Inside the 2015-2016 Wisconsin Blue Book

State of Wisconsin

Legislative Reference Bureau

LRB

Informational Bulletin 15-IB-2, October 2015

Introduction

How many people live in Wisconsin? Where are state parks and forests located? Did you know that there is a state fossil? The answers to these and many other questions can be found in the *2015-2016 Wisconsin Blue Book*, the almanac of facts about Wisconsin. This workbook is a study companion to the current *Blue Book*, designed to help elementary students understand how to use this important resource and get to know their state government. We hope that it will help them grow as informed citizens of Wisconsin.

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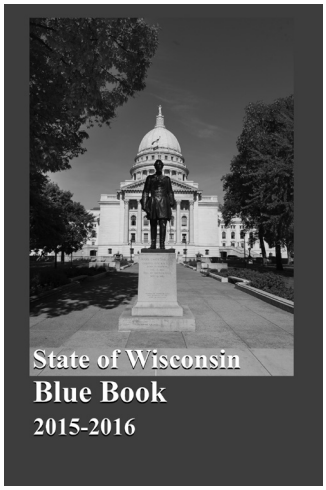
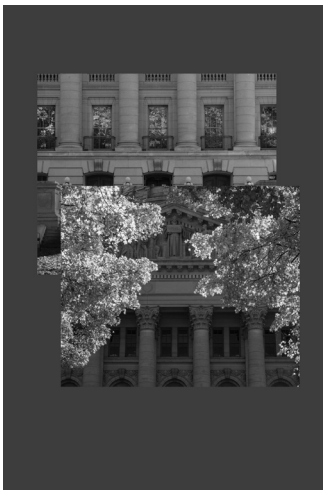
October 2015





The *Wisconsin Blue Book* is the biennial manual of state government compiled by the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB). Section 13.92 (1) (a), Wisconsin Statutes, requires the LRB to provide assistance to "students of government." Section 118.01 (2) (c) requires school boards to design programs giving pupils instruction in citizenship. The *Blue Book* and this accompanying study guide were prepared in partial fulfillment of that mandate.

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Getting Started

Using the Table of Contents (pages vi-x), make an outline of the *Blue Book* for your easy reference. List the 12 major sections of the book and the page they start on.

	Section name	First page
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		

Getting Started

One of the most useful parts of the *Blue Book* is the Biographies section (p. 1-98), containing photos and information on Wisconsin's elected officials. What do you know about your elected officials? This section will provide the answers.

Senate

1. Which senate district are you in? (Use map on p. 87)

_____

2. What is the name and party of your state senator?

_____

3. What is your senator's telephone number?

_____

4. E-mail address?

_____

5. Mailing address?

_____

_____

Assembly

1. Which assembly district are you in? (Use map on p. 88-89)

_____

2. What is the name and party of your state representative?

_____

3. What is your representative's telephone number?

_____

4. E-mail address?

_____

5. Mailing address?

_____

_____

Wisconsin Constitution

When the early settlers came to Wisconsin, they wrote the Constitution to set down rules that the new state should use to govern itself. The Wisconsin Constitution is a document that outlines the organization, standards, and purposes of government. It also sets forth the basic rights of Wisconsin citizens.

1. The Constitution is divided into sections called "articles." How many articles are there?

_____

2. Which article of the Constitution deals with education?

_____

3. Article I of the Constitution sets forth certain fundamental rights. List four rights that the people of Wisconsin want to protect.

_____

_____

_____

_____

4. The purpose of the Constitution is stated in the Preamble. Where in the Constitution is the Preamble found?

_____

Legislative Branch

The Legislative Branch is responsible for making the laws of Wisconsin. Members of the state legislature come from every area in Wisconsin.

