



THE KINNICKINNIC RIVER LAND TRUST

WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY TO PROTECT THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCENIC BEAUTY OF THE KINNICKINNIC RIVER WATERSHED

PRESS RELEASE
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Kinnickinnic River Land Trust Awarded National Accreditation

[RIVER FALLS, WI] The **Kinnickinnic River Land Trust, Inc. (KRLT)** is the first Wisconsin land trust to be awarded national accreditation through the **Land Trust Accreditation Commission (LTAC)**. KRLT, incorporated in 1993 as a non-profit community-based land trust, announced this significant achievement at its annual meeting at its Kelly Creek Preserve on Saturday. On May 27th LTAC informed **KRLT** and 5 other land trusts nationwide that they had joined the ranks of 53 other such accredited land trusts to earn the coveted accreditation seal.

“This is truly a watershed achievement for our organization. It is the result of hard work and dedication of past and current leaders of the organization and will serve us well as we work with landowners in the future to insure that the Kinnickinnic River Watershed is healthy and provides for a cold, clean and clear flowing river for all to enjoy,” said Nelson French, **KRLT** Executive Director. French also commended the board and staff for a job well done in the rigorous accreditation process.

According to Jack Kenefick, **KRLT** Board President, “The **KRLT** Board of Directors is pleased to be among the first 59 land trusts in the country to receive accreditation, and the first Wisconsin land trust to earn this designation. We believe that receiving accreditation from the **LTAC** will greatly enhance the long-term success of **KRLT**’s mission to work with the community to protect the natural resources and scenic beauty of the Kinnickinnic River Watershed.” Incoming Board President Dan Wilkening echoed Kenefick’s remarks and added “we have a lot of work to do and this positions us well for the future.”

LTAC, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance, conducted an extensive review of **KRLT**’s policies and programs. The **LTAC** reviewers thoroughly assessed how **KRLT** is managed and how well it adheres to nationally accepted land trust standards and practices. These standards address the ethical and technical operation of a land trust.

KRLT is a community-based non-profit organization with over 600 individual and business members. **KRLT** has protected over 2,000 acres of land and 8 miles of stream bank in the Kinnickinnic River Watershed. Learn more about **KRLT** by visiting www.kinniriver.org . View **KRLT**’s most recent annual report at http://www.kinniriver.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/03/11021_2007-2008-krlt-annual-report_lowres.pdf