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the land and waters.

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VSN's *Conservation on Tap*: A Half Billion Years of Driftless History

VIROQUA, WI November 28, 2018 –Valley Stewardship Network (VSN) will host another fun, casual and informative program in our new series- *Conservation on Tap*. *Conservation on Tap* is a monthly series of talks and discussions on local conservation topics given by regional experts. This event will be an opportunity for folks to hear engaging presentations about regional conservation topics in a relaxed setting while also getting to sample local brews and beverages. Following each of the speakers' presentation, the audience will be able to chime in with questions and contribute to a broader discussion of the night's conservation topic. "So often," explains John Delaney, VSN Agroecologist, "the only places to get in-depth information on the amazing conservation work going on in our area is by attending professional conferences. With *Conservation on Tap*, our local conservation professionals can communicate their work to a broader audience and give our community a better understanding of what makes our region so special." The third in the series- *A Half Billion Years of Driftless History: Your well water, frac sand and karst geology*. will be Wednesday, December 12, 2018.

Join us to learn how the ancient, 1,000-foot thick stack of rock layers beneath us was formed, how water percolates down into our aquifers, and how we must protect this precious resource from careless use. The presenter for this topic is Kelvin Rodolfo, an entertaining and much sought after speaker in the region.

Kelvin Rodolfo is Professor Emeritus with the Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences, University of Illinois at Chicago. He and his wife Kathy Crittenden run a small permaculture farm powered by solar and wind energy in Viroqua township. Kelvin shares his expertise with

grassroots organizations in northwest Wisconsin and adjacent areas of Iowa and Minnesota, to defend the local environment from inappropriate uses such as confined animal-feeding operations (CAFOs) and frack-sand mining.

Other topics in the series are: January 9: Encouraging Biodiversity in the Driftless with Melinda Knutson, retired U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Ecologist; February 13: Managing Storm Water Locally with Rain Barrels & Other Structures by Karl Green, Community Development, Natural Resource & Economic Development Educator, UW-Extension; concluding with March 13: Opportunities in Conservation with Ben Johnston, Kickapoo Valley Reserve, Citizen Science Programs.

This series is held the second Wednesday of day of each month, from October – March at the Rooted Spoon, 219 South Main Street in Viroqua beginning at 7 pm – 9 pm. The event will be FREE, but donations will be accepted and a cash bar will be available. Funding for the series was generously made available through Viroqua Chamber Main Street's SOUP program, shopdriftless.com, Organic Valley, and Kickapoo Coffee Roasters.

For questions, please call 608-637-3615 or email info@valleystewardshipnetwork.org.

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Valley Stewardship Network is celebrating 18 years of land and water stewardship in the Kickapoo Valley and adjacent watersheds. Best known for its water quality monitoring programs, VSN also offers outreach and education programs to help farmers, landowners, residents and visitors understand and support our local ecology for the health of our communities. More at www.valleystewardshipnetwork.org