1. The Wisconsin Legislature is made up of two houses. What are they called?

_____

2. How many members are in each house? _____ and _____

3. Who is the President of the Senate? _____

4. Who is the Speaker of the Assembly? _____

5. How long is the term for a Senator? _____ For a Representative? _____

6. What is the address for the Internet home page of the Wisconsin Legislature?

_____

7. According to the session schedule on page 244, when was Inauguration Day in 2015?

_____

8. Use the table on p. 264 to answer questions about the 2015 Legislature.
   a. How many representatives have an education beyond high school? _____
   b. How many senators are attorneys? _____
   c. How many women are in the Legislature? _____

9. According to the table on p. 291, how many bills were introduced during the 2013-14 session? _____

10. How many of those bills became acts?

_____

Executive Branch

The Executive Branch was created to execute (put into practice) the laws passed by the legislature. It is headed by the Governor, who is elected by the people, and the Governor appoints others to help run the state government. The Executive Branch consists of many departments with various responsibilities. The Department of Transportation, for example, oversees state highways and vehicle licensing, and the Department of Public Instruction oversees school standards. When answering the questions below, don't forget to use the Index!

1. Who is the current Governor?

_____

2. What is the Internet address of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin?

_____

3. What agency oversees animal health?

_____

The Red Feather Singers, from the Madison School District, provide music at State Superintendent Tony Evers annual state of education address in the State Capitol rotunda. (Department of Public Instruction)

Executive Branch

4. Where is the Department of Corrections headquartered?

_____

5. Who is Secretary of the Department of Health Services?

_____

6. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction is in charge of the Department of Public Instruction. He has many assistant superintendents who help run the department. Who is the Assistant Superintendent of the Division for Learning Support?

_____

7. Which department manages forestry?

_____

8. Which regional agency runs Lambeau Field?

_____

9. What is the e-mail address of the Lieutenant Governor?

_____

10. How many employees does the Department of Financial Institutions have?

_____

Judicial Branch

The Judicial Branch provides justice to the state's citizens in the form of courts and interprets the law in cases of dispute. The Judicial Branch consists of the Supreme Court, which is the highest court in the state, as well as the Court of Appeals, the Circuit Courts, and the Municipal Courts. Most trials start at the Circuit Court level, and decisions can be appealed to the higher courts.

Justice Annette Ziegler addressed the Senate before administering the oath of office to the senators from odd-numbered districts on January 5, 2015. *(Greg Anderson, Legislative Photographer)*

1. How many justices are on the Supreme Court?

_____

2. Who is currently Chief Justice of the Supreme Court?

_____

Judicial Branch

3. What is the term length for a member of the Supreme Court?

_____

4. In which month are judges elected?

_____

5. Name a Circuit Court judge in your county.

_____

6. How many municipal courts are there?

_____

7. What toll free number can you call for reference assistance at the State Law Library?

_____

8. Who is the executive director of the State Bar of Wisconsin?

_____

9. Who is the current Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals?

_____

10. How many district committees make up the Office of Lawyer Regulation?

_____

Statistics

The *Wisconsin Blue Book* has a large section dealing with statistics about the state. Use this section to answer the following questions.

1. How many pounds of Cheddar cheese were produced in Wisconsin in 2013?

_____

2. What is the dominant feature of Roche-A-Cri State Park?

_____

3. How many 4th graders attended public school in the 2014-15 school year? Is the number up or down from the previous year?

_____

4. Who is the Richland County District Attorney?

_____

5. How many votes did Ronald Reagan get in Wisconsin during the 1980 presidential election?

_____

6. When was your county created?

_____

7. How many Wisconsin soldiers served in World War I?

_____

8. What weekly newspaper is published in Argyle?

_____

9. How many people in Wisconsin are between the ages of 10-14, according to the 2013 estimate?

_____

Statistics

10. How many passengers went through General Mitchell International Airport in Milwaukee during 2014?

_____

11. What is the ZIP code for Kempster?

_____

12. How big was the average farm size in Wisconsin in 2014?

_____

13. How many Wisconsin school districts have less than 1,000 pupils?

_____

14. How many Wisconsin students were enrolled in home-based private educational programs for the 2014-15 school year?

_____

15. What counties does the Winnefox Public Library System serve?

_____

16. Where is the birthplace of Wisconsin Governor Arthur MacArthur?

_____

17. In 1978, what did the Wisconsin Supreme Court allow in state courtrooms?

_____

18. What are the call letters of the educational TV station out of Wausau?

_____

19. The historical marker found in Pepin County at Highway 35, Pepin Park is on what subject?

_____

20. What was the Wisconsin population in 1910?

_____

State Symbols

Find the 17 state symbols hidden in the puzzle.

