

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 1<sup>st</sup> Assembly District

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Representative Joel Kitchens

September 2, 2015 (608) 266-5350

## Rep. Kitchens Selected as Policy Maker of the Year for Land Conservation

**Madison** – Gathering Waters, the Wisconsin alliance of land trusts, announced that Rep. Joel Kitchens (R- Sturgeon Bay), along with Rep. Todd Novak (R- Dodgeville) and Rep. Amy Loudenbeck (R- Clinton), would receive Land Conservation Leadership Awards as *Policy Maker of the Year*. Rep. Kitchens is being honored for his leadership role in restoring funding for the Knowles- Nelson Stewardship Program. In Door and Kewaunee Counties, the Stewardship Program has provided matching grants to conservation groups, allowing them to acquire and protect important properties, such as the Grand View property in Ellison Bay.

"It is a tremendous honor to receive this award", Rep. Kitchens said. "The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program has been vital to preserving important open spaces in our area and I am proud of the role that I played in saving it. Concern for protecting the environment crosses party lines in our area. Our tourism industry as well as our way of life depend on preserving these lands and keeping our water clean."

The award will be presented at the Land Conservation Leadership Awards on September 24, 2015. The event will take place 5:30-8:30 PM at Monona Terrace in Madison, WI.

###