

# Quarterly Issues and Programs Report

## First Quarter 2024

### News and Classical Network Radio Stations Licensed to the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents: WLSU-LaCrosse, WUEC-Eau Claire, WVSS-Menomonie

During the period, this station, as part of Wisconsin Public Radio's News and Classical Network, has served the public interest by producing and broadcasting diverse content that addresses national, statewide and regional issues. The following is a list of some of the content aired in response to areas of concern to listeners served by the News and Classical Network. Each segment duration is about 1 minute.

Issues of community concern:

- Agriculture
- Economy
- Education
- Environment
- Health
- Politics
- Social Issues

## 1. Agriculture

Wisconsin law requires farmland to be taxed based on the income that it can generate. A new report found the state's formula has kept assessments much lower for farms.

- Morning Edition, January 30, 2024 at 5 a.m.

A Calumet County judge upheld the authority of state environmental regulators to require permitting of large livestock operations today. The permits include requirements that protect state waters from manure pollution.

- All Things Considered, January 30, 2024 at 5 p.m.

A new US Department of Agriculture census shows Wisconsin lost 10 percent of its farms and 30 percent of its dairies in a five-year period. The remaining farms are doing big business.

- Morning Edition, February 19, 2024 at 5 a.m.

Migrant farm workers in Wisconsin will have additional heat, health and safety protections this year under revised administrative rules that took effect earlier this month.

- BBC Newshour, February 23, 2024 at 3 p.m.

A Republican bill would prevent local governments from pursuing more stringent regulations for farms and animal welfare.

- BBC Newshour, March 6, 2024 at 3 p.m.

## **2. Economy**

Wisconsin Republican leaders released a package of tax cut proposals before the governor's state of the state speech tonight.

- BBC Newshour, January 23, 2024 at 3 p.m.

Union membership in Wisconsin rebounded slightly last year after falling to its lowest level on record in 2022. That's according to federal data released yesterday.

- All Things Considered, January 24, 2024 at 5 p.m.

Most of the higher-paying jobs opening in Wisconsin through the end of the decade will require at least a bachelor's degree. That's according to a new report by the Wisconsin Policy Forum.

- BBC Newshour, February 5, 2024 at 3 p.m.

A new state program will give 10 small communities across Wisconsin help in building local economies. The communities will have access to up to \$25,000 and two years of assistance in planning and grant writing.

- Morning Edition, February 9, 2024 at 5 a.m.

Wisconsin set a new record high for construction jobs in the state. New data from the state's Department of Workforce Development says the construction industry added 1,900 jobs in the first month of the year.

- All Things Considered, March 11, 2024 at 5 p.m.

## **3. Education**

For the first time in seven years, police officers are back in Milwaukee Public Schools. The city removed school resource officers in 2016 after complaints about student arrests.

- BBC Newshour, January 3, 2024 at 3 p.m.

The state Department of Public Instruction is opposing a civics education bill introduced by Wisconsin Republicans. The bill would focus on patriotism, and contrast the U.S. system of government with socialism and communism.

- BBC Newshour, January 19, 2024 at 3 p.m.

A legislative council of educators was tasked with choosing the curriculum public and private schools would use to teach children how to read. But the Department of Public Instruction has made its own recommendations to lawmakers.

- All Things Considered, February 21, 2024 at 5 p.m.

This week Wisconsin high school students learned they'll be guaranteed admission to UW-Madison if they're in the top 5 percent of their class. Hear from one student who now plans to attend the school.

- Morning Edition, February 23, 2024 at 5 a.m.

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee announced today it will close its Waukesha campus at the end of the spring 2025 semester.

- All Things Considered, March 11, 2024 at 5 p.m.

#### **4. Environment**

Supporters of the Pelican River Forest say enough money is in hand for the largest land conservation effort in state history. Local officials want the Forest Service to withhold federal funds for the project.

- BBC Newshour, January 9, 2024 at 3 p.m.

A new report found efforts to address water quality on the Mississippi River have largely worked over the last three decades. Experts say new attention is needed to address a different set of contaminants.

- All Things Considered, January 18, 2024 at 5 p.m.

GOP lawmakers are introducing a bill that would clear the way for PFAS standards in groundwater. It comes after state regulators were forced to abandon regulations late last year.

- Morning Edition, February 19, 2024 at 5 a.m.

Wisconsin's wildfire season is starting early this year due to the lack of snow cover in what's been an unseasonably warm winter. The DNR is asking residents to avoid outdoor burning because of high fire danger across the state.

- All Things Considered, February 26, 2024 at 5 p.m.

A northern Wisconsin tribe and lakes association are suing a cranberry operation that they claim is violating the federal Clean Water Act. They argue it's polluting a lake in Sawyer County.

- All Things Considered, March 15, 2024 at 5 p.m.

#### **5. Health**

Wisconsin is seeing high levels of respiratory illness activity, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This includes COVID-19, influenza and RSV.

- All Things Considered, January 16, 2024 at 5 p.m.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services released new recommendations yesterday that all children five and under should be tested for lead poisoning.

- Morning Edition, January 19, 2024 at 5 a.m.

An orthopedic clinic in the Chippewa Valley region is asking a court to force Hospital Sisters Health System to delay their plans to close two hospitals.

- All Things Considered, February 9, 2024 at 5 p.m.

More people in Milwaukee County are dying of from overdoses of a powerful animal tranquilizer mixed with fentanyl.

- Morning Edition, February 29, 2024 at 5 a.m.

Froedtert and the Medical College of Wisconsin are building a proton therapy clinic in Wauwatosa. Proton therapy is a more precise way to treat cancerous tumors.

- Morning Edition, March 11, 2024 at 5 a.m.

## **6. Politics**

A Dane County Judge has ruled that clerks in Wisconsin can count absentee ballots with missing witness address information on envelopes. The ruling conflicts with a previous decision out of Waukesha County.

- BBC Newshour, January 3, 2024 at 3 p.m.

Republican state Senators have fired another top appointee of Democratic Governor Tony Evers.

- All Things Considered, January 16, 2024 at 5 p.m.

Governor Tony Evers has signed new voting maps into law that are projected to make state legislative races more competitive.

- BBC Newshour, February 19, 2024 at 3 p.m.

Wisconsin is the only state where governors can use a partial veto to cross out individual words or punctuation. That power would be weakened under a proposed constitutional amendment that passed the state Assembly yesterday.

- Morning Edition, February 21, 2024 at 6 a.m.

A group of activists wants voters to use their ballots to protest President Joe Biden's handling of the conflict in Gaza.

- BBC NewsHour, March 19, 2024 at 3 p.m.

## **7. Social Issues**

A Republican bill in the state legislature would withhold 10 to 50 percent of grant money used to address homelessness. The money would be allocated to the intended organization only after certain benchmarks are met showing they have helped people find housing or jobs.

- BBC Newshour, January 10, 2024 at 3 p.m.

A proposed \$1.2 billion dollar interstate expansion project in Milwaukee is facing a federal civil rights review. That's led opponents of the project to call for its pause.

- BBC Newshour, January 11, 2024 at 3 p.m.

Transgender youth are more likely to report unsafe school climates and mental health concerns than their cisgender peers.

- Morning Edition, February 16, 2024 at 5 a.m.

A federal lawsuit in Brown County is challenging land purchases by the Oneida Nation on its own reservation.

- All Things Considered, February 27, 2024 at 5 p.m.

Attorney General Josh Kaul plans to ask the state supreme court to rule on whether the Wisconsin constitution protects abortion rights in the state.

- BBC Newshour, March 14, 2024 at 3 p.m.