American water spaniel
Antigo silt loam
badger
corn
cranberry
dairy cow
galena
honeybee
milk
muskellunge
polka
red granite
robin
sugar maple
trilobite
whitetailed deer
wood violet

R	I	G	R	F	L	C	D	U	A	N	V	P	B	J	W	T	H	V	V
R	V	S	Y	R	N	T	F	P	R	O	B	I	N	G	F	O	A	V	U
R	M	A	H	O	N	E	Y	B	E	E	B	M	I	G	Y	V	H	M	P
J	K	L	B	A	D	G	E	R	L	M	T	R	I	L	O	B	I	T	E
Z	F	V	S	O	X	A	N	T	I	G	O	S	I	L	T	L	O	A	M
O	B	R	N	H	X	G	C	U	M	V	X	P	E	G	G	U	X	U	C
E	L	Q	M	C	Q	O	X	M	E	Q	E	H	O	A	K	L	O	P	X
A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	W	A	T	E	R	S	P	A	N	I	E	L
B	N	Z	C	K	O	G	S	F	E	Q	T	K	J	K	H	U	S	Q	G
Y	W	G	Z	Y	V	F	H	Q	U	C	U	Z	T	E	H	J	E	A	Z
E	O	Q	S	U	J	D	A	I	R	Y	C	O	W	K	B	N	L	C	B
D	K	N	R	O	C	U	K	E	T	I	N	A	R	G	D	E	R	R	R
B	K	B	G	L	Y	R	R	E	B	N	A	R	C	F	N	F	E	L	F
P	G	S	U	G	A	R	M	A	P	L	E	H	B	A	U	R	S	Z	I
F	D	C	E	G	N	U	L	L	E	K	S	U	M	A	T	U	M	A	J
D	D	Y	C	F	D	Z	H	K	T	S	Y	V	G	K	F	L	N	A	T
P	P	Y	R	E	E	D	D	E	L	I	A	T	E	T	I	H	W	G	V
A	D	O	K	K	I	T	Q	V	N	I	K	N	M	Q	E	B	A	S	L
A	S	K	L	O	N	B	V	I	Z	N	M	L	R	R	Z	A	Q	U	J
T	V	D	W	H	C	T	E	L	O	I	V	D	O	O	W	X	I	S	F

Answer Guide

Wisconsin Constitution

1. 14, p. 174-175.
2. Article X, p. 175.
3. Various answers, for example: free speech, right to assemble and petition, trial by jury, freedom of worship, p. 176-179.
4. At the beginning, p. 176.

Legislative Branch

1. Senate and Assembly, p. 239.
2. 33 in the Senate, 99 in the Assembly, p. 239.
3. Senator Mary A. Lazich, p. 238.
4. Representative Robin J. Vos, p. 238.
5. 4 years, 2 years, p. 239.
6. www.legis.wisconsin.gov, p. 238.
7. January 5, 2015.
8. a. 95, b. 2, c. 33 (11 + 22).
9. 1,641.
10. 380.

Executive Branch

1. Scott Walker, p. 306 or 316.
2. www.wisconsinhistory.org, p. 419.
3. Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, p. 371-379.
4. 3099 East Washington Ave., Madison, p. 386.
5. Kitty Rhoades, p. 407.
6. Carolyn Stanford Taylor, p. 457.
7. Department of Natural Resources, p. 442 or 445.
8. Professional Football Stadium District, p. 544.
9. ltgov@wisconsin.gov, p. 348.
10. 141.54 (decimal indicates part-time employees), p. 400.

