelson.

"Attempts earlier this decade to develop the property by placing over 400 homes on Quarry Road adjacent to the Kinni failed and First National Bank of River Falls now has the land back in their portfolio," said KRLT Board member Dale Jorgenson. "We are asking the community to continue to show its support for protection of the Kinni by stepping up to provide the \$250,000 needed to complete the Quarry Road Project. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and we need the full support of the community to make it happen now." He indicated in the last 5 days \$54,500 has been pledged leaving \$195,500 remaining to be raised by June 1st. Pledges can be made and paid over a 5 year period and all donations to this effort are tax-deductible donations to the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust.

"It's thrilling to see so much interest in protecting this unique area along Quarry Road," said Kevin Pechacek, owner of the West Wind Supper Club. "We applaud the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust for taking this bold step to provide additional protection for the Kinni. We all look forward to the restoration of this site to prairie, oak savanna and wetlands and the benefits it will provide to the health of the Kinnickinnic River. I encourage all River Falls residents to donate to the level of their interest and ability."

Quarry Road pledge forms are available at the KRLT web site at [www.kinniriver.org](http://www.kinniriver.org) where you can download the Quarry Road Pledge Form or make an online pledge. For more information about the project call Nelson French at 715.425.5738.

The **Kinnickinnic River** is a nationally recognized *Class One* Trout Stream which flows into the St. Croix River, a federally designated wild and scenic river. The **Kinnickinnic River Land Trust's** mission is to work with the community to protect the natural resources and scenic beauty of the Kinnickinnic River Watershed. Learn more at [www.kinniriver.org](http://www.kinniriver.org) or visit KRLT's new Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kinnickinnic-River-Land-Trust/304536836438?ref=ts>