



68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference
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Madison, Wisconsin
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Transportation

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When I volunteered to assist with the conference, I stated that I had no preference on which committee I would participate in. I offered my services to where they were needed most. As I had become a part of the planning committee later than most of the other members, most of the more needed committee vacancies had been filled. There was an opening for the transportation committee, so I was designated to it.

The transportation committee may, at other locations, have had much more work to do. But, due to the nearness of the convention center to local hotels, downtown businesses, and transportation lines, my workload was quite minimal. Duties I performed included the following:

- Researched and compiled information relating to bus lines and schedules.
- Researched and compiled information relating to local taxi companies.
- Talked to hotel managers to determine what type of shuttle, if any, they would be able to provide from their facility to the convention center.
- Assisted with the establishment of limited courtesy transportation to/from the convention center for those unable to drive or unable find other means of transportation.
- Researched the locations of local parking ramps.
- I researched the possibility of having a “field trip” from Madison to the Aldo Leopold Nature Center near Baraboo, Wisconsin. This, I believe, would have been an interesting trip, but would have had to occur on the weekend prior to the convention. This would have severely limited the number of participants. Even committee members would have had a difficult time making the trip due to their conference responsibilities. This trip was cancelled do to logistics and costs.

Most of the research that I did was not really put to use since local transportation was not heavily utilized by the convention participants. It seems that many people either drove personal vehicles to Madison, had rented vehicles, or utilized the hotel shuttle services. Again, in a different location, I believe the transportation planning committee would have had a much more active role in the convention.

As this was the first committee that I have served on, I was able to learn a lot from the other members. It cannot be stressed enough the importance of having quality individuals in charge of the committee. I was fortunate enough to work with people who not only knew how to plan a conference of this magnitude, but were all willing to assist us less experienced members.

There definitely is not a need for more than one person to be assigned to the transportation committee. And, actually, if committee members are at a premium, the transportation tasks can be attend to by one of the other members.