



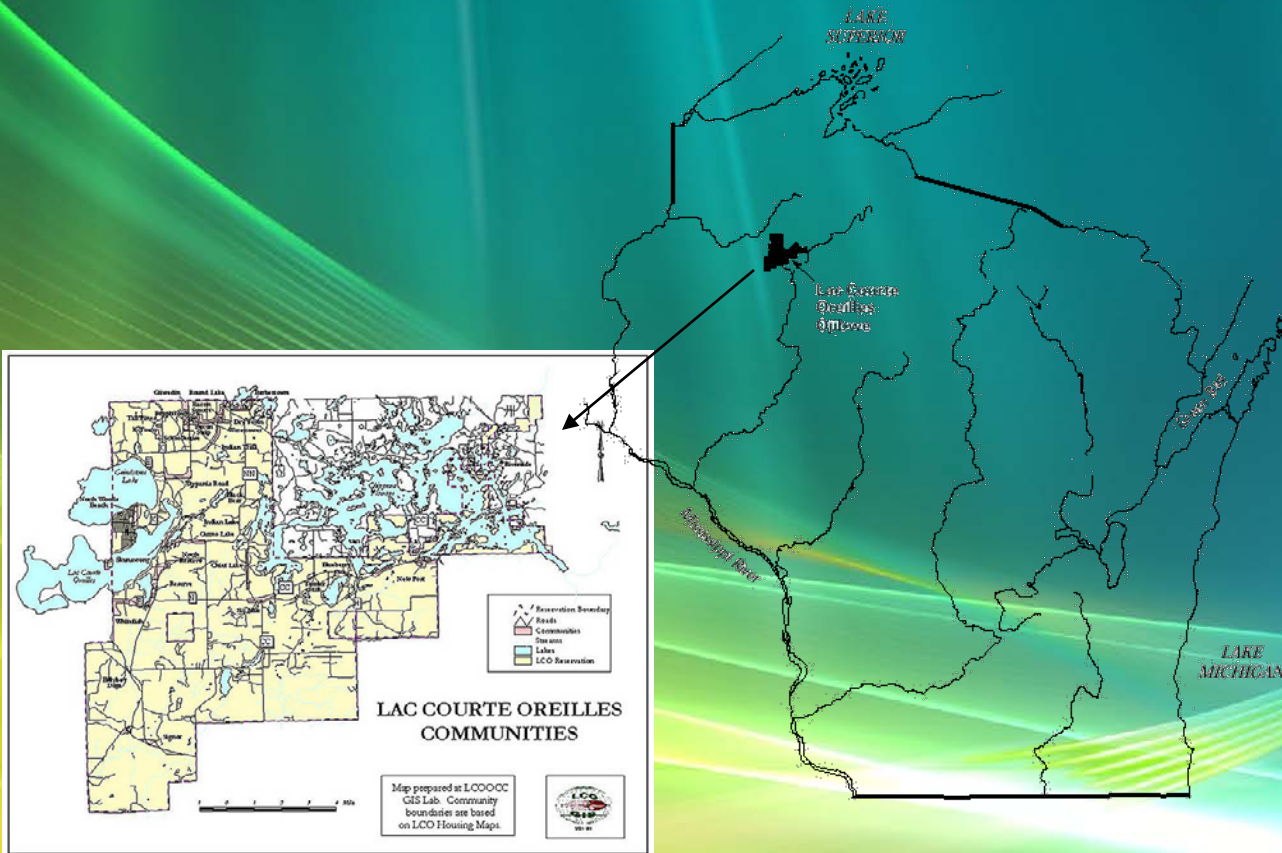
**Odaawaa Zaaga'iganing**

**Lac Courte Oreilles**



**Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe**

# Location of Lac Courte Oreilles





# About Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO)

- The reservation is presently 76,465 acres and is 15 miles wide.
- We have a seven member Tribal Governing Board with four year terms.
- LCO's membership is about 7,000 with nearly half of its members residing on or near the reservation
- There are 25 distinctly different communities within the reservation for a total of 1,019 households (**2000 Census**).
- LCO operates two casinos; recently expanded is the LCO Casino and Lodge.

# Tribal Mission Statement

We, the *Anishinaabeg*, the people of *Odaawaa Zaaga'iganing*, the Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) Tribe, will sustain our heritage by, preserving our past, strengthening our present, and embracing our future

We will defend our inherent sovereign rights and safeguard Mother Earth.

We will provide for the educational, health, social welfare, and economic stability of the present and future generations.

# LCO Energy Mission Statement

The Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe resolves to protect and honor Mother Earth, by utilizing only what is needed. We, the Anishinaabeg, embark on a path to sustainable living and independence for ourselves and our generations yet to come. This will be achieved by implementing systemic conservation measures and the development of sustainable energy.



# Issues and Opportunities

- Tribal entities have addressed energy issues on a individual basis.
- LCO College is very active on environmental issues but acts independently of the Tribe.
- The majority of our reservation is served by Jump River Electric Cooperative that does not participate in the Focus on Energy Program.
- Our forests are being used at a non-renewable rate.

# LCO Energy Project Objectives

- Coordinate current and future energy efforts.
- The project will determine what the carbon emissions levels are
- We will conduct a energy audit, which will identify renewable energy resources currently being utilized and identify other potential sites.
- Create a plan to present to our Tribal Governing Board and our membership of ways in which we can conserve and begin the process of implementing a sustainable resource.

# Participants

- Denise Johnson, LCO Energy Coordinator
- Leslie Isham, LCO Energy Director
- Misty Keller, Intern
- Jamie Cordray, Intern
- William White, Intern
- Steve Kozak, LCO College
- Jeff Ames, LCO College
- Sidnee (Sid) Keller, Grants Dept.
- Lorene Wielgot, Grants Dept.
- Brian Bisonette, LCO Tribal Council Member



# LCO Energy Project

To analyze our energy consumption and create a plan in which we can apply conservation measures and identify feasible sustainable energy options.



## Currently.....

- Tribal-wide Audit 80% complete
- 90% Data ready for final calculation
- 1.5 million yearly in energy expenditures so far (about 10 entities lacking data)

# Other Accomplishments

- Individual accomplishments
- Lighting assessments
- Building strong working relationships, gathering support on the issues and commitment towards Energy Independence
- Educating as we go!



# Lessons Learned



*"I'm looking for a workaholic who feels the great job he does is compensation enough."*

# But really.....

- Behavioral & social norms changes
- Community vs. individual entities
- Education, understanding the issues
- Financing

# Ongoing

- Tribal Wide Energy Fair
- Sustainability initiatives
- Tribal Eco-Municipality
- Post Carbon Community Planning
- Hydro O & M planning





# Future Plans

- Feasibility for :
  - a) Wind
  - b) Biomass/Biorefining
  - c) Solar PV & Thermal
  - d) Biofuels
- Conservation/Efficiency measures
- Education



**MIIGWETCH!!!**