Answer Guide

Judicial Branch

1. 7, p. 558 or 563.
2. Patience Drake Roggensack, p. 558 or 563.
3. 10 years, p. 559 or 563.
4. April, p. 560.
5. See pages 570-73.
6. 240, p. 574.
7. (800) 322-9755, p. 575.
8. George C. Brown, p. 584.
9. Lisa S. Neubauer (see note), p. 565.
10. 16, p. 576-78.

Statistics

1. 567,814,000 lbs., p. 602.
2. Woodlands, 300-foot-high rock outcropping, p. 634.
3. 60,795, up, p. 649.
4. Jennifer M. Harper, p. 733.
5. 1,088,845, p. 698.
6. See p. 729.
7. 122,215, p. 762.
8. *Pecatonica Valley Leader*, p. 768.
9. 371,849, p. 795.
10. 3,278,820, p. 833.
11. 54424, p. 799.
12. 210 acres, p. 603.
13. 245 (129 + 116), p. 648.
14. 19,850, p. 657.
15. Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Waushara, Winnebago, p. 659.
16. Glasgow, Scotland, p. 703.
17. Cameras, p. 684.
18. WHRM, p. 779.
19. Laura Ingalls Wilder, p. 693.
20. 2,333,860, p. 783.

Answer Guide

State Symbols

American water spaniel
Antigo silt loam
badger
corn
cranberry
dairy cow
galena
honeybee
milk
muskellunge
polka
red granite
robin
sugar maple
trilobite
whitetailed deer
wood violet

R	I	G	R	F	L	C	D	U	A	N	V	P	B	J	W	T	H	V	V
R	V	S	Y	R	N	T	F	P	R	O	B	I	N	G	F	O	A	V	U
R	M	A	H	O	N	E	Y	B	E	E	B	M	I	G	Y	V	H	M	P
J	K	L	B	A	D	G	E	R	L	M	T	R	I	L	O	B	I	T	E
Z	F	V	S	O	X	A	N	T	I	G	O	S	I	L	T	L	O	A	M
O	B	R	N	H	X	G	C	U	M	V	X	P	E	G	G	U	X	U	C
E	L	Q	M	C	Q	O	X	M	E	Q	E	H	O	A	K	L	O	P	X
A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	W	A	T	E	R	S	P	A	N	I	E	L
B	N	Z	C	K	O	G	S	F	E	Q	T	K	J	K	H	U	S	Q	G
Y	W	G	Z	Y	V	F	H	Q	U	C	U	Z	T	E	H	J	E	A	Z
E	O	Q	S	U	J	D	A	I	R	Y	C	O	W	K	B	N	L	C	B
D	K	N	R	O	C	U	K	E	T	I	N	A	R	G	D	E	R	R	R
B	K	B	G	L	Y	R	R	E	B	N	A	R	C	F	N	F	E	L	F
P	G	S	U	G	A	R	M	A	P	L	E	H	B	A	U	R	S	Z	I
F	D	C	E	G	N	U	L	L	E	K	S	U	M	A	T	U	M	A	J
D	D	Y	C	F	D	Z	H	K	T	S	Y	V	G	K	F	L	N	A	T
P	P	Y	R	E	E	D	D	E	L	I	A	T	E	T	I	H	W	G	V
A	D	O	K	K	I	T	Q	V	N	I	K	N	M	Q	E	B	A	S	L
A	S	K	L	O	N	B	V	I	Z	N	M	L	R	R	Z	A	Q	U	J
T	V	D	W	H	C	T	E	L	O	I	V	D	O	O	W	X	I	S	F

Teacher Survey

Dear Teacher:

We hope that you find *Inside the 2015-2016 Wisconsin Blue Book* a useful resource in teaching Wisconsin state government. To help us meet your needs more fully, we would appreciate receiving your answers to the following questions:

1. Do you find *Inside the 2015-2016 Wisconsin Blue Book* useful? If not, what changes would you like to see made?

2. Is the content at an appropriate academic level for your particular grade?

3. Do you have any suggestions for other materials the LRB might provide to aid you in teaching government?

Please return your response to:

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Thank you for responding.

Name _____

School Address _____

Grade Level _